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SURPRISE METHODS

THE latest addition to the A. J. Corrigan series on Surprise Methods, now available, is doubly welcome. Not only is it a valuable contribution to the history of this branch of the art, but its appearance signifies the compiler's recovery from an illness which has delayed publication for several months.

The contents include lists of the first peals in Surprise Major, Royal and Maximus methods, the Major list being naturally by far the longest. The lists are in alphabetical order by method names, which arrangement is appropriate to their chief purpose of showing whether or not a peal has been rung in a given method, though this is not the only information that can be extracted from the data given.

For instance, examination of the dates of first peals shows clearly the great expansion in variety of methods during the nineteen-thirties. Presaged by the introduction of two or three new methods in most years of the preceding decade, the year 1932 produced such a spate of Major methods that it must be regarded as the beginning of a new era. No doubt the activity of composers in evolving new methods provided both the opportunity and the stimulus for the achievements recorded, but success was due to another factor. That a band should ring a peal in a fresh method with little or no practice would have seemed incredible in earlier times, though it is becoming commonplace to-day. Without improvements in the technique of method ringing, the score could not have mounted so rapidly. If, in the near future, the flood shows signs of abating, the explanation must be sought in the approaching exhaustion of the Surprise Major field. But the experience gained is available for application in other fields. The lists of peals in Royal and Maximus methods suggest that the lead given by Major is already being followed on ten and twelve bells; although here the scope is much greater, the opportunities for peal ringing are fewer, so that progress will inevitably be less spectacular.

In addition to first peals in separate methods, the first spliced peals in progressive numbers of methods are listed. Comparison of these lists with those for single methods reveals a parallel development in both fields. The few years' priority discernible in the advance of spliced ringing is attributable mainly to one band. This fact suggests another instructive way in which the data can be dissected, namely, in terms of the towers at which new methods have been rung. Such an analysis discloses the

existence of enthusiastic pioneers in certain localities, whose success has encouraged others to persevere in the mastery of advanced ringing.

Mr. Corrigan's diligence in compiling this comprehensive tabulation has supplied a compact reference book of past achievements which will also form a convenient basis for planning future performances. M. H.

WISDOM FROM YORKSHIRE

A PART from chronicling domestic happenings, there is much ringing commonsense in the 74th annual report of the Yorkshire Association. It has been written by a knowledgeable pen. Commenting upon the wide variety of Surprise methods rung during the year, the report states: 'There is no doubt that Surprise ringing is becoming increasingly popular as the opportunity to practise the higher methods increases; this is all to the good, and your committee welcomes this advance in change ringing. It should, however, be pointed out once more that good striking is more important than intricate method ringing; there is no reason why the two should not go together—in many cases they do—but perhaps it will not be out of place to warn our younger members of the risk of allowing their ambitions to be ruled by impatience. It is better to establish a good standard of striking, until it becomes a second nature, than to launch out in difficult method ringing with the hope that good striking will follow. That rarely happens, and it should be borne in mind that, while the listening public cannot distinguish a Surprise method from a Plain one, there are many people who can tell the difference between good and bad striking; they can be influenced, and often are, by what they hear.

Another delicious touch! 'Ringers have many ambitions. Some like to ring as many new methods as possible, some to ring in as many different towers as possible. Some have a particular liking for tenors, while others seem to be attracted by heavy bells, presumably to work off some of their surplus energy!' This craving for weight is apparent in our performances this year by the peals which have been rung on the heavy back eight at Wakefield Cathedral and Leeds Parish Church and the peal of Minor on the back six at Howden.

During the year the Association rang 148 peals (a record) and it is interesting to note that 45 members rang their first peal and 316 their first in a particular method. Six members called their first peal, and the 148 peals were shared by 42 conductors. In the matter of individual performances, Mr. J. E. Cawser, who is the leader of the

band which has rung all the new Surprise methods for the Association this year, has passed the 200 mark for the Association; three others of his band—Messrs. M. C. Fowler, A. Firth and F. B. Ditcher—have passed the first century for the Yorkshire Association. Mr. Eric Critchley is the top peal scorer for the year with 38 peals, followed by E. Jenkins with 37. Mr. J. E. Cawser heads the list of conductors by calling 26 peals.

One final point. Mr. W. Barton, who has prepared 30 reports for the Association, has resigned. We should like, on behalf of the Exercise, to acknowledge his work. The Yorkshire annual report is an exceedingly useful document, especially for conductors. The current issue contains 42 compositions new to the Association, a useful addition to the ringers' library.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 13, 1950, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 48 cwt. 9 lb.

JOHN E. CHILCOTT ... <i>Treble</i>	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 7
PHILIP A. CORBY ... 2	DAVID E. PARSONS ... 8
JOYCE A. ENGLAND ... 3	PHILIP A. F. CHALK ... 9
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 4	WILLIAM ROGERS ... 10
LEONARD H. BOWLER ... 5	FRANK E. DARBY ... 11
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ... 6	T. MARK WHITE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. Spice, sen., mother of the hon. secretary of the Association.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 22, 1950, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 20 lb.

DOROTHY M. UDALE ... <i>Treble</i>	ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 7
ELIZABETH FAULKNALL ... 2	HARRY G. WAYNE ... 8
PETER J. STANFORTH ... 3	SIDNEY O. CHENEY ... 9
JILL POOLE ... 4	HERRICK B. BOWLEY ... 10
JOHN R. SMITH ... 5	WILLIAM J. ROOT ... 11
SHIRLEY BURTON ... 6	HAROLD J. POOLE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal of Maximus ever to be rung in this method.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tues., May 23, 1950, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

FRANK E. PERVIN ... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN PINFOLD ... 7
FRANK W. PERRENS ... 2	FRANK E. HAYNES ... 8
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 3	SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ... 9
ALBERT WALKER ... 4	HENRY H. FEARN ... 10
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 5	GEORGE E. FEARN ... 11
WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... 6	EDWARD T. LLOYD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Rung in honour of the installation of Alderman A. Paddon Smith, J.P., as Lord Mayor of Birmingham, in the City Council Chamber on the same day, May 23rd.

TEN BELL PEALS

WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., May 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

WILLIAM WENBAN ... <i>Treble</i>	STEPHEN H. HOARE ... 6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 2	RICHARD G. BELL ... 7
*THOMAS A. CLARK ... 3	†HARRY TIMMS ... 8
†GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN ... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 9
FREDK. W. ELLIOTT ... 5	FREDK. H. CROOK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by H. HALEY. Conducted by HAROLD G. CASHMORE.

*First peal on ten. †First peal of Stedman Caters. First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN. & N. SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 12, 1950, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 24 lb. in E.

MRS. K. F. J. PARR ... <i>Treble</i>	*ERIC DODDS ... 6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	†EDWIN C. HYNARD ... 7
MRS. OLIVE L. ROGERS ... 3	THOMAS F. DAVIES ... 8
NEVIL G. HOLLINGWORTH ... 4	DAVID G. CHARNLEY ... 9
SQUIRE CROFT ... 5	HAROLD W. ROGERS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by HENRY HALEY. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.

*First peal of Kent Treble Bob. †First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. For the dedication and opening by the Bishop of London of a temporary church built within the walls of the destroyed church.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 13, 1950, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

*WILLIAM A. LACY ... <i>Treble</i>	SHIRLEY BURTON ... 6
JILL POOLE ... 2	ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 7
ELIZABETH FAULKNALL ... 3	MICHAEL D. STANFORTH ... 8
ALBERT E. THOMPSON ... 4	JOHN R. SMITH ... 9
†HAROLD TAYLOR ... 5	PETER J. STANFORTH ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

*First peal. †First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

DERBY.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT & OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5200 CHANGES;

Ilkeston Variation.

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 lb.

ALBERT E. THOMPSON ... <i>Treble</i>	FRANCIS R. LOWE ... 6
WILLIAM A. PARSONS ... 2	MARK BARKER ... 7
EDWARD C. GOBEY ... 3	*PHILIP WHITAKER ... 8
WILFRED H. BUXTON ... 4	EDWARD F. GOBEY ... 9
JACK BAILEY ... 5	HAROLD TAYLOR ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by EDWARD F. GOBEY.

*First peal of Royal. First of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Royal for all except the ringer of the 3rd, and for the Association. To celebrate the centenary of the Parish Church of St. Paul.

HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 25 lb. in D.

REGINALD DORE ... <i>Treble</i>	*JAMES M. PAGE ... 6
*ERIC EDMONDSON ... 2	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM ... 7
ALFRED J. HOUSE ... 3	BERTRAM C. JOHNSON ... 8
STANLEY A. CARTER ... 4	SIDNEY F. CARTER ... 9
WILLIAM J. SOUTHAM ... 5	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE W. DEBENHAM.

*First peal on ten bells. First peal of St. Clement's Bob Royal by this Association. First peal in the method by all the band except the conductor.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.

JOHN ANDERSON ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM E. ROBINSON ... 6
MARGARET FIDELL ... 2	ARNOLD BRUNTON ... 7
KENNETH ARTHUR ... 3	DENIS A. BAYLES ... 8
JOHN A. BROWN ... 4	ERNEST WALLACE ... 9
THOMAS W. CROWE ... 5	W. NORMAN PARK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

The first peal of Cambridge Royal on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., May 11, 1950, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Comprising 1,440 each of London and Rutland, 768 Bristol and 480 each of Yorkshire, Superlative and Cambridge, with 113 changes of method. Tenor 10 cwt.

ALFRED J. HOUSE ... Treble	LEONARD H. BOWLER ... 5
*C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... 2	THOMAS J. LOCK ... 6
*RICHARD F. B. SPEED ... 3	THOMAS H. FRANCIS ... 7
ALICK CUTLER ... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

* First peal in six methods.

EWHURST, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF DUBLIN SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.

*LEONARD STILWELL ... Treble	*HAROLD A. MAY ... 5
*EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... 2	*T. MARK WHITE ... 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 7
*FREDK. A. MUNDAY ... 4	C. ERNEST SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

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

SHALFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., May 18, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GUILDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.

WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... Treble	*HAROLD A. MAY ... 5
*LEONARD STILWELL ... 2	*T. MARK WHITE ... 6
*EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 7
*FREDK. A. MUNDAY ... 4	C. ERNEST SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

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

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 19, 1950, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WM. G. BIBBY (II) ... Treble	DENNIS MADDOCK ... 5
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 2	WILLIAM ALLMAN ... 6
*FREDERICK JACKSON ... 3	JOHN ORM ... 7
HENRY O. BAKER ... 4	WALTER ALLMAN ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

* First peal.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 19, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANCES;

Consisting of 2,880 changes of London, 800 Bristol, 864 Cambridge, 576 Superlative, with 120 changes of method. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

TERENCE A. THORNBUR Treble	JOHN R. SMITH ... 5
ALFRED BALLARD ... 2	J. FREDK. MILNER ... 6
SHIRLEY BURTON ... 3	PETER J. STANFORTH ... 7
*ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. For the feast of St. Dunstan, patron saint of bellringers.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 19, 1950, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Ebbe,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

THOMAS W. BOND ... Treble	BERNARD S. NICHOLS ... 5
WM. H. B. WILKINS ... 2	EDWIN G. MOORE ... 6
ALAN R. PINK ... 3	CHARLES COLES ... 7
*M. ANGELA CARTER ... 4	EDGAR J. SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Major. The conductor's 200th peal for the Guild (141 conducted).

