

THE RINGING WORLD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

No. 2949. Vol. LXIII

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1967

9d.



St. John the Baptist Church, Bredgar, Kent

stands on the site of a Saxon Church. The 14th century tower has an excellent Norman doorway. In 1951 the five bells, some of considerable antiquity, were declared to be unringable. The bells have been retuned and augmented to six and on September 16th were rededicated by the Rural Dean, the Rev. L. Wilkinson.

Photo by Courtesy of "The Kent Messenger"

Points from First Half of 1967 Peals

BY CANON K. W. H. FELSTEAD

IN the first half of 1967 there appear to have been more than usual "First peal on the bells" despite the dwindling number of such towers. I confirm the first appearance of the following in the peal lists: Marden. Drayton (Norfolk), Broadhembury, Stourpaine, Sturton-le-Steeple, Rotherwick, Swallowfield, Sherborne St. John, Wetheringsett, Aidborough. Chiselborough, Harefield, Tintinhull, Whitchurch (Devon), Withypool and Ashford-in-the-Water. The peal at Sourton also appears to be the first on the bells but it was not claimed as such. On the other hand, the peal at Codicote claimed as the first was not so. Peals of Minor in seven methods were rung in 1908 and 1932.

As far as infrequent visitors to the peal columns are concerned, it appears there were fewer than usual from before 1939 (my usual landmark for such towers). Only one tower had not appeared for more than 50 years, i.e. since before the First War. This was Monk-silver, where the previous peal was rung in 1914. There had been eight peals here from 1907 to that year. No tower was last heard in the 1920's, but there were several from the 1930's (as usual). Wilby had its only previous peal in 1930. In 1932 were last heard in peals Bagshot, West Hendred and Bridgnorth (St. Mary's). The first had its first peal in 1921, followed by another in 1922, two in 1928 and then the 1932 one (not many peals for an eight-bell tower). The 1932 peal at West Hendred was the only previous one. The recent peal at Bridgnorth was rightly claimed as the first of Major on the bells. The previous peals here were in 1902, 1908, 1910, 1911, 1924 and the 1932 one. Empingham. West Monkton and Seaton last had peals in 1933. Empingham also had peals in 1895 and 1910, and West Monkton in 1911. The recent peal at Seaton was rightly claimed to be the first for 34 years and that was the only previous one.

GOSPEL OAK PEALS

The claim for the peal at St. Martin's, Gospel Oak, as the first for 40 years was not quite accurate. The last one I recorded there was in 1934. Here, I have also peals in 1898 (two) 1906, 1908, 1909, 1913 and 1926. All these were of Minor, so the recent one was the first of Doubles on the bells. We then come to 1937 as the year when the last peals were rung at Hazelbury Bryan and Lil-lington. At the former I see there were peals in 1933, 1935 and 1936 as well, and at the latter just one, in 1935.

The last pre-war year in which peals were last rung at Attleborough, Childe Okeford, Wootton (Oxon) and Iwerne Courtney was 1938. This was claimed in the case of Attleborough, so I can confirm it. This 1938 peal was the only one this century until the recent one, although there were peals in 1895 and 1898. The 1938 peal at Childe Okeford was the first on the bells. Wootton also had peals in 1927 and 1928, but I confirm that it was the first of Minor on the bells. At Iwerne Courtney there were peals in 1922 and 1926. It will have been noticed that in all these towers peals have been infrequent through the years. Often, a long silence follows a period of great activity, but it has not been so this time.

MILESTONES

We then come to the "milestones" in a tower's history. There are not many of these to note this time, either. I confirm the claim of Isleworth to have had its 250th peal on February 11th. These peals have come in almost exactly 200 years. The College Youths appear to have rung the first peal there in 1768. Peals followed every now and then for the next 100 years so that the total was 14 by the time "Bell News" started its publication. Only one peal was rung in the 1880's, but since 1893 only two years have not seen at least one peal (disregarding the war years, of

course)—1927 and 1930. The total was 79 in 1914, 107 when the bells were augmented to 10 in 1931, 143 in 1939, and now, of course, 250. The most peals in a year (11) were rung in 1964. There were nine in 1966 and eight in both 1938 and 1954. There had been six in 1906 and 1908. Thus the record is very consistent during the last 80 years.

St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, had its 200th peal since "Bell News" started publication, on May 3rd, but its actual total is in the 270's. In a similar way Rotherham, Gravesend, and St. Peter's, Nottingham, have reached the 150 mark since 1881. All had earlier peals, so that I make their totals 170, 180 and 181 respectively. Saxlingham Nethergate did not have its first peal until 1901, so the 150 there have all been rung in this century. Sixty came before the First War, only 25 between the wars and 65 since 1945.

Seven towers reached their centuries in the first half of this year. They are Farnworth-with-Kearsley (January 22nd), Christ Church, Swindon (February 10th), North Muskham (also February 10th) Deeping St. Nicholas (February 27th), Frindsbury (March 25th), Long Eaton (April 29th) and Aldermaston (May 17th). The Swindon tower and Long Eaton had their first peals in 1884 and 1883 respectively, so both have taken about the same time to reach this goal. The former's peals have come fairly evenly over the period, but Long Eaton has taken 30 years for the final 13 to be rung—there were 87 at the end of 1937. That was the year in which I had my first curacy in that town (not in the parish where there were the bells!) I don't think my arrival had anything to do with the diminution in activity!

Farnworth and Aldermaston also had their first peals about the same time—1899 and 1900. Practically all the peals at the former have been rung since 1948 (more than 50 in the last five years). Eleven were rung from 1899 to 1904 and there were only three from that year to 1948—one in 1910 and two in 1923. Aldermaston's leanest period was between the wars. There were 39 from 1900 to 1914, 16 from 1921 to 1935, and the remainder from 1946. Frindsbury's first peal was in 1927, and the total was only 20 by the time of the Second World War. Again we have more than half of the 100 peals in the last five years. The final two towers deserve special mention, being six-bell towers. Both have been particularly active since the war. North Muskham's total was only ten in 1939, commencing in 1928, and Deeping's 28, commencing in 1909. By the way, the claim for the 100th peal at St. Peter's, Derby, is rather a long way out. This took place a year ago, on May 28th, and the total on July 12th, when the claim was made, is 108.

90 YEARS FOR 50 PEALS

I confirm the claims of two towers to have reached 50 peals. They are Beeston and Marple. The former had its first peal in 1877 so it has taken 90 years to ring the 50. The latter did not start until 1925. Other towers reaching this goal are Sharnbrook, East Peckham, Hallow, Dodderhill, Mistley, Gressenhall and Goldhanger. There is little to note about their history—all have the occasional peal and have taken 40 or more years to reach this milestone.

Finally, a few odd notes. I confirm that the peal of Stedman Triples at Dereham was the first in that method at the tower for 100 years—exactly so, in fact. The last one was on February 25th, 1867. Although I would not be certain, not having scrutinised the pages of "The Ringing World" for the purpose, I do not think it has been pointed out that the method C.C.C. 368 rung at Buckley on January 28th and called Abergele Imperial Bob Major had been previously rung at Burnham on July 11th, 1964, and was called Nashdom Imperial Bob Major.

THE RINGING WORLD

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

(Founded by J. S. Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.)

All communications for publication to:—
The Editor, "The Ringing World,"
c/o Seven Corners Press Ltd., Guildford,
Surrey. Tel. Guildford 60916.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	One copy	2 copies	3 copies	4 copies
3 months	12/-	—	—	—
6 months	£1/2/6	£2/3/0	£3/4/0	£4/4/0
12 months	£2/2/0	£4/0/0	£5/15/0	£7/7/0

Each additional copy over four, £1/11/6.
Overseas £2 7s.. Air Mail £5. per annum.

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

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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OUR PICTURE

BREDGAR'S HISTORIC BELLS RING OUT AGAIN

BY DAVID L. CAWLEY

ABOUT three miles west of the main A.2 trunk road at Sittingbourne and close to the great new motorway which carves its way through some of Kent's loveliest countryside lies the small but historic village of Bredgar. Long known to Kent ringers as having an unringable five, the tower of Bredgar Church has once more come to life with a splendidly restored and augmented ring of six from the Whitechapel Foundry.

The church at Bredgar is dedicated to St. John the Baptist and has a nave with aisles, chancel, south porch and western tower. The fabric as it stands at the present time dates in the main to the 14th century, with the exception of the porch, which is modern, and the lower portion of the western tower, which contains an excellent Norman doorway exhibiting dog-tooth mouldings.

Bredgar was named from the "Broad gore" or clearing in the woods which extensively covered this part of the county in early days, and it is believed, though without much evidence that a church of St. John stood here in Saxon days; in Norman times this probably wooden church was pulled down and a Norman building erected of which the base of the tower is a witness. Then in the great building century there was a great change; a college was founded, and the church was greatly rebuilt. This college, the buildings of which still stand near to the church was founded by one Robert de Bredgare in 1393, and its membership consisted of a chaplain and four scholars, two poor and two clerical.

It was about this time that a tower was built; almost certainly there were bells before this time, but we do know that right down to 1842 a mediæval bell hung in the tower of Bredgar Church. This bell was dedicated to St. John and was probably inscribed "Iohannes Criste care + Dignare pro nobis orare" — a common Kent inscription meaning "O John dear to Christ, deign to pray for us." The dedication was preserved by Mr. Fausset, the antiquary, who wrote in 1757 and 1758. There were probably other bells as well, but of these there is no record; indeed there is silence till the end of the 16th century.

WHITECHAPEL'S LONG INTEREST

In 1579 Robert Mot, of Whitechapel, cast or recast a bell for Bredgar Church and this bell is still in use; formerly the third, it is now the fifth of the augmented ring. There was a lot of bell work done by Mot in the county at about this time, and it is fitting that the Whitechapel Foundry should have preserved its connection with Bredgar when the restoration was accomplished.

The next bell work in the tower gives us a clue to the number of bells there may have been in mediæval times—either three or four. In 1620 John Wilnar, of Borden, a nearby village, cast or recast the then treble of the ring, and in 1634 he recast the third of what by now was definitely a ring of four, and which is now the tenor of the ring. To house these bells a new bell frame was installed in the tower having the four bells each swinging at right angles to her neighbour, with a central pit for letting them up and down. It was then a stout bell frame, and it lasted 300 years and more.

John Wilnar's frame was not destined to remain intact for long. In 1692 Thomas Alderslev, a local benefactor, gave a treble bell, and this was added to by James Bartlett, of Whitechapel—another link with this historic foundry. To accommodate this extra bell the bell which had been the second and was now the third was moved in its frame, and the end member at the head of its pit cut away and the old treble pit was enlarged to take two bells, thus converting a fairly robust four-bell frame into a rather weak one for five bells. Beyond a new headstock for the treble in 1776, no further work seems to have been done

to the bells. But we do know that there were ringers, and that they had a strict code of conduct, for on a board in the ringing room we read:—

"My Friendly ringers
I to you declare
You must pay one penny
Each oath you do swear:
To turn a bell over
It is the same fare.
To ring with your hats on
You must not dare.
MDCCLI"

16th CENTURY CLOCK (?)

By 1842 the tenor had become cracked; it is interesting to note that Mr. Fausset's note on this bell records that the clock struck on it. How old this clock was we do not know, but it was certainly there in 1757 and it was considered by Mr. R. Clouston to date from c. 1650. The bell was taken to Whitechapel, but whether it was recast or whether a discarded bell was substituted for it is a moot point, for the new bell, weighing 11 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb. and striking note F sharp, had on its waist four obliterated lines of inscription. The rest simply reads "Thomas Mears, Founder, London, 1842."

In 1902 the old clock was discarded and a new one, striking on bells 1, 3 and 5, was installed by Mr. C. E. Homewood, of Upton Court, as a thankoffering from him for the recovery and coronation of King Edward VII. A brass plate on the 18th century screen of the ringers' room records this. Further work was done on the bells in 1921, when the three largest received new timber headstocks of archaic design.

But inevitable dilapidation was setting in; the bells were becoming difficult to ring; the frame was working loose; the treble was loose on its headstock, and the stock of the second was badly split. In addition to this the bells were very far from being tonal, whether a major or minor ring of five and were deeply indented at the strike points. In 1951 they were declared unringable and though they were rung on one or two subsequent occasions they were largely silent, the tenor alone being sounded for services.

The story of the rebirth of Bredgar bells begins in 1960, when Mr. Ranald Clouston, of the Central Council for the Care of Churches, visited and reported on the bells at Bredgar. His report is a fascinating document, much drawn on for use in this article, and the upshot of it was that the bells were unringable and required rehanging in a new frame. In 1965 Messrs. Mears and Stainbank reported the same thing.

A RINGING VICAR

But in the intervening years things had been happening. First a fete held by Miss Hooker, one of the two arch-fund-raisers (the other being Mrs. Bowring), raised the first £100 in 1961. Then in 1963 the Rev. Stanley Evans became Vicar. A keen ringer, he first rose to the task of reheating and in part reroofing his church, and then to the job of rehanging his silent bells. It was decided in view of their tonal qualities to tune the four trebles to a major key, and to break the tenor up and cast two trebles from its metal. The heating was paid for by 1965, and in November of the same year the debt on the roof was cleared. The bells could now come first.

Of the money, £300 was most generously given by the Barron Bell Trust, and £30 by the Kent County Association. The total, including clock work, was some £2,250, of which £1,800 has already been collected by such devious means as a Festival of Saints, St. John the Baptist Fairs, coffee mornings and evenings, wine and cheese parties, an auction of antiques and a picture gallery with wine and fork lun-

cheon, not to mention the common or garden jumble sales, together with various legacies and a collection of £35 at the dedication. Donations will still be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Rev. Stanley Evans The Vicarage, Bredgar, Sittingbourne, Kent.

In April 1967, the bells were removed to Whitechapel and the old frame was taken down and placed in the churchyard. Meanwhile the young would-be ringers of Bredgar were receiving instruction from their Vicar, Terry Barton and others at nearby Tunstall. In August the bells were returned to the church and gleefully tried out by a number of local and invited ringers in the presence of Mr. Harry Parkes, bellhanger, who was much complimented on the excellent job.

THE GREAT DAY

And so to Bredgar's great day. On Saturday, September 16th, a large congregation of visitors and villagers crowded St. John's for the great moment when its bells would peal forth again. The service was that of Evensong, and after the third collect the choir and clergy filed down the church for the great event. The Rev. L. Wilkinson, the Rural Dean, solemnly dedicated the bells to be used only and ever to the glory of God and then with a great burst of joy the bells were raised in peal. A short touch of Bob Minor was rung and the choir returned to the singing of Stanford's setting of Psalm 150. The Rural Dean then preached, his theme being the bells as messengers. After the service there was general ringing till 8 p.m., and two bumper teas were laid on one for non-ringers and one for ringers, at the latter of which Mr. P. A. Corby, general secretary of the Kent County Association, thanked Stanley Evans and congratulated him on making this day possible.

THE BELLS

Treble (3 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in E): Alleluya Alleluya. We two trebles were cast from the old tenor. Thomas Mears 1842. Mear., 1967, London.

Second (4-0-27, D): Glory be to God on High. Stanley Munro Evans, Vicar. Francis Tooze, Eric Turville, Churchwardens. Mears, 1967, London.

Third (4-3-20, C): The Gift of Thomas Aldersley Gentleman, 1692. Iacobvs Bartlett me fecit.

Fourth (5-3-22, B): John Wilnar made me. 1620.

Fifth (7-1-22, A): Robert Mot made me. MDLXXIX.

Tenor (9-2-6, G): John Wilnar. 1634.

