



'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.

No. 2417 Vol. LIII.

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1957

Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.

6d.

LISTENING OUTSIDE

IS it not a fact that many ringers are apt to under-rate the appreciation of their work on the part of those for whom they ring? It has been said that no one cares what is rung on the bells even though it has meant much careful study and practice, for outside listeners are few and don't know anything about it. To the general public our art is a sealed book, but when all is said and done they do know the difference between good and bad ringing, be it call changes or half-pull style. A small section of the public will sometimes express strong views on ringing and ringers just as much as I could to nearby neighbours who create various noises and do not realise it.

'I don't like church bells,' declared a well-known broadcaster on several occasions over the radio, yet I heard him singing lustily over the air a few months ago, 'I listened with joy, as I did when a boy, to the sound of the old village bells.'

Last year I was compelled to give up ascending belfry steps and taking a rope even for a short touch, a decision I had to make after 63 years of combined duty and enjoyment in most parts of the British Isles. Retirement would have been easy, but all the time there was work to be done such an idea was out of the question, so I became, among other things, a listener in order to still retain contact with ringers and ringing. To the active ringer, listening or looking on for very long is not very appealing because it clearly shows inactivity, but to me it means added interest, especially if the striking happens to be good. Sometimes you meet another keen outside listener who greets you with the information that Grandsire is in progress, yet you know the method is Stedman and openly say so, but he is not convinced and to prove he knows the difference between the two methods he avers that he has rung the tenor to both of them for many years!

Old Fred was a keen listener to his local band for many years and he had great faith in their ability to put up a good performance, although he had never been in the tower. Fred did not know the band had left call-changes to learn half-pull and their longest touch was 504 Grand-side Triples, so to stimulate his interest I told him the County Association ringers would shortly be performing

various methods including some Surprise ringing. After he has ascertained the date and times he merely said, 'I shall listen carefully,' and the writer thought no more about it until he happened to meet Fred again one evening. I knew what to expect for there happened to be some rough ringing before and after tea, but I did not anticipate such a strong outburst against bad striking and failure to ring various methods without blundering. Nothing would convince Fred regarding the difficulties which occur at a ringers' meeting and he firmly stuck to his opinion that the locals could beat the county ringers easily!

Listening outside sometimes means switching over to a change of programme and you can get many opinions of bells and bellringers, some complimentary, others quite the reverse, the latter portion coming mostly from those who reside near the church. Some critics are under the impression that ringers can ring anywhere or any time, but this is, of course, quite wrong, seeing the clergyman in charge of the parish is the one who has authority in such matters.

During the time devoted to listening you will certainly hear a few trips, missed dodges, or uneven striking, due to a variety of causes. This is a problem which has baffled the ringing Exercise for generation after generation, and from time to time we are reminded of the necessity for good striking. Forty-nine years ago the Central Council debated 'whether the present fashion of ringing a large variety of methods is responsible for decreased attention to accurate striking and, if so, whether any steps can be taken to encourage greater pride in this respect.' After a lengthy debate the following resolution was adopted: 'This Council desires to call the attention of Associations generally, and of conductors in particular, to the desirability of encouraging the greatest possible accuracy in striking.' In those days a certain number of points were awarded for peals based on the method rung, but what good did ringing peals for points ever do to improve ringing generally many ringers could not see, and the whole idea was at length abandoned.

Later on came an idea of awarding diplomas to ringers who could ring a few hundred changes, and this found little favour, for, after all, the best and simplest qualification that can be applied is 'a good ringer.'

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in C sharp.

ROBIN G. LEALE Treble	ARTHUR G. MASON 7
MURIEL REAY 2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 8
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 3	JOHN HILL 9
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN 10
MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 5	CECIL W. PIPE 11
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 6	FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by FREDERICK E. COLLINS.

TEN BELL PEALS

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Mon., June 24, 1957, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.

A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. Treble	ARTHUR T. DUTTON 6
ERNEST STITCH 2	*JOHN ANDERSON 7
M. JILL FISHER 3	JAMES S. EASTWOOD .. 8
P. GEORGE GOLDER 4	GEORGE W. HUGHES .. 9
HOWARD HOWELL 5	FREDERICK G. HANDLEY .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE W. HUGHES.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

Arranged as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss M. Jill Fisher.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., June 26, 1957, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Treble	HAROLD MARCON 6
ERNEST MORRIS 2	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 7
CECILIA COWLEY 3	JOHN A. ACRES 8
*PHYLLIS POOLE 4	ERNEST J. JELLEY 9
G. RONALD EDWARDS .. 5	ALBERT J. COOKE Tenor

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* 150th peal on the bells.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5067 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 28½ cwt.

CLIFFORD SKIDMORE .. Treble	JOHN PINFOLD 6
GEORGE R. MORRIS 2	DAVID BEACHAM 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 8
*REGINALD WOODYATT .. 4	NORMAN GOODMAN 9
BARNABAS G. KEY 5	*THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by CLIFFORD SKIDMORE.

* 200th peal together.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F sharp.

HOWARD HOWELL .. Treble	JOHN A. ANDERSON 6
FREDERICK G. HANDLEY .. 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 7
ERNEST STITCH 3	SIELLA HUGHES 8
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 4	HARRY BOSWELL 9
FRANCIS BROTHERTON .. 5	DEREK PARKER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

Rung as a compliment to the Ven. R. L. Hodson, Bishop of Shrewsbury, a former vicar of St. Giles', who officiated at the Confirmation service on July 14th.

ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5080 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt.

CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. Treble	†FREDERICK W. ELLIS .. 6
ERIC EDMONDSON 2	*G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 7
*ELIZABETH C. OAKESHOTT .. 3	HAROLD V. FROST 8
CHARLES F. SAYER 4	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM .. 9
FRANCIS KIRK 5	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM .. Tenor

Composed by G. W. DEBENHAM. Conducted by THOMAS J. SOUTHAM.

* First peal in the method and on ten bells, and first attempt. † First peal in the method and on ten bells 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Royal in the method.

Rung as a farewell to Elizabeth Oakeshott.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 3, 1957, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5120 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

CECILIA COWLEY .. Treble	KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 5
JOHN A. ACRES 2	BRIAN G. WARWICK 6
JOSEPH W. COTTON 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
PHYLLIS POOLE 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER (No. 30).

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

200th peal as conductor for the Guild.

A first birthday compliment to Audrey Mary Warwick, daughter of the conductor, born July 3rd, 1956.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's variation. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

DAVID A. CARPENTER .. Treble	HUBERT G. SUMMERS .. 5
JOHN W. T. TAYLOR 2	GEORGE GARDNER 6
RUTH M. JACKSON 3	L. MICHAEL CALLOW .. 7
*H. ERNEST SIBLEY 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Conducted by DAVID A. CARPENTER.

* First peal in the method. First in method as conductor.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. George Gardner on the birth of a grandson.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 5, 1957, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. Treble	WILLIAM T. COOK 5
BRIAN BLADON 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 6
ARTHUR G. MASON 3	RALPH BIRD 7
JOHN L. MORRIS 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by S. J. IVIN. Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 6, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

F. H. Dexter's variation of Thurstan's Four-part.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. in G.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Treble	JOHN M. JELLEY 5
G. HARRY BRAY 2	ERNEST J. JELLEY 6
JOHN A. ACRES 3	*RUSSELL S. MORRIS .. 7
PHYLLIS POOLE 4	*DEREK G. E. BECK Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal in the method.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 8, 1957, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's variation. Tenor 13½ cwt.

*VALERIE PHILLIPS .. Treble	†BRIAN A. CRACKNELL .. 5
GEORGE FRANCIS 2	BRIAN BLADON 6
JUNE M. CLEMENTS 3	FRANK HICKS 7
BARWELL B. DIBBEN .. 4	RAYMOND OVERY Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Surprise.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 9, 1957, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Michael-the-Archangel.

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

BRIAN PIDGEON Treble	*WALTER H. POOLE 5
*MRS. C. W. POWELL 2	ROGER KEELEY 6
CUTHBERT W. POWELL 3	HENRY G. KEELEY 7
WILLIAM A. YATES 4	G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. Tenor

Composed by HAROLD J. POOLE. Conducted by G. STEDMAN MORRIS.
*First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell. First peal in the method on the recast bells.

LOWER BEEDING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

At the Church of The Holy Trinity.

A PEAL OF 5056 WYE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb. in G.

LEONARD STILWELL Treble	JUNE CLEMENTS 5
FRANK H. HICKS 2	RAYMOND OVERY 6
BARWELL B. DIBBEN 3	GEORGE FRANCIS 7
A. PATRICK CANNON 4	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
The first peal in the method by all the band, in the county, and for the Association.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Ebbe.

A PEAL OF 5024 BRAUNSTONE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

*CYRIL H. KINCH Treble	*CHARLES COLES 5
†RUTH S. HODGSON 2	*DONALD H. NIBLETT 6
EDGAR J. SMITH 3	*J. HOWARD FREEBORN 7
*SHIRLEY V. RYMER 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
*First peal in the method. †First peal of Major.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5056 WYE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

BRENDA M. BALLS Treble	BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD 5
ROBERT C. HEAZEL 2	FRANK G. OLIVER 6
FRANK CLAYDON 3	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD 7
ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON 4	HARRY J. MILLATT Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by HARRY J. MILLATT.
The first peal in the method by all the band, on the bells, and for the Association.

Rung as a 79th birthday compliment to Ernest J. Butler, of Colchester.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Swithun.

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb. in D.

WILLIAM ROGERS Treble	REGINALD V. JOHNSON 5
LEONARD STILWELL 2	JOHN W. EUSTON 6
FRANK H. HICKS 3	*ARTHUR J. HART 7
GEOFFREY PEARSON 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 46). Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.
*First peal in the method.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 28 lb.

*ANN A. F. ELLIS Treble	FRANK BARNARD 5
†MICHAEL S. HART 2	JOHN E. BROUGH 6
†COLIN SMITH 3	*FRANK OLLIER 7
†JOHN R. THOMAS 4	HARRY CADMAN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.

*First peal. †First peal of Triples. ‡First peal in the method. §25th peal.

Rung to mark the engagement of Miss Valerie Scott to Harry Cadman (tenor), both local ringers. Also a birthday compliment to Mrs. J. Challinor (daughter of F. Ollier, seventh).

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

At the Church of Immanuel.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

*FREDERICK H. PRICE .. Treble	CHARLES CLEGG 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 2	FRED READ 6
†A. VICTOR WILLIAMS 3	WALTER WILKINSON 7
LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS .. 4	ERNEST J. GOWER Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

*First peal of Major. †50th peal.

STRATFIELD MORTIMER, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

A PEAL OF 5024 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.

A. JAMES GLASS Treble	ANTHONY E. COX 5
WILLIAM F. BUTLER 2	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 6
ALAN E. HARTLEY 3	WALTER LEE 7
FREDERICK R. SCOTT 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. B. SPEED. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
First peal in the method by all except the conductor.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JAMES RAE Treble	FREDERICK A. FINCH 5
H. MICHAEL WILLIAMSON .. 2	R. JAMES COOK 6
PETER F. WINDLEY 3	ALAN F. THIRST 7
*DENNIS R. RANDALL 4	WILLIAM T. COOK Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.
*First peal of Major.

Rung to celebrate the diamond jubilee of the Association.

WARWICK.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.

At the Collegiate Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

HARRY J. BODENHAM .. Treble	FRED C. LYNE 5
WILLIAM COLLETT 2	JAMES PRICE 6
*WILLIAM S. OAKLEY 3	WILLIAM H. MALE 7
HAROLD HUXLEY 4	*WILLIAM J. CLEMENTS .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. MALE.

*First peal. First peal of Triples on the bells.

A 79th birthday compliment to William Collett, and also in honour of his completion of 60 years as a ringer at this church.



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WITHYHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Sun., July 14, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 9 lb. in E.

*HENRY N. VAUGHAN .. Treble	FRANK H. HICKS 5
ARTHUR J. HART 2	ERNEST J. LADD 6
E. WINIFRED KEYS 3	WILLIAM ROGERS 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON .. 4	†WILLIAM T. BEESON .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. MIDDLETON. Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.

* First peal of Surprise. † 50th peal of Cambridge Major. The conductor has now 'completed the circle' at this tower.

A birthday compliment to Thomas E. Sone.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 15, 1957, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

STEPHEN IVIN Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
*JENNIFER DAVIES 2	ERIC SHARP 6
GILES C. GALLEY 3	R. GORDON CORBY 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	†PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN. Conducted by PHILIP MEHEW.

* First peal in the method and on eight bells 'inside.' † 150th peal and first peal as conductor.

