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**A LONDON UNIVERSITY SOCIETY?**

It is not possible to measure what the art of change ringing owes to the Universities. For well over fifty years the Cambridge University Guild and the Oxford University Society have been training grounds from which have come many of our most influential ringers—to carry the art into their parishes and dioceses, as parsons; to devote their energies and intellects to the many problems, the solution of which has added so largely to our store of knowledge and our interest in the art. Indeed, many of the most important of our ringing organisations owe their formation to men who graduated into ringing through these two seats of learning, and the prosperity of the Exercise as well as much of the advance of the art itself has been built up by those whose first real interest in ringing was awakened while at University.

Hitherto, however, it is only Oxford and Cambridge that have had their University ringing societies, but why should not the younger University of London have a similar organisation? We are prompted to ask this question from the report that a meeting of the London County Association, held at All Hallows', Lombard Street, a city church, where the bells are seldom rung, appears to have been made the success it was through the instrumentality of certain University students. Here, in these young men, seems to be the nucleus of what might well develop into an important and useful organisation, which in time might play as valuable a part in maintaining the influence of the Exercise and advancing knowledge of the art as either of the other two Universities. It may be true that at present, at any rate, conditions are not quite the same in London as in Oxford or Cambridge, but with the experience of the older societies to go upon a scheme to establish a London University Society, with similar objects as those in the sister Universities, does not seem beyond the realms of realisation.

These societies, as we have said, are essentially training grounds, to interest and instruct students of the right type in the art of ringing, to encourage them to go out not merely as ringers but as 'missionaries,' to spread the practice of change ringing, and as 'explorers' to open up, if possible, new avenues of advance. A London University Society would start with certain material advantages. There are within reach plenty of bells which ought to be available for practice, and ample help would, we feel sure, be forthcoming. It is possible that London University might eventually offer a larger field for recruiting even than Oxford or Cambridge, and such a society would be, in any event, an extremely valuable adjunct to the cause of change ringing. Cannot something be done to set a scheme on foot?

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## TEN BELL PEALS.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 6080 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt. in C sharp

JOHN G. W. HARWOOD ... Treble	CHARLES F. SAYER ... .. 6
FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... 2	GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 7
NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 3	WILLIAM J. LEE ... .. 8
GEORGE HOWCHIN ... .. 4	WILLIAM J. CLOVER ... .. 9
ARTHUR G. KING ... .. 5	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Rung after meeting short for Cinques.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... Treble	FREDERICK G. BALDWIN ... 6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 2	† WILFRED G. WILSON ... 7
* MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREY 3	FRANK CORRER ... .. 8
* MISS FRANCES HUMPHREY 4	* WILLIAM H. COLES ... .. 9
† MISS KATH. M. BRADFORD 5	ARTHUR HARDING ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

\* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Royal. First peal in the  
method and first attempt by all except ringers of 2nd and tenor. First  
peal in the method on tower bells as conductor. First peal on ten  
bells in which a mother and daughter have taken part.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 23, 1934, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ARTHUR SMALLS ... .. Treble	GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 5
GEORGE HOWCHIN ... .. 2	GEORGE BAILEY ... .. 6
MRS. GEORGE H. CROSS ... 3	WILLIAM J. MAYERS ... .. 7
FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... 4	GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

PENSURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION  
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ALFRED L. RYMAN ... .. Treble	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... 5
GEORGE EDWARDS ... .. 2	ERNEST J. LADD ... .. 6
RICHARD D. DIVALL ... .. 3	ALEX RICHARDSON ... .. 7
BERNARD V. COLLISON ... 4	ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

Rung as birthday compliments to the son of the ringer of the 7th  
and to the granddaughter of the conductor.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6050 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

* WILLIAM R. SHORTER ... Treble	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... .. 5
WILLIAM C. PARKER ... .. 2	WILLIAM E. BUTLER ... .. 6
FRANK BENNETT ... .. 3	WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. 7
† KENNETH C. GRACE ... .. 4	GEORGE GILBERT ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

\* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. A jubilee peal  
by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. R. J. James, M.A.), and  
rung to celebrate the first peal of Major on these bells by members  
of the same society on Saturday, February 23rd, 1884.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.  
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

FREDERICK BORRETT ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE TOWER ... .. 5
GEORGE HOWLETT ... .. 2	CHARLES LOOME ... .. 6
STANLEY COPLING ... .. 3	RUSSELL RICHES ... .. 7
ERNEST POPPY ... .. 4	ERNEST WHITING ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by N. PITSTOW.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

Arranged for ringers of treble and 4th, being the 40th anniversary of their first peal.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.  
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

WILLIAM CLOVER ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... .. 5
MRS. GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 2	*BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ... .. 6
GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 3	GEORGE BAILEY ... .. 7
ERIC BENNETT ... .. 4	GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

\* First peal in the method.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	JOSEPH S. CARTER ... .. 5
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... .. 2	FRANK W. PERRENS ... .. 6
RICHARD F. ROE ... .. 3	FRANK E. PERVIN ... .. 7
*WILFRED H. J. HOOTON ... .. 4	D. HAROLD ARGYLE ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

\* First peal in the method.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt.

GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM WATHEN ... .. 5
GEORGE W. ABLITT ... .. 2	SEELFORD SPARROW ... .. 6
KEITH W. WHITTELL ... .. 3	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD ... .. 7
WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... .. 4	HARRY D. LISTER ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by H. D. LISTER.

The ringer of the treble has now completed the 'circle' in this tower.

STANDISH.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES W. GROUNDS ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	*GEORGE T. JENKINS ... .. 5
ROBERT ALLRED ... .. 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 6
NORMAN BROWN ... .. 3	JOHN BOOTH ... .. 7
BENJAMIN T. ALLRED ... .. 4	WILLIAM O. FARRIMOND ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

\* First peal. The band wish to thank Miss Bessie Booth for her hospitality after the peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 28, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

JOHN P. FIDLER ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	CHARLES ALLSOP ... .. 5
GEORGE E. FEARN ... .. 2	JOSEPH T. PACK ... .. 6
JOHN GRUNDY ... .. 3	F. HORACE E. STUBBS ... .. 7
JOHN SADDINGTON ... .. 4	COLIN HARRISON ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GEO. LEWIS.

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM WOOD ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM JUDD ... .. 5
WILLIAM WELLING ... .. 2	WILLIAM PICKWORTH ... .. 6
WILLIAM HOLLIER ... .. 3	WILLIAM BOTTRILL ... .. 7
WILLIAM HEWITT ... .. 4	WILLIAM PYE ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by WILLIAM WILLSON. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to William Hollier. William Pickworth entertained the band to supper after the peal. His hospitality was appreciated by the Wills, who tendered him their sincere thanks.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb. in G.

*ARTHUR ARMITAGE ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE W. STEEL ... .. 5
G. WILFRED SLACK ... .. 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... .. 6
GEORGE ROBINSON ... .. 3	†G. CECIL WALLACE ... .. 7
CHARLES E. LAWSON ... .. 4	HAROLD WALKER ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by WM. WILLSON. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS

\* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. Rung with half-muffled clappers as a tribute of respect to the late Sir Edward Elgar, of Worcester, the great English composer, and formerly Master of the King's Musick.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 1, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MISS OLIVE BIGGS ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	A. REGINALD BLABY ... .. 5
ROLAND BIGGS ... .. 2	FREDERICK G. BIGGS ... .. 6
ARTHUR NEWTON ... .. 3	PERCY NEWTON ... .. 7
JAMES W. WILKINS ... .. 4	VICTOR EVANS ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by PERCY NEWTON.

\* First attempt for a peal. Great credit is due to Miss Biggs, the youngest daughter of F. G. Biggs, on the way in which she rang her bell throughout. Rung as a compliment to A. R. Blaby, a member of the belfry and choir, on his 21st birthday. The 200th peal on the bells. All are members of the tower except the ringer of the fourth.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 2, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. <i>Treble</i>	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 5
JAMES BENNETT ... .. 2	*ALFRED J. HOUSE ... .. 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. 3	*EDWIN A. BARNETT ... .. 7
*THOMAS R. VAUGHAN ... .. 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

\* First peal of Oxford.

CROWLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

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

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 10 cwt.

*FRANK BARNETT ... .. 1 <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE HINTON ... .. 5
JAMES WOODYATT ... .. 2	DENIS R. MORRIS ... .. 6
SIDNEY T. HOLY ... .. 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... .. 7
WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. 4	FREDERICK G. YATES ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by THOMAS W. LEWIS.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor.

## CHESTER.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-within-the-Walls,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING ... .. Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY ... .. 5
ROLAND PARK ... .. 2	JAMES MORGAN ... .. 6
SIDNEY EDWARDS ... .. 3	THOMAS GUEST ... .. 7
WILLIAM HOPWOOD ... .. 4	PERCY SWINDLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD.

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING

EARL SHILTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of SS. SIMON AND JUDE,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*CLAUDE A. COE ... .. Treble	*NORMAN STATHAM ... .. 5
*WILLIAM NEWTON ... .. 2	GEORGE A. NEWTON ... .. 6
HECTOR A. KNIGHTS ... .. 3	ERNEST E. PICKERING ... .. 7
FRANCIS R. DEACON ... .. 4	†PERCY COE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by G. A. NEWTON.

\* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal. All are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

OVERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Matthew,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

*GEOFFREY W. CLAYFIELD Treble	WILLIAM E. CLAYFIELD ... 5
JOSEPH W. COTTON ... .. 2	*ALFRED B. BEADSMOORE ... 6
ALFRED BALLARD ... .. 3	ERNEST W. BEADSMOORE ... 7
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ... .. 4	ERNEST MORRIS ... .. Tenor

Composed by GEO. WILLIAMS.