So Bredgar bells ring out today. They sound out and as they do they tell of the courage and devotion of Stanley Evans; of the skill and craftsmanship of their makers; of the zeal and enthusiasm of those who ring them; and they ring, as they were dedicated, always and only to the glory of God.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Litton Cheney church was tastefully decorated for Harvest Festival when the Dorchester Branch held a quarterly meeting there on October 7th. In the unavoidable absence of the Rector, the Guild service was conducted by the Branch chairman, the Rev. C. E. C. Brinkworth. Ringing on the eight bells took place during the afternoon and evening under the direction of the Ringing Master Mr. E. H. Amey. Tea was provided in the Church Hut by Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Fry and helpers, and the company of 25 included visitors from Wimborne and Swanage as well as ringers from seven towers in the Branch. Subject to confirmation, evening practices will be held at Charminster, November 4th; Preston, November 18th; St. Peter's, Dorchester, December 2nd; Upwey, December 16th; Abbotbury, December 30th; and Puddletown, January 27th. The next meeting (annual) will be held at Cattistock on January 13th.

West Countrymen in East Anglia

SIX cars and fourteen ringers converged on Wymondham on the afternoon of August 18th for ten days of East Anglian ringing and sightseeing. Most of the invaders hailed from the wilds of Somerset, but they were accompanied by friends from the more urban and civilised settlements of Bristol, Staines and Ipswich. We set the tone of the week that same evening by breaking the first rope of the tour in the first tower. We also encountered the round flint towers so characteristic of Norfolk, and marvelled that eight bells could be packed into so tight a circle.

Saturday dawned misty and wet, and remained so for the best part of the day, but this in no way spoiled our pleasure in ringing together. The towers visited included the three tens of Bury St. Edmunds, Soham and Mildenhall, and the standard of ringing, if not perfect, was satisfactory for so early in the tour and was to improve as the days went by.

SUNDAY IN NORWICH

Sunday was meant to be a leisurely day, with four Norwich towers on the programme. We all attended morning service, and if the form of service was not to everyone's taste at least it proved that in so catholic an organisation as the Church of England one must be prepared for almost anything. The rest of the day, in between ringing and eating, was spent in an exhausting but very rewarding stroll through the older parts of the city. The bells were enjoyed, but it was sad to see the neglected state of the interior of St. George's, Colegate, now without an incumbent. We were sorry that tower repairs prevented us from ringing at St. Peter Mancroft, with its noble twelve in a noble tower.

The Minor enthusiasts had a great time on Monday as we journeyed northwards to Cromer, and some fast ringing was heard, especially on the 2½ cwt. ring at Saxthorpe. Apart from the sixes, we had some good ringing at Aylsham, where we broke another rope, and on the eights at Marsham and Salle. Salle took some finding, and then took some ringing, as these bells have clearly seen better days. The church is huge, and is situated in a very rural area.

The view from the top of Boston Stump, and the remarkable sight of the leaning towers of the Fens, particularly Surfleet and Pinchbeck, were Tuesday's rewards for the longest drive of the tour.

Great Yarmouth was the high spot for Wednesday morning, and the grand twelve were immediately and unanimously selected as the best of the tour, an opinion unchanged by the end of the week, although we were not able to do full justice to the bells because of our lack of experience on that number.

A SOMERSET PEAL

A free afternoon had originally been planned for Wednesday, but the enthusiasts had insisted on the organiser including a peal in the programme. The result was an excellent peal of London on the pleasant eight at Pulham Market. This was a creditable performance as it was the first of London Major for seven of the band. Having consulted local opinion in the county, the conductor reluctantly decided that the peal could not be rung for the Norwich Association as he was the only member in the band, and it was therefore agreed to ring the peal for the visitors' home Association. The conductor was consoled by being able to pocket the peal booking fee—until the end of the year.

Three of those not in the peal, having "snatched" Pulham Market, calmly joined forces with another touring party that happened to be passing, and thereby acquired several extra towers.

At about this stage Wally and Roy Rice had the misfortune to have a broken spring on their car, and their notoriously early rising became even more noticeable. The labours were not in vain, and we were pleased to know that the patched-up spring lasted the rest of the week and got them safely home again.

Thursday's programme included three more tens, Beccles, where Dick gave an interview to the local newspaper reporter, Stradbroke, where Grandsire Caters was recorded for use during the impending Flower Festival, and the newly augmented ring at Wymondham Abbey. We also rang at Haddiscoe (a light five in a round tower), where the Vicar, formerly from Wells, Somerset, welcomed us in a novel way, with a flag fixed to the churchyard fence.

Wells-next-the-Sea was the focal point on Friday and here, too, we found that Wells, Somerset, had been heard of. Some of the best rings of eight of the week were encountered, including Wells, East Dereham, Fakenham and North Elmham.

KING'S LYNN TRAFFIC

Traffic was our biggest problem on Saturday, especially in reaching and departing from King's Lynn. We enjoyed the fine ten and the beautiful church, marred perhaps by some too modern touches in the porch below the tower. In an endeavour to avoid the traffic we took to the country lanes between Terrington St. Clement and Downham Market. As a bypass it was very successful, although George narrowly avoided getting his Cortina, complete with occupants, baled and harvested by a massive farm machine in a narrow road. For this episode he was severely berated by Hilda, and remained in a chastened mood for the rest of the day.

That evening, the last of the tour, we dined together in the hotel in Wymondham, and expressed our thanks to Edgar Skipsey, not forgetting his wife, for all the effort put into organising such a highly successful week's ringing holiday.

Our final score was 61 towers, three broken ropes and one broken clock hammer. The hammer, fortunately for us, was broken in the presence of the local captain and was not our fault. We had rung at almost every ringable tower in Norfolk with eight or more bells and at a selection of towers in neighbouring counties. The method tally included a successful plain course of Scientific Triples, though not at the first attempt, and touches of Duffield Major and Reverse Stedman, in addition to more conventional methods.

We were left with an impression of many large churches in isolated country areas, and a sad lack of local ringers in some parts of Norfolk. Nevertheless, all the towers we visited were in good ringing order, most of them in an excellent state. We were welcomed everywhere and often invited to return to ring a peal although in one tower we were told in no uncertain manner that applications for peals from outsiders would not be welcomed and would certainly be refused. As we didn't want the bells for a peal we weren't perturbed, though a little sorry that such an uncharitable attitude should exist.

Six of the party, not content with the end of the programme, were able, thanks to the willing co-operation of Mr. Jock Boast, to sample the newly restored ring of six at South Lopham and the eight at North Lopham for morning service, before setting out on the long journey home in time for evening ringing in their home towers.

G. W. M.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES SUMMER TOUR

THIS year's summer tour of the University of Wales Society was mainly in Warwickshire and started from Kenilworth on August 30th. It was a disappointment when we assembled at St. Nicholas' Church (6) to learn that the Master was unable to join us.

Most days we had a different Master, starting on Thursday with Henry Hatfield. At Exhall the Vicar met us and told us about the work of the Salvation Army in Wales. Nigel Gowther joined us for the day at his home tower, Bulkington, where some good Cambridge Major was rung. The beautiful tone of Chilvers Coton's ten bells was not lost to the band, many of whom found the striking difficult.

LICENSING PERPLEXITY

On Friday Peter Smith was Master and, at Willoughby, Netherseale Surprise Minor was rung before lunch. Thirsty members of the party were shocked at the licensing hours in Northants—2 p.m. instead of 2.30 being the lunch-time closing time. One landlord was really annoyed when the third carload hammered on his door. Undoubtedly the ringing event of the day was on the really excellent ten at Daventry, where with local help Stedman Caters and Plain Bob Royal were rung.

Barry Couzens took the Mastership on Saturday. The first tower of note was St. Nicholas, Warwick, followed by the light eight at Barston, where Norwich Surprise Major was rung kneeling by one tall ringer. At Packwood, handbells were rung outside while the local band rang for a wedding, and later John Wilson managed to break an already cracked stay. Henley-in-Arden will be remembered by some for its delicious ice cream. Will the ringing here go to posterity? It was being taped by the natives!

At Wootton Wawen we successfully climbed one of Britain's oldest staircases without incident to find some good bells. The ten at Stratford-on-Avon rivalled those at Daventry, although the ringing did not reach the same standard due to the depletion of the band. Service ringing on Sunday was at Solihull and St. Mary's, Warwick.

The final day started at Leamington Spa (a beautiful eight). Hereward was managed at Harbury (6), although London would not go; these were some of the best bells of the tour. The final tower was at St. Margaret's, Whitnash (a lovely six), where a plain course of Killamarsh was well struck. Thanks are due to all incumbents and to Paul Reading for so ably organising the tour.

D. W.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Vicar Elected a Member

A pleasant meeting was held by the Northern Branch at Wroxham on October 7th, when over 50 members sat down to a delicious tea which was very kindly given by Mrs. A. F. Boyce and members of the Wroxham band.

The Vicar, the Rev. P. C. Nicholson, conducted the service and the lesson was read by Mr. F. N. Golden.

The Rev. P. C. Nicholson, Miss G. Blythin, Mr. R. Gorbould (of Wroxham) and Mr. W. Borrows (of St. Faith's) were elected ringing members, Messrs. P. Elliott, P. Thompson, M. Goodley and Miss A. Dickerson (of Wroxham) were elected probationary members.

Ringing on the six bells before and after the meeting was under the leadership of the Branch Ringing Master (Mr. M. Cubitt) and consisted of many methods, ranging from rounds to London Surprise, also Spliced Doubles and Minor methods.

The chairman (Mr. G. Sayer) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, Mr. D. Bird for playing the organ, Mrs. Boyce and her husband, Mrs. Dickerson, and the local ringers for supplying and serving the teas.

C. B.

PEALS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS
Prices.—Peals: Set of 12 for 16s.; 18 for 22s.; 24 for 26s. Quarter Peals: 12 for 15s. and 3d. for each additional card.—"The Ringing World", Onslow Street, Guildford.

HANDBELL TUNE RINGERS FORM OWN GUILD

Second Annual Rally

MR. JOHN P. PARTINGTON and his young assistants are to be congratulated on the excellent arrangements on the occasion of the second annual Handbell Tune Ringers' Rally, which was held on October 7th at the Grammar School, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire. Nineteen bands with 914 handbells were present and, together with ringers and friends, there were close on 350 people present.

The proceedings were opened by a short address from the Head of the school, who welcomed everyone and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many enthusiastic music makers, many of whom had made an early start to the day and had travelled long distances to be present. Although not a ringer himself, some of his staff and scholars were, and he admired the enthusiasm and fellowship which they had between them. He also pointed out to those from far afield that, although the school was situated only six miles from Manchester, yet it was not raining!

57 PERFORMANCES

Ashton-under-Lyne Grammar School girls commenced the ringing session with a most appropriate piece, seeing that they were on their home ground, "Home, Sweet Home," after which each band played in alphabetical order of name throughout, until, after an interval for tea, every band had played three tunes each, a total of 57 performances in all. Space will not allow me to comment on every one, but among others I thought that "Rosamunde," Ashton and District Ringers; "Cradle Song" (Brahms), Ashover; "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean," Hunshelf; "Silver Moonbeams," Ealing; and "Norwegian Dance" (Grieg), Ecclesfield Grammar School Ringers, were quite outstanding, and I particularly enjoyed the "Euturpe Mazurka," delightfully rendered by Norbury Ringers on their tuneful bells, which are just back from renovation at the Whitechapel Foundry. "Nymphs and Shepherds" by the Kingsbury, Warwickshire band was very nicely played and, in contrast, a modern setting to the hymn "At the Name of Jesus" was rendered with feeling and delicacy by the Higher Walton Ringers, under the leadership of Mr. Walter Mansley.

FROM FURNESS

There were more than a few gentlemen present, who at one time or another had a "Rendezvous" with "She's a Lassie from Lancashire," both these two items being well played by the Charnwood Ringers from Leicestershire, and very appropriately, too! Although they have only a small set of twelve bells, Mr. N. Newby and the Kirkby-in-Furness Ringers distinguished themselves by a pleasing rendering of "My Grandfather's Clock," while St. Thomas's, Moorside, Ringers, who were handicapped by not being able to field a full team owing to business commitments, managed a most creditable performance of the ever popular "Bluebells of Scotland," with suitable variations.

The young men from Sileby, Leicestershire, gave us a very vigorous rendering of the Gallop from "Orpheus in the Underworld," followed by contrast with "Bells of St. Mary's" rung by the Stokesay Ringers from Salop, and which was most effective.

These doughty strikers from Thurstone, Yorkshire, played next a very spirited march

tune—"Under Freedom's Flag," with effortless timing and precision, and I shall long remember the look of determined concentration on the face of their youngest member, Master Briggs, who struck his bells with accuracy and good timing throughout this none too easy piece. Well done, young man!

The Ordsall Ringers from Retford, Notts, chose William Gordon's lovely arrangement of "Home, Sweet Home," which they played in most effective style, and later on the Warburton W.L. Ringers from Cheshire caused some amusement with their arrangement of "Pilgrims of the Night" (never mind, ladies, we know just how it is, we have all been in the same predicament at some time or another!), and a band of three young men who chose not to give any name as a team, but who I can best describe as the Three Wise Men from the East, gave an exceptionally fine rendering of "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," which amazed everyone, especially so as it was played "four in hand," in harmony and strict tempo, and entirely without any music at all!

SET OF 162 BELLS

By a show of hands, Ecclesfield Ringers were requested to let us have their arrangement of the tango "Tonight," which was much appreciated, but the most outstanding by far of all the excellent and complicated arrangements played on this day was the same band's rendering of the overture "Caliph of Bagdad" (Boieldieu). Played with superb timing and rhythm on their wonderful set of 162 bells, the ten ringers excelled themselves, and the long and thunderous applause which followed showed how much their efforts were appreciated by the large audience present.

Silverdale, Lancashire, Ringers had intended to be present, but owing to illness it was impossible for them all to come over. However, four members of their band attended and they took back with them the good wishes of their

many friends, who hope that all the invalids will soon be restored to good health again.

Following the tea interval a short discussion was held, at which it was decided to form a Handbell Ringers' Guild. Details of this can be obtained in due course from the secretary, Mr. J. P. Partington, 56, Clay Lane, Rochdale, Lancs. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply, or telephone Rochdale 43534. It was stressed at this meeting that the objects of the Guild are not to promote any competitive spirit among members and others, but rather to foster the exchange of ideas and experience between the various bands and individuals, in an atmosphere of helpfulness and friendship. The yearly subscription for a band of any number of ringers is 10s., but individuals who are interested can join also for a fee of 2s. 6d.

Ecclesfield and Thurstone Ringers jointly offered to hold the next rally at Ecclesfield, Sheffield, Yorkshire, in October, 1968; the exact date has yet to be fixed, but notification of this will be published in "The Ringing World" nearer the time.

It was a happy thought to make arrangements for Mr. James Taylor, of Rochdale, to attend. Jim, who at one time had his own band of schoolchildren tune ringers, is now only able to get about with great difficulty and has been incapacitated in hospital for almost two years past. He had to leave before the close but he did not go without the handshakes and good wishes of all who knew him there. We sincerely hope that he will be fit enough to attend the 1968 rally.

At the close, as we made our way in the darkness towards our parked vehicles a broad North Country voice was heard to exclaim, "By gum! It's been a right good do. Ah wouldn't ha' missed it for twenty pahn! Ah wouldn't!" and, I thought, you're not the only one either, my lad!

THOMAS OGDEN.

HERTS ASSOCIATION

Northern District Quarterly Meeting

The unfortunate lack of a clapper and wheel on the tenor at Baldock necessitated a change of venue for the October 7th meeting to Ashwell. This is the second change for this reason this year.

Ashwell Church, which is impressive from a distance, proved to be in a poor state of repair, with cautionary notices warning of the dangers of falling masonry. The six bells proved no better than the tower and several people were unable to pull off the tenor. In spite of this, methods rung ranged from round to London and Norwich Surprise.

The ringing was broken up by the statutory quarterly business meeting at which we were to elect a new District secretary and "Ringing World" representative. Although the latter (Mr. M. R. Worthington) was found at the second nomination, there was difficulty in finding a new District secretary. This was probably because we knew that Michael Orme, although no longer in the District, was prepared to continue his work until the District annual general meeting. At the termination of the business meeting we had decided to visit Pirton (5) and Royston (8) for our next meetings. We still had no new secretary, however—"a poor reflection on the District," said Mr. A. R. Agg, our chairman for the evening. Ringing continued until 8.30.