Rung for St. Swithin's Day, and as a birthday compliment to R. J. Sharp.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 16, 1957, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HUBERT G. SUMMERS .. Treble	DAVID A. CARPENTER .. 5
A. ROBIN GUY 2	GEORGE GARDNER 6
PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. 3	JAMES L. GARNER-HAYWARD 7
JOHN W. T. TAYLOR 4	*L. MICHAEL CALLOW .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by PAUL K. WILLIAMSON.

The tenor ringer has now 'completed the circle' of the tower.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to Elizabeth and Robin Guy, and of a son to Gillian and Paul Williamson. Also a birthday compliment to William Collett, a ringer at St. Mary's, Warwick, for 60 years, and a founder member of the Guild, now in its 50th year.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 8 lb. in F.

EDWARD G. L. COWARD .. Treble	*ARNOLD S. HARRIS 5
BARWELL B. DIBBEN .. 2	JOHN HILL 6
BRIAN BLADON 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. 7
*DEREK G. ASTRIDGE .. 4	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Surprise.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 18, 1957, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 ERITH SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in A.

ERNEST H. KILBY Treble	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 5
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 2	DENNIS KNOX 6
THOMAS J. LOCK 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE 7
ALICK CUTLER 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

First peal in the method by all the band, in the county, and for the Association. The conductor's 300th peal.

ERITH, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Fri., July 19, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 15 cwt.

Washbrook's variation.	
ARTHUR G. MASON .. Treble	GEORGE J. BUTCHER 5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 2	GEORGE KENWARD 6
JENNIFER M. HIGHLEY .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 7
FRANK E. WALKER 4	PETER F. BORER Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT E. AUDSLEY.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

ROADE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 29, 1957, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of four extents each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, All Saints, Plain Bob, Old Bob, April Day, Reverse St. Bartholomew, and two extents of Grandsire.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb in F.

*PATRICIA NEESHAM .. Treble | †MICHAEL BENNETT 3

†HARRY E. CURTIS 2 | KENNETH D. PERKINS .. 4

GEORGE F. ROOME Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. ROOME.

* First peal. † First peal in 11 methods 'inside.' ‡ First peal in 11 methods.

Rung for the Festival of St. Peter.

BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 6, 1957, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and five of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES RAE Treble | JAMES COOK 4

REV. J. E. F. TREDENNICK 2 | J. DESMOND PAINTER .. 5

FREDERICK A. FINCH .. 3 | WILLIAM T. COOK Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.

STOCKBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., July 7, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 15 extents of Plain Bob (four callings), 25 extents of Grandsire (ten callings) and Morris's 240.

TERENCE BARTON Treble | *CYRIL S. JARRETT 3

RONALD C. BURNS 2 | *ALBERT J. DUNK 4

GEORGE KENWARD Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

* 25th peal together.

Rung to the glory of God on the day of the broadcast appeal for the Church Restoration Fund by the Vicar, the Rev. W. E. Edwards.

CHILCOMPTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 10, 1957, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of Beverley, Norfolk, London, York, Primrose, Ipswich and Cambridge.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ROBERT E. BECK Treble | DAVID TARGETT 4

ADRIAN P. BECK (13).. .. 2 | EDWARD J. CHIVERS 5

RONALD G. BECK 3 | DAVID HOARE Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD J. CHIVERS.

First peal of seven Surprise methods by all the band except the ringer of the third. The ringer of the second is the youngest member of the Association to ring seven Surprise methods to a peal.

BENHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thurs., July 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 2,160 of Kent, 2,160 of Oxford Treble Bob (C.C.C. Nos. 152 and 153) and 720 of Plain Bob.

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A flat.

JACK PILGRIM Treble | JOHN W. BLYTHE 4

C. JACK GIBSON 2 | PETER S. BEDFORD 5

EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 3 | H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK PILGRIM.

OVERBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 12, 1957, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURFLEET SURPRISE MINOR

Being one 2,160 and four 720's (C.C.C. Nos. 82, 58 and 59).

Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

E. TREVOR NEWBURY .. Treble | GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 4

COLIN B. LONGMORE .. 2 | CYRIL A. WRATTEN 5

ROBERT W. COLE 3 | GERALD C. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells, and for the Association.

**BARROWBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.*

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE MINOR

Being seven extents (four callings). Tenor 11½ cwt.

*JULIET OWEN Treble	PETER E. PARRY 4
FREDK. W. PINCHBECK .. 2	J. MICHAEL SIMPSON .. 5
DENIS A. FRITH 3	BRIAN HUNT Tenor

Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.

* First peal. First peal of Grandsire Minor by all the band, on the bells, and for the Guild.

**DENNINGTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob, and one 720 of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

C. JACK GIBSON Treble	PETER S. BEDFORD .. 4
ARTHUR LING 2	JOHN W. BLYTHE .. 5
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.

**CHATTERIS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,*

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

GEOFFREY A. LUCAS .. Treble	FRANK BAKER 4
WILLIAM SEEKINGS .. 2	*TREVOR A. BEVIS .. 5
DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 3	HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. Tenor

Conducted by TREVOR A. BEVIS.

* First peal of Surprise Minor. The ringer of the second has twice 'circled the tower.'

**HAMPSTEAD NORRIS, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise, one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, one 720 of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

S. FRANK TUFFLEY .. Treble	GEOFFREY K. DODD .. 4
RALPH BIRD 2	REGINALD F. CROOK .. 5
BRIAN BLADON 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

The first peal on the bells for 20 years.

**MARTIN-BY-TIMBERLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.*

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

RONALD RUSSELL .. Treble	PERCY BALDOCK 4
FREDK. INGALL 2	G. LEONARD THOMPSON .. 5
AMOS INGALL 3	LOUIS WILLIERS Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS WILLIERS.

First peal of Bob Minor on the bells.

Arranged for the treble and fourth ringers.

**SHENLEY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.*

A PEAL OF 5040 BERWICK SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents with 5-6 the right way throughout.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb. in E flat.

PHYLLIS M. MAYNE .. Treble	RONALD J. SHARP .. 4
JOAN M. WILCOCKSON .. 2	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 5
KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 3	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

First peal in the method by all the band, in the diocese, and for the Guild.

A birthday compliment to Ronald J. Sharp.

**SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS,*

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of Beverley, Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Cambridge, Primrose, Durham and York. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.

MRS. JAMES W. HAW .. Treble	JAMES W. HAW 4
LEONARD C. BLANCHARD .. 2	CECIL WADE 5
ALBERT E. SCOTT 3	JAMES H. MUSSON .. Tenor

Conducted by CECIL WADE.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. C. Wade, wife of the conductor, and to Beverley June Musson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Musson, on her second birthday.

**KINTBURY, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sun., July 14, 1957, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Single Oxford, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. in F.

REGINALD W. REX .. Treble	BRIAN BLADON 4
*RONALD F. DISERENS .. 2	RALPH BIRD 5
GEOFFREY K. DODD .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells.

**ECCLESTONE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(Preston Branch.)

*On Mon., July 15, 1957, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford T.B. and Kent T.B. (four callings) and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

NEIL KITCHEN Treble	JAMES BLACKBURN .. 4
THOMAS BARKER 2	STANLEY WALMSLEY .. 5
LAURENCE WALMSLEY .. 3	FRANK STEAD Tenor

Conducted by FRANK STEAD.

Rung fully-muffled as a last token of respect to Abraham Rigbye, a ringer at this church for over 26 years.

HANDBELL PEALS

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sun., July 14, 1957, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes,
AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,*

A PEAL OF 5077 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor size 15 in C.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 1-2	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5-6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 3-4	MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 7-8
JOHN A. ACRES 9-10	

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

Rung to the respected memory of Harold J. Poole.

**WOODDITTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Tues., July 16, 1957, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT SUNNY VIEW.*

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

*J. MARY BOISSARD .. 1-2	JOHN A. ACRES 5-6
ALBERT E. AUSTIN .. 3-4	J. REGINALD HEATH .. 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS.

Conducted by JOHN A. ACRES.

* First handbell peal.

**WOODDITTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT SUNNY VIEW.*

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 16 in B flat.

J. REGINALD HEATH .. 1-2	JOHN A. ACRES 5-6
ALBERT E. AUSTIN .. 3-4	*ANTHONY R. MANN .. 7-8

*THOMAS F. VARNEY .. 9-10

Composed by GEOFFREY DODDS.

Conducted by JOHN A. ACRES.

* First peal on ten bells.

QUARTER PEALS

ABERGELE, DENBIGH.—On July 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. S. Griffiths (cond.) 1, L. J. Evans 2, C. Powell 3, J. P. Griffiths 4, H. J. Page 5, R. O. Evans (first quarter) 6. In memoriam the Archbishop of Wales. The ringer of the 5th hails from Romsey, Hants.

ASTON INGHAM, HEREFORDS.—On July 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Smith 1, Miss M. Tilbury 2, W. Dudley-Wilson 3, A. T. Poulton 4, J. J. Webb (cond.) 5, R. Chew 6. First quarter of Minor for 1 and 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On July 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. N. Pitstow (cond.) 1, M. F. Layton 2, D. N. Layton 3, A. Rogers 4, N. Hobden 5, T. Norman 6, A. E. Cheesman 7, R. I. Parsons 8. Rung for the christening of Christopher, son of Raymond and Gillian Parsons, and as a compliment to D. N. Layton and Margaret Floyer on their engagement.

CARISBROOKE, I.O.W.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: I. Jackson 1, S. Moody 2, F. Taylor (cond.) 3, W. Upton 4, H. Long 5, A. Jackson 6, A. Drake 7, W. Scott 8. Rung for divine service, at which the Mayor of Newport and Corporation attended; also as birthday compliments to ringers of 3 and 4.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—On June 14th, 1,260 Bob Royal: Miss M. Panton 1, R. Groves 2, A. Hume 3, W. Glover 4, H. Eggleston 5, J. Crawley 6, H. Bradley 7, L. J. Clark (cond.) 8, D. A. S. Symonds 9, P. Eves 10. Rung for the opening ceremony of Chelmsford Cathedral festival week.

CHIPSTABLE, SOMERSET.—On July 13th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: A. Gale 1, S. Smith 2, A. Turner 3, F. Casley 4, G. Sparkes 5, H. Purchase (cond.) 6, **COLNERE, WILTS.**—On July 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. C. Weeks 1, J. R. C. Tiley 2, T. Gray 3, G. J. Sheppard 4, A. A. Hillier 5, A. F. Lee 6, P. W. Jewkes (cond.) 7, R. H. Clements 8.

COWBRIDGE, GLAM.—On July 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Evans 1, T. Hutchings (first 'inside') 2, R. E. Coles (cond.) 3, H. Blick 4, E. Carter 5, J. Thomas 6, I. D. Davies 7, B. Thomas 8. Rung half-muffled prior to the memorial service of the late Archbishop of Wales. Also on July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: I. D. Davies 1, H. Blick 2, T. Hutchings 3, R. E. Coles (cond.) 4, E. Carter 5, R. Lee 6, J. Thomas 7, B. Thomas 8. Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Mrs. M. Carter, mother of the 5th ringer. Both rung with 7, 6, 8 covering.

CREWKERNE, SOMERSET.—On July 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. A. T. Mabey 1, G. W. Rendell 2, M. W. Gilbert 3, D. J. M. Purnell 4, K. E. Pinney (cond.) 5, J. Draper 6, R. J. Gay 7, E. R. Parker 8. First quarter by 1, 3, 5, 7 and 8. Rung with 7, 6, 8 covering for annual founders' day service of Crewkerne School. Also on July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss G. Eason 1, J. S. Hacking 2, M. W. Gilbert 3, W. H. Poole (cond.) 4, Dr. L. E. Wear 5, K. E. Pinney 6, H. J. Gayland 7, W. Pike 8. First in method by 1, 2, 3 and 5.

CUDESODON, OXON.—On July 13th, 1,260 Doubles (being 60 changes of Stedman, 40 Reverse Canterbury, 480 Plain Bob and 480 Grandsire): R. H. Jackson 1, D. R. Castell 2, D. C. Bowen 3, M. J. Hallett 4, R. J. Trebilcock (cond.) 5, F. A. Barrett 6. Rung to congratulate Vernon Green on his engagement to Miss Jennifer Fletcher and as a birthday compliment to the 2nd ringer.

GLOUCESTER.—At the Cathedral, on June 29th, 1,296 Grandsire Caters: F. Blown 1, T. Newman (83) 2, G. Green (first of Caters) 3, W. T. Cox 4, G. L. Hewitt 5, W. C. Jones 6, J. Whiting 7, L. Aston 8, L. Barry (cond.) 9, H. Newman 10. First of Caters since the bells have been augmented.

