



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

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## TWO AMERICANS ON HOLIDAY

WE hear much to-day about the need for instruction in ringing and about the difficulties experienced by those desirous of learning to ring. Perhaps the following true story of two people who surmounted more difficulties than most of us contemplate will hearten other learners and show how individual enterprise can win through.

David and Alice Dickinson are both lecturers in the Faculty of Mathematics in the University of Massachusetts, U.S.A. One day in 1954, when browsing round a second-hand book shop, they found and bought for the equivalent of sixpence a much worn copy of Woolmore Wigram's 'Change Ringing Disentangled' (London, 1888). The mathematical problems implied interested them greatly, but to appreciate the theory they thought it necessary to delve into the practice also.

The first step was a visit to Mrs. Shurcliff, of Boston, who is believed, in the U.S.A. at least, to be the sole surviving female member of the College Youths and learnt to ring in England at the turn of the century. Mrs. Shurcliff showed David and Alice how to ring handbells and pushed them through two plain courses of Grandsire Doubles. The next week they ordered a set of eight handbells from a famous firm in this country and these arrived just one year later. In a way this delay was a good thing as three or four days before the bells arrived they lost their house and all their belongings, including their collection of 'Ringing Worlds' and various ringing books, by fire. The books and 'Ringing Worlds' were, however, soon replaced by the generous response of readers to an advertisement in this journal, and so with more books David soon prepared a modernisation of Thompson's proof of the impossibility of a peal of Grandsire Triples without singles ('American Mathematical Monthly,' June, 1957), whilst together they became competent at Bob Minimus on the surviving handbells.

During this period of some 18 months they were continually in and out of law courts endeavouring to get satisfaction from the company responsible for the fire, so when, early this year, the claim was paid, they decided

to take six months' sabbatical leave in order to learn bell-ringing in this country.

Whether they were aware of the College of Campanology is uncertain, but they decided to come to the University in Great Britain and so arrived at Cambridge on March 7th this year, where they got in touch with the University Guild. Members of the Guild started them off with lashed bell practice, an hour a day each for six days, backstrokes only at first, then handstrokes only and eventually both together, going back to single strokes whenever there was any signs of bad handling. One member very generously demonstrated the sort of handling that breaks stays and broke the stay in the process.

By the end of the Lent term they were ringing respectable rounds at the Guild's learners' practice at St. Bene't's, so were allowed to take a fortnight's holiday in France. On April 1st they were back and given a programme of four evening practices a week at Ely Diocesan Association towers dealing almost exclusively with learners, together with Sunday ringing at one of them. In addition they attended the Association's meetings within cycling distance.

In this programme good striking in rounds and plain hunting on five or six was taught, and by the beginning of July they were capable of starting on Plain Bob and Grandsire 'inside.'

During the first three months of their stay, handbells were not taught very intensively—just occasional attempts at plain courses of Bob Minor to get some idea of the three positions. Serious practice started on July 8th with a three-hour session (10 p.m.–1 a.m.), David and Alice ringing 1–2 and 3–4, respectively, with a member of the C.U.G.C.R. on 5–6, ringing continuous plain courses and finishing with some instruction of bob making. A second three-hour session started with short touches and finished with a 720. Then followed two more three-hour sessions, each ending with a quarter peal, and another in which two Guild members took the learners one at a time in order to improve the beat.

Their stay in this country is now drawing to a close, and we are pleased to be able to publish a tower-bell and a handbell peal for each of them and wish them every success in their avowed intention of promoting change ringing in the U.S.A.

W. J. R.



**TEN BELL PEAL**

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
On Tues., July 23, 1957, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MANCROFT.

**A PEAL OF 5075 GRANDSIRE CATERS**

Tenor 37 cwt. 99 lb. in C.

DORIS E. LIDBETTER .. Treble	CLIFFORD BIRD .. .. . 6
*EILEEN HUDSON .. .. 2	BERT GOGLE .. .. . 7
JOHN R. SMITH .. .. 3	GEORGE SAYER .. .. . 8
ARTHUR G. BASON .. .. 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. .. 9
PHILIP J. H. HUDSON .. 5	NOLAN GOLDEN .. .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal on ten bells.

**EIGHT BELL PEALS**

CAMBRIDGE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW-THE-GREAT,

**A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOANNA M. BOISSARD .. Treble	*HUGH NEILL .. .. . 5
J. DESMOND PAINTER .. 2	JOHN G. GIPSON .. .. 6
*M. SUSAN JACKSON .. 3	GILES C. GALLEY .. .. 7
CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. 4	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Composed by G. BAKER.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

\* First peal in the method.

LONDON, E.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 15, 1957, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, LEYTON.

**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in A flat.

*JOAN E. BAKER .. Treble	‡BARWELL B. DIBBEN .. 5
†ANNE C. GARNETT .. 2	‡ALAN J. FROST .. .. 6
MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 3	ROBIN G. LEALE .. .. 7
DAVID W. JAMES .. .. 4	WILLIAM T. COOK .. .. Tenor

Composed by J. HOLT.

Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.

\* First peal of Triples. † First peal on tower bells, on eight, and in the method. ‡ First peal of Grandsire.

FRINDSBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 16 cwt.
RUTH A. HIGHLEY .. Treble	JENNIFER M. HIGHLEY .. 5
PETER F. BORER .. .. 2	TERENCE BARTON .. .. 6
RONALD C. BURNS .. .. 3	CYRIL S. JARRETT .. .. 7
GEORGE KENWARD .. .. 4	LESLIE B. DOBBIE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

Rung as birthday compliments to Mr. George Kenward, Mr. T. Sone and Miss R. Dobbie.

HINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

Cave's transposition of Washbrook's.	Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.
NOLAN GOLDEN .. Treble	*PHILIP J. H. HUDSON .. 5
*EILEEN HUDSON .. .. 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 6
JOHN S. BARNES .. .. 3	BERT GOGLE .. .. . 7
GEORGE SAYER .. .. 4	ALLAN C. HAINEs .. .. Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal of Stedman (from Rochdale).

COLE-ORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Thurs., July 18, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

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

**A PEAL OF 5040 GAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

*GEORGE L. ROOBOTTOM .. Treble	*VIVIANNE M. HORTON .. 5
*GORDON A. HALLS .. .. 2	*BARNABAS G. KEY .. .. 6
*FRANCIS R. LOWE .. .. 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. .. 7
*DEREK P. JONES .. .. 4	ROLAND BENISTON .. .. Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

\* First peal in the method.

Rung for the engagement of Mr. Francis R. Lowe and Miss Hilda E. Beeson, both of Derby.

BIGGLESWADE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

**A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F.

*FRANK H. BRISCOE .. Treble	†ALAN S. SMITH .. .. 5
†JAMES W. HAW .. .. 2	JOHN H. BLUFF .. .. 6
LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. 3	GEORGE S. BUSH .. .. 7
†GEOFFREY W. MAYES .. 4	†BRYAN F. SIMS .. .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by BRYAN F. SIMS.

\* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method.

EDENHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

**A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.

JULIET OWEN .. Treble	*PETER A. HILL .. .. 5
JOHN E. COOK, JUN. .. 2	BRIAN HUNT .. .. . 6
W. RUSSELL READ .. .. 3	LEONARD C. BLANCHARD .. 7
DENIS A. FRITH .. .. 4	J. MICHAEL SIMPSON .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.

\* First peal 'inside.' First peal of Major by all except the conductor.

EWELL, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

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

**A PEAL OF 5120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 14 cwt.

DEREK G. SPITTLE .. Treble	*DAVID E. PARSONS .. .. 5
*KATHLEEN E. WELLER .. 2	FREDK. W. HOUSDEN .. 6
*MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 3	HAROLD N. PITSTOW .. 7
*CHARLES W. MUNDAY .. 4	JOHN HILL .. .. . Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by HAROLD N. PITSTOW.

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

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. &amp; LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF 5056 LYME SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in A.

H. GEORGE HART .. Treble	KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 5
JOHN R. MAYNE .. .. 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 6
ELSIE K. HART .. .. 3	WILLIAM WENBAN .. .. 7
JOAN M. WILCOCKSON .. 4	FREDERICK E. WILSHAW .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

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

**CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS**

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**MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.**  
**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 3 Hours.*

*At the Church of St. Peter.*

**A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR**

In four methods, being 1,312 Bristol and 1,280 each of London, Cambridge and Superlative, with 110 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in B flat.

JOHN WORTH .. .. . Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS .. .. . 5
FRED DUNKERLEY .. .. . 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. .. . 6
EDWARD JENKINS .. .. . 3	BRIAN HARRIS .. .. . 7
BASIL JONES .. .. . 4	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

Rung for the wedding of the Vicar, Rev. W. E. P. Tyson, M.A., which took place at Astbury the same day.

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME, STAFFORDSHIRE.**  
**THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Giles.*

**A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR**

6th place bobs. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb. in E.

HAROLD F. WHITE .. .. Treble	RICHARD J. WARRILOW .. .. 5
JOAN BERESFORD .. .. . 2	NEIL D. LOMAS .. .. . 6
ROBIN G. TURNER .. .. . 3	EDMUND MALIN .. .. . 7
ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. .. 4	FREDK. WM. GROCOTT .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FREDK. WM. GROCOTT.

The first peal of Bristol Surprise on the bells.

**ROTHWELL, YORKSHIRE.**  
**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**  
*(Leeds and District Society.)*

*On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.*

*At the Church of The Holy Trinity.*

**A PEAL OF 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 15 cwt. 21 lb.

GEORGE W. STEEL .. .. Treble	THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY .. 5
ARTHUR G. WOOD .. .. . 2	WILLIAM WARD .. .. . 6
*VALERIE M. MASSAM .. .. 3	FRANK RAYMENT .. .. . 7
FRED BENNETT .. .. . 4	IRVIN SLACK .. .. . Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY.

\* First peal in the method away from the treble.

Specially arranged and rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Valerie M. Massam.

**MARSHAM, NORFOLK.**  
**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Mon., July 22, 1957, in 3 Hours.*

*At the Church of All Saints.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A flat.

*GILLIAN PASLEY .. .. Treble	MRS. HANBURY F. CARTER .. 5
HANBURY F. CARTER .. .. 2	N. JOHN A. PUMPHREY .. .. 6
JOHN R. SMITH .. .. . 3	REV. H. G. LILLINGSTON .. 7
WILLIAM R. CATCHPOLE .. 4	WALTER C. MEDLER .. .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by WALTER C. MEDLER.

\* First peal of Major, first attempt (aged 14).

Rung in honour of the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen; also to commemorate the conductor's 50 years' membership of the Association.

**HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.**

**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wed., July 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Remigius.*

**A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

RAYMOND G. LOFTY .. .. Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN .. .. . 5
ARTHUR G. BASON .. .. . 2	PHILIP J. H. HUDSON .. .. 6
GEORGE SAYER .. .. . 3	JOHN MOORE .. .. . 7
*EILEEN HUDSON .. .. . 4	BERT GOGLE .. .. . Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal in the method.

**SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.**  
**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wed., July 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Peter.*

**A PEAL OF 5008 HEDINGHAM BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

FRANK CLAYDON .. .. Treble	ALAN R. SYDER .. .. . 5
TERRY EARLE .. .. . 2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN .. .. . 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN .. .. . 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN .. .. . 7
BRIAN J. HOWARD .. .. . 4	WALTER ARNOLD .. .. . Tenor

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

First peal in the method, which is 228 in C.C. collection of Plain Major methods.

Rung as a compliment to Rev. and Mrs. G. M. Lister, on being at Sible Hedingham for three years.

**FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS**

**HARLESTONE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.**  
**THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 6, 1957, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Andrew.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR**

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

GEORGE CARE .. .. Treble	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 4
*ROBIN V. BAKER .. .. . 2	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. .. 5
RICHARD F. ROE .. .. . 3	STEPHEN IVIN .. .. . Tenor

Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

\* First Surprise peal. Mr. P. I. Chapman has now rung 200 peals in 100 towers.

**MELDRETH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.**

**THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Tues., July 9, 1957, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.*

*At the Church of The Holy Trinity.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN G. GIPSON .. .. Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. .. 4
*DEREK E. SIBSON .. .. . 2	HUGH NEILL .. .. . 5
ALAN SHEPHERD .. .. . 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

\* First peal. 100th peal as conductor.

**BUNWELL, NORFOLK.**

**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Thurs., July 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

LEONARD G. TOOKIE .. .. Treble	RONALD E. BURT .. .. . 4
WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. .. 2	FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. .. 5
T. CHARLES BROWNE .. .. . 3	CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO .. Tenor

Conducted by CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Rev. C. J. Warren, Rector of Bunwell since 1954, whose funeral took place the same day.

**BLANKNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.**

**THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Fri., July 12, 1957, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Oswald.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR**

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

ROBIN WORSNALL .. .. Treble	*LEONARD G. THOMPSON .. 4
LOUIS WILDERS .. .. . 2	W. ROBERT PARKER .. .. 5
*JOHN F. PEARSON .. .. . 3	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. Tenor

Composed by H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by GEOFFREY R. PARKER.