M. R. W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Tonbridge District

Members and friends who arrived early at the pleasant village of Chiddingstone for the annual District meeting had the pleasure of joining the local company in ringing for a wedding. Further ringing of a good standard continued until 4.30, when the Rector, the Rev. J. R. S. Elkington, conducted the ringers' service and expressed his pleasure in our visit to his church.

A most generous and delightful tea, prepared by Mrs. Everest and Mrs. Gribble and served by members of the band, was much appreciated.

Mr. E. A. Barnett conducted the meeting, at which seven new junior members were elected. Mr. R. W. H. Hayes was elected as District secretary and Mr. G. Fry as Ringing Master. The two District representatives, Miss D. E. Colgate and Mr. L. T. F. Pope, were re-elected. Mr. W. H. Dobbie was elected as "Ringing World" correspondent.

Among other business of a routine nature, the dates for the four quarterly meetings were fixed. January 6th, April 6th, June 1st and October 5th (A.D.M.).

Mr. P. A. Corby expressed the thanks of members to all who contributed to the success of the meeting.

Further ringing at Chiddingstone Church was enjoyed after the meeting and the bells of Hever Church were also available. W. H. D.

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Letters to the Editor

CATHEDRAL SERVICES

Dear Sir,—I was glad to read James A. Burton's letter in "The Ringing World" of Oct. 13th, as this gives me an opportunity to say a word about such services as that at Durham Cathedral on September 23rd.

The daily sung services in our cathedrals form by far the oldest continuous feature of the life of England. The Psalms have been sung daily in the world during 3,000 years, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis daily during 1,900 years and services recognisably like that at Durham have been sung there every day (except for interruptions such as the Commonwealth) since 997—at Canterbury, God's praise has been sung each day (with similar brief interruptions) since 597! Reformation changes in the daily services were superficial; the same thoughts continued to be expressed but in English instead of Latin, and they were expressed by the same singers.

On many special occasions in cathedrals a "simple service" is arranged, with nothing sung but hymns, with no choir and all singing everything. Advantages of this are obvious.

There are also advantages in sometimes sharing the daily tradition. This is particularly suitable where ringers are concerned, for the ringing tradition is parallel with the singing tradition. Simple ringing and singing in mediaeval days blossomed forth into exciting developments 400 years ago, in both tower and choir stalls. Each blossoming meant a more interesting, difficult and therefore worthwhile development, for mind and body—in the tower that of changes, composing, conducting, and in the choir stalls that of participating.

Development of any art can lead to irritation on the part of those who cannot share in it. "Settings unknown to anyone but themselves," as Mr. Burton says, are paralleled by methods, compositions, etc., imposed by us on the neighbourhood and unknown to anyone but those who share our art. Mr. Burton doesn't like "settings." Some neighbours don't like ringing. Many don't understand and therefore don't like modern art... and so forth. But the more we learn to appreciate others' activities, the richer our own lives become. Some of us often find ourselves trying to get both "anti-ringers" and "anti-singers" to see this.

In a civilised community many interests are pursued at the same time. When they compete, chaos can ensue. When they co-operate, the life of the whole community is enriched. As I said at Durham, "It is fitting that this service be held there, because a great cathedral is a profoundly moving demonstration of the unity of all life under God. Here the arts and sciences, learning, music, ringing, many interests, historic and contemporary, unite under God, from Whom all good comes, and in Whom men find fulfilment. Without God's unifying power, human activity often collapses in chaos, as today's secular world so clearly proves."—Yours sincerely,

GILBERT THURLOW.
President of the Central Council.

LEATHERHEAD OR KEGWORTH SURPRISE ROYAL?

Dear Sir,—If the method rung at Daventry on September 15th was rung with a 2nds place lead-end, the proper name for it is Leatherhead Surprise Royal, otherwise the name of Kegworth may stand. Perhaps the lead-end place could be confirmed.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. MAYNE.

St. Albans.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Dear Sir.—Mr. George F. Roome's wish for good public relations regarding church bells and ringing is an admirable sentiment, but his assertion that the Central Council has done little to improve public relations shows that he is unfamiliar with the activities of the Council over the last decade or so.

Indeed, in a quiet way, a great deal has been done by the Council's officers and some of its committees and by "The Ringing World" for public relations, directly or indirectly.

It is by activities that good public relations are secured and maintained, rather than by paper propaganda, and the local ringers and parochial organisations are in the most advantageous position to do this.

However the Sunday Service Committee did produce a "Recruiting Leaflet" written by our president and this includes most of the points which Mr. Roome mentions, viz. why the bells ring, how they are hung and rung, and times of Sunday and weekday ringing. These are available from the Council's librarian at five for one shilling (see "Ringing World" back page). They will go a long way towards meeting Mr. Roome's immediate wishes.—Yours faithfully,

N. CHADDOCK, Convener,
Sunday Service Ringing and Education
Committee,
Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH

Dear Sir,—It is with great pleasure that we make the announcement that the Vicar and Parochial Church Council have agreed to a major scheme to overhaul the famous ring of 12 bells at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. The proposed restoration, costing some £2,000, includes rehanging the bells with new fittings by Messrs. John Taylor, of Loughborough, and an installation to modify the considerable volume of sound in the immediate vicinity of the tower. In addition, if the response to this appeal is sufficiently successful, it is intended to install a sharp second to give a light ring of eight with a tenor of approximately 10 cwt.

Ringers have always been generous in support of Shoreditch bells. In 1807 the Cumberlands provided two new trebles to make a ring of 12, and in 1913, when the bells were last restored by Messrs. John Warner, the ringers raised a substantial proportion of the cost.

The Vicar is most keen to have the bells rung and to have them in good order. The parish is not a wealthy one and we hope to raise as much as possible to assist them in this venture. The commitments of the parish in restoring the fabric of the church are likely to be of the order of £20,000, and it is hoped that Cumberlands, in particular, will contribute generously towards the ring of bells, around which so much of their Society's history is written. In addition, many people will have rung at St. Leonard's at joint meetings and the like, and it is hoped that they, too, will feel moved to contribute.

As a means of raising funds, a Christmas card featuring an old print of Shoreditch Church has been produced and is readily available at the very modest price of 7d. each, including postage and packing.

Donations and orders for the Christmas cards should be sent to: D. E. Sibson, 15, Garden Royal, Kersfield Road, London, S.W.15.—Yours faithfully,

DENNIS BERESFORD.
DEREK E. SIBSON.
London.

PIGEON MENACE

Dear Sir,—The following remedy is effective against pigeons, at the cost of shillings rather than pounds.

Obtain some secondhand fishing net from a coastal town or village. Drape this on the most affected part of the fabric for a month or so. The pigeons are frightened by contact with the net and in a few days will desert the building. The net may then be removed for a period of a year or so, when the birds will gradually return. The process should then be repeated.

If the net is stretched taut and fastened at its upper and lower extremities it is hardly visible.

My own experience tells me that the above treatment is effective, if permitted.

It is believed that pigeons have been eliminated in some Continental regions by feeding them on food containing a hormone which renders the birds infertile.—Yours faithfully,

N. CHADDOCK.

Hutton Cranswick, East Yorks.

Dear Sir—Unfortunately most methods entail expense. The most obvious, also useful for sound control is to fit movable louvres on the Venetian blind system, worked by a lever from the ringing chamber. Then the louvres can be closed, opened down or, in fine weather, opened upwards.

Cheaper, and on the same lines, block up the windows inside leaving only the top louvres to be dealt with in the above fashion. That might pacify the bird fanciers on the P.C.C. by still allowing the pigeons room to nest.

Other than that (I've used this one) say nothing to anyone! but cut some short lengths of wire netting the width of the louvres. Double them and push them down into and between the louvres, nearly to the bottom, with a thick board. This will keep the pigeons out and no one will know!

C. F. JERRAM (Lt.-Col.)
Helston, Cornwall.

LONG SUTTON BELLS

Dear Sir,—May I say how honoured we in Long Sutton feel at having our tower on the cover of "The Ringing World."

Since the information for the "write-up" was sent to our general secretary some new facts have come to light concerning the origins of the 2nd and 3rd of the present ring of six. This has been due to a visit from the Rev. J. G. M. Scott while doing "locum" at Harding-ton Mandeville.

The third bell, dating from about 1500, is much more likely to be a product of the Bristol Foundry rather than that at Exeter. The second, previously imagined by all to date from 1816 is, in fact, a seventeenth century bell dated 1618. The unknown, illiterate seventeenth century founder had reproduced the inscription not only somewhat inaccurately but also backwards. It has been thanks to John Scott's expert eye that these facts have emerged.

If I had been "on the ball" I should have sent the new information to Mr. John Gilbert before the article was due to appear in this journal. My apologies to him for not having done so.—Yours faithfully,

CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL (Rev.).
Long Sutton Vicarage.

BELL ROPES

JOHN NICOLL

SEE BACK PAGE

LETTERS—Continued

VISITORS AND STEEPLEGE

Dear Sir,—It is a custom at meetings of the Guild of which I am a resident member to pass round a box at the tea-table for contributions to the Belfry Repair Fund from members and visitors. During the time this practice has been in operation we have had many visitors and none have ever declined to contribute, and would never dream of excusing themselves from doing so on the ground that they were not members. After all, the pleasure they have derived from the afternoon's ringing would be worth far more to them than the amount they put in the box.

We also have a rule that any avoidable damage that occurs to bells at a ringing meeting of the Guild shall be made good at the expense of the Guild. It is freely admitted by one of your correspondents that the London County Association does not collect annual subscriptions from its members. Therefore, would someone in the know be so good as to tell me where the money, apart from steepplege fees, comes from to cover the cost of any stays broken at a meeting. If any of your correspondents try to tell me that it grows on trees, let me say here and now that I shall refuse to believe them.

I have attended many hundreds of ringing meetings in different parts of the country over the years, and as a visitor who manages to find a welcome wherever he goes, I find it a pleasure to contribute in some small way to the funds of the Guilds and Associations whose meetings I have attended and from which I have derived so much enjoyment. To go to a meeting as a visitor with the idea at the back of your mind that you are there to enjoy all the privileges and have no duty towards your hosts, moral, financial or otherwise, is, to my mind, contemptible to say the least.

Years ago I used to work with a Scotsman in a factory. One of our mates made the mistake one day of trying to take the rise out of Jock by harping on the traditional meanness of men of the Scottish race. Jock had his answer ready: "There are Scotsmen in this factory," he said, "who have never been north of the Border, and Jews whose ancestors were never in Palestine." No further comment. — Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM A. STOTE.

Coventry

P.A.Y.R.

(Pay as You Ring)

Dear Sir,—Ringers who object to paying a small fee at meetings should remember that these meetings could not take place without being advertised, and this must be paid for; so they are getting what they want (presumably) and paying for what they get. Nothing could be fairer than that; unless we adopted a system of P.A.Y.R. (Pay as You Ring), in which collectors went round after every touch collecting from everyone who had taken part.

For many years now many Associations have been charging booking fees for peals. Arranging and ringing these peals cost the Associations nothing whatever. But ringers are too conservative, and there are always some who want to ring their peals "for" particular Associations. And although the peals are all reported in full detail in "The Ringing World" they must all be reprinted in annual reports and/or copied into peal books; and we are required to pay for every peal we ring, though the total fees thus collected save other members only a negligible amount (in my own territorial Association about 7½d. each in an average year). There must be many like myself who

could not care less about having our peals reprinted and copied out, but cannot opt out, and, short of giving up peal ringing altogether, must go on paying for a service we simply do not want.

So I would say, either drop peal fees altogether, and this ridiculous custom of sending round small postal orders (to the gain of none but the Post Office), or let us go the whole way and clap on fees for attendance at meetings and cut the annual subscription still further. In my Association the cost of advertising meetings comes to just about what the peal fees bring in, so we could save another 7½d. all round. How splendid!—Yours sincerely,

C. W. WOOLLEY.

Bushey Heath.

P.S.—I am a member of the London County Association and wish them well so I offer this suggestion—put the 6d. fee on to the price of the tea, then nobody will notice it.—C. W. W.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND STEEPLEGE

Dear Sir,—Over 40 years ago I was one of the first two assistant secretaries to be appointed by the London County Association. Occasionally it became my task to collect steepplege at county meetings, a most irksome job. I was never brusque and had no need to be. I was always received with courtesy by both members and non-members. Meetings were always most friendly. Many young semi-advanced people in the art attended, and were always made very welcome. The County did the spade work.

To suggest, as Gillian A. Leale and others have done, that steepplege was introduced to keep away non-members is downright trash and a grave injustice against the London County Association under its most genial Master, Harold Rogers. If all this kindly atmosphere has changed then maybe the rising generation is somewhat to blame.

It would indeed be appreciated if the above mentioned lady had had the courage to name the target at which she is aiming. As Christopher Dalton has so rightly stated, the county's main source of income is from steepplege and admission of new members' fees.

If this lady has forgotten, the London County Association was formed over a century ago to enable the two main societies to meet and ring together on the friendliest of terms.

This question of steepplege has come up before. Now Gillian comes up with an idea so this vexed question can be dealt with and the Association receive an income without introducing an annual subscription.—Yours, etc.,

R. NEWMAN.

Romford (late Holloway).

PEALS, 1965 AND 1966

Dear Sir,—Whilst much enjoying Canon Felstead's articles on peals, there are one or two observations I would like to make.

The list of first peals on the bells for 1965 should include Scote, Norfolk. This is a new six and had its first peal (Plain Bob Minor) on July 12th, 1965.

As I have already pointed out to Canon Felstead owing to an unfortunate error in reporting, his total for Bunwell was one more than had been rung there. In fact Bunwell reached its century on April 12th, 1967.

Also I would like to point out a peal in eight Minor methods was rung at Bunwell on March 21st, 1954, and one in 14 Minor methods on December 28th, 1955.

Hoping this may enable any records to be corrected.—Yours faithfully,

C. F. W. PHILLIPPO.

Bunwell, Norfolk

OBITUARY

MR. HENRY PARKER

With the passing of Mr. Henry (Harry) Parker on October 9th the Northwich Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild has lost its most outstanding ringer and there is no doubt his influence will be greatly missed.

Harry took up ringing in the early 1920's, up to which time the Northwich Branch had ringers capable only of mostly Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. He was, I believe, the first Northwich Branch ringer to break the Surprise methods barrier and the more advanced methods, and quite a number of the Northwich Branch ringers owe their present standard to his guidance. He must have rung over 300 peals, a large number of which he conducted.

A former hon. secretary and chairman of the Branch he gave yeoman support over a great many years to all Branch meetings and Branch activities.

The funeral was at Witton on October 13th, when the eight bells were rung half-muffled, including the whole pull and stand, by members of the Northwich Branch.

Our sympathy is extended to his widow and son, Kenneth, in their sad bereavement.

R. W. W.

MRS. L. STILWELL

The sympathy of his many ringing friends will be extended to Mr. Len Stilwell in the loss he has experienced by the death of his wife, Sophie Ellen (Tim) at Southlands Hospital, Shoreham, Sussex, on October 9th.

Mr. and Mrs. Stilwell had spent 43 years of happy life together. She did a little ringing at the end of World War I at Windsor and was proud of the fact that she rang the tenor when eight ladies rang a few rounds on the heavy bells at the Castle.

The last time she rang was for Peace at the conclusion of World War II at Pulborough. She was known to a large number of ringers, who were always made welcome at her home.

AIRMAN'S UNHAPPY EXPERIENCE

Dear Sir,—I found Mrs. Lawrence's letter about steepplege very interesting, especially her theory about discouragement to non-members.

I attended a meeting of an Association earlier this year. The total of my ringing activities that day were half a course of Cambridge Major when they had not enough ringers to ring anything else at the 12-bell tower and three leads of Kent at the 10-bell tower. Other pastimes consisted mainly of being turned off bells because of not being a member, and being insulted grossly on the two occasions when I did manage to get a ring. (I won't bore anyone with details.)