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

\* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Mrs. J. W. Cotton, a respected member of the M.C.A., who kindly entertained the ringers at the conclusion of the peal.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

## THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM C. PARKER ... .. Treble	THOMAS GOODCHILD ... .. 5
WILLIAM TAYLOR ... .. 2	WALTER D. JOLLEY ... .. 6
WILLIAM WELLING ... .. 3	CECIL W. PIPE ... .. 7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... .. 4	JAMES E. DAVIS ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.

Rung in honour of the wedding of the granddaughter of the late Sir Edward Clarke, the donor of the bells.

ERITH, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

## A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN S. MORTON ... .. Treble	*HARRY PARKES ... .. 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. 2	HARRY HOVERD ... .. 6
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... .. 7
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... .. 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... .. Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. L. JAMES.

Conducted by F. J. CULLUM.

\* First peal in the method.

## HADDENHAM, BUCKS.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS &amp; SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*REGINALD BLABY ... .. Treble	GEORGE MARTIN ... .. 5
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER ... .. 2	ROLAND BIGGS ... .. 6
FRED BIGGS ... .. 3	HARRY WINGROVE ... .. 7
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER ... .. 4	WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by G. MARTIN.

\* First peal in the method.

## AMBROSDEN, OXON.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN P. PELLOE ... .. Treble	*FRANK WEST ... .. 5
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR ... .. 2	ALFRED G. G. THURLOW ... .. 6
ROBERT GREEN ... .. 3	REV. C. ELLIOTT WIGG ... .. 7
WILLIAM G. COLLETT ... .. 4	HARRY MILES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN P. PELLOE.

\* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

## WEST MALLING.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

*ROBERT G. RAYFIELD ... Treble	THOMAS E. SONE ... .. 5
MRS. H. BAKER ... .. 2	HARRY BAKER ... .. 6
CHARLES H. SONE ... .. 3	WILLIAM BUTTON ... .. 7
TOM SAUNDERS ... .. 4	WILLIAM WEBBMAN ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

\* First touch of Major. The composition, No. 230, is rung for the first time. The conductor has now called a peal from each bell in this tower.

## CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 4, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

## A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

OLIVER SIPPETTS ... .. Treble	KENNETH SNELLING ... .. 5
GEORGE OLIVER ... .. 2	ALFRED J. BULL ... .. 6
ROBERT SWIFT ... .. 3	CECIL NICE ... .. 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 4	NELSON ELLIOTT ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by N. ELLIOTT.

First peal in the method as conductor.

## SIX BELL PEALS.

## BEDFORD.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter-de-Merton,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

MISS EVELYN STEEL ... .. Treble	WALLACE G. CHURCH ... .. 4
CHARLES W. CLARKE ... .. 2	WILLIAM STAPLETON ... .. 5
HARRY TYSOE ... .. 3	HERBERT SHARP ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STAPLETON.

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute to the King of the Belgians.

## TOWER CLOCKS,

Weight Driven or Electric, By the WORLD'S OLDEST MAKERS,

J. B. JOYCE &amp; CO., LTD., WHITCHURCH, SALOP.

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Illustrated Art Catalogue on Request.



SWAVESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.  
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
(CENTRAL BRANCH.)

On Friday, February 23, 1934, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
At the Church of St. Andrew,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Seven different callings. Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).  
\*GEORGE HODSON ... .. Treble | FRANK WARRINGTON ... .. 4  
\*HAROLD WHITEHEAD ... .. 2 | MANSFIELD GINN ... .. 5  
\*BERT HODSON ... .. 3 | ROBERT SMITH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.

\* First peal and belongs to local company. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. E. Williams, recently inducted as priest in Australia, former sexton and ringer at this church. The last known peal rung by any Swavesey ringer was in 1828.

BLACKMOOR, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes.

At the Church of St. Matthew.

**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 24 six-scores of Plain Bob with four different callings, and 20 six-scores of Grandsire with ten different callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ARTHUR WATTS ... .. Treble | WILLIAM READ ... .. 4  
\*ARTHUR H. FISHER ... .. 2 | CHARLES E. BASSETT ... .. 5  
†PERCIVAL W. FISHER ... .. 3 | CYRIL S. WEST ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES E. BASSETT.

\* First peal away from treble. † First peal. This is the first peal to be rung in the newly-formed district of Alton and Petersfield. The band were kindly entertained to tea after the peal by Mr. and Mrs. W. Read.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN HOLLOWES ... .. Treble | THOMAS K. DRIVER ... .. 4  
WILLIAM BERRY ... .. 2 | JAMES H. BASTOW ... .. 5  
HAROLD HAMER ... .. 3 | JOHN H. C. MASSEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BERRY.

Rung, after meeting short for Bob Major, as a birthday compliment to John Hollowes on his attaining his 78th birthday. First peal of Minor for the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th and tenor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

COTTENHAM, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(CENTRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16 cwt.

ROBERT SMITH ... .. Treble | STANLEY SHIPP ... .. 4  
FRANK WARRINGTON ... .. 2 | ARTHUR J. GINN ... .. 5  
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... .. 3 | MANSFIELD GINN ... .. Tenor

Composed by Rev. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by F. WARRINGTON

Rung after the funeral of Mr. A. G. Rivers, this being his favourite method.

BLAYDON-ON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Cuthbert, Stella,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being a 720 of Oxford Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt. in B.

\*W. J. DAVIDSON ... .. Treble | J. A. BROWN ... .. 4  
†A. MACFARLANE ... .. 2 | A. DEAS ... .. 5  
S. THOMPSON ... .. 3 | H. P. CLIFF ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT P. CLIFF.

\* Has now completed the circle. † First peal. Rung to celebrate the marriage of Miss Mothersall, daughter of Mr. A. V. Mothersall, a ringer at this church.

DEVIZES.—At St. Mary's Church, on December 19th, 720 of Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor: A. J. Boyce 1, W. A. Swift 2, S. Hillier 3, G. Winter 4, V. E. Swift (conductor) 5, F. Green 6. First extent of Spliced Minor by all the band.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 26, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Andrew,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being one extent each of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.

BERNARD GILLATT, SEN. ... Treble | JACK BRAY ... .. 4  
GEORGE W. MOODY ... .. 2 | ERNEST BRITTAIN ... .. 5  
\*FRED HOLDSTOCK ... .. 3 | BERNARD GILLATT, JUN. ... Tenor

Conducted by J. BRAY.

\* First peal in seven methods.

FULMER, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 26, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of: (1) Norwich Surprise; (2) Double and Single Oxford Bob; (3) Woodbine Treble Bob; (4) St. Clement's and Plain Bob; (5) Cambridge Surprise; (6) Canterbury Pleasure Reverse; (7) Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr.

GEORGE H. LIMMER ... Treble | SGT. J. BRAGG, G. GDS. ... 4  
ALAN R. PINK ... .. 2 | WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. 5  
GEORGE H. GOTTERIDGE ... 3 | GEORGE GILBERT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

Arranged and rung as a 'coming of age' peal for the treble man. First peal in ten methods by all, and, in seven 720's, by the Guild.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Seven 720's in 25 methods, viz:—

- (1) Crowland, Abbeyville, Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburg.
- (2) Poynton, Marple, Old Oxford, Bocking and Willesden.
- (3) Grove Delight, Braintree, Neasden, College Bob IV. and Wragby.
- (4) Trowell, Morning Star and College Exercise.
- (5) Duke of Norfolk and Norbury.
- (6) London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston.
- (7) Capel, Oxford and Sandal.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

LIONEL CLOUGH ... Treble | WILFRED STEVENSON ... .. 4  
JAMES FERNLEY, JUN. ... 2 | WILLIAM FERNLEY ... .. 5  
JAMES A. MILNER ... .. 3 | JOHN WORTH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

**HANDBELL PEALS.**

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 28, 1934, in Two Hours,

At the Residence of Mr. A. Catterwell, Wethersfield Road,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob, each called differently.

OLAVE E. BROYD ... .. 1-2 | ARTHUR C. RIPPINGALE ... 3-4  
ALBERT CATTERWELL ... .. 5-6

Conducted by A. CATTERWELL.

Witnesses—Mrs. A. Catterwell and Master Leslie Catterwell.

First handbell peal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Catterwell and Bert Cock, one of the local ringers.

HEYBRIDGE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

At 'ELMSLIE,'

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

\*HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... 1-2 | WILLIAM CHALK ... .. 5-6  
WILLIAM KEEBLE ... .. 3-4 | \*FRED CHALK ... .. 7-8

Composed by YORK GREEN.

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

\* First peal on handbells. First peal on handbells in Heybridge.

## STAINES AND TOLLADAY.

## A JUBILEE PEAL RECALLS INTERESTING EVENTS.

On the afternoon of February 24th, members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths of London visited St. Mary's bellry, Staines, Middlesex, and rang a good peal of simple Bob Major, as reported in the usual columns. It was planned to celebrate the jubilee of the first peal of Major rung upon these bells by members of the same society on February 23rd, 1884, conducted by the late George Newson, a 5,088 Kent Treble Bob. The performance now recorded was composed and conducted by Mr. F. Bennett, of Brighton, and the ringer of the 5th bell is the only survivor of the 1884 team. All the band greatly appreciate the kindness of the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. James) and the churchwardens in allowing them the privilege of attempting a jubilee peal.

St. Mary's bells (1734) form one of the oldest octaves in the county (Enfield are dated 1724), cast at Whitechapel with the metal of an old ring of five bells that gave the title to the adjoining hostelry. In 1829 the tenor and treble bells were recast by Mears and Stambank, the former being 3ft. 10in. in diameter, weighing 17 cwt. in F. It is inscribed with the names of the Vicar—Robert Govett—and the churchwardens, Messrs. Swift and Murrell, with the text, 'Holiness unto the Lord.' When the 6th bell was cast, coins of the period were inserted in the mould, and they may be seen to-day in a good state of preservation. For over 204 years the numerous travellers on old Father Thames have heard their mellow notes with joy and pleasure; both bells and river serve to remind one that there is still something to live for in these days of sadness and distress.