\* First peal in the method.

**BURTON-UPON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.**

**THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Mon., July 15, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.*

*At the Church of St. Mark, Winhill.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR**

Being seven different extents (C.C.C. Nos. 64-69, 59).

Tenor 17 cwt. 14 lb. in F.

*KENNETH BALLINGTON (13) Treble	FRANCIS R. LOWE .. .. . 4
†PETER G. BELLAMY-KNIGHT .. 2	RONALD H. DOVE .. .. . 5
JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. .. . 3	DEREK P. JONES .. .. . Tenor

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

\* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Surprise. The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

A birthday compliment on this day to Mr. Francis R. Lowe, also his 250th peal, and rung for his engagement, on this day, to Miss Hilda E. Beeson, of Derby. Also a compliment to the conductor on his birthday.

**HARSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.**

**THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes.*

*At the Church of All Saints.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES**

Being 42 extents. Tenor 9 cwt.

*ALICE B. DICKINSON .. Treble	HUGH NEILL .. .. . 3
M. SUSAN JACKSON .. .. . 2	JOHN G. GIPSON .. .. . 4

WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

\* First peal.

**WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.**—On July 7th, 1,440 Ipswich Surprise Minor: A. Denson 1, N. Robinson 2, D. Murfet 3, G. E. Crisp 4, G. A. Lucas 5, D. E. R. Knights (cond.) 6. For sung Eucharist.

HOLYWELL, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.  
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 18, 1957, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB DOUBLES**

Being 42 extents. Tenor 10 cwt.  
\*DAVID J. DICKINSON .. Treble | HUGH NEILL .. 4  
M. SUSAN JACKSON .. 2 | WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 5  
DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 3 | GEOFFREY A. LUCAS .. Tenor  
Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.  
\* First tower-bell peal.

TARRING, SUSSEX.  
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 18, 1957, in 2 Hours,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES**

Being one 240 and 12 extents (ten callings) of Grandsire and 14 extents each of Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob (four callings)  
Tenor 8 cwt, 3 qr. 26 lb.  
DAVID BRAND .. .. Treble | DOROTHY K. SAUNDERS .. 4  
\*DONALD A. SMITH .. 2 | GEORGE FRANCIS .. 5  
\*MERVYN FROMM .. 3 | †ANTONY M. HORN .. Tenor  
Conducted by GEORGE FRANCIS.  
\* First peal of Doubles. † First peal.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 19, 1957, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being one extent each of Double Oxford, Double Court, St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise, Kent T.B., Oxford T.B. and Plain Bob.  
Tenor 8 cwt.  
LESLIE D. MILLS .. .. Treble | FRANK H. PIKE .. 4  
ROY DUESBURY .. 2 | A. EDWARD LEGGETT .. 5  
MRS. LESLIE MILLS .. 3 | DONALD L. MILLS .. Tenor  
Conducted by DONALD L. MILLS.  
First peal in seven methods as conductor.  
An 18th birthday compliment to the conductor.

QUEENBOROUGH, KENT.  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES**

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 9 cwt.  
\*†GEORGE KENWARD .. Treble | †STANLEY V. RAYFIELD .. 4  
\*†CYRIL S. JARRETT .. 2 | WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT .. 5  
\*ALBERT J. DUNK .. 3 | \*RONALD C. BINNS .. Tenor  
Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.  
\* First peal of Stedman Doubles. † 100th peal together. ‡ First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

WESTON FAVELL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.  
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 ST. PETER'S DOUBLES**

Being 42 six-scores (eight callings). Tenor 9 cwt. in A.  
ERIC BILLINGS .. .. Treble | PERCY AMOS .. 3  
VICTOR A. PERRY .. 2 | GEORGE F. ROOME .. 4  
DEREK P. JONES .. .. Tenor  
Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

The first peal in the method.  
Rung in honour of the patron saint of this church, and the 250th anniversary of the bells becoming a ring of five.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.  
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents. Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in D.  
\*BRIAN STAPLETON .. .. Treble | \*IVOR PETT .. 4  
ROBERT CHURCHILL .. 2 | MICHAEL STEPHENS .. 5  
\*ARTHUR KERSHAW .. 3 | KENNETH SPAVINS .. Tenor  
Conducted by MICHAEL STEPHENS.

\* First peal.  
Rung as a farewell compliment to the Rev. E. A. Storrs Fox, priest-in-charge of the parish since 1952.

CHEDISTON, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Mon., July 22, 1957, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.  
E. JACK THURLOW .. .. Treble | EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 4  
PETER KINDRED .. 2 | JOHN W. BLYTHE .. 5  
C. JACK GIBSON .. 3 | H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. Tenor  
Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.

**HANDBELL PEALS**

CAMBRIDGE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., July 16, 1957, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,  
AT ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents. Tenor size 11 in G.  
\*DAVID J. DICKINSON .. 1-2 | HUGH NEILL .. 3-4  
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 5-6  
Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.  
\* First peal.

SURBITON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes,  
AT 104, BERESFORD AVENUE, TOLWORTH,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 13 in E flat.  
ANNE C. GARNETT .. 1-2 | ROBIN G. LEALE .. 3-4  
MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 5-6  
Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.  
The first peal in the method for the Association, and by all the band.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 19, 1957, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,  
AT ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents. Tenor size 11 in G.  
\*ALICE B. DICKINSON .. 1-2 | HUGH NEILL .. 3-4  
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 5-6  
Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.  
\* First handbell peal.

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., July 19, 1957, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,  
AT CLEATHAM HOUSE FARM,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation). Tenor size 15 in C.  
\*ROBIN HEPPENSTALL .. 1-2 | JACK BRAY .. 5-6  
GEORGE E. FEIRN .. 3-4 | C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 7-8  
Conducted by JACK BRAY.  
\* First of Triples 'in hand.'

KILMORY KNAP, ARGYLL.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., July 23, 1957, in 1 Hour and 57 Minutes,  
AT DUN A BHUILG,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents called differently. Tenor size 13 in E.  
MRS. E. A. BARNETT .. 1-2 | EDWIN A. BARNETT .. 3-4  
EDWIN H. LEWIS .. 5-6  
Conducted by EDWIN H. LEWIS.  
Rung on Mrs. E. H. Lewis's birthday.

SILEBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(The Humphrey Perkins School Campanological Society.)  
On Wed., July 24, 1957, in 1 Hour and 44 Minutes,  
AT 153, RATCLIFFE ROAD,  
**A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES**

Being 21 extents each of Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor size 11 in G.  
DEREK M. SAWYER .. 1-2 | B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 3-4  
MICHAEL WHITE .. 5-6  
Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.



# QUARTER PEALS

**ARDINGLY, SUSSEX.**—On July 21st, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Miss R. Holman 1, H. J. Wilde 2, A. J. Butcher 3, C. F. Bennett 4, I. A. C. Butcher (cond.) 5, M. Probert 6. First quarter for 1 and 6.

**BALDOCK, HERTS.**—On July 21st, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: P. Flack 1, L. Scoot 2, P. Hutton 3, E. Buck 4, R. Castledine 5, D. Sutcliffe 6, C. Harwood 7, J. Dear (cond.) 8. First in the method by 1 and 2. First in the method by a local band. Rung for the Feast of St. Margaret, Baldock's sister church at Bygrave.

**BOW, LONDON.**—On July 14th, at St. Mary-atte-Bow, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. W. Bullock 1, J. Hales 2, T. H. Taffender 3, P. J. Hutchins 4, D. R. Randall 5, L. W. Battley 6, E. D. Smith (cond.) 7, J. A. Hales 8. For Evensong.

**BRAMPTON ASH, NORTHANTS.**—On July 24th, 1,260 Bob Minor: A. J. Frost 1, P. G. K. Davies 2, Miss D. Lawless (first 'inside') 3, Miss J. Baker (first 'inside') 4, D. W. James 5, B. P. Morris (cond.) 6. Rung for the Feast of St. James.

**CARLISLE, CUMBERLAND.**—On July 21st, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire, 480 Plain Bob), on the middle five: E. A. Palmer 1, J. Hodgson (first quarter) 2, R. Briggs 3, J. Ling 4, A. Forsyth 5, J. Boustead 6, J. Grieve 7. Conducted by 4, 5 and 6.

**CARLTON COLVILLE, SUFFOLK.**—On July 21st, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Monica Howes (first quarter) 1, P. G. Tovell 2, R. T. Tovell 3, M. J. Stokes 4, T. N. J. Bailey (cond.) 5. Rung in honour of the christening this day of Christine Patricia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Goud, of Oulton Broad. Mr. Goud is the local Ringing Master.

**CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.**—On June 30th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Margaret Jennings 1, Ann Miles 2, E. Roberts 3, M. Jennings 4, S. Arnold 5, W. Slaughter 6, G. Jennings (cond.) 7, J. Laker 8. For Evensong, and to welcome ringer of 4 home from National Service.

**DOWNHAM, ESSEX.**—On July 17th, 1,224 Minor (720 Cambridge and 504 Spiced Oxford and Kent T.B.): G. Sandwell 1, H. Turner (cond.) 2, L. H. Turner 3, R. N. Pittman 4, B. Howard 5, B. C. Hines 6. Rung half-muffled prior to a memorial service to Canon Vaughan-Jones, a former rector, who died in S. Africa on July 6th last.

**EDINBURGH.**—On July 21st, at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: K. Ballington (13, first on eight) 1, Kate Branson 2, W. H. Pickett 3, J. Killick 4, A. W. Lloyd 5, C. R. Raine 6, D. P. Jones (cond.) 7, A. Best 8. Rung to welcome the Very Rev. R. Foskett, recently installed as Provost of the Cathedral.

**EPHING UPLAND, ESSEX.**—On July 20th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob, 660 Grandsire): Janet Evans 1, A. Mansfield 2, J. Cordell 3, W. Wedlock (cond.) 4, J. McPhail 5, C. Bengham 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss Diana Padfield to Mr. W. Collins.

**EWELME, OXON.**—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire and Bob Doubles: Patricia Reason (14, first quarter) 1, R. H. Baker 2, F. Godden 3, J. Godman 4, B. Blond (cond.) 5, J. Busby 6. For Evensong.

**GRANTHAM, Lincs.**—On July 21st, 1,278 Grandsire Caters: Miss V. Sharpe 1, R. Read 2, P. Hill 3, F. Pinchbeck 4, H. Squires 5, B. Buttery 6, L. Squires 7, H. R. Woods (cond.) 8, M. Simpson 9, D. Frith 10. Rung for Evensong.

**GREAT ADDINGTON, NORTHANTS.**—On June 24th, 1,320 Minor (720 Kent T.B., 600 Plain Bob): Miss J. Blanchard 1, Miss J. Giles 2, D. James 3, R. Stretton 4, B. Cope 5, G. Watson (cond.) 6. First quarter by 1 and 2.

**HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.**—On July 21st, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. H. Harris 1, B. E. Woodall 2, H. Shilcock 3, J. H. Cox 4, Miss W. Pretty 5, T. Greenhall 6, L. Clissett (cond.) 7, G. Bradley 8. Rung for the jubilee celebration of St. Margaret's Church. Also rung prior to the tenor ringer joining the Forces.

**HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX.**—On July 14th, 1,296 Bob Major: Margaret Essen (first quarter) 1, P. Ridgway 2, Paddy Feddern 3, Mrs. P. Ridgway 4, W. S. Deason 5, P. A. Lawrence 6, R. G. Leale (cond.) 7, D. A. S. Hawkins 8. Also on July 21st, 1,260 Minor (720 York Surprise and 540 Windermere Bob): Margaret Essen 1, D. Hawkins 2, W. S. Deason 3, R. Woodcock 4, P. A. Lawrence 5, S. J. Woodcock (cond.) 6.

**HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.**—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss C. J. Yardley 1, Miss E. M. Yardley 2, A. N. Stubbs 3, I. D. Thompson (cond.) 4, P. Beresford 5, A. R. Crump 6. Rung to commemorate the wedding of the Rev. K. H. Hills, curate of the parish, to Miss H. J. McDowall Morgan, of Washwood Heath, on the previous day.

**KEYMER, SUSSEX.**—On July 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Eaton 1, P. Robinson 2, J. Backshall 3, S. A. Hill 4, P. F. Romney (cond.) 5, F. Cox 6. Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the Ven. H. C. Loasby, formerly Archdeacon of Madras, Rector of Uckfield, and for some years assistant priest in this parish.

**KELVEDON, ESSEX.**—On July 22nd, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Papworth 1, J. Elliott (cond.) 2, Miss W. M. Elliott 3, H. Nicholls 4, C. Burton 5, A. R. Elliott 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mrs. C. Button, interred that day.

**LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.**—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. H. Winch (cond.) 1, A. S. Harris 2, Rev. C. R. Marshall (first quarter) 3, Miss P. Sme 4, G. Marriner 5, B. Hawkins 6, A. H. Smith 7, H. V. Young 8. For Evensong.