GOLDINGTON, BEDS.—On July 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Margaret J. Mackonochie (first quarter) 1, E. L. Duffield 2, J. H. L. Blick 3, A. J. Williams 4, J. H. Edwards (cond.) 5, A. G. Lumbis 6. For evening service in honour of the 730th birthday of the church.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.—On July 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss C. J. Yardley (first quarter) 1, Miss E. M. Yardley 2, M. Hall 3, I. D. Thompson 4, A. N. Stubbs (cond.) 5, P. M. Fleming 6. First quarter in the method by all the band. Rung to welcome the Rev. K. H. Hills to the parish.

HARROLD, BEDS.—On July 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: B. Walker 1, H. Gayton 2, Iris Walker 3, R. Walker 4, C. Payne (first as cond.) 5. For evening service on the back five.

HAYES, KENT.—On June 8th, at St. Mary the Virgin's Church, 1,440 Minor (720 Kent, 720 Cambridge): A. S. Richards 1, M. F. Oakshott 2, R. W. Stephens 3, Hilda Oakshott 4, Mary Stephens 5, D. M. Randall (first as cond.) 6. Rung as a compliment to John Cannell and Susan Porter, who were married shortly before this quarter was rung.

KEYMER, SUSSEX.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Harniss 1, Miss A. Harfield 2, A. Eaton 3, D. Fagg 4, P. F. Romney (cond.) 5, F. Cox 6.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. W. A. Yates 1, E. L. Taylor 2, H. G. Keeley 3, R. Keeley 4, Mrs. C. W. Powell 5, C. W. Powell 6, W. A. Yates (cond.) 7, J. Rattenbury 8. For Evensong, also a birthday compliment to Dr. E. L. Taylor.

MARKET DRAYTON, SALOP.—On July 7th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: E. Roberts 1, H. F. White 2, E. Colley 3, Vivienne M. Horton 4, T. Price 5, A. M. Hickman 6, F. Price 7, R. G. Edwards (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

MARKET HARBOUROUGH, LEICS.—On July 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Hector 1, A. Flutter (first of Minor) 2, R. Bindley (first quarter) 3, G. Simkin (first quarter) 4, F. Wallington 5, G. Hollick (cond.) 6. Believed to be the first quarter of Minor ever rung on the back six. Mr. Hector has been ringing 50 years, and it is definitely the first in that time.

MONKEN HADLEY, MIDDLEX.—On July 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (two extents, different callings): W. Bradbrook (first quarter) 1, T. Pink 2, Margaret Johnson 3, M. Soper 4, C. Ward 5, W. Theobald (cond.) 6, W. Langley 7 covering. First quarter on the bells since recasting. Rung after meeting short for Grandsire Triples on the occasion of the dedication of the bells by the Lord Bishop of London.

NEWTON, PORTHCAWL, GLAM.—On July 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Jean Howell 1, A. Hannington 2, E. Phillips 3, H. Boyce 4, G. I. Lewis (cond.) 5, T. M. Roderick 6. Rung half-muffled on the evening of the funeral of the Rt. Rev. John Morgan, Bishop of Llandaff, Archbishop of Wales.

NORBURY, CHESHIRE.—On July 7th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss C. Fernley (first of Surprise) 1, Mrs. L. Boumphrey 2, Shirley Harris 3, B. Jones (cond.) 4, A. Richardson 5, R. Smith 6, L. Boumphrey 7, B. Harris 8. For the Sunday School anniversary.

NORTHAMPTON.—At the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, on July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss N. G. Williams 1, Miss J. A. Downing 2, R. Finch 3, T. Jennings 4, Miss D. M. Miller (cond.) 5, G. F. Rooome 6. For the annual reunion service of the Northamptonshire Regiment.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. W. Stead 1, D. J. Ford 2, C. Murphy 3, C. Taylor 4, R. A. Reed (cond.) 5. First of Grandsire Doubles by L. Stead and D. Ford. Rung on the light five by members of the local band.

NORTON, HERTS.—On July 13th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: R. Kendall 1, A. E. Rushton 2, Patricia Hutton 3, Angela Willes 4, E. J. Buck 5, J. W. Sinned 6, J. R. Jordan 7, P. Mehew (cond.) 8.

NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.—On July 14th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: T. G. Page (first of Minor) 1, A. I. Walpole 2, J. W. Ford 3, H. W. Barrett 4, G. C. Walpole 5, T. N. J. Bailey (cond.) 6. For Evensong and as a farewell to the Rev. F. Tattersall, M.A., on his leaving the benefice for the living of Luddenhams and Stone, Kent.

PULHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.—On July 6th, 1,320 Bob Doubles: Miss M. Alden (first on five) 1, P. M. Adcock 2, A. F. Ellis (first as cond.) 3, P. D. T. Cattermole 4, E. Whiting 5. Rung for restoration work in the church.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On July 9th, 1,440 Bob Minor: R. Raven 1, Miss R. Paton 2, Miss D. J. Pollard 3, Miss S. Alexander 4, Miss M. R. Cross (cond.) 5, S. Lester 6. First in method by 1 and 6. First 'inside' by 4. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. J. V. Pixell, who has retired after 17 years as Vicar of Radley and 50 years as a parish priest, and for the engagement of Dr. M. Paton (a former member of the band) and Mr. P. Wolfendale.

REDGRAVE, SUFFOLK.—On June 29th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: R. Foreman 1, G. Peck 2, H. Fuller 3, G. Land 4, J. Paul (cond.) 5, A. Driver 6. First quarter 1 and 6. For family service.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—On July 11th, at St. Martin's Church, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: Miss M. Page 1, Miss Y. Eloie 2, Miss A. Bacon 3, J. Sutton 4, H. Abrahams (cond.) 5, P. Morgan 6, A. Haines (first of Major) 7, R. Jones 8. Rung in thanksgiving for the life and work of Mrs. Anderson, wife of the Bishop of Salisbury.

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP, SOMERSET.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (on the back six): F. Welch 1, R. Welch 2, J. Cornelius (first as cond.) 3, R. Dean 4, G. Monckton 5, I. Best 6. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On June 1st, 1,260 Doubles (two extents each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Plain Bob and April Day and 540 Grandsire): Miss S. J. Devereux 1, Miss A. Culpin 2, P. J. Lawton 3, T. P. Harris 4, D. R. Brazier 5, B. A. Martin 6. Rung half-muffled as a last tribute to E. J. Baigent, late treasurer of the P.C.C. and treasurer to the Bell Restoration Fund Committee, which rebung and augmented the ring 1951, also to George Downing, a former ringer; both of whom were interred this day. Also on June 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Mackey (first quarter) 1, Miss A. Culpin 2, B. A. Martin (first 'inside') 3, T. P. Harris 4, P. J. Lawton 5, D. R. Brazier (cond.) 6. Rung for the Parish Eucharist on Whit Sunday. Also on June 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Mackey 1, Miss S. J. Devereux 2, G. F. Olney 3, P. J. Lawton 4, T. P. Harris (cond.) 5, B. A. Martin 6. Rung half-muffled as a last tribute to John Scott, interred this day.

STEPNEY, E.—At the Parish Church, on July 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. A. Hughes 1, Jill Cook 2, Betty Tester 3, H. G. Weedon 4, A. Lewry 5, G. J. Boomsma 6, L. J. Fox (cond.) 7, W. Theobald 8. First of Stedman for 1, 2 and 4. Rung for the annual civic service.

STRATTON, CORNWALL.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Bissatt 1, Miss S. Sherwood 2, Miss H. Oakshott 3, C. Sangwin 4, P. Sherwood 5, R. Sanders 6, M. F. Oakshott (cond.) 7, H. Stacey 8. Rung after evening service.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—On July 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Arlett (aged 14) 1, P. Harding 2, Mrs. F. Penn 3, C. Butcher 4, R. Lucas 5, D. Roberts 6, F. Penn (cond.) 7, R. Burbridge 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.—On July 7th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: E. Brunger 1, B. V. Collison 2, E. J. Jenner 3, A. F. Wellington 4, S. G. Ponting 5, T. E. Sone 6, S. Jenner 7, E. J. Ladd (cond.) 8. First in method for 1, 4 and 7. For Evensong.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on July 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. M. Steele (first quarter) 1, Miss N. Hales 2, Mrs. D. Neal 3, J. Hales 4, D. Neal (cond.) 5, R. K. C. Wilkins 6. Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter (Gillian Margaret) to Mr. and Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkins on July 6th.

WAREHAM, DORSET.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. G. Cherrett 1, A. M. Cunningham 2, Miss D. Borer 3, W. J. G. Hiscock 4, C. T. Brown 5, B. G. Bishop 6. First quarter by the local band for 22 years. First quarter by 1 and 3. For Evensong.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFS.—On July 7th, at All Saints' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. D. Peart 1, Jane Cotterill 2, A. Mills (cond.) 3, J. Cooper 4, F. Baraclough 5, W. A. Partridge 6, J. N. Hadley 7, J. R. Cotterill 8. For Evensong, and as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baraclough on the 25th anniversary of their wedding, and to Miss Jane Cotterill on the successful completion of her studies at Nottingham University.

WILBURTON, CAMBS.—On July 15th, 1,440 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor: L. Norfolk 1, H. Sharp 2, D. Murfet 3, G. Markwell 4, D. E. R. Knights (cond.) 5, A. Yarrow 6. Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the second on the eve of his 83rd birthday.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On July 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Sheila Douglas 1, A. Bishop 2, Susan Jacobs 3, M. P. Moreton 4, A. Bagworth 5, M. H. Sinden (cond.) 6, F. Corfield 7, E. Jacobs 8.

WONSTON, HANTS.—On July 13th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Stedman, 780 Grandsire): D. J. Roaf (cond.) 1, A. R. Crawford 2, A. J. Tumber 3, J. G. Pusey 4, H. J. Verity 5, M. B. Kemp 6. First quarter for 2 and 6. First in two methods for 4 and 5.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

The summer meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers was held at Wool on July 13th, when the Guild service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. F. C. Whitter), who welcomed the ringers to his church and gave a most interesting address.

Tea was generously provided by the Vicar and the ringers of Wool, and served by Mrs. L. Williams and her lady helpers, a gesture greatly appreciated by the Branch members.

The business meeting was presided over by the Branch chairman (Rev. S. P. Rowcroft, Vicar of Abbotsbury), and apologies for absence were received from the Rev. P. J. Heaton, vice-chairman of St. Peter's, Dorchester, the Rev. Canon A. W. Markby, Mr. F. Precey, and the Charminster ringers.

Two new members were elected—Messrs. J. Fuller and T. Worthington, both of St. Peter's, Dorchester.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at St. George's Church, Fordington, in September, the date to be confirmed later by the Vicar.

Branch practices were provisionally arranged as follows, subject, of course, to the dates being ratified by the incumbents: July 27th, Preston; August 10th, Litton Cheney; August 24th, Piddlehinton; September 7th, Bere Regis; September 21st, Wool.

The last date was suggested by the Rev. F. C. Whitter as being particularly appropriate, this date being the 50th anniversary of the augmentation of Wool bells from four to the present six.

The Vicar suggested a short commemoration service at 6 p.m., and he and Mrs. Whitter most

kindly offered to supply refreshments at the close of the practice. A proposal by Mr. F. Virgin (Upwey), seconded by Mr. A. J. Slade (Preston), that practice nights and other ringing arrangements should be inserted in the guide books of Weymouth and Dorchester as a help to visiting ringers, was carried.

The chairman expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Rev. F. C. and Mrs. Whitter, the choir and organist, and to Mr. L. G. Williams for making the arrangements for the meeting, and also to the ladies for their invaluable help.

Ringing continued until about 9 p.m., under the direction of Mr. H. J. Ford, Ringing Master, and Messrs. J. W. Rose and A. J. Slade, deputy Ringing Masters; methods rung including Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

Just over 30 members and friends attended, representing towers from Abbotsbury, Dorchester (St. Peter's), East Lulworth, Preston, Upwey, Wyke Regis and Yetminster, with welcome visitors from Canford Magna, Kimpton (Herts), Chelsea and Westminster, together with nine members of the Wool band of ringers.

J. H. H.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 7th, 1,316 Grandsire Triples: B. Patmore 1, F. C. Maynard 2, F. W. Sykes 3, A. J. Boyack 4, B. Downes 5, C. T. W. Coles 6, R. J. Chapman (cond.) 7, D. Hewitt 8. Also on July 14th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: F. W. Sykes 1, F. C. Maynard 2, C. T. W. Coles 3, E. E. Holman 4, A. J. N. Boyack 5, D. Hewitt 6, M. Hayes 7, R. J. Chapman (cond.) 8. For Evensong and as a 14th birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

BARNSELEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

An early start was made on July 6th collecting ringers and friends throughout the district for the outing to Lincoln. The first call was at Vickhill, where we were met by Mr. Hulley, and some good Minor was rung on the fine ring at St. Mary's. As we left the tower Mr. Hulley set in motion the chiming machine, which played us out with 'Home Sweet Home.'

