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GREAT YARMOUTH BELLS

THE Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth, with its 22,000 square feet of floor space, reputed England's largest parish church, has presumably possessed bells ever since Herbert de Losinga, Bishop of Norwich, built its Norman central tower early in the 12th century.

The Brasyers, of Norwich, may have cast the Yarmouth bells in the 15th century. Palmer's 'History of Great Yarmouth' quotes the old church books as recording in 1468: 'Paid the suffragan for hallowing the bells 6s. 8d.' Other entries record that in 1485 the 'great bell' was new run (i.e., recast) and repairs were done in 1512 to 'the saints bell' (i.e., the Sanctus bell). When in the 16th century the authorities, under the hypocritical guise of doing away with superstition, stole most of the treasures dedicated to the service of the Church, Yarmouth was permitted to keep its bells. But by 1663 two of the bells were cracked, and the Corporation ordered a tax to pay for their recasting. By 1670 the number of bells was six. In 1726 two new bells were cast, bringing the number to eight; this work was done by John Stephens, who was casting bells in Norwich between 1717 and 1727.

Transport was becoming easier, and in 1753 the long tradition of casting bells in Norwich came to an end. Now the great Whitechapel Foundry came on the scene, founded by Robert Doddes in 1567. A few bells from Whitechapel came to Norfolk in the 17th century and the trade increased later. Richard Phelps, the then manager, cast four of the famous Redenhall bells. Everybody has heard Phelps' most famous bell, the 5-ton bell of St. Paul's Cathedral, which is broadcast on occasions when Big Ben's clock is being repaired.

In 1806 the Whitechapel Foundry took away the old bells, recast them with much additional metal to form a ring of ten, and hung them in the tower in 1807. The cost was £1,163 3s. 4d., of which £558 2s. 8d. was defrayed by the sale of the old metal. Each bell was inscribed with the name of the founder, Thomas Mears, and the tenor was also inscribed: 'Wm. Ferrier Junior Esq., E. K. Lacon, Esq., Mayors; Sir Edmd. Lacon Knt., Edmd. Preston, Esq., Robt. Cory, Esq., Isaac Preston, Esq., 1807: churchwardens.'

Later the firm added two more bells to make a full ring of 12. I had the pleasure of ringing on them with the

Yarmouth ringers in 1939 and 1940. Then war silenced England's bells, and as the great clock face still dramatically records, it stopped and the bells crashed and clanged to their destruction at 2.35 a.m. on the night of June 24th, 1942. I later inspected in the vestry all that could be recovered of the valuable bell metal. It was taken away to the Whitechapel Foundry, who credited the correct sum of money for it, until life should return to the church and the bells be recast.

The glorious hope is now being realised. Now we shall have a ring of bells far finer than ever before. During the last 50 years an entirely new method of tuning bells has been perfected, with the result that the various notes which make up the sound emitted by a bell are harmonised together more accurately than heretofore, so that each bell sounds far richer and grander. Also methods of hanging have been modernised, so that the new hardwood bell frame should be far stronger than its predecessor. It will be bolted to a reinforced concrete grillage embedded into the tower, which will also strengthen the tower immensely. And instead of the old-fashioned bearings the new bells will be hung on ball-bearings. Altogether we shall have a ring of bells far finer than anything here in the past or in this district today.

The number of bells is being increased by the addition of a semitone bell, in order that we may ring the eight lightest bells to form a proper diatonic scale. The new semitone bell will be a great asset when practising.

The late Russell James Colman left a large sum of money to provide in the church a window or windows illustrative of the old Port of Great Yarmouth with its fishing fleet, or in otherwise furnishing or beautifying the church. At a recent meeting of the trustees it was agreed that in addition to providing windows as described, it would be an appropriate way of interpreting the terms of the Trust to give the bells—a ring of 13 (tenor 30 cwt.).

The tenor was cast at Whitechapel on May 7th, in the presence of the Mayor of Great Yarmouth, the Vicar, members of the Colman family and a number of local ringers. This could be looked on as a national as well as a Yarmouth occasion, for not only will thousands of ringers get to associate these bells with one of our premier holiday resorts, but also the casting of the tenor will fitly celebrate the centenary of Big Ben, cast at Whitechapel.

GILBERT THURLOW.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

LIVERPOOL.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 51 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 41 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb.

AVRIL THACKRAY Treble	*JOHN A. ACRES 7
VERNON GREEN 2	HARRY POYNER 8
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 3	WILLIAM A. LACEY 9
DOREEN D. DUTTON 4	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 10
RICHARD F. PRIME 5	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 11
*HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 6	WILLIAM J. ROOT Tenor

Conducted by HERRICK B. BOWLEY.

* 50th peal together.

TEN BELL PEALS

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 7, 1958, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.

FREDK. W. BURNETT .. Treble	†ALEXANDER PAGE 6
A. YORK-BRAMBLE 2	S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT 7
MARION J. PARKER 3	E. KEITH JORDAN 8
ROGER BALDWIN 4	REGINALD A. REED 9
*DAVID J. FORDER 5	ARTHUR E. HOODLESS .. Tenor

Composed by M. J. MORRIS.

Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

* First peal on ten. † First of Grandsire Caters. First on ten as conductor. 100th peal in the tower.

Rung in celebration of the Easter Festival and as a welcome home to the Provost (Very Rev. E. N. Porter-Goff) from the U.S.A.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D flat.

ARTHUR W. GRAVETT .. Treble	*JAMES H. LILLEY 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY 2	JOHN CHILCOTT 7
WILLIAM ROGERS 3	RAYMOND P. WOOD 8
ERNEST TREAGUS 4	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON 9
LEONARD STILWELL 5	HERBERT W. WOOLVEN .. Tenor

Composed by DAVID E. PARSONS.

Conducted by JOHN CHILCOTT.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

This composition, containing every adjacent part reversed from rounds, is now rung for the first time

CREWE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 20 cwt.

*MICHAEL ALLMAN (15) .. Treble	EDWARD J. HOLLOWAY .. 6
JOHN E. BROUGH 2	GEORGE A. PACKER 7
†FREDERICK S. SUTTON .. 3	RICHARD D. LANGFORD .. 8
IVOR R. NICHOLS 4	WILFRED KERR 9
†DEREK A. N. HOLLAND .. 5	W. FRANK STENSON Tenor

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD.

Conducted by GEORGE A. PACKER.

* First peal. † 50th peal. ‡ First peal on ten bells. Eightieth anniversary of the bells.

Rung in memoriam Arthur Allman, Barthomley, who rang for the Chester Diocesan Guild for 60 years.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5091 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 26 cwt. 18 lb. in D.

MICHAEL J. AUSTIN .. Treble	ARTHUR T. DUTTON 6
JOAN BERESFORD 2	STELLA HUGHES 7
HOWARD HOWELL 3	PETER BERESFORD 8
ERNEST STITCH 4	EDMUND MALIN 9
GEORGE W. HUGHES 5	KEITH WILLIAMS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by STELLA HUGHES.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 12, 1958, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in A flat.

THOMAS SEWELL .. Treble	CHARLES N. LEA 5
*MARION S. CAPEY 2	J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. 6
ENID SOFTLEY 3	*GEORGE S. DEAS 7
DAVID PRIESTLEY 4	DENIS A. BAYLES Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

Rung for the solemnisation of the wedding of Sheila M. Davison and Ben Crowdy which took place at this church earlier in the day.

AYLESFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 16, 1958, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

*OLIVE D. COUCHMAN .. Treble	JOHN R. COOPER 5
GEOFFREY PEARSON 2	COLIN A. TESTER 6
KATHLEEN M. YEO 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. 7
†MAURICE E. DOWNS .. 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by GEOFFREY PEARSON.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

† First in the method. First of Surprise Major as conductor.

BRAY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Grove's variation.

Tenor 26½ cwt.

WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. Treble	E. ROY WILKINSON 5
RICHARD E. DEAN 2	GORDON W. LIMMER .. 6
*HOWARD OGLESBY 3	GEORGE GILBERT 7
MARY R. JAYCOCK 4	WALTER LEE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

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

Rung as a welcome peal to the Rev. S. W. Doran (inducted the previous evening).

NEW ROMNEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19½ cwt.

KATHLEEN M. YEO .. Treble	JOHN R. COOPER 5
*VIOLET I. E. RELF 2	GEOFFREY PEARSON 6
OLIVE D. COUCHMAN .. 3	†COLIN A. TESTER 7
CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by COLIN A. TESTER.

* First peal in the method. † 75th peal.

A 77th birthday compliment to Mr. H. S. Humphrey, captain of the local ringers.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

MARION J. PARKER .. Treble	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5
*DAVID J. FORDER 2	†ADRIAN J. TUMBER .. 6
ALEXANDER PAGE 3	REGINALD A. REED 7
S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT 4	ROGER BALDWIN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

* First peal of Surprise. † 75th peal.

COLEMAN'S HATCH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., April 20, 1958, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 1,664 Superlative, 1,632 Cambridge, 992 London, 768 Bristol, with 106 changes of method and all the work for each bell.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in G.

DORIS E. TOLGATE .. Treble	WILLIAM ROGERS 5
MRS. J. THOMAS 2	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 6
JOHN THOMAS 3	ROBERT COLLINS 7
IAN H. ORAM 4	PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE (C.C.C. 12).

Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 21, 1958, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 BELGRAVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

OREIL CASTLEMAN Treble	RICHARD F. PRIME 5
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 2	JOHN A. ACRES 6
ERNEST W. RAWSON 3	HERRICK B. BOWLEY 7
*JACK P. KESTERTON 4	PETER J. STANFORTH .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal in the method.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 23, 1958, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF 5120 MANCROFT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

RAYMOND G. LOFIY Treble	H. WILLIAM BARRETT 5
STANLEY W. COPLING 2	F. CHARLES GOODMAN 6
ARTHUR G. BASON 3	BERT GOGLE 7
GEORGE SAYER 4	NOLAN GOLDEN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Believed to be the first peal in the single method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 23, 1958, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

*F. NEVILLE PAILING (14) Treble	HAROLD MARCON 5
JOHN G. UNDERWOOD .. 2	DEREK P. JONES 6
ROGER BALDWIN 3	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. 7
VIVIENNE M. HORTON .. 4	JAMES H. PAILING Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN.

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

* First peal.

Rung for St. George's Day.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 24, 1958, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5088 ILKESTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 9 lb. in E.

KENNETH BALLINGTON (14) Treble	GORDON A. HALLS 5
PATRICIA A. M. FORSTER .. 2	DENIS R. CARLISLE 6
ROGER BALDWIN 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON 7
FRANCIS R. LOWE 4	DEREK P. JONES Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN.

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

First peal in the method. Rung without previous practice.

WASHINGBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., April 24, 1958, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in G.

NORAH M. BIBBY Treble	JOHN WALDEN 5
*MARY C. PAYNE 2	GEORGE H. RANGLES 6
RAYMOND F. SMITH 3	GEOFFREY PAUL 7
JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. 4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of London Surprise.

ILKESTON SURPRISE MAJOR.

—58—16—12—36—14—58—16—18: L.E. 3527486, 2nd place.

F.C.E.s: 24365, 62345, 34562, 46325.

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., April 25, 1958, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5184 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Ilkeston variation.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

J. BARRY PICKUP Treble	*PETER GARDNER 5
NORMAN SMITH 2	ROGER LEIGH 6
CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE .. 3	PHILIP DUNDERDALE .. 7
JOHN FIELDEN 4	DEREK BUTTERWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL. Conducted by CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal in this variation for all the band except the conductor.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., April 25, 1958, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.

AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

RICHARD G. BLACKMAN .. Treble	E WINIFRED KEYS 5
WILLIAM ROGERS 2	GEORGE FRANCIS 6
ROBERT WAKE 3	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON .. 7
LEONARD STILWELL 4	FRANK H. HICKS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.

Rung at the request of the Dean for the enthronement of Dr. Roger Wilson as Bishop of Chichester.

APPLEDORE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

DAVID STAPLES Treble	WILFRED W. RING 5
*VIOLET I. E. RELF 2	CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. 6
KATHLEEN M. YEO 3	JOHN R. COOPER 7
GEOFFREY PEARSON 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS CULLINGWORTH.

* First peal in the method 'inside.'

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*DOREEN F. CROWE Treble	ARTHUR F. LEWRY 5
†H. MICHAEL WILLIAMSON .. 2	WILFRED G. WILSON .. 6
†JAMES W. RAE 3	WILLIAM T. COOK 7
‡R. JAMES COOK 4	ROBERT W. HINDE Tenor

Conducted by H. MICHAEL WILLIAMSON.

* First peal. † First of Grandsire Triples. ‡ 50th peal. First as conductor.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

CLARE, SUFFOLK.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Sir A. P. Heywood's transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.

Tenor 28 cwt.