**LOUGHTON, ESSEX.**—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss S. R. Green 1, L. S. Woods (cond.) 2, Miss C. Ford 3, S. T. Ford 4, M. Austin 5, F. Tomlin 6, D. Riley 7, H. Duncan 8. Rung with the very best wishes of the band as a farewell to the ringers of 3 and 4, who will shortly be leaving the district.

**PARRAMATTA, N.S.W.**—On April 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Polain 1, J. J. Cummins 2, P. Gates 3, T. W. Goodyer (cond.) 4, K. G. P. Stacey 5, T. Howell 6.

**RAMPTON, NOTTS.**—On July 7th, 1,260 Minor (720 Kent Treble Bob, 540 Plain Bob): P. Greedy 1, M. Ross 2, R. Hobbs 3, T. Randall 4, H. Denman (cond.) 5, M. Kemp 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Bryan Ross, brother of the second ringer.

**REIGATE, SURREY.**—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. P. S. Cracknell 1, F. B. Jeal 2, C. S. Hoad 3, F. T. Hoad 4, W. H. Inwood 5, A. T. Shelton 6, B. A. Cracknell (cond.) 7, Miss J. Hanning 8. By the local band for Evensong.

**SALEHURST, SUSSEX.**—On July 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Hook 1, G. King 2, J. H. Edwards 3, A. Hoad 4, A. Smith 5, S. May 6, W. H. Hoad (cond.) 7, A. Allcorn 8. Rung especially for the 100th birthday of Mrs. Brooks. Believed to be the first occasion of any parishioner reaching this age.

**SHERINGTON, BUCKS.**—On July 19th, 1,260 Doubles (60 Grandsire, 120 Winchendon Place, 120 St. Nicholas', 120 Reverse Canterbury, 120 St. Simon's, 120 St. Martin's, 240 April Day, 360 Plain Bob): B. Grainger 1, Angela Grainger 2, P. Newing 3, M. G. Hooton 4, A. E. Butcher (cond.) 5.

**STAMFORD HILL, LONDON.**—At St. Ann's Church, on July 23rd, 1,440 London Surprise Minor: Miss P. Rowe 1, Miss L. Hawes 2, M. Cubitt 3, B. Bladon (cond.) 4, M. Rowe 5, E. J. Rowe 6. The last quarter peal on the old six. The 29th quarter this year.

**STEEPLE ASTON, OXON.**—On June 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Gardiner (first quarter) 1, H. Adams 2, A. Johnston (first quarter) 3, H. Adams (first as conductor) 4, F. Darvill (first quarter) 5, E. Franks (first quarter) 6.

**STRATTON, CORNWALL.**—On July 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (1 and 2 leading): S. Stacey 1, H. Trewin 2, D. Garvie 3, H. Heard 4, C. Sangwin (cond.) 5, A. Bissatt 6, H. Stacey 7, T. Finmore 8. Rung for St. Andrew's fete.

**TETTENHALL, STAFFS.**—On July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss C. Slater 1, H. Howell 2, Miss B. Falkiner (first 'inside') 3, G. Smallwood 4, A. G. Newman 5, E. Stitch (cond.) 6, R. Humphries (first on eight bells) 7, E. Southwick 8.

**TRULL, SOMERSET.**—On July 21st, 1,260 Bob Minor: Beryl Churchill 1, G. Perry 2, F. Sparks 3, M. Noad 4, R. Baker 5, H. Churchill (cond.) 6.

**TWYWELL, NORTHANTS.**—On July 22nd, 1,320 Doubles (120 each of Winchendon Place, St. Matthew's, St. Nicholas', St. Simon's, St. Martin's, and 720 Plain Bob): Joan Baker 1, F. E. Crosier 2, C. H. Newell 3, D. W. James (cond.) 4, D. Perkins 5. First quarter in six methods by all the band. Rung by the Cranford band for the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene.

**WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.**—On July 21st, 1,392 Bob Major: F. C. Maynard 1, H. Rumens 2, B. Downes 3, E. E. Holman 4, M. C. Austin 5, D. Hewitt 6, A. J. N. Boyack 7, R. J. Chapman (comp. and cond.) 8. Rung for Evensong and the 18th birthday of the conductor.

**WEST BROMWICH, STAFFS.**—At All Saints' Church, on July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Jane Cotterill 1, E. A. Parish 2, A. Mills (cond.) 3, J. Cooper 4, F. Baracough 5, W. D. Peart 6, J. N. Hadley 7, J. R. Cotterill 8. For Evensong, with the bells muffled, in memoriam Josiah Hadley, verger at this church (1933-1957).

**WIMBLEDON, SURREY.**—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Jacobs 1, J. Tomsett 2, M. Sinden 3, Susan Jacobs 4, P. Devenish 5, A. Bishop 6, M. P. Moreton 7, F. Corfield (cond.) 8.

**WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.**—On July 20th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: A. Henshall (first quarter) 1, J. D. Smith 2, B. Porter 3, R. A. Trickett (first quarter as conductor) 4, J. Adams 5, F. R. Morton 6. Rung to celebrate the recent marriage of Mr. Michael Morgan-Wynne, a local ringer, to Miss Barbara Baxter. Two attempts at a mixed Doubles peal had previously failed.

**WOBURN, BEDS.**—On July 16th, 1,260 Bob Triples: B. Stapleton 1, Angela Grainger 2, Anne Spavins 3, B. Grainger 4, Phyllis Gray (first of Bob Triples) 5, K. G. Spavins 6, P. Newing (cond.) 7, F. F. Bloxham 8. Rung for the birthdays of Miss P. Gray and Mr. W. Maytum (Littlebourne, Kent).



# ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY-NEXT-GUILDHALL

*'I was well pleased with the church, it being a very fine one.'*

So wrote Samuel Pepys in his Diary in 1664, but little is known of the church which was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666.

We do know, however, that the new church, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, was very beautiful, and was the costliest of Wren's buildings of the 'hall' type, the vicar's vestry being reputed to be one of the finest small rooms in Europe.

It is said that St. Lawrence, to whom the church is dedicated, when he was told to bring out the church's treasure produced all the sick and poor people he could find, dispersing the valuables secretly. This was in A.D. 258, during the Valerian persecutions, and led to his martyrdom. He was flayed and then roasted on a gridiron. This emblem recurs throughout the church, and the weathervane takes this form.

On December 29th, 1940, the church was destroyed by enemy action, only the walls and tower remaining. Rebuilding was commenced in 1954 and completed in 1957, to the design of Mr. Cecil Brown. Under the reorganisation scheme for the City churches, St. Lawrence's ceased to be a parish church and became a guild church, with a ministry to the weekday working population, and it was designated the official church of the Corporation of London.

Many famous figures in the church have been connected with St. Lawrence's, including William Grocyn, the great Greek scholar; Edward Reynolds, later Bishop of Norwich; Seth Ward, later Bishop of Exeter; John Wilkins, later Bishop of Chester; Sir Thomas More, who lectured there; and John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1691-94, who was baptised, married and buried there.

The new church was reconsecrated on July 15th by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, and in the presence of a most distinguished congregation, which included the High Commissioners of Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand and S. Africa; representatives for the High Commissioners of Canada and India; the Master of Balliol; the Masters and Wardens of the Worshipful Companies of Mercers, Haberdashers, Girdlers, Cooks, Weavers, Turners and Loriners; the Keeper of the Guildhall; members of the Court of Common Council, City Marshal, the High Officers, the Sheriffs, and Court of Aldermen; churchwardens, architect, the Vicar of St. Lawrence Jewry, Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of London and Diocesan Registrar.

Amongst the clergy present were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Dean of St. Paul's, Rural Dean of City, Archbishop of Capetown and the Archdeacon of London.

At the west door, the Lord Mayor, addressing the Bishop, said: 'Right Reverend Father in God, we pray you to reconsecrate this our church'; and the Bishop replied: 'I am ready to proceed to the reconsecration.' Prayers were then offered, and the Bishop ordered the Registrar to read the Sentence of Consecration, which he then signed, and ordered that the instrument should be enrolled and preserved in the muniments of the Diocesan Registry. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of London, and the blessing pronounced by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Then the new ring of bells rang out, and a well-struck quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung by a company of College Youths, which included five past Masters.

The bells, a beautiful ring of eight (tenor 24½ cwt. in E flat) were cast and installed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and are a worthy product of this old established and historic foundry. Very flattering comments were made by all who heard them.

JAYFUS.

## City Bells a Tonic to Workers

The following letter in appreciation of City bells appeared in 'The Daily Telegraph':—

*Sir,—Leaving my office within the parish of St. Lawrence Jewry Next Guildhall, in the City of London, on the occasion of the recent rededication of the beautifully reconstructed church, I was met on my homeward journey with the uplifting of music of bells broadcast from the belfry.*

*I am sure that many would like to express appreciation for the happy thought that prompted the arrangement. The delightful melody of the bells seemed to create a joyous and exhilarating effect on the erstwhile worshippers of Mammon and Moloch. Nothing better could be imagined to thrill and react as a tonic to City workers.*

*For too long have the bells of our City churches been silent. One recalls the pre-war jubilant Ascension Day ringing of the bells from the steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside.*

*Bells have been aptly described as the Church's artillery, and I should like our ecclesiastical fathers to make it possible for City workers to hear more music of the bells during weekdays and not confine this delightful ministry to Sundays.*

*Would it be possible for the majestic bells of St. Paul's Cathedral to be rung mid-week, perhaps by a volunteer group of City workers—in fact a junior group of College Youths or Society of Cheapside Scholars?—Yours faithfully,*

G. W. WALDREN.

London, N.10.

## Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—W. Hayward 2s. 6d., W. J. Root 2s., St. Giles', Willenhall, 3s. 6d., Rev. P. R. Blackman 1s., Anonymous 3s.

Peals.—Woodditton 4s. 6d., Allesley 4s., Queenborough 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Shepton Beauchamp 2s. 6d., Standlake 3s., Willingham 3s., Walthamstow 4s., Reigate 4s., Wimbledon 2s. 6d., Edinburgh 4s., Trull 2s., Handsworth 3s., Crawley 5s., Halesowen 2s., Epping Upland 2s. 6d., Stratton 2s.

## Great Tey

The ringers of St. Barnabas', Great Tey, had their annual outing on July 20th, and made a trip to Winchester. Ringing took place in the following Surrey towers: St. John's, Egham; St. Andrew's, Farnham, and St. Mary's, Ewell. The enjoyment of the day was enhanced by the bells being ready in each tower visited. Thanks are expressed to all steeple-keepers concerned. The arrangements were made by Mr. J. W. Dyer, captain.

## ST. MATTHEW'S, UPPER CLAPTON

Two new peal boards were dedicated after Evensong on Trinity Sunday at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, by the Vicar (Rev. C. H. Shaw Kew), who is president of St. Matthew's Society of Voluntary Ringers. The ceremony was witnessed by a considerable number of the congregation, the choir, and visitors from other towers. The two new boards were given by two local firms and prepared by Mr. Friswell for lettering by the sign-writer.

The peals thus commemorated are as follows:

On April 11th, 1953, in 2 hours 53 minutes

(No. 3461 Middlesex Association)

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. A. Hales .. .. .	1
G. L. Friswell .. .. .	2
Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkings ..	3
G. A. Parsons .. .. .	4
R. K. C. Wilkings .. .. .	5
D. Neal .. .. .	6
C. E. Willmington .. ..	7
C. F. Neal .. .. .	8

On June 16th, 1956, in 2 hours 50 minutes

(No. 3598 Middlesex Association)

5056 BOB MAJOR

A. Richardson .. .. .	1
J. M. Highley .. .. .	2
Mrs. T. J. Lock .. .. .	3
D. C. Bowen .. .. .	4
A. W. J. Butler .. .. .	5
G. A. Parsons .. .. .	6
C. E. Willmington .. ..	7
T. J. Lock .. .. .	8

With the exception of Messrs. J. A. Hales and A. W. J. Butler, all who took part in the peals were present at the dedication ceremony.

## EMMANUEL, PLYMOUTH

The ringers of Emmanuel Church, Plymouth, with wives and families, visited Cornwall on the occasion of their annual outing on Saturday, July 13th, and rang at six churches, the distance covered being 206 miles, this being the longest journey undertaken by the post-war band. A stop was made at Lanivet for welcome coffee, the majority of the party having had a very early breakfast.

First place to ring was at Redruth, where there is a ring of eight, then on via Wendron—the view from the high ground of St. Ives and Carbis Bay on the one side of the Land's End peninsula and the top of St. Michael's Mount on the other was seen at its best in the beautiful weather that favoured the party—to lunch and to ring at Helston. Next a visit was made to St. Anthony-in-Meneage, with its lively eight, the church being right down by the River Helford. Then on through the narrow roads, which just fitted the 33-seater coach, to the grand ring of eight at St. Keverne.