On the south side of the tower is a date stone erected in 1791, which says that Inigo Jones, the famous London architect of the day, built it in 1631, when Walter Molt and Daniel Enderby were wardens; so it may be concluded that the old bells were sent away during its restoration to be made into eight, 100 years after the tower was built.

It is of interest to ringers generally to note that the first full peal upon these bells was rung by members of the old St. James' Society on January 5th, 1830, just over a century ago. It was a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by the famous Thomas Tolladay, and no similar record was made until 1884.

During the 50 odd years between these two peals the bell frame had got loose in the joints; it was placed too high in the tower of substantial brickwork, which had plenty of sway on it, hence the absence of early records of change ringing. Fortunately, the parishioners wisely rebuilt the frame at a lower level in their recent restoration.

Thomas Tolladay was a barge owner and boat builder of Eton, and carried out haulage for the royal residence at Windsor before the coming of the railways. He rang many peals at the riverside towns between Reading and London, and delivered many of the bells to neighbouring church towers. Amongst Victorian ringers, and I have rung with several who personally knew him, it was common gossip that Tolladay did too much peal ringing. His last was rung at St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, in 1843. The most noted performance was his 12,096 Grandsire Caters at Fulham, May, 1837, for the Queen's birthday, and of the first 68 peals by the St. James' Society he conducted 40, when many of the bells were not in the good order we experience to-day.

Tolladay was a staunch College Youth, but, as a resident of Windsor and a Royalist, his sympathy and friendship was always extended to the Cumberlands. Years of rivalry between the two old societies had only led to ill-feeling, and it was Tolladay's ambition to bring about a better understanding by mutual change ringing practice through the formation of the St. James' Society in 1827.

With reference to the Cumberlands' visit of 1884, George Newson brought down some of his Highgate 'harriers' for a 'tough job' at Staines, and I well remember at intervals during the peal, with Hannington and Newson on the tenors, seeing both men off their feet owing to the swinging of the tower. Dr. Wingfield Meadows was one of the team—he was studying at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, at that time—and he preferred to walk home after our tea. On his way up the police stopped him near Hounslow and took him to the station until inquiry by telegraph proved he was not the missing sailor for whom they were then searching. At the Bells Inn we found a newly-married couple in charge quite unprepared for such a hungry crowd until I inquired if 'the hens laid.' They had forgotten the birds, and, upon examining the nesting boxes, some 40 eggs were discovered, which the 'harriers' made short work of. The widow was at the house until a year or two ago, when I again asked her the momentous question about the hens. If any reader has a copy of the song about Tom Tolladay's 12,000, please send it to the Editor. W. H. F.

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## DEATH OF MR. A. G. RIVERS.

## AN ACTIVE RINGING CAREER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. A. G. Rivers, of Dry Drayton, who, as briefly announced last week, passed peacefully away on Wednesday, February 21st, tho and coming after an illness extending over six months, his last touch on tower bells having been at Great St. Andrew's, Cambridge, last June.

Born at Sproughton, near Ipswich, in 1870, Mr. Rivers' early ringing career started with Messrs. O. Mee, F. Mee, F. Rolfe and notable ringers of the days when many peals were rung at Henley and other towers in the district, amongst which were the first peals of London Surprise rung in Suffolk. In 1906 Mr. Rivers moved to Colchester, where he pursued his favourite hobby of ringing, and, after much opposition, succeeded in getting a good change ringing band together at St. Peter's Church. He finally moved to Cambridgeshire in 1911, taking up his residence at Lolworth. Although settled in a somewhat 'bleak' spot from a ringing point of view, he did not allow this to curtail his activities, and was soon to be found ringing at the various towers in and around Cambridge, and by June, 1912, had recorded his first peal for the Ely Association at Over. When the new peal was installed at Longstanton, he directed his energies to assisting the late Rev. H. B. Woolley, and rang there regularly every Sunday. After the war Mr. Rivers removed to Dry Drayton, where he soon became prominent in parochial affairs, serving as clerk to the Parish Council and assistant overseer, and later, in 1923, was elected to the District Council, on the Housing and Poor Law Administration, and served on these till the time of his death.

His peals, which number well over 200, in various methods, were rung mostly for the Norwich and Ely Associations. He was also a member of Essex, Midland Counties, London County Association, Ipswich (St. Mary le Tower Society) and the Cambridge Youths, and included amongst his peals was the first Surprise peal rung by a resident band in the Ely Diocese.

Of a kindly and genial disposition, he was always ready to help when required, and his presence will be greatly missed, especially as regards the Sunday ringing in Cambridge.

The funeral took place on Saturday, February 24th, at Dry Drayton, where a large congregation attended to pay their last respects to one whose life had been so full of activity. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. — Lucas), assisted by the Rev. E. C. Essex (president of the Cambridge Youths). Amongst those gathered at the graveside representing the Exercise were Messrs. C. Mee (Sproughton), C. W. Smith (Master), A. T. Cheney (secretary), T. R. Dennis (Cambridge Youths), H. Fields (St. Neots), R. Lathbury, Miss V. Shorter (Cambridge), F. Warrington, M. Ginn, R. Smith and A. J. Ginn (Over). At the conclusion of the interment a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by R. Lathbury 1-2, C. Mee 3-4, E. Rivers 5-6 and T. R. Dennis 7-8.

During the evening the bells of Great St. Mary's, Cambridge, were rung fully muffled and half-muffled, whilst at Ipswich a half-muffled peal of Cambridge Maximus already recorded was rung at St. Mary le Tower as a token of respect.

## FUNERAL OF MR. F. J. JOHNSON.

## A WORCESTERSHIRE PIONEER.

The funeral of Mr. F. J. Johnson, whose death we briefly reported in a recent issue, took place at Hinton Church on Saturday, February 24th, amid every token of sympathy and respect. In addition to the family mourners there were present Mr. J. R. Newman (hon. secretary of the Worcestershire Association), Mr. W. Short (Master) and representatives from the following towers: Worcester, Bromsgrove, Halesowen, Upton-on-Severn, Crowle, Suckley, Madresfield, Evesham, Hampton, Badsey, Bretforton, Broadway, Mickleton, Toddington, Bredon's Norton, Willersey and the local band.

A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by S. T. Holt 1-2, G. J. Hemming 3-4, J. Austin 5-6, W. Short 7-8. There were no less than 40 beautiful floral tributes.

Mr. Johnson had to his credit about 150 peals and had conducted 20. When the branches of the association was formed in 1911, Fred Johnson was one of the pioneers of the Southern Branch, and had he kept a record of the miles he had ridden his 'push bike' for the benefit of young ringers it would have made interesting reading.

At the Sunday evening service the Rector (the Rev. V. C. Blyth) made sympathetic reference to the passing of Mr. Johnson, and said he was a man with a hobby and a real interest in life outside his work. Bells he loved, and bells he lived for, and the peal at Hinton would always be a monument to his memory, for he was the prime instigator in their restoration some three years ago.

Mrs. Johnson and family sincerely thank all friends for messages and expressions of sympathy in their bereavement.

## A UNIQUE PERFORMANCE

At Whitbourne, Herefordshire, on Friday, February 23rd, as a birthday compliment to Mr. S. Lewis, who attained the age of 70, a quarter-peal of Doubles, viz., four six-scores of Plain Bob, four of Canterbury and two and a half of Grandsire: J. H. Griffiths 1, S. Lewis 2, Geo. Soley (conductor) 3, Geo. Jones 4, R. J. Caswell 5, W. Morris 6. All the members of this band have rung together at the above church for over 25 years. Is this a record?

### DEATH OF MR. JAMES N. FROSSELL. ONE OF A FAMOUS BRIGHTON BAND.

Many ringers in Sussex and Bedfordshire, as well as in the neighbourhood of Kingston-on-Thames, will regret to hear of the death of Mr. James Newland Frossell, who passed away on Sunday.

Mr. Frossell was a native of Bedford, but, migrating to Brighton in the days when St. Peter's Society were beginning to make ringing history, he spent some years with them and rang a considerable number of peals, including Surprise methods.

He was one of several ringers who were employed on one firm, the head of which, himself a ringer, had almost a Surprise band at command. Unfortunately, however, the firm 'crashed' and resulted in the eventual dispersal of the company. Mr. Frossell afterwards settled at Kingston-on-Thames, where he remained to the end of his days, having reached a fairly advanced age.

Jim Frossell was a good ringer in the real sense of the term. He had a wonderfully keen ear and could be relied upon to strike his bell perfectly. He was a genial soul, but of retiring disposition, and all who knew him will retain the happiest memories of him.

Although in later years he did practically no peal ringing, he was always regular in his attendance at service ringing. He had, however, been getting frail for some time past, and during the last few months seldom reached the top of the belfry stairs. He would, nevertheless, wait below and was critical of the performances. On Wednesday in last week he went to the church to give a hand in ringing for the Judge's service, but, as he was obviously unwell, he was not allowed to attempt the climb to the ringing chamber, and was assisted home again. On Friday he was taken into the Kingston and District Hospital, where he passed away on Sunday morning.

### A DATE TOUCH.

At St. Mary's Church, Maldon, Essex, on February 17th, a date touch of 1,934 changes was rung, consisting of 30 Grandsire Doubles, 20 Plain Bob Doubles, 864 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor and 300 Plain Bob Minor. J. H. Waldoek 1, R. Bird 2, Miss A. E. Waldoek 3, S. C. Card 4, H. J. Mansfield 5, D. Hann (conductor) 6. Longest touch by the ringers of 2nd, 4th and tenor, also the conductor's first attempt at calling.—On Monday, February 19th, 840 changes were rung (120 Cambridge Surprise Minor and 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor) as a birthday compliment to Mr. R. Hutson on his 70th birthday, being one change for each month he has lived. Those taking part were: W. H. Chalk 1, R. Hutson 2, A. South 3, J. H. Waldoek 4, Miss A. E. Waldoek 5, H. J. Mansfield (conductor) 6.

### SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. SOUTHERN DIVISION'S NEW SECRETARY.

The annual meeting of the Southern Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Buxted on February 24th. Twenty-two members were present and ringing began at 2.30 p.m.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. K. H. Macdermott), who gave an address of welcome originality, which took the form of a lecture on the significance of bells as applied to daily life. His remarks were illustrated by means of specimens from his collection, including a gong from a Burmese temple, a wooden bell and a double bell from Switzerland.

At the business meeting Mr. S. E. Armstrong was elected hon. divisional secretary, Messrs. G. Elphick, K. Hart and F. W. Cripps to the committee, and Messrs. R. Dawe, K. Hart and F. W. Cripps to the Committee of Advice.

Two new members from Southover, Lewes (C. W. Brown and W. Coppard), were elected as performing members.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for presiding at the meeting and for his address.—In his reply the Vicar thanked the retiring secretary (Mr. J. M. Cripps) for his services to the association.

Good use was made of the bells, and methods rung included London Surprise Major. Much of the ringing was, however, in the simpler methods.

### SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 10th, a meeting of the Suffolk Guild was held at Long Melford, when 48 members attended, representing the following towers: Sudbury, Ufford, Woodbridge, Groton, Coggeshall, Halstead, Clacton-on-Sea, Assington, Clare, Great Cornard, Newton, Ipswich (St. Mary-le-Tower and St. Margaret's), Sproughton, Lavenham, Glemsford, Cavendish, Little Waldingfield and the local tower. The tea and meeting was held at the Lion Hotel. The Rev. Gordon J. B. Ince (Rector of Long Melford) presided, and, in welcoming the members, said he wished his bells might be rung every Sunday instead of being only chimed.

The Rector was elected an honorary member of the Guild.

Mr. E. J. Ambrose thanked those members who had come from a long distance to attend the meeting.

The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples and rounds for the learners.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Yet another peal of twelve! An order has been placed with Messrs. Taylor and Co. for a new ring of twelve for Trowbridge, Wilts, with tenor of 28 cwt., to replace the present peal of ten. This will be the first peal of twelve in the county.

If there are any ringers who are members of the Ancient Order of Druids, they are asked to communicate with Mr. W. C. Dowding, Goldsmith Road, King's Heath, Birmingham.

There were some absent-minded people at the meeting at All Hallows, Lombard Street, London, on Saturday week. We have already reported the 'collection' of odd gloves; now we are asked to say that a lady's scarf was left in the belfry. The claimant should communicate with Mr. Dodd, 2, Winchendon Road, S.W.6.

The peal of Minor at Lamberhurst on February 17th, and recorded last week, was not rung for the Kent County Association as described.

## RINGERS' SERVICES.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I was surprised to read Mr. Dove's complaint about the dullness of ringers' services, because, as a representative of a firm of bellfounders, he has probably more opportunities to attend these services and get bored than the average ringer.

If, as I presume, Mr. Dove attends ordinary services on Sundays, it is surprising that he does not complain about hearing certain prayers which are said twice at each service.

Some services are really dull, and it is probably the fault of the form of service and the ringers themselves. The service used in the Bath and Wells Diocese is a sample of bright and cheerful tunes where everyone can join in the singing. When on leave in Somerset last summer I had the privilege (through the kindness of Mr. Hunt, of Taunton) to attend a meeting at Bradford-on-Tone, and it was a real pleasure to see a good crowd of ringers present and to hear them all singing the hymns in the true Somerset dialect.

The average clergyman knows little about bells. He prepares what he thinks a suitable sermon, comes to the church expecting to find a good congregation, but his hopes are soon shattered when he finds not more than 20 ringers present. He then goes back to the Vicarage to prepare his Sunday's work, and is probably hindered in doing so by the sound of the bells up to a late hour. No one can expect clergy, choir or organist to give their best when the congregation is small, as there is nothing worse than reading to empty benches.

May I suggest that Guild secretaries send several copies of their service sheets to the Vicar of a parish about to be visited, so that the organist and choir may practice the words and music, which are probably new to every choir boy.

These services should be sent at least ten days in advance, with a request that the Vicar will announce the service during the notices read out on Sunday, and at the same time invite the parishioners to attend.

We should not rest until we have got the clergy and general public interested in us and our bells, with the result that there should always be a band of ringers to ring for Sunday services, which, of course, is far more important than continuous peal ringing.

H. J. CANN.

Pirbright, Surrey.

## A LANCASHIRE RESTORATION.

**MONEY RAISED ON GIFT DAY.**

Prescot Parish Church bells were dedicated by the Bishop of Portsmouth (Dr. Ernest N. Lovett) on Saturday evening. The eight bells are more than 100 years old, and were overhauled recently by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. In order to raise the £200 which their renovation cost, a 'Day of Gifts' was arranged for Saturday, and the total sum given was £248.

The first portion of the dedication service was held at the west door of the church, to which the clergy and choir walked in procession. Councillor Thomas Byron, the captain of the bellringers, and one of the four churchwardens, presented one of the ropes to the Bishop and asked him to dedicate the bells. After the dedication the Bishop placed the bells in the care of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon J. P. W. Lovett). The service in the church was conducted by the Vicar, and an address was given by the Bishop, who spoke of the lessons taught by the bells.

The tower of the church was floodlighted, and after the service the bells were rung for some time.

## DEATH OF AN ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE RINGER.

The death occurred on Monday, February 19th, of Mr. Harry Heap, 231, Stockport Road, Ashton, in his 68th year. Mr. Heap was a ringer at St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, where he held the office of president. He was a member of the Lancashire Association and the Ashton-under-Lyne Society.

Mr. Heap had been a ringer for over 50 years, and had taken part in over 100 peals, the longest one being a peal of Grandsire Cinques (10,075 changes) in 1896.

As a token of respect, a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters was rung on Saturday, February 24th, at the Parish Church.



## THE HENRY JOHNSON DINNER.

### LORD MAYOR ATTENDS BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL.

The memory of Henry Johnson, one of the greatest figures in the Exercise during last century, is kept green by the annual gathering held in Birmingham. Henry Johnson, who was born in 1809, died in 1890, and there is but a handful of ringers left who knew him personally. At the 46th commemoration dinner on Saturday, out of the 150 who were present, only ten had the acquaintance of the old worthy, but, while these gatherings last, there is no likelihood of the great attributes of Henry Johnson's character being lost sight of. As is usual, the commemoration brought together ringers from many parts of the country, who enjoyed ringing in the afternoon on the ring of 12 at St. Martin's Church, and also tried out the not-so-enjoyable peal of ten at the Cathedral. Unfortunately, there could be no ringing at Bishop Ryder's Church, through illness, but there was no lack of eight-bell opportunities at St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral.

Dinner was served at the Imperial Hotel, the Rector of Birmingham (Canon T. Guy Rogers) presiding. He was supported by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Alderman H. E. Goodby), Mrs. Guy Rogers, and Alderman J. S. Pritchett (Master of St. Martin's Guild). The company also included Mr. A. Walker (Ringing Master) and Mrs. Walker, Messrs. A. Paddon Smith, J. H. Shepherd and J. George (vice-presidents), Mr. T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary), Canon Stuart Blofeld (Vicar of Edgbaston), the Rev. C. H. Williams (Vicar of Bishop Ryder's) and Mrs. Williams, Mr. W. G. Robinson (churchwarden of St. Martin's), Mrs. A. A. Hughes (London), Mr. E. Alex Young (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnson (Croydon), Mr. R. Richardson (Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild) and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. W. Short (Master of the Worcestershire Association), Mr. H. Knight (hon. secretary of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Staffs), Mr. E. Guise (hon. secretary of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association), Mrs. Wilkins and Messrs. W. A. Cave, W. Knight, W. H. Thomas, H. Burt, F. Skidmore and P. O. Williams (Bristol), Mr. and Mrs. J. Austin (Gloucester), Messrs. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), W. H. Judge (Oxford), J. Jagger (Old Hill), J. Johnson (only surviving son of Henry Johnson), Percy Johnson (Leeds), S. F. Palmer and J. Flint (Sheffield), H. Mason (Hagley), Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Bolton), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Perrens and Mr. and Mrs. F. Pervin (Coventry), and other members of St. Martin's Guild from a wide radius. Among the faces sadly missed from the gathering was that of Mrs. Paddon Smith, whose recent death was much deplored. Mrs. Smith had regularly attended the dinners for many years. The absence of the Lady Mayoress, through indisposition, was also regretted, and among those who also sent apologies were the Bishop of Birmingham, Mr. Tom Russam (a vice-president), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council), Mrs. Goldsmith (Woking), Mr. G. R. Newton (Liverpool), Mr. G. A. Martineau (Solihull) and Mr. J. A. Dart (London). Mr. A. A. Hughes sent a telegram of good wishes from Sherborne, where he was attending the reopening of the bells.

As usual, the musical programme was a feature of the proceedings, quartettes being sung by St. Martin's Quartette (Messrs. Hall, Chapman, Bayliss and Gorman), songs by Mrs. D. Smith and Mr. A. S. Downes, with the ever delightful contribution of handbell solos by Mrs. A. A. Hughes. A magnificently struck course of Stedman Cinques was also rung on handbells by F. E. Pervin, F. W. Perrens, G. P. Swann, A. Walker, F. E. Haynes and M. J. Morris.

The toast of 'The King' was honoured on the call of the Chairman, and Mr. Fred Price proposed 'Church and State.' They often, he said, heard criticisms of the Church, and when people talked of the slums and social conditions some said the Church had failed. But did they realise who and what comprised the Church? The Church was only as strong as her members allowed her to be. In a sermon at St. Martin's recently, the Rector drew a picture of the state of affairs in this country nearly a century ago when the Church Pastoral Aid Society was formed, and had told them how many of the terrible conditions which then existed had been improved largely by the influence of the Church. The Lord Mayor in his capacity as chief magistrate of that city might be said to represent the State that night. In Birmingham, happily, all parties were working together, and the betterment of the slum districts was being carried out very rapidly (applause). At St. Martin's they were fortunate in having as their Rector Canon Guy Rogers (applause). At a ringers' gathering such as that a few weeks ago, a speaker lamented the fact that clergymen were seldom seen in the belfries, but that could not be said of St. Martin's belfry, because Canon Rogers was often seen in the belfry and also brought his friends along. The ringers were always pleased to see him and them (applause).