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., May 19, 1950, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

WILLIE AARON ... Treble	EDWARD IDDON ... 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 6
JACK CLEGG ... 3	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... 7
ALBERT GREENHALGH ... 4	RICHARD BENSON ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

CAMPSALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Comprising 768 London, 1,408 Bristol and 1,440 each of Superlative and Cambridge, with 123 changes of method.

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.

*JAMES THORLEY ... Treble	*ERNEST A. THORPE ... 5
*MILTON C. FOWLER ... 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 6
*F. BERNARD DITCHER ... 3	*GIBSON JACKSON ... 7
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ... 4	†J. EDWARD CAWSE ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. † 100th peal together. First peal of Spliced Surprise on the bells.

HODNET, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Luke,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 24 lb.

FREDK. E. WILSHAW ... Treble	ARTHUR PEAKE ... 5
FREDK. W. GROCOTT ... 2	THOMAS PRICE ... 6
*FREDK. LEECH ... 3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 7
MARGARET RIGBY ... 4	FREDERICK PRICE ... Tenor

Composed by W. P. WHITEHEAD. Conducted by F. W. GROCOTT.

* First peal of Major and first 'inside' on eight bells. First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANCES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

BERTRAM C. HINES ... Treble	FRANK V. GANT ... 5
ROBERT C. HEAZEL ... 2	HARRY TURNER ... 6
*STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 3	DENIS A. S. SYMONDS ... 7
ALBERT E. PRYKE ... 4	JOHN STICH ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

* 150th tower-bell peal. In honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. D. A. S. Symonds and grandson to Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Symonds.



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LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 lb.

MRS. A. RICHARDSON ... Treble	*THOMAS H. CHARLTON ... 5
*FRANK TAYLOR ... 2	*JOHN G. AMES ... 6
*FREDA OLDERSHAW ... 3	*CYRIL WANDER ... 7
AUBREY D. MILLS ... 4	*STANLEY E. BENNETT ... Tenor

Composed by E. H. LEWIS.

* First peal in the method.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Davies' Transposition.	Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in D.
JOSEPH A. FENTON ... Treble	*JOHN E. T. WISEMAN ... 5
FREDK. A. SALTER ... 2	WALTER NICHOLS ... 6
CLARENCE F. BRIGGS ... 3	HENRY CLAYTON ... 7
CLEMENT GLENN ... 4	ARTHUR E. HOODLESS ... Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First peal in the method.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
At the Church of St. James-the-Great,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation).

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

*MOLLY WESTOBY ... Treble	ARTHUR D. COOK ... 5
GEORGE E. FEARN ... 2	EDWARD T. LLOYD ... 6
S. GEORGE CHAPLIN ... 3	VINCENT A. HEMMING ... 7
JOHN SCOTT ... 4	†JOHN W. HOVEY ... Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. For the 40th anniversary of S. G. Chaplin's first peal.

TURNER'S HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*PETER ROMNEY ... Treble	JOHN DEARLOVE ... 5
C. ERNEST SMITH ... 2	LEONARD STILWELL ... 6
WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 3	GEORGE W. CECIL ... 7
KENNETH SNELLING ... 4	RAYMOND OVERY ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
At the Minster Church of St. Denys,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. E. Groves' Transposition.	Tenor 28 cwt. in D
BETTY SPICE ... Treble	DONALD E. LEE ... 5
MRS. DORA EVANS ... 2	FREDK. S. SLATFORD ... 6
GEORGE J. HAWKINS ... 3	ROGER O. FRY ... 7
PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING ... 4	KENNETH F. MEDWAY ... Tenor

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., May 21, 1950, in 3 Hours,
At the Church of St. Bertoline,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*ERIC B. ALLMAN ... Treble	ALBERT CRAWLEY ... 5
JOHN BRASSINGTON ... 2	HENRY PARKER ... 6
ERIC HORNBY ... 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN ... 7
DAVID SMITH ... 4	HARRY W. HOWARD ... Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON.

* First peal of Treble Bob. A birthday compliment to the father of the conductor and J. Brassington.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Consisting of 2,688 London, 1,056 Bristol, 672 Cambridge and 672 Superlative. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

JAMES A. MILNER ... Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS ... 5
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 2	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ... 6
WILFRED STEVENSON ... 3	WALTER ALLMAN ... 7
JAMES FERNLEY ... 4	JOHN WORTH ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., May 23, 1950, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans'. Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

WILFRED STEVENSON ... Treble	†HEDLEY WOOD ... 5
JUNE HENSHAW ... 2	*HARRY FARRER ... 6
*ANNE WORTH ... 3	JOHN WORTH ... 7
†GERALD FARRER ... 4	†GORDON HENSHAW ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung by fellow-members of the Christ Church tower to celebrate the occasion of the election to the office of Mayor of Macclesfield of Councillor J. B. Hilderley, a member of the tower.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., May 23, 1950, in 3 Hours,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

BERNARD BOVER ... Treble	PETER J. EVES ... 5
*FREDERICK SOUTER ... 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN ... 6
ERNEST J. RUNTER ... 3	ARTHUR H. EDWARDS ... 7
ERNEST W. FURBANK ... 4	GERALD FROST ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 24, 1950, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury,

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

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOSEPH D. HARRIS ... Treble	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 5
E. JOAN SALMONS ... 2	FREDK. W. ROGERS ... 6
*REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD ... 3	JOHN H. HUNT ... 7
JOHN W. MEADE ... 4	FREDK. W. BURNETT ... Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.

* First peal in the method.

BOWDON, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 24, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.

*JEAN C. BROWN ... Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS ... 5
*SELWYN H. DEARDEN ... 2	*DAVID VINCENT ... 6
*†STEPHEN LL. PARRY ... 3	*†PHILIP H. TOCOCK ... 7
*ALAN J. BROWN ... 4	*FRED DUNKERLEY ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by FRED DUNKERLEY.

* First peal in the method. † 25th peal together. First peal in the method for the Association. To celebrate Empire Day.

SIX BELL PEALS

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 13, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Hilda,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising one extent of Cambridge Surprise, two of Kent Treble Bob, and four of Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*MARGERY COULSON ... Treble	MICHAEL P. MORETON ... 4
MARGARET FIDELL ... 2	E. PETER ROCK ... 5
†WILLIAM MAUGHAN ... 3	PETER W. B. SEMMENS ... Tenor

Conducted by PETER W. B. SEMMENS.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor and in three methods. First peal of Minor and in three methods as conductor.

SILKSTONE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 13, 1950, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb.

WILFRED BROADHEAD ... Treble	WILMOT MANN ... 4
LEONARD WM. GARbutt ... 2	SQUIRE FIELDING ... 5
IRVING CROSSLAND ... 3	HARRY MANN ... Tenor

Conducted by IRVING CROSSLAND.

PRISTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., May 15, 1950, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 13½ cwt.

*RONALD LOCKE ... Treble	HEIDLEY GRIFFIN ... 4
JOHN FOWLER ... 2	EDWARD CONNOCK ... 5
*SIDNEY JOHNSON ... 3	DENNIS MERRICK ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD CONNOCK.

* First peal. A welcome to the Rector, the Rev. A. F. Bell, who was recently inducted to the living. Also a farewell to Ronald Locke, Royal Marines, who is leaving for a commission in Malaya.

BUCKWELL, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND GILES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE COURT MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 27 lb.

DONALD PITMAN ... Treble	JAMES SMITH ... 4
BRIAN PIDGEON ... 2	JOHN CARTER ... 5
SIDNEY SKINNER ... 3	JOHN QUICK ... Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

A birthday compliment for F. Parr and a wedding compliment for Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Retter. First peal on the bells.

HORTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's in twelve methods: (1) Spliced Single Oxford Bob and Single Court, (2) Spliced Plain and Double Bob, (3) Double Court, (4) Spliced St. Clement's and Childwall Bob, (5) Spliced Double Oxford and Thelwall Bob, (6) Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (7) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure; with 105 changes of method. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

*MARY PEMBERTON ... Treble	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 4
*WILLIAM F. BUTLER ... 2	GEORGE GILBERT ... 5
*+WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ... 3	*FRANK H. HICKS ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS,

* First peal in twelve methods. +100th tower-bell peal. Believed to be the first peal in twelve methods on the bells.

SHARNBROOK, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two 720's of Cambridge Surprise, one 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.

PERCY AMOS ... Treble	RONALD J. SHARP ... 4
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... 2	J. MICHAEL STEPHENS ... 5
WILFRED SURRIDGE ... 3	HARRY WOODING ... Tenor

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

A wedding anniversary peal for H. Wooding. Rung on the eve of Ascension Day. Believed quickest peal on the bells, restored by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston in 1924.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 19, 1950, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in A.

OWEN A. NEEDHAM ... Treble	CHARLES E. BROWN ... 4
*MARIANNE GANN ... 2	WILLIAM E. CLARKE ... 5
JAMES H. MUSSON ... 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... Tenor

Composed by Rev. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by J. L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Minor.

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ASHCOTT, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

CECIL T. CLARKE Treble	FREDERICK W. SMART ... 4
ARTHUR H. REED 2	WILFRID R. KENT 5
RONALD D. SHORT 3	WILLIAM G. GIGG Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.

The first peal of Minor on the bells.

BARNESLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of New London Pleasure, Duke of York, London Scholars, Oxford, Merchant's Return, Woodbine and Kent Treble Bob.

*DEREK DAVIS Treble	LEONARD W. CARBUTT ... 4
CYRIL RUSBY 2	*EDWIN ATKINSON ... 5
*IRVING CROSSLAND ... 3	ERIC STAINROD Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD W. CARBUTT.

* First peal in seven methods.

HANDBELL PEALS

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., May 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

ALBERT H. WARD 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 3-4	MICHAEL J. E. BEST 7-8

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 15, 1950, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPICED ROYAL, 5016 CHANGES;

In three methods, comprising 2,640 Plain Bob, 1,320 Double Bob and 1,056 Little Bob, with 264 changes of method. Tenor size 17 in A.

JAMES E. DANIELS 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 3-4	ROY C. HURST 7-8
MICHAEL J. E. BEST 9-10	

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

Witness: ALBERT H. WARD.

First peal of Spiced Royal by all and for the Guild 'in hand.'

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 15, 1950, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes,

AT CLEATHAM HOUSE FARM,

A PEAL OF SPICED MAJOR, 5004 CHANGES;

Being 26 methods: Colville, Romsey, Cheltenham, Leamington, Pulford, Avalon, Painswick, Kidlington, Double Oxford, Pershore, Hereward, Double Norwich, St. Clement's, Crayford College, Richmond, New London, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, Plain Bob, Little Oxford Bob, Gainsborough Little Bob, Wellington Little Court, Little Bob, Crayford Little Court, Bastow Little Court, and Kent Little Court, 352 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	JACK BRAY 5-6
GEORGE E. FEIRN 3-4	PHILIP BARNES 7-8

Arranged and Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

The greatest number of Major methods yet rung in a peal.