Tea was partaken at the Lizard Hotel, The Lizard, followed by ringing at two 6-bell towers—Landewednack, the most southerly church in England with a ring of bells, and Cury.

After a short stop at Bodmin on the homeward run, which was made via Truro, Plymouth was reached with everyone quite pleased with a good day's ringing, all the towers being new to all the ringers, with the exception of four. A hearty welcome was extended at each church, and the ready permission of the various incumbents to ring was greatly appreciated. The fact that in no less than three towers the bells were up made us think the art of raising and lowering in peal was dying in south-west Cornwall. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent were rung during the day. Friends from St. Andrew's and Plympton St. Maurice, as usual, joined the party. Ringing was under the direction of Mr. J. P. Sims, captain, and arrangements were made by Mr. H. H. Thomas, hon. secretary.

H. H. T.



## TOWERS IN FOUR COUNTIES AT WHITSUN

On Friday, June 7th, two widely-separated parties began a journey to Swindon for another 'Weekend Whcatsheaf,' the Derby contingent winning in a well-known Morris tourer. The two members from Bedfordshire arrived three hours behind at 2 a.m., one of them having willingly accepted a race handicap—a peal attempt for Bristol at Erith, which proved successful. After meeting at breakfast, we set out for the start of a fully planned day. At Castle Eaton (6, 7½ cwt.) one of us became unfortunately afflicted by the dis-ease dreaded of ringers—blisters!—and our peal attempt was stopped in the 6th extent. During the afternoon and evening we visited Meysey-Hampton (6, 9½ cwt.), Ampney Crucis (5, 8 cwt.—an entertaining musical oddity—13345!) and Cricklade (5, 12 cwt.), finishing with a visit to the District meeting at Bishopstone (8, 19½ cwt.).

On Sunday we were warmly welcomed for ringing at the two Swindon churches, and in the afternoon rang a very good peal in 14 methods on the bells of Ogbourne St. George (18½ cwt.), surely one of the finest fives in England. After returning the bells to the 'inverted handstroke,' Derek was seen cooling off in almost the same position over an ideally situated water trough! We were thanked by the vicar of the twin churches during the service at Ogbourne St. Andrew (5, 10 cwt.), and afterwards rang the congregation out with various touches.

A tour passing through the Savernake Forest and the Vale of Pewsey had been arranged for Whit Monday. At Tottenham Park (St. Anne's?) in the depths of the forest we found a good Mears peal (5, 11 cwt.). Noticing that the second rope frequently wished to leave its

wheel, and also the nearby Warren, we thought —'This must be the H.Q. of the Rabbits' Guild!' At Burbage (5, 14 cwt.) one of our younger members clearly demonstrated the axiom: 'To stand on the floor, one's feet ought to be in contact with it'; this to his discomfort and our amusement! An excellent lunch with Sally Lunn came between the ringing of the fine sixes at Collingbourne Kingston (19½ cwt.) and Ducis (11½ cwt.), an unusual feature being the long, untucked tail-ends at the latter. Everleigh (6, 14½ cwt.) was followed by the magnificent six at Upavon (14 cwt.), many methods up to Surprise bringing out to advantage the musical qualities of this grand ring. Floral decorations were much admired throughout the day, those at Pewsey (6, 11 cwt.) being particularly beautiful. Milton-Lilbourne (6, 10 cwt.) was our last tower, and on the way back to Swindon we were delighted to see a signpost to the village of Oare—for this has a special significance to many Bedfordshire (and other initiated) ringers!

By 5.30 a.m. the Morris was ambling along into the sunrise on the way to Cambs and Suffolk, now carrying six people and laden with camping gear. Whilst the equipment was being unloaded at Hitchin, Philip bounded before by bus to Baldock, there to join the other car. The first tower of Tuesday was Great Wilbraham (5, 9 cwt.), where we all re-met at 10 a.m. Here the bells are chimed, and we were astonished by weird noises from 1 and 5—soon found to be hanging on iron bars, the soundbows touching the supporting metal trestles. Adjustments were made and the improved tone removed our first suspicion that the bells had been scrapped for metal tubes! Ringing followed at Bottisham (5, 11 cwt.), Swaffham Prior (6, 11 cwt.) and

Burwell (8, 13 cwt.), where we were met by R. J. Housden, and admired the augmented ring. The fine bells at Newmarket (6, 21 cwt.) and Exning (5, 14 cwt.) inspired good ringing, and when chiming the musical bells of Cheveley (5, 14 cwt.) we thought how nice they would sound if restored to ringing condition. Chippenham (6, 10 cwt.) and Freckenham (5, 10 cwt.) preceded our last tower at Isleham (5, 25 cwt.), where (after prodigious and titanic efforts) we were well rewarded by very good rounds and a fine lower in peal.

Our appreciation is due to all incumbents for granting permission, and to Ann, Brian and Richard for their organisation. In addition, we extend our sincere thanks to the Rev. and Mrs. G. F. Williams, of Cheveley, whose munificent hospitality in providing tea for the party was without parallel, and will always be remembered.

P. M.

### NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

On Saturday, May 3rd, Geoffrey Logan, of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, was married to Dianne Foster. Geoff's ringing is now very limited as he is senior resident doctor at Royal Newcastle Hospital, which is some distance from Sydney.

Harold Jeeves, of St. Paul's, Maryborough, paid a visit to St. Mary's Cathedral in May, but unfortunately arrived too late to ring. However, he met 'Chook' Fowell, Laurie Curran and John Cummins, all of whom went on the Maryborough trip from Sydney in 1953.

Another visitor in May was Mr. Gibson, from Dublin, on a visit to his daughter in Queensland. Mr. Gibson rang Stedman Doubles and Plain Bob Minor at St. Mary's, and will be returning to Sydney later in the year.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

# The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

# 'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central  
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Mr. Roland Morant, who has acted as instructor at Stoke-next-Guildford and was previously associated with St. Nicolas', Guildford, sails with his wife for Canada this month. Both are members of the teaching profession and they hope to make their new home at Winnipeg.

Mr. Pat Cannon's peal tour this year starts on August 10th in the Reading area.

The bells of Bath Abbey will be reopened on August 3rd.

The peal at Winhill, Burton-upon-Trent, on July 15th provided Mr. Ronald H. Dove with an opportunity to fulfil an ambition of many years standing. It was at this church that his father was organist and he sang as a choirboy.

Mr. Brian Anston, Ringing Master of the Kettering Branch, Peterborough Diocesan Guild, addressed the Corby Interim Rotary Club on July 16th on 'Bells and bell ringing.' The talk was illustrated by handbells, a model bell and sketches.

The band who rang the peal at Rothwell for Miss Valerie M. Massam's 21st birthday would like to thank her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Massam, for their kind arrangements for tea after the peal. They were sorry that Percy was not able to participate in the peal.

Visiting Cheshire for the first time are Mr. and Mrs. W. Gorrings, of Hawkhurst, Kent, who have been staying near Astbury. On Sunday evening, July 21st, they rang at Christ Church, Crewe, and on Monday they joined in a 'tower grab' with Mr. R. H. Dove. Others taking part were Messrs. R. D. Langford, G. A. Packer, W. F. Stenson, J. Brough, E. Boffey, F. Ollier, A. Jaques, H. and S. Sutton, Derek Smith, Tony Trickett, Brian Porter and F. Moreton.

## BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Ronald H. Dove, Ringing Master of Leeds Parish Church, has been combining business with pleasure at Crewe. Travelling in Mr. Bernard Ongley's bus there was a bit of 'tower grabbing' on July 22nd: Wistaston 6.30 p.m., Acton 7.10, Nantwich 7.45, and his train back to Leeds at 8.58 p.m. The ringing was much enjoyed.

The 50th anniversary of the granting of a charter to the Borough of Nuneaton was celebrated by a peal at All Saints' Church, Chilvers Coton, on July 23rd.

During a peal attempt of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus at Leicester Cathedral last week, P. A. C. broke the stay of the third bell about half way through the peal, and now joins forces with his old colleague A. P. C., who did a similar thing at the C.C. meeting last year.

The rather heavy ring of six bells at Wellington (Hereford) Parish Church were being rung to rounds on a recent Saturday afternoon by a band of young novices, previous to the annual service of the combined choir festival. It had been a very hot and sultry afternoon, and at 'Stand' the young lad on the fifth remarked: 'Gee, this is a winter sport!'

Miss Audrey Bailey is back in England after her experiences in Canada. She writes: 'I had a very wonderful trip across Canada and through the Rockies, and felt it was a fitting climax to the holiday to be given the opportunity of ringing on the beautiful eight at Victoria Cathedral. Mr. Izard and the band gave me a great welcome, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the Tuesday practice night. I only wish I could have stayed a little longer in Canada to accompany the ringers when they go to ring on the new eight at Calgary.'

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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# DORSET RECTOR KILLED BY ONE OF HIS OWN BELLS

## RINGERS' CAPTAIN AND PRECAUTIONS

**A** VERDICT of 'Accidental death' was returned by the North Dorset Coroner (Mr. W. H. Creech) at the inquest held on July 23rd on the Rev. William Russell Ware Mortimer (68), rector of Okeford Fitzpaine, who was killed by a bell the previous Sunday afternoon when he was showing a party of school children round the ringing chamber of his church.

The Coroner commented: 'A clergyman being killed in this manner in his own church, after taking a service there, is quite beyond the understanding of the human mind.'

The Coroner said it seemed conclusive that some action by the rector, which was quite involuntary, set the bell off. His outstretched hand might possibly have touched a part of the bell or a stay.

Dr. H. F. Wilson, of Child Okeford, said death, which was instantaneous, was due to a fractured skull. The rector's right shoulder was completely smashed.

One of the children who went into the belfry said Mr. Mortimer went into the bell chamber and two of the children stayed in the doorway.

'Three of us were on the steps,' she said, 'when I heard someone call out: "Something has hit my head." My brother, Sonny, who was in the doorway, was hit on the head. We all came down the steps. When we got down Mrs. Ricketts asked where Mr. Mortimer was, and we said we did not know.'

### CHILDREN FRIGHTENED

Mrs. Florence Ricketts, the Sunday School superintendent, said when the children came down the steps they were frightened, and Mrs. Mortimer asked her to go up and see if she could find the rector. 'I went up to the belfry and could not hear or see anything, so I came back and told Mrs. Mortimer I would fetch help,' she said.

Leo Kingsley Underhill, a retired schoolmaster, of Okeford Fitzpaine, said he was called by Mrs. Ricketts and he went up to the belfry. On going to the entrance of the bell chamber he saw a bell half 'up' facing him just inside the door. Then he saw one of Mr. Mortimer's feet through the other side. His head was very near the rim of the bell, and his body was caught between the rest of the bell and the frame.

'He did not reply when I spoke to him, and after I was quite sure I could not get him out, I went downstairs and got the ringers,' he said.

Replying to the Coroner, he said anybody standing in the doorway of the bell chamber would be only just out of reach of the bells.

### HALF-AN-HOUR TO MOVE BELL

Dr. Wilson said when he was called to the church he went up into the bell chamber and saw the rector pinned by his legs and body to the bell. His head was against the wall and there was a gash in the scalp. It was quite obvious he was dead.

Afterwards, he said, it took the ringers over half-an-hour to move the bell. He noticed that all the other bells were in the upright position.

The doctor said that to get through the doorway one would have to bend. He would imagine that when the big bell swung over it would come within a few inches of the doorway.

'I think if he were leaning forward and that bell suddenly came over, it would probably hit his head and sweep the body underneath and pin it there,' he said. 'I don't think it would be necessary for him to have to be right inside.'

### WARNING NOTICE DISPLAYED

Mr. Benjamin Ridout, captain of the bell-ringers, said that when they finished ringing for the morning service on Sundays the bells were left in the up position. After ringing the last

five-minute bell he put up the warning notice that the bells were up.

The Coroner asked if anybody walking across the bell chamber could cause a bell to come down, and Mr. Ridout replied that it was impossible to walk across the chamber. The bells were in an iron frame, and it would be impossible to get in unless that particular bell was down. He said he did not think the accident could have occurred through some fault in the mechanism.

Replying to the Coroner, he said: 'I don't think he could have stumbled because he would have to crawl under the bell. I think, perhaps, he caught hold of something to pull himself out and pulled the bell over.'

### HAD TO CRAWL INTO BELL CHAMBER

The Coroner: Do you mean to say that when the rector went into the bell chamber he must have crawled?

Witness: He could not walk in, sir. He would have to go on his hands and knees.

The Coroner: It seems to me if he had to crawl in he might very easily have touched something. If he was crawling along it would have been quite possible for his hand or some portion of him to have just knocked the bell? —Yes, he was bound to knock something, either a part of the bell or the stay. It would not take very much force to set the bell off.

Inspector T. Battison: Assuming the only position in the bell chamber where a man could stand up was immediately inside the doorway, which way would he turn before he descended the ladder out of the chamber?