I would now hasten to add two things:—

(i) The younger ringers were most friendly and sympathetic; it was only the well-established hierarchy, who should know better, who were offensive.

(ii) Two of these main offenders were most cordial when I met them at another London tower recently on a tour.

From these facts I can only deduce this—that the officers of this Association like their meetings to be for members and members only.—Yours faithfully,

PETER S. ABBOTT.

R.A.F., Bampton.

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Wilfred Williams' North-West Peal Tour

ANY presentation of Lancashire as a place of soot and mills and Coronation Streets is a travesty. Those who came on Wilfred's ten-day tour this year, and who did not already know the area, were able to see for themselves that Lancashire has plenty of delightful, attractive scenery in common with the other counties we touched on (Cheshire, Westmorland and Yorkshire). There are also many other good things as well, not least being the bells, of which Lancashire has a large number of very fine rings.

The main body of the party assembled for "higher service" at Knutsford on August 18th from all parts of England. With us was that entertaining "tenor king" who gives the impression that he cherishes the illusion that he is the "greatest." Whether this week did anything to dispel that illusion or not, at least it dispelled another one, which he maintained to the "bitter" end. So much for the moment for "Worthington E. Cannon."

17 OUT OF 21 ATTEMPTS

On Saturday morning the first peal was scored—Bristol—on the grand eight at Bowdon. This was the first of 17 successful attempts out of a total of 21 during the week. Without undue boasting we can fairly claim that the general standard of ringing throughout the tour was good and on occasions outstandingly so. We were then joined by the South Wales and Gloucester contingent and proceeded to ring a peal of Cambridge Royal on the fine Gillett and Johnston ten at Manchester Cathedral. The Cathedral has recently been cleaned after many years of blackness and the transformation well repays the vast sum that must have been spent. Perhaps a little more might have been spent in reducing the noise of the bells, which rap out like cannon-fire outside. We could not, however, blame the "greatest" for this, although he has made his mark around here—there is a sort of back-end alley opposite the Cathedral called Cannon Court.

During the week we came across a number of rings like that at Manchester Cathedral, where the bells are very noisy indeed immediately outside the tower, and a number of us felt that more education on the subject of noise control (perhaps by the Central Council) is an urgent need.

On Sunday we were made welcome at service ringing by the local band at Burnley Parish Church, which was conveniently situated opposite the Sparrow Hawk Hotel, where we made our headquarters for the greater part of the week. It was extremely pleasant to see such a large congregation at morning service. In the afternoon we broke new ground by ringing a peal of Bristol Royal at Preston. This was a joint birthday peal for Wilfred and Maryl, actually a day early as Maryl could not be with us for a peal on Monday.

THE WOODHOUSE MACHINE

After ringing for evening service at Preston we were all entertained by John and Maryl before descending on Maryl's parents for a demonstration of the Woodhouse ringing machine. Most of the party had never seen this remarkable machine and Cyril demonstrated its full capabilities and also showed us the complete blue line to a peal of 4-Spliced Surprise Major that he has rung on the machine. We soon had it going to Bristol and Double Norwich (the best Pat had ever heard) although in our inexperienced hands it produced some remarkable odd variations that will probably never be heard again.

A good peal of London was rung on the glorious eight at Whalley on Monday morning, while the remainder of the party lost a peal of Stedman Triples due to a broken rope on the tuneless eight at Oswaldtwistle. We then made our way to Lancaster, where we were staying for the next two nights. Most of the party made the journey to Lancaster by way of the Trough of Bowland and experienced what delightful countryside there is in this part of the country.

In the afternoon a peal was rung at the Priory at Lancaster, where there is a majestic

heavy ring of eight. On arrival at the tower we found that we could have done with the services of Bill Theobald, who was unfortunately not able to be with us this year due to illness. After splicing seven ropes, putting pulley blocks in order and a great deal of oiling we succeeded in ringing a reasonable peal of Rutland.

85 AND STILL GOING STRONG

In the evening we were joined for a few hours by Lester Gray and a number of friends who had made the journey from Liverpool. It was grand to see Lester looking so fit and well and we all wished him well for his 85th birthday, which he was to celebrate a week or so later. We were also joined by John and Maryl, and the joint birthday of Wilfred and Maryl, which has become a feature of recent tours, was again celebrated with due ceremony.

On Tuesday morning we made the long journey to Dalton-in-Furness through the lovely countryside that borders on the Lake District, and a good peal of London Royal was rung on the musical ring of ten. Stan Mason was as usual making recordings of most of the tour and one of the most enjoyable features of the holiday was being able to listen to a bit of the Lancaster peal, a bit of Whalley and a bit of Dalton and so on as we went along in the cars. Another enjoyable journey then followed, when we travelled to Kendal and en route went along the banks of Lake Windermere. Cambridge Royal was the method for Kendal and quite a reasonable peal was rung despite the distraction of the bells being so loud inside the tower. An excellent meal in the Steak House at Kendal, which can be fully recommended, brought a most enjoyable day to a close.

London was rung at Hornby the following morning despite the fact that a number of the band misunderstood the conductor's instructions. Then another most enjoyable journey back through the Trough of Bowland to Blackburn, where our next peal attempt was to be that evening. Whether or not it was due to a late start, Spliced London and Cambridge Royal would not go on the excellent ten at the Cathedral, and due to the late time of starting we were not able to begin again.

CLAPPER BREAKS

Thursday saw us at the seaside at Southport and attempting to ring a peal of Bristol at Emmanuel Church. The bells here go well, sound well and are sufficiently boarded up to cause no annoyance in the residential area in which the church is situated. Everything about them is grand, but after ringing for about three-quarters of an hour the tenor clapper broke off at the yoke and ended what would have been an enjoyable three hours.

In the afternoon we again had two peal attempts. The first at Ormskirk, which has one of the few churches in England with a tower and a spire. A stately peal of Bristol to a delightful composition by Nolan Golden which parts the tenors was rung, with Ruth Border coming out of retirement to show that she has not forgotten what it's all about.

At the same time eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a very good peal of Stedman Triples at Christ Church, Aughton. Leslie Barry took time off from his other activities to join us in this peal. Leslie was not having such a successful tour this year as his number of new towers was far ahead of his new breweries! A short ring on the little six at St. Michael's, Aughton, in the evening, helped to keep trade going in the very popular little "local."

Friday was a day to remember. Ten of us went for Pudsey Royal at Marsden. Giles rang the third, the same bell as he rang three years ago when, having insulted his Yorkshire tail-end, the rope broke with three leads of the peal (Pudsey Royal) to ring and some very unclerical words were uttered. This time we did succeed in ringing the peal, but not without incident. Someone tried to stop us, but being unable to communicate other

than by various "noises off" and a skilfully pitched tennis ball through a window, they failed to make us realise that there was a very good reason why the bells should not be ringing at that time. However, the peal was rung and all explained satisfactorily, and we hope that the quality of our ringing on this lovely ten made some amends.

Later in the day we rang Pitman's four all-the-work on the near perfect eight at Heptonstall, while the remainder of the party drank numerous cups of tea in the little cafe and listened to the Test match.

A PEAL THAT WAS EARNED

The second Saturday was a big day. Two peals were scheduled for the morning, London was successfully rung at Hyde, but unfortunately 6-spliced was lost at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, after a couple of hours' ringing. In the afternoon we went to the Town Hall in Manchester for a peal of Stedman Cinques. There is no doubt that the majestic bells make a wonderful sound, but there is also no doubt that some of the back bells require a lot of ringing. We "earned" the peal, but we were not entirely satisfied that we could not have done better. However, when we listened to the tape recording of the peal from outside it was quite reasonable Stedman Cinques indeed, and the comments from the outside listeners were quite favourable.

In the evening we relaxed in the City Arms next to the Town Hall. By prior arrangement we had all decided that this was to be "Let's be nice to Cannon day," a very laudable aim, which ended in an unrehearsed comedy. Those who are interested should apply to Stan Mason, who has a tape which records the conversation. It was very entertaining the next morning when Pat heard what he had said.

On Sunday morning we again rang for service at Burnley Parish Church and in the afternoon we rang a peal of 6-spliced on the fine Gillett and Johnston eight at Heywood. In the evening we went to Ashton-under-Lyne Parish Church, where we joined the local band, and a half-course of Cambridge Maximus was rung prior to the service. The local ringers were, as usual, extremely friendly.

BANK HOLIDAY REFLECTION

Bank Holiday Monday was our last day. Wigan Parish Church possesses a beautiful ring of ten, and we rang a very good peal of Cambridge Royal at a lovely, steady pace. Peals at Wigan are usually only allowed on Bank Holidays as the bells are extremely loud outside. By contrast St. Helens ten bells are not so beautiful, certainly not inside, where they seem to bang rather than ring. Yorkshire Royal was rung in brisk time to an unusual composition by Peter Border.

Following the peal one of our writers departed for the North-East so rapidly that he forgot to do his slow work in Bury. Police radar traps are designed to suppress ringers who go in quick when they shouldn't. That certainly was the case this time.

We have left until last the most important thing we want to say, which is a thank you to Maryl, who did most of the organising of the bells for us. We presented her with a small token of our appreciation in Manchester. Many others could be mentioned—clergy, local ringers, vergers and others who helped to make the tour both possible and enjoyable but we will only mention Wilfred himself. Thank you, Wilfred, for yet another masterly piece of organisation and planning. We really enjoyed this tour as well as any in the past.

Finally we would like to mention an incident that occurred while we were ringing at Southport. While the ringing was going on, a lady living nearby wrote a letter expressing her thanks to the Rector for the ringing of the bells. She handed the letter to us for delivery to the Rector. There was no Rector (the letter was given to the church authorities) and we lost the peal, but this little incident meant a lot to us. It meant our pleasure was being shared, and this is one of the rewards of good ringing and good companionship. You can't have too much of it!

G. C. G., T. P. E.

PRE-REFORMATION BELLS

Very few ringers bother to take any notice of towers with one, two or three bells and only recently the fours. Yet these are in the main where our oldest bells can be found. The reason of course being that they have not had the amount of use of the higher numbers; they have not been subjected to tower-grabbing activities and peals.

Visits to these towers do commend themselves, always of course seeking the necessary permission beforehand. I remember calling at Orton Longueville; the Rector was in the church and readily welcomed the suggestion to go up to the tower to flash-photo the very old bell of circa 1420 by John Walgrave, whose trade stamp I found was still in good condition. It is a 7 cwt. bell.

On another occasion, at Hardwick, near Wellingborough, I found a bell did not bear the stamp "William Founder" (ascribed to William Dawe, as some had previously thought it belonged), but was more likely to be a little later—by John Bird, 1408-1418. And y this visit I was able to learn a lot about one of Britain's oldest manor houses alongside the church.

If we go to Cold Ashby we can see a bell of 1317 (with the date in Roman figures), believed to be by William de Flint. It is the second of four. Of the same, or a little later, period is one of three at Winwick close by, as well as one of three at Teigh, in Rutland—the only bell saved after a disastrous fire (1745-46) and considered to be the oldest bell in Rutland.

The tenor of four at Stowe IX churches dates from the time of Edward III, as does also the tenor of three at Great Billing, by Simon-de-Hazfelde and Johannes-de-Yorke respectively.

Henry Jordon (1442 to 1470) still has several bells in Northants, among them a complete



A pre-Reformation bell at Hardwick, near Wellingborough. It measures 36 inches and is approximately 8 cwt. in weight. In 1926 it became cracked and was welded.

four at Fawsley, the fourth of five at Old, and one of four in the towers at Bainton and Pilton.

Just prior to the Reformation is a bell (one of three) at Tansor, by Robert Crouch. And a little after that is one of four at Stanion bearing the figure of the Madonna and Child by one of the Newcombe family of bell-founders. Sanders of Reading (1539-1559) also has one of three at Horton, but it is badly cracked.

P. AMOS

BATH & WELLS ASSOCIATION

On Oct. 7th the Ilchester Branch held a monthly practice at St. Mary's, Mudford.

Ringing on the pleasant five (tenor 17 cwt.) was under the direction of the Branch Ringing Master, Mr. W. E. Turner, and varied from rounds to Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman and St. Simon's Bob, etc.

There was a good attendance of about 30 ringers and the Ilchester Branch was pleased to welcome the newly-affiliated tower of St. Mary's, Mudford, together with its six new ringing members and associate member, the Rev. E. D. White.

A pleasant and very welcome surprise came at the end of ringing, when all were invited to the Vicarage, where sumptuous refreshments and coffee awaited them.

Members would like to record their appreciation of Mr. White's generosity and also to thank Mr. Hunt and Mr. Goverd. J.L.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Devizes Branch 3s., Scottish Association 4s.

Peals.—Southport 3s. 6d., Halsall 3s. 6d., Holme 3s., St. Brides Major 3s., Hindley 4s., Clifford 4s., Wimbledon 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Waltham Abbey 6s., Biggin Hill 3s., Barton Seagrave 5s., Preston 2s. 6d., Hughenden 2s., Bournemouth 3s., Caerleon 4s., Blaenavon 3s., Bath 3s., Somerton 3s., St. Mellons 12s., Fulham 2s. 6d., Goring 4s., Long Sutton 6s., Aldbourne 4s., Painswick 4s., Glington 5s., Minster-in-Sheppey (2) 6s., Little Houghton 2s. 6d., Perry Barr 4s., Martin 3s., Liss 2s. 6d., Nailsea (2) 6s., Standlake 5s., Ash Priors 3s., Bridgend 4s., Fyfield 5s., Eynsham 3s., Thorley 5s., Walsall 3s., Rushden 3s. 6d., Braintree 4s., Great Baddow 9s., Northmoor 2s. 6d., Hinton Waldrist 2s. 6d., Barking 3s., Hornchurch 2s. 6d., Castor 3s., Alwalton 2s. 6d., Jesmond 3s. 6d., Llandaff 4s., Clevedon 5s., Chenies 10s., Stamford 6s., Hinton-on-the-Green 5s., Trysull 3s., Wingerworth 6s., Chesterfield 4s.

RAILWAYMEN'S GUILD

Autumn Meeting at Brighton

Wind and rain was the unfortunate welcome for the early arrivals on the Friday prior to the autumn meeting of the Guild at Brighton on September 30th. It was, however, a great relief when the weather improved on the Saturday and throughout the week-end. The attendance was again very good, and the Regions represented were London, Midland, Western, North Eastern, Southern and Eastern.

The ringing programme did mean a little extra travelling, but the excellent train service made all towers easy of access.

After tea, the business opened with the Master (Mr. F. Hodgson) in the chair. The guest, Mr. Reginald I. Johnson (Master, Sussex County Association) welcomed the Guild to Brighton and hoped that members would enjoy their visit and make full use of the bells available.

At this stage of the meeting a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. George Jennings to the incumbents of the churches for the use of the bells, Mr. Charles Bassett for the splendid programme arranged, and Messrs. Shepherd and Bond for kindly meeting the members at their respective churches.

A proposal to hold future meetings of the Southern Region in London only was lost on a vote being taken. The amendment—"to hold future meetings anywhere in the Southern Region"—was carried.

Mr. Jack Brown gave a very full and detailed account of the proposed programme for the Guild's visit to Liverpool (the annual general meeting in 1968).

The day ended with further ringing at St. Peter's, Brighton. J.A.H.

BELFRY GOSSIP

We were sorry to hear that Mr. Anthony P. Smith, of Lelant, Cornwall, was delayed in entering King's College, London, through a road accident. He has now arrived in London.

Leicester Diocesan Guild have sold out tickets (180) for their 21st anniversary dinner at Leicester cricket ground pavilion on October 28th.

Rainham, Kent, ringers had a half-day's outing on July 29th, ringing at Selling, Wye, Little Chart and Egerton. There was a surprise for one ringer at Selling who tried to set a stayless bell.

Two towers were available for the Eastern District of the Hertford County Association on September 30th—Hoddesdon in the afternoon and Ware in the evening, where Cambridge Major was rung with the 22 cwt. tenor.