TARRYTOWN, N.Y., U.S.A.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., May 16, 1950, in 1 Hour and 54 Minutes,

AT 217, HIGHLAND AVENUE, PHILIPSE MANOR,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 120's of Stedman and twenty 120's each of Grandsire and Plain Bob. Tenor size 14 in D.

BERNARD H. SWINSON ... 1-2	ROLAND PARK 3-4
IRENE PARK 5-6	

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

No. 22. Tenor size 17 in A.

ALBERT H. WARD 1-2	DANIEL J. MATKIN 5-6
JAMES E. DANIELS 3-4	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 7-8
MICHAEL J. E. BEST 9-10	

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT 39, TITIAN AVENUE,

A PEAL OF SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Consisting of 960 London, 800 Superlative, 640 each of Rutland, Wembley, Ealing and Cambridge, 480 of Bristol and 320 of Ashtead, with 139 changes of method.

MARGARET D. WOOLLEY ... 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 5-6
*CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by HAROLD G. CASHMORE.

Umpire: WILLIAM WENBAN.

* 300th handbell peal. This umpire checked every lead-end throughout the peal. This is the first peal in eight Surprise Major methods rung on handbells.

SALFORD, LANCASHIRE.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Wed., May 17, 1950, in 1 Hour and 23 Minutes,

IN SACRED TRINITY BELFRY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings.

*J. NEVILLE HAILE 1-2	RONALD D. AIREY 3-4
ERIC NIXON 5-6	

Conducted by ERIC NIXON.

* First peal off tenors. First peal as conductor.

COVENTRY.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., May 19, 1950, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT 68, NEWFIELD ROAD,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14 in D.

MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH ... 1-2	HUBERT ASHLEY 5-6
FRANK E. PERVIN 3-4	*C. HENRY WEBB 7-8

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by FRANK E. PERVIN.

* First peal of Major 'in hand.'

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 22, 1950, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,

IN ST. MARGARET'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17.

*JOSEPH A. FENTON 1-2	*ALAN CATTELL 5-6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS 7-8

Composed by HENRY W. WILDE. Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD.

* First handbell peal in the method.

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ACTON, LONDON.—On May 14th, 1,280 London Surprise Major: W. J. Ellis 1, G. M. Kilby 2, L. H. Bowler 3, T. G. Bannister 4, F. A. Finch 5, A. Cutler 6, R. E. Price 7, T. Price (cond.) 8. For the first anniversary of the Mission to London.

ASHFORD, KENT.—On May 7th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: C. W. Everett 1, P. Page 2, W. Marshall 3, M. Marshall 4, F. G. Huckstepp (cond.) 5, W. Ring 6, H. Parks 7, T. Cullingworth 8. A birthday compliment to the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Cullingworth.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On May 7th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: R. Tomlin 1, Joyce Gibbons 2, Joyce England 3, A. Clayton 4, A. Arnold 5, J. S. Pink 6, L. Bance 7, L. A. Reece 8, D. E. Parsons (cond.) 9, F. D. Jennings 10.

BIGGLESWADE, BEDS.—On May 6th, 1,264 Bob Major: S. H. Wallace 1, D. J. Hare 2, A. S. Smith 3, H. W. Smith 4, J. Church 5, C. J. Smith 6, B. F. Sims 7, L. H. Bywaters (cond.) 8. First of Major for 2 and 3.

BOLTON, LANCs.—On May 12th at St. Peter's, Smithills, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. B. Webster 1, A. Tomlinson 2, A. Heywood 3, F. Brownlow 4, P. Crook, sen. (cond.) 5, A. Greenhalgh 6, R. Benson 7, J. F. Wood 8.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—At the Cathedral on May 9th, 1,320 Bob Maximus: D. Chatfield 1, Miss B. E. Philpott 2, Miss M. M. Brockman 3, J. Walter 4, H. R. French 5, C. E. Buesden 6, J. W. Unwin 7, S. White 8, S. Walter 9, T. H. Holmes 10, B. J. Luck 11, R. G. French (composer and conductor) 12.

CHARMINSTER, DORSET.—On May 10th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob and 720 Grandsire): Dorothy A. Walden (13) 1, C. A. E. Treasure 2, E. E. Coombs 3, C. W. Toyne 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5, R. J. Walden 6. First quarter for 1 and 6. First in three methods for 2, 3 and 4. A farewell compliment to ringer of 4th on his transfer from Piddlehinton Camp.

QUARTER PEALS

CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.—On May 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Barratt 1, A. Worth 2, E. Pimlott (cond.) 3, J. Lawrence (first 'inside') 4, A. Street 5, J. P. Jackson 6. A birthday compliment to J. P. Jackson.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On May 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. T. J. Roberts 1, F. J. Lewis, sen. (cond.) 2, J. Hope 3, Rev. T. P. Hearn 4, F. J. Lewis, jun. 5, E. H. Jefferies 6, W. H. Hayward 7, R. R. Wallis 8. Half-muffled in memoriam of Mr. Berkeley Stephens.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.—At St. Peter's Church on May 7th, 1,344 London Surprise Major: G. Boyden (first quarter) 1, H. T. Pye (first 'inside' in method) 2, E. P. Duffield 3, C. Andrews 4, A. Andrews 5, L. Mills 6, J. Edwards 7, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 8.

DEAL, KENT.—On May 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Joy Milner 1, W. Bottrill (cond.) 2, J. Baxter 3, M. M. Milner (first 'inside') 4, A. Rye 5, W. Mount (first quarter) 6. Half-muffled in memory of Canon Bowser, late Rector of this parish, after the funeral service.

GORING-BY-SEA, SUSSEX.—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Ansell 1, Miss Anne Rae 2, F. Meetens 3, K. Bryder 4, H. Weaver (cond.) 5, A. E. Baker 6. To mark 51 years' bellringing and the 76th birthday of Mr. A. E. Baker.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On May 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Ricketts (first quarter) 1, K. Gristwood 2, A. Jones 3, E. R. Gladman 4, W. W. Webb (first as cond.) 5, W. Godfrey 6, W. A. Lewis 7, W. Winter 8.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On May 11th, 1,264 Bob Major: S. H. Symonds 1, V. Ambrose 2, Miss O. B. Lambert 3, F. Day 4, D. Reeve 5, F. Boreham 6, F. F. Mortlock 7, M. T. Symonds (cond.) 8. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. D. Symonds, of Blackmore, Essex, on the birth of a son and heir.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.—On May 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Barbara Beeson (first quarter) 1, W. N. Genna 2, G. H. Hart 3, D. Burton 4, E. W. Thurlow 5, T. Collins (cond.) 6, R. Wilkinson 7, H. Stratford 8.

PUDDLETOWN, DORSET.—On May 5th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob and 780 Grandsire): I. Read (14) 1, C. A. E. Treasure 2, E. E. Coombs 3, C. W. Toyne 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5, F. C. Davis 6. First quarter for 1 and 6. First in two methods for 2, 3 and 4.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On May 4th, 1,200 Grandsire Doubles: W. Wood 1, L. Paice 2, W. J. Parker (cond.) 3, C. W. Barlow 4, F. Cooper 5, J. Lowe (first quarter, aged 15) 6.

STOKE, LINC'S.—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. R. Woods 1, Miss E. Towns (first quarter 'inside') 2, F. W. Pinchbeck 3, F. S. Parsons 4, J. M. Simpson (first as cond.) 5.

SWINDON, WILTS.—At Christ Church on April 23rd, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Royal: W. W. T. Daniell 1, Miss B. E. Ll. Roberts 2, C. J. Gardner (cond.) 3, F. Wilton 4, G. W. Townsend 5, Miss M. E. Richards 6, R. G. Townsend 7, H. W. Bishop 8, E. J. Berry 9, T. Townsend 10. First quarter of Kent Royal and first in the method for 2 and 4.—On April 30th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: C. J. Gardner 1, Miss M. Skinner 2, Miss M. E. Richards 3, T. Tickner 4, F. Wilton 5, Miss B. E. Ll. Roberts (cond.) 6, T. Townsend 7, E. J. Berry 8, W. W. T. Daniell 9, E. Vincent 10.

WARBOROUGH, OXON.—On May 7th, 1,200 Doubles, being 480 Bob Doubles and 720 Grandsire: P. Wilson 1, W. Absalem 2, F. Absalem (cond.) 3, J. Godman 4, T. Sellwood 5, A. Davis 6.

WHISTON, YORKS.—On May 1st, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: P. Longley (aged 12) 1, Cynthia Edmondson (15) 2, Stephen Wright (15) 3, Shirley Bampton (16) 4, W. Robinson (16) 5, G. S. Lee 6, T. Cutts 7, N. Chaddock (cond.) 8.

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Two ringers were elected
as Mayors on Tuesday.
Ald. A. Paddon Smith,
J.P., became Lord Mayor of Birmingham, and
Cdr. J. B. Hilderley Mayor of Macclesfield.
Cdr. Hilderley rings at Christ Church, Maccles-
field.

Worcester Cathedral bells will not be avail-
able this summer owing to the two remaining
pinnacles being repaired.

The band which rang the peal at Warminster
on May 20th would like to take the opportunity
of thanking Mr. N. Pearson for the arrange-
ments he made to welcome the visitors and for
having the bells ready on their arrival.

The Great Horwood, Bucks, bells are in the
process of being reinstated after receiving
attention at the Whitechapel Foundry. We
regret that we were misinformed in regard to
the paragraph in the issue of May 12th regard-
ing Bletchley, Bucks, bells.

Tender apologies are proffered to Mr. Denis
A. Bayles in regard to claiming that the recent
peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at West
Hartlepool was the first by a resident band for
the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Associa-
tion since 1924. He regrets that he has been
misinformed.

The 50th anniversary of a peal of Double
Norwich Court Bob Major at Walkden, Lancs,
was commemorated by a peal in the same
method on May 19th. The only survivor of
the original band, Mr. Percy H. Derbyshire,
rang the sixth.

Are there any licensed lay readers interested
in a peal attempt on Saturday, October 14th,
next? If so, please write to H. A. Price,
Eagle House, Yatton, near Bristol, stating (a)
parish in which licensed; (b) Grandsire or Sted-
man Triples preferred; (c) conductor or not.

BELFRY GOSSIP

As a mark of respect
and esteem for Mr. E.
Humphrey on his 80th birth-
day, a peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at
Reading on May 18th. Edgar rang the 9th,
which is not the best going bell in the tower,
faultlessly. He rang his first peal 63 years
ago, and in his own words has not been a
peal grabber, having yet to reach the 200
mark, but says he had the pleasure of ringing
some remarkably fine peals, several being
under his conductorship.

After the peal Mr. Humphrey entertained
the band to supper and his health was toasted
with sincerity by the band. He is a fine ex-
ample to any youngster, writes our cor-
respondent, being most punctual and regular
at Sunday service ringing and practice, and
his word is his bond. A fine man, a fine ringer
and a fine member of St. Laurence's band.

It cost the Yorkshire Association £29 10s. to
entertain the Central Council at York last year.

The meeting of the Tonbridge District of the
Kent County Association for June 3rd is at
Brenchley and not Benenden as announced in
a previous issue of 'The Ringing World.'