After journeying through fine wooded country we reached Saxilby, to be greeted by Pamela Cox and Shirley Guymmer, who joined us in a touch of Bob Minor. We were impressed by a small collection of ringing handbooks which were available in the ringing chamber. Whilst ringing was in progress, the Vicar conducted lady visitors around the church.

After lunch at the Eastgate Court Hotel, Lincoln, we made our way to St. Peter-at-Gowts, where we were welcomed by Mr. J. Freeman and Mr. Hurst. Owing to our late arrival our stay was short, but we found the bells very much to our liking.

A few members attended Evensong at the Minster, and two ringers were mistaken by the Dean for B.B.C. engineers! We left the city after an excellent tea at the Eastgate Hotel, and reached Lea at 7 p.m., finding a first-class ring of Minor, to which we did justice. Mr. Lunn joined us in a touch of 'Cartwheel' Cambridge and his daughter, Pat, the youngest member of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, rang the treble in rounds.

We were greatly impressed by the hospitality of the people we met during our outing, who did so much to make our day one to remember.
N. F. M.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

All communications for publication to:—
The Editor, 'The Ringing World,'
c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.
Tel. Guildford 5028 or 5311.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

	One copy	2 copies	3 copies	4 copies
3 months	7/6	—	—	—
6 months	14/6	£1/6/-	£1/15/6	£2/6/-
12 months	£1/8/-	£2/9/-	£3/10/-	£4/11/-

Remittances to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Cheques payable to 'The Ringing World.'

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The band who rang the peal of Stedman Caters at The Wayside, Leicester, on July 14th, to the memory of Harold J. Poole, would like to associate it with the name of Alfred Ballard, who due to indisposition was unable to take part at the last minute. The band wish Alf a speedy recovery.

Readers whose subscriptions are due are warned that their 'Ringing World' will be stopped after this issue.

Accrington ringers encountered a heavy thunderstorm while on their visit to Yorkshire. They deny that this had anything to do with their previous ringing.

Those who took part in the peal at Leyton recently had first-hand experience of the point discussed at the Central Council meeting, when on an overcast evening the main switch was turned off by the organist, who had already provided some opposition to the ringing by playing the organ. The peal was concluded in almost total darkness.

The Vicar of Willenhall, Staffs (Rev. A. G. Bond), and his son, George, are very interested in ringing. They can ring call-changes creditably and are now practising plain hunting. There are also two altar servers whom they have persuaded to come along, and they have made equal progress. Owing to this, Sunday service ringing is now regular.

The Rev. Ronald E. Sibthorp, who has been Priest, Vicar and Succentor of Truro Cathedral, is leaving in August to take up an appointment as Sub-Chanter of Lichfield Cathedral. Although Mr. Sibthorp's duties at Truro have been very numerous, and have prevented him from taking part in much ringing, he has been a great friend of all the ringers at the Cathedral, and one whose name is held in very high esteem throughout Cornwall.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Stephen Ivins writes, apropos the peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Maulden, Beds, on July 15th, that the ringer of the 2nd, Miss Jennifer Davies, is to be congratulated for the skilful way she rang in her first peal of Major 'inside.'

Liverpool Cathedral have arranged for an open day on November 9th, when bands complete or in part will be welcome.

The bells of St. Woolos' Cathedral were rung half-muffled on Sunday, July 14th, as a tribute to the memory of Mr. George Large, whose death was reported in our last issue.

The Editor has been on holiday in Norway for the past fortnight. He will endeavour to answer the many letters awaiting his attention in the course of the next week.

Will the lady who left a brooch behind at St. Ebbe's, Oxford, last Saturday, communicate with the undersigned, giving description, and it will be returned by post.—W. H. B. Wilkinson, 66, London Road, Headington, Oxford.

Regarding the peal of Spliced Surprise Major at Lydd on June 26th (see 'Ringing World,' page 442), our correspondent desires to make the following correction: Methods rung: 2,880 Yorkshire and 2,176 Cambridge and not as stated.

Frank C. Shorter recently celebrated his birthday in gratifying style. The church where he learned to ring and at which he is a chorister (St. Lawrence Jewry) was rededicated on this day, and he afterwards took part in a touch of Stedman Triples on the new bells.

The band who rang a peal at Twickenham on July 13th began to wonder whether there was not something in the superstition about the number 13, when a rope broke after only two courses had been rung. The rope was, however, mended (during a thunderstorm), and the peal was scored without further mishap.

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RINGING AT WAKEFIELD - 1817 to 1826

By DAVID CUBITT

DURING this decade the Society of Ringers at All Saints', Wakefield, became one of the foremost in England, and its members formed the most advanced band there has ever been at Wakefield.

On Monday, January 20th, 1817, a new ring of ten bells was opened at the church. At a public meeting held there on April 25th the previous year it had been agreed to recast one of the eight bells installed in 1779 and add two more; but two months later at another meeting it was resolved that the eight be recast and two added. The work was entrusted to Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel, who also supplied 12 handbells—which have disappeared.

The opening was attended by ringers from Halifax, Sheffield, Leeds, Oldham, Liversedge and Huddersfield, the three last—8-bell ringers—being joined by others. It was settled that each company should ring a half-peal in a method of their own choice. The Wakefield and Halifax Journal of January 24th, 1817, says: 'We understand it is the general opinion that the performance of the first two companies, throughout, was in the best style of excellence, and in the opinion of the judges, a difficult point to say who had the superiority, where both were so truly excellent: but in raising and settling the bells, the Leeds ringers certainly shewed their superiority, and themselves perfect masters of their profession. The Sheffield executed their peal in a most masterly style indeed, and are justly allowed, by the judges, to be ringers of the very first class. Those from Oldham, through some unfortunate circumstance were early out, and gave in; but on the following day, they went through a peal of 2,500 in a manner highly creditable to them; as 8-bell ringers, we believe, they have few superior. Those from Liversedge and Huddersfield, considering they have not had the advantage of practising upon ten bells, rang very well, and gave a proof they were not deficient in their knowledge of permutations.' The newspaper points out that the Liversedge band had only learned to ring within the previous 15 months. Dobson's bells at Liversedge having been opened in July, 1815. The paper also says that though no prizes were offered, a liberal subscription was divided between the visiting bands according to merit, and that, 'on no former similar occasion, did ever so numerous a body go home better satisfied, or ever conduct themselves in better order.' Those who rang pronounced, with other ringers present, the bells 'to be the finest ring of bells, for the same weight of metal, of any in the kingdom.' The tenor weighed 31 cwt. 9 lb.

Parnell, quoted by Mr. Morris in his 'History and Art of Change Ringing,' wrote that the first peal on these bells was 5,000 Oxford New Treble Bob Royal, rung by a joint band composed of members of the Sheffield Independent and Wakefield Societies on Easter Monday, April 6th, 1817, in 3 hours 35 minutes. April 6th that year was a Sunday: the following year it was a Monday. In neither year is the peal reported in 'The Wakefield and Halifax Journal.' Perhaps a Sheffield reader can supply the correct day and date.

The funeral of Princess Charlotte Augusta (wife of Prince Leopold George Frederick, of Saxe-Coburg, and only child of the future George IV), whose death on November 6th, 1817, in labour giving birth to a dead son, caused universal sorrow and great anxiety as to the succession to the crown, was marked in Wakefield by 'every possible demonstration of sorrow' (local paper), muffled bells being rung throughout the day at both churches in the town. Another royal funeral, of Charlotte, wife of George III, early in December, 1818, caused the tenor bell to be rung for a long

period both morning and evening, while muffled bells were rung at the time of the interment.

Three Wakefield ringers were in a mixed band which rang 5,076 Grandsire Caters, conducted by Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, on July 14th, 1819, at St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, where a new ten had been opened two days earlier. The following month a combined Wakefield and Leeds band, conducted by Tebbs, rang on the opening of the bells at Birstall, where five—excluding the tenor cast by Pack and Chapman in 1771—of the old six had been recast and two others added by Dobson, of Downham. The combined company won the first prize—a silver tankard, valued at 12 guineas—ringing against six other bands. Competitors had the choice of ringing 2,496 or 2,528 changes of Kent or Oxford Treble Bob Major. The second prize—a silver pint pot, valued at five guineas—was awarded to the Bradford ringers.

George III died on January 29th, 1820, and when the news reached Wakefield the tenor bell at All Saints' was tolled for several hours and continued the whole of the following day. On the day of his funeral there was muffled ringing at All Saints' and St. John's.

On Whit Monday that year, a ring of ten by Mears was opened at Chesterfield. Bands of ringers from Oldham, Sheffield, Ashton-under-Lyne, Nottingham and Mottram rang peals of Grandsire Caters. 'The Wakefield and Leeds Company, being desirous of ringing all the 10 bells, struck them off, and rang a complete peal in good style of New Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5,190 [a misprint for 5,120] changes . . . which was correctly brought round in three hours and twenty-five minutes.' ('The Wakefield and Halifax Journal,' June 2nd, 1820.) The peal was conducted by Joseph Tebbs.

At Wakefield on October 16th the same year the local society rang 6,030 changes of Grandsire Caters (with two men on the tenor), in 3 hours 44 minutes, composed and conducted by William Woodhead. This was possibly the longest length of Grandsire Caters in Yorkshire at the time. Tebbs left his public house in Leeds and came to Wakefield for the occasion, offering his congratulations to the ringers at the end of the peal.

The bells of the Wakefield churches rang in November, when Lord Liverpool dropped his Bill of Pains and Penalties, an attempt to deprive Queen Caroline of her title and dissolve her marriage. She did not retain her general popularity, however:—

Gracious Queen, we thee implore,
Go away, and sin no more.
If that effort be too great,
Go away at any rate.

The Wakefield and Halifax Journal of Friday, April 27th, 1821, notes that 'On Monday a fine new peal of ten bells, the tenor in the key of D, was opened at Rotherham, by the society of ringers belonging to that town. Several sets attended, as is usual on such occasions, from Wakefield, Halifax, Leeds, Huddersfield, Mottram and Chesterfield. Every separate set completed their peal (i.e., touch), excepting that from Mottram. The superiority was awarded to the Wakefield Youths for best striking, to the Leeds for intricacy of method.' The 'Leeds Mercury' of April 28th identifies the methods rung: Chesterfield, Mottram, Sheffield (not mentioned in the Wakefield paper) and Wakefield—Grandsire Caters; Huddersfield—Kent Treble Bob Royal; Halifax and Leeds—Stedman Caters.

About this time the Wakefield ringers began to practise Stedman. On the evening of October 10th, 5,079 Stedman Caters, composed and conducted by William Woodhead, were rung by the local society in 3 hours 11 minutes, and 'The Wakefield and Halifax Journal' pointed

out that the ringers had had little more than five months' practice at the method.

Having disposed of Stedman, the ringers applied themselves to Cambridge, and with little help from ringing manuals had within a year attempted a peal of Royal in the method, the first company to do so. Joseph Tebbs and John Hudson, of Leeds, and James Hudson, of Halifax, were present at the attempt on September 3rd, 1822, which unfortunately failed after 4,700 changes had been rung. The ringers were: Mark Blackburn, treble; Joseph Sugden, second; Joseph Priestley, third; George Pickering, fourth; John Hall, fifth; James Gill, sixth; Joseph Gill, seventh; Thomas Netherwood, eighth; William Woodhead (conductor), ninth; Robert Collett, tenor. The following month, on the 26th, a successful attempt at the peal was made, Joseph Tebbs coming in on the third for Joseph Priestley, who was presumably blamed for the September failure, and 5,400 changes, composed and conducted by Woodhead, were rung in 3 hours 35 minutes. A number of ringers came to listen, including David Robinson, of Leeds, John Pearson (Liversedge), Samuel Barraclough (Birstall) and Jonathan Womersley (Huddersfield).

Woodhead and Tebbs took a joint Wakefield-Leeds company to York the following year. On Monday, August 18th, they 'attempted to ring several favourite peals, at the Cathedral, but owing to the dilapidated state of the machinery, in the hanging of the bells, they were utterly incapable of succeeding to any extent. We understand that they pronounced this finest and most powerful peal of bells in the kingdom to be no longer in a ringing condition.' ('The Wakefield and Halifax Journal,' August 29th, 1823.) These were the ten hung in 1765.

Two prizes of ten and five guineas were offered at the opening of Pudsey's eight bells on Monday, May 10th, 1824, and 11 companies competed, including those of the Wakefield towers—who failed to distinguish themselves—St. John's being placed ninth and All Saints' tenth. The test was 1,728 changes of Oxford or Kent Treble Bob Major in 62 minutes—for every minute over or under ten points were forfeit. The last company finished ringing after 3 o'clock on the Tuesday morning, when the first prize was awarded to Halifax, the second to Huddersfield.