"Everyone, from expert to novice, reads 'The Ringing World,'" writes a correspondent from Christchurch, New Zealand. "It is one way of keeping them from talking during touches." Perhaps a second copy in the belfry would be justified. (By air £5 per annum.)

Minster-in-Sheppey, Kent, is suffering from a lack of male ringers and recruits. Of the regular band of 16, 14 are ladies and girls. Is this a general trend or merely a localised peculiarity? Miss Mira Ford (11), of this tower, put up a very creditable performance for her first quarter.

Beginning of term blues were lightened somewhat for members of the Durham University Society by the announcement of the engagement of last year's secretary, Miss Pat Armitage, to last year's treasurer, Mr. David Swann. We wish them well, and from the look of things so far, are not going to be disappointed this year either!

The Rev. M. F. Gibbs, chairman of the North Berks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, is shortly leaving for Cardiff.

There was a literal in the peal at Aldermaston on page 741. The ringer of the fifth should have read Perceval Robert Blond.

Over 200 tickets have been sold for the College Youths' dinner on November 4th at Walbrook Restaurant, Bucklebury House, E.C.4.

The recent quarter peal at Fyfield, Essex, was the first in the method (Plain Bob) in living memory. Nine-year-old Martin Woodford is to be congratulated on his confident handling of the treble in his first quarter.

Miss Hazel Giddins, the captain of Merrow, Guildford, ringers, was married on October 7th to Mr. R. A. Keith Glue, another member of the band. After the wedding a quarter of Grandsire Doubles was rung, conducted by Mr. D. A. R. May.

For examples of common faults in handling we advise ringers to buy the current issue of "Borchester Echo" produced for Archer fans. Portrayed are Dan Archer, Doughy Hood and Tom Forrest trying to ring Bob Major on a Sunday morning. It warrants a protest to the "Radio Times."

Nailsea ringers were delighted to welcome their old tower captain, Mr. E. J. (Ted) Baker, who joined them for Harvest Festival Evensong on October 1st. Ted is a sprightly 92, but he wears his years well and rang a creditable treble to a touch of Grandsire Doubles. All hope to see him again next year and indeed at any time when he can visit the tower.

Bellfounders' Gift Page to 'The Ringing World'

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TEN YEARS AFTER

In the ringers' story "Ten Years After," published in our issue of September 22nd a Birmingham ringer has written through his solicitors claiming to have identified himself as "Old Bill." We wish to assure him that the character in "Ten Years After" was purely fictitious and in no sense was associated with any living person.

HONOUR FOR MISS IRIS LEMARE

Miss Iris Lemare, of York Minster, was a guest of honour at the Women of the Year luncheon at the Savoy Hotel, London, given in aid of the Greater London Fund for the Blind and attended by nearly 700 women. Guests were invited only on the basis of their personal achievements or services to the community.

On October 6th Miss Lemare conducted the Lemare Orchestra in York Minster in aid of the Minster Appeal. The programme included Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, Five Mystical Songs by R. Vaughan Williams and Pelham Humfrey's setting of a "Hymne to God the Father." Of the last-named the "Yorkshire Evening Press" speaks of "Iris Lemare's magical control of the accompaniment and the arched splendours of the Minster." The report concludes: "Miss Lemare deserves the highest praise for her leadership, especially as her right arm was practically out of action owing to a recent injury to her shoulder."

SCENE OF VANDALISM

Akenham, Suffolk, which has figured in the news as the scene of a shocking case of vandalism where a figure of Christ was torn from an altar and pages ripped from the Bible, is a very scattered parish on the northern outskirts of Ipswich. The church was threatened with closure (as redundant) a few years ago and possible demolition, but the Friends of Friendless Churches and certain individuals rescued it.

The two youths were convicted of the offences were stated to have entered the church by climbing a drainpipe on the 14th century tower and entering through the belfry window. They then clambered down a bell rope into the church itself.

C. R. informs us that according to Raven's "Church Bells of Suffolk," Akenham has one bell—45 inches—by John Darbie, 1678.

A VISIT AFTER THE PEAL

The peal at Aldwinckle, Northants, on October 7th, was followed by ringing at the nearby steeple of Achurch, where the bells have not been rung for some time and are thought to be (erroneously) by some as "unringable." This was the beginning of their Harvest Festival.

Achurch is noted for its former Rector in the reign of Elizabeth I (the Rev. Robert Browne), who broke away from the Church of England to sow the first seeds of what is today the Congregational movement. At the age of 81 he was imprisoned in Northampton gaol as a rates defaulter, where he died, and was buried in St. Giles' Churchyard.

For Mr. S. Ruddlesden, who has been a ringer for some 20 or so years, it was his first four-bell tower. **P.A.**

UNWRITTEN RULES FOR PEALS

In an editorial in the current issue of the "Irish Bell News" the editor gives the following unwritten rules for those contemplating peal attempts:—

(a) Is there a justification for the attempt, e.g. a peal in a church where one has not previously been rung in the method, or do we wish to honour some personality?

(b) Am I a fanatic for attempting peals and am I selfish enough to attempt peals in places where complaints are likely to occur?

(c) What will the effect be on the church authorities? The ropes wear out with excessive ringing bearings require to be lubricated if there are plain bearings, clock hammers may become damaged and chiming hammers may catch bells due to carelessness.

(d) Do we go to churches and ring peals and not say "thank you," but feel we have a perfect right to ring the peal there? Do we contribute towards the cost of ropes and other repairs? After all, ropes now cost about £5 or £6 each and with excessive ringing may not last more than five to ten years.

MAKING SUNDAY INTO SABBATH

Kirkland Bridge in his announcement on "Pillars of the Church" has something kind to say about the bellringers. Here is an extract:—

"Old Granfer Higgs, eighty last birthday, trudges up the churchyard path with the great iron key of the tower door; and in ones and twos, the bellringers gather in the cool, dim tower, after 'ringing up,' stand by their ropes for the words 'Treble's going—GONE, when, cne by one, the great bells speak.'"

Their tumultuous tumbling overture echoes across our fair and green England, making Sunday into Sabbath, inviting the faithful to worship; entering homes, hospitals and even prisons, and, perchance, rebuking some who no longer pray.

A PILGRIMAGE OF REMEMBRANCE TO PAINSWICK

On Sunday, September 24th, for the eighth successive year, the Hinton-on-the-Green band paid their annual visit to Painswick to ring for Evensong and "in memoriam" John Thomas.

In place of the usual quarter peal, ringing was made general this year to give everyone more chance, and ranged from rounds to Grandsire Cinques and a good service touch of Caters. As always, a very cordial welcome was forthcoming from the Rector, the local ringers and the parishioners.

PROCLAIMING THE CHURCH'S FELLOWSHIP

Fareham (Hants) ringers recently had their annual outing. They went to East Sussex and rang at Lindfield Fletching, Mayfield, Lewes and Ditchling. The ringing was not of the highest standard but like most outings this was a happy and successful day. The hospitality of the parish priests and the ringers awaiting the visiting band was excellent, and the tea was pretty good as well.

And so, as this outing becomes a memory for all those concerned—ringers, friends and listeners—let us hope that in this and in all ringing outings the fellowship of the Church may be proclaimed and strengthened.

R.K.H.

VISITING VANCOUVER

The first quarter on the bells of the Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver, was rung on October 12th in honour of Canada's Centennial Year. Unfortunately the Ringing Master, Mr. Ted Lee, was unable to take part through an injury to his shoulder. Miss Pamela Sturdy, who is on holiday from England, writes that the Vancouver Society of Change Ringers practises on Tuesdays, 8–9.30 p.m. and rings on Sundays at 10.30 a.m. They give a warm welcome to any visiting ringer.

WAS IT A COINCIDENCE?

The bells of Christchurch Cathedral, New Zealand, were rung on October 9th for the annual synod of the diocese. On the same evening New Zealand's hitherto restrictive licensing laws were altered to allow bars to remain open until ten o'clock. The band, which included two ringers, David and Nelson Sloan, who could recall the days before the infamous "six o'clock swill," rang touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles and Triples and a course of Grandsire Caters before proceeding, some to the service and some to a nearby hostelry!

WATFORD DISTRICT OUTING

Watford and district ringers and friends took a trip to East Anglia for their annual outing on October 1st, when a most successful day was enjoyed.

In the church high above the town, Downham Market bells went well to a variety of methods, but were strangely difficult to hear in the tower, possibly because of restoration work in progress. At King's Lynn, where Cambridge Royal was essayed, albeit if not successfully brought round, the majestic bells were enjoyed by ringers and listeners alike.

After lunch at the Victoria Cafe, Wisbech, the very good six at Walpole St. Andrew were rung to the apparent great interest of the oldest (?) inhabitant. Nearby Walpole St. Peter, famed for its large and beautiful church, the Flower Festival was of course a must, and after a good ring here steps were retraced to the Victoria Cafe for tea. The Fen country proved very interesting, and in the coach snatches of conversation about Bedford levels, thirty foot drains, etc., could be heard. In the gathering darkness the last call was at Ickleton where, ringing from the chancel, the first Gillett and Johnston eight brought a very satisfactory conclusion to a good day out. Many thanks to all incumbents, to all who met the party and to Geoff Seaman for his able organisation.

R.G.B.

A DEVON OUTING

The first outing arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Welch, of Ilton, Somerset, on September 30th into Devon proved very enjoyable, even the lumpy six at St. Michael's, Honiton, which started the bell programme.

All were impressed by the bells at Ottery St. Mary and the beautiful church. Some more good ringing followed at Talaton, and also lunch and a visit to a most attractive village inn. The afternoon's programme was Cyst Honiton, Stoke Canon and the heavy eight at Crediton, where unfortunately justice was not done to the bells. Tea was at Crediton and there were two more towers—Cadbury and Silverton—to be visited before the usual convivial half hour at Taunton. We arrived home with many happy memories of a good day, spent in very good company.

J.D.

TOWER BELL PEALS

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

KIDDERMINSTER, Worcs.—At the Church of St. Mary & All Saints.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in D.

John Hill Treble	Martin D. Fellows 6
David P. Hilling 2	John M. Jelley 7
Frank E. Darby 3	Brian D. Threlfall 8
Andrew N. Stubbs 4	Robert C. Kippin 9
Thomas J. Southam 5	Michael P. Moreton Tenor

Composed by Roderick W. Pipe.

Conducted by David P. Hilling.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(The Wells Amateur Bellringing Society)

LOXTON, Somerset.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Sept. 23, 1967, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

Richard C. Taylor Treble	John Sheppard 4
Gwylm Salmon 2	Christopher Jenkins 5
Michael G. Bartlett 3	Edgar T. Skipsey Tenor

Conducted by Edgar T. Skipsey.

Believed to be the first peal by an all-Wells band.

THE BRISTOL SOCIETY.

BRISTOL.—At the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity.

On Fri., Sept. 29, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 lb. in E flat.

Trevor Newlands Treble	Michael J. Hobbs 5
*Stephen Bateman 2	James R. Taylor 6
Bruce Martin 3	David Rennolds 7
Paul Rigby 4	D. John Hunt Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard.

Conducted by David Rennolds.

* First peal First of Major as conductor.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

TRUMPINGTON, Cambs.—At the Church of SS. Mary and Michael.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

M. J. Pickup (Churchill) Treble	C. W. Daws (Trinity) .. 5
G. H. Jones (St. John's) .. 2	E. N. Thomas (St. John's) 6
D. P. Sturge (St. John's) .. 3	R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel) 7
R. A. G. Inglis (Selwyn) .. 4	V. Nutton (Selwyn) Tenor

Composed by S. Humphrey.

Conducted by Richard Youdale.

First peal as conductor.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHURCH LAWTON, Cheshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Fri., Oct. 6, 1967, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt 1 qr. 2 lb. in G.

*Geoffrey A. Edwards .. Treble	David J. Midgley 5
†Norman Sherratt 2	‡Frank Moreton 6
T. Felicity Ashford 3	Roy Worrall 7
Raymond J. Ballard 4	Jeffrey Brannan Tenor

Composed by C. J. Sedgley.

Conducted by Jeffrey Brannan.

* First peal of Surprise. † 150th peal. ‡ First of Lincolnshire

"inside." Fastest peal on the bells.

Rung for the induction of the Rev. Mr. Lewis as Rector.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CAMBRIDGE.—At the Church of St. Andrew the Great.

On Thurs., Sept. 14, 1967, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5472 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In nine methods, comprising 1,024 London, 832 Bristol, 800 Watford, 440 Cambridge, 512 each of Dorchester and Pudsey, 416 Cassiobury, 384 Superlative and 352 Lincoln, with 125 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in G.

Roger O. Fry Treble	Derek E. Sibson 5
Donald F. Murfet 2	Vivian Nutton 6
*Hilary Muirhead 3	*Stuart Brown 7
Geoffrey Pearson 4	Kenneth J. Hesketh .. Tenor

Composed by Albert J. Pitman.

Conducted by Derek E. Sibson.

* First peal of nine Spliced Surprise Major.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RUARDEAN, Gloucestershire.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

On Sun., Oct. 8, 1967, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's 12-part (7th obs.)	Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in F.
Geoffrey J. Clarke Treble	Patrick H. Allen 5
Ralph T. Hazell 2	David E. L. Pobjoy 6
Austin T. Wingate 3	George T. Cousins 7
Leslie Barry 4	Harold Meek Tenor

Conducted by George T. Cousins.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SHALFORD, Surrey.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Tues., Oct. 10, 1967, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. in F sharp.

Robert Gee Treble	Martin J. Kirk 5
Jill M. May 2	Stanley G. Ponting 6
E. John Wells 3	David J. Tubbs 7
Douglas A. R. May 4	John A. Collyer Tenor

Composed by J. J. Parker.

Conducted by E. John Wells.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor. First peal in the method as conductor.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HOLME-LACY, Herefordshire.—At the Church of St. Cuthbert.

On Sat., Sept. 23, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's 12-part (6th obs.)	Tenor 8 cwt.
Peter Hughes Treble	Peter D. Sell 5
Gillian Sims 2	Marcus C. W. Sherwood .. 6
Peter Wycherley 3	John F. I. Turney 7
*William P. Nash 4	†E. Charles Biggs Tenor

Composed by J. J. Parker.

Conducted by Marcus C. W. Sherwood.

* First peal of Triples. † First on eight bells.

Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the 4th, who is commencing studies at the University of Swansea.

CLIFFORD, Herefordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*Jacqueline S. King .. Treble	David Pike 5
George T. Cousins 2	David J. Hughes 6
David L. Philips 3	James L. Fitzgerald 7
Peter J. Wycherley 4	David J. King Tenor

Composed by G. Lewis.

Conducted by David J. King.

* 200th peal.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Gillian Fanshaw, of Hereford. Also as a compliment to George Cousins on his election as president of the National Guild of Police Ringers.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. Michael.

On Fri., Oct. 13, 1967, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

Katherine S. Hardy .. Treble	Francis Kirk 5
Thomas J. Lock 2	Brian J. Woodruffe 6
Eric Edmondson 3	Michael D. Frost 7
A Stephen Taylor 4	Gerald Penney Tenor

Composed by Roger Baldwin.

Conducted by Gerald Penney.

Rung to mark the appointment of the Rev. D. G. D. Harpur, Vicar of St. Michael's, as an Honorary Canon at St. Albans Cathedral.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

QUEX PARK, Birchington, Kent.—At The Waterloo Tower.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5042 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 15½ cwt in F.

Herbert E. A. Audsley .. Treble	Martin L. Howe 7
*Judith M. Corby 2	†Richard Hayes 8
Olive D. Tester 3	*Andrew J. Corby 9
*Peter M. Wilkinson .. 4	Colin A. Tester 10
Frank J. Matthews 5	Christopher T. Osenton .. 11
Bernard F. L. Groves .. 6	Thomas Cullingworth .. Tenor

Composed by R. W. Pipe.

Conducted by Bernard F. L. Groves.

* First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus. † First of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus "inside."

WOOLWICH, London, S.E.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalen.

On Sat., Sept. 30, 1967, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 FORDHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in G.