The contract for the new ring of eight, with
tenor approximately 16½ cwt., for the old
Parish Church at Bromley, Kent, has been
placed with Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

Before any attempt could be made to ring
a peal of Doubles at Norton on May 20th, the
efforts of the 'handyman' of the band were
necessary. After the tenor had been eased
from its headstock on one side and a wedge
driven in, the tenorman expressed the view
that he stood a much better chance now that
the bell did not catch on the frame. With
this and modifications to a few pulley-blocks
and rope holes on intermediate floors, a good
peal was rung, the first on the bells for 26
years.

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SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the Sussex County Association took place in Brighton on May 13th. The church chosen for the Association's service this year was St. Peter's, and at the service the Vicar of Brighton gave the address on the subject of the appeal of bells to the public and the services of ringers as church officials.

The business meeting took place in St. Peter's Memorial Hall after the tea, at which 121 members and visitors were present. With the Master, Mr. F. I. Hairs, in the chair, a welcome was extended to the Vicar of Brighton, the Vicar of St. Nicholas', Brighton, and to Mr. E. A. Whiting, churchwarden of St. Peter's.

The secretary (Mr. S. E. Armstrong) was instructed to write to Mr. O. Sippetts, hon. treasurer, expressing the meeting's sympathy with him in his illness and their hopes for a speedy recovery.

Mr. C. Tyler, of Henfield, a foundation member, had congratulations expressed to him on the anniversary of his diamond wedding, while Messrs. Godley, Steele and Cherryman were congratulated on their combined service of 172 years to Aldrington tower.

KEITH HART MEMORIAL.

Arising from the minutes, the secretary stated that £26 5s. had been raised towards the erection of a bronze tablet to the memory of Mr. K. Hart. This was considered a rather disappointing result, as the cost, apart from faculty fees and cost of erection, had been estimated at £25. Mr. C. J. Cooper enquired how the necessary balance was to be raised, and on the chairman's statement that it was to be paid from the Association funds, he suggested that towers could contribute more, and promised assistance from the Church of the Good Shepherd. A tracing of the proposed memorial was on view, and the secretary reported that the design had now been submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for their approval.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

The balance sheet, which showed a balance of £338 8s. 10d. on all accounts, and Master's report were adopted after the Eastern Division auditor had pointed out that his comment on the divisional balance sheet had been omitted and requested its inclusion.

The peal secretary reported the ringing of 87 peals in the year, with 36 conductors.

When the question of the divisional levies was opened, it was suggested that they should be at a fixed percentage, instead of being based on the expenses of the Central Fund, and levied at varying percentages from year to year. In the absence of the treasurer, Messrs. G. T. Jennings and R. G. Blackman replied, stating that previously the amount levied had not been enough to cover the working expenses; the cash balance in the central fund was becoming low; and that the divisions had had an opportunity to build up their balances at the expense of the Central Fund. The auditor of the Eastern Division was of the opinion that income should be levied on the year to which it applied. In particular the Eastern Division had received a number of outstanding affiliation fees for 1947 and 1948 that should be levied on the percentage for those years, which was considerably lower than the 91½ per cent. of 1949. Eventually the levies were adopted.

In the election of officers, the president and vice-presidents were re-elected en bloc.

A NEW MASTER.

Mr. F. I. Hairs, who had occupied the Mastership for the past year, although technically not a resident member, stated that there was no immediate probability of his returning to the county, and therefore wished not to offer himself for re-election. He thanked the officers and members for their loyal support during his period of office. Mr.

R. G. Blackman proposed and Mr. Hills seconded the election of Mr. and Mrs. Hairs as life members in recognition of their services, and on behalf of the meeting Mr. Blackman thanked the retiring Master for the excellent work he had done in the county.

The names of Mr. G. Bond, of St. Peter's, Brighton, and Mr. G. W. Cecil, of Haywards Heath, were proposed and seconded as Master. A ballot was taken and Mr. Cecil was elected and took the chair. He was welcomed by the retiring Master and the general secretary, and in reply thanked the meeting for his election.

The other officers were re-elected as follows: Hon. treasurer, Mr. O. Sippetts; hon. general secretary, Mr. S. E. Armstrong; peal secre-



MR. G. W. CECIL,
The new Master of the Sussex County
Association.

tary, Mr. J. Dearlove; Central Fund auditors, Messrs. Bond and Overy; hon. trustees of funds, Messrs. Butcher, Dallaway and Tompkins.

INSURANCE OF RINGERS.

On the question of insurance of ringers, Mr. Rayfield, of Rye, described an accident he had experienced in the tower resulting in a broken ankle and wrist, by a heavy trap door which caused him to fall from the tower ladder. He had approached the Church authorities regarding any liability they might have in such instances, as it was one which might well affect any ringer anywhere. He had been informed that as there was no inherent defect in either the trap door or the ladder, no liability was admitted by the Church authorities.

Mr. Dallaway stated that he had had a communication from an insurance company who would be prepared to issue a group policy at a cost of one shilling per head per annum. Mr. C. J. Cooper stated that in general church insurance did not apply to ringers, as they were not employees, but on payment of a small extra premium, and with the inclusion of an extra clause, ringers could be adequately covered against accidents in the tower.

The Master closed the discussion by pointing out that ringers should approach their Parochial Church Councils with the object of getting this clause included in the insurance policy.

Under any other business, Mr. P. Bond complained that the meeting had only been advertised once in 'The Ringing World' and that the touches rung at the meeting were too long. The General Secretary replied that two notices had been published in 'The Ringing

(Continued in next column)

Joint Meeting at Nuneaton

A joint meeting of the Coventry Diocesan Guild and the Hinckley District of the Leicester Guild took place at Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, on May 13th. Ringing to suit all tastes on the ten bells was indulged in during the afternoon and evening, and a short service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. R. P. Rigby, president of the Coventry Diocesan Guild. He paid tribute to ringers whose service for the church combined so readily with social activities in a greater degree than other spheres of church work.

About 60 sat down to tea in the Parish Hall and later in the evening a social was held, attended by about 150 ringers and friends. Dances and games were interspersed with hand-bell ringing, tunes by the Earl Shilton ringers and Grandisre Caters by a mixed band of both Guilds. Mr. H. J. Poole, president of the Leicester Guild, congratulated the organisers on the success of the gathering and hoped it was the forerunner of many more. Mr. F. K. Measures (hon. secretary of Hinckley District) acted as M.C. in his usual efficient manner.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION MEETING AT RUISLIP.

Not since pre-war days had the Middlesex visited Ruislip on a Saturday afternoon, and a very warm welcome was extended on May 13th by the Vicar, the Rev. E. C. Morimer, to the Association and to the 35 members who attended.

Ringing under the supervision of the Master, Mr. T. Price, was confined to the standard methods and Cambridge Surprise Major, the long draught of rope making good striking difficult for the less experienced ringers.

A beautiful service, conducted by the Vicar, was very much enjoyed, the closing hymn, 'Ruislip Bells,' being a special feature, this hymn being written and the tune composed by a friend of the Ruislip ringers many years ago. Mr. Raymond Cooke was at the organ.

An open-air business meeting was held in the beautiful spring sunshine, with Mr. E. C. S. Turner in the chair, supported by the district officers, when a very warm vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar, the organist, and Mr. Tom Collins, the secretary of the Ruislip band, for arranging what had proved a most enjoyable meeting.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The May meeting was held in the tower of the ancient Church of St. Oswald, at Guiseley, on May 20th. At this church the old bells were installed in 1846 and taken away for recasting in 1946, and they are now a pleasure to ring and listen to.

Ringing commenced early and continued until 5 p.m., when an adjournment to the old Tythe Barn (now modernised as a Parochial Hall) was made for tea, over twenty enjoying a splendid meal. At the business meeting the president (Mr. T. Hill) occupied the chair and two new members were elected, viz., Mr. C. Maxfield (Boston Spa) and Miss Jean Stewart (Otley).

The vote of thanks to the Rector, churchwardens and local company, including the ladies for preparing and serving tea, was proposed in a very able manner by Mr. Jack Gibson and seconded by Mr. J. W. Benten. Mr. W. Dixon acknowledged the vote.

The next meeting is due to be held at Idle on June 24th.

(Continued from previous column)
World' and that every affiliated tower had had a copy of the agenda, report and balance sheet. The Master explained that the long touch which was specifically mentioned—of Surprise Royal—was due to a misunderstanding, as it was the intention to stop the bells at the half-course, but they ran beyond before the conductor realised the fact. Mr. Bond thanked him for his explanation.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

RECORD PEAL YEAR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES RAISED.

THE annual meeting of the Association was held at Pudsey on May 6th—the first time since January, 1905. Ringing commenced at 2.30, and good use made of the bells during the afternoon and evening. A brief service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. G. Manby, who welcomed the Association in a most cordial way, and during the course of his address referred to the all-important part played by bellringers in these modern times, when in many quarters there was evidence of a drift away from the Church.

A sumptuous tea was afterwards served in Radcliffe Lane Schools, followed by the business meeting, when the chair was taken by the president, the Rev. C. O. Ellison, supported by the general secretary (Mr. L. W. G. Morris), the hon. treasurer (Mr. S. F. Palmer) and the hon. peal secretary (Mr. W. Barton).

Hearty votes of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens, local company and others who had so willingly given their services, particularly the organist and ladies who had officiated at the tea tables, were unanimously accorded.

The President presented the Association's 74th annual report, which showed that the membership now stood at 1,573, a net increase of 53 for the year. However, notwithstanding this very satisfactory and welcome gain in membership, the balance sheet showed a loss on the year's working of some £33—a situation which had engaged the earnest attention of the committee, who felt they would be failing in their duty if they did nothing to bring this situation to an end.

The assets of the Association were largely accumulated during the early years of its life, and it is not for the present generation to squander them by using them to make up deficiencies in annual income, but rather to hand on unimpaired and, if possible, enhanced such as had been received from the past.

The Hon. Treasurer amplified the position, and the hon. auditors reported that the balance sheet was in accord with all the documents and vouchers produced.

The peal secretary's report showed that a record number of peals had been rung during the year, which included for the first time in the history of the Association peals of Spiced Surprise Major in five and eight methods. Surprise methods new to the Association were Pudsey Surprise Royal, and Dublin, Rochester, Sandringham, Conisborough, Darlington, Doncaster and Tavistock Surprise Major, the last four being rung to a peal for the first time. The total number of peals rung during the year was 148 at 79 churches and one handbell centre, and the calling had been shared between 42 conductors.

Mr. P. Birkett moved and Mr. S. Steel seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously, the principal officers and district secretaries being thanked for their work.

A vote of thanks to the hon. auditors was also carried unanimously.

THE SECRETARYSHIP.

The next business was the election of the general secretary. Mr. L. W. G. Morris, the retiring secretary, announced that no other nominations had been received, and, as he had now held office for 12 years, and believed in official posts being changed more often, referred the members to a paragraph contained in the Western District secretary's report, which read, 'At the moment the efforts of the younger members are being mainly confined to peal ringing, but we hope that in time they will turn their attention towards taking over some of the more important offices of the Association, thereby becoming more interested in the administrative side of its work.'

Mr. Morris explained that when he was last re-elected three years ago, he had asked the members seriously to look round for a successor,

and earnestly hoped that someone interested in the affairs and well-being of the Association would come forward.