Wakefield, All Saints', ringers next turned their attention to Superlative Surprise Royal as devised by Shipway, a treble lead of which is printed in his 'Campanalogia.' According to a quotation in Morris' 'History and Art,' a peal in the method, later proved false, was rung at All Saints', Wakefield, on Monday, January 16th, 1825, in 3 hours 28 minutes, conducted by William Woodhead. It happens, however, that January 16th that year was a Sunday, and January 16th, 1826, a Monday. The All Saints' Society rang a true 5,400 of Shipway's Superlative Surprise Royal, conducted by Woodhead, on Monday, March 27th, 1826, in 3 hours 26 minutes, the ringers being: William Fawcett, treble; Joseph Sugden, second; Mark Blackburn, third; George Pickering, fourth; John Hall, fifth; James Gill, sixth; Joseph Gill, seventh; Thomas Netherwood, eighth; William Woodhead, ninth; Robert Collett, tenor. The composition was by Joseph Tebbs, who gave it to the Society. I have been unable to trace local newspapers for 1825 and 1826 to check the date of the false peal.

James Hewitt, who proved the first Superlative peal false, was a ringer at St. John's, Wakefield, a tower where ringing also advanced considerably during the years 1817-26. The foundation stone of this church had been laid on November 3rd, 1791, and the first peal—5,040 Triples—on its eight bells rung on Decem-

(Continued on page 484)

TWO PAGES OF REPORTS OF RINGERS' OUTINGS —

WILLENHALL, STAFFS

St. Giles' ringers and friends, accompanied by the Vicar (Rev. A. G. Bond) and Mrs. Bond and their son George, held their annual outing on Saturday, July 6th. Shropshire was the county selected. At 1 o'clock we were off. The route was via Tettenhall, Albrighton, Shifnal, Madeley and Ironbridge, where the driver slowed down to enable the party to have a good view of the first iron bridge to be built.

Arriving at Coalbrookdale, we were welcomed by Mr. Alfred Bayley. After inspecting the unique tombstone of the late William Saunders and his wife, we soon had the musical ten bells going to call-changes. With the help of A. Bayley we attempted Grandsire and Stedman Triples. Reluctantly leaving the dale, we proceeded to Church Stretton. Arriving at the Church of St. Lawrence, we were met by a member of the local band, who informed us that everything was in order for us to ring. It was decided to have tea first, and then we returned to the church and raised the bells, which were kept going to call-changes, also Grandsire and Stedman Triples. The bells were then lowered in peal.

There had been rumblings of thunder whilst we were ringing and a storm developed as we were travelling towards Ludlow. It was raining when we arrived there but stopped soon afterwards. Half-an-hour was allowed here, as several members wished to storm the Castle, but on entering the courtyard they were turned back by the keeper, it being time to close the gates.

The homeward journey was by way of Bridgnorth, Whitwick and Compton, arriving at Willenhall soon after 10 o'clock, everyone having had a most enjoyable outing.

Thanks are expressed to incumbents for permission to ring, and to local ringers who made us welcome.

C. W.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD OUTING

Forty members and friends of the Guildsborough Branch enjoyed a half-day outing in Huntingdonshire on Saturday, July 6th.

The bells of Hemingford Abbots (6) and Hemingford Grey (6) were available during the afternoon. These two towers being only a mile apart allowed the party to be divided and ringing to take place in both towers at the same time.

Tea at Godmanchester was somewhat delayed. However, this did not prevent visitors from making full use of the fine eight at Godmanchester immediately afterwards. Plenty of rounds were rung, and Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major preceded a good fall.

The last tower of the day was Great Staughton (6), where the combination of weight and long rope draught presented some difficulties to the younger members, but all performed creditably. The ringing here included a course of Cambridge.

And so home, with a stop on the way for refreshment, and a lesson in the art of playing skittles, for all who wished to take advantage of the opportunity.

Thanks are extended to clergy and local ringers and to the Guildsborough Branch secretary for making the arrangements.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL

July 13th was the chosen date, and a 7 a.m. start was made from the Cathedral gates. The party included a number of non-ringers, so it had been decided that the whole of the afternoon could be spent at the Lincolnshire coastal resort of Mablethorpe. The route was quite a country one, the Lincolnshire wolds being park-like in character. The day was quite warm, the few showers encountered being very light.

Louth was reached by 10 a.m. and an hour's ringing on the heavy eight enjoyed. The tower with spire (300ft., the tallest in the county) is very substantial: nevertheless, a peculiar oscillation appears to take place when ringing, which affects some of the bells. It was good to see that considerable work was in hand to restore this beautiful church.

Lunch was enjoyed on arriving at Mablethorpe, after which the party split up. Some went by coach, to ring on the excellent six at Alford: others spent their time on the beach. One party walked two miles along the newly-constructed sea wall to Sutton-on-Sea. Tea brought the party together again, followed by the run to Gainsborough. The ringing here was quite good, as it should be on this delightful octave (tenor 19 cwt.).

Sheffield was reached by 10.20, and all were agreed that the weather, bells, coach, meals and refreshments had been first-class. Our thanks are extended to the towers concerned, and our secretary, for making such good arrangements.

H. O. C.

SPALDING, Lincs

A most enjoyable day's outing was arranged by Mr. J. Newington for the Spalding ringers, who were joined by friends from neighbouring towers on July 13th. Starting at 6.45 a.m., the party headed for Hertfordshire and Essex. The first tower, Barkway, was reached punctually and no time was lost in getting the bells into changes. At the next tower, Braughing, the Rev. G. N. Heath joined the ringers for a brief spell: he had come over specially from Stevenage. Handbells were used here.

Sawbridgeworth was the next place visited. After a ring here and thirsts quenched, the tourists journeyed on to Bishop's Stortford, where the first call was for lunch. With a few minutes to spare before visiting the tower, the handbells were again brought out for a few minutes. The next tower, Dunmow, was not easy to find, but the party were in time to provide a bride and her groom with some wedding bells. All agreed the bells are a good eight. After this tea was enjoyed.

At Thaxted, where some of the best ringing of the day took place, the large number of visitors to the church showed great interest in the ringing, which is done from the ground floor. The last call of the day for ringing was at Saffron Walden, where the ringers excelled in ringing Caters, Royal and Cinques. Thanks to Messrs. Pitsoot and Pye for their welcome.

On then back towards Spalding, but not without a stop at Huntingdon for the usual refreshments. Home was reached about midnight, all agreeing it had been an excellent day's outing.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE

As the outing season comes round each year, it becomes increasingly difficult to decide on the district to visit for a full day of ringing, but there was general agreement that the Bolsover ringers' outing to South Lincolnshire on June 29th was one of the best ever undertaken, in spite of the great heat. The local band was augmented by old friends from Chesterfield, Staveley, Warsop and Worksop, and the first tower, Heckington, was reached at least half-an-hour early. The whole party was accommodated at a local hotel for morning coffee until Mr. Dixon arrived to open the ringing chamber. The weather was already very hot indeed, but the fine octave was kept going in various methods for an hour. At Sutterton, Mr. Rhoades was waiting to welcome us at exactly the time arranged for the visit. The unusual entrance to the tower was strange to the youngsters who are accustomed to ground floor ringing. Mr. Clarke, of Boston also very kindly met the party at Sutterton, and was good enough to guide the coach round the back streets to avoid the heavy Saturday market traffic. Lunch was taken in Boston and then we began the long ascent to the ringing chamber of St. Botolph's. Although we had to finish early for a wedding, the whole party had an opportunity to have a ring on the famous bells at Boston.

At the next church, Surfleet, Mrs. Richardson was waiting to meet the coach, and we were all impressed by the unusual angle of the tower, which appeared likely to fall over at any time. We were assured by Mrs. Richardson that there was no danger, and most of the party had their first opportunity to ring on 12 bells. The younger members had some difficulty in handling the light bells on the front end, but a reasonable course of Bob Maximus was brought round.

A very substantial tea was soon disposed of at the Bull Hotel, Pinchbeck. Mr. Richardson looked after us very well indeed, and we very much enjoyed ringing the very fine octave at St. Mary's.

At the final tower, Spalding, we had some of the best ringing of the day, although the numbers dwindled as many people felt a great desire to do something to neutralise the effects of the heat they had endured during the day.

Our very best thanks are tendered to all who assisted with the arrangements for a very successful day, and we now look forward to the next time. It was very gratifying that the three National Servicemen of the local band were able to obtain leave for the outing, and we very much appreciated the assistance of our friends from neighbouring towers. Methods rung during the day included Plain Bob, Little Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double Norwich, Cambridge Surprise, Superlative Surprise, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters.

A. S. C.

LONDON.—On July 15th, at St. Lawrence Jewry, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. G. Fenn 1, H. Langdon (cond.) 2, J. F. Smallwood 3, A. B. Peck 4, G. W. Cecil 5, J. Philips 6, R. F. Deal 7, C. A. Watts 8. Rung for the reconsecration of the restored church by the Bishop of London, which took place this day.

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ST. NICHOLAS', N. STONEHAM

This year the outing took the form of a coach trip to Oxford, 18 people in all going, including four non-ringing friends. The coach left Southampton at 8 a.m. and, with one stop for refreshment en route, arrived in Oxford at 11 a.m.

Ringing commenced at St. Thomas' Church, a ring of six (tenor 8 cwt.), a rough-going, odd-struck lot, where we managed passable rounds but little else worthy of note.

St. Ebbe's came next, with is 4½ cwt. tenor. The bells were more difficult to strike than we had imagined. Yorkshire wouldn't go, but Cambridge eventually did, with some fair striking. Lilian's rope broke whilst ringing rounds: all credit to her that the bell set itself. Grateful thanks to Peter Sanders for immediately fixing a new rope.

After a break for lunch (the rain having stopped), we met again at St. Giles' (8, tenor 13 cwt.). These are a very odd-struck ring, and were a real testing-piece. However, we managed, amongst other things, a fair touch of Grandsire Triples, a good course of P.B. Major and a good touch of Stedman Triples.

The best ringing of the day was achieved at St. Mary Magdalen (6, tenor 8 cwt.), being a course of Cambridge Minor very well struck. Kate fell through a loose floorboard and badly grazed her shin: much gratitude to Mr. Haythorne for his promptness in getting the necessary dressing and applying it.

Had a look in at the quadrangle of Exeter College, whilst on the way to St. Martin and All Saints' (8, tenor 7½ cwt.). Here is a spacious, clean, well-kept belfry, with walls covered with peal boards. Ropes were very springy, and the bells somewhat difficult to handle (though not so difficult as our own trebles!). No very good ringing here, except one lot of rounds and the final touch of Kent Major.

The party divided into two groups for tea, the Southampton University ringers joining Sephen Ivin and company at one cafe, while the remainder went on to an excellent meal at Crawford's.

After tea we visited Carfax tower, and had a fine view of Oxford from the top before raising the six in peal. Needless to say, the tenor (15 cwt.) went up the wrong way. The ropes were found to be very springy, being new. I gather, thanks to some American visitors, but we enjoyed some good ringing nevertheless. Two good courses of Cambridge Minor were rung: one a 'single course' (as opposed to 'Bob ditto') by the University types, and the other an ordinary humble plain course, the slower one producing the better striking.

The coach left for home at 7.45 p.m., leaving behind Michael and the Weston guests, and our old friend Derek. The first halt was at Abingdon, where some Morris dancers were performing in the street, and three of the party were temporarily left behind when the coach set off without them. However, they only had a quarter of a mile to catch up! Next halt was at East Ilsley, where Double Diamonds, Baby-chams, etc., were imbibed in moderation, and into the bargain the local incumbents gave permission for us to ring on the eight bells there (tenor 8 cwt.). We managed some rounds and a course of Cambridge Major, and voted this to be the most enjoyable ringing of the day (the 'surprise' element, of course?), and wished we could have stayed longer. Rang handbells here, too, P.B. Minor and Grandsire Triples.

Thanks are due to Peter Sanders, of the Oxford University Guild, who made all arrangements at his end and acted as guide to the party throughout the day, and to all the incumbents for allowing us the use of their bells.

R. A. R.

RAINHAM, KENT

On June 29th, a very hot day, the Rainham bellringers, and ringers from the neighbouring towers of Chatham, Newington, Bobbing, Stockbury and Sittingbourne, besides two members from Queenborough, held their annual outing, touring Kent and Sussex. After a short delay, owing to two members from Chatham catching the wrong coach, a start was made from Rainham about 8.30. After picking up other members of the party along the road to Sittingbourne, we soon made tracks for Wingham. Passing through Canterbury, we reached St. Mary's, Wingham, a ring of eight (tenor 19½ cwt.). Here we enjoyed ½-hour's ringing. We contigued to Walmer and were welcomed by Mr. F. Rye, and soon had the bells of St. Mary's—another ring of eight (tenor 19 cwt.)—going to Grandsire. A good touch of Kent Treble Bob ended through a rope breaking.