F. B. COOKSON (S. John's) Treble	A. R. HEPPENSTALL (Sel.) .. 5
SUSAN JACKSON (Girton) .. 2	C. M. P. JOHNSON (Sel.) .. 6
H. NEILL (St. Cath.'s) .. 3	W. J. RIDGMAN (Queens') .. 7
*M. J. HARBORD (Trin. Hall) 4	P. F. WINDLEY (Jesus) .. Tenor

Conducted by W. J. RIDGMAN.

* First peal of Stedman.

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FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

BLACKROD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 7, 1958, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KATHARINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (five callings).

Tenor 8 cwt.

*MARGARET FORT Treble	WENDY ELLAM 3
*DAVID ASPDEN 2	GEORGE LLOYD 4

DAVID BURGESS Tenor

Conducted by DAVID BURGESS.

* First peal. First as conductor.

ADDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 12, 1958, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

DOUGLAS W. WOODCOCK Treble	LEONARD A. TIDY 4
*FREDA M. HANKEY 2	RALPH BIRD 5
COLIN F. MCGILL 3	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

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

FRYERNING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 17, 1958, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR

In 18 methods, viz.: (1) Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk, Primrose, Hull and Bourne; (2) Alnwick and Newcastle; (3) Chester and Munden; (4) Lightfoot and Wearmouth; (5) York and Durham; (6) London and Wells; (7) Beverley and Surfleet.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

MARY I. DOWSETT Treble	BRIAN J. HOWARD 4
*CYRIL A. WRATTEN 2	HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE .. 5
ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON .. 3	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS .. Tenor

Conducted by HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE.

* First peal in 18 methods.

BRUTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Tenor 25½ cwt.

HENRY J. SANGER Treble	*JOHN R. BADMAN 4
*ANTHONY J. SANGER 2	HAROLD G. WHITE 5
*MICHAEL R. ROSE 3	†JACK HANNAM Tenor

Conducted by HENRY J. SANGER.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles. † First peal.

Rung as a farewell to the Vicar (Rev. G. Courteney).

CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In eight methods, being extents of (1) London and Wells, (2) Durham, (3) York, (4) Netherseale, (5) Ipswich, (6) Norwich, (7) Cambridge.

Tenor 11 cwt.

PETER MAYLE Treble	THOMAS BIRD 4
ROSEMARY J. SEABROOK .. 2	ALAN R. ANDREWS 5
SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT .. 3	GEORGE N. ORMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

COURTEENHALL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents each of St. Simon's, All Saints, Southrepps, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Kennington, Old and Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt. 26 lb.

PATRICIA F. CURTIS Treble	GEORGE F. ROOME 3
PATRICIA A. NEESHAM 2	ALLAN R. JONES 4
ALAN C. COZENS Tenor	

Conducted by ALAN C. COZENS.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Cozens, Miss P. Neesham and A. C. Cozens.

DANBURY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods, viz.: (1) Wells, (2) London, (3) York, (4) Surfleet, (5) Beverley, (6) Ipswich, (7) Cambridge.

Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD W. ROAST .. Treble	PETER J. CAME 4
*THOMAS R. ROAST 2	IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS .. 5
MARY DOWSETT 3	JOE E. G. ROAST Tenor

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* First peal in seven Surprise methods.

Rung at the request of the Parochial Church Council to mark the raising of £1,000 towards an ultimate £2,000 for repairs to tower and spire.

Rung by the Sunday service band.

HUNTINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in seven methods: (1) Thelwall, Double Oxford, Childwall, St. Clement's; (2) Cambridge Surprise; (3) Kent Treble Bob; (4) and (5) St. Clement's; (6) and (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

DOUGLAS THORP Treble	D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 4
*MRS. J. MARTIN THORLEY 2	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 5
ROY BETTLEY-COOKE .. 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY Tenor

Conducted by J. MARTIN THORLEY.

* First peal of Minor 'inside.' First in seven methods on the bells.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Leeds and District Society.)

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, CHAPEL ALLERTON,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

THOMAS W. STRANGWAY Treble	ARNOLD COLE 4
FRED BENNETT 2	PERCY WHITAKER 5
*MARGARET ANNE CLARK .. 3	IRVIN SLACK Tenor

Conducted by IRVIN SLACK.

* First peal, first attempt

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

In eight methods, being an extent each of Hereward, combined Plain and Double Bob, Single Oxford, Thelwall, Double Oxford, Childwall and St. Clement's.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. in F sharp.

K. PATRICIA HUTTON .. Treble	PHILIP MEHEW 4
LEONARD B. SCOOT 2	DEREK P. JONES 5
FRANCES M. WELCH 3	J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. Tenor

Conducted by J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE.

First peal in eight plain Minor methods by all the band.

A compliment to Mr. E. G. Buck on the completion of his term of office as president of the Association.

POLESWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITHA.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

RODNEY RICHARDSON .. Treble	MICHAEL E. BROWN 4
*PATRICIA M. HARPER .. 2	JOHN VERNON 5
*A. MAXWELL LINDSEY .. 3	GRAHAM T. BALL Tenor

Conducted by GRAHAM T. BALL.

* First peal of Surprise. First peal as conductor.

SEDLSCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1958, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents each St. Bartholomew's, St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury, Grandsire and Plain Bob, four each St. Martin's, St. Nicholas' and Winchendon Place.

Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM BUTTON Treble	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 4
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 2	FRANK H. HICKS 5
STANLEY G. PONTING .. 3	*JAMES EPPS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First peal.

DOWNHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 21, 1958, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being 720 each of Munden, Chester, Surfleet, Beverley, Durham, York and London. Tenor 7 cwt.

*COLIN M. TIFFIN Treble	HERMON J. OLIVER 4
*ROY R. TIFFIN 2	LAURENCE H. TURNER 5
HARRY TURNER 3	ROBIN N. PITTMAN Tenor

Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

* First peal.

Rung in honour of the birthday of H.M. the Queen.

BURSTOW, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., April 22, 1958, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 21 120's each of Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*T. PADBURY (14) Treble	*G. CHARLTON 4
L. W. PENFOLD 2	A. J. BULL 5
†D. WILSON 3	*H. PADBURY Tenor

Conducted by A. J. BULL.

* First peal, first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal on six bells.

Rung half-muffled by an all-local band in memory of Mr. G. Sherlock (87), a member many years ago, who died on April 13th, 1958.

CARLTON COLVILLE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., April 22, 1958, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two extents each of St. Simon's and St. Nicholas', four extents each of Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Martin's and Winchendon Place, and 22 extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MARY SOLOMON Treble	EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 3
MICHAEL J. STOKES 2	*RICHARD T. TOVELL 4

TREVOR N. J. BAILEY .. Tenor

* First peal in seven methods.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Monica Guy and Gordon Gilbert, and as a farewell to them on their departure from the parish.

BLANKNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., April 25, 1958, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Oswald,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford T.B., St. Clement's, Kent T.B., Plain Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. Treble	CHARLES E. BROWN 4
*MARY C. PAYNE 2	RONALD APPLEWHITE 5
JACK L. MILLHOUSE 3	WILLIAM R. PARKER Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal in seven methods.

THRUMPTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1958, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes;

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Martin's, St. Simon's and Plain Bob, and ten extents of Grandsire.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in B flat.

*FRED PRIESTLY Treble	*MARGARET E. HILL 3
GEORGE E. FOSTER 2	*SYDNEY ADAMS 4

WILLIAM L. EXTON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

* First peal in five Doubles methods. First as conductor in five Doubles methods.

Rung in memoriam Francis Mills Midwinter, son of the late Rev. Nathaniel Midwinter, and father of F. William Midwinter, the vice-chairman of this Guild.

HANDBELL PEALS

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., April 1, 1958, in 2 Hours,

At 24, DOYLE AVENUE, HILSEA,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 7 in D.

ROGER BALDWIN 1—2 | S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 3—4

*E. KEITH JORDAN 5—6

Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

* First peal 'in hand.'

A 29th wedding anniversary compliment to the parents of the ringer of 3—4

GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., April 11, 1958, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,

At LEALHOLME,

A PEAL OF 5004 SPLICED MAJOR

In three methods: Plain Bob, Gainsborough Little Bob and Little Bob: 180 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

PHILIP BARNES 1—2 | GEORGE E. FEIRN 5—6

*A. ROBIN HEPPENSTALL .. 3—4 | C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 7—8

Arranged and Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

* First spliced peal 'in hand.'

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 20, 1958, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes,

At 24, DOYLE AVENUE, HILSEA,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation). Tenor size 7 in D.

MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 1—2 | DANIEL T. MATKIN 5—6

*ROGER BALDWIN 3—4 | *S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 7—8

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* First peal of Triples 'in hand.'

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 20, 1958, in 2 Hours,

At 24, MANOR STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

ERNEST MORRIS 1—2 | JOHN M. JELLEY 5—6

JOHN A. ACRES 3—4 | BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 7—8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

PRESTWICH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 21, 1958, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes,

At St. Hilda's VICARAGE,

A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Composition trad. Tenor size 15 in C.

WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 1—2 | FREDK. WM. GROCOTT 5—6

MRS. P. T. ROBBINS 3—4 | DEREK OGDEN 7—8

Conducted by FREDK. WM. GROCOTT.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., April 24, 1958, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes,

At 24, MANOR STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each differently called. Tenor size 15 in C.

ERNEST MORRIS 1—2 | JOHN A. ACRES 3—4

*JOHN M. JELLEY 5—6

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

* First peal of Minor on handbells.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sun., April 27, 1958, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,

At TRINITY HALL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor size 14 in D.

*M. D. S. HOOD (Trin. Hall) 1—2 | *P. H. LANGTON (Trinity) 3—4

M. J. HARBORD (Trin. Hall) 5—6

Conducted by M. J. HARBORD.

* First peal 'in hand.' First as conductor.

???? STOPPED ????????? STOPPED ?????

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QUARTER PEALS

BRADFORD, YORKS.—On April 22nd, at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. B. Schofield (10) 1, Miss J. E. Brook (13, first 'inside') 2, J. Rhodes (15) 3, H. B. Schofield 4, E. H. Simpson 5, Miss B. G. Schofield (13, first as cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to the conductor, also for first wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. P. Dawson.

BRAY, BERKS.—On April 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. D. Mitchell (first quarter) 1, R. Purchase 2, Miss D. Hague 3, Miss F. D. Murkitt 4, Mrs. A. D. Purchase 5, G. W. Limmer 6, G. Gilbert (cond.) 7, J. D. Norworthy 8. For the induction of the Rev. S. W. Doran to the living of Bray.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. W. J. Riddleston 1, A. W. Gravett (cond.) 2, Betty Stephenson 3, R. Beale 4, G. North 5, H. W. Woolven 6, A. N. Other 7, F. J. Lewis 8.

BRISTOL.—At St. George's Church, on April 23rd, 1,344 Erin Triples: Miss M. Smith 1, F. Skidmore 2, T. P. Edwards 3, M. T. Sprackling 4, D. J. Hunt 5, A. M. Tyler (cond.) 6, R. G. Hooper 7, F. D. Mack 8. First in the method by all except 6 and 7. For St. George's Day.

BURMARSH, KENT.—On April 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: B. Watts 1, Mrs. M. Watts 2, F. Watts 3, Miss A. Rayner 4, Mrs. R. Wratten (cond.) 5, T. Fagg 6. A compliment to Brian Watts and Miss Y. Rye on their engagement. Both are members of the local band.

CANFORD MAGNA, DORSET.—On April 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Shute 1, Miss R. Jones (first quarter) 2, J. Foot 3, P. Mogg 4, E. Woods 5, H. Pitman (cond.) 6. A christening compliment to Trevor John, son of the conductor, also a farewell to B. Baker.

CASTON, NORFOLK.—On April 17th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: W. M. Mann 1, P. Newing 2, J. S. Barnes (cond.) 3, C. E. G. Banham 4, E. R. Shingfield 5. Rung immediately following the wedding between Mr. D. Morfoot and Miss M. Ecott.

CHISELDON, WILTS.—On April 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Count 1, W. A. Farmer (cond.) 2, R. Johnson 3, A. Palmer 4, G. Newman 5, F. Cook 6. Rung to mark the 80th birthday of S. C. Archer, who has been tower captain for 45 years, after a peal attempt had failed.

CONSETT, CO. DURHAM.—On Dec. 15th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss M. Wilson 1, E. Oliver 2, G. Wall 3, J. Vickery 4, W. Tyson 5, N. Errington 6, R. B. Skilton 7, R. Oliver (cond.) 8. For the 66th birthday of G. Wall. Also on Easter Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Rev. C. I. McN. Smith (first quarter) 1, A. Cowan 2, W. Tyson 3, N. Errington 4, R. B. Skilton 5, R. Oliver (cond.) 6.