#### ST. MARTIN'S VICAR AND HIS RINGERS.

The Chairman, who responded to the toast, said he was proud of his official relationship with St. Martin's Guild. It was always a great pleasure to go up into the belfry, and he was proud to bring his small children and his visitors to meet the bellringers, although sometimes he thought he impeded the progress of the bells, which when he arrived stopped a little sooner than they would otherwise do (laughter). He was very pleased to learn from Mr. Price that the ringers, in

their turn, sometimes came and listened to his sermons (laughter and applause). If it was not every clergyman who visited his bellringers, it was, also, not every bellringer who listened to his parson (laughter). In his case he was fortunate that a good many ringers enjoyed St. Martin's services without his worrying them to come. Nobody assumed, when he went into the belfry, that he had come to say, 'Are you coming down to church?' but they took it for granted that it was the right and proper thing to do. Continuing, the Chairman said a hundred years ago the relations between Church and State were far less satisfactory than they are to-day. The State silenced the clergy and would not allow them to meet in Convocation for a great many years, and much Church legislation that should have been passed never was passed. When at last they got their own Church Assembly there were tremendous arrears to be overtaken, and they were gradually getting that right. In many countries abroad there had been a mess made of the relations between Church and State, but in this country they were obtaining more and more freedom and gaining mutual confidence and understanding. They did not enjoy a complete state of autonomy in England, but the voice of the Church was adequately expressed, and Parliament was usually willing to accept it. When, however, there was a divided Church, it was just possible the influence of Parliament might be exercised quite wisely for the purpose of delay, but, on the whole, he did not think they could be dissatisfied with the position. He looked forward to the time when they would have a Church of England thoroughly representative of British Christianity. He would like to see the Church of England, the Methodists and the Congregationalists linked together in a series of self-governing guilds that were all included in the National Church. He would be much happier about disestablishment if that great reunion, so close to his heart, were more nearly in view. Personally, he did not feel fettered by his relationship to the State, and he had not the least hesitation to criticise when he thought it necessary. Some people perhaps thought the Rector of Birmingham was almost too independent, but the State could not dismiss a clergyman of the Church of England—he held a position of wonderful freedom, but of wonderful responsibility. No man could dismiss him from his job, and the State had no power to do so. It was up to him to bear faithful witness to his Master and try to assert the principles of Christianity in relation to politics and government (applause).

#### PEALS WITH HENRY JOHNSON.

Mr. Tom Miller, one of Birmingham's oldest ringers, proposed the toast of 'The Memory of Henry Johnson,' who, he reminded his hearers, was born at Lichfield, and came to Birmingham in his 'teens,' spending the last six or seven years before his death in retirement at Aston. Forty-five years ago Henry Johnson was present for the last time at those dinners. He (Mr. Miller) had twelve years' association with Johnson, and during that time rang 19 peals with him. Johnson rang his first peal in 1850, and in 1880 he wanted to celebrate it with a peal at St. Philip's that he had specially composed. They had ten men chosen from the Tuesday night band; their striking was excellent, and everything went smoothly for 2½ hours. Then Johnson called a 'single,' but the two men behind did not make it, and as Johnson was going up he met the wrong bell first. He called out, 'You haven't made the single. Stand.' That put an end to one of Johnson's ambitions. His favourite peal of ten bells was St. Michael's, Coventry. They had a great charm for him, and he would sacrifice anything for a peal on them, and the old man in 1883 rang in the last peal on them.

Speaking of Johnson's kindness, even to his rivals, led Mr. Miller to refer to another well-known Birmingham ringer of that time—William Chappell—who was a man who, said Mr. Miller, amid laughter, always 'wanted to be atop of his own muck-dump.' Chappell used to ring at St. Philip's, and he used to describe the bells there in the following way: 'The tenor is a good bell; the 9th is cracked; the 8th doesn't belong to the peal; the 7th is a tub; the 6th is a fluke; the 5th is a bladder; the 4th is false-gaited; the 3rd is a middling good bell; the 2nd has no cannons; and the treble is a makeshift' (laughter).

The toast was drunk in silence. Afterwards those who knew Henry Johnson in the flesh were asked to stand up, and ten members of the company responded.

There were, however, only two present, Mr. Harry Mason and Mr. Tom Miller, who attended the first Johnson dinner in 1883.

#### TWO REMARKABLE PEALS.

Alderman Pritchett, in proposing 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild,' said he had recently been again elected Master, an honour and dignity which he greatly appreciated. The active duties were carried out by the Ringing Master, but his position carried with it one great duty, that of proposing this toast. Referring first to the losses which the Guild had sustained, Alderman Pritchett mentioned the tragic death of Mr. L. O. Gibbs, who was killed in a motor-cycle accident, and the death of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, who was well known to them in that city and was a frequent visitor to St. Martin's tower. He was a great loss to the Exercise and one which they all deeply deplored. Alderman Pritchett also referred to the accident to Canon Coleridge, and said they were glad to know he was progressing favourably and hoped shortly to resume his ringing activities. Continuing, the Master said the Guild had been very active during the past year and had scored

some remarkable performances. The peals rung numbered 27—not a very large number, but the quality of the peals was excellent, and included one or two remarkable items. There had been rung on the bells of St. Martin's Church a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus without a conductor. Each ringer who took part in it was his own conductor, and the result was a faultless peal, the record of which would be handed down to posterity as a most remarkable achievement. Another remarkable event was the silent peal of Stedman Cinques 'in hand.' From beginning to end not a word was spoken—every member of the band knew precisely what he had to do and did it. It was a marvellous performance (applause). Sixty-eight members of the Guild took part in the peals rung during the year and there were eight conductors. He was proud to see that so many young men were joining St. Martin's Guild. They had several young men who had become extremely proficient, and as long as there was no lack of such ringers the continued prosperity of the Guild was assured. Another of the events of the year was the attaining of his 80th birthday by Mr. James George (applause). He celebrated his birthday by ringing several peals, always at the heavy end. Although he was now four score years, by choice he took the heaviest bell in the peal and rang it with the utmost precision. Long might his ringing career continue (applause).

There were, continued Alderman Pritchett, two persons to whom he thought the prosperity of the Guild was specially due, and they were the Ringing Master (Mr. Albert Walker) and the hon. secretary (Mr. Thomas Reeves) (applause). Mr. Walker was not only a great ringer and a great conductor, a man whose heart and soul was in the Exercise, but one who did a great deal to extend the knowledge of ringing throughout the country. He was known as a lecturer upon campanology, and his addresses had been much appreciated in many quarters. That was one of the great services he rendered to the Exercise. Mr. Walker also relieved him of the active duties as Master of the Guild. There was no dinner of any importance in the country that Mr. Walker did not attend as the representative of St. Martin's Guild. Mr. Walker was a man greatly esteemed in his business in which he occupied an important position, and it was remarkable that he was able to devote so much energy to ringing, when he was called upon to fulfil so many duties outside. Mr. Reeves, their secretary, was the son of an old and greatly respected ringer, Mr. Samuel Reeves, for many years sexton at West Bromwich, who in his time was Master of the College Youths. The son had inherited the virtues of the father and conducted the business affairs of the Guild with the utmost ability (applause). Judging from its present constitution, concluded Alderman Pritchett, the Guild would flourish in the future, and he was sure it had the good wishes of all the members and all who were present that evening (applause).

#### YOUNG CONDUCTORS ENCOURAGED.

Mr. T. H. Reeves, who responded, first thanked the artistes for their services. One of the successes of the evening, he said, was on account of the wonderful harmony they got. Proceeding, Mr. Reeves thanked Alderman Pritchett for his references to himself and his father. He enjoyed the work, he said. It was sometimes onerous, but when he saw the Guild progressing and how happy everyone seemed to be at that gathering, he always thought that any effort he put out was amply repaid. He could assure them it was a pleasure to serve the Guild, and he would continue to do whatever he could for its continued prosperity (applause). Mr. Reeves went on to refer to the peals rung during the past year, and said that at St. Martin's Mr. Walker was doing everything possible to encourage young conductors. They were particularly fortunate in the Guild that they had young conductors coming forward and peals were arranged for them to conduct. He wanted to make one observation, and it was this: Careful attention should be given to see that all the peals rung were true peals. The Central Council had laid down certain rules and decisions which St. Martin's Guild and most other associations in the country had agreed to abide by. It was, therefore, incumbent on every conductor to make himself conversant with the rules and decisions of the Council, and if mistakes did arise in a peal and could not be put right immediately the peal should stop (applause). In these days, when it was so much easier to ring peals than it was 20, 30 or 40 years ago, they ought to be particularly careful to ring only good peals and true peals (hear, hear). The Master had referred to the work done by Mr. Walker and the secretary. Alderman Pritchett had rather put himself in the background. That was what a gentleman of the type of their Master would do, but his duties were more onerous than he made them out to be. They appreciated him in the office that he held and hoped he would for many years yet be spared to be their Master (hear, hear). At their annual meeting Alderman Pritchett said he was younger than Mr. James George (one was 80 and the other 79), and, added the Alderman, 'I hope to remain younger than Mr. George for a long time' (laughter). They echoed those sentiments and wished their Master still many years of good health to continue his activity in the many different ways in which he was now engaged (applause).