Lunch was at Deal, after which we toured the coast, passing Dover and Folkestone, and on to Burmarsh in the Romney Marsh district, only to take the wrong route before reaching All Saints', a ring of six (tenor 9½ cwt.) half-an-hour late. No one was there to meet us, but eventually Mrs. Watts came along to welcome us. While the ringers enjoyed ringing touches of Minor and Doubles, other members looked around the church.

Rye was the next objective, but the driver made for Tenterden. However, thanks to Mr. George Kenward, we were able to reach Rye in time for tea. We visited Rye Church: but, like last year, were unable to obtain the use of their bells. At Iden (6) we were again greeted by the Vicar. Here Minor and Doubles were rung. Our last tower of the day was that grand ring of eight (tenor 30 cwt.) at St. Mildred's, Tenterden, where we were welcomed by Miss Relfs, and soon had these fine bells going for the next hour. Our ringing ended with a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. Afterwards the two back-enders had a 'quick one' in a nearby local, as did others.

On our way home a stop was made at Hellingbourne for drinks and a friendly chat with the locals.

The members of the party are grateful to those who helped to make the outing so pleasant, especially the incumbents and the persons who met them at the various towers. F. J. C.

LANCASHIRE RINGERS IN YORKSHIRE

The annual outing of the Accrington ringers this year was held on July 6th. It had been decided that after last year's events, we should travel by British Railways.

Accompanied by friends from Rossendale and Penwortham we arrived in Skipton only a few minutes late, and spent over an hour ringing the fine eight bells. The ringing, however, did not settle down as it should have done, possibly because we were not yet accustomed to the Yorkshire tails, which were also encountered at most of the other towers on our route.

Our next stop was at Keighley where, after ringing most of the party were fortunate enough to have lunch in a cafe. Nine-tenths of the party then went to Haworth, but the Ringing Master, making some excuse about getting a key to the tower at Bingley, deserted us (probably to go 'train-spotting').

Having recovered from the steep climb up to the church at Haworth, about an hour was spent at Bingley, where we were joined by a friend from Burnley, where apparently it is the custom to sleep until lunchtime on Saturdays.

Headingley was our next tower, where we enjoyed ringing the well-going bells which, however, refused to ring Oxford Treble Bob. (It must have been the bells, because all the ringers claimed to be able to ring Oxford!)

A packed tea was consumed in the train before arriving at Ilkley, the home of the late Jasper Snowden. After a very enjoyable ring, we made the return journey home, where we were welcomed by a heavy thunderstorm. We do not think this had any connection with our ringing earlier in the day, but who knows?

We wish to thank all incumbents for their permission to use the bells, and also the ringers who so kindly welcomed us to the towers. British Railways, too, deserve a compliment for the almost perfect way in which our trains kept to schedule.

Methods rung during the day included Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Norwich Major, Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and London Surprise Minor. J. P.

CRANFORD, MIDDLEX.—On July 17th, at the Church of St. Dunstan, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Gillian P. Harbour (first quarter) 1, D. Fowles 2, Eileen M. Ricketts 3, Barbara Marchant 4, J. E. Chilcott (cond.) 5, J. E. Ricketts 6.

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WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH Annual Meeting at Bournemouth

The 78th annual general meeting of the above Guild was held at Bournemouth on Saturday, July 6th. The bells of Christchurch Priory and St. Peter's and St. John's Churches at Bournemouth were available at various times during the day, and full use was made of them.

The service was held in St. Peter's Church, conducted by the Rev. Canon Brasnett (in the absence of the Vicar), assisted by the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, Vicar of St. Michael's, Southampton. The address was given by Canon Brasnett, who chose as his text 'He sent forth his servants at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come, for all things are now ready.' He likened bellringers to these servants, saying that they also invited people to enter God's house. He added that the invitation included ringers themselves.

An enjoyable tea was taken in St. Peter's Hall, which was followed by the business meeting, with the Master (Mr. F. W. Rogers) in the chair, supported by the general secretary (Mr. J. A. C. King) and the general treasurer (Mr. R. A. Reed).

The Master called upon the meeting to stand in remembrance of two members who had passed on—Messrs. W. Tucker and W. Reed, both of whom had been members of the old Winchester Guild before it split up, and both had done great good in their own Districts.

The Master welcomed all present, especially the visitors from Peterborough, Nuneaton and Salisbury.

The statement of accounts was presented by the treasurer. This showed a balance in hand of £153 8s. 0½d., compared with £154 18s. 5½d. at the end of the previous year.

Mr. C. H. Kippin gave an account of the Central Council proceedings. Following this, a suggestion that the C.C. representatives should be instructed to vote in favour of any organisation designed to further the interests of bellringing was defeated, it being held that the representatives should vote as they thought fit after hearing the debate.

All the officers were re-elected en bloc and thanked for their past work.

A resolution from the Christchurch District urging that the subscription be raised so that a free and full report might be issued every year caused some discussion. It was found that there were quite a few points involved and, if the resolution was carried, two other rules would have to be altered as well. Furthermore, to provide such a report it might be necessary to raise the subscription to 10s. each. It was decided, therefore, to give the members as much opportunity as possible for discussing the matter, and a special general meeting will be held in Southampton on Saturday, November 2nd, for this purpose. In the meantime, the District secretaries would be asked to introduce the subject at their own meetings.

It was decided to donate five guineas towards the cost of the new ring of eight at Bitterne Park, Southampton. It was also agreed that five guineas should be given towards the cost of the new ring of ten at Portsmouth Cathedral, should an official application be made.

The next annual general meeting will be held at Southampton on Saturday, July 5th, 1958.

Miss Ruth Carey, on behalf of the Southampton University Society of Bellringers, presented the Guild with a copy of Ernest Morris' book 'Towers and Bells of Britain.' This was, she said, in appreciation of the help they had received from the Guild.

After the meeting members adjourned to enjoy further ringing on Bournemouth's two fine rings of eight.

Thanks are due to Mr. A. V. Davis, for all the local arrangements, and to the clergy who made their bells available.

THE LADIES' GUILD Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Ladies' Guild was held at Newcastle upon Tyne on Saturday, July 6th, and the members had a most successful and enjoyable weekend. All the arrangements were made by Mrs. N. Lea, secretary of the North-Eastern District, and her committee, and their hospitality started on Friday evening, when members arriving soon found themselves invited out to a meal.

On Saturday morning the bells of All Saints', Gosforth (10), SS. James and Basil's, Fenham (8), and St. Stephen's, Scotswood Road (8), were available, and good use made of them until lunch time. In the afternoon members visited St. John's, Grainger Street (8), and the Cathedral (12), whilst after the meeting the Cathedral bells were again available, together with those at St. Mary's, Gateshead (8). For those staying overnight there were still further possibilities for 'tower snatching,' with five towers available on Sunday morning.

The Guild service was held on Saturday afternoon in the Cathedral, conducted by Colonel the Rev. Richard Atkinson, and was attended by some 70 members and friends.

Tea was served in the Cathedral Library, and was provided by the North-Eastern District. In order to do this the District members got to work some weeks ago to organise a jumble sale and raffles, and the result was a wonderful tribute to their efforts. The grateful thanks of the assembled company were expressed by the president (Mrs. K. Lock), not only to Mrs. Lea, the Misses Softley and all those members who had helped, but also to the member of the 'Supporters' Club' who firmly maintains that he had to have his car fumigated after transporting so much jumble!

The Guild was welcomed to Newcastle by Mr. K. Arthur, president of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association. He was warmly thanked by Mrs. Lock, and after votes of thanks had been passed to all those who had helped with the arrangements for the meeting, and to the various incumbents, the gentlemen left the meeting.

The business meeting then followed, the president taking the chair. Some members travelled long distances in order to attend this meeting, but perhaps the most Spartan were the representatives of the Midland District, who rose at 4 o'clock on Saturday morning in order to be present, and who arrived home some 24 hours later.

The officers of the Guild were re-elected, with thanks for their services during the past year. Several alterations to the rules were passed, including, after some discussion, the proposed increase in subscription. It was eventually agreed that as from January 1st, 1958, the subscription should be raised to 2s. for those over 16 years of age, but should remain at 1s. for those of 16 years and under.

Last year a sub-committee was appointed to discuss the question of suitable venues for the annual meetings, as it was felt that the somewhat haphazard way of proposing at one annual meeting the place for the next did not give all members an equal chance of attending. Mrs. Richardson submitted their suggested rota to the members, and all agreed this provided a most satisfactory scheme. According to this rota, the south-eastern part of the country was the next to be visited, and Canterbury was proposed and agreed for 1958, to be held on the first Saturday in July if possible.

The Guild peal book was available for inspection and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Miss Muriel Reay for having entered up since the last annual general meeting all the peals rung by the Guild since its formation.

After the meeting members returned to the Cathedral for further ringing.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION Eastern District

The annual meeting of the Eastern District (Irish Association) was held in St. George's Parochial Hall, Dublin, on Easter Monday, and was attended by members from Arklow, Drogheda and Dublin (St. John's, St. George's and St. Patrick's Cathedrals). Also present were English visitors, and members from Southern and Northern Districts.

Both SS. Augustine and John's and St. George's made arrangements for lunch, and entertained the meeting to tea, which was well appreciated.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Chairman, Mr. J. MacManus (Dublin); vice-president, executive council, Mr. R. Shaw (Arklow); treasurer, Mr. W. D. Graham (Drogheda); secretary, Mrs. F. E. Dukes, Meadow Cottage, Julianstown, Co. Meath; assistant secretary, Mr. R. Huber (Drogheda); Ringing Master, Mr. J. Huber (Drogheda); representatives on executive council—Mrs. Dukes, Messrs. V. Crawford and J. MacManus.

The summer meeting was decided for Dublin in August, in order to give members an opportunity of hearing and meeting the visiting peal tourists, led by Mr. Wilfred Williams, of London.

After the meeting the Lindoff Cup contest was held at St. George's Church. The judges, Messrs. G. Bingham, M. Ellis and A. Foster, unanimously declared Drogheda the winners with 47 faults. Arklow was second and SS. Augustine and John's, Dublin, third. Mr. V. Crawford acted as Ringing Master in the tower.

The cup was presented to Miss Sandra Dukes (aged 12), first substitute for the winners, by Mr. George Lindoff, of Bradford. The attendance shield was also presented to Mr. J. Huber, deputy Ringing Master for Drogheda, by Mr. F. E. Dukes, representing the president.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—F. W. French 2s. 6d., F. Ranson 2s. 6d., Cheshire Fan 2s. 6d., P. Mehew 10s., P. K. Williams 3s., E. R. 5s., T. M. Roderick 2s., F. Morris 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Wallasey 2s. 6d., Allesley 4s., Warwick 4s., Chatteris 3s., Lyme Regis 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Lyminster 3s., Radley 1s., Upper Clapton, E., 2s., Crewkerne 4s., Banstead 2s., Gloucester 5s., Colerne 4s. 6d., Trowbridge 4s., Warcham 3s., Handsworth 3s., Cowbridge 2s., Wimbledon 2s. 6d., Stepney 2s., Chipstable 3s., Wilburton 3s., Lyme Regis 3s., Walthamstow 7s., Market Harborough 3s., Monken Hadley 2s. 6d., Shaftesbury 3s., Carisbrooke 2s., Stratton 2s.

WAKEFIELD RINGING—

(Continued from page 481)

ber 28th, 1794, by the All Saints' Society. A separate ringing society was formed at the church, and Benjamin Thackray—or Thackrah—of Dewsbury, seems to have been their tutor. They rang 'Holt's Triples' on October 14th, 1821, conducted by Thackray, in 3 hours; 5,040 Grandsire Triples on November 12th, 1821, composed and conducted by Proctor Hewitt, in 2 hours 56 minutes; 5,120 Kent Treble Bob Major on October 4th, 1822, composed by Thackray and conducted by Proctor Hewitt, in 3 hours 12 minutes; 5,120 Kent Treble Bob Major on September 3rd, 1823, at St. Giles', Pontefract, conducted by Thackray, in 3 hours 1 minute; and on Christmas Day, 1823, they attempted 5,152 Superlative Surprise Major, composed and conducted by Thackray, but failed after 5,088 changes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LONGFORD BELLS

Dear Sir,—I was extremely interested and pleased to read Mr. Dove's account of a visit to St. Chad's, Longford, Derbyshire, by a band of ringers on May 15th last. However, I fear it is not 33 years since this excellent ring of bells was last heard.