DONCASTER, YORKS.—On April 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Boyes (first quarter) 1, Marguerite Buttram 2, Kathleen Mallender 3, G. Graham 4, W. E. Critchley (cond.) 5, E. Dalingwater 6, H. Wagstaff 7, C. Toyne 8. For Matins. Also on April 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Ann Ayres 1, Kathleen Mallender 2, J. Jefferies 3, G. Graham 4, W. E. Critchley (cond.) 5, E. C. Stacey 6, J. McCuskey 7, H. Wagstaff 8. For the patronal festival.

DORKING, SURREY.—On April 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Allison Read (first on eight) 1, Pauline Sprackling 2, A. P. Cannon (cond.) 3, Ethel Clear 4, R. Read 5, D. G. Astridge 6, A. Smith 7, B. Coward 8. A compliment to Margaret Brown and Michael Thomas, who were married on April 5th.

DOVER, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. H. George 1, G. Gray 2, Miss A. Banks 3, C. George (cond.) 4, J. Eagles 5, I. Oram 6, M. Godfrey (cover). Rung for the 40th anniversary of the attack on Zebrugges.

EASTHAM, CHESHIRE.—On April 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: R. W. Winstanley (first quarter) 1, Gillian Halford (first 'inside') 2, Carol F. Jones (first as cond.) 3, R. Hamm 4, K. C. Edwards 5, P. Shepherd 6.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (10 callings): J. Warner 1, E. C. Leigh 2, S. Jenner 3, B. E. Jeffery 4, E. J. Jenner (cond.) 5, N. V. Greenaway 6. For Evensong.

ELING, HANTS.—On April 17th, 1,296 Surprise Minor (720 London, 576 Cambridge): Mrs. J. Kippin 1, Miss M. Beamish 2, B. J. Wyld (first in two methods) 3, R. R. Savory 4, R. C. Kippin 5, J. Hartless (cond.) 6.

EPPING UPLAND, ESSEX.—On April 23rd, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob: Wendy Bowak 1, Daphne Hyams 2, D. Heapy 3, R. Bridges 4, D. Mitchell 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. Team from North Weald. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar on his retirement.

ERISWELL, SUFFOLK.—On April 20th, 1,440 Doubles (480 each of St. Simon's, Grandsire and Plain Bob): H. Irvin 1, H. Fuller 2, Miss D. Reeve 3, G. Miller 4, J. Paul (cond.) 5. First quarter on the bells after recent dedication of two new added bells presented by personnel of local U.S.A.F. For Evensong.

FORDINGBRIDGE, HANTS.—On April 17th, 1,260 Doubles (being 780 Grandsire and 480 Plain Bob): J. O. Coleman (first quarter) 1, Rosemary K. Hayward (first of Doubles) 2, J. Baverstock (first in two methods) 3, R. N. Marlow 4, L. F. Cobb (first of Doubles as cond.) 5. Also on April 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Hoare 1, Rosemary K. Hayward 2, Anna Byford (first quarter) 3, L. F. Cobb 4, R. N. Marlow (cond.) 5, J. Coleman 6.

FULHAM, S.W.—On April 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Reed (first quarter) 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, J. Allsop 3, D. Randall 4, James Phillips 5, John Phillips 6, H. Belcher 7, L. Bell (first quarter) 8.

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On April 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Miss V. Sharp 1, J. E. Cook 2, Miss L. Holmes 3, Mrs. K. Ketteringham 4, F. W. Pinchbeck 5, K. Ketteringham 6, H. R. Woods 7, W. R. Read 8, J. M. Simpson (first of Royal as cond.) 9, D. A. Frith 10. First quarter of Royal for 1 and 3. Rung before Evensong as a farewell tribute to Canon C. H. Leeke on his retirement, having been Vicar for 19 years.

GREAT-WITH-LITTLE WELDON, NORTHANTS.—On April 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Lyons 1, K. Bradshaw 2, R. W. Shaw 3, R. A. Webster 4, R. W. Spencer (cond.) 5, F. A. Ginn 6. Rung to commemorate the election of Mr. W. H. Finch as people's warden and the conductor as Rector's warden.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.—On April 7th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Clarke 1, C. R. Lovett 2, Mrs. R. B. Downing 3, J. Bennett 4, P. Clarke 5, R. W. Pipe (cond.) 6, R. B. Downing 7, F. J. Crapnell 8.

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GREAT DALBY, LEICS.—On April 12th, 1,260 Doubles (120 each St. Simon's, All Saints, Rev. Bartholomew, Grandsire, Canterbury, Plain Bob, April Day, Southrepps, Northrepps, 180 Stedman): C. E. Cooper 1, Miss R. Tyler 2, H. T. Bonshor (cond.) 3, G. Peers 4, G. A. Bowcutt 5. Arranged for Mr. G. Feers on his visit to his native village.

HANLEY, STAFFS.—At St. John's Church, on Easter Day, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: A. Kelsall 1, P. Jones 2, D. Jones 3, C. Webb 4, A. Moore 5, M. Sargeant 6, F. W. Grocott 7, G. Davis (cond.) 8. First quarter by 1, 2, 3 and 8, who are all under 16 years of age. Also on April 15th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Kelsall 1, F. E. Wilshaw 2, P. Jones 3, C. Webb 4, G. Wilkinson 5, G. Davis 6, E. Sharratt (cond.) 7, N. Sargeant 8.

HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE, SOMERSET.—On April 19th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Miss P. White 1, Mrs. R. E. H. Rendell 2, Miss A. Greaves 3, G. W. Rendell 4, S. W. White (cond.) 5, W. E. Turner 6. First in method for 1 and 3. Rung by the service band as a compliment to Mr. R. White, a ringer at St. Mary's, on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Mary Knight at Pentre, Glamorgan.

HARROLD, BEDS.—On April 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Wakeman 1, Miss F. Steel 2, W. J. Dowler 3, R. Harrison 4, C. M. Payne (cond.) 5, R. Walker 6. Rung as a golden wedding anniversary to Henry W. Gayton, of Harrold.

HASTINGS, SUSSEX.—On April 27th, at Christ Church, Blacklands, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (with 6 and 8 covering): Mrs. J. Downing 1, A. A. Price 2, Joan M. Downing 3, I. R. Vaughan 4, J. Downing 5, J. E. Downing 6, E. P. Bryant (cond.) 7, B. Skinner 8. For the St. George's Day Parade of Scouts and Guides.

HELMEDON, NORTHANTS.—On April 16th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: C. Hinton 1, M. Saunders 2, A. Mansfield 3, W. F. Eyden 4, J. Linnell (first in method) 5, W. A. Yates (cond.) 6. A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Chester.

HOLME PIERREPONT, NOTTS.—On April 20th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: B. Mills 1, R. Larkin 2, J. Meredith 3, D. Armstrong (cond.) 4, A. Larkin (first of Minor) 5, F. Bradley 6. For the 23rd wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W. Meredith, parents of the third ringer. Also on April 23rd, 1,440 Minor (one extent of Single Oxford and one of Plain Bob): R. Blackshaw 1, F. Bradley 2, J. Meredith 3, B. Mills 4, M. Harrison 5, D. Armstrong (cond.) 6. For the 23rd wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. R. Mills, parents of the 4th ringer.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On April 17th, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Papworth 1, Miss W. Elliott 2, C. Button 3, D. Bacon 4, C. Burton 5, A. R. Elliott (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to Mr. J. Elliott, captain and steepkeeper for 21 years.

KINGSTON, DORSET.—On April 12th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Mrs. M. Marshall 1, F. L. Harris 2, P. Tubbs (first in method) 3, M. J. Best 4, W. T. Godfrey 5, L. Cobb (first in method) 6, R. N. Marlow 7, J. Hartless (first of Major as cond.) 8.

KINGSTONE, SOMERSET.—On April 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Monckton 1, G. Monckton 2, F. Welch (cond.) 3, T. Hill 4, K. Welch 5, J. Drew 6. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. Hill on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary.

LAKENHEATH, SUFFOLK.—On April 23rd, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: H. Irvin 1, H. Fuller 2, Miss D. Reeve 3, G. Peck 4, G. Miller 5, J. Paul (cond.) 6. For St. George's Day.

LECKHAMPTON, GLOS.—On April 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Lewis (first quarter) 1, Miss S. Parsons 2, D. Newcome 3, Rev. J. Homphrey 4, W. B. Farmer (cond.) 5, H. Harrison 6. For Parish Communion.

LEICESTER.—At St. Margaret's Church, one April 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples (on the 'Margaret' eight): P. Minchin 1, Jean Kirkman 2, F. P. Harwood 3, J. A. Adams 4, E. Morris 5, C. P. Walker (cond.) 6, J. Moss 7, T. H. Bent 8. Rung to mark the engagement of Alan E. Hartley, of Thorney, Yorks, and Beryl Ayris, of St. Margaret's.

LEIGH, WORCS.—On Mar. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. H. Deakin, J. Slater 2, C. Tansell (cond.) 3, W. Lewis 4, T. W. Lewis 5, A. Smith (first quarter) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. Harry Deakin, a former master of the ringers at this church.

LITTLE ASTON, STAFFS.—On April 27th, 1,260 Doubles (480 St. Simon's, 360 Grandsire and 420 Plain Bob): K. Warrington 1, J. B. Dineneage 2, D. W. Barr 3, A. Strathdee (first quarter in three methods) 4, C. M. Smith (cond.) 5, M. J. Hill 6. Rung prior to Matins.

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.—On April 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss S. Chard (first quarter) 1, P. G. Yeo 2, E. Abraham 3, H. W. Knight 4, N. H. Yeo 5, J. Brain 6, D. G. Yeo (cond.) 7, F. Bridle 8.

MARTOCK, SOMERSET.—On April 26th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: R. E. Pipe 1, G. Gaylard 2, G. S. Morris 3, H. E. G. Jeanes 4, J. E. Looker 5, H. G. Keeley 6, W. G. Gigg 7, H. J. Gaylard (cond.) 8.

OLD HEADINGTON, OXON.—On April 20th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 480 Plain Bob and 540 Grandsire): Miss C. Withell (first quarter) 1, Miss G. Masters 2, J. Cruickshank 3, H. Badger 4, R. J. Trebilcock (cond.) 5, R. Brown 6.

PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.—On April 14th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. W. Howlett 1, S. Copling 2, C. J. Sedgley 3, M. Solley 4, J. W. G. Kindred 5, H. W. Barrett 6, P. Kindred (first as cond.) 7, H. W. Eassey 8. First of Stedman for 4 and 5. Rung after meal attempt failed.

PULHAM MARY, NORFOLK.—On April 23rd, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: E. Whiting (cond.) 1, C. A. Thompson 2, L. T. Minns 3, A. E. Head 4, C. Gower 5, R. Plummer 6, L. E. Etheridge 7, W. Flatt 8. For the wedding of Miss M. Paterson, of Pulham, and Mr. J. Banham, of Norwich.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.—On April 20th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: G. Sandwell 1, H. Worboys 2, R. Tomlin 3, F. May 4, M. Hallitt 5, W. Ellis 6, P. Coward 7, A. House (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On April 20th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: B. J. Matthews 1, Miss J. L. Adamson 2, Miss P. E. Jervis 3, Miss L. Kew 4, B. T. Lister 5, D. K. Walters 6, A. D. Rivers 7, W. Birmingham (cond.) 8. Rung for the annual St. George's Day Scouts' and Guides' parade service.

QUARTER PEALS

SOUTH PETHERTON, SOMERSET.—On April 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Monckton (first quarter) 1, R. Welch 2, G. Monckton 3, R. Dean 4, F. Welch 5, J. Drew (cond.) 6, J. T. Lock 7, R. Hebditch 8. For Evensong and as a birthday compliment to ringer of 7.

STANWELL, MIDDLEX.—On April 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: L. S. Goddard 1, C. B. Fynes (cond.) 2-3, D. G. Pickett 4, M. G. Lane 5, J. Boyd 6.

STISTED, ESSEX.—On Easter Day, 1,320 Doubles (an extent each of St. Nicholas, Winchendon, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and 5 extents of Grandsire): A. Saunders 1, T. Earle (cond.) 2, A. R. Syder 3, T. L. Stock 4, A. B. Stock 5, K. J. Lewsey 6. For Communion.

STOKE, COVENTRY, WARWICKS.—At St. Michael's Church, on April 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. D. Hayne 1, E. Sibley 2, N. Haille 3, D. Sibley 4, R. Robinson (first in method) 5, H. Folwell 6, W. Stote (first in method as cond.) 7, D. Ellender 8. For Evensong.