Mr. W. E. Critchley, in moving the re-election of Mr. Morris, said the Association owed much to his counsel and services, and hoped he would find it possible to continue in office. Mr. W. Ambler seconded, and Mr. Morris was unanimously re-elected. Acknowledging his re-election, Mr. Morris thanked the members for their renewed confidence, adding that as long as he held office he would do his best but, as before pointed out, he hoped to be relieved at an early date.

NEW PEAL SECRETARY.

The next business was the election of the hon. peal secretary. Mr. W. Barton, the retiring peal secretary, was warmly thanked for yet another year's service, and this was the 30th report he had prepared. It was not surprising, therefore, that he had expressed a desire to be relieved of the task, and the Association had been singularly fortunate in having a peal secretary of his calibre at its disposal for so long.

Mr. Barton explained that it would be 30 years in November since he took office, and if a successor was appointed, he would only be too pleased to give every assistance possible. He had consulted Mr. W. E. Critchley, of Doncaster, and had very great pleasure in moving his election as from November. Mr. E. J. Padgett seconded and Mr. Critchley was unanimously elected to take over from November.

Mr. Critchley, replying, said that he owed practically all he knew in the matter of proof to Mr. Barton, and realised his limitations sufficiently well to know that if he held office for thirty years, he would probably not then have acquired the vast knowledge and experience at the command of Mr. Barton.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The President reported that the General Committee, at its annual meeting, had given very serious consideration to the financial affairs of the Association, and had unanimously passed a resolution in the following terms:—

(a) That the annual subscription rate be increased from 2s. to 3s. per year.

(b) That the entrance subscription be increased from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.

(c) That the completion fee in respect of out-county members be increased from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. (i.e., making O/C life membership subscription 7s.).

(d) That the cost of the annual report to life members be increased to 1s. 6d., and to non-resident members 2s.

A long discussion ensued, which was characterised by many helpful suggestions and criticisms, but it soon became apparent that there was general realisation that action could

crystallised into two main groups, and Mr. E. J. Padgett moved and Mr. R. H. Dove seconded the following amendment:—

'That a levy of 3d. per ringer be imposed on each ringer for participating in a peal of 5,000 changes or more, this to be an alternative to the proposed increases in the subscription rates.'

The General Secretary pointed out that 1949 had been a record year in the number of peals rung by the Association, and that had the suggested levy been effective on an average of 2s. per peal rung, the revenue would have amounted to only £14 16s. or little more than half the loss that had been incurred on the year's working. On being put to the vote, the amendment secured only seven votes, and the committee's resolution carried substantially.

Although the increased rates do not apply until January 1st next, it was gratifying that several members had voluntarily increased their subscriptions this year.

Applications from St. Giles' and All Saints', Pontefract, to be transferred from the Eastern District to the Southern and to St. Nicholas', Thorne, to be transferred from the Eastern to the Southern, were approved.

Regarding the place and date of the next meeting, it was pointed out that the Association celebrated its 75th year this year, and Mr. P. J. Johnson moved and Mr. J. W. Moxon seconded that as the first meeting was held at Birstall in October, 1875, it would be appropriate to try and arrange the next meeting there as near the original date as possible, which would be October 28th. This was carried unanimously.

The following new members were elected: Mrs. H. Schofield and Miss A. Laycock, of Drighlington, Marjorie Smith, of Woodlesford, and L. Bounphrey, of Leeds.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman for the able manner he had conducted the meeting.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH BERKS BRANCH.

Despite a wet start to the day, the afternoon proved fair, and a company 120 strong met at East Hagbourne on Saturday, May 20th, for the annual meeting of the North Berks Branch.

A well-struck quarter of Stedman Triples, rung by the local band, was brought round before the service. The near-full church was good testimony to the strength of the branch. In his simple and sincere address the Vicar of East Hagbourne, the Rev. Smith Masters, welcomed the ringers and visitors to 'the loveliest church in the world,' a phrase he said every incumbent used when talking of his own church, and wished them a happy and profitable time. After the service, in which all joined wholeheartedly, justice was done to an ample tea in the Village Hall.

At the meeting the branch was fortunate in having present the Master of the Guild (the Rev. C. E. Wigg), the Deputy Master (Capt. A. R. Poyntz) and the general secretary (Mr. W. Hibbert), all of whom had made long cross-country journeys to attend. The Master expressed pleasure at such good attendance. The officers were duly elected, the re-election of Mr. A. E. Lock as secretary and treasurer bringing him into his 30th year of office. A promising sign was the nomination of 30 new members.

After tea ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge and London Surprise Major. The evening proved far beyond all expectations and, several local towers being open, many ringers rounded off the day with a visit to them on their homeward journey. M. A. C.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT. — On May 7th, 1,440 Bob Minor: Anne Holmes 1, Barbara Mitchell 2, Hildegarde Bird (first 'inside') 3, L. W. G. Skinner 4, Ralph Bird 5, Arthur S. Richards (cond.) 6.

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Scarborough's Restoration Scheme

AN appeal is to be opened for funds for the fabric of the ancient Parish Church of St. Mary, Scarborough, and included in the estimates which the Church Council have considered is one for the retuning and rehanging of the bells, which are the only ring in Scarborough. On July 25th this year, exactly 100 years after the church was reopened upon the completion of the restoration, a scheme will be launched known as the 'Friends of St. Mary's (Scarborough)', whereby all classes of people who are interested in the church will be able to help. In the meantime, however, the appeal for the bells fund has already been opened, the target being £800.

The bells, a ring of eight, with a tenor 21½ cwt., are now 99 years old, and it is hoped to have them put right for the centenary. Of special interest are the treble and tenor, which were exhibited by the founders, Messrs. John Taylor and Co. at the Great Exhibition of 1851, and obtained the first prize—a medal and the special approbation of the jurors. The six middle bells were added to complete the octave, and the completed ring was dedicated on Dec. 22nd, 1852. Ringers from St. James' Church, Hull, attended to open the bells.

St. Mary's, Scarborough, has always been a popular tower with ringers on holiday, and they are numerous. The company here prides itself on providing a welcome for them. If at all possible an opportunity to ring is afforded the visitor, but numbers at times present an insoluble problem. Those disappointed are always invited to come again for the Sunday evening service or on practice night.

Many visitors come year after year, and it is no exaggeration to say that there are hundreds of ringers who hold this tower with very deep affection. To all friends both near and far and to all lovers of bells and historic churches an appeal is now made for help in raising the £800 necessary for the restoration of the bells.

Included in the work is the dismantling of the separate frame in which the treble bell at present hangs above the rest, and an extension of the bottom oak frame to accommodate the whole ring. At present only the 6th and tenor are hung on ball bearings; it is intended that all the bells should be so hung.

It is coincidental that the architect, who has surveyed the fabric, has recommended that the tower should be the first part of the church to receive attention, and this certainly within the next two years. It is hoped to be able to proceed with the work on the bells at the same time.

In view of the magnitude of restoring the fabric of the church, the Scarborough ringers are endeavouring to raise as much as possible of the £800 needed for the bells independent of the July appeal. Contributions, however small, will be gratefully received and an acknowledgment sent. These should be sent to the Vicar (the Rev. F. E. Ford), the Vicarage, Scarborough, or to Mr. B. Sutton, 12, Highfield, Scarborough.

Plight of York Bells

A VISITOR AT THE MINSTER.

The 'Yorkshire Evening Press' had an interesting article last month about the bells of the city's churches.

The writer calls attention to the following:—

The ring of six at Clifton is in need of retuning and rehanging.

The fine six at Bishophill Senior are out of commission through hooliganism.

The ring of eight at St. Martin-le-Grand, damaged in a raid on the city, is still lying on the floor under the tower.

The bells of the Churches of St. John and St. Lawrence are in need of renovation and it is possible that soon an appeal will be issued to enable the work to be carried out.

The article continues: Thousands of York citizens have been and still are spellbound at the message of York Minster bells heard each



SCARBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH AS SEEN FROM THE SOUTH-WEST APPROACH.

Sunday morning. Over the Vale of York through many years the sound of the bells has gone forth carrying their promise of hope and joy.

Take a tour of the belfry and watch the ringers at work in their spacious ringing room, which is also the clock room. To reach this necessitates a climb of 70 steps of the spiral stair of the south-west tower.

A further climb of 32 steps brings the visitor to the chiming room used before the year 1925 as the ringing room. Still climbing another 28 steps, the end of the spiral is reached. From here begins the passage along the west front which connects the western towers.

It is from this point that beautiful views of the city and the Hambleton Hills are obtained. Along the west front and up 20 more steps one enters the chamber in the north-west tower. Here is housed Great Peter, the monster bell of 10 tons 16 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. This famous bell, tuned in E flat, is the fourth largest in England and is rung easily by one man.

Great Peter, heard each midday except Sunday, when it is rung from 10.20 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., was recast in 1927. It hangs in a massive oak frame made from about 300ft. of timber and put up in 1845.

Passing on to the south-west tower, a climb of 20 steps brings the visitor to the chamber, in which hang 13 bells. The largest weighs 60 cwt. and is in B flat.

Isleworth Bells Again

After a silence of almost five months, ringing was recommenced at All Saints', Isleworth, with a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, by nine members of the local company and one visitor, immediately prior to the dedication and opening by the Bishop of London of a temporary church built within the walls of the destroyed church.

The dedication took place on May 12th, and on the following day a successful meeting of the London County Association was held at the church. In addition to a well-attended service, tea and business meeting, ringing consisted of various methods, including Cambridge and Yorkshire Surprise Royal.

The chancel and nave of the new church stretches the entire length of the old, and two substantially sized transepts are incorporated. Main entrance is by the west door of the 14th century tower, and from this aspect the new has been blended with the old in an admirable and pleasing manner. Externally the tower has been completely repointed.

The week-end following the dedication, May 20th, was the day chosen by the local company for its annual ringing outing. Places visited were Luton, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, Woburn, Bromham and Bedford. A variety of methods were rung, including successful courses of London Surprise Major, Cambridge and Yorkshire Surprise Royal.

Excellent arrangements were made by the officers of the various towers visited, and thanks are due to Mr.

Ronald Sharp, of Clophill, for co-ordinating these.

H. W. R.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

JOINT MEETING AT FAIRFIELD.

On April 29th a successful joint meeting of the Stockport and Macclesfield Branches, together with the Peak District Branch of the Derbyshire Association, was held at Fairfield, Buxton. In spite of exceedingly wet weather, some 50 members and friends were present at the service, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. Saunders-Williams, who also gave an interesting address. The singing of the hymns was accompanied on the handbells by the local ringers.

After tea a shortened business meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. A. R. Elkins. New members were elected from Taxal, Miss Dorothy Rowbottom, Miss Lilian Martin, Allan Dronfield and Eric Dowson, Bowdon, Kathleen M. Lewis, and a non-resident life member, Mr. J. W. Sykes, of Topley. The meeting received with deep regret the announcement of the deaths of Mrs. Shuker, wife of the Lancashire Association general secretary, Mr. W. H. Shuker, and Mr. Ben Thorpe, of Ashton. Mr. Worth congratulated the Fairfield ringers on being the possessors of a very handy and pleasant ring of eight. Further ringing was enjoyed on the bells until a late hour, and the conclusion of everyone was that Taylor's have made an excellent splice.