Ian H. Oram Treble	C. Martin Press 5
Margaret E. Fort 2	Roger D. Bailey 6
Robin R. Churchill 3	*Timothy G. Pett 7
John R. Ketteringham .. 4	John Pladdys Tenor

Composed by J. W. Washbrook.

Conducted by Timothy G. Pett.

* 150th peal.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HINDLEY, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. Peter.
On Sun., Oct. 8, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr.

*R. Keith Lister Treble	Albert Greenhalgh 5
*John Illingworth 2	Harold Worrall 6
*Roy Jolley 3	*James E. Andrews 7
*James Cunliffe 4	Geoffrey Fothergill Tenor

Composed by W. Barton.

Conducted by Geoffrey Fothergill.

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

Rung to mark the occasion of the wedding of Barbara Green and John Shallcross at this church the previous day.

ACCRINGTON, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. James.

On Thurs., Oct. 5, 1967, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

Anthony J. Helliwell .. Treble	Roger Leigh 4
*Linda M. Parker 2	Michael Bell 5
†Douglas Deakin 3	Raymond D. Helliwell .. Tenor

Conducted by Anthony J. Helliwell.

* First peal. † First "inside" for Doubles.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RATBY, Leicestershire.—At the Church of SS. Philip and James.

On Sat., Oct. 29, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9½ cwt.

Malcolm E. Wade Treble	Howard C. Palmer 5
W. Ernest Rawson 2	R. Brian Mills 6
Roland Wakefield 3	William A. Lacey 7
Martin Green 4	Roland H. Cook Tenor

Composed by J. R. Mayne.

Conducted by William A. Lacey.

AYLESTONE, Leicestershire.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr.

*Andrew S. Hayden .. Treble	W. Arthur Riddington .. 5
Mrs. P. J. Staniforth .. 2	John Bramley 6
Tony Natt 3	Peter J. Staniforth 7
John M. Jelley 4	Russell S. Morris Tenor

Composed by Nathan Pistow.

Conducted by Russell S. Morris.

* First peal.

Rung with the best wishes of the band for the wedding of Mr. A. James Poyner (Ringing Master, Aylestone) to Miss Sandra E. Chesterton (ringer, Aylestone), whose marriage was solemnised earlier this day in this church.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

LONG SUTTON, Lincolnshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Sept. 23, 1967, in 3 Hours.

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

Roland Newson Treble	A. Stephen Taylor 5
Eric Edmonson 2	Norman V. Harding 6
Julia A. Fellows 3	*Andrew W. R. Wilby 7
Shelagh R. Collins 4	Philip Mehew Tenor

Composed by Simon Humphrey.

Conducted by Philip Mehew.

* First peal in the method.

Rung for Harvest Festival.

SUTTERTON, Lincs.—At the Church of St. Mary the Blessed Virgin.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Humphrey's. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

John R. Ketteringham .. Treble	Harold F. Gibson 5
Julia A. Fellows 2	Robin R. Churchill 6
Timothy G. Pett 3	David E. Rothera 7
Roger D. Bailey 4	Peter A. Sharp Tenor

Conducted by Roger D. Bailey

Rung as a compliment to Alan G. Payne and Joan Gilbert, who were married at Fishtoft, Lincs, the same afternoon.

WALESBY, Lincolnshire.—At the Old Church.

On Sun., Oct. 8, 1967, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 14 lb. in F sharp.

Julia A. Fellows Treble	Jack L. Millhouse 5
John R. Ketteringham .. 2	Robin R. Churchill 6
David E. Rothera 3	Geoffrey R. Parker 7
Roger D. Bailey 4	Timothy G. Pett Tenor

Composed by Stephen Ivins (C.C.C. 7). Conducted by Roger D. Bailey.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Gerry Evans and Jane Mannoch, which took place at Boston the previous day.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

COWBRIDGE, Glamorgan.—At the Church of the Holy Cross.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in E.

Thomas T. Yeomans .. Treble	*Paul S. Reading 5
Susan Harber 2	Michael Pilgrim 6
Maryl R. Fielden 3	Rev. Geoffrey Strickland .. 7
Peter S. Bennett 4	John H. Fielden Tenor

Composed by Simon Humphrey.

Conducted by Peter S. Bennett.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

ST. BRIDES MAJOR, Glamorgan.—At the Church of St. Bridget.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two extents of Plain Bob, two of April Day, four 240's and 30 extents of Grandsire. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

D. Walford Davies Treble	Harold Preece 4
Thomas E. Hiddins 2	William T. Petty 5
Raymond J. Mayle 3	H. Donald Bryant Tenor

Conducted by William T. Petty.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. John, Deptford, S.E.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 18 lb. in F.

Timothy G. Pett Treble	Graham W. Elmes 5
*Audrey R. Alexander .. 2	*Michael W. Coleman 6
*Maureen J. Carruthers .. 3	Edward F. Bryant 7
*Robin R. Churchill 4	John Pladdys Tenor

Composed by Gabriel Lindoff.

Conducted by John Pladdys.

* First peal in the method. First of Surprise Major as conductor.

Rung in thanksgiving for the birth of a daughter, Rachel Jane, to Alan and Diana Frost.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. and LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

STAINES, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Sept. 30, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5184 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

J. W. Washbrook's variation. Tenor 15½ cwt.

Frederick R. Scott Treble	Alan Flood 5
Monica Blagrove 2	William Birmingham 6
David C. Brown 3	Robert Wiggins 7
Olive L. Rogers 4	Frank T. Blagrove Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton.

Conducted by Frank T. Blagrove.

Rung as a compliment to Marguerite and John Mayne on the birth of a son, and for the wedding anniversary of Harold and Olive Rogers.

WARFIELD, Berkshire.—At the Church of St. Michael.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, comprising 1,312 Bristol and 1,280 each of Cambridge, London and Superlative, with 112 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb.

Ann E. Fellows Treble	Frederick R. Scott 5
Christopher H. Rogers .. 2	Jonathan S. N. Porter 6
Andrew J. Slade 3	David E. Rothera 7
Colin G. Wright 4	Martyn L. J. Jordan .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. Pitman.

Conducted by Jonathan S. N. Porter.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HOPE, Derbyshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Sept. 2, 1967, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F sharp.

Barbara G. Dale Treble	T. Felicity Ashford 5
Norman Sherratt 2	Harold Dowler 6
Caroline Stewart 3	David J. Midgley 7
Gerald Parsons 4	Raymond J. Ballard Tenor

Composed by Dennis Knox.

Conducted by Raymond J. Ballard.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH LOPHAM, Norfolk.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B., Double Court, Single Oxford St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 20 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. in E.

Thomas Bush Treble	Claude Cousins 4
Shelagh R. Collins 2	Norman V. Harding 5
Wallace Cousins 3	Tony Price Tenor

Conducted by Tony Price.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST HAGBOURNE, Berkshire.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

David J. Marshall Treble	James R. White 5
*Raymond A. Vickers 2	*Christopher I. Rowson 6
Alan A. Paul 3	Rupert A. Clarke 7
Michael C. E. Hodge 4	Graham C. Paul Tenor

Composed by Maurice Hodgson.

Conducted by Graham C. Paul.

* First peal in the method.

HARWELL, Berkshire.—At the Church of St. Matthew.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in E.

John C. Baldwin Treble	James R. White 5
Raymond A. Vickers 2	Rupert A. Clarke 6
Graham C. Paul 3	David J. Marshall 7
Christopher I. Rowson 4	Alan A. Paul Tenor

Composed by James Topp.

Conducted by Graham C. Paul.

BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL, Berks.—At the Church of

St. Agatha.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

*Glenda E. Emmett Treble	†Christopher F. Freeman 4
*Alastair T. P. Pearce 2	Angela M. Ayres 5
Andrew R. D. Cope 3	Gerald McIlhone Tenor

Conducted by Andrew R. D. Cope.

* First peal † First in the method. First peal as conductor.
Rung as a compliment to the Rector, the Rev. M. Gibbs, who has left the parish to continue his work in Cardiff.

BINFIELD, Berkshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat. Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In four methods, being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*Raymond K. Rivers Treble	*Violet N. Castle 4
Joan A. Rance 2	Bernard C. Castle 5
Frank C. Price 3	Arthur J. N. Rance Tenor

Conducted by Frank C. Price.

* First peal of Minor.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

DAVENTRY, Northants.—At the Church of the Holy Cross.

On Fri., Oct. 6, 1967, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5000 ROCHESTER SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

Stanley M. Ruddlesden .. Treble	Graham C. Paul 6
Shirley E. Ruddlesden 2	Barry E. Saunders 7
David J. Marshall 3	Alan A. Paul 8
Barrie Hendry 4	Richard F. B. Speed 9
Malcolm J. V. Chown 5	Patrick I. Chapman Tenor

Composed by Frederick Dench.

Conducted by Richard F. B. Speed.

First peal of Royal in the method by all the band.

ROTHWELL, Northants.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In 16 methods, being 640 London, 320 each of Bristol, Cambridge, Cray Eastcote, Lincolnshire, Lindum, New Gloucester, Pudsey, Rutland, Superlative, Wembley, Wordsworth and Yorkshire and 160 each of Uxbridge and Watford, with 139 changes of method.

Tenor 21 cwt. 3 lb. in E flat.

Christopher C. Stokes .. Treble	Barry E. Saunders 5
Alan A. Paul 2	Richard F. B. Speed 6
Roger W. Smith 3	David J. Marshall 7
Graham C. Paul 4	Patrick I. Chapman Tenor

Composed by Albert J. Pitman.

Conducted by Graham C. Paul.

Most Surprise methods rung to a peal by all the band except Mr. Speed, and for the Guild.

MOULTON, Lincolnshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. St. Clement's, Single Oxford and three of Plain.

Geoffrey Davis Treble	Frank Sismey 4
*Mrs. P. Ann Smith 2	Roy W. Spencer 5
Alf Waller 3	Gilbert F. Cowlin Tenor

Conducted by Roy W. Spencer.

* First peal "inside."

Rung as a wedding compliment to Bernard Branston and Jennifer Eve.

ALDWINKLE, Northamptonshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In six methods/variations, being two extents of Old and eight each of St. Simon, St. Martin, Reverse Canterbury, April Day and Plain Bob.

Shirley E. Ruddlesden .. Treble	Percy Amos 3
Richard J. Danby 2	Brian R. Danby 4

Stanley M. Ruddlesden .. Tenor

Conducted by Richard J. Danby.

Rung as a Harvest Thanksgiving peal.

BARTON SEAGRAVE, Northants.—At the Church of St. Botolph.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In 14 methods/variations, being three extents each of St. Botolph, Old, St. Colum, Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas, St. Martin, St. Simon, April Day, Clifford's Pleasure, Southrepps, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Plain Bob, Kennington and Grandsire.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in A.

Ronald S. Russell Treble	J. Charles Hudson 3
J. Martin Thorley 2	Stephen B. Bell 4

Christopher J. Groome .. Tenor

Conducted by Christopher J. Groome.

Rung in memoriam Gibson Jackson, of Doncaster.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

WOBBURN, Bedfordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Aug. 19, 1967, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5280 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In six methods, comprising 960 London, 928 Watford, 896 Bristol and 832 each of Cambridge, Superlative and Pudsey, with 127 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in D.

Rodney H. French Treble	Frank W. Rivett 5
Joan Beresford 2	Derek E. Sibson 6
J. Michael Lakin 3	Alfred E. Rushton 7
Ronald J. Sharp 4	Dennis Beresford Tenor

Composed by Albert J. Pitman.

Conducted by Dennis Beresford.

Rung in memoriam H. Douglas Harris, who was a ringer at this tower and a member of this Society.

TOTTENHAM Middlesex.—At the Church of All Hallows.

On Thurs., Sept. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, comprising 960 Rutland, 896 Yorkshire, 704 each of Bristol and Lincolnshire, 672 Cambridge, 448 each of Pudsey and Superlative and 224 London, with 111 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. in F. sharp.

John R. Pratchett Treble	*Simon Humphrey 5
Yvonne Edwards 2	Derek E. Sibson 6
Joan Beresford 3	John S. Barnes 7
Sheila M. Dobbie 4	Dennis Beresford Tenor

Composed by Richard J. Parker.

Conducted by Derek E. Sibson.

* First peal of Spiced Surprise Major.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MELKSHAM, Wilts.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Mon., Aug. 28, 1967, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 lb. in E.

*M. Cecelia Evans Treble	Philip J. Evans 5
Reginald H. Newton 2	Edward R. Fairbrother 6
Ruth A. E. Fairbrother 3	Ernest F. Willcox 7
Jennifer M. Beech 4	Frank Beech Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard.

Conducted by Frank Beech.

* First peal on eight bells.

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THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT, Notts.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5104 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in F sharp.

Peter Church Treble	Ian V. J. Smith 5
Anne Harris 2	David Stainsby 6
David R. McLean 3	Owen Holmewood 7
Robert Preston 4	George A. Dawson Tenor

Composed by S. Humphrey.

Conducted by George A. Dawson.

Rung as a 65th wedding anniversary compliment to Stephen Loach, of Radcliffe. Also as a compliment to Simon Humphrey and Jacqueline Sewell upon their engagement; to Roy and Jane Blackler on the birth of a son, Jeremy Neil; and to Robert and Margaret Preston on the christening of their son, Philip Ian.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL, Staffs.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sat., Sept. 30, 1967, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

Harold Dowler Treble	T. Felicity Ashford 5
Norman Sherratt 2	Raymond J. Ballard 6
Madeleine McCallion 3	David J. Midgley 7
Gerald Parsons 4	Dennis Latham Tenor

Composed by Ian M. Holland.

Conducted by Norman Sherratt.

Rung as birthday compliments to Caroline Stewart and Madeleine McCallion.

LEIGH, Staffordshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in F.

*Keith Danfels Treble	Jennifer M. Beech 4
†Frank Beech 2	Neville Holland 5
Richard J. Warrilow 3	†Edward R. Fairbrother .. Tenor

Conducted by Edward R. Fairbrother.

* First peal. † 25th peal together. First peal as conductor. The tenor ringer has now "circled the tower."

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON, S.W.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Sept. 30, 1967, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A flat.

*Caroline F. Madge Treble	Alan E. Bagworth 5
Rosamund M. Rawlings 2	Rev. Michael Hart 6
†Elizabeth Bingham 3	Michael Bingham 7
Christopher F. Mew 4	*Michael Burn Tenor

Composed by A. J. Corrigan.

Conducted by Christopher F. Mew.

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

THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

BALCOMBE, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Sept. 30, 1967, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9½ cwt.

Judith M. Corby Treble	Derek Slater 5
Richard Hayes 2	Martin L. Howe 6
Simon A. B. Wigg 3	Herbert W. Woolven 7
Malcolm Barden 4	John A. Howard Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton.

Conducted by John A. Howard.

Rung as a farewell to the Rev. J. M. James, B.D., on leaving the parish.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

SHEDFIELD, Hampshire.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

On Sat., Oct. 14, 1967 in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

John H. Hunt Treble	*John A. G. Ball 5
*Rosemary J. Kemp 2	†Richard H. Green 6
†Betty J. Daysh 3	Patrick Page 7
S. Kathleen M. Baldwin .. 4	Roger Baldwin Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton.

Conducted by John H. Hunt.

* First peal of Surprise. † First of Surprise Major. ‡ First in the method.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY, Glos.—At the Abbey Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

James Attwood, jun. .. Treble	Ian Lloyd 6
Sidney T. Holt 2	Peter Robertson 7
Joseph D. Johnson 3	Thomas W. Lewis 8
Ivor Goulter 4	Peter D. Warren 9
*Laurence J. Haines 5	Arthur C. Berry Tenor

Arranged by M. D. Fellows.

Conducted by Arthur C. Berry.

* First peal on ten bells. Tenor 27 cwt. 5 lb. in D.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DONCASTER, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. George.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

W. Eric Critchley Treble	Ian L. Dear 5
Anne P. Leigh 2	Neil Donovan 6
Steven Barton 3	J. Henry Fielden 7
Ernest Padgett 4	Richard E. Price Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton.