Mr. Albert Walker, in submitting 'The Visitors,' expressed the pleasure of the Guild at having the presence of so many distinguished visitors. The presence of Mrs. Giv Rogers was particularly welcome, and they were once more honoured by having the Lord Mayor of Birmingham with them, although they regretted the absence of the

Lady Mayoress. That was the second occasion on which they had had the Lord Mayor of Birmingham with them at their dinners, but the Lord Mayor of the city had a close association with St. Martin's. Only on the previous Sunday he went there to attend the British Industries Fair service. The Guild frequently rang the bells for civic occasions, and they rang the bells on the first Sunday Alderman Goodby was Lord Mayor. On that occasion the Lord Mayor went to the Cathedral, and, said Mr. Walker, 'our only regret was you did not climb the belfry stairs and become a high churchman' (laughter). They were looking forward to the time, he continued, when they would have as Lord Mayor of Birmingham a member of their Guild. They specially welcomed the Lord Mayor and thanked him for sparing them an evening after the onerous duties he had had during the preceding fortnight in connection with the British Industries Fair, where among other events he had had to receive the Prince of Wales. Continuing, Mr. Walker welcomed the many other visitors who came from many parts of England, and incidentally congratulated the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, which was strongly represented that night, upon carrying to a successful conclusion the restoration and augmentation of Tewkesbury bells as a memorial to the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies.

#### THE PRINCE AND THE LORD MAYOR.

The Lord Mayor, who first replied, made a racy speech, in which at the outset he expressed the thanks and appreciation of the visitors for the warm welcome extended to them. The Lady Mayoress greatly regretted that a cold prevented her from being present, but she sent her kindest regards to them all. The Lord Mayor said he was once a choir boy at St. Philip's Church and was one of the best little 'angels' ever a choirmaster had, although he was once fined half-a-crown for getting over the churchyard railings (laughter). Referring to the B.I.F. service, which Mr. Walker said he had attended, the Lord Mayor remarked that he never enjoyed a sermon like it. He wasn't in church (laughter). The fact was he had a cold which kept him away from that service and also prevented him from receiving the Prince of Wales. When his deputy apologised for his absence and explained the reason, the Prince replied, 'Poor bloke, he has got my sympathy. I have got a cold, too' (laughter). The Lord Mayor added that he received from the Prince a nice, affectionate message, and was deeply touched by it.

Continuing, the Lord Mayor said he had no idea there was so much art in bellringing. Bells had always affected him in a peculiar way. Their message was sometimes one of sadness and sometimes one of joy, but to him they seemed to send a message to his conscience, 'Am I doing all I can so that when it pleases the Almighty to call me I can reflect with joy that I have done my best? The bells tell me there is something more in life than the struggle for wealth and amusement,' he continued, 'and I ask, "Am I doing the right thing by my Maker and my fellow-creatures?"' It was true, as Mr. Price had said, that in Birmingham all parties were working together for the benefit of the city. Their great aim in life should be to do their best according to their conscience, and if they did not agree they should be men and women enough to hold out their hands to one another and be good friends and good Christians (applause).

Mr. E. A. Young, who next responded, said when he first came to those dinners at Birmingham some 15 years ago he at once found himself among friends, and he had made many friends there. The social side of ringing was an important part of their ringing life. It was interesting to note, he said, that the Ancient Society, which he represented that night, was established nearly 300 years ago. Speaking from memory, he believed three Lord Mayors of London in their time were members of that Ancient Society, and one of them was actually Master of the College Youths and Lord Mayor also. He hoped some day some other ringer might be Lord Mayor of London. His brother officers and the members who met fortnightly in London, and who were carrying on the traditions of the Ancient Society, desired him to extend to that Guild their heartiest congratulations and felicitations upon their anniversary.

#### A GREAT PERFORMANCE.

Mr. P. J. Johnson also replied to the toast. He said that Birmingham had seen many great ringing achievements, and he well remembered reading of the pride of Mr. Henry Johnson in bringing back, in his old age, the Stedman Cinques record, which was rung on his 72nd birthday. There had been another record set up this year by St. Martin's Guild, and one that would probably last as long as any change ringing record that had been set up; in fact, it would probably never be excelled. He congratulated the band who rang that silent handbell peal of Stedman Cinques, and it was a personal pleasure to pay tribute to his old friends, Mr. Albert Walker and Mr. George Swann, upon establishing yet another record in having, by that peal, rung together their one hundredth handbell peal of Stedman Cinques (applause). He spoke with particular satisfaction of this fact, because of the courtesy extended to himself by both these gentlemen on many occasions, and by various other members of St. Martin's Guild. Mr. Johnson invited as many members of St. Martin's Guild as possible to visit Leeds later in the year for the commemoration dinner when they honoured the memory of another great ringer—Jasper Whitfield Snowden. He assured them of a hearty welcome. He brought good wishes from Yorkshire for the future of St. Martin's (Continued in next column.)

## SHERBORNE ABBEY'S NEW TENOR.

HEAVIEST RING OF EIGHT RESTORED.



SHERBORNE ABBEY.

One of the most important bell restorations in Dorsetshire for many years has just been completed at Sherborne Abbey, which has the heaviest ring of eight in the country. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have recast the tenor, which is now a magnificent bell, weighing 46 cwt. 0 qr. 5 lb. The rest of the peal have been retuned, and the whole of them have been re-clappered and rehung in ball bearings. So admirably has the work been carried out that each of the bells can easily be clappered up right side single-handed.

The tenor has an interesting history. The original bell was the gift of Cardinal Wolsey. It has been thrice recast and now bears the following inscription:—

By Wolsey's gift I measure time for all.

To Mirth, to Grief, to Church I serve to call.

Recast 1670 by Thomas Purdue, of Glosworth, Somerset. Joseph Barker, Vicar. Gustavus Horne, Walter Pride, Churchwardens. Again recast 1885 by John Warner and Sons, of London. Edward Harston, Vicar. James Hoddinott, Francis Stokes, Churchwardens.

Again recast 1933 by Mears and Stainbank, of London. Wilfred Marcus Askwith, Vicar. Clement Horace Adams, James Florance, Churchwardens.

The cost of recasting the tenor was defrayed by contributions from Old Boys of Sherborne School, through an appeal made by Major J. H. B. Hesse.

Some 200 ringers attended the dedication last Saturday, the number being so large that it was with difficulty that all could get a ring after the service.

### THE HENRY JOHNSON DINNER

(Continued from previous column.)

Guild. He hoped the Guild would long flourish and would never lack willing men and women to carry on the great traditions set by by-gone generations (applause).

Mr. F. W. Perrens proposed the toast of 'The Ringing World.' He jestingly remarked that he hardly thought the Editor would dare to venture so close to Wellingborough. Many of them had known Mr. Goldsmith for many years, and they thought they knew him really well, but from the columns of his own paper recently they had been learning things about him (laughter). He could say, however, that the Editor had the wholehearted confidence, not only of every Midland ringer, but of almost every ringer in the British Isles (applause). They could not blame the Editor for all that appeared. It was the ringers themselves who were responsible for most of what was published, and if they wanted to blame anybody it was themselves whom they must blame and criticise for what was there. In conclusion, Mr. Perrens expressed regret at the absence, through ill-health, of Mrs. Goldsmith, who had attended that dinner for many years.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, in replying to the toast, said that one of the peculiarities of ringers seemed to be a desire among some of them to 'grouse.' Ever since there had been a ringing paper space had been taken up by grouse, and it was as well, perhaps, that they had a channel through which to ventilate their grievances. As far as he was concerned, he endeavoured to hold the scales evenly, and attacks upon himself ran off like water off a duck's back. Indeed, he rather enjoyed it.

Canon Blofeld gave the concluding toast, 'The Chairman,' to which Canon Guy Rogers responded, and the formal proceedings concluded with the National Anthem.

The next day many of the visitors were at St. Martin's for the service ringing. Afterwards, through the kindness of Mr. W. S. Dowding, they had the opportunity of inspecting the wonders of the Birmingham Central Fire Station, and spent a pleasant hour at St. Martin's Hotel, where the customary lunch was provided.

### WOODBIDGE BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As your anonymous correspondent writes of my 'first' letter, he must have known of the second letter which the 'East Anglian Daily Times' published for me, correcting the sentence he quotes. Yet he implies that I have left it uncorrected.

Will someone more reliable tell us, over his own name, whether there is really an old ring of eight bells, all cast by one man at the same time, in Colchester, and still untouched?

I am very grateful to Mr. Hunt for his letter. I was told that there is something wrong with the Merton College ring. If not, and they are still untouched and in order, they must be easily the oldest good ring of eight.

Would Mr. Hunt please send me his list of 20 rings of eight (no more and no less) and all untouched?

HERBERT DRAKE.

Woodbridge, Suffolk.

### FIRST 720's.

At St. Michael's Church, Bradfield, Yorks, on January 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: L. Barber 1, W. Sanderson 2, M. E. Wilson 3, J. Hosmer 4, B. Ellis 5, S. F. Palmer (conductor) 6. First 720 by the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th and 5th, who are members of the local band of Sunday service ringers.—On February 6th, 720 Bob Minor: L. Barber 1, M. E. Wilson 2, J. Fretwell 3, J. Hosmer 4, J. Marshall 5, S. F. Palmer (conductor) 6. First 720 by J. Fretwell, of the local company.

DEPTFORD.—At St. John's Church, on January 29th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob (1,280 changes): J. Hurrell 1, J. Lyddiard 2, O. Elliott 3, J. J. Lamb 4, G. E. Rawlings 5, T. A. Easterby 6, E. B. Crowder 7, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 8. Rung as a compliment to Doris Easterby (daughter of the ringer of the 6th), on attaining her majority. Believed to be the first quarter-peal of Oxford on the bells.



## PEALS OF MINOR.

THE BANKES JAMES ARRANGEMENT EXPLAINED.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I assume that the recent correspondence and articles in 'The Ringing World' indicate that that hardy annual, 'Peals of Minor,' will be found blooming in all its glory at Warwick at Whitsun, and our Central Council representatives will be asked once again to vote on a resolution framed indirectly, if not openly, to lead to the DEFINITE recognition as a peal of Minor of the arrangement commonly known as 'The Rev. Bankes James Peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor.'