BELLS OF RUGBY AND DISTRICT

BY PERCY AMOS.

Rugby and the vicinity provide many examples of historical churches and bells of interest: Monks Kirby, with its noble church and fine eight bells (tenor 24½ cwt.); Lutterworth, associated with the famous John Wycliffe; Claybrook, with its pre-Reformation tenor (only 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in E flat), is a cover to a grand octave; Cold Ashby, with its old bell of 1317 (2nd of four), and another of the same century at Winwick (tenor of three); Stanford-on-Avon, situated in beautiful parkland, a fine church with unusual pinnacles to the tower containing five bells by Hugh Watts, of Leicester, and a stained glass window of St. Anthony with his emblem, are all places worth a visit by ringers and archaeologists alike.

A little further south is Claycoton, whose church of six centuries is doomed to be closed. Here also are two bells by Watts, and a third by Briant, recast from an earlier bell by Edward Newcombe. The few people in this village are very indignant at the church's prospective closure, resulting from the unpopular grouping of more than two parishes under one priest, likewise Wolfhamcote, over the Warwickshire boundary.

Further south still is Yelvertoft, whose church shows the scars of the Cromwellian v. Charles I. civil wars, where the Roundheads sharpened their swords on the stone pillars in the chancel. Here are five very musical bells, all by Hugh Watts, 1635, and some of his best. One bears the unique inscription, 'Cvm cvm and praye.' The tower is strangely wider at the top than at the bottom.

Rugby itself has the only church with two rings—an eight in a fine south-east steeple, and a five in an old west-end tower, with unusual clock chimes. Ashby St. Ledgers, with four bells, is associated with the gunpowder plot of 1605. Braunston, only a few may know, has six bells (by John Briant), all older than the church—1811 and 1849 respectively, and a good six for Briant's. Newnham, until 1939, used to be known as the steeple where you rang 'underneath the arches' (the ropes are now taken upstairs) as the steeple is open to the churchyard on three sides.

Further north is Holdenby, whose tower used to possess six bells. These were sold by James I. as 'private property' when he took over the estate and are said to have weighed 'seven thousand weight' and valued at £166 13s. 4d. His son, Charles I., was imprisoned here by Cromwell after the battle of Naseby. There are now two bells at Holdenby, by Rudhall, 1719, which might be described as a treble and a tenor for five; one is 34in. and the other 46in.

Naseby, although so historical, has had practically every trace of its civil war confiscated: only a few relics are left, including the old tithe barn of 1651, which has disgracefully been allowed to fall into ruins. In the churchyard is a large copper ball brought back from the siege of Boulogne (1544): it used to be affixed to the top of the spire. The tower contains a musical five (though noisy in the belfry—only one floor). All these bells were originally by Watts, 1633 and 1640, but two were recast in 1939. The writer had the pleasure of a peal here at the time of the christening of Prince Charles, whose mother and grandparents (the King and Queen) occupied Naseby Hall from 1926-1929.

To the west of Naseby is the village of Lilbourne, whose five bells are said to be the last that were produced at the Kettering foundry of the Eayres. Thomas Eayre, sen., died during the last days of 1757, being buried on January 3rd. 1758. His son, Thomas, jun., having brought the business to a state of bankruptcy, had to call in his uncle, Joseph, to finish the job at Lilbourne. Lilbourne previously had four bells by Watts, which the

Eayres recast into five in 1761 and 1762. They were said to have a tenor of 14 cwt. The recast tenor is 10½ cwt. and 39in. diameter across the lip. They are not the best of tone, but their inscriptions, as follows, are nevertheless interesting: (1) 'Sparkling I spread rapid tinklings through the ears, 1762'; (2) 'Untouched I am silent, strike me and I will sing sweetly, 1762'; (3) 'John Robinson, Vicar; Joseph George and George Soden, Churchwardens, 1762'; (4) 'Wee are ordained for the praise of the Lord. Eayre, fecit 1761'; (5) (the tenor) 'Cum sono si non uis venire nunquam ad preces cvpies ire (meaning, "If you be unwilling to come when I call to prayers, you won't ever wish to go at all"), Eayre, fecit 1761.'

The Kettering bell foundry was situated in Bellfoundry Lane, later renamed Wadcroft. Thomas Eayre, sen., was originally the founder of Daventry's eight bells in 1738—three of which have since been recast—one by Joseph Eayre in 1764. A fourth is now cracked and about to be recast. Oundle's eight bells are also associated with the Eayre family, as are Stoke Doyle (five) nearby.

LEIGHTON, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—On May 13th, 1,320 Grandsire Doubles: C. E. Edwards 1, G. Lewis 2, A. G. Owen 3, E. W. Colley 4, R. F. Davies (cond.) 5, E. F. Wilcox (first quarter) 6.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.—On May 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: John Stevenson (first quarter) 1, D. Pearson 2, W. Stevenson 3, June Henshaw 4, Anne Worth 5, G. Farrer 6, W. Gayes 7, H. Farrer 8, H. Wood 9, J. Worth (cond.) 10.

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EASTER TOUR IN SHROPSHIRE.

The Society's Easter tour this year had its headquarters at Shrewsbury, whence the members ranged on bicycles across some 150 miles of Shropshire. The resident band was delighted to welcome eight old members, bringing up the total present to over twenty. On the evening of April 13th the tour was rung in on handbells and lasted for a week.

Two attempts were made, at Wem and Church Stretton, for a peal of Spliced London, Cambridge, Bristol and Superlative, but were both unfortunately lost after passing the halfway mark. An attempt for a peal of seven Minor methods on the last day broke down in the fifth 720, but Cambridge Minor was successfully brought round at Count on April 16th, being the first peal of Surprise on the bells and for three of the band.

The programme of Major methods drawn up by the Master was almost completed, showing that the Society's eight-bell ringing is as good as its performance on six bells. Courses of London, Cambridge, Yorkshire, Superlative, Bristol, Lincolnshire and Pudsey were brought round, although the tour ended before a band could be induced to learn New Gloucester. No less than five first courses of Cambridge Major were rung, putting us in hopes of some distinguished Surprise Major ringing during the rest of the year by resident bands.

Cambridge Royal was rung at Coalbrookdale and Wrexham, and Stedman Cinques at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. Of Minor methods the Society was persuaded to learn Durham and Warwick Delight, but at the majority of six-bell towers devoted itself to admiring the considerable prowess of the beginners.

Particularly fine rings were discovered at Clive, Hope Bowdler, Oswestry and Wrexham. We should like to record our profound gratitude for the kindness and courtesy of the Rector and the whole village of Brosely for some splendid ringing and their generous hospitality.

Among other memorable incidents was our expulsion from Much Wenlock by a policeman, charged with interfering with the course of justice at the Quarter Sessions. On Tuesday, April 18th, seven un-public-spirited members stepped over the county boundary into Staffordshire to ring at Forton, subsequently demonstrating at Lilleshall how fast seven people can 'grab' six bells. As usual, the company endured impressive hardships, in particular getting drenched daily by intermittent rain, and some members displayed as astonishing a propensity for losing themselves as others for obtaining dry lifts on lorries. In spite of everything, however, the tour embraced over twenty towers, culminating in a magnificent coach tour to Chester, accompanied by handbells.

We are extremely grateful to all who co-operated so generously in ensuring the smooth running of the tour, to the help given by the old members, and to Miss Catharine Trist, to whose excellent organisation and management we owe the great success of the tour and our pleasant memories of Shropshire.

AN 800th ANNIVERSARY

Ringers of St. Mary's, Eastham, Cheshire, gave full co-operation to the parish in their thanksgiving week to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the fine old Gothic church.

The bells were rung each day, and when Bishop N. H. Tubbs visited on the Wednesday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles were rung by G. F. Pickthall 1, P. C. Holmes 2, J. Amer 3, A. L. Shepherd 4, A. J. H. Scott (cond.) 5, T. H. Wood 6. A peal was rung on the Saturday, which is reported in the appropriate column.

LETTERS

WILLIAM BANISTER'S BOOK

Dear Sir,—I was interested in the letter of your correspondent, Mr. A. R. Botting, in the issue of May 12th. I discovered a similar copy of William Banister's 'Change Ringing' in a secondhand bookshop at Gloucester a few years ago and did not hesitate in purchasing it for the modest price of 1s. 6d. The book was in fairly good condition considering its age, and on the inside of the cover was written the name of G. H. Phillott and his Cheltenham address in the year 1874, the same date the book was published. This gentleman, you may recall, sir, was an eminent ringer in this area in the latter part of the 19th century, having taken part in many peals, notably 15,000 Grandsire Caters at Cheltenham in 1889, and the first combined universities' peal of Holt's six-part Grandsire Triples at Appleton in 1877.

I was intrigued, however, by the late owner's notes on conducting Holt's Original and Six-part peals of Grandsire Triples, for on the back page were written ten sentences in Latin and appended the 'clues' to them, for in addition the author had written 'a' means into the hunt; 'a' followed by 'l' stands for 1 lead; 'a' followed by 'm' stands for 2 leads; 'a' followed by 'n' stands for 3 leads; 'a' followed by 's' stands for 4 leads; 'a' in asper is the plain course; 'æ' is the first single; 'e' out of the hunt; 'i' middle; 'o' wrong; 'n' right.

This was followed by similar notes on Holt's Six-part peal (6th observation). The book also contained some notes on Stedman, Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob Major. It is, as your correspondent states, an excellent work on ringing, and contains a wealth of information to learner and conductor. I should be interested to know if there are other copies of the book still in existence.—Yours truly,

B. A. NEWCOMBE.

Cheltenham.

FIRST NAME PEAL OF LONDON

Dear Sir,—In the appreciation of the late Mr. G. W. Steere by G. H. C. in 'The Ringing World' of May 12th, the writer mentions the first name peal of London at Gravesend. The first name peal of London Surprise was rung on January 2nd, 1904, at St. Stephen's Church, Rochester Row, Westminster. The founder of 'The Ringing World' rang the 2nd bell. Superlative was rung at St. John the Divine's, Waterloo Road, in March, 1905, and Stedman Cinques at St. Giles' Cripplegate, in 1912.—Yours faithfully, JOHN R. SHARMAN.

Cogenhoe, Northampton.

LARGEST PARISH CHURCH

Dear Sir,—Whether your correspondent is referring to the largest parish church at present in full use when he quotes St. Botolph's, Boston, I do not know, but it has long been held that the distinction of being the largest parish church in England belongs to the now blighted St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth.

This fine church, as many of your readers, who in the past we were pleased to welcome as holiday visitors to the belfry, will have learned with regret, is now a ruined shell. The walls and tower still stand, but lacking a roof and all interior furnishings, including bells.

However, the dimensions relevant to this discussion still exist, and I quote from a booklet published in aid of the Restoration Fund: Length 236ft., width 112ft., width at transepts 150ft., area 25,023 square feet.

The church is said to be wider than any other church or cathedral in England, with the exception of Coventry Cathedral.—Yours, etc.,

PETER G. W. NEWSTEAD,

Late member, St. Nicholas' Company of Ringers.