Witness: The ringers go down backwards.

Further questioned, he said the rector had been to the bell chamber before, but not many times. As far as he could gather, the children told him the warning notice was displayed when they went up.

### BELL STRAIGHT IN FRONT OF DOOR

Another bellringer, Frank Hilliar, of Rosehill Farm, Okeford Fitzpaine, said there were six bells in the belfry, and number five bell, the

one that killed the rector, was the heaviest but one.

'What did Mr. Ridout mean by crawling?' the Coroner asked him. He replied: 'When you go into the bell chamber you cannot walk straight in because the fifth bell is straight in front of the door. When it is up you can go in as far as the headstock.'

The Coroner: Do you think the rector was crawling or upright?

Witness: He could not have been upright. You could not touch the bell, but you could touch the stay or the slider that would set the bell off.

### BELLS NEVER LEFT UP AT NIGHT

Replying to further questions, witness said the bells were never left up at night, because the ringers did not think it was safe to do so, as anyone might go into the church and wander about. It was dangerous to go into the bell chamber, and that was why they had a notice. The bell weighed between 9 and 10 cwt., and had to be manhandled up after the accident.

He added: 'No ringer would go to our bell chamber unless we had let down the fifth bell, because it is straight in front of the door.'

The Coroner said one would have thought that the rector knew it was a source of danger to go into the bell chamber. 'It is a most tragic affair,' he added, expressing sympathy with the members of the family.

### THE FUNERAL

At the funeral service on July 24th, four of the bellringers acted as bearers—Messrs. Benjamin Ridout (captain), Bert Ridout, Frank Hilliar and Robert Ridout. The service was conducted by the Rev. C. F. Wellesley Wilkinson and the committal sentences said by the Archdeacon of Dorset (the Ven. E. L. Seager).

Among those attending were Mr. W. C. West (hon. secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, also representing Canon Cox, Master of the Guild) and Mrs. West, and Mr. W. Shute (Ringing Master of the North Dorset Branch).

### LEAVE THE BELLS DOWN

Dear Sir,—Since the announcement in the papers of the most unfortunate accident at Okeford Fitzpaine on Sunday week, I have found myself trying to explain the technical details of what happened to several inquisitive non-ringing friends.

Each one has asked me why bells are left up, and having been at a loss to suggest a sound reason, I am forced to admit that I don't think there is one. The practice can only be described as slovenly, lazy and indeed dangerous.

No doubt adequate precautions are taken by most tower keepers to prevent accidents, but we have recently seen two occasions where people, unaware of serious danger, have lost their lives by climbing through the pits of the bells: the tragedy at Westbury-on-Trym a short time ago being the other example.

Every ringer should become conscious of the danger of leaving bells up and unattended, and the Exercise in general should thoroughly deprecate it. I think those amongst us who make a regular habit of leaving our bells up would do well to follow the example of the call change ringers of Devon, and take a little more pride in our rises and falls.

Safety precautions are all very well, but surely the best way to prevent any future accidents of this kind is to remove the cause of the trouble by **leaving the bells down**.—Yours sincerely,

RONALD K. RUSS.

Sonning Common, Reading.

### GUILD SECRETARY'S THEORY

Dear Sir,—I visited the scene of the accident and it seems possible the Rev. W. R. Ware Mortimer did not understand the bells were dangerous when in the 'up' position, and that the notice in the ringing chamber—'Danger, bells up'—meant that the ropes should not be touched. It is very difficult to negotiate the steps to the ringing chamber and more so to reach the bell chamber.

The fifth bell is just inside the opening, and when in the 'up' position the bell pit is wide open. The rector evidently crawled into this and somehow moved the slider which caused the bell to swing and strike the rector, taking him first one way and on its return pinned him against the frame, killing him instantly. This is my suggestion. It shows that these places should be securely locked up and the key kept by the ringing captain. This event caused a gloom over the whole diocese.—Yours sincerely,

W. C. WEST, Hon. Secretary,  
Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

### A NON-RINGER'S QUESTION

Dear Sir,—May a non-ringer 'stick his neck out' far enough to inquire for a straight answer to this question: Is there any real reason other than plain laziness for the practice of leaving bells up in readiness for use later in the day or week or month?—Yours, etc.,

INQUIRER,



## LADIES' GUILD ANNUAL REPORT

A very encouraging report was presented for 1956 at the annual meeting of the Ladies' Guild held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. (See last week's 'Ringing World'.)

**Membership.**—Most of the District secretaries report an increase, not only in membership but also in enthusiasm, and most of the meetings held during 1956 have been well attended. Subscriptions are up by £7 17s. 6d., a very satisfactory position, as the greater part of the increase is spread over eight of the Districts in existence in 1955 and this increase more than offsets the decrease last year. Of the new Districts formed in 1955 the Sussex District has gone ahead well and has doubled its membership. Although not strictly to be included in this report, we welcome the formation of another District in 1957 and assure Miss Amor, the secretary of the new Bedford District, of our support.

**Finance.**—Although we ended the year on the right side, the balance was still not large enough to permit the publication of a report. In view of the steady rise in expenditure, in spite of the fact that every effort is made to keep the expenses as low as possible without impairing the efficient running of the Guild, and bearing in mind the possibility of a further increase in the cost of postage, it does seem that the time has come to increase the subscription.

**Peals.**—During the year two peals were rung, both in the Central District and both conducted by Miss H. G. Snowden—Cambridge Surprise Major at St. Albans and Yorkshire Surprise Major at Harrow Weald. One District, the North-Eastern, made three attempts for a peal which, unfortunately, were not successful, and we hope that 1957 will see their ambition realised. Quarter peals were reported from the Sussex District (Grandsire Triples) and the Western District (two of Grandsire Doubles), and we shall hope to see these Districts featuring in our peal book next year. We should like to express our grateful thanks to Miss Muriel Reay for all the work she has done on the peal book, especially as since the last annual general meeting it has not been a question of writing in a few peals but of completing the records since the Guild was formed.

**President.**—Although it may not be customary to pay tribute to an officer of the Guild until she retires, I should like to say a word of appreciation of the work Mrs. Lock has done during her year as president. She has visited a number of District meetings, which has entailed travelling a good many miles, and she has written to those she has been unable to visit. Several of the District secretaries have written to say how much they have appreciated this, as it does give a greater feeling of unity when the various Districts have an opportunity of meeting members from other parts of the country. The formation of the new Bedford District is also largely due to her efforts and it is to Mrs. Lock that credit must be given for the preliminary arrangements for the dinner to be held in October, 1957.

**District Secretaries.**—At the beginning of 1956 we had eight unmarried District secretaries, but since our last annual general meet-

ing no less than four of them have married, though whether future District secretaries will regard this as an inducement to take office, or demand 'danger money' for it, remains to be seen. In any case we extend our good wishes to Miss Lawrence of the Central District, Miss Haffenden of Kent, Miss Bate of Yorkshire, and Miss Evans of South Wales. My own personal thanks are given to all the District secretaries, who have worked so hard during the year and for their co-operation in supplying information when required.

**Auditor.**—I should also like to express our very grateful thanks to Mr. F. J. Bailey, father of Miss Audrey Bailey, who so kindly agreed to audit our accounts in Audrey's absence abroad. D. C.

## GLOUCESTER GUILD OF UNITED CHURCH BELLRINGERS

On Saturday, July 6th, the annual outing of the Gloucester Guild of United Church Bellringers was held, the venue this year being in the Buckingham and Oxford areas.

We left Gloucester by coach at 7.45 a.m. and proceeded over the Cotswold Hills, which were as beautiful as ever, in spite of the dry season. Passing close to the village of Upper and Lower Swell, then through Stow-on-Wold, we made our way to Deddington, where we had our first ring of the day at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

At 10.30 we moved on to Buckingham, where we had a break for coffee and any refreshment required. This proved to be a short stay as our next port of call was Bedford, where lunch had been arranged for 12.15.

During lunch we were joined by one of our old members, Gordon Corby, and his fiancée. After lunch at 1.30 we had our next ring at the Church of St. Peter, Bedford. By now it was getting a little too warm for ringing—in fact it was considered to be the hottest day of the year—so before leaving Bedford at 2.45 the order of the day was, ice-creams and ice-lollies.

Our next destination was Linslade. Arriving on time we had a splendid ring at St. Barnabas', after which there was a welcome opportunity to have a wash and clean up, before taking tea at the Hunt Hotel. After tea we were in for a surprise item: two members of the fairer sex in our party gave us a session of rock 'n' roll, which was really quite an effort in view of the temperature.

En route for our next ring at St. Mary's, at Thame, it started to rain, and much to everyone's relief it continued for the remainder of the evening. Our stay at Thame was most enjoyable and we started in a homeward direction at 8 o'clock, travelling via Oxford, where we said our farewells to one of our old members, Ron Russ, and his fiancée.

One more stop was made on the way home, this time for refreshments only.

We eventually arrived in Gloucester at 11 p.m., as arranged, all of us by now feeling very tired, very satisfied, and having gained a lot of experience during the day.

Thanks are extended to our organiser, Michael Ling, who was responsible for all the arrangements. H. W.

## RINGERS' EXHIBIT AT SUSSEX COUNTY SHOW

For some years now the Church in Sussex has held an exhibition at the County Agricultural Show illustrating different aspects of Church work in the county. This year's show was held at Bognor Regis on July 17th and 18th.

Of special interest to ringers was a working model of a mediæval bell foundry to a scale of 2in. to 1ft. It was the centrepiece of an exhibit designed to illustrate how most of the church bells in the county were cast. To build the core foundations, drying kilns, furnace and casting pit, 1,300 bricks were made and fired in a kitchen fireplace. (Whose wife had to put up with that lot?) The foundry was operated by six puppet workmen performing the different tasks from the construction of the core and cope to tuning the finished casting. To explain its design more clearly the casting pit was shown in section.

Sloping panels round the three sides of the foundry showed the ores and metals from which bell-metal is made and the materials which are used in the construction of the moulds. Also seen were moulds used for wax inscriptions and the methods by which these are applied, together with examples of letters and ornaments of 16 of the Sussex founders.

The set of tuning forks used by Canon Simpson, of Fittleworth, in his researches into tuning on the five-tone principle, and the type of hammer used for chip tuning were displayed. The backcloth traced the development of the bell shape up to the present day and included in this part of the exhibit were two old handbells, one over a thousand years old. Finally, at either end of the panels were photographs showing present-day work in the foundries at Whitechapel and Loughborough.

Three members of the Sussex County Association—Mr. and Mrs. George Elphick, of Southover, and Mr. Len Stilwell, of Worthing—were kept busy during the two days conducting people round the stand. Altogether the exhibit was explained to over 600 visitors.

The Church Tent was opened by the Bishop of Chichester (Dr. G. K. A. Bell), who is also president of the Sussex Association, and he was shown round the stand by Mr. Elphick. The people responsible are to be congratulated on a fine exhibit and it is to be hoped that it may be possible to have similar stands at future shows dealing with other aspects of ringing. P. F. R.

## Bellringer's Diary, 1958

Will Association secretaries kindly forward without delay the names and addresses of their officials, together with dates of annual meetings, etc., for inclusion in the 1958 Diary, which will shortly be going to press.

May I thank those who have already obliged. — W. H. Viggers, 37, Highfield Gardens, Aldershot.

'POULARD' (Regd.)

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL AND IRELAND

Dear Sir.—The announcement of the Central Council's decision to hold the meeting next year in Ireland seems to have had a somewhat apathetic reception. The vote in favour of going to Ireland could hardly be regarded as a representative one, 59 voting for it and 51 against, whilst about 40 members did not vote at all.

Many of those who undertook to attend may find difficulties when the question of expense is considered. It is pretty certain that Associations who are experiencing difficulty in balancing their budgets will have to think hard before authorising their representatives to make the trip, and many representatives who pay their own expenses will be inclined to hesitate before making a final decision.

It seems, therefore, that next year's meeting is likely to be a small one, and it may be speculated as to how far any important decisions taken could be conceived authoritative.

To those not fully conversant with the way the Council works—through its committees—this trip would lend colour to a somewhat general idea that Council members are only out for a good time. That is far from the case. Most representatives regard the Council's work in a very serious manner.

No one doubts the warmth or sincerity of this generous invitation, now outstanding for many years, to visit a beautiful country, but one is inclined to question how far the Exercise as a whole will benefit from what is now projected.

Certainly an official visit of Central Council members to Ireland by those who can afford it is a good idea, but to have the one and only meeting during the year there will result in disfranchising a good proportion of the Associations affiliated to the Council.—Yours sincerely,

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD.

London.

## CANADA AND RINGING

Dear Sir.—Readers will recall that just before Christmas six of the bells of St. Matthew's Church, Quebec, rang out for the first time after nearly 25 years. Sunday, May 19th, was the first occasion when all eight bells were rung in call changes for morning service. This was made possible by Professor Taylor, originally an Oxford ringer, who drove 150 miles from Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Quebec, to help the band. It is, perhaps, not every enthusiast who will leave home before six o'clock in the morning and come such a distance to ring for a mere half an hour! However, with six St. Matthew's ringers and one visitor from Montreal, it was a most enjoyable gathering.