Now, Sir, just between ourselves, I wonder how many of our worthy Councillors know exactly what this arrangement really is?

Do I know myself? Perhaps not.

I know, however, what I think it is and I state my views as a nonentity, in order that the sages may tell me if I am right or wrong, and, if wrong, why?

Now, whenever I have rung in a 720 of Minor we have always commenced by changing from the back stroke rounds to the first hand stroke row and finished by changing from the last hand stroke row to the back stroke rounds.

We might, and possibly did, ring a few rounds before the 'go' and after 'that's all,' but they were not all essential.

The back stroke rounds at the start and then 720 different rows, of which the last was rounds again, were all that was really required, and if any of these rows (including the two rounds) were not completed or if the bells had not come into rounds at the end we should not have claimed a 720.

I am well aware, of course, that 720 rows could be produced without the first back stroke or without the last, that the bells could be set up at the last back stroke and that all sorts of fancy things could be done, but established custom demands that a 720 of Minor, standing by itself at any rate, should be rung in the manner in which I have always rung it, and there is no need (unless one wants to be freakish) to break away from established custom in this respect. Therefore, an extent of Minor is, by custom, produced by 721 rows, two of which, the first rounds and the last, are alike.

Now what are the so-called (if you like) extents comprised in Bankes James' arrangement, and why did he compose them?

To answer the last question first, simply, I understand, to produce a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor having all its 6-5's at hand.

As to the extents—one, the last, is our old friend W. H. W., and we can dismiss him without question or comment. The other six appear to me (I do not profess to have proved them) each to consist, like any ordinary 720, or 720 different changes produced by 721 rows, two of which are similar, but are not always rounds.

(In this arrangement as in every peal of Minor the last back stroke of every 30th treble lead must, of course, for the purpose of counting the rows necessary to produce each extent, when taken separately, be deemed the row from which the first change of the next extent is made. It should not be necessary to say this, but someone may waste ink in pointing out that there are not actually 721 rows in each extent.)

None of the six extents, however, finishes with the same row as it starts, but, notwithstanding this, 720 different changes are completed in every 30 treble leads.

The two rows which are the same in each extent come, as to one of them, somewhere in the course of the extent, and as to the other, invariably at the end.

Now, on the face of it, you say those two rows are alike and that settles it—the arrangement is 'hopelessly false.'

But is it? The change effected by each repeated row is from its preceding row, and in each extent one of the similar rows is produced by a plain lead and the other by a bob lead.

In the first extent, for instance, the similar row is 34256. Where it first appears in the extent it is at a plain lead and follows 32465, and at the end it is hobbled and follows 43265. To any plain man the changes thus produced must be different.

The whole question, therefore, seems to me not whether we are to count rows or changes, first rounds or last, but whether we insist that every extent in a peal of Minor must begin from and end with the same row (which in the mind of every sane man must be rounds) or if we can accept as an extent (but only when used as part of a peal) an arrangement which produces 720 different changes in a way not commonly accepted as being an extent when standing by itself, provided that (as is the case with the Bankes James arrangement) that no row other than the first and final rounds appears more than seven times in the peal.

This latter is the only possible way of judging Bankes James' arrangement if its acceptance as a peal is to be justified.

In concluding, I ought perhaps to say that I use the word 'row' as meaning the order in which the six bells are struck consecutively one after the other until they have each struck once, in the same manner, but not necessarily in the same order, as rounds.

I use the word 'change' as meaning the result which is effected by the bells in one row being struck in a different order to their sequence in the preceding row.

I do not suppose I should be permitted sufficient space to urge the acceptance of one or other standard, but I personally feel that the Rev. Bankes James has given the Exercise something out of the ordinary run of compositions, and it should not be lightly turned down, especially by votes of people who do not really understand the arrangement.

'EQUUS.'

## OLD BELLS IN WILTSHIRE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Re Mr. Drake's letters on old bells of one family, there is a peal of eight bells at St. Andrew's, Cluppennham, Wilts, cast by A.R. in 1734.

I was informed by the late Mr. W. W. Gifford, of Salisbury, that the first peal to be erected as an octave was the peal at Bishop's Cannings, Wilts, or a peal at Oxford, which was installed about the same time. Mr. Gifford said it was a question which was first. It appears it was the same benefactor for both peals. The Bishop's Cannings bells date from 1602 and were by I.W. The 4th and 7th and tenor have been recast at different times. There are quite a number of bells dating from 1582 to 1619 by the above founders in Wiltshire.

S. HILLIER.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

### EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS MEET.

A joint meeting of the Eastern and Western Districts was held at Gateshead on Saturday, February 24th. Ringers were present from Darlington, West Hartlepool, Sunderland, Chester-le-Street, Newcastle, South Shields, Tanfield, Houghton-le-Spring, Whickham, also the local tower. The beautiful peal of St. Mary's were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and a splendid tea awaited the ringers in The Anchorage.

A short meeting was held afterwards, Mr. R. L. Patterson being in the chair, supported by Canon Stephenson and Mr. Anderson, president of the association.

After the loyal toast, the Chairman welcomed Canon Stephenson and his curate.—The Canon, who was in a jocular mood, said it always gave him great pleasure to welcome the ringers at his church. He always looked forward to their meetings, and, anyhow, he was always at the tea, for 'When the roll and butter's yonder, I'll be there.' However, he said it would sometimes do the congregations good if they could only know the services ringers put into their church, as they (the congregations) seemed to take the bells for granted, and he hoped that very soon it would be made more known by members of churches.

Mr. J. W. Parker proposed a vote of thanks to the Canon and churchwardens for the use of the bells. He also congratulated the Canon on his recovery from his recent illness.

Mr. J. Anderson proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for the bountiful tea, which, he said, was heartily appreciated by the ringers.—Mr. Pattison replied for the ladies.

It was resolved that South Shields be the next place of meeting on April 14th, provided the bells are available. If not, the meeting will be at Houghton-le-Spring.

Ringings continued after the meeting until 8.30 p.m., when a most enjoyable and successful district meeting came to a close.

## ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

### SUCCESSFUL QUARTERLY MEETING AT SAWSTON.

A successful meeting was held at Sawston on Feb. 24th. Members came from Cambridge, Eving, Fen Ditton, Fulbourn, Ickleton, Newmarket, Newton, Royston, Trumpington and a splendid muster of the local band. The bells were half-muffled in the afternoon in memory of Mr. A. G. Rivers, of Dry Drayton.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. J. Bywaters), who gave an interesting address on Sawston Church.

A bountiful tea with home-made cakes was served by Mrs. F. Hurry and friends.

At the business meeting it was a very great pleasure to elect Miss Barbara Hurry and Mr. Bob Johnson as members of the association. The keenness and enthusiasm of the young folk is a very healthy sign.

It was decided to hold by-meetings at Caxton on March 24th and at Great Chishill on May 5th, and the next quarterly meeting at Ickleton on June 2nd.

The company stood in silence as a mark of respect to Mr. Rivers, and the secretary was asked to write to Mrs. Rivers expressing sympathy.

Grateful thanks are due to the Vicar, the organist, the ladies and the local band who made the visitors so welcome. At 8.35 p.m. a very successful meeting ended and became a pleasant memory.

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## A CITY MEETING.

## LONDON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' INVITATION.

On Saturday, February 24th, the two districts of the London County Association met at All Hallows', Lombard Street, at the invitation of the London University Students. Soon after 3 o'clock the ten bells (tenor 19 cwt.), said to have been removed from the ancient Church of St. Dionis, Gracechurch Street, were set going to the tune of Grandsire Caters, under the direction of the Southern District secretary, who afterwards handed over the reins of office to Mr. J. Waugh, Northern District Master. Touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon, including Cambridge Royal and London Surprise Major, also rounds for some of the students. By now a large company had assembled, the overflow of a somewhat small belfry distributing itself upon the roof and viewing the backs of adjacent buildings.

Within the church the writer found some fine carving, said to be by Grinling Gibbons, and in a case an ancient Bible and two other volumes, described and dated as follows: 'A.D. 1613. These 2 Volumes Erasmus' Paraphrase of the New Testament and this Bible were rescued from the old Church of St. Benet, Gracechurch, where they were chained to desks for public perusal. That Church was destroyed in the great fire A.D. 1666.'

The party, numbering about 35, at 5 o'clock betook themselves to St. Dionis' Hall, Lime Street, owned by All Hallows' (they seem to have a lot of other people's things, by the way), where tea had been prepared, and a happy party was ministered to by some of the students in a very cosy and beautiful room. The inner man having been satisfied, the Southern District secretary announced that there was no business to transact, but he would take that opportunity of moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector (the Rev. Canon Tatlow, D.D.) for the use of the bells and the room, and to Messrs. Cuthbertson and Dodd, of the London University, for their help in arranging tea and having the bells ready.

Mr. Cuthbertson briefly responded, and, handbells being produced, some more or less startling ringing was performed at first, but as time went on a band was found who could and did 'keep their seats.' A return was afterwards made to the tower for about an hour, and all was silent again about 8 o'clock, there only remaining a certain amount of what another secretary describes as 'chin chin' to do to complete a most successful and enjoyable meeting.

## LADIES' GUILD.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTRICT'S FIFTIETH MEETING.

A meeting of the Northamptonshire District of the Ladies' Guild took place at Isham on Saturday, March 3rd, by kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. E. J. Atkins). The occasion was the 50th meeting of the Northants District, the district having been inaugurated at a meeting held at Isham on November 20th, 1920. The president of the Ladies' Guild (Miss E. Steel) and the general secretary (Mrs. Fletcher) and Mr. G. W. Fletcher were present, a company of nearly fifty ringers and friends assembling, of whom 20 were Ladies' Guild members.