Twelve months ago (all but four days) our usual party from South Staffordshire visited the tower, and with the aid of carpentry tools, etc., supplied, by Mr. Archer, one of the churchwardens, we made small holes in the new floor to enable the ropes to be threaded through. Two of our party were the 'some kind friend who had put the second back in its bearings,' but the tenor (15 cwt. in F sharp) proved too much for us and we were unable to make a rope hole large enough to enable us to ring it. We were able to sample the 'minor' five to changes, however, and chimed the six with one of us upstairs 'clocking' the tenor by hand. I agree with Mr. Dove that these are a fine six well worth any band taking an interest in. Let us try and see how many more 'unringables' just are not.—Yours sincerely,

CLIVE M. SMITH.

Lichfield, Staffs.

A BELL MUSIC QUERY

Dear Sir,—Being interested in music, I have from my youth been perplexed by the practice of the bellfounders in casting rings of 12 bells so that a thirteenth is needed to enable two eights to be obtained. With a tenor in C, a ring of 12 in the conventional manner but with the second sharpened to F sharp will give two rings of eight—one in C, the other in G; moreover, the effect when these 12 are rung will be far more pleasing because of the change in key rather than the descending run in the same key of the conventional 12. From the point of view of symmetry, too, there is a dreadful sense of unbalance about 12 bells which would be nicely corrected by this sharpening of the second, so dividing the 12 into three similar fours (tetrachords).

Considering the financial aspect, it is plain that 12 bells would be cheaper than 13—a factor surely of primary importance when a new ring is being installed, and only offset by the doubtful advantage of having the choice of three sixes!

The founders need not, however, be apprehensive, as this arrangement of 12 is so pleasing that ringers would probably be tempted to augment their bells by the same principle to 16, and perhaps even 20, without the rings acquiring any of the ungainliness that seems to attach itself to present rings of 12.—Yours sincerely,

P. H. WHITAKER.

Spondon, Derby.

EMBLEM FOR PROCESSIONS?

Dear Sir,—On our patronal festival it is customary for representatives of Church organisations to join in a procession round the church, carrying an emblem of their organisation. The vicar is anxious for the ringers to be represented in this procession.

Can any of your readers let us know if this is a custom in any other church, and if so, what is the form of the emblem that is carried.—Yours faithfully,

A. W. HOLDEN.

THANKS

Dear Sir,—May I, through 'The Ringing World,' thank the ringers of North Somerset for their hospitality and kindness, which helped to make my nine months' stay at R.A.F., Locking, a very pleasant one.—Yours sincerely,

GEOFFREY M. BREWIN.

Shrewsbury.

BAT-ING: RABBIT-ING; DIPLOMA; PROFESSORSHIP?

Dear Sir,—May I give a few words of advice to Nancy Kempshall?

Hello! Nancy, 'There you are.' 'I told you so'; but then, I should not say 'I told you so.' Which is it to be? You stick to bat-ing, you will enjoy it more.

You seem to have found out pretty early, which is a good thing, that reason, at least some people's reason, can be very unreasonable at times.

I was for writing recently, after casting up your 'quarters' in last week's 'Ringing World,' but again, pressure of 'work.'

Three quarter peals, one Triples, 'first inside,' and one Doubles, 'conducted,' and two front-page articles in 'The Ringing World'; hurry up, you will soon be having two peals in each of two 'Ringing Worlds'; that's the time, happy day

Now just you read your 'thoughts' again, aloud—I won't say foolish thoughts; try and read them as you would wish others to read them, you will find it is not frustration, neither do I think it 'deflated ego'; it is, I think, just the natural outcome of perhaps wanting to progress too quickly.

A little later on in 'your thoughts in writing,' you come to the focal point, right down to it, your duty to God and your Church; you don't need a professorship, diploma, or even a certificate for Sunday service ringing.

Don't let your 'Bats in the Belfry' down, unless you are joining 'the Rabbits' Guild,' stick to your Doubles of Grandire and Stedman: Surprise will naturally follow.

Next year I hope that you will extend your tower-grabbing beyond Lancashire, into Cheshire, and have a look at the Cheshire Cats; we will help you to see reason.—Yours, etc., 'OWD BAT-ER.'

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

The annual meeting of the Banbury and District Branch was held at Banbury on Saturday, July 13th, when, owing to holidays and other distractions, the attendance was not so good as might have been expected. About 50 members were present at the service and at the tea and business meeting, and there were visitors from Coventry, Peterborough and Bedford Guilds.

Miss M. R. Cross took the chair, in the absence of the Branch chairman, and congratulated the Branch on ringing its first peal on eight bells by resident members; she challenged them to ring peals on five, six and ten bells during the coming year.

All the officers were re-elected except that Mr. G. Burton replaces Mr. H. Alexander as representative on the Guild committee.

The next quarterly meeting was fixed for Steeple Aston on October 19th, and monthly practices at Duns Tew, Sandford St. Martin and Great Tew.

TRAGEDY IN DORSET VILLAGE

Tragedy occurred in the belfry of the parish church in the little Dorset village of Okeford Fitzpaine on Monday, when a bell, weighing 10 cwt., swung down, crushing the 68-year-old rector (Rev. Wm. Mortimer) and killing him almost instantly. A nine-year-old boy was slightly hurt in the mishap.

According to a local ringer, the bells were left up ready for the evening service. With the bells in this position it would be very dangerous for anybody to go into the bell chamber, for the slightest jolt might set them swinging.

The rector was fulfilling a promise he had made to the children of his Sunday School that he would show them the six bells in his church.

A DOUBTFUL PRIVILEGE?

We ringers have often been told that it is an advantage to have a ringer or ringers on the Church Council. I venture to suggest that this can sometimes be a doubtful privilege.

I must first set the scene by saying that we are blessed with a ground floor ringing chamber and that our Friday evening practices are so well attended by locals and visitors in summer months that there is usually a spare hand or two waiting its turn to ring. We also have a fairly large churchyard in need of mowing.

It happened this way:—

One Friday evening one of our churchwardens (who wouldn't have done it if we hadn't been on the ground floor) looked in on us, looked round, said 'Good evening' with a peculiar glint in his eye, and departed.

At the next P.C.C. meeting (and without any warning) this churchwarden rose and enquired whether, in view of the fact that at ringing practices there were apparently a number of 'spares,' couldn't these 'spares' mow the churchyard and lawns while waiting to ring. Faced with 'jolly good idea' murmurs from all other Council members, our representatives agreed to try their powers of persuasion on their brother and sister ringers, and promised that provided they received the right kind of answer, we'd 'have a go.' (Of course, since our P.C.C. members were also those with the most persuasive tongues this proved easy.)

Any fine Friday evening from then on it was a case of 'Charlie, go and find Jack and Bill, we want some Cambridge'; or, 'I'll have a go with the billhook now, John; you are wanted for rounds.' In fact, some people got so interested in dodging tombstones and hunting weeds that it was a job to get them into the belfry to ring at all.

At the next P.C.C. meeting our ringers reported 'progress,' and got their own back by adding that obviously both mowing machines had reached their present owners—us—via the parish jumble sale, and that they wouldn't cut butter, let alone grass. They wound up by saying that there was a wonderful electric one on the market that was a marvel at navigating tombstones. It only cost umpteen pounds, and what about it? This matter, needless to say, is still 'sub judice,' with distinct accent on the sub. So it looks as though we're landed with the old ones again this year.

Therefore if you ring from the ground floor and if you have well attended practices and have a churchyard that needs mowing, should a churchwarden look in and say 'Good evening' with a peculiar glint in his eye, don't say you haven't been warned. 'DELIGHT.'

P.S.—All the facts in the above may not be strictly true—but that's my story and I'm sticking to it.—D.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

The Elloe Deaneries Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild found it necessary, at short notice, to rearrange the meeting place for June 22nd, when Crowland was visited. Ringing commenced in the early afternoon on the six bells. The service at 4 p.m. was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. C. I. Lee), the organist being Mr. W. E. Turner. The 28 members present then enjoyed an excellent tea, given and arranged by local ladies. A charge of 2s. per head was made and the proceeds given to charity.

At the business meeting, Mr. W. A. Richardson was in the chair: three new ringing members were elected, and a collection for the belfry repair fund amounted to £1 1s. Mr. S. Bennett said it was proposed from the Guild committee to raise the subscription for honorary members. It was decided to leave this for discussion at the next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was expressed by Mr. J. G. Ames to all who had made this meeting such a happy one. Further ringing continued on both tower- and handbells.

FESTIVAL AT CHELMSFORD

The fourth annual festival held at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, St. Peter and St. Cedd, Chelmsford, from June 14th to 23rd, added another great success to those of previous years, and again the Essex Association were invited to play a part.

The festival commenced with the Cathedral band ringing a quarter peal of Plain Bob Royal (1,260 changes): Margaret Patent 1, Arthur Hume 2, Ernest J. Runter 3, Ronald Groves 4, Howard W. Eggleston 5, John Crawley 6, Harry Bradley 7, Leslie J. Clark (conductor) 8, Dennis H. S. Symonds 9, Peter J. Eaves 10.

At the opening ceremony held in the Shire Hall, the Bishop of Chelmsford presided. Mrs. Nancy Price, C.B.E., gave a lecture with the title 'As I Pass By.'

On Saturday eight members representing the North Western District rang touches of Stedman Triples preceding the Friends of the Cathedral service. In the evening, an organ recital was given by Francis Jackson, B.Mus., F.R.C.O., organist and master of the choristers, York Minster.

The Cathedral ringers were again at work on Trinity Sunday. At the Trinity ordination service 12 deacons and 11 priests were ordained.

On Tuesday members from the Northern District rang a quarter peal (1,259 changes) of Grandsire Caters. The ringers were: H. G. Felton 1, Lewis W. Wiffen 2, Ernest W. Furbank 3, Frank Clayden 4, Alan R. Syder 5, Ronald Suckling 6, Frank B. Lufkin (conductor), 7, Ernest W. Bright 8, Walter Arnold 9, Terry Earle 10. The quarter peal preceded the presentation in the Cathedral by the St. Cross Players of the Dorothy Sayers play 'Zeal of Thy House.'

On Wednesday, before the second performance of the play, ten members from the South Western District rang a quarter peal (1,440 changes) of Cambridge Surprise Royal, as follows: Charles R. Smith 1, Brian J. Howard 2, Frank V. Gant 3, Lionel S. Woods 4, Harry Turner 5, John Armstrong 6, Andrew J. Salisbury 7, Charles E. Willmington 8, Alfred J. House 9, John H. Crampion (conductor) 10.

On Thursday the ringers were drawn from the South Eastern District and a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters was rung before a piano recital given in the Cathedral by Dennis Matthews. The ringers stood as follows: Michael Edwards 1, Miss Mary Dowsett 2, Peter Came 3, Edward W. Roast 4, Howard W. Eggleston 5, Ivan Saunders 6, Patrick Saltmarsh 7, Arthur H. Everett (conductor) 8, David Hodgson 9, Charles Smith 10.

Saturday, June 22nd, saw the gathering together in the Cathedral of families for the diocesan family services, when a representative family from every parish in the diocese was invited to attend. This great gathering filled the Cathedral twice. At the first service the Bishop of Barking was the preacher, and at the second the Bishop of Colchester.

Members from the North Eastern District rang the bells prior to the two services and before the musical recital given by Pamela Bowden (contralto) and Derrick Cantrell, B.Mus., F.R.C.O., organist and master of the choristers (organ). Unfortunately, owing to a shift course, the ringers were not able to record a quarter peal of Little Bob Royal.

There were many things of interest exhibited on show in the Cathedral, and the flower decorations by ladies throughout the diocese were magnificent and a real joy to behold. May we have the pleasure to assist again in a great diocesan effort. R. C. H.

HURST, BERKS.—On July 17th, 1,260 St. Clement's Triples: J. Froome 1, B. C. Castle (cond.) 2, R. Rivers 3, Mrs. B. C. Castle 4, W. Hunt 5, H. Smith 6, A. J. Rance 7, F. Hicks 8. First in the method by all the band.

TEN COUNTIES AND BELLS AS WELL!

It was going to be a leisurely holiday, cycling down country lanes, dozing in the afternoons and—no ringing! However, the idea of passing by so many towers was too much temptation, and Saturday, June 8th, saw us, both loaded with luggage, cycling up through Windsor to Tring, our first tower. A good heavy eight, and a variety of methods was worth the 50 miles! Then on to Ivinghoe that night for our first taste of youth hostels.

As you will remember, on Whit Sunday it rained—and it certainly rained on us! Nothing daunted, a touch of Grandsire Triples at Hemel Hempstead for morning service recovered our flagging spirits, and Mrs. Plummer, wife of a Hemel ringer, kindly dried us out. We waited at Ware, just outside Hertford, that night, but no ringers appeared.

Whit Monday, Chelmsford, and more rain! Unfortunately, we missed the Great Cannon but gathered much from the explosions around us! We rang at Writtle and the rather shaky eight at Widford, but found the Cathedral bells the best and the most enjoyable.