Regular practices are maintained at Quebec, and the local band, with Mrs. Pickles' guidance, is making very good progress.

It is marvellous to be home again, but any ringers going over to Canada will have a great reception in Quebec and Victoria! I hope many will at least spend a holiday there.

—Very sincerely yours,

AUDREY BAILEY.

Welwyn Garden City.

## AN EDINBURGH APOLOGY

Dear Sir.—The ringers taking part in the quarrier peal at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, would be grateful if you would express our apologies to two visitors who came up to the belfry whilst we were ringing and left again without getting a chance to ring and before we were able to explain why we did stop although we were only ringing eight of our ten bells.—Yours truly,

KATE BRANSON.

Edinburgh.

## A CRITIC GETS BUSY

Dear Sir.—Since the use of titles has been so condemned by the Central Council (Vol. LIII., No. 2414, page 434, col.1), some guidance will surely follow. What of captains and ringing masters up and down the country due for election to office and to carry the title with the office? Would, for example, the man who calls the bobs and keeps everyone else in order be content to be known as No. 1 Special? This would at least avoid him and others not knowing whether or not he was shouting at the treble or himself. And the tower could still be within the 'Society for the promotion of the art and the science' category, in sum—academic.

Or is the motion intended by the Central Council for use only in the C. of C.? If so, it is, one feels sure, very good of them. No doubt the next Council meeting will be able to clear the muddle and meeting, as it will, in Ireland, make history.

Reading the reports of the Chelmsford meeting one finds no small difficulty in refraining from doing what so many speakers did, and 'flying off the rope end.' On numerous occasions it has given the writer no small pleasure to listen to, and read of the wisdom in council of such as C. W. Roberts, J. F. Smallwood, the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead and C. K. Lewis, but your issue of July 5th comes as a 'shocker.'

The B.B.C. make changes in their broadcasts even at the last minute, as is well known, but criticism to be of value must be well informed, and criticism of the average nice homely beller, broadcasting not, as many do, for gain, but for the love of the thing, will not improve the technical standard of the performance or subsequent broadcasts. We would not criticise the technical standard of the people in a 'Wilfred Pickles' programme. Much can be done with the B.B.C. but useless criticism is not the way.

Of certificates. Well does the writer remember his effort to secure a certificate from the Lancashire Association—not for swank, may one assure the speaker on this matter, in fact the writer valued his certificate so much that he now cannot find the thing so safely is it tucked away—while to-day, without any effort, a badge may be bought and worn, while the wearer remains—hand and back—a menace to everybody ringing and listening.

Of 'The Ringing World.' Either this is our paper, or it belongs to a few. Must a poll be held before sanity is restored. That so many subscribers within and without the Council express approval of the printing, College of Campanology Manual, that printing and space was justified. It could never be expected that many who for years have made Surprise a little tin god would understand it all. If the columns of 'The Ringing World' are to be reserved for the few, then the daily or weekly national or local Press must be our outlet. Study would be, not so much the truth, but editors' and readers' foibles, likes and dislikes. There would it is true be the risk of being paid for pocketing one's conscience.

That young people taking up bellringing should become students of a College of Campanology and be taught and examined, is a measure long overdue. The Central Council has over the years neglected the training of instructors and the need is urgent—not a committee appointed in 12 months to report in another 12 months. Do not blame people who get on with a job the Council appear not to know how even to start. That the new booklet for beginners is not to be published after wide reading, but before, is wrong. The old book (official publication), excellent though it is, contains two errors, these have led to the writer's certain knowledge to accidents,

May one thank the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow for his plea for a fair hearing, and the Rev. J. G. M. Scott for his appreciation of 'The Ringing World,' and Mr. Philip Gray for sound common sense?

May one deplore that speakers should, without offering evidence of support, state that the Council had been treated disrespectfully, contumacy one speaker called it, a matter disposed of by Dr. Hatcher but not withdrawn by the speakers. It must be a very hard-up effort, when, in support of his view, a speaker has to refer to 'others' who think as he thinks; a good trick to induce votes but should not be allowed to stand without evidence in support. Volumes of signatures would do. (Make sure each is a subscriber to 'The Ringing World'.)

In view of the published criticism of many nice homely Sunday service bellringers by an unknown but prominent member of the Central Council, may you also find room, perhaps without the black surround, for this criticism of the Council (chickens come home to roost), and may we hope for a higher standard of debate, please, in 1958.—Yours very faithfully,

ERNEST L. HUMPHRISS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

## A LEICESTERSHIRE FOUR-BELL TOWER

Dear Sir.—I have waited with interest to see how many Leicestershire towers are published, particularly as there are so many eminent and knowledgeable ringers in the county, as well as the foundry at Loughborough, which in its archives surely has most of the answers.

The tower uppermost in my mind though, the first in which I rang a bell with others, is Barkstone, in the Vale of Belvoir. My father was Vicar here for nine years, and the bells were rung regularly every Sunday, usually in rounds, but the six changes were rung on the first three with covering tenor for festivals.

If my memory is correct, the treble, third and tenor are by Hedderly, tenor about 12 cwt. (although reputed to be a ton). The second was recast by Taylors in, I think, 1887. It is a lovely church with tower and spire, and there is room with modern hanging for at least six on the one level.

It was a noisy ringing chamber as there was only a plank flooring separating the ringers from the bells, but their tone was good and the local ringers' speciality was the 'rise and fall' in peal, for which they allowed a full five or six minutes each way. In my humble opinion, four bells—in tune—frame high, sounding over the fields, makes very attractive music on a summer's evening.

Propos of Mr. Dove's excellent book, I suspect that Harby, given as Notts, should be Leics. The postal address of most of the Vale was Nottingham, although our villages were actually in Leicestershire but I am open to correction in this. Another four-bell tower in the area was Granby, and so was, I believe, Redmile. Stathern was a four-bell tower too. Long Clawson has five, so have those at Harby. The nearest eight-bell tower was Bottesford, surely with one of the most glorious spires in England.

Many of these county churches are well worth a visit, and maybe one of the experts at the foundry can enlarge on what I have written.—Yours faithfully,

E. F. M. SAMSON.

B.F.P.O. 17.

SHAFESBURY, DORSET.—On July 14th, 1260 Grandire Doubles: C. Morgan 1, W. Whatmore 2, A. E. Woods 3, R. Wareham 4, E. Chant (cond.) 5, J. Morgan 6. Rung half-muffled to the memory of the late Lady Shaftesbury, wife of the Earl of Shaftesbury, patron of the living, and to the late Mrs. W. L. Anderson, wife of the Bishop of the Diocese.



## LETTERS—Continued

## THE COLLEGE AND 'THE RINGING WORLD'

Dear Sir,—To those of us who have been following with some interest the progress of the College of Campanology, a recent issue of 'The Ringing World' makes interesting reading.

One notes with pleasure that the organisers have at last seen fit to do what very many readers consider should have been done in the first place—that is, to publish their manual at their own expense instead of inflicting upon us over a period of weeks a seemingly endless series of articles, which it now appears was the 'draft' of their publication. One notes also, in the College's advertisement, the fact that their manual is unique in having been offered to the Exercise before publication: I, for one, hope most sincerely that it will remain unique in this respect, as I do not consider it to be one of the functions of our journal for its columns to be used to try out the effect of a private publication on ringers before it is printed at the expense of the compilers. I note also that the 'draft' was 'offered for vetting,' but knowing a certain gentleman's reaction to adverse criticism of any kind, I may be forgiven for wondering just how much notice was taken of the large amount of criticism offered!

However, we should be thankful that the publication of this manual should now mean the final cessation of the spate of weekly instalments in our journal. Those who are able to comprehend, and who wish to use the College's weird and wonderful method of training by 'ordeal by blackboard and chalk' will now be able to buy their own copy of the manual, while the average service ringer can once again enjoy to the full the many interesting items which have always made 'The Ringing World' a truly fascinating publication—and continue to instruct his beginners by older, well tried and easily understood methods of instruction.

Just one more point—the long list of College office bearers which appeared some weeks ago above the name of Dr. Hatcher genuinely makes one wonder (particularly in view of various remarks and statements heard at Chelmsford) just how many of these eminent and well-known ringers actively support the organisation and how many were gently persuaded to allow their names to be used to give the College a semblance of backing from Higher Authority! Just a point, as I say, but one which the ordinary Sunday service ringer might ponder when considering whether he or she really ought, in order to be considered a Trained Ringer, to take a course and qualify as Ringer I., Tutor I., Examiner I., etc., etc.! It would also be most interesting for this same average Sunday service ringer to know how many people to date have qualified for these meaningless titles and have been awarded the equally meaningless diplomas (on payment of the fee of 2s. 6d., I understand . . .).

Tailpiece—for light relief—a little tale told by a certain very well-known ringer at a function some while ago. It seems that a friend of the 'Well-Known-Ringer' was asking him the exact meaning of a particularly involved and complex section of one instalment of the manual. 'Ah,' replied the W.K.R., 'that's just their way of saying, in 719 words or thereabouts, "Just get your bloomin' backstrokes in. . . ." Verb sap!—Yours sincerely,

PETER N. BOND.

Hildenborough, Kent.

HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX.—On July 28th. 1,296 Minor (720 Frodsham Bob and 576 Double Bob): Margaret Essen 1, R. Woodcock 2, W. S. Deason 3, P. A. Lawrence 4, R. G. Leale (cond.) 5, P. A. S. Hawkins 6. For Matins.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION  
COMMENTS ON CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING

AT a meeting of the executive committee of the North Staffs Association on July 6th consideration was given to the proceedings of the Central Council meeting, 1957, and among certain of its findings received with approval were the printing of warning cards to try to prevent the accidental switching off of belfry lights from the body of the church and the reintroduction of the term 'Plain' before 'Bob' in standard method names.

As with the Central Council, however, discussion centred on the two resolutions reported on pages 433 and 434 of 'The Ringing World,' and very considerable concern was expressed at the attitude adopted by the Central Council.

In connection with the first resolution (namely, that the Council, as the representative assembly of all change-ringing associations, deprecates the proposed introduction of academic titles for ringers, particularly by a body which is not recognised or affiliated to the Council), it was felt that such a recommendation was outside the powers of the Central Council—the vote was in fact taken on the question: 'Do we believe in titles or don't we?' It was noted that academic or quasi-academic titles already exist—the 'Master' of the Ancient Society of College Youths, for instance; many associations have Instructors and there is little distinction between an official Instructor and a tutor. Likewise many associations require a qualification for membership—the ability to ring a certain number of changes—and many in addition award certificates or diplomas on qualification. For a ringer to say he is a member of a particular association is the equivalent of saying he has ringing qualifications. Other associations award certificates to members ringing their first peal. The Central Council, moreover, condones the annual publishing of lists of leading peal ringers which becomes a championship for those with sufficient leisure and energy, if nothing else.

Titles are merely the acknowledgment of office or qualification, and already exist in fact and by implication.

If an association or body of individuals wishes to establish its own standards or to employ titles for its own use, then that is purely a domestic matter and no concern of the Central Council.

This resolution dealt with 'academic' titles in general, and not merely those awarded by the College of Campanology. In the rider to the resolution, however, indirect reference is made to the College, which was admitted to be a 'body which is not recognised or affiliated to the Council.' The Council exceeds its powers in passing resolutions on bodies not connected with it.

As far as can be judged, and the Council could judge no further, the College does not set out to compete with the Council or to carry out any of the functions of the Council, and in the circumstances the Council has no valid grounds for making recommendations of this nature or such oblique references to the College.

The greater part of the debate on this motion was, moreover, completely out of order and irrelevant, as indeed was that on the second motion which, fortunately, was not put. It was considered a sad reflection on the executives of the Council that such a motion should have been permitted to appear on the agenda. It would be an unjustifiable presumption to prophesy 'that the so-called College of Campanology is unlikely to prove of any service to the furtherance of the art of change-ringing' (although such a resolution would go a long way to ensure that it did not). The College would survive or die on its merits, and this only time and experience would prove. It would also be

presumptuous to deny it recognition before it had applied for it. The whole motion was considered *ultra vires*.

It was patently clear from the attack in the motions and in the speeches in support of them that a matter of what, in the future, might be of considerable importance to the Exercise, had been used as a vehicle for and as an expression of personal animosities.

The only question the Council was competent to debate at this particular juncture was the publication of the Manual in 'The Ringing World.' If the Council wished to debate the College of Campanology, the proper course would have been to have asked for and examined the constitution, objects and rules and regulations of the College, and to have reached considered conclusions solely on the merits and demerits of the College, irrespective of its founder or its officials, and to have dealt with the question or recognition as a consequence of its findings or on the request of the College.