The Rector conducted the Guild service. Afterwards all proceeded to the School, where tea had been prepared. Mrs. F. Boulton (vice-president, Northants District) expressed a welcome to Mrs. Fletcher on behalf of the members, and Mrs. T. Billson (one of the earliest members of the district) proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks to the Rector and all at Isham who had contributed to the success of the meeting.—The Rector replied.

The business meeting followed. Two new ringing members were elected, viz., Miss Swan, of Brigstock, and Miss Barrow, of Weston-by-Welland.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at East Haddon in May.

Touches were rung on the peal of six bells throughout the afternoon and evening, members of the Ladies' Guild taking a prominent part and forming teams from rounds to Treble Bob and Surprise methods.

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT AT BASINGSTOKE.

The Southern District of the Ladies' Guild received a hearty welcome at Basingstoke, Hants, on Saturday, February 24th, on its first visit since the Guild was formed in 1912. Ringing commenced at All Saints' Church at 3 o'clock, and at St. Michael's at 4.15. The Guild service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Dr. H. W. Bonstead), who gave a very helpful address. The local ladies had prepared a splendid tea in the Church Cottage, and 33 ringers did justice to it.

At the business meeting Miss E. Foulk, a visitor from the Northern District, took the chair. Three new members were elected, Misses Irene and May Knapp, of Highclere, and Mrs. Wooding, of Basingstoke. Mrs. Oaler, of Bramley, was welcomed back into the Guild.

It was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Pirbright, Surrey, in October.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector, the organist and to the ladies who had arranged the tea.

After the meeting the ladies left to rejoin the gentlemen in the tower, but the lure of the shops proved too much for some, and so a second 'Henry VIII.' came to the rescue of the remaining seven. Later the Guild members managed several touches 'on their own.' Ringing was arranged as far as possible to meet all needs from rounds to Double Norwich.

The following towers were represented: Aldershot, Basingstoke, Bramley, Duffield, Farnborough, Guildford, Laverstoke, Overton, Pirbright, Seale, Twyford and Worplesdon.

## NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

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LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be on Saturday, March 10th, at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway Road. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea at 5.15. All ringers welcome whether beginners, average or expert. Please look up Bristol.—J. G. Prior, Hon. Dis. Sec., 77, Anthony Street, London, E.1.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Beddington on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (10) available from 2.30. Service 5 o'clock. Tea (Harvest Home, Beddington Lane) 5.45. Meeting 6.30. Social or further ringing after meeting.—Chas. H. Kippen, Hon. Sec., Ebbisham, Woodmere Avenue, Shirley, Croydon.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Saviour's) on Saturday, March 10th. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (is. 3d. per head). Business meeting to follow.—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 12, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A joint meeting of the Lincoln and Sleaford Districts will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, March 10th, on the occasion of the opening, after restoration, of the bells of the Parish Church (8). Bells open 2.30 to 9 p.m. A service will be held at 4 p.m., at which a collection will be taken to help to defray the cost of rehanging the bells. A hearty welcome is extended to all ringers.—H. Marcon and H. S. Hinkins, Hon. Dis. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—A district meeting will be held at Rolleston-on-Dove on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—W. H. Curson, Hon. Sec., Netherseale.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Winscombe on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at Bird's Winscombe, 5.15.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel (Clock Tower) on Saturday, March 10th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. 9d. each. The following towers available during afternoon: St. Margaret's (12) 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Cathedral (10) 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., St. John-the-Divine (10) 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Ernest H. Bagworth, 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-East Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thorington on March 10th. Bells available 2.30. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. All are welcome.—J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Road, Wivenhoe.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (12) available from 3 to 7 p.m. General meeting for election of officers, etc., will be held in the tower at 5 p.m. The annual report is now available, and subscriptions for 1933-34 are due. Further particulars to towers by circular.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Helens on Saturday, March 10th. By invitation of Father Riley, Lowe House Church, members are invited to inspect the carillon at 3 p.m. prompt. Parish Church bells (10) available 3.30 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea 1s.; notify Mr. E. Mercer, 13, Spray Street, St. Helens. An especially large muster of ringers is desired at this meeting, as a new ring of 8 bells is shortly to be dedicated at St. Helens.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

**APPLETON, BERKS.**—The 116th anniversary of these bells will be celebrated on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available all day. Dinner at 4.30 p.m. Will those who intend to be present at the dinner please notify R. White, Appleton, Berks.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Golding on Saturday, March 10th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. All members are requested to attend, if possible.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A ringing meeting will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, March 10th. Tower opened 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at East Claydon on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 2.45 p.m. Guild service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 92, High Street, Winslow, Bucks.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brindle on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Meeting 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome. Teas can be obtained nearby. Buses from Clayton Green at 2.10 and 4.10 p.m. pass the church.—J. Charnock, Hon. Branch Sec.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Ware on March 10th. The bells (tenor 22 cwt.) will be available during the afternoon and evening. Service, conducted by the Vicar, at 5 o'clock, tea and business meeting after. We shall be glad to see as many old friends, also new ones, as can come.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 10th, at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon West (opposite R.A.F. Depot). Bells (8) from 3.30. Service at 5. Tea, in Church Hall, at 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions are two months overdue.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Lancaster Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Burton-in-Westmoreland on March 10th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea, price 1s., at 4.30 p.m. Meeting at 5.15 p.m. in the National School.—E. Swain, 29, Beecham Street, Morecambe.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—Combined practice meeting at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, Monday, March 12th. Handbells 6.30 to 7.30. Tower bells from 7.30, Major methods only.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—A general meeting will be held at Woodbridge on March 17th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, at St. Mary's House, at 3.30 p.m. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford Rectory.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Cheltenham Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Badgeworth on Saturday, March 17th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation, at 5.30. Will all those requiring tea please let me know by the 14th inst.?—Walter Yeend, Branch Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District meeting at Shere, Saturday, March 17th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Notifications by March 12th, please.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, Guildford.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Grappenhall Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Daresbury on the 17th inst., commencing at 3 p.m. Please advise me by the 15th if requiring tea.—J. E. Ashcroft, Hon. Sec., P.O., Grappenhall.

**BARWELL, LEICS.**—The reopening of the ring of eight bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will take place on Saturday, Mar. 17th. Service at 3 p.m. Preacher, Rev. R. P. Farrow, M.A., Rector of Stoney Stanton.

**ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Wye on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready 2.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Swindon Branch.—A monthly meeting will be held at Highworth on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (8) available 3 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock. Please advise for tea.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 17th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Business important.—J. Bracewell, Hon. Sec., 8, Regent Street, Bacup.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Sharnbrook on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (nice peal of six) ready early. You are heartily welcome. Just a card for tea, please, which is at 5 o'clock.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Beds.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come and let us have a good meeting.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Lawton on Saturday, March 17th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Eight bells. Will all those who intend being present kindly let me know by the 14th inst. ?—Rich. D. Langford, 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bispham Parish Church (eight bells) on March 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 4.30. Subscriptions due.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool, S.S.

**ELY ASSOCIATION.**—Central Branch.—The first 1934 general meeting will be held at Whittlesea, near Peterborough, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (Taylor's eight, "nuff said") 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. The postman wants a rise; make him busy. Postcard by March 14th, please. To our friends who find Whittlesea too far, come to Sutton on March 14th, 5.45 p.m. A real welcome awaits you. We ring and talk; talk and ring; and, say it quietly, we follow Troyte, we adjourn.—F. Warrington, Mill Road, Over, Cambs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne (12), on Saturday, March 17th. Tower open for ringing at 6 p.m. Special practice at Miles Platting, 13th inst., 7.30 p.m.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Long Buckby (five bells) on Saturday, March 17th. Usual arrangements. Please notify me for tea by Wednesday previous.—Geo. A. Hollick, Branch Sec., West Street, Welford, Rugby.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Selby on Saturday, March 24th. Bells (10) at the Abbey available afternoon and evening. Service in the Abbey at 4 o'clock; preacher, the Vicar. Tea 1s. 6d. per head. Please advise Mr. J. W. Hall, 9, Westbourne Road, Selby, by March 22nd. Business meeting immediately after tea.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

**LADIES' GUILD AND SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—A joint meeting will be held on Easter Monday, April 2nd, at Rotherham Parish Church. Bells (10) available from 10 a.m. More particulars later.—L. N. Cawthorne and M. E. Wilson, Dis. Hon. Secs.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Preliminary Notice.—The management committee meeting and the general annual meeting will be held at Cirencester on Easter Monday, April 2nd. **THE DAVIES MEMORIAL.**—The dedication of the memorial to the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies will take place on Saturday, May 19th. The Memorial Chapel and the retuned and augmented peal of bells will be dedicated at the one service. We ask the co-operation of all ringers and friends by their attendance.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The 54th annual general meeting will be held at Maidstone on Easter Monday, April 2nd. Committee meeting in All Saints' vestry at 11 a.m. Association service at 12 noon. Luncheon in the Corn Exchange at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting. The following towers will be open during the day: All Saints', Maidstone (10), Leeds (10), Linton (8), West Malling (8), Aylesford (8), Barming (6), East

Farleigh (6), Boxley (6), and Bearstead (6). Application for luncheon tickets (1s. each to practising members, 3s. to non-members, including moderate refreshment) must be made to the undersigned before first post, Wednesday, March 28th. Remittance must accompany application.—Fred M. Mitchell, Gen. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Preliminary Notice.—The annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, April 14th, at the Spead Eagle Hotel, at 6 p.m. Full details later.—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 4, Railway Terrace, Lydney, Glos.

**BRIGHTON.**—Ringers visiting Brighton for the Easter Conference of the N.U.T. are asked to communicate with S. E. Armstrong, 1b, Chester Terrace, Brighton.

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INTERESTING DEVELOP-  
MENT OF CHANGE RINGING

Study this latest phase of  
the Art and learn how to  
practise it.

The system is fully explained in  
'METHOD SPLICING,' price 1/3 (post free) from  
'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

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