Masonic Ringers Meet

It was at the end of last year that a number of ringers who are members of the Order of Freemasons were compelled to abandon a peal attempt because of a fraying rope. After their labours they adjourned for refreshments and it was during this social hour that Peter Crook suggested that we try to hold a meeting of ringers of the 'Order'.

The arrangements were soon on the way and on May 6th the meeting was held at Manchester. The day opened with a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Eccles. During the afternoon the Manchester Town Hall (12) and St. Mark's, Worsley (10), bells were much enjoyed, rounds to Cambridge Surprise being rung.

At 6 p.m. the party sat down to dinner at the Masonic Temple, Wor. Bro. F. R. Williams occupying the chair. The guests of the evening were Wor. Bros. Canon F. Paton-Williams, Rector of Prestwich, and Canon Taylor, Rector of Eccles.

The Rev. R. D. St. John Smith, in proposing the toast of 'Our Guests,' said we had real friends in them, always sympathetic in all matters relating to ringing.

Canon Paton-Williams, in reply, said he thought there was gathered together that day a body of Masons who loved to ring church bells and that it might well be that this meeting, which is believed to be the first of its kind, may be the nucleus for forming a new 'branch' of ringers—men who have two things in common.

Canon Taylor proposed the toast to the ringing craftsmen. He endorsed what had been said by Canon Paton-Williams and urged that steps be taken to achieve that end. It had given him pleasure to give permission for the peal at his church, and greater pleasure and enjoyment to hear his bells rung so beautifully.

Arthur D. Barker responded and he was supported by R. E. Elson.

The following were present: F. R. Williams, A. Ford, A. McCormack (Manchester); G. R. Newton, E. C. Birkett (Liverpool); P. Crook, E. Ford, T. F. Hilton, H. Howarth and V. Martin (Bolton); A. Tomlinson, T. Wilson (Blackburn); J. W. Grounds (Standish); F. Dunkerley (Rochdale); D. Vincent (Hale); N. Heaps (Southport); J. Taylor, T. R. Bury (Haslingden); Rev. R. D. St. John Smith (Crawshawbooth); R. E. Elson, H. Price (Nottingham); A. D. Barker (Slough); F. W. Perrins (Coventry).

Musical items were provided by H. Howarth and T. F. Hilton, with A. McCormack at the piano, also touches on the handbells. During the evening Canon Taylor conducted the party through the rooms of the Temple.

Grateful thanks were expressed to the conductors at the various towers for their very willing assistance.

Enquiries were received from many brethren who, probably owing to distance and other engagements, were unable to be with us. We thank them all for their interest and assure them that we are already talking as to where we might hold our second meeting.

P. C. and F. R. W.

QUARTER PEALS

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Hook (first in the method away from tenor) 1, G. King 2, E. Avery 3, J. Harris 4, A. Smith (first in method 'inside') 5, A. Hoad 6, W. H. Hoad (cond.) 7, A. H. Hoad 8.

SEVENOAKS, KENT.—On May 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Sutton (first quarter) 1, P. Turley 2, Mrs. Baker 3, H. Baker 4, L. Turley 5, R. Collins 6, Miss D. Colgate (first as cond.) 7, G. Davey 8.

ST. HELENS, LANCs.—At St. Thomas' on May 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: N. C. Henshaw 1, W. E. Court (cond.) 2, A. R. Pockington 3, P. G. Parrott 4, I. D. Campbell 5, J. A. Willans 6. First quarter by 1, 3, 5 and 6.

OBITUARY

MR. F. CRYER.

By the passing of Mr. Frederick Cryer on May 13th at the age of 91 years, the Yorkshire Association has lost one of its oldest members.

Mr. Cryer commenced his ringing career on the old three bells at St. James' Church, Selby, in the early 1870's, and after a few years in that tower he joined the Selby Abbey Company, of which he became captain about 1890 and retained the position until 1938. He was most regular and punctual for Sunday service ringing and practices until early 1945, when owing to old age he could not climb the steps leading to the tower, but he retained his love of the Abbey bells to the last.

After the Great Fire at the Abbey in 1906 the local company raised over £300 towards the restoration of the bells, largely through Mr. Cryer's enthusiasm, and he spent hundreds of hours in teaching learners when the present ring of ten bells was installed in 1909.

He was a vice-president of the Yorkshire Association for a number of years.

The Abbey bells were rung half-muffled for the funeral service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. Read. The lesson was read by the Rev. C. O. Ellison, the president of the Yorkshire Association.

MR. GEORGE JAY.

We regret to record the death on May 15th of Mr. George Jay, of Chadwell Heath, Essex, at the age of 69 years.

A contemporary of the Pye brothers, most of his 80 peals had been rung with them.

Owing to the indisposition of his wife he had not done much ringing of late years, but was a welcome visitor to Fyfield, where his assistance and advice was much appreciated. He will be missed very much by them.

MR. G. V. MURPHY'S 300 PEALS

Mr. G. V. Murphy, of Iltham, S.E.9, in his 300 peals (263 tower bells, 37 'in hand') conducted 10 peals. His peals comprise 61 different methods and extensions, including 36 different Major methods (or combinations of methods in the case of spliced). The peals were rung in 71 towers and no fewer than 85 were at St. Paulinus', Crayford. His list is appended:—

Tower bells.—Doubles: two methods 1, five methods 1.

Minor: four methods 1, five methods 1, seven methods 2, Cambridge Surprise 1.

Triples: Plain Bob 2, Grandsire 16 (conducted 2), Stedman 29, Canterbury Pleasure 1, Union 1, Erin 1.

Major: Little Bob 1, Plain Bob 18 (4), Pulford Bob 1, Double Oxford 2, Cheltenham Bob 1, Gainsborough Little Bob 1, Gonville Bob 1, Wellington Little Court Bob 1, Double Norwich C.B. 16 (1), Little Albion Treble Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 17, Oxford Treble Bob 4 (1), Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob 1.

Surprise Major: Cambridge 31, New Cambridge 3, Yorkshire 19 (2), Pudsey 2, Superlative 14, Lincolnshire 5, Bristol 11, Rutland 5, London 10, Ipswich 2, Belgrave 2, and one each of Norfolk, Camdon, Ashtead, Eardley, Belvedere, Aldenham, Kent and Withyham. Spliced Surprise in two methods 1, four methods 6, five methods 1, and six methods 2.

Caters: Grandsire 1, Stedman 3.

Royal: Plain Bob 2, Double Norwich C.B. 1, Kent Treble Bob 3.

Surprise Royal: Cambridge 3, Yorkshire 2, Belgrave 1, Prittlewell 1.

Cinques: Grandsire 1, Stedman 1.

Handbells.—Doubles: two methods 1. Minor: Plain Bob 2. Triples: Grandsire 1. Major: Plain Bob 12, Kent Treble Bob 3, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Double Norwich C.B. 3. Caters: Grandsire 1. Royal: Plain Bob 9, Kent Treble Bob 1. Maximus: Plain Bob 3.

Outings

ST. ALBANS DISTRICT.

On May 13th, the St. Albans District of the Hertfordshire Association held an outing open to all towers in the district. This new venture was decided upon at the last annual meeting, and the towers represented were St. Albans (Cathedral and St. Peter's), Hatfield, Essenden, Kimpton, Harpenden and North Myms.

The route chosen was Burnham, Wokingham, Hurst, Twyford and Marlow, the perfect weather enabling the party to enjoy to the full the Thames Valley scenery in spring. Methods rung included Real Double Norwich, Yorkshire and London Surprise, and an attempt at Double Mancroft Bob.

The day was voted to have been most successful, and thanks were due to Mr. Bert Lawrence (driver and proprietor of the coach), who also being Hatfield Ringing Master, 'knows the ropes' and succeeded in keeping us to our scheduled times.

The incumbents and local ringers are thanked for their co-operation.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE'S, HOLLOWAY.

St. Mary Magdalene's band, together with local ringing friends and wives, selected Essex for their annual outing this year, which took place on May 20th.

Ringing took place at Bishop's Stortford (10), Dunmow (8), Bocking (8), Colchester (8) and Great Waltham (8). Lunch was served at Braintree and tea at Colchester.

WISBECH BRANCH.

For the first time in three years the Wisbech Branch of the Ely Diocesan Association had a fine start for their outing, which took place on May 17th.

Through the tulip fields of Lincolnshire the towers visited were Heckington (a fine eight), Winthorpe (6), Newark, Bulwell, Nottingham (where Mr. Clem Glenn had all in readiness), Bottesford and Grantham.

WYE, KENT.

On May 13th, the Wye band had a very happy and enjoyable outing, ringing in all eight towers visited. We convey our grateful thanks for the kindness shown at each tower and the permission for the use of the bells.

W. N. C.

THE LATE MR. G. W. STEERE'S PEALS

Appended is the list of 437 peals rung by the late Mr. G. W. Steere. Of these 47 were rung by the Royal Society of Cumberland Youths.

TOWER-BELL PEALS.

Grandsire Triples 10, Grandsire Caters 4, Grandsire Cinques 1.

Stedman Triples 62, Stedman Caters 30, Stedman Cinques 33, Erin Cinques 1.

Plain Bob Major 13, Plain Bob Royal 3, Plain Bob Maximus 2, Spliced Minor 4, Little St. Lawrence Bob Major 1, Double Norwich Court Bob Major 23.

Kent Treble Bob Major 5, Kent Treble Bob Royal 4, Kent Treble Bob Maximus 3.

London Surprise Major 37, London Surprise Royal 1, Cambridge Surprise Major 20, Cambridge Surprise Royal 6, Cambridge Surprise Maximus 4, Superlative Surprise Major 21, Superlative Surprise Royal 1, Bristol Surprise Major 11, Bristol Surprise Royal 1, Guildford Surprise Major 4, St. Blaise Surprise Major 1, Norfolk Surprise Major 1, Surrey Surprise Major 1, Spliced Surprise Royal 1, Spliced Surprise Major 1, Dublin Surprise Major 2, Double Dublin Surprise Major 2, Reverse Dublin Surprise Major 1; total 316.

HANDBELL PEALS.

Grandsire Triples 58, Grandsire Caters 15, Grandsire Cinques 1, Stedman Triples 8, Stedman Caters 12, Bob Major 14, Bob Royal 12, Bob Maximus 1, total 121.

Beverley & District Society

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the present ring of 10 bells in St. Mary's Church, Beverley, 60 ringers attended the meeting on Saturday, May 13th.

During the afternoon the bells were rung from rounds to Stedman Caters.

A shortened form of service was conducted by the Rev. G. Storer, R.D., followed by tea in the Regal Cafe.

After tea the Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Tardrew, introduced the guests he had invited for the celebration. They included the Mayor and Mayoress of Beverley, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Hull, Mayor and Mayoress of Goole, Mr. G. W. Odey, M.P. for Beverley, and the C.O. the Depot the East Yorks Regt., Major Thresher, and Mrs. Thresher. Lord Hotham was unable to attend through illness.

Speeches followed and the ringers heard what the civic heads thought of bells and ringers. The two Mayors did like bells and ringing, but the Lord Mayor of Hull, being a ringer's son and having lived in a home of handbells and ringing conversation, preferred them in the distance. The other guests and a churchwarden also spoke.

Although an hour was spent on speeches it was time well spent, as six of the guests were meeting ringers for the first time and they learned quite a bit about ringers and their organisations. A course of Grandsire Triples on handbells introduced the guests to the practical side of ringing.