There is a crying need for competent instructors, and the Council, with so many books and articles available for beginners, would have done well to give genuine and impartial consideration to any organised attempt to deal with this need, and to have given higher priority in its own business to the production of a manual for the training of instructors. The Council exists only through associations affiliated to it, and should operate for the benefit of those associations and their members. It would have done a greater service for the Exercise if it had devoted its thought and effort at Chelmsford to a constructive assessment of the College, rather than to have tried to condemn it out of hand through two ill-conceived and prejudiced motions.

After a lengthy discussion, during which the reasons for the Council's action were noted, it was finally agreed unanimously that this Association deplores the manner in which the Central Council has dealt with the College of Campanology as a question of principle, and that the Council should bring itself into disrepute by discussing matters which were *ultra vires*, by failing to give reasonable consideration to a matter of importance to the Exercise, and by permitting its debates to become irrelevant and of a personal nature.

E. H. E.

## 5,376 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

By ERNEST MORRIS  
2 3 4 5 6 W M H

4 2 6 3 5	—	—	—
3 6 4 2 5	—	—	S
2 3 4 6 5	—	—	—
4 6 2 3 5	—	—	—
3 4 2 6 5	—	—	—
6 2 3 4 5	—	—	S
4 6 3 2 5	—	—	—
3 2 4 6 5	—	—	—
6 3 4 2 5	—	—	—
2 4 6 3 5	—	—	S
3 2 6 4 5	—	—	—
6 4 3 2 5	—	—	—
2 6 3 4 5	—	—	—
4 3 2 6 5	—	—	S
6 4 2 3 5	—	—	—
2 3 6 4 5	—	—	—

Twice repeat.

Reduce to 5040 by calling last block of one part W. SH. cuts out 3 courses.

N.B.—The reverse of above 5376 published May 17th (p. 320) to reduce to 5040 read: Call the last block of one part SW-H cuts out 3 courses.



# RINGING IN LONDON & BIRMINGHAM 60 YEARS AGO

*Mr. Albert J. Hughes, of 14, Robert Street, Bangor, has provided us with the following notes of his ringing experiences in Birmingham and London at the turn of the century.*

The first ring of bells I ever heard was at Welshpool in 1887. I was then at school at Buttington, and had about four miles to walk from my grandparents' farm at Wen House, Thorpe Leighton, Welshpool. The sound of those bells from the Long Mountain five miles away has remained in my memory. My grandfather, father and uncles were ringers, and years afterwards when I had made some progress in the art, I longed to ring on those bells.

In 1897 it was decided to have a ring of bells at Smethwick old church: a public subscription was made and a ring of eight obtained from Messrs. Carr. These were not satisfactory and Carrs provided another ring which was an improvement but were rather harsh.

I remember my first visit to the belfry and seeing the ropes going up and down, the sallies being of various colours—yellow, red, dark blue, pink—in fact all the colours of the rainbow. A band was recruited of old ringers, and their limit was three courses of Grandsire Triples.

My father, who was the tenorman, asked if I would like to learn to ring, and I replied 'Yes,' as I had always wanted to ring. I started with the five-minutes bell, a half pull at a time, so it took me a long time to learn to ring rounds. In the meantime I had introduced Tom Piggot and later on three brothers and a sister.

## FIRST PEAL IN 1900

Then Tom and I went to Oldbury practices, and I was allowed to ring the treble to a touch of 500 Grandsire Triples. The veteran ringer, Sam Reeves, was there, and promised to arrange a peal for me the next week at Smethwick, which he did, so I rang my first peal in 1900.

The Piggots and I visited all the local towers on their practice nights, often walking the five miles to Dudley and Halesowen; later on we commenced visiting the Bull Ring and helped to raise the back bells, and gradually we made good at Stedman Caters and then Cinques. No other method but Stedman was rung, but the striking was superb. Afterwards an adjournment would be made to the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, and the handbells would be brought out.

Frequently on Sundays we visited Harborne, the method being Grandsire Triples. Old John Day at that time was a regular ringer, a very old man wearing a skull cap. At this tower we always had a good welcome. About this time John Jagger came to live at Oldbury and started a band of us lads on London Surprise. We learnt the method but rang no peals of it. There were four or five of us who visited all the local meetings, and we took part in a few peals in the standard methods, including a peal of Forward Major at Selly Oak.

## FORWARD MAXIMUS

I was working at the new Central Hall, Birmingham, and an attempt was being made for Forward Maximus at the Bull Ring, so I went along to help Bill Barker to oil the bells and raise them. As the starting time got nearer there were only 11 men and myself. I went down the stairs with Bill Barker to meet the

other man and lock up, but Ernest Allaway didn't turn up, so Bill Barker said: 'Back upstairs.' I thought they would go for Stedman Cinques, but 'Go, Forward Maximus,' was the order. I thus rang my first peal of Maximus in 3 hours and 42 minutes. A marble tablet, given by John Carter, records this performance in the tower; Arthur E. Pegler rang the tenor.

At that time there wasn't a regular Sunday service band, and service ringing took place once a month. The incumbent couldn't understand this and arranged for the bells to be rung every Sunday, and I was one of the original Sunday service band. I believe only A. Paddon Smith and Albert Walker are left of that band.

When the brothers Pye and the Birmingham men went for the longest length of London at Halesowen, we were among the crowd listening, and we left with the bells going well. As we got to the top of the hill, who should we meet but Tom Millar, wearing a hard hat, with coat tails flying and riding a bicycle. However, the attempt was not successful. When the next attempt was made it was at King's Norton, and I was there all the time attending to Harry Withers, who took down every lead-end, my job being to fetch Harry an occasional bottle of Guinness, which he also took down!

## A SURPRISE FOR GABRIEL LINDOFF

The peal was an excellent one, and by the time the band came out Harry had written out the composition in peal form and handed it to Gabriel Lindoff (the composer). Gabriel looked at the figures and said in astonishment: 'Where did you get these figures from? There's only one copy—that's sealed and deposited with "The Bell News".' Harry replied: 'That's what you've rung today.' I had the job of taking the two borrowed ropes back to Birmingham, which I left at the Tamworth Arms. Bill Pye paid my fare, which was 8d. The next time I saw him (Bill) was at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, in 1903, after they had rung a peal of Stedman Cinques. I had been among the listening crowd and hearing the criticisms: no names, no pack drill.

At this time I was working on a church at Muswell Hill, and I used to attend practices at Southgate and always received a cordial welcome from the conductor, Mr. Sydney Wade, the brothers Miller and little Johnny Armstrong, who was a very small, lively man and an excellent ringer. I have recently been in communication with Sydney Wade, but the Millers and Johnny Armstrong are no longer with us.

One of the Millers was a tenant farmer in Colney Hatch, and he was getting hand-worked engravings of peal records worked by an inmate artist. He asked me if I would like one done as I had 'The Bell News' cutting of the Forward Maximus (mentioned earlier). I let Mr. Miller have it and in due course I had the engraving given me. This I still have framed in my house, and many ringers from all over the country have admired it—a work of art, and just as good as when it was done 54 years ago.

I often went down to the City and always called for Arthur Jacobs, who lived at Hornsey. I had met Arthur on his bell-hanging jobs in the Midlands, and I always got a cordial welcome from Mrs. Jacobs, who used to wear a silver brooch with small gold bells hanging in the shape of a bell.

We would sometimes ring at St. Michael's, Cornhill, with Mr. Challis F. Winney conducting. What a wizard of Stedman he was! Among the towers we rang at were St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, St. Margaret's, Westminster, and St. Magnus', Lower Thames Street.

## AT ST. PAUL'S

I was not invited to ring at St. Paul's on my first visit, but had the satisfaction of going to the south tower and stood alongside Great Paul when she was swung about frame high. I was amazed at the W.I. headstock which was bent well down the bell to give a shorter swing. I heard there were eight men pulling her that day. The late James E. Groves was with me on that occasion and it was only by perseverance that we got through to see Great Paul. An ancient, short gentleman, an old ringer, did his best to stop us. (I think it was Mr. James Pettitt.) The second occasion I visited St. Paul's I was invited to ring in the service touch by Mr. W. Cockerill, and I took the rope of Mr. Herbert Langdon.

I rang Grandsire Caters at St. Clement Danes' and met Mr. Alex Young, whom I had met several times in the Midlands. I also made the acquaintance of Mr. A. T. King, the secretary of the Middlesex Association, which I joined. I attended meetings of the College Youths at the Coffee Pot, and also the Cumberlands, but I forget where. Arthur Jacobs and Henry Dains were great friends and, although I never rang with Mr. Dains, the three of us used to go around the city in a hansom cab. What a jolly time it was—none of us being abstainers!

I was invited to High Barnet, and there I saw for the first time the Ellacombe practice bells. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung that evening. James E. Groves was rehanging a ring of six at Edgware, taking the canons off, drilling the crowns and bolting on to new headstocks. I was at the opening, a meeting of the Middlesex Association, and remember ringing the tenor to a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. I was always assured of a warm welcome by Mr. Herbert Langdon, Mr. Alfred Peck and Mr. Challis Winney, whom I met years afterwards at a Henry Johnson dinner.

Later that year (1903) I got a job at Bangor, North Wales, and my ringing career gradually developed. There was the making of a good band at Bangor, but a little jealousy prevented progress beyond Cambridge, but we could ring that for service.

## FOUR-BELL TOWERS IN KENT

Dear Sir,—Further to the list in 'The Ringing World' of July 19th, of 'Towers in Kent,' from N. Davis, of Ashford, another tower in his district is Boughton Alup, which I have always understood contains four bells. I am sorry that I cannot give any positive details.

The fours at Challock and Westwell are very interesting to me as an uncle of mine was a ringer at the latter tower some years ago and I was baptised there on February 1st, 1874. My parents were also married there.

There should be some interesting detail forthcoming when lists of towers with twos and threes with details are unearthed. I have in mind two churches on the other side of the Stour Valley, viz., Hinxhill and Brook, which I believe contain two and three respectively.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE H. HEAD.

Hanworth, Mddx.



## TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD

The diamond jubilee festival of the Guild was held at Truro Cathedral on July 20th. Over 150 members were present, representing over 20 towers. The bells of the Cathedral were kept going in the afternoon and early evening, under the direction of Mr. D. Burnett, the Ringing Master of the Guild, and the bells of many neighbouring towers were available, including St. Clement's, a 4-bell ring, where Bob Minimus sounded out over the St. Clement Creek of the Truro River.

Many ringers climbed the Cathedral's central tower, under the guidance of Mr. Tall, the Cathedral steeple-keeper, and also a ringer; and the Cathedral plate and vestments were on view in the crypt.

The service took place in the choir of the Cathedral and was conducted by Canon Fison, the sub-dean, assisted by Canon Peeke, a vice-president of the Guild. Canon Fison apologised for the absence of the Bishop, who was at Falmouth dedicating a new church, and who sent his greetings. In his address the Canon told us that in the place of bells the Jews used trumpets, and that the Hebrew word used at their jubilee for the trumpet was Yobel. Let them retain the Bible spelling, proclaiming rest for the land and release from slavery and debt. The church bells proclaimed a weekly day of rest and release from work bringing refreshment to soul and body.

The president of the Guild, Mr. A. Carveth, presided at tea and spoke of the flourishing state of the Guild which, although it could not claim so many peals as other guilds, included ringers of all kinds from round and call-change ringers to those who rang Surprise methods. In the diocese, which had 142 rings of bells, 84 were affiliated to the Guild.

Mr. W. H. Southard, the Master of the Cathedral company, welcomed the gathering to the Cathedral, and said he was sorry that the choir and organist were unable to be at the service, but they would be interested to know that the organ had been played by the Succentor, the Rev. R. E. Sibthorp, also a ringer.

## MR. W. E. CRITCHLEY'S 400 PEALS

### TOWER BELLS

Doubles.—Grandsire 2 (conducted 1), 10 methods 1 (1).

Minor.—1 method 14 (3), 3 methods 4 (3), 4 methods 2, 5 methods 2 (1), 7 methods 6 (4), 9 methods 1, 12 methods 1 (1), 15 methods 1 (1), 45 methods 1, 64 methods 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 9 (6), Stedman 14 (10), St. Clement's 1 (1).

Major.—Plain Bob 17 (5), Kent 1, Double Norwich 5 (4), Little 3 (2), Gainsborough Little 1 (1), St. Clement's 1 (1), Winchester 1, Oswald Delight 1, Spliced Plain and Little 1 (1), Spliced Plain and Gainsborough Little 3.