SWINDON, WILTS.—On April 27th, at Christ Church, 1,299 Stedman Caters: G. W. Townsend 1, Mrs. E. Sutton 2, Dr. H. Craig 3, R. G. Townsend 4, H. Bishop 5, R. G. Westney 6, G. Wells 7, W. W. T. Daniell 8, T. Townsend (cond.) 9, E. Vincent 10. To mark the 80th birthday of Mr. G. W. Townsend and the 49th of his son, Mr. R. G. Townsend.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on April 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original): J. M. Steele 1, D. Neal (cond.) 2, Mrs. D. Neal 3, Miss N. Hales 4, J. A. Hales 5, R. K. C. Wilkings 6, D. W. Gray 7, C. F. Neal 8.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On April 27th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: A. Bishop 1, M. Sinden 2, Susan Jacobs 3, J. Tomsett 4, P. Devenish 5, E. Jacobs (50th quarter, aged 15) 6, F. Corfield 7, M. P. Moreton (cond.) 8.

WOOTTON WAWEN, WARWICKS.—On April 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Morrison 1, J. Green (first quarter) 2, P. Bennett (first quarter) 3, A. C. Morris (cond.) 4, A. A. Unton 5, J. Stockley 6, 87uillf ARgnS vajriyl etaoim shrldu etaoim netaoln

5,058 STEDMAN CATERS

Arranged by LOUIS HEAD

Start the last five changes of a 'Quick Six' thus:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

1 3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8

3 1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 2 1 5 4 7 6 9 8

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 9

2 1 3 5 4 7 6 9 8

Then calls at S1, 34, 7, 9, 10, 16 produces the 2nd six end of a 'Tittum' course

1 4 3 7 2 8 5 9 6

Then call as follows:—

S 5 16 producing
2 1 5 3 6 4 9 7 8 5 16

5 1 4 3 6 2 — 3

4 1 2 3 6 5 — 3

2 1 3 4 6 5 — 2

3 1 5 4 6 2 — 3

3 1 5 2 6 4 S —

5 1 4 2 6 3 — 3

4 1 3 2 6 5 — 3

3 1 2 4 6 5 — 2

2 1 4 3 6 5 — 2

Repeat the calling of the last 22 courses after 'turning' course as follows:—

Calls at 2 S9 S16

Rounds at 'Hand.' First change following the last 'course' end.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Mr. J. G. Pudsey, of the Oxford University Society, has had an accident on his bicycle and broken three appendages of his lumbar vertebrae. This has forced the cancellation of the Old Wykehamist peal attempt on Winchester College bells. His friends send him best wishes for an early recovery.

Does any reader know of a book called 'Grand Shire Dougles'?

Mr. George Baker, of Brighton, sails today for New Zealand to join his only daughter, Mrs. Olive Yetman, 82, Mount Pleasant Road, Christchurch, S.E.3.

Harwich, Essex, have three teenagers who are experts at splicing ropes, and delight in oiling and keeping the bells in good condition, writes a correspondent.

We are asked to state that the quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (page 266) was rung at Leyton and not Leytonstone. It was conducted by E. D. Smith.

Taking part in a silver wedding complimentary quarter peal to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Chester at Helmdon, Northants, were three ringers who rang for their wedding in 1933, viz.: C. Hinton, M. Saunders and A. Mansfield.

Hawkshead tower, Westmorland, is closed for ringing until after September 29th. The six oak beams supporting the bell frame and bells are completely worn out after more than 500 years' service. They are to be replaced with rolled steel joists and an H-frame to contain a ring of eight bells. Hawkshead has at present a ring of six, but hopes are entertained of the full octave eventually. Without the new bells the cost, which includes a complete overhaul of the clock and chiming gear, will be some £1,400. Donations may be sent to the Rev. R. Lindsay, Hawkshead Vicarage, Ambleside.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Two ringers at Chiseldon, Wilts, have this year become octogenarians. In January, a peal of Doubles was rung for Mr. W. E. Farmer, and recently an attempt was made to ring a peal of Bob Minor for Mr. S. C. Archer. Although this failed, a quarter peal was rung before the band were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Archer. Mr. Archer became captain in 1913, a post he has held ever since; he has lived all his life in the village.

The composition of 5,058 Stedman Caters, arranged by Mr. Louis Head, published in this issue, is to commemorate the dedication next Saturday (May 10th) of Maidstone bells. The 5,058 represents the fifth month, 58 and the 0 the tenth day.

The Luton District are holding their first meeting at Flitwick on May 17th, where a new treble was added a few months ago, making a ring of six.

The band who rang in the peal of Caters at Christ Church in memoriam Arthur Allman would like to express their congratulations and thanks to young Michael Allman on the splendid way he rang his first peal.

On Easter Tuesday nine young ringers from Cosby, Leicestershire, had a cycle outing to towers in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. Between Clipston and Hazelbeech, the navigator, John Bennett, incurred censure for the route he took, which deteriorated into a muddy track that made walking, let alone cycling, difficult.

The Rev. Peter Robbins was baby-sitting at St. Hilda's Vicarage, Prestwich, while his wife (née Betty Spice) rang her first peal for five years in another room at the Vicarage. As becoming a former Master of the Oxford University Society, she rang the peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major almost faultlessly, shaming some who are reputedly 'in practice'!

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CLERICAL GUILD'S WEEK IN DORSET

By GILBERT THURLOW

KNIGHT'S BULL Hotel, Bridport, was the home from April 14th to 18th of members of the Clerical Guild taking part in the annual 'week.' A really charming part of England—rolling hills of chalk and stone, well-wooded valleys, picturesque villages with old stone-built houses and glorious gardens, dignified churches, often cruciform, showing affinities with Somerset and Cornwall in their architecture.

Members met on Monday afternoon at St. Peter's, Dorchester, and then at Fordington St. George. The undersigned was still careering over the Dorset hills after investigating a Norman font he is acquiring for Great Yarmouth Parish Church, so can take neither credit nor blame for the performances at these towers. Later that evening, 'we' (to quote Acts xvi., 10, and for a similar reason) rang on the pleasant eight at Bridport (tenor 21 cwt.), a fine cruciform church, beautifully kept, obviously loved, and with its Easter tomb and flowers delightfully arranged, as in the majority of the churches we visited.

On Tuesday the president (Canon Carew Cox) celebrated Holy Communion at Bridport Church when, as usual, members departed during the previous year were remembered, and God's blessing asked on the Exercise generally. Then to the motor coach which was to give members happy, carefree journeys for the next three days. First to Netherbury, famed for its hills, gardens, cheese and cider. Its church guide book says motor coaches are prohibited to enter the village. Here you can buy the world's largest mint drops from an ex-member of the Palestine Police in the Post Office. A lovely church (1350-1500) with the font from the previous church. On to Beaminster, with a grand eight (tenor 26 cwt.) and a ringing incumbent who, of course, joined our Guild. A nice course of Cambridge here, in a tower enriched with pinnacled buttresses—a pinnacle recently crashed on the church roof. Jackdaws in the bookshop here sing like thrushes.

On to the splendid cruciform church of Crewkerne, where the organist played Bach brilliantly whilst we rang and apparently neither disturbed the other. Much to see in both architecture and memorials in this historic building. Then to the pleasant six at Broadwindsor. A highlight of the tour followed in the shape of tea with the president (Canon Cox) and Mrs. Cox at their lovely residence at Morcombelake. This is delightfully perched on the sunny south side of a hill, from which they can look down on their old home, Lyme Regis, some miles away; the garden extends some way up the hill, and one keeps in good form by frequent climbs to the summit—quite a lakeland fell in miniature, with its fir trees and outcrops of stone.

OSCILLATING TOWER

We sang Evensong at Whitechurch Canonorum nearby—this has its name not, apparently, because of the church having been white, but because of St. Wita, called Candida by the mediæval Latins, whose shrine in the north transept is reputed still to work miraculous cures in these days. The nave arches here are magnificent transitional Norman, and the north transept elegant 'Early English' as befits such a holy place. This church presents a phenomenon astonishing to non-ringers, and worthy of note by ringers also. The tower oscillates in the usual way during ringing, but the north aisle does not, and if you place your fingers against the mortar joint between the two, you

can feel it opening and closing. You can easily see it happening also. By suitable manipulation you could crack a walnut between the two. After dinner at Bridport, a visit to Loders nearby, and following ringing on the pleasant six, a very happy evening with coffee, etc., in the Vicarage, whose vicar and his wife made us very much at home in their drawing room with its 16th century chimney piece, complete with burning logs. He rings, also.

On Wednesday, a course of London Minor at Uplyme; down the ravine again to Lyme Regis, our president's old parish. A pleasant course of Cambridge on a very nice light eight, and—as often—happy contacts with local ringers. Delightful sea view from the churchyard. Into Devon to Colyton, with its fine cruciform church, with tower surmounted by an octagonal lantern reminiscent of Boston and Fotheringhay. A rather lumpy six here, but grand to ring (tenor 24 cwt.). A magnificent mechanical chimer—you turn the handle, and the cams cause rounds to be rung, like the Netherlands carillon clocks simplified. Then to Dalwood, with its small-scale church, whose pillars culminate in decorated capitals at eye level, permitting intimate study. A light six here. Then

Bristol Cathedral To Have Ring Of Eight

For the first time in its history Bristol Cathedral is to have a ring of eight bells. The historic bells of the Temple Church, Bristol, now in store, are to be hung in the Cathedral's north-west tower.

Although the bells will be a gift from the trustees of the Temple Church, the cost of installation, states the Dean (the Very Rev. Douglas Harrison), is likely to be about £3,000. Towards this the Chapter may be able to find £1,000, and the Dean hopes that some of those who love the Cathedral and some of those who love the Temple Church will help in finding the other £2,000 so that the bells will be rung again.

to Kilminster with another nice light six. The ringing chamber here boasts an impressive contraption with five movable desks for call-change ringers—the tenor presumably takes pot luck. Whilst London was in progress here, the following conversation with a Kilminsterian is reported: 'Be you a party of ringers?' 'Yes.' 'Thought so.' Then another highlight in the shape of tea with our late secretary (Preb. Cox) and his family, at Hunthay Close. Another delightful house and garden, where a prominent object is the wheelbarrow given by a grateful Guild. Our gratitude to both the Coxes is immense; no boat race ever had two coxes held in higher esteem.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Then to the fine cruciform church at Axminster, with a grand eight. Would the ringers' mats, each inscribed Axminster, rank as 'genuine Axminster' at a carpet sale? After dinner the annual meeting was held at our Bridport hotel—in a ballroom with seats put out for 70. The following were re-elected, each unanimously and with acclamation: President, Canon C. Carew Cox; vice-presidents, Canon Wilkinson and Preb. Cox; hon. secretary, the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, Chittlehampton Vicar-

age, Umberleigh, North Devon—who is always delighted to hear from clergy who would like to join the Guild. The Revs. R. St. J. Smith and A. G. G. Thurlow were re-elected, in addition to the committee. It was agreed to hold the 1959 week from April 6th to 10th, probably in West Kent, or nearby, as proves most practicable.

On Thursday, some left for Symondsburry, others for Litton Cheney. After a visit to Abbotsbury, with its rather sad memories of a once great abbey, and where some took the opportunity to see the Chesil Beach and the grand old tithe barn, we all met again at Litton Cheney for lunch in the pub. Some proved almost as adept at darts, etc., as at ringing. Oxford seems to have been generous to Litton Cheney church; its organ came from Magdalen College Chapel, where Stainer once played it, whilst its altar came from Balliol. Then to Wyke Regis for a nice course of Cambridge on a very pleasant eight. The undersigned had to leave the party here, and must now (like the television news reader so often) call on another for his version. It seems that at Upwey the church was described in print as Saxon—a tall story. Then at Winterbourne St. Martin nobody met the party, and when eventually entrance was effected, switching on the light they switched off the clock. Had they met the party, time wouldn't have ceased its march in Winterbourne. Last to Bradpole, whose incumbent described the bells as the Dorset sheep bells because they are so light. Some sheep! (Tenor 13 cwt.)

On Friday, the last morning of the week. Maiden Newton proved elusive but was eventually reached; then to Cattistock where, if I remember rightly, a bomb fell down the tower and wrecked the carillon of 35 bells. There is now a ring of eight (tenor 14 cwt.). A delightful finish at Evershot, a charming village and church, whose incumbent rang and joined the Guild.

How grateful we are to all who helped towards the success of the week in any way—incumbents, tower keepers, tower captains, secretaries, and to the ladies for their wonderful hospitality. At one village the octogenarian incumbent said he had declined 12 livings during his many years there; also that his brother is Mowbray and Co., his brother's son edits the 'Sign,' and that he himself came to the diocese as chaplain to the Bishop of Salisbury. His sole act seems to have been to attest the will of the Bishop, who thereupon died.

Cambridge University Guild

At the annual general meeting of the Cambridge University Guild on Wednesday, April 23rd, the following elections were made for the coming year:—

President, the Rev. A. C. Blyth; senior treasurer, Dr. C. M. P. Johnson; Master, H. Neill; secretary, M. D. S. Hood; librarian, J. Schofield; auditor, P. H. Langton.