The ringers then returned to the tower and the bells were rung until 9 p.m. in the standard methods.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.

The Bristol Rural Branch monthly meeting for May was held at Tytherington (5) a week earlier than usual, to avoid Whitsun arrangements, and was attended by about 30 members. Before the ringers' service at 4.30 (conducted by the Rev. Waddleton) the bells were put to good use in methods up to Bob Minimus—a novelty for some of the six and eight-bell ringers being the Grandsire and Stedman Doubles with no tenor covering. The business meeting followed a most enjoyable tea in the Church Hall, presided over by Mr. Harding, branch chairman. The most outstanding business of the day was, of course, the very welcome admission of the Vicar of Tytherington, Mr. Davies, tower captain, and a good keen group of the local band into the Association.

Ringing continued into the evening, under Mr. F. Skidmore's able supervision, until rather prematurely halted through a treble-rope defect.

All had a happy afternoon and evening, thanks very largely to the arrangements of the Vicar and Mr. Davies.

N. D.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD NEWARK DISTRICT.

A highly successful meeting was held at Sutton-on-Trent on May 20th. The 60 ringers present represented upwards of 17 towers in three counties. The bells of All Saints' Church were raised promptly at 2.30, and methods ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Surprise Major were rung. The Vicar (the Rev. R. T. Keal, conducted a short service at 4.30 p.m., an excellent tea in the Church Hall following.

At the business meeting which followed it was resolved to invite the Lincoln Diocesan Guild to participate in a joint meeting at Collingham in July. Three new members were elected. At the conclusion of the business Mr. J. W. Raithby, the general secretary, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the local ladies for preparing tea, and to the visitors for their welcome support.

Ringing continued on the excellent octave until 9 p.m., when the meeting dispersed. This was one of the most successful meetings in the short history of the district.

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

SILVER WEDDING

JOHNSON—HEMMING.—On June 4th, 1925, at St. Andrew's, Hampton, Evesham, Joseph Daniel Johnson to Ethel Gladys Hemming. 7119

WEDDING

FRANCIS—ADDISON.—On Monday, May 29th, 1950, at St. Paul's Church, Thornaby-on-Tees, Yorkshire, Thomas H. Francis and Margaret Addison. Future address: 2, Camden Square, London, N.W.1. 7122

WANTED

Wanted to purchase, 'Ringing Worlds' for 1945; January, February, September, November, and numbers 1,780, 1,783, 1,785, 1,792, 1,796, 1,797, 1,805, 1,811, 1,812.—John A. Hilton, 2, Albert Cottages, Clarendon Road, Broadstairs, Kent. 7109

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

HOLLAM, DULVERTON, SOMERSET, is a well-known beauty spot for holidays in peace and pre-war plenty on the borders of Exmoor. Fishing and shooting available. Good train and bus services. Terms 1 guinea per day.—Miss M. S. Churchill, Dulverton 41. 7055

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

'THE ART AND SCIENCE OF HANDBELL RINGING,' illustrated, by J. M. Turner, Washfield, Devon, late president of N.E. Devon Guild of Ringers and broadcaster. 3s. 6d. post free from the Author. 6787

No better pen picture of early ringing societies has been published than J. Armerig Trollope's 'COLLEGE YOUTHS,' illustrated, 5s. 6d. post free.—'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd. Guildford.

MISCELLANEOUS

A well-struck peal deserves permanently recording in a 'DELIGHT' LOOSE-LEAF BOOK. The ideal system for practical ringers. Full particulars and samples from William Viggers, 37, Highfield Gardens, Aldershot. 6014

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals are submitted.

BACK NUMBERS.—A limited number of back numbers for most issues of 1946 and 1947 are available, post free 4d. per copy.—Apply Editor, 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MEETINGS

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, Hernhill, Saturday, June 3rd, 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 1s. 9d. per head. Names for tea, with cost enclosed, must be sent to B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 7035

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting at Lakenheath, June 3rd, 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—D. M. Reeve, Hockwold. 7050

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Brenchley (8) on June 3rd, 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to R. A. Whitehead, 19, Deakin Leas, Tonbridge. 7044

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Sible Hedingham (8), Saturday, June 3rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. Castle Hedingham (6) bells available in the evening.—H. A. Pratt, District Sec. 7049

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Crusaders of the S.W. Division.—Meeting at South Benfleet (6), June 3rd, 3.30 p.m. Meeting essentially for learners, rounds upwards. Everybody welcome. Names for tea to C. L. Matson, Elm Tree Cottage, St. Mary's Road, South Benfleet. 7051

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Fairwarp (8), Saturday, June 3rd, at 3 p.m. Tea for those who advise G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 7084

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—Ringing anniversary will be held on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Everybody welcome.—V. Ambrose. 7083

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Old Woking, Saturday, June 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to D. Munday, 92, High Street, Old Woking.—F. Hawthorne. 7080

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Whitchurch (8), June 3rd. Tea for those who notify J. A. Hill, Maisley, Highbury Road, Anne Valley, Andover. 7060

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Bottisham, Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 7062

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rickmansworth (10), June 3rd, 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30.—S. Hoare, 56, Acme Road, Watford. 7024

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting at Bradfield on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Names for tea to Rev. A. King, Bradfield Vicarage, near Sheffield. Bus leaves Malin Bridge Terminus at 2.30.—J. E. Turley. 7066

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn and Rossendale Branches.—Joint meeting at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, June 3rd. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in the tower at 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 7053

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Singleton on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. James Wilson, 20, Church Road, Singleton.—J. H. Foster. 7090

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Northwich on Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3.30 and tea and business meeting directly after. 7106

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Practice meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, W.C., on Monday, June 5th, 7 p.m. Nearest station, Tottenham Court Road.—T. J. Lock, District Sec. 7098

SALISBURY GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Meeting at Corscombe, Saturday, June 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea and meeting follow.—C. H. Lathey. 7054

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elooe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Long Sutton, Saturday, June 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Harrison, Roman Bank, Long Sutton, before June 3rd. 7067

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham and Guildford Districts.—Combined meeting at Worplesdon (8) on Saturday, June 10th, at 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Names for tea by June 7th to Mr. S. Petter, The Laurels, Fox Corner, Worplesdon.—G. S. Joyce and E. T. Lee, District Secs. 7077

MARKSBURY, NEAR BATH, SOMERSET.—Annual ringers' service, June 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea essential.—W. A. Prescott, Timsbury, near Bath. 7074

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts Branch.—Crawford Cup contest and meeting, Tuxford (6), Saturday, June 10th, at 3 p.m. All names for tea to Mr. W. Brett, 1, Ashvale, Tuxford, Newark, by June 6th. Bells open for all after contest.—H. Denman. 7076

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Abergavenny, Saturday, June 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and business to follow. Tea 1s. 6d. per head to those who notify by June 5th Mr. George Ward, 69, Park Crescent, Abergavenny.—F. J. Hannington. 7078

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Halesworth District.—Meeting at Southwold, June 10th, 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to Mr. R. S. Payne, 63, Pier Avenue, Southwold, by June 7th. 7081

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting at St. Paul's, Cross Stone, June 10th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Names for tea to Miss H. Bell, 5, Cooper Street, Halifax Road, Todmorden.—V. Wilson Sykes, Hon. Sec. 7092

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Llandudno, June 10th. Bells (8) 2. Service 3, followed by business meeting and tea. All those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, June 7th.—W. Catherall, 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham. 7091

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, June 10th, Pentrich (5). Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5. Business after tea. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, June 7th, to Mr. H. B. Walters, 139, Lowes Hill, Ripley, Derbyshire. 7081

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting at Kempston (8), June 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—Michael Stephens. 7096

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Bishopstone (8), June 10th. Tea.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon. 7097

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting at Rothley, June 10th. Bells (6) 3. Tea at Cossington Mill Cafe 5 o'clock. Names for tea by Tuesday, June 6th, to Mr. F. Key, 36, Firfield Avenue, Birstall, Leics. 7099

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD (Loughborough District) and **MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.**—Joint meeting, Ashby, June 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Radford's Cafe. Names by June 7th to E. W. Beadsmore, Lyncroft, Packington Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.—O. Hall/J. Cotton. 7102

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting on June 10th at Huyton (6). Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea for those who write before Wednesday, June 7th, to Mr. W. R. Birchall, 68, Rupert Road, Huyton. 7103

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Piddington (5), June 10th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Names for tea by 6th, please.—C. Kinch, 3, The Causeway, Bicester, Oxon. 7100

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Meeting, Clay Cross (6), June 10th, 3. Names by June 8th Rev. F. Mitchell, Clay Cross Vicarage, Chesterfield.—A. B. Cooper. 7104

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, North Cave (6), June 10th. Bells 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea for those notifying Mr. A. Cockin, Everthorpe, Brough, by first post, June 7th. 7117

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Meeting at Balcombe on June 10th. Names to Mr. A. Laker, 4, Barnfield Cottages, Balcombe.—C. A. Bassett. 7123

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting at Henlow on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea at 5.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy. 7112

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting at Tortworth, June 10th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify by June 7th to Miss Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 7118

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Meeting at Gawsorth (8), June 10th, 3. Service in church 4.30. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5. Names for tea not later than June 7th to Mr. H. C. Lonyon, 87a, Mill Street, Macclesfield. 7105

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Saturday, June 10th, meeting, St. Mary's, Woodford (South Woodford Station, Central Line). Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in Memorial Hall, ringing after. Names for tea early to A. Boyack, 58, Grove Hill, E.18. (WAN 1575). 7095

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The half-yearly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 10th. The bells of Consett (8), Blackhill (8) and Benfieldside (6) will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at Benfieldside. Names by June 7th to Mr. C. T. Lamb, 26, St. Mary's Crescent, Blackhill, Co. Durham.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Sec. 7093

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Shoreham-by-Sea (8), June 10th. Tower open 2.30. Names for tea by 7th, please.—B. W. White, 14, South View, Henfield. 7116

OXFORD GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Thatcham (8), June 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by June 7th to Mr. R. Christopher, County Police Station, Thatcham, Newbury. 7115

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD (Nuneaton District) and **LADIES' GUILD** (West Midland District).—Joint meeting at Bulkington, Nuneaton, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5. Names for tea, Wednesday, 7th, please.—A. J. Hinde, Nuneaton District Sec., 15, Church Street, Bulkington, Nuneaton. 7114

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—Meeting Portishead, Saturday, June 10th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea at White Cot Dairy. Please notify by June 7th.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., 20, Macaulay Buildings, Bath. 7113

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—Wotton Underwood (6), June 10th, 2.45. Service 4. Tea, meeting after.—E. F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks. 7111

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, June 10th, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Giles', Camberwell, afterwards.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey. 7108

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Flamstead (6), Saturday, June 10th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by June 7th to Miss P. A. Martin, 12, Chapel Street, Berkhamsted.—P. A. M. 7107

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark District.—By-meeting, Staunton-in-the-Vale (5), Saturday, June 17th. Bells 2.30. Tea at Staunton Arms 5. Notifications by Monday, 12th.—P. N. White, 131, London Road, New Balderton, Newark. 7094

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Branch.—