On Tuesday morning we cycled to Cambridge in bright sunshine and a strong wind, arriving in the late afternoon. That evening we joined the local band at Cherry Hinton, a fair-going five or six miles from the city. Stedman and Grandsire were brought round with some success.

The heatwave began in earnest the next morning. So far we had been disappointed in Cambridge, but in King's College Chapel we saw some of the finest examples of architecture we had seen, while the 'backs' of the Colleges were wonderful. Rolling lawns sweeping down to the river bathed in brilliant sunshine gave us our most vivid impression of Cambridge.

Cycling through the heat to Bedford was quite an endurance test, but we arrived there just after lunch, perhaps a little burnt but otherwise intact.

We met Eddie Jeffries, a great Bedford ringer, and his wife here, and had tea with Mrs. Ivins, Stephen's mother. That evening we went for a quarter peal of Bob Minor at Willesden with an all-girl band—which we lost! All apologies to the rest of the band.

The next day we cycled through wonderful country to Badby, and attended a practice at Daventry that night, arranged for us by Pat Chapman. The left-hand ring went well but the heat proved too much for tip-top ringing. Afterwards we spent a pleasant half-hour with Mr. and Mrs. Jeffries, who had come over from Bedford, at Pat's house listening to ringing records. Unfortunately, we had to dash back to Badby before the Youth Hostel closed its doors.

Our aim on Friday was Stratford—if the heat would let us! Am afraid that I cycled into Stratford wearing a pyjama jacket—the best protection against the sun that I could find!

The flags were out in Stratford, and the children were country dancing on the green. The Queen was at the Memorial Theatre and we had the good luck to see Her Majesty and Prince Philip leave Stratford about 5 p.m. We saw 'As You Like It' at the Theatre that evening and watched the swans on the river during the interval.

By now our own mothers would not have recognised us—our previous fried state was beginning to look more becoming.

We arrived at Worcester in the heat of the day and even our spirits were daunted. Plans of attending another meeting were ruled out and we spent the afternoon by the river—the coolest part of the town!

Worcester Cathedral on Sunday morning and All Saints' ten whetted our ringing appetites once again. The Worcester ringers invited us to ring with them that afternoon, and we saw for the first time the marvellous view from the

Malvern Hills. We visited three towers, where Cambridge, London and other methods were rung with much energy—though the temperature was over 80°.

That night we stayed at the home of George Morris in Malvern, and would like to say many thanks to Mrs. Morris and the Worcester ringers for a wonderful day.

The end of the tour came quickly. We arrived at Stow-in-the-Wold just as the bells were rung down at the end of the practice. The sweeping hills of the Cotswolds impressed us but I vowed I would never go there again—on a bike!

Tuesday we went through Bourton-on-the-Water, where we were intrigued to find a village within a village within a village. We explored several lovely villages that day on the way to Inglesham. A practice at Christ Church, Swindon, was the end to a perfect day.

Our tour finished at Oxford the next day, and we actually went by train to Banbury that evening to join the Oxford ringers, a course of Pudsey Royal by my more experienced friend being the crowning glory.

Thursday evening we had a party at Daphne's, where we feasted on wood-pigeons and white wine, and Bill Jackson entertained us with his guitar.

Friday morning we cycled past the pinnacles and spires of Oxford for the last time on our journey back to Guildford.

We would like to thank all the ringers who made our holiday such a success and given us so many happy memories.

JOAN BEAZLEY, aided by ANN M. COX.

RYE RINGERS' OUTING

On June 22nd, 23 ringers set out from Rye for their annual outing, among them five exiles and a visitor from Oxford. For five members this was the first outing.

Four Kentish towers were visited during the afternoon and evening. The eight at Fritenden proved popular and the treble going through the clock case quite a novelty. At Linton the steep ladder was negotiated with great care but it was worth the climb. The ten at Leeds were a little more difficult as for many it was the first ring on this number of bells. Plain hunting on nine was managed, however.

Ham and salad tea was enjoyed at Maidstone and after a wander round the town the six at Chart Sutton were rung to Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob Minor and Triples, and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor.

After a short break at Tenterden the coach returned to Rye at 9.45 p.m. Grateful thanks to all incumbents and to local ringers who met the tourists.

OBITUARY

MR. GEORGE BASON

On July 5th the above-named ringer was laid to rest in the churchyard at the Cheshire village of Rostherne, when members of the local band, together with representatives of the local branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild, paid their last respects to an old and valued friend.

George had been associated with the church from boyhood, when he sang in the choir, and for many years had served as ringer and in other capacities. Of a quiet nature, and obviously a true countryman, he had travelled widely on the Continent in connection with his employment, visiting different horse shows. Although not a peal ringer, he was always ready to welcome all to the tower, and his staunch support of the Chester Guild was much appreciated by the local officials. He will be greatly missed not only in his own tower but by his friends throughout the Bowdon, Stockport and Mottram Branch of the Chester Guild.

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.

Latest Date: Monday first post.

BIRTH

BLACKMAN.—On July 18th, 1957, to Jean (nee Curtis) and Peter, the gift of a daughter (Helen Louise) at Leicester. 617

ENGAGEMENT

OLIVER—MORRIS.—The engagement is announced between Leslie, only son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Oliver, of Tisbury, Wiltshire, and Barbara, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Morris, of Lyme Regis, Dorset. 605

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Sidney F. Palmer, of the Sheffield Cathedral Company, is now 17, Ringstead Crescent, Crosspools, Sheffield. 10. 609

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE THRO' SOCIAL INTRODUCTIONS.—The only social service of its kind enjoying the warm approval of both Clergy and Press. It is completely confidential and operates throughout Great Britain. Interesting free brochure under plain sealed cover from The Bournemouth Bureau, 176, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. 9981

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MISCELLANEOUS

BATH ABBEY bells will be rededicated on Saturday, August 3rd. All ringers welcome from 3.30 to 6 o'clock.—W. J. Prescott. 613

WITNEY RINGING SOCIETY.—No practices during the month of August next. Sunday service ringing as usual. 607

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Saturday, July 27th. Ringing at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, 3.30 p.m. Business at Ship, Talbot Court, E.C. 6 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec. 577

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Branch.—Quarterly meeting, West Buckland (6), Saturday, July 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea essential.—A. H. Reed, George Street, Taunton. 589

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Evening meeting at Little Shelford (5) on Saturday, July 27th, 6.30 p.m.—E. W. Bullman, Dis. Sec. 593

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District) and LADIES GUILD (Kent Branch).—Joint meeting Petham, July 27th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.15. Special coach leaves St. George's Bus Station, Canterbury, 3 sharp; to reserve seat, card to 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury, as early as possible. Ladies, please note change of date and venue.—Mrs. W. Dobbie and B. J. Luck, Hon. Secs. 540

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—Meeting at Little Milton, Saturday, July 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m.—H. Badger, The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. 594

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Little Missenden. Saturday, July 27th, 3.15 to 8.30 p.m. Great Missenden, 3 to 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. at former.—Butler, 17, Forest Road, Windsor. 601

SOUTHEND AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Stanford-le-Hope (8) on Saturday, July 27th, at 3.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea at nearby café. Everyone welcome.—B. C. S. Adler. 579

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Bury St. Edmunds District.—Meeting at Hopton (6) on Saturday, July 27th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—K. G. Brown, Dis. Sec. 573

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting, Saturday, July 27th, changed to Christ Church, Eastbourne. Make sure of Cambridge Major. Names for tea to H. Reynolds, Sec., 10, Eastern Avenue, Polegate. 584

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Meeting at Wilburton (6) on Saturday, August 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—D. E. R. Knights, Dis. Sec. 604

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting, Ottershaw (6), Saturday, August 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. at The Otter. Names by Wednesday, July 31st. to Hazel Hancock, Malshanger, Chobham Road, Ottershaw. 602

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Aug. 3rd. New Mill. For teas please notify by July 27th N. Tinker, Eastfield, Mearhouse, New Mill, Huddersfield.—A. Farrand, Greenhill Cottages, Roughtown, Mossley, Manchester. 610

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Meeting at Abbots Langley (6), Saturday, August 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5.15. Tea 5.45 p.m.—K. R. Dunstan, Dis. Sec. 618

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Marden (8) on Saturday, August 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5. Service 6 p.m. Names for tea, with cash, please (2s.), by Tuesday, July 30th, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 507

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Holy Trinity, Burnley, on Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Ringing 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 606

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Parbold, Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. No tea provided—café nearby.—M. E. Ridyard, 16, Vaughan Road, Southport. 614

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Weston-Underwood, Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells (6) 5 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 615

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Meeting, Bratton (6), Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service and tea. Names for tea to S. Cockell, 19, Craybourne Road, Melksham, Wilts. 608

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting at Elveden (8), Saturday, August 3rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—E. M. Peachey, Dis. Sec. 599

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Hartfield (6), Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by previous Wednesday, please, to I. Butcher, 14, Withypitts, Turners Hill. 612

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—August Bank Holiday meeting at Chesterfield. 3 p.m. on Monday, 5th. Names for tea must be sent by August 1st to Mr. S. Scattergood, 797, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield. All welcome.—J. Seager, Sec. 620

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Southampton District.—Combined practice meeting on August Bank Holiday. Towers available: Mottisfont, 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Lockerly, 2 to 4; Tytherly 5 p.m. Please make your own catering arrangements.—M. J. Butler. 622

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak and Chesterfield Districts.—Joint meeting at Ashover on Saturday, Aug. 10th, at 3 p.m. Cups of tea only. Come and enjoy a ring on this grand old mellow octave.—H. E. Taylor, A. B. Cooper, Dis. Secs 616

HUNTINGDON DISTRICT'S
'ANNUAL'

The annual outing of the Huntingdon District of the Ely Association was held on July 6th, when towers in West Norfolk were visited.

Hilgay (8) was the first tower, where we found the bells already raised, but the ringing was not of a particularly high standard, and a course of Cambridge Major came to grief through one ringer changing to the Minor variation. The light six at Denver were then visited and the ringing here was a great improvement, the party by then being fully awake.

After lunch at Downham Market, the delightful six at Wigganhall (St. Mary Magdalen) was next on the programme, and here the best ringing of the day was enjoyed. This was followed by Tilney (All Saints', 6), where Mr. Rose met us and had most of the bells raised, after which we had tea at West Lynn.

After tea we joined forces with the Wisbech District of the Association at Terrington St. Clement (8), where six members of the party nearly missed the 'bus and travelled on to the last tower, Terrington St. John (6), where we were met by the Messrs. Cousins and where a garden fete was in progress in the grounds of the Vicarage next to the tower. Children's dancing was watched by some of the party whilst others patronised the stalls, purchasing fruit to pacify wives who had been left at home.

Two stops were necessary on the journey back: one for a frantic telephone call to be made to locate a forgotten blazer, and the other following a loud report from a back tyre, this mishap unfortunately taking place beyond walking range of a hostelry!

Before the party broke up, Mr. F. Lack proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the District secretary (Mr. H. S. Peacock) for the work which he had done in organising such a splendid day, and this was carried with acclamation. E. R.

ST. ALBANS RINGERS' OUTING

Several members of the St. Albans Cathedral Society of Change Ringers were surprised to learn from the Dean of Lichfield, who welcomed them to ring at Lichfield Cathedral on July 13th, that St. Albans Cathedral is the highest above sea level in this country, and that Lichfield is the next highest, with a difference of 54 feet.

The St. Albans ringers were on their annual outing, which took them first to Chilvers Coton (All Saints') and then to St. Mary's, Lichfield, before lunch in the city. They proceeded to Walsall (St. Matthew's), and after tea to Bromsgrove (St. John Baptist), returning to St. Albans via Stratford-on-Avon and Banbury.

Good food and good ringing were the features of the day, the Lichfield Cathedral ten and St. Matthew's 12 giving special pleasure. Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Little Grandsire and Cambridge were among the touches rung during the day: the Stedman Cinques at Walsall, where the bells are closely akin in weight to St. Albans Abbey bells, were particularly well 'tapped out.'

Several wives accompanied the ringers on the trip, and learners were given the opportunity to strike some rounds at each tower visited.

Everywhere, the visitors were welcomed in the best traditions of ringing, and arrived to find, in some cases, the bells up and all ready to go. The outing was arranged and led by Mr. W. J. Arnold, deputy tower captain at St. Albans Cathedral. Ringing at the various towers was led by Mr. B. Johnston (St. Peter's, St. Albans). Mr. Walter Ayre (Apsley), Mr. G. Dodds (District Ringing Master) and others.

STANDLAKE, OXON.—On July 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Bernard Coggins 1, B. J. Coggins 2, Margaret M. Wynn (first 'inside') 3, E. Hill 4, A. H. Gearing (cond.) 5, B. E. Costar 6.

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