Oxford University Society

Some elections were necessary at the meeting on April 29th, and the officers of the Society are now: Master, R. N. Pittman (Pemb.); secretaries, R. A. Jackson (Ball.) and J. H. Pailing (Keble); treasurer, N. J. Maggs (Keble); steeple-keepers, S. Zvegintzov (New College) and J. A. M. Salter (Magd.).

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

THE 59th annual meeting was held at Lincoln on April 26th. There was a much better attendance than in the previous year, and ringing was enjoyed during the afternoon and evening on the 12 bells of the Cathedral, the eight of St. Giles', and the sixes at St. Peter-at-Gowts' and St. Botolph's.

Tea was served by members' wives and friends in the Chapter House, the first time a meal had been served in this ancient building.

At the business meeting, held in the Consistory Court, the president of the Guild (the Dean of Lincoln) presided. The officers were elected as follows: President, the Dean of Lincoln; Master, Mr. J. A. Freeman; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Bray; hon. peal secretary, Mr. G. E. Feirn; representative on faculties advisory committee, Mr. John Freeman; hon. librarian, Mr. R. F. Smith; hon. auditors, Mr. C. Brown and Mr. W. Tomlinson.

The Master's report stated that 129 peals had been rung in 1957, a marked increase on the previous year's total of 110. This number had only been surpassed twice before by totals of 139 and 172. There were no less than 25 conductors in the 1957 peals, a healthy sign for the continued prosperity of the Guild. Outstanding peals were Immingham Surprise Major, rung for the first time, London Surprise Royal (2) and the first handbell peal in a Surprise method by a resident band.

'While on the subject of peals,' writes Mr. John A. Freeman, 'I would again like to remind some of our members that the Guild officers and I do not look with any favour upon peals being rung by members on the days of their own District meetings, or upon peals rung by members who are in arrears with their subscriptions.'

The meeting approved the suggestion that the Northern Branch be reorganised, making the three existing Districts into Branches.

As 1959 would be the Guild's diamond jubilee year, it was agreed that a dinner be organised as in 1949, and a sub-committee was appointed to proceed with arrangements.

A very pleasing feature of this meeting was the number of young members present, many ringing on 12 bells for the first time.

BRAY'S NEW VICAR

Prior to the induction of the Rev. S. W. Doran as Vicar of Bray on April 18th in the presence of the Bishops of Oxford and Reading, five local ringers, with the help of three from Burnham, rang a quarter peal (reported elsewhere in this issue). After the service the bells were again rung with local ringers not yet change-ringers.

On the following day a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, of which no member taking part need feel ashamed. After the peal a splendid tea was laid on by John Norsworthy and Doreen Hague, which was kindly attended by the Vicar. 'People were singing your praises for the beautiful ringing you have given them on our bells,' said the Vicar.

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Concern Over Financial Position

THE annual general meeting of the Derbyshire Association was held in Derby on April 12th. The weather was very favourable and approximately 60 ringers responded to an appeal for a good attendance. Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening at the Cathedral and at St. Peter's, and it was encouraging to see a good number of young people at both towers. An informal service in St. Peter's Church was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. C. A. Shaw). A very substantial tea was provided by the wives of the ringers at St. Peter's.

The president of the Association, the Very Rev. R. A. Beddoes (Provost of Derby), was unavoidably prevented from attending the business meeting, and Mr. F. Adams (vice-president) acted as chairman. Reference was made to the presence of Mr. J. F. Smallwood and Mr. B. P. Morris, and they were given a very hearty welcome to Derbyshire. The printed annual reports were available for distribution, and the reports of the general secretary, treasurer and peal secretary were formally approved. Reference was made to the untimely death in August, 1957, of the former vice-president of the Association, Mr. William Lancaster.

The financial position of the Association gave much cause for concern, but it was hoped that there would be some improvement following the effect of increased subscriptions due from January 1st, 1958. Receipts from the sales of Association badges had exceeded the initial cost and further sales would be to the advantage of Association funds.

The report of the peal secretary revealed that a record number of peals—81—was scored during the year, and special reference was made to the individual performances of Derek P. Jones, who conducted 22 peals, and Brian J. Woodruffe with 17. The most noteworthy peals were 10,000 Double Norwich C.B. Major, conducted by B. J. Woodruffe, and 5,184 London Surprise Major, being the first peal in the method by an all-resident band.

The sub-committee responsible for the annual dinner were complimented on the arrangements for a very successful social function. There was some discussion about the possibility of amalgamation with other District Associations, but it was decided not to pursue the matter.

Mr. G. A. Halls and the chairman thanked all those who had in any way contributed to a very successful meeting, and ringing continued until approximately 9 p.m.

THE LADIES' GUILD

The Yorks District A.G.M. at Headingley, Leeds, on March 29th, proved to be a successful occasion. The afternoon was shared with members of the Leeds and District Society, who held their A.G.M., and thanks are due to them for their cheerful co-operation.

Mrs. Thorley (vice-president) took the chair at the business meeting. Miss M. V. Copping was elected to the committee in place of the late Miss M. Rhodes. Eight new members were elected, and this was felt to be a very good start for the year.

The next meeting will be held in June in the Sheffield area.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN

Do Churches Value Their Ringers?

The Frome Branch had arranged for their quarterly meeting on April 19th to ring at East Harptree for the first time for many years, as the tower has no ringing band of its own. Only a few hours before the ringers began to arrive, the rector's warden, Mr. Arthur Smith (himself a ringer), collapsed and died, and so the ringing was transferred to nearby Hinton Blewett and Litton (by the kindness of the Rev. F. Minnitt and the tower captains), though the service and meeting were held at East Harptree, as arranged.

The Rector (Rev. J. D. Ainger) in his address quoted the inscription on the old treble: 'I am the first of those five cries loud to those that are alive,' and said that as the bells were now silent perhaps the converse might be true, apart from a faithful nucleus of churchpeople. He hoped, with the help of members of the Association, to get a band to ring them again. The collection was earmarked for missionary work in Nigeria, with which the parish has a link.

The Rev. Norman Mitchell, of Radstock, taking the chair for the first time, had some unusual suggestions to put forward; but first he spoke for all the ringers in welcoming back his predecessor, Mr. J. T. Dyke, after his illness, and in congratulating Mr. David Hoare, of Radstock, on his election at the annual Easter meeting of the Association as diocesan secretary in succession to Mr. Roger Fry, of Bath.

The chairman said that the affiliation fee of towers to the Association—a few shillings normally paid by the ringers themselves—should be paid by the P.C.C. (as they pay the equivalent for the choir) to acknowledge the existence of their band of ringers. He also suggested that the fee was ridiculously small, and that parishes in the Branch should voluntarily set an example by paying a guinea (as for the choir), since things paid for are valued more, the money mainly to be used for the Bell Fund assisting parishes with heavy expenses in their belfries. Ringers might be admitted before Evensong, as choirboys are, to put their work in its proper perspective, and some clergy (except those with plural livings) might note that ringers ringing for and attending two services may be in church longer on a Sunday than they are themselves. Even so, ringers should aim at being regular communicants. East Harptree must be regarded as a challenge to the Branch, and when the Rector had collected a band of learners he hoped as many as could would come over and help to teach.

New members elected were Messrs. M. Barton and R. Hawkins, and Miss M. Hawkins, of Kilmersdon, and Mr. Daryl Platt, of Midsomer Norton. After some discussion it was agreed that practice meetings should be held between quarterly meetings, each one to be arranged at the preceding quarterly meeting—a tower inviting others to join in one of its practice nights; thus no notices need be sent out. The next quarterly meeting will be at Norton St. Philip on July 12th, subject to permission, and the Corporate Communion at Nunney on June 8th.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the rector, and the ladies who prepared and served the tea. The ringers then adjourned to Litton to enjoy their evening's ringing.

E. D. O.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHURCHWARDENS AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY

Dear Sir,—I have just read the report in 'The Ringing World' (page 272) of the attitude of two churchwardens towards church bells and the men that ring them.

I think that it should be pointed out to these two wardens that they are legally responsible, together with the Parochial Church Council, for the upkeep, maintenance and repair of all parts of the church building, irrespective of whether they like or dislike any particular part of it or the people that use it.

In 1955, the Inspection of Churches Measure received the Royal Assent, and under this Measure every Diocesan Conference is required to set up a scheme whereby every church in the diocese shall be inspected every five years.

Since the ringers concerned are prepared to give up some of their spare time to specialist repair and maintenance work on bells that obviously need attention, and that the incumbent approved of what they were going to do, I consider that the actions of these churchwardens is definitely contrary to the obligations of the office which they hold, and that the matter should be referred to the Diocesan Conference and to the Central Council for the Care of Churches.—Yours faithfully,

C. J. SHERWOOD.

Stafford.

CO-OPTIONS ON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Dear Sir,—In Belfry Gossip ('R.W.', April 25th, 1958) it is reported that the 'Ringing World' Committee have co-opted Mr. W. N. Park, following the regretted resignation of Mr. J. T. Dyke, and I note that on page 268 Mr. Park is shown as a member of the Editorial Committee.

While clearly the Committee and the Exercise will be very happy to have Mr. Park's help, and there is no doubt that the Central Council at Whitsun will be very glad to appoint him, I cannot see that the Committee have power to co-opt a member.

Under the rules of the Central Council, the Council appoints its committees, and the only power of co-option is one given specifically to the Standing Committee (Rule 11 (ii)). If this power were given to all committees it would not be necessary to specify in this case. I appreciate that the 'Ringing World' Committee, having a big job to do, has wide executive powers, but it has not this right.

I was pleased to see Miss Overend's letter about the Hillingdon peal tablet. If F. W. G. will look up the preface to 'Grandsire' (1948), by J. A. Trollope, in the Snowdon series, he will see an explanation of this business of the calendar.—Yours faithfully,

WILFRID G. WILSON.

Alperton.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Guild of Clerical Ringers 10s.
Peals.—Heene 3s., Sutton-on-Hull 12s., Crewe 1s. 6d., Burstow 6s.

Quarter Peals.—Great-with-Little Weldon 2s., Upper Clapton 2s., Bradford 3s., Stoke St. Michael 2s., Canford Magna 2s. 6d., Long Ashton 4s., Dover 2s. 6d., Eriswell 2s. 6d., Lakenheath 2s. 6d., Epping Upland 3s., Wimbledon 2s. 6d., Kingsstone 3s., South Petherton 4s., Hastings 2s., Hardington Mandeville 2s., Swindon 3s. 3d., Pulham St. Mary 4s., Martock 2s., Chiseldon 6s., Mossley 2s. 6d.

ST. CLEMENT DANES'

Dear Sir.—I think that in view of the article by A. Y.-B. in your issue of April 11th it would be as well to set out the present position with regard to ringing at the church of St. Clement Danes. May I say first of all that I had no real wish to take on any additional ringing commitments, but as a result of certain suggestions which I had offered to the chaplain-in-chief, Canon Giles, very similar to those made by A. Y.-B., he asked me if I would take on the position of belfry master for, at any rate, a limited period while the organisation of the church was being built up. Since the restoration has involved the chaplain-in-chief and his staff in innumerable problems it would, I felt, have been rather ungracious to decline to assist in this small way, particularly as I work in the same department.

So far as ringing at the dedication is concerned (the date has been announced as Sunday, October 19th, and Her Majesty the Queen will be present) this will obviously have to be of as high a standard as possible, and for this reason I feel I can ask to take part only those whose capabilities are known to me personally. In consequence a number of people have been or will shortly be approached. Admission to the dedication will, I understand, be rigidly controlled, so that it will not be possible for more than ten ringers to take part, and these will, I hope, be as representative as possible, including ex-Servicemen from both world wars, and not forgetting the R.N.A.S. and the R.F.C. as well as present-day members of the R.A.F. There are undoubtedly hundreds of other ringers who would have just as good a claim to take part as the ten who will do so, and perhaps I may express my regret that circumstances will make this impossible.

Later on it will not doubt be possible to arrange an 'open day,' but it will be necessary to exercise some caution as to the amount of ringing which takes place at the church, at all events in the early days, since the authorities will naturally wish to avoid any criticism on that score: they are, of course not quite so well placed in this respect as a normal incumbent. However, there seems no reason why evening practices should not take place at reasonable intervals. With regard to peals, my idea also is that the first should be by a representative R.A.F. band, preferably to commemorate one of that service's particular anniversaries.

There remains the question of ringing on such other occasions as is required, and my intention here is to ask the three London Societies—the College Youths, Cumberlands and London County Association—if they would each nominate three members who would undertake to make themselves available when called upon, with myself to make the number up. I have not approached them officially on the matter, but this appeared to me the most equitable solution.

If the R.A.F. Guild of Ringers is revived, it would seem appropriate for St. Clement Danes' to be regarded as its headquarters, but this can be discussed later on. Personally, I share the views expressed by Ian Oram in the same issue as A. Y.-B.'s article, and I must admit to having never had much liking for ringing organisations whose membership is on a selective basis. It must be remembered, too, that with the approaching end of National Service the number of active members in the future is likely to be very few.

I have shown this letter to the chaplain-in-chief, who is in general agreement with it, and who asks me to add that he is well contented with the arrangements which I am making, and that they have his full support.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT.

WARDENS AND BELLS

Dear Sir,—Too many people accept office as churchwarden for the privilege of walking before the bishop carrying their staff without knowing anything at all of their obligations. The wardens are in fact responsible for the material properties of the church. They must keep accounts of all money and maintain all the property in good repair. The wardens can be held personally responsible for any losses during their term of office: on a visitation by an archdeacon they can be obliged to carry out, or cause to be carried out, any necessary repairs, and they are personally responsible for any debts incurred during their term of office. They are not responsible for any debts incurred before their appointment. How the necessary money is to be raised to meet the debts is the concern of the wardens for the time being, and it was once customary to levy a Church Rate.

It is the business of the parishioners to elect the wardens annually at the parish meeting. Should they be unable to agree the incumbent has power to nominate people to the office, and any person so nominated has no option but to fulfil the duties imposed on him. A warden need not be a communicant or even a Christian.

One of the duties specified by the Act of Parliament is that the wardens shall provide a bell and a rope for the purpose of calling people to worship. This implies that the wardens are responsible for keeping the bells in ringable condition, but they are not responsible for the ringing of them—that is outside their office. The ringing of the bells is the responsibility of the incumbent, and there is abundant precedent for that towards the end of the 18th century.

The communication by M. E. B. on page 272 of 'The Ringing World' of April 25th bristles with irregularities. Wardens have no power to obstruct the ringing of the bells, and well-meaning people are in error in parleying with them over the point. They should consult the incumbent if they wish to ring the bells. Guild officials can only effect repairs to the bells by agreement with the wardens, who have obviously neglected their duty in allowing the bells to fall into disrepair.

The obvious remedy is for the parish to appoint new wardens at the next annual meeting. At the same time it must be observed that archdeacons are frequently very negligent in their visitations where the repair of the bells is concerned.—Yours sincerely,

Leamington Spa. HENRY ALLEN.

CUDDESDON FESTIVAL

Dear Sir,—The Principal of Cuddesdon College, Oxford, will be very glad for any old students who are attending the College festival on Tuesday, June 3rd, to help ring for it beforehand. Will any who can do so kindly be at the Parish Church as near as possible to 10.45 a.m. to ring until 11.30.—Yours faithfully,
Great Yarmouth. GILBERT THURLOW.

Attempt At Doubles Record 'In Hand'

An attempt at the Doubles record of 12,600 will in all probability be made on handbells in about 20 methods at St. Peter's Church, Fairfield, Buxton, Derbyshire, on Whit Monday, writes Brian J. Woodruffe. We hope to keep going as long as possible, and for this reason no definite length is given.

Blunsdon, Wilts

Blunsdon ringers, with other local ringers, had a day's outing on Easter Monday in the North Berks and South Oxfordshire area.

All the towers selected had six bells and included Lechlade, Langford, Aston, Standlake, Northmoor, Stanton Harcourt and finally Stanford-in-the-Vale, where the Vicar and members of his band made the visitors very welcome.

THE CENTENARY OF BIG BEN II.

By RANALD CLOUSTON

AT 7.33 p.m. on Saturday, April 10th, 1858, the furnaces were tapped for the casting of the present Big Ben. The centenary was observed by a number of members of the Newcomen Society, together with their president (Mr. L. E. Harris, A.M.I.Mech.E.), visiting the clock tower in the Palace of Westminster within a few hours of the event. The Society has as its aim the study of the history of engineering and technology, and there can be no doubt that this tower contains much of interest.

The first task was to climb the 230-odd feet to the bells. The staircase fortunately fits into a rectangular section shaft so that one does not get quite so dizzy as when going up or down a circular one. It is regrettable that there is no lift.

Once up to the level of the bells one comes out on to a platform which is open to all the winds that blow. On the day of our visit there was a strong north wind blowing, and as there are no louvres in the windows the conditions were far from pleasant. Big Ben and the four quarter bells are hung dead from an arched, riveted iron structure; the large bell hangs in the centre and the others hang round arranged at the corners of a square. In plan the bells are as a 5 on a domino.

None of the bells have clappers, and the clock hammers have pivots by the crowns and long arms which follow the outside profile of the bells and terminate in heavy hammer heads by the soundbows. This system has the unfortunate disadvantage that lubricating the pivots allows all the surplus oil to drip down over the surface of the bell, and frankly they get into a bit of a mess.

The clock struck on a number of occasions during the visit and the noise among the bells was not particularly objectionable, probably due to the fact that the belfry is so open to the atmosphere that the sound easily escapes.

The particulars of the bells are:—

	Weight		Diameter		Soundbow
	tons	cwt. qr. lb.	ins.	ins.	thick- ness ins.
1st Quarter	1	1	44 3/8		4
2nd Quarter	1	6	48 1/16		4 1/8
3rd Quarter	1	15 1	53 15/16		4 7/16
4th Quarter	3	17 3 24	72 1/2		6 1/16
Big Ben II	13	10 3 15	108		

The writer's calipers were unfortunately not large enough to get the soundbow thickness of Big Ben.

Two members of the Newcomen Society spoke about the objects of interest in the tower: Mr. S. Clutton on the clock and the writer on the bells.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Historically, of course, these bells and the associated clock are of great interest, and it may not be out of place to trace the history of the bells connected with the Palace of Westminster.

According to the historian Stow, Edward III built a stone-and-timber tower for St. Stephen's Chapel in the Palace in 1347 and put in it three bells. In 1698 William III gave the tower and its contents to St. Margaret's parish, and the great bell, which weighed 4 tons 2 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb., was sold to St. Paul's Cathedral at 10d. per pound. This bell was first called 'Edward of Westminster' and later 'Westminster Tom.' On New Year's Day, 1699, this bell, while being conveyed to St. Paul's fell off the carriage by Temple Bar and was cracked. Philip Wightman recast the bell in 1708, and as the result was not a success Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, recast the bell again in 1716. This is the present hour bell in the south-west tower of St. Paul's Cathedral and weighs 5 tons 4 cwt.

In 1834 the Palace of Westminster was very largely destroyed by fire, and it is said that a fine Flemish bell, cast by Peter van den Ghein I, of Mechlin, in 1540, now in the cloisters at Iona Cathedral, was removed from the ruins.

In 1856 Sir Benjamin Hall, chief commissioner of works, appointed Professor Wheatstone, the Rev. W. Taylor and E. B. Denison, Q.C., as referees to deal with the bells for the new clock tower of the Palace then being built to the designs of Sir Charles Barry. By this time the clock had already been made to the designs of E. B. Denison, Q.C., who was later to become Sir Edmund Beckett, and still later Lord Grimthorpe. To save confusion, the writer has referred to him as E. B. Denison throughout.

CLOCK'S ACCURACY

This clock is still, after over 100 years, one of the finest pendulum-controlled clocks in the world, and when originally made achieved a time-keeping accuracy which till then had been unheard of and which was, in the opinion of some clockmakers, unattainable. Today the accuracy is of the order of a second a day. To E. B. Denison, Q.C., must be given the credit for this achievement, as it was mainly due to his development of the dead-beat escapement that the accuracy was possible. As will appear later, Denison had a considerable impact on the bell-founding industry in England in his day, but the results were not so beneficial or as lasting as his work on clocks.

Denison produced a specification for the bells for the Palace, and tenders were invited from the principal bell-founders. George Mears declined to accept the referees as they had spoken badly of his Royal Exchange rings and of his great bells for York and Montreal.

Taylor gave the lowest quotation, but they wanted some money in advance, and this was considered unacceptable by the referees. Warners quoted but 'required the referees to take the responsibility of giving patterns for the bells, i.e., they confessed that they did not know how to make such large bells of the proper notes; they had previously copied all their bells from existing ones.' Warners' quotation was accepted, and Denison designed the bells for them.

Here it may be appropriate to mention that the largest bell in England at that date was the old Great Peter of York, recast 1927, weighing some 10½ tons, and the projected weight of the new Westminster hour bell was 14 tons. In addition, as will appear later, the overall height of the new bell could not be allowed to exceed 8 ft. otherwise it would not have been possible to get it up the tower. So Denison took on quite a formidable task in having to decide the profiles and thicknesses of all five bells, with the eyes of nearly all England on him.

In those days (1856) the idea of 5-tone tuning was unknown, as it was only in 1890 that Lord Rayleigh, secretary of the Royal Society, published some notes and observations on the various frequencies emitted by bells, and some seven years later still before Canon Simpson published his celebrated paper on the subject. So in 1856 it was vital that the bell as cast should sound musical, as no one, except the Hemony brothers—and they had been dead nearly 200 years—knew what to do with a bell which was unmusical except to recast it to a different shape. This could be rather expensive with 14-ton bells.

THE TENDER

Warners' tender was for 10 gns. per cwt. (usual price 7 gns.), and they were to recast any of them (unless condemned for bad casting, in which case they were to recast for nothing)

for £2 per cwt., and also to cast any small experimental bells for the same rate.

Warners cast the great bell first, and from some mismanagement it came out thicker than the pattern and required a clapper twice as heavy as Denison had reckoned on by analogy with other bells. The clapper weighed 13 cwt. and the bell was 2 ft. diameter by 1 ft. thick vertically; the experimental clock hammer also weighed 13 cwt. and was dropped on to the bell with a 'weight and force equal to one-and-a-quarter tons.' Big Ben I was cast in 1856, weighed 15 tons 18 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. without the clapper, was 9½ in. thick at the soundbow, 9 ft. 5½ in. diameter and 7 ft. 10½ in. in overall height.

The referees had a right to reject Big Ben I, but as it was generally praised by those who heard it, the bell was brought from the foundry at Norton-on-Tees to London. The first part of the journey was by rail to West Hartlepool on a Sunday: this day being chosen as the size was such that traffic in the other direction was impossible.

At West Hartlepool the schooner 'Wave' was ready to receive the bell, but when still a foot and more off the deck the shear legs broke and the bell dropped on to the vessel. The 'Wave' had to go into a graving dock for repairs and also to have a new foremast fitted.

16 WHITE HORSES

Eventually Big Ben I arrived at Maudsley's Wharf, London, and was from there drawn to the Palace by 16 white horses. The bell was erected in a timber framework on the ground in Palace Yard, and a print shows ten men pulling a rope tied to the 13 cwt. clapper and clocking the bell. After being sounded occasionally for some weeks the bell was cracked. Some said that the cause was the heavy clapper and others that the two streams of molten metal had not united properly when the bell was being cast. This latter theory was confirmed when a large flaw was found in the bell when being broken up for recasting.

By this time Warners had successfully cast the fourth quarter bell, and there was no intention of taking the recasting work out of their hands. However, they demanded a price for recasting enormously beyond the £2 per cwt., which they had agreed to before, presuming that neither of the other two founders would be employed.

George Mears no longer objected to the referees and this time his offer was accepted. So Big Ben I was put on his side and a 24 cwt. ball of iron was dropped on him repeatedly from a height of 30 ft. until the pieces were of suitable size to cart to Whitechapel.

Denison again designed the new bell, and moulding commenced on December 18th, 1857, being completed by the end of March, 1858. The method used included the making of a full-sized clay bell which was broken up when the cope or outer part of the mould had been completed. The furnaces were fired entirely with wood fuel and the larger pieces of metal were heated for as long as 20 hours. Hot air was blown through the mould for a day before casting commenced, an operation which was said to have been performed for the first time in bell-founding but which was then common for large brass and gunmetal castings. This procedure perhaps derives from the disaster which befell the founder Matthew Bagley and 16 others who were killed when a too-damp mould exploded while ordnance was being cast at Moorfields in 1716. Today, moulds would be baked dry in an oven before casting commenced.

(Continued on page 305)

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

South Norfolk Branch

The South Norfolk Branch held a successful meeting at Redenhall on April 26th with 40 members and friends attending. The service was conducted by the Rector (Canon B. M. Pickering), who also gave the address.

The business meeting was presided over by the Branch chairman (Dr. P. H. A. Jonason), supported by Mr. A. G. Harrison (vice-president), Mr. W. G. Saunders (Branch Ringing Master), Mr. C. F. W. Phillippo (Branch secretary), Miss B. Syrett, Messrs. F. C. Arnold, H. Moss, E. Whiting and W. J. Flatt, members of the committee.

For the next meeting, on July 26th, it was decided to visit Mundford, with an interim meeting at East Harling on June 7th. After the usual votes of thanks, ringing in many methods continued until 9 p.m. C. F. W. P.

Northern Branch

Members of the Northern Branch, meeting at Shipdham on April 19th, heard with regret of the illness of the president (Rev. H. G. Lillingston) and wished him a speedy recovery to health.

Mr. A. G. Bason presided over an attendance of 37 members, and the meeting ratified the election prior to peals of the following: Colin Armitage (Mirfield, Yorks), R. C. Noon and S. E. Bennett (Spalding) and J. D. Kape (High Wycombe). Sheila Curson, Jennifer Glistler and Paul Evans, of Norwich, were elected ringing members. The next meeting, on July 12th, will be at Aylsham.

The Vicar (Rev. L. T. W. G. Burleigh) conducted the service and the Rev. F. W. Gilpin gave the address. Methods were practised from Plaia Minor to London Surprise.

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION

The quarterly meeting and 6-bell contest was held at Kirkheaton on April 19th. Six companies competed, and the judge (Mr. George Perrin) commented that the contest was far below the standard for the Association. The winning company, Cawthorne (10 penalties, 82 faults), rang by far the best, but spoilt themselves with a trip half way through and never regained a sustained beat afterwards.

At the quarterly meeting, the votes of thanks included one to the ladies who provided an excellent tea in the best Yorkshire tradition. The president (Mr. E. Earnshaw) welcomed Batley and Thornhill, who had not entered a contest for a long time, and told them not to be downhearted over the result of their first attempt at competitive ringing. Thornhill volunteered the use of their tower, subject to permission, for the annual meeting.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

In the old tower of Holy Trinity, Queenborough, Isle of Sheppey, the Rochester District made excellent use of the very good ring of six on April 19th, under the guidance of Mr. W. A. J. Knight and Mr. George Kenward.

The lady Mayor attended the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. H. A. Daws), and the collection for the organ fund amounted to £2 12s. 5d. Some 90 members and friends enjoyed an excellent tea given by the Queenborough ringers.

The Vicar presided at the business meeting, at which nine new members were elected. The meeting favoured a suggestion by Mr. W. A. J. Knight, supported by Mr. G. A. Naylor, of the numbers for each District being printed in the annual report of the K.C.A. The votes of thanks included a special one to Mr. S. Rayfield and other local ringers and their ladies for the excellent tea.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

Formation of Mansfield District Suggested

The twelfth annual meeting of the Southwell Diocesan Guild was held at East Retford on April 12th. During the afternoon and evening the bells of St. Swithun's, East Retford; St. Michael-the-Archangel, West Retford; and All Hallows', Ordsall, were open for ringing. Even-song was held in St. Swithun's and was attended by upwards of 50 members and friends.

The business meeting was held in Ebsworth Hall, and in the absence of the chairman was presided over by Mr. F. W. Midwinter. A brief silence was observed in memory of the late Mr. J. H. Brothwell, Mr. W. Clarke and the Rev. C. J. Sturton, who had passed away during the past year.

The hon. treasurer's statement of accounts and balance sheet revealed a satisfactory financial position. A surplus of £17 15s. 1d. was made on the year's working with a total income of £57 3s. 10d. The balance of the Bell Repair Fund stood at £103 18s. 7d., and the balance of the capital account was £136 17s. 3d. Out of the Bell Repair Fund grants of £15 each had been promised to Hucknall Torkard and North Wheatley. A donation of £5 5s. to the Bishop's Appeal Fund for 1958 had been authorised by the committee.

The report of the peal committee showed that 27 peals only had been rung, which was the lowest total since the Guild was formed in 1946.

For better working it was resolved to transfer Mansfield and Mansfield Woodhouse from the Nottingham to the North Notts District.

The hon. general secretary put forward the committee's views on the proposed formation of a separate Mansfield District, comprising the following towers: Mansfield, Mansfield Woodhouse, Warsop, Cuckney, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Edwinstowe, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Selston and Tversall.

This proposal evoked considerable interest. Mr. Ernest Preston thought that the proposed District was adequately covered by the East Derbyshire and Notts Association, and that the standard of ringing in the North Notts District would suffer by the loss of Warsop.

Mr. H. T. Rooke (Warsop) favoured the recommendation of the Committee to hold a meeting at Mansfield on May 31st to explore the possibility of creating a separate Mansfield District when it would then be possible to see whether there was sufficient interest to carry through the project. The meeting finally endorsed the views of Mr. Rooke.

For the committee, it was explained that there was no intention of trying to cut across the East Derbyshire and Notts Association's domains. The Guild nominally covered the whole of the Diocese of Southwell, and it was only right that the Guild should try and further the art of ringing in the diocese, and the Mansfield

area being in an isolated part of the diocese in relation to the other Districts could best be served by a small separate District. Much good work had been accomplished in the Newark area since the formation of a separate Newark District.

The possibility of resuming the annual dinner which was abandoned some years ago was put forward by Mr. Walter Nichols. After some indeterminate discussion, during which little desire to hold a dinner was evinced, it was proposed by Mr. H. T. Rooke, seconded by Mr. Allan Simpson and carried unanimously, that the committee be called to discuss the question of a dinner with power to act.

Mr. J. D. Clarke proposed that the Guild hold quarterly meetings as he thought that more progress would be possible and members would meet each other more often. This proposal was supported by Mr. H. T. Rooke. Mr. J. W. Raithby opposed the idea of a quarterly meeting and suggested a half-yearly meeting as in the Lincoln Guild, and this modification was supported by Mr. George Challans. On a show of hands it was by a majority vote resolved to hold quarterly meetings and to treat the general meeting at Mansfield on May 31st as the first of such meetings.

A collection for the Bell Repair Fund realised £1 13s.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was moved by the chairman, who then declared the meeting closed. J. W. R.

OBITUARY

MR. GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN

Surviving his wife by only a fortnight, the death took place on April 20th of Mr. George A. Wightman.

The son of the late Alfred S. Wightman and brother of Leslie C., George started ringing in his teens with the family at Creetingham, and until 1922 took part in some 60 peals for the Norwich Association.

From then on, owing to his business as a blacksmith and a growing family, his peals were few. For several years he had lived at Woodham Ferrars, and only recently moved to Great Baddow to be nearer his work at Chelmsford. His health deteriorated somewhat since the death of his brother, Les, and he was seriously ill last year. Finally, with his wife taken from him, he contracted pneumonia, and with his asthma was too ill to survive. So ends the last of this great ringing family.

A peal of Superlative on the bells he learnt to ring, composed by his uncle, William, was thought to be an appropriate tribute.

L. G. B.

REV. G. C. SEYMOUR METFORD

We regret to learn of the death on April 30th of the Rev. G. C. Seymour Metford, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Shrivenham, who was chairman of the Vale of the White Horse Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild for 16 years until an illness three years ago. He was an active ringers.

Centenary of Big Ben II.—Cont.

As noted, the bell was cast on Saturday, April 10th, 1858—apparently no 5-day weeks in those days; and certainly 7.33 p.m. seems an odd time to begin casting, though much work would have had to be done in the previous 12 hours. On cooling, the bell was removed from the mould, and on May 28th, 1858, was drawn by 16 horses to Palace Yard from Whitechapel, via London Bridge, Borough Road and Westminster Bridge.

(To be continued)

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The spring meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Bridlington on April 26th and attended by over 40 members representing 11 towers. The fine ring of eight was kept going in the afternoon and evening and the service was held in the Priory Church, conducted by the rector (Canon Lamb). During the service a course of Grand sire Triples was rung by four ringers from York Minster.

The business meeting followed tea in the new schoolroom, with the vice-president (Mr. A. E. Sellers) in the chair. Three new members were elected—T. Ayre (Bridlington), Miss M. James and Miss M. Verity, of Sutton-on-Hull. Selby was selected for the June meeting, and the usual votes of thanks passed.

LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was held at Leeds Parish Church on April 26th and was attended by about 50 members. Ringing commenced before 3 o'clock but was confined to the light eight after the first touch, in which the tenor clapper fell out. Although the striking could have been better, the methods ranged from Plain Bob to London and the beginners rang rounds. Tea was taken at the Roxby Cafe, and further ringing took place until 7.30 p.m. when the business meeting was held.

Three of the rules (those concerning towers for meetings and membership) were amended, and the following were elected as officials of the Society for the year 1959-60: President, Irvin Slack; vice-presidents, Jack Gibson, Cyril F. Sutcliffe and Douglas Thorp; Ringing Master, Leonard Drake; auditors, Roy Bettley-Cooke and Alfred Johnson; secretary and treasurer, J. Martin Thorley.

ROTHERHAM RINGERS VISIT THE EAST RIDING

On their annual outing on April 26th Rotherham ringers, with friends from Harthill, Thrybergh and Sheffield, visited five Yorkshire towers. Once again the party (30 in number) was composed mainly of young people with a good number of the fair sex. Only one non-ringer attended, and before tea he had been initiated and succeeded in ringing treble to Bob Minor on handbells (in four easy lessons).

After leaving the delightful six at Market Weighton and saying goodbye to Mr. Kneeshaw, the local veteran, the party was soon at Beverley Minster to sample this majestic heavy ten. Opening cautiously with a touch of Little Bob Royal, rounds and Bob Major for the youngsters followed, and Mr. Osgerby, the tower captain, kindly conducted about half the party to see Great John in the other tower. After Grandisre Caters, the ringing concluded with Yorkshire Major on the back eight.

After an excellent lunch at the Beverley Arms Hotel, St. Mary's Parish Church was visited and Stedman Caters and other methods rung. During the hour's journey to Norton (North Yorks) the party recuperated sufficiently to really enjoy some good ringing at the Parish Church.

As is often the case, fatigue was beginning to set in by the time the party reached the last tower (Selby Abbey). Nevertheless, good use was made of this melodious ring of bells.

In expressing thanks to the organisers (Mr. F. Fisher and Mr. N. Chaddock), one of the visiting ringers remarked how surprised he was to find the party never more than three minutes off schedule. N. C.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Nine towers were represented at the quarterly meeting of the Dorchester Branch held at Upwey on April 19th. The Guild service was taken jointly by the Rector (Rev. A. S. Bryant) and the Branch chairman (Rev. S. P. Rowcroft), the address being given by the Rector.

After tea there was the business meeting, conducted by the chairman. Silent tribute was paid to two members who had died since the last meeting—the Rev. E. S. Tarrant (past chairman) and Mr. F. Precey (past Ringing Master).

The chairman announced that Mr. H. Ford (Ringing Master) had been married earlier in the day, and best wishes were expressed to him.

The hon. secretary (Mr. R. H. Duke) gave the arrangements for the Guild festival at Dorchester on May 17th and appealed for support. The next meeting was arranged for Abbotsbury on July 5th, and Branch practices will be: May 3rd, St. Peter's, Dorchester; 31st, Wool; June 14th, Litton Cheney; 28th, Puddletown; July 12th, Milton Abbey; 26th, Preston.

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.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

As from Monday, May 12th, the address of Mr. P. M. Bond, 30, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Kent, will be 33, The Drive, Hedge Barton, Fordcombe, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. No phone, but all messages will be taken by Auntie at Tunbridge Wells 1602. 2327

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. 1886

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

CORNISH RIVIERA.—Williams, Copper Hill House, Redruth. For ideal holiday, central for all Cornwall's beauty spots. Excellent cuisine, every comfort. Highly recommended. Terms moderate. Tel.: Redruth 533. 2127

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—A set of 12 handbells, by Shaw, of Bradford. In very good condition. Tenor 5 inches diameter in A. View any reasonable time. Offers to W. A. McCracken, Brook Cottage, Saunderton, Princes Risborough. 2313

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—Set of eight or ten handbells in sound and reasonably good condition for the tuition and practice of blind pupils. Details to Secretary, The Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind, Court Oak Road, Harborne, Birmingham, 17. 2306

PUBLICATIONS

CAMPANALOGIA.—COLLECTION OF LITTLE & ALLIANCE DOUBLES, methods in full with 120's, 6d. each. **COLLECTION OF TRIPLES.** Little and Alliance methods in full with 5040's and 99 Plain methods in place notation, 6d. each. **COLLECTION OF SURPRISE METHODS.** giving name, date and place of first performance and method in place notation of all those methods pealed 1821 to 1950, 1s. 6d. each. Post free from F. T. Blagrove, Redlea, Orchard Avenue, Windsor, Berks. 2335

MISCELLANEOUS

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

MEETINGS

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Chesterfield District) and **SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD** (North Notts District).—Specially arranged joint meeting, Workshop Priory, Saturday, May 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea arrangements later. Good attendance requested. —A. B. Cooper, H. Denman. 2276

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Little Shelford on Saturday, May 10th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Stapleford (6) after tea. —E. W. Bullman, Dis. Sec. 2267

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. Crusader meeting, Fobbing, May 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. A. Ockenden, High Road, Fobbing. 2243

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

—Annual meeting in Guildford, May 10th. Service at St. Mary's 4 p.m. Tea and meeting, Congregational Hall, North Street (next G.P.O.) 4.45. Please send numbers to Miss W. Oliver, 36, North Place, Guildford. Bells of S. Nicolas' and Stoke afternoon and evening. Cathedral Church after meeting. St. Mary's 3.30 to 4 p.m.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec. 2230

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 10th, 3 p.m., Much Hadham. Names for tea, please, to Mr. W. H. Rogers, 7, Park Terrace, Much Hadham.—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec. 2279

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—Meeting at Corringham on Saturday, May 10th. Service 4.15 p.m.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 2262

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, May 10th, St. Leonard's, Shore-ditch, 3 to 4.45. Tea and business, St. John's, South Hackney, vestry, 5.15. Ringing 6.30 to 8 p.m. Names for tea, please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. Tel. ISL 3921. 2280

MAIDSTONE.—The rededication of the bells of All Saints', Maidstone, will take place on Saturday, May 10th, at 3 p.m. The bells will be open to all ringers after the service. 2336

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, S.W.1, on Saturday, May 10th, 2.30 p.m. Business meeting 4 p.m. Own tea arrangements. Service 6. Ringing at St. Margaret's, Westminster, 6.30 p.m. 2314

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Henley-on-Thames (8), Saturday, May 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Shipplake (8) in evening.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Ashbury, Saturday, May 10th. Bells (5) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. 2292

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting at Exning on Saturday, May 10th, at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at Exning. Newmarket St. Mary's bells available from 6 p.m.—A. R. Mann, Dis. Sec. 2271

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Meeting at Polstead, Saturday, May 10th, Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. C. Woods, Polstead. Assington bells also available after tea.—R. Seabrook. 2239

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, West Grinstead (6), Saturday, May 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 2289

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, May 10th, at Billingshurst (8). Bells available 3 p.m.—E. W. Keys, Hon. Sec. 2283

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Practice meeting at Weston-in-Gordano on Saturday, May 17th, at 5 p.m.—D. G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 2317

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Kingsdon, Saturday, May 17th. Kindly notify for tea.—T. J. Setter, 109, Middle Street, Yeovil. 2308

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 17th. Flitwick (6). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names must be sent by Wednesday, 14th, to Mr. R. Swannell, 76a, Steppingley Road, Flitwick.—K. G. Spavins. 2310

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Bromborough, Saturday, May 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea free for those notifying by Wednesday previous.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 2330

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—Meeting at Berkswell on Saturday, May 17th, at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome.—D. A. Carpenter, Dis. Sec. 2328

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Half-yearly meeting, Stockton, Saturday, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Committee 3.30 in Vestry. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea. Names for tea to Mrs. S. Sharp, 10, Middleham Road, Fairfield, Stockton. 2329

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Meeting at Bakewell and Youlgrave on Saturday, May 17th. Bakewell, 3 to 5 p.m.; Youlgrave, 6 to 8.45 p.m. Own tea arrangements. Bus departs Bakewell to Youlgrave 5.15 p.m., departs Youlgrave 7.45 p.m., 8.40 p.m. to Brightwell and Rowsley.—H. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 2321

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Monthly meeting, Saturday, May 17th, at Denby. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Thursday previous to P. Weston, Clovelly, Breach Road, Denby Village, Derbyshire.—B. A. Sollis. 2325

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Edenbridge, May 17th (note change of date). Look up Duffield. Names for tea to Mr. E. Leigh, Homesdale, Spital Cross.—C. A. Bassett. 2275

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting at Tortworth (6), Saturday, May 17th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Notify by May 14th Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 2316

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Meeting at Christ Church, Epsom, May 17th, to welcome home Frank Oakshott. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in Scout Hut. Names for tea, by May 14th, please, to W. Parrott, 19, Eastdene Avenue, Epsom. 2278

GUILD OF MEDICAL RINGERS.—Annual meeting and dinner, May 17th, at Tring, Herts, 3 p.m. Members attending please notify D. L. Gullick, Mount View, Stevenage. 2316

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Stretton Grandison, Saturday, May 17th. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, important, to J. Ward, Woolfields, Coddington, Ledbury. 2309

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—By-meeting at Hunton (6) and Yalding (6) on Saturday May 17th. Hunton bells from 2.30-5; Yalding after tea. Service at Yalding 6.30. Please bring your own tea.—R. L. Silis, Dis. Sec. 2238

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting at Wickham-breaux, Saturday, May 17th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Names for tea to Mr. S. Walter, The Mill House, Wickham-breaux, Canterbury, not later than Wednesday, May 14th.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 2304

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting, May 17th. Cobham and Stoke D'Abernon. Service at Stoke 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at 5 p.m. Names, please, by Wednesday, 14th, to Mrs. Powell, Redcroft, Brundel Lane, Stoke D'Abernon. 2264

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at St. Michael's, Flixton, 3 p.m., Saturday, May 17th. Cups of tea provided. Note change from Pendlebury.—R. Benson. 2331

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Meeting at Haslingden on Saturday, May 17th. Tower open 3 p.m. Cups of tea 5 p.m. Own food.—J. Porter. 2319

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Meeting at Gilmorton, Saturday, May 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Names, please, to G. Broughton, Main Street, Gilmorton, near Rugby.—J. P. Kesterton, Dis. Sec. 2324

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Great Easton, Saturday, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Cups of tea only.—L. W. Allen. 2320

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Claybrooke on Saturday, May 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in the New Hall, Ullesthorpe, 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, May 14th, to Mr. C. Clarke, 23, Goodacre Road, Ullesthorpe, near Rugby. 2311

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting, Grimsby, Saturday, May 17th. Bells 2.30 to 4.45 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., Church House, Bull Ring. Names by Tuesday previous to Mr. F. Kennington, 23, Farebrother Street, Grimsby. Evensong after meeting. Bells available after service. 2303

LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Meeting, Peterston-super-Ely, Sat., May 17th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business to follow.—R. E. Coles. 2318

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South and West District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 17th, Cranford. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. for those notifying by May 14th P. Woodgyer, 225, Brabazon Road, Heston. Further ringing till 8.30 p.m. Special method, Cambridge Minor.—W. T. Cook, Dis. Sec. 2318

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting, May 17th, at Ditchingham. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Wednesday, May 14th, essential, please, to Mr. H. W. Barrett, Fernhill, Bungay Road, Loddon, Norfolk.—P. G. W. Newstead, Branch Sec. 2270

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice at Sandhurst on Saturday, May 17th, at 6 p.m. Special method for practice, Woodbine Treble Bob.—B. C. Castle. 2312

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berks Branch.—Annual meeting, East Hagbourne, on Saturday, May 17th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30. Names for tea, by Tuesday, 13th, to A. E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks. 2261

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual festival, Dorchester, May 17th. A.G.M. in Corn Exchange at 2.15. Service, Church of St. Peter, 4 p.m., conducted by the Rev. P. J. Heaton. Meat tea in Corn Exchange 5 p.m. (3s. 6d. per head). Tea tickets from F. Slatford, 35, Westbury Road, Yarnbrook, Trowbridge, before Wednesday, May 14th. All bells situated in Dorchester Branch will be available for ringing.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. 2268

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at Winthorpe, Saturday, May 17th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify by previous Wednesday Mr. W. Mead, Winthorpe, Newark.—W. L. Exton, Hon. Sec. 2301

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Practice meeting at Charlwood (6) on Saturday, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Please notify for tea, by Tuesday, May 13th, Mr. A. J. Ede, Claremont Villas, Charlwood.—A. Streeter, Dis. Sec. 2257

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Burgess Hill (8), Saturday, May 17th, 3 p.m. Look up Erin Triples. For tea, please, notify by Tuesday, May 13th. Mrs. S. Knight, 17, The Gattons, Burgess Hill, Sussex.—Geo. North. 2305

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—A practice meeting will be held at Tichborne (6) on Saturday, May 17th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by previous Tuesday to Mr. P. Nash, 10, Portal Road, Winchester. 2323

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual meeting, Doncaster Parish Church, Saturday, May 17th, joint with LADIES' GUILD (Yorkshire District). Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Names by 15th to Mr. W. E. Critchley, 38, Castle Hills Road, Scawthorne, Doncaster. New reports will be available.—J. J. L. Gilbert, E. Wardill. 2315

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at Hythe, Saturday, May 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, May 20th, to Mrs. S. M. Dobbie, 13, Baltic Road, Tonbridge. Gentlemen cordially invited. 2332

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Stowmarket District.—Meeting at Cotton on Saturday, May 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by 21st.—B. Chilvers, Cotton, Stowmarket. 2322

DEVON GUILD.—Annual meeting, Holsworthy, Whit Monday, May 26th. Service 12.15 p.m. Lunch at Corner Cafe. Tickets (5/6) from Mr. W. Simmonds, 100, Hartop Road, St. Marychurch, Torquay. Stamped addressed envelope, please. Bells 11 a.m. and after meeting. 2326

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Whit Monday, May 26th, at Chelmsford. Service in Cathedral at 11 a.m. Preacher, Very Rev. G. E. Gordon, Provost of Chelmsford Cathedral. Meeting after service to be concluded by 1.20 p.m. Light refreshments available from 9.30 a.m. in Cathedral Hall. Lunch 1.30 p.m. (cost 4s. 6d.). Tea as a running buffet from 5 to 6.15 p.m. (cost 2s.). Ringing: Cathedral, 9.30 to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m. From 3 to 6 p.m.—Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6), Little Baddow (5). From 6 to 9 p.m.—Galleywood (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6). Applications for tea and lunch tickets, with remittance and stamped addressed envelope, please, to F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch, Essex. 2263

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual festival meeting at Hereford on Whit Monday, May 26th. Service, Cathedral, 3.30 p.m. Tea, College Hall, at 4.15 (3s.). Meeting 5 p.m. Towers available: Cathedral (10) 11-12, 2.3-15 and from 5.30; All Saints' (8) 12-2 and after 5.30; Holmer (6) after 4 p.m.; Marden (6), Burghill (8), Withington (6), Lugwardine (8), Bodenham (6) from 11 a.m. 2189

SNETTISHAM BELLS TO BE HUNG FOR CHIMING

'The Eastern Daily Press' reported recently that a faculty had been granted for the removal of the six bells from the tower at Snettisham, Norfolk, for the recasting of three of them, and for their rechanging in the tower for chiming only.

The Parochial Church Council had earlier decided to recast all six bells and hang them for ringing, but it had since rejected this scheme. Mr. J. H. Ellison, Chancellor of the Consistory Court, said that the financial aspect had made him decide to grant a faculty allowing the bells to be chimed only. Repairs of greater priority would soon have to be done, and he could not tell the parish to spend the bulk of its money on the bells. The faculty would therefore allow the bells to be chimed, provided that the structure was so designed that when more money was to hand it could be altered to allow the bells to be rung.

The Vicar (Rev. W. M. Abernethy) said he supported chiming because ringing would constitute a danger to the structure of the tower spire. Further, the ringers would either have to stand in the chancel almost outside the sanctuary, or would have to use the old belfry, reached by a narrow parapet on the church roof.

Mr. M. B. Hull, the architect, stated that the cost would be £1,500 to £1,700 to hang the six for ringing, whereas only £700 to £800 would be needed to hang them for chiming.

All six bells were, according to L'Estrange, cast by Thomas Newman in 1710, and they have been unringable for some years now. As ringers, we can only hope that sufficient money will be found at some future date to enable these bells to be hung for ringing. T. S. B.

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A 768 Pyrford, B 672 Dartford, C 224 Runnymede, D 320 Lincoln, E 224 Sunderland, F 352 Pudsey, G 224 Eccleston, H 224 Withyham, I 640 Dorchester, J 320 Irchester, K 288 Helmingham, L 448 Whitbourne, M 224 Bordesley, N 224 Staffordshire.

23456	M	W	H	
43652	—	—	—	IIIIFFF
56234	—	—	—	FFBMMMMM
35264	—	—	—	MBBB

25463	—	—	—	BBBAAAA
64352	—	—	—	AAABJJJ
35642	—	—	—	JJJJJJJ
63542	—	—	—	DDDDDDD
56342	—	—	—	LLLLLLL

36245	—	—	—	FFNN
42563	—	—	—	NNNNNBKKK
56423	—	—	—	KKKAAAA
45623	—	—	—	AAIIIAA
64523	—	—	—	LLLLLLL

54326	—	—	—	AAAAAAF
23645	—	—	—	AAABHHHHH
64235	—	—	—	HHKKA
26435	—	—	—	EEEEEEE
42635	—	—	—	DIDIIII

62534	—	—	—	DIICC
35426	—	—	—	CCCCBBII
42356	—	—	—	BBIIIII
34256	—	—	—	BBBBBBB
23456	—	—	—	GGGGGGG

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