Conducted by J. Henry Fielden.

Rung half-muffled in memory of Gibson Jackson, ringer at this church, who died on October 3rd, 1967. Tenor 30½ cwt.

(The Beverley and District Society)

HOLME-ON-SPALDING MOOR, Yorks.—At the Church of

All Saints

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of: (1) Double Court, (2) Cambridge, (3) Oxford T.B., (4) Double Oxford, (5) Kent T.B., (6) St. Clement's, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. in A.

Mrs. D. S. Johnson Treble	A. Benjamin Cooper 4
*Iris Piper 2	Roderick R. Horton 5
Michael Wilson 3	David S. Johnson Tenor

Conducted by David S. Johnson.

* First peal.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding anniversary of the treble and tenor, also Mr and Mrs. Benjamin Cooper. Also to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Norman Chaddock into the East Riding.

DORE near Sheffield, Yorkshire.—At Christ Church.

On Sat., Oct. 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of seven extents, viz.: (1) Kingston T.B., (2) London Scholars' Pleasure T.B., (3) Cambridge Surprise, (4) Oxford T.B., (5) Kent T.B., (6 and 7) Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

Timothy Wylie Treble	Sidney Hough 4
*G. Richard King 2	Denis Mottershead 5
Kenneth Davenport 3	Neil D. Lomas Tenor

Conducted by Neil D. Lomas.

* First peal in six methods.

QUARTER PEALS

BRAFIELD-ON-THE-GREEN, NORTHANTS.—On

Sept. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: M. Jones 1, I. Morgan 2, D. Robinson 3, R. Henman 4, P. Jones (cond.) 5, D. Morgan 6. First attempt 1, 2, 6.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Oct. 8th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: S. Warne 1, Josephine A. Quilter 2, Susan Chapman 3, Queenie Cresswell 4, P. G. Brown 5, C. Barker 6, R. J. Lindsell 7, A. Syder (cond.) 8. First of Yorkshire Surprise Major for 3 and 4. A farewell to Susan Chapman on repatriate to York University.

BROMHAM, BEDS.—On Sept. 7th, 1,260 Single Oxford and Plain Bob Minor: C. E. Jeffries (cond.) 1, Miss P. J. Hillson 2, R. A. E. Dunn 3, C. M. Payne 4, R. Chapman 5, D. A. Hammond 6. A wedding compliment to Mr. F. W. Rivett, a member of the Bromham band, whose marriage to Miss C. M. Brown took place in Bedford on September 2nd.

DEVIZES, WILTS.—At St. James' Church, on Oct. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. T. Weeks 1, R. W. Bridges 2, J. Saxton 3, W. Beavan 4, J. S. Weeks (cond.) 5, R. Greenaway 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. T. Rummings, a ringer for 30 years.

EDINBURGH.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, on June 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. E. Collins 1, Miss M. S. Taylor 2, Miss K. M. H. Branson 3, Mrs. L. Martin 4, R. S. Wilson 5, D. Houghton 6, M. M. Peterson (cond.) 7, P. Miller 8.

EDINBURGH.—On Oct. 4th, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Jean Smith 1, June Peterson 2, Kate Branson (cond.) 3, P. Jenkinson 4, M. Peterson 5, I. Laing 6. First quarter 1 and 2. Rung before the farewell party for the Bishop of Penzance (former Provost of the Cathedral) and Mrs. Foskett.

GREAT HASELEY, OXON.—On Sept. 20th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Catherine A. Salter 1, D. C. Henderson (firm in the method) 2, A. K. P. Poole 4, M. C. E. Hodge 5, C. I. Rowson (cond.) 6. By the Abingdon School S.C.R.

HALESOWEN, WORCS.—On Oct. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Woodall 1, H. Shillock 2, P. Dauby 3, M. Lashford 4, L. Clissett 5, A. B. Ellamore 6, M. Irene Ellamore (cond.) 7, I. Shillock 8. For Harvest Festival, and as a compliment to Michael Lashford and Margaret Horocks, on their engagement.

HORRINGER, SUFFOLK.—On Oct. 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: A. R. Fuller 1, B. E. Whiting (first "inside") 2, Janet I. Rogers 3, T. Spurling 4, R. H. Rogers (cond.) 5, P. R. Smith 6. First quarter 1 and 6.

ALWALTON, HUNTS.—On Oct. 8th, 1,320 Doubles (five methods): W. Smith 1, Ann Smith 2, G. Davis 3, G. Cowlin 4, F. Sismey (cond.) 5. For Patronal Festival.

BARKING, SUFFOLK.—On Oct. 9th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. D. Lavers 1, Mrs. R. Green 2, Mrs. R. E. Lester 3, St. J. Perry 4, R. E. Lester (cond.) 5, E. J. Lockwood 6. First quarter 1 and 2. A compliment to Dr. and Mrs. S. G. C. Harrison, members of the local band, on the birth of a second daughter, Rebecca Ruth.

BENTLEY COMMON, ESSEX.—On Oct. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss L. Doone 1, W. R. Chandler 2, R. J. Brown (cond.) 3, Miss S. Bird 4, Miss B. Fisher 5, F. Southwood 6. For Harvest Festival.

BERKSWELL, WARWICKS.—On Aug. 27th, 1,280 Little Bob Minor: Lynda Deebank 1, D. Main 2, Rev. D. Sansum 3, A. H. Fitter 4, J. W. Belshaw (cond.) 5, M. F. Edwards 6.

BETHERSDEN, KENT.—On Oct. 1st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Sylvia Lucas 1, J. E. Spree 2, Violet Relf 3, R. Lucas 4, E. Clifton 5, W. W. Ring (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Arthur Lester, P.C.C. treasurer.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At St. John's Church, on Oct. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Boyce 1, H. A. Mitchell (cond.) 2, Christine Boyce 3, Kathleen Flechner 4, R. A. Hutchings 5, W. C. Shute 6, J. Seager 7, G. P. A. Pearce 8. For Harvest Festival.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

Minimum charge 4s for 30 words, afterwards additional charge 1½d. a word. For meetings only, each additional insertion half charge. Displayed: 7s. 6d. per single column inch, per page £10; per half-page £5 10s. Reduction for series on application.

BIRTHS

NEWING.—To Angela (née Grainger) and Peter, of Blockley, Gloucestershire, a stillborn son, on October 15th, 1967. 2577

SMITH.—On October 1st, 1967, to Ian and Clare, a daughter. Juliet Elizabeth, a sister for Catherine and Emily. Botany Department, Makerere University College, P.O. Box 262, Kampala, Uganda. 2537

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

AVEY.—On and after October 31st the address of Phil and Mrs. Avey will be: 28, Windsor Avenue, Clacton. Tel. Clacton 21600. 2548

BAKER.—The address of Norma and David Baker is now: 100, Harehills Avenue Leeds 8. Telephone in business hours, Leeds 31751, ex. 6044. All ringing friends welcome. 2528

BUTTERWORTH.—From October 28th, the address of Derek and Judith Butterworth will be: 21, Moorland Avenue, Milnrow, Rochdale. 2590

PAYNE.—The address of Joan (née Gilbert) and Alan G. Payne is now: Londinium, Main Road, Manthorpe, near Bourne, Lincs. 2571

PERSONAL

"Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes and prudent in their own sight." — Isaiah v, 21.

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

GOODFELLOW.—Grace and Fred Goodfellow, Seaford, 46, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks, are now on Iver Heath 4339. Middlesex ringers please note. 2589

PUBLICATIONS

For those who want to read about "The Ringing World" in its first 50 years, buy a copy of our jubilee issue of March 24th, 1961. Price 1s. 6d. post free from "The Ringing World" Office, c/o Seven Corners Press, Onslow Street, Guildford.

EXTRACT: "A massive and searching work and one which must as Canon Gilbert Thurlow said be studied seriously." — From the 1966 Report of the Central Council's

LITERATURE AND PRESS COMMITTEE, and typical of experts' commendations, re "METHOD STRUCTURE IN CHANGE RINGING."

Compiled by A. York-Bramble for the (late) College of Campanology, it is designed to fill a gap, for both the beginner and the advanced practical ringer, in the all-important study of method structure. Well-bound in blue and gold stiff cover—8½ x 6½—nearly 300 pages; some 80 "illustrations"; single and double Charts; Test Questions with answer-locations; Series of Definitions and Axioms, listed to serve as an index. A unique work at a non-profit cost of 17/-, including pack and post.

FROM: "College Publications," 40 Parkstone Avenue, Southsea, Hants.

"Any good for that method competition?" "Yes—and as an ideal Christmas Gift!" 2478

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Please note new secretary's address: Miss B. A. Lancaster, 79, Longfield Road, Dover, Kent, to whom all correspondence should be addressed. 2592

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

330th Anniversary Dinner

Please note that Cannon Street Station is not open on Saturday afternoons. Nearest stations to Walbrook are Bank and Mansion House.

Towers available for those attending the dinner:

10.30–12.00	St. Dunstan's, Stepney High Street (10).
1.30–2.30	Southwark Cathedral (12).
2.15–3.15	St. Clement Danes', Strand (10).
3.00–4.00	St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, City (6) and St. Giles' Cripplegate, City (12).
3.45–4.45	St. Botolph's Aldgate (8) and St. Michael's, Cornhill, City (12).
4.30–5.30	St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside (12) and St. Lawrence Jewry, Gresham Street, City (8).

"RINGING WORLDS" FOR SALE.—Nearly every copy since 1944 and some copies 1926–28. Offers, with s.a.c. for reply, to A. Simpson, 2a, Church Street, Clifton, Sheffield, Beds. 2476

SEIGHFORD, near Stafford.—Sunday ringing 6–6.25 p.m. Practice every Tuesday 7.30–9 p.m. All ringers welcome, especially those willing to help. All correspondence to Mr. G. Evans, The Vicarage, Seighford, near Stafford. 2586

WANTED.—"All Saints' Doubles" Peel Cards.—Peel cards which include above method required from 1952 to present date; will pay, plus postage.—W. H. Cavill, 19, High Street, Ashcott, Bridgwater, Som. 2453

MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Bruton (6), October 28th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—L. McCreadie, Level Lane, Charlton Horethorne, Sherborne, Dorset. 2537

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewis-ham District.—Annual meeting Crayford, Saturday, October 28th. E.11s 3.15 p.m. Service 4.15. Names for tea to Mrs. E. A. Barnett, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford. 2517

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Autumn meeting at Sudbury on Saturday, October 28th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. All welcome. 2546

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (S. and W. District), OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (East Berks and South Bucks Branch), LADIES' GUILD (Central District) and LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting, St. John's Hillingdon, on Saturday, October 28th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow in St. John's Hall, and a social evening at 7.45. St. John's bells (10) from 3 p.m. and after tea. St. Margaret's, Uxbridge (8) (opposite the Underground Station), 2.45 to 4 p.m. No. 207 bus connects towers.—C. H. Rogers, D. Hague, J. Hooton and V. E. Dupré, Hon. Secs. 2488

HEREFORD GUILD.—Bromyard District.—Quarterly meeting, Stoke Lacy, October 28th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. No arrangements for tea. 2557

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—Practice meeting at Allensmore (6), October 28th, 6.30 p.m. (Please note—no afternoon ringing.) Business meeting during the evening. All welcome.—G. Sinms, Ringing Master, T. Wood, Dis. Sec. 2568

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Meeting on Saturday, October 28th. Ringing at St. John's, Alloa 2–4 and Dunblane 4.30–5.30. No meals provided.—Rognvald Wilson, Hon. Sec., 15, Durham Road, Edinburgh 15. 2564

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Mansfield District.—Evening practice, Bulwell (8), October 28th. Bells 6–9 p.m. Methods for attention: Double Norwich and Siedman Triples.—D. J. Beach, Dis. Sec. 2530

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Central District.—A.G.M., Paigrove (8), Oct. 28th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed immediately by business meeting. Thrandeston bells also available from 6.30. Names for tea to H. W. H. Leather, Three Ways, Monk Soham, Woodbridge. 2552

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting at Dallington, Saturday, October 28th. Ringing 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Further ringing after tea. Names for tea to Mr. G. Brett, Mount Pleasant, The Street, Dallington.—G. Fitz-Hugh, Dis. Sec. 2551

UNIVERSITY OF WALES SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS.—Meeting at Cadoxton-juxta-Neath (6), Saturday, October 28th. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Ringing at Aberavon (8), 7–8.30 p.m. 2573

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting, St. Barnabas', Swanmore, October 28th. Service at 6 p.m. Ringing 6.30 till 8.30. Business meeting follows in the church. 2542

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Branch.—Six-bell practice at Huish Champflower on Wednesday, November 1st, at 7 p.m. 2579

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Surprise practice at St. Mary's, Staines, Wednesday, November 1st, 7.45–9 p.m.—C. H. Rogers. 2549

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Meeting at Huddersfield Parish Church, Saturday, November 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea to I. Roberts, 22, Bull Green Road, Longwood, Huddersfield, not later than October 31st. 2581

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Branch.—Practice meeting, St. Mary's, Norton-sub-Hamdon (6, 18 cwt.), Saturday, November 4th, 7 p.m. 9 p.m.—Mrs. M. M. Leggett, Branch Hon. Sec. 2534

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting, Renhold (5), Saturday, November 4th, 3 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. Tea. Goldington, 5 p.m. Goldington (6) 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.—C. M. Payne 2556

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting, Salford Priors (8), November 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing after tea until 8 p.m. Names for tea to R. W. Sherriff, 26, Warwick Road Southam (Tel. 2510) by previous Wednesday. 2584

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Mid-Devon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Totnes on Saturday, November 4th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea to R. F. Shepperd, 26, Southdown Avenue, Brixham, by October 31st. 2569

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broomfield on Saturday, November 4th. Ringing 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting in Church Hall. Further ringing after tea. Names for tea to I. R. Panton, 140, Broomfield Road, Chelmsford. 2498

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—A.G.M. will be held at Tewkesbury on Saturday, November 4th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting following. Ringing at the Abbey (12) 3 p.m. and after meeting. Names for tea to Mr. A. E. Leach, 3, Tretawn Gardens, Newtown Tewkesbury, Glos, by October 31st. 2575

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Practice meeting, Oxhey (8), November 4th, 6.30 p.m.—G. W. Seaman, Dis. Sec. 2588

LADIES' GUILD.—South Wales District.—Meeting, St. Mary's Swansea, Nov. 4th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Gentlemen welcome. Names for tea, please, to Mr. J. Williams, 4, Morfydd Street, Morriston, Swansea, by October 30th. 2540

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Padiham on Saturday, November 4th (please note reversion to normal date), 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Holy Trinity, Burnley, approx. 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cups of tea at Padiham at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting.—Brian A. Tomlinson, Branch Sec. 2578

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Fylde Branch. — Meeting at Holy Trinity Parish Church, Dean Street, Blackpool, Saturday, November 4th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. 2604

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Meeting at Whetstone, November 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Names, please, to Mr. H. Needham, 13, Victoria Road, Whetstone, Leicester, by November 1st. Everyone very welcome.—Ron. Hughes. 2560

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Monthly meeting, All Saints', Pontefract, November 4th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea Wordsworth Cafe. Names to Dr. D. Atkins, 1, Acacia Close, Townville, Castleford, by 2nd. —L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 2611

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Monthly meeting at Handsworth on November 4th. Cup Contest draw at 3 p.m. New rules now available—call change teams can enter. All welcome. Names for tea to Mr. J. L. Gilbert, 41, Ravenscroft Crescent, Sheffield 13, by previous Wednesday.—Andrew King, Hon. Sec. 2572

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting Basford, Saturday, November 4th, at 5 p.m.—S. Adams. 2580

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division. — Quarterly meeting at Cuckfield, November 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mrs. Jean Osborn, 79, Blount Avenue, East Grinstead (Telephone E.G. 23815) as early as possible. 2606

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting Ryde, November 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. — Anne Guy, Hon. Dis. Sec. Afton Road, Freshwater, I.W. 2602

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Practice meeting, Bishop's Cleeve (8), November 8th, 7.30 p.m. A.G.M., Cheltenham, December 2nd. 2591

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Witney and Woodstock Branch. — Monthly practice, Northmoor, Wednesday, November 8th, 7 to 9 p.m. 2582

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Practice meeting at Blofield on Thursday, November 9th. Bells (6) from 7 to 9 p.m.—N.C. 2570

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Annual general meeting at Thetford on Saturday, November 11th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 5.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Fuller, 29, Nelson Crescent, Thetford, Norfolk, by Wednesday, November 8th.—C. F. W. Philippo, Hon. Sec. 2596

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Braunston, Saturday, November 11th. Names for tea to Mr. S. Berry, Braunston, Rugby, by Monday previous.—F. W. Hancock. 2595

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North-East District.—Annual District meeting at Leiston on November 11th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. Guild executive committee meeting 7 p.m. Names for tea to Rev. D. H. Bryant, The Vicarage, Leiston, Suffolk, by Wednesday, November 8th.—T. N. J. B. 2601

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Nomination meeting, Saturday, November 11th, at Oxted. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Limpsfield bells available 3-4 p.m. and in evening. Names for tea to A. Newnham, 56, Westlands Way, by previous Wednesday.—K. G. Game, Dis. Sec. 509Z

EARLIER PRESS

TIMES

"The Ringing World" now goes to press at 10.30 a.m. on Mondays. Only Notices received by the first post on Mondays can be inserted in the same issue.