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 17 (9), New Cambridge 2 (1), Bristol 32 (8), Dublin 2 (1), Lincolnshire 6 (2), London 33 (11), Pudsey 5 (2), Rutland 6, Superlative 6 (2), Yorkshire 28 (8); 3 Spliced 2 (1), 4 Spliced 16 (11), 5 Spliced 3 (3), 6 Spliced 4 (3), 7 Spliced 2 (2), 8 Spliced 5 (4), 9 Spliced 1 (1), 36 Spliced 1 (1), 42 Spliced 1 (1), 48 Spliced 1 (1), 53 Spliced 1 (1); one each of Aldenham, Ashhead, Biddenden, Bradford, Brereton (1), Campsall (1), Conisborough, Darlington, Doncaster, Double Dublin, Reverse Dublin, Ealing, Elford (1), Fordham (1), New Gloucester, Hatfield (1), Ipswich (1), Leeds, Lincoln (1), Liverpool, Norfolk, Pyrford, Rochester, Rotherham, Sandringham, Southwell (1), Tavistock, Wakefield, Warwickshire (1), Watford (1), Wembley (1), Zetland.

## 250th ANNIVERSARY OF WESTON FAVELL BELLS

Thanksgiving services for the 250 years in which the five bells of St. Peter's Church, Weston Favell, Northants, have sounded over the parish and surrounding countryside were held in the church on Sunday, July 21st, conducted by the Rector (Rev. Douglass Hopkins). The 8 a.m. Eucharist was corporate for ringers. In addition to the local team, who turned out in full, visiting ringers attended this service from as far away as Weedon Bec, 10½ miles distant.

Evensong took a special form. The bellfry captain assisted the Rector in the blessing of each of the bells for the 250 years, together with a blessing on the future of the ringers' work under their leader, Mr. P. Amos, who has been responsible during the last seven years for training the team from scratch to the state of being able to ring a number of Doubles methods regularly every Sunday, and, more important still, in realising a sense of duty by staying to the services for which they have called others. The team have also made themselves responsible for care and ringing of the bells (5) in the neighbouring parish of Whiston.

The hymns, 'Unchanging God who livest,' 'Ring out the old, ring in the new,' 'Rejoice today with one accord,' and 'Now thank we all our God' were the climax to a successful (thanksgiving week-end. The sermon (about bells and ringers) on Sunday evening was preached from the text 'Their sound is gone out into all lands.'

On the Saturday previous the ambition of the tower captain (Mr. P. Amos) to ring the first full peal of Doubles named after the patron saint was achieved. This was ably conducted by Mr. Derek P. Jones, who came from his home at Hitchin, Herts. It was rung in 2 hours 36 minutes.

The full history of the bells, together with the tower (which before 1725 had a spire), has been put into booklet form and can be bought (price 6d., excluding postage) from the tower captain, Mr. P. Amos, 30, Inkerman Terrace, Northampton. The next page in the church's history is the replacing of the main beams—infected with death-watch beetle—by steel girders. P. A.

Caters.—Grandsire 3, Stedman 4 (1).

Royal.—Plain Bob 2, Oxford T.B. 1, Cambridge 13 (1), Yorkshire 15 (1), one each of Aldenham, Bedford, New Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Lindsey, London, Oakham (1), Pontefract, Rochester, 2 Spliced Surprise 1.

Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 5.

Maximus.—Plain Bob 1, Cambridge 8, Southwell 1, Yorkshire 5.

### HANDBELLS

Minor.—1 method 2, 3 methods 1, 5 methods 1, 7 methods 1, 10 methods 1, 14 methods 1, 15 methods 1 (1), 34 methods 1, 42 methods 1, 55 methods 1, 57 methods 2, 73 methods 1, 109 methods 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 12 (11), Kent T.B. 2 (2), Little Bob 1 (1).

Total.—Tower bells 369, conducted 134; handbells 31, conducted 15.

### PRESTBURY, GLOS

A half-day trip was held on July 20th, when ringing was enjoyed on the bells at Ashton-under-Hill, Hinton-on-the-Green and Offenham before an excellent tea in Evesham. This was followed by three more towers—Badsey, Pebworth and Broadway. No really good ringing, but a very good time was enjoyed by all, including the non-ringing friends who like to see these fine old churches.

## NOTICES

### New Scale of Charges

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

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

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.  
Latest Date: Monday first post.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

SANGWIN.—The address of J. W. Sangwin is now Sunhaven, 11, Silverton Road, Bude. 640

SPEED.—The address of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. B. Speed is now Four Winds, School Lane, Streton-on-Dunsmore, Warwicks. Telephone No. Wolston 312. 624

### PERSONAL

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

### HANDBELLS WANTED

Set of handbells wanted for recently-formed village team. Top bell G (2½ in. approx.).—R. F. Masters, Silvan Hollow, Wallington, Baldock, Herts. 628

### PUBLICATIONS

'ELEMENTARY CHANGE RINGING' by F. F. Rigby: an exceptionally good introduction to the art of change ringing: 3s. 6d.; postage 3d.—S.P.C.K., Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1. 527

### AN IDEAL GIFT

'TOWERS AND BELLS OF BRITAIN.'—This beautifully produced book will soon be out of print. Obtain your copy now, before too late. Direct from the author: Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. Price 21s. net. 7100

DOVE'S GUIDE TO CHURCH BELLS OF BRITAIN.—An absolute necessity for every ringer. Latest 1956 edition still available in three binding: (a) stiff board covers, cloth-backed, 6s. 6d.; (b) full cloth case, blocked gold, 9s. 6d.; (c) as (a) interleaved plain paper (for making notes), 12s. Postage extra. 6d. (interleaved 9d.). Order now before postal charges increase.—W. H. Viggers, 37, Highfield Gardens, Aldershot. 627

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S HANDBOOK—A valuable guide to every secretary and tower captain. Contents include: Aims, History and Procedure of the Council; Rules and Decisions of the Council; Active Committees of the Council and their work; Law affecting Church Bells; past and present officers and members since 1956; past and present affiliated societies. Price 2s. 6d. from Mrs. J. G. Steeples, Hall View, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

### MISCELLANEOUS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—There will be no ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, during August.—A. B. Peck. 637



**'DELIGHT' LOOSE-LEAF RINGERS' RECORD BOOKS** for peal and quarter peal records or entering details of towers visited. Also ideally suitable for belfry visitors book. Available in two sizes. Hundreds in use. Write for details to W. H. Viggers, 37, Highfield Gardens, Aldershot. 626

**YORKTOWN and HAWLEY.**—No weekday practices during August. Sunday service ringing as usual.—F. Farr and G. Gilder, Secs. 638

**COMPLETE YOUR FILES.**—Back numbers of 'The Ringing World' are available for most issues of 1956, 1955, 1954 and 1953. Also odd copies back to 1945. Price 6d. per copy post free.—'Ringing World' Office, c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Onslow Street, Guildford.

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### MEETINGS

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

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol City Branch.—Saturday, Aug. 3rd, Emmanuel (Clifton) (8). 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Please come.—A. Bennett. 636

**GUILDFORD GUILD.**—Chertsey District.—Meeting, Ottershaw (6). Saturday, August 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. at The Otter. 602

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

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—The meeting arranged for Lydd on Saturday, Aug. 3rd, has had to be cancelled.—C. T. Hillis. 653

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Marden (8) on Saturday, August 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5. Service 6 p.m. 507

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Hartfield (6). Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 612

**GUILDFORD GUILD** (Leatherhead District) and **SURREY ASSOCIATION** (Northern District).—Annual joint meeting. Leatherhead, August Bank Holiday. Bells from 2.30 p.m. service 4.30. Tea in St. Nicholas' Hall 5 p.m. Numbers for tea to reach by August 1st, please. G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead. Ringing until 8.30 p.m. 646

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—August Bank Holiday meeting at Chesterfield, 3 p.m. on Monday, 5th. All welcome.—J. Seager, Sec. 620

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

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—Combined practice at Ashted, Thursday, Aug. 8th. 7.45 p.m. All welcome.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 641

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Silsoe on Saturday, August 10th. Bells (6) 2.45 p.m. Tea at 4.45. Service 6 p.m. A good attendance is hoped for.—L. H. Bywaters, Dis. Sec. 630

**BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY AND SELBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—Joint meeting at Bridlington on Saturday, August 10th. Bells (8) available 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Cups of tea provided: bring own food. Names to Mr. J. A. Parker, Higher Waterworks, Mill Lane, Bridlington. 652

**DEVON GUILD.**—North-West Branch.—Summer meeting at Holsworthy on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea to follow.—J. W. Sangwin, Hon. Sec. 639

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

**EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.**—Fairwarp (8). Saturday, Aug. 10th. Tea at Foresters Arms, Names by 8th. Method for practice. Single Oxford Bob Major. Only two seats left for outing Sept. 14th.—C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst, Sussex. 631

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Ickleton, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—E. W. Bullman, Dis. Sec. 629

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Gloucester Branch.—Meeting at Arlingham (6) on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Names for tea not later than Aug. 5th to Green, 30, Malvern Road, Gloucester. 621

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Swindon Branch.—Cricklade (5). Saturday, Aug. 10th. Tea, advise Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon. Tel. 3936. Castle Eaton (6) after tea. 645

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Worplesdon (8) on Saturday, Aug. 10th, from 6 to 9 p.m.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 625

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—On Saturday, Aug. 10th. meeting, Great Munden. Please bring own tea.—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec. 643

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Lancaster Branch.—Meeting at Burtor-in-Kendal, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to G. E. Brai hwaite, 7, Drovers Way, Burton-in-Kendal, Westmorland.—Eccles, Sec. 649

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Brindle, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bring own food. Preston-Blackburn Old Road, alight Brindle Bar: Preston-Chorley Road, alight Clayton Green.—L. Walmsley. 619

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at St. Paul's, Cross Stone, Todmorden, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea, Bay Horse (4s. 6d.). Names by last post, 9th, to P. Scholfield, 3, Joshua Street, Todmorden. No tea without names.—F. Pritchard. 642

**MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at St. Mary, Hornsey (one minute from Hornsey B.R. Station), on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Ringing from 5 p.m. onwards.—T. J. Lock. 632

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Preston Capes, on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Important: Names for tea by Tuesday previous to Mr. R. Fennell, Charwelton, Rugby.—F. W. Hancock. 635

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting at Hazelbech, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Names by Tuesday previous to Mr. E. Orland, 2, Brington Road, Long Buckby, Rugby.—W. J. Kinchin, Hon. Sec. 634

**SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Notts District.—Meeting at Blyth (6) on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Names for tea by August 6th to Mrs. A. Tomlinson, White House Café, Blyth, Worksop.—H. Denman. 654

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION** (Southern District) and **BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Joint meeting, Rawmarsh, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Bring your own food: cups of tea provided. Buses from Rotherham every few minutes. All welcome. 647

**LINCOLN GUILD.**—Southern Branch.—Meeting, Edenham (8). Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, 12th, to Mr. A. Holmes, The Retreat, Edenham, near Bourne, Lincs.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 648

**SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Pulborough, on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells 3.30 p.m. Tea at Red Lion. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday, to W. L. Waller, Sunnyside, Itchingfield, Horsham. 651

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Eightieth anniversary celebration at Durham on Saturday, Aug. 31st. Evensong in Cathedral 3.45 p.m. Bells (8) available after service until 6 p.m. Meeting in Song School 6.10 p.m. Reception 6.30 for dinner at 7 p.m. in Great Hall of Durham Castle. Admission by ticket only (price 15s.) obtainable until Aug. 21st by sending remittance to D. A. Bayles, 12, Crichton Avenue, Chester-le-Street. 623

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION DINNER.**—The Ely Association will hold a dinner at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28th, at the Brunswick School Hall, Cambridge. Ringing during the afternoon: times to be announced later. Tickets by remitting 12s. 6d. to H. S. Peacock, 8, Roscrea Terrace, St. John's Street, Huntingdon. 644

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## GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

The Mid-Devon Branch held a quarterly meeting at Brixham on July 20th, when there was a good attendance. Ringing took place throughout the afternoon and evening, methods rung being Grandsire and Stedman Triples. Plain Bob, Little Bob and St. Clement's Bob Major, the two latter being the first ever rung at a meeting of the Branch.

The service was held in church, conducted by the Rev. H. T. Yeomans (Vicar), and was followed by an excellent tea in the School Room. Mr. J. E. Lilley (Branch chairman) presided over the subsequent business meeting, when one new member from Townstal and one from Paignton were elected. It was resolved to send a letter of good wishes to Mr. G. H. Myers, of Plymouth, on his recovery from a serious illness, and a letter of congratulation to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Harvey, of Lifton, former members of the Branch, on the birth of a daughter.

Subject to permission, the next quarterly meeting is to be held at Buckfast Abbey on October 12th. The usual votes of thanks, proposed from the chair, concluded the business.  
A. L. B.

## Lavenham Ringers Visit Lincs

Lavenham ringers spent July 20th ringing at five towers in Lincolnshire. The first stop was at Long Sutton (8); then on to Holbeach, another fine ring of eight. Boston, the object of the day, came next. Here ample justice was done to a good lunch, after which some good ringing was enjoyed on the fine ten at the 'Stump.' Some short touches on the eight at Sutterton preceded tea. The last tower was Surfleet, and home was reached at 11.30 p.m.

The ringers thank our Lincolnshire friends, who helped to make this a very enjoyable outing.  
F. S. M.

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