LATE NOTICES

MISCELLANEOUS

ROVING RINGERS.—Would members interested in joining the 21st annual reunion on Saturday, February 24th, and are not on the regular mailing list, please contact: Roy D. Mills, Nonsuch, Grays Lane, Ashted, Surrey. 2599

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Monthly practice on November 1st at St. Martin's is cancelled.—D. E. Sibson, Hon. Sec. 2612

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY GUILD.—The annual dinner will be held on December 2nd. Tickets 25s. Ringing arrangements to be announced later.—Susan E. M. Davis, c/o J.C.R., University of Southampton. 2600

WANTED. — Gramophone Record CLP 1441. Must be in good condition. 30s. offered. Write: C. W. Woolley, 39, Titian Avenue, Bushey Heath, Herts. 2610

MEETINGS

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Hoole, Chester, Saturday November 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea to E. C. Crewe, 24, Elmwood Avenue, Hoole, Chester, not later than November 1st. 2609

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Ely District.—Meeting at Over, Saturday, November 4th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business and ringing until 8.30. Special methods: Double Norwich and Little Bob. 2608

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Nomination meeting to be held at Hersham on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea after for those who notify Mrs. G. Webb, 29, Netley Drive, Walton-on-Thames, by previous Wednesday. 2593

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Church Stretton District.—Quarterly meeting, Bromfield, Saturday, November 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Teas.—G. Randle, All Stretton, Salop. 2598

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Ledbury District. — Quarterly meeting, Easton, Saturday, November 4th. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to J. Ward, Woolfields, Codrington, Ledbury. 2594

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Evening meeting at Pilton (5) on Saturday, November 4th. Bells 6.30 p.m. Everyone welcome.—C. M. Orme, Hon. Dis. Sec. 2607

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western District.—Practice meeting at Skipton (8) at 6 p.m. on Saturday, November 11th. Methods: Cambridge, Stedman, Plain Bob and call changes. All welcome.—Maurice Thurmott. 2576

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Bletchingley, Saturday, November 11th, 3-4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Godstone, with service at 6.30 and evening ringing at Godstone from 7-8.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. Large, 25, Nursery Close, Tonbridge, by Thursday, November 9th. Names for the annual dinner on January 13th, 1968, to Mr. E. J. Ladd, 4, William Street, Tunbridge Wells, please. 2597

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — The 60th Anniversary Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 25th, at St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, the president (Mr. A. H. Beamish) in the chair. Reception room and bar open at 5.30 p.m. Dinner served at 7 p.m. sharp. Tickets (22s. 6d. each) now available from the secretary. Cash with order, please, made payable to the Guild. Ringing has been arranged. Any member wishing to take part in a quarter or a peal on November 25th, morning or afternoon, please notify the secretary as early as possible.—J. L. Garner-Hayward, Hon. Gen. Sec., Lowfold, Ashorne, Warwick.

LATE NEWS

RECORD LENGTH ATTEMPT

Dear Sir,—I hereby give notice of a handbell peal record attempt

The peal attempt will consist of 20,160 changes of Plain Bob Minor consisting of 28 different extents. (The extents are Nos. 1, 2, 22, 21, 23, 25. C.C. Collection and several as printed in "The Ringers' Diary" and variations and combinations thereof, all with 5-6's only at backstrokes.)

The attempt will take place at Zermatt, Butler Road, Crowthorne, Berkshire, on Saturday, November 4th, 1967, commencing at 10 a.m. approximately.

The ringers taking part will be: Mrs. S. Sargeant 1-2, Frank C. Price (conductor) 3-4, Kenneth R. Davenport 5-6. Three referees will be present during the peal.

It is specially requested that ringers will make no attempt to inquire, either by telephone or personal call, about the progress of the ringing until after 5.30 p.m. in the interests of the success of the attempt.—Yours sincerely,

FRANK C. PRICE.

Crowthorne, Berks.

The first of three epilogues by Canon Gilbert Thurlow entitled "Cathedrals and Ringing" will be transmitted by Tyne-Tees Television on November 4th.

Mr. John Willis, a vice-president of the Kent County Association, was admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill, last Saturday (October 21st)

OSWY STREET CONTEST, 1967

Six teams entered on a wet and windy day at Ordsall on October 14th. The striking of most reflected the weather.

Warsop won again (27 faults). Derby Cathedral "A." Barnsley and East Retford rang moderately in comparison and came very close (64, 66 and 67 respectively). Stow were placed next never really settling down (114 faults). Derby "B" rang out after nine minutes, the bells being set on account of a miscall.

Roughtown and Friezland had hoped to enter but were prevented

Thanks were expressed to the judge, Mr. H. Chant, and his marker, Mr. P. Mounsey, to the Rector for the bells and to the ladies for the tea

Ringing also took place at Babworth and East Retford.

BACK NUMBERS

We carry a substantial quantity of back numbers from 1950. Price 9d. per copy plus postage, for recent years (1960-67). Other 1s. 6d. plus postage.

"THE RINGING WORLD" INDEX

for 1966 is now available for 6d., post free. Other indexes still in stock: 1965, 64, 63, 62, 60, 59, 58 and 57—all at the same price.

A Notable Composition

A Review of Stephen Wood's 5,009 Stedman Caters

BY EDGAR C. SHEPHERD

IT is a matter of regret that the Central Council Collection of peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques, published six years ago, failed to include Stephen Wood's fine 5,009 of Caters. I am conscious of a measure of guilt in this matter, because Mr. Critchley was kind enough to ask me for suggestions as to material for the collection, and in recommending certain matter I overlooked this important and striking contribution to the Stedman repertoire. It may not be inopportune, therefore, to reproduce the figures of the peal, to look at its structure, and to draw attention to its excellent qualities, and in doing so to pay some small tribute to the memory of a gallant gentleman who laid down his life in the cause of humanity.

First let us look at the construction of the peal and how it is built.

If a course of Stedman Caters is called 4.5. 8.9. 14.15. 18.19 and this is repeated four times a round block or section of five courses will be obtained, having the 5th place bell retained in fifths place. If the first course of this section is called 2. 14.15. 18.19, and the other four courses as above the result will be a section of five courses that may be repeated once, thus giving a round block of 10 courses. But in the second section the bells in 7th and 9th will be reversed. This means—and this is the important point—that if the first section is in the Tittums the second section will be in the Handstroke Home; or, if the first section is in the Handstroke Home the second will be in the Tittums. On this fact rests the construction of Mr. Wood's peal.

Now if each time the bells turn from Tittums to Handstroke Home the first course is called 2. 5s. 14.15. 18.19. two more sections will be spliced in and we shall have a round block of four sections (20 courses), half the sections Tittums and half Handstroke Home.

Lastly, if every fourth Turning Course is called 2. 5s. 8s. 14.15. 18.19. the number of sections will be doubled, and we shall have eight sections (40 courses) half Tittums and half Handstroke Home. And this is precisely what Mr. Wood has done. Look now at the figures of the peal and observe the very last course end, 134265879. If this is followed by the standard calling 4.5. 8.9. 14.15. 18.19. the next course end will be 321564879, which, you will observe, occurs as the third course end of the peal.

Apart from the first two courses, therefore, the whole peal consists of the round block of eight sections (forty courses). Mr. Wood has very cleverly exploited this great block, breaking into it at a convenient point by the use of two Opening Courses, and has so used his sections that only 5 and 6 appear in fifths place throughout. What this means to the qualities of the peal we shall see shortly.

At first sight it appears odd that the peal should end in the middle of a section, but an examination of the rotation of the 5th and 6th in alternate sections soon provides the reason why the peal cannot come round at handstroke at the end of a section. In the Tittum sections only the 5th is in fifths place (i.e. behind the 9th), and in the Handstroke Home sections only the 6th is in fifths place (i.e. behind the 8th). In order to maintain this quality it is necessary for either 5 or 6 to be Trebles-place bell at the end of each section, and this will inevitably result in ... 56978 appearing as the second course of a Tittum section and ... 65879 appearing as the second course of a Handstroke Home section. In no other position in the sections can 5 and 6 occupy these respective positions.

The number of changes, 5,009, is arrived at as follows.

The standard course contains 20 sixes, and there are 40 such courses, which gives us 800 sixes, 4,800 changes. The first course has 16 sixes and the second one 18 sixes; this pro-

5,009 STEDMAN CATERS

By STEPHEN H. WOOD						
231456789		4.5	8.9	14.15		18.19
431592876	2 3	6S	9	15		
134295		5			16	
321564879	2S	x	x	x		x
253461		x	x	x		x
542163		x	x	x		x
416352978	2	SS	8S	x		x
134256		x	x	x		x
321654		x	x	x		x
263451		x	x	x		x
642153		x	x	x		x
145263879	2			x		x
513462			A			
416253978	2	SS		x		x
643152			A			
145362879	2			x		x
512463			A			
146352978	2	SS	8S	x		x
612453			A			
415263879	2			x		x
543162			A			
146253978	2	SS		x		x
613452			A			
415362879	2			x		x
134265		x	x	x		x

Round in three rows.

vides 204 changes, bringing the peal to 5,004. Two odd rows at the beginning and three odd rows at the end bring the total to 5,009, a nice convenient number for a peal!

For the conductor, one or two points may be noted.

(1) In every course of the main blocks there are bobs at 14.15. 18.19. This is invariable.

(2) The end of each Tittum section is marked by the 6th as Trebles-place bell.

(3) The end of each Handstroke Home section is marked by the 5th as Trebles-place bell.

(4) Every Turning Course from Handstroke Home to Tittums includes the single at 5.

MUSICAL QUALITIES

We may now look at some of the musical qualities of this very interesting peal, and these are best revealed by an examination of one of the standard courses. I have chosen to set out in full a Handstroke Home course; a Tittum course is precisely the same but with 8 and 9 reversed, and the 5th behind the 9th.

It will be noted that all the bobs are in pairs and that each pair occurs when the fixed bells are behind. The fixed bells in this Handstroke course are 6, 9, 8 and 7, and the plan of calling is: 6th twice Wrong, 9th twice Right, 8th twice Wrong, 7th twice Right. In a Tittum course 9 and 8 would be reversed and 5 would take the place of 6.

There is, of course, a serious limitation imposed by the use of this plan. An examination of the structure shows that it is not possible to add any more calls to the course without upsetting the fixed bells. The course itself will

repeat four times to give a block of five courses and there are altogether four such blocks, all independent of one another. But there seems to be no way of shunting from one block to another by the use of bobs or singles without destroying the relative positions of 6, 7, 8 and 9; and to destroy this relationship would be to lose all the advantages of the plan. The only way Mr. Wood found to exploit his four blocks was to interleave them with the corresponding Tittum blocks. If a way could be found to run the four Tittum blocks (20 courses) in succession, with the 6th in fifths, and the four Handstroke Home blocks (20 courses) in succession in the same way, we should then have another notable composition, and one well worthy to be put alongside Mr. Wood's masterpiece.

After this short digression (indulged in chiefly to stir some of our composers!) let us look at the musical fare Mr. Wood offers, for here we shall find one or two novel features. One unusual experience is to find no 7689 at the Tittum course-end, and this might perhaps be counted a defect in an otherwise splendid peal were it not compensated by musical manifestations not often found in Stedman Caters. The very nature of the construction of the composition prevents the fixing of the sixth in fifths place in the Tittum blocks, and we must content ourselves with the 7589 terminations, the next best, perhaps, to 7689. In the middle of the course we have an 8975 termination, and the second course of each block produces a course-end 56978. In addition, the third course of each Tittum block provides two bobs on 96. So it will be seen there is a variety of music to make up for the missing 7689.

It is, however, in the Handstroke Home that we find the feature of outstanding merit. In most ordinary peals of Stedman Caters the beauty of the course-end is followed by a sharply contrasted bareness in the middle of the course; in this peal the composer has found a way to fill this gap and fill it very effectively. The eleventh six of each course brings up the termination 9876, and this is followed immediately by 9.7.68, an impressive and satisfying sequence. Thus we have the best of two worlds—the loveliness of the course-end with its 7698 and 7.9.86, and in the middle of the course the two lively inversions.

The two opening courses of the peal serve to introduce the main blocks and to raise the number of changes above 5,000. They merit a short note, for they produce two course-ends in the 7968 position. This is an attractive musical effect, often used in Grandsire Caters but rarely in Stedman. Composers might keep it in mind, for it may readily be resolved into the Handstroke Home position, as Mr. Wood shows in the third course.

On December 17th, 1932, Mr. Ernest Morris conducted this peal at Loughborough, when the band declared that it was the most musical peal they had ever rung; Stephen Wood rang the tenor. Eight years later he met his death while on duty in an air raid in Bristol. Among his several enterprises in the field of composition he has left us this remarkable peal, to provide ringing of unusual interest and a challenge to the conductor. I cannot recall that it has been rung on handbells, but that, clearly, is something well worth doing.

BENTLEY COMMON, ESSEX.—On Sept. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire and Plain Bob; 6 coverings): S. Hardy 1, W. R. Chandler 2, Catherine Hardy 3, R. Coughlan 4, R. J. Brown (cond.) 5, Miss B. Fisher 6. First quarter in three methods 3 and 4. For Evensong.

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By RICHARD A. G. INGLIS
5,007 STEDMAN CINQUES

No. 3	
2314567890E	6 19
21345678E90	1.4S.17.
314256	— 2
312456	S 2
214356	— 2
312465	5.7.8.10.11.13 15S.
214365	— 2
213465	S 2
314265	— 2

2143658790E	9.19.13S.15.16 18S.22.
413265	— 2
412365	S 2
213465	— 2

31256487E90	1.6.19.
314265	—
312465	S 2
214365	— 2

2134658709E	2.9S.15S.18.
314265	— 2
412365	— 2
413265	S 2
213465	— 2
314365	— 2

First rung on Thursday, July 27th, 1967,
at Lincoln Cathedral.

5,004 STEDMAN CINQUES

No. 6	
(2143658709E)	6 19
215364	S
214563	—
213465	—
314265	— 2
315264	S

31426578E90	2.13S.15S.19S.
412365	— 2
213465	— 2
214365	S 2
413265	— 2

4132657890E	12.14.15.16.17.18.19.
312465	— 2
214365	— 2

2143658790E	2S.13S.15S.
413265	— 2
312465	— 2

21356487E90	1.6.19.
214365	—
413265	— 2
412365	S 2

4123658709E	2.15S.
413265	S 2
312465	— 2
214365	— 2

Start at backstroke the second change of
a slow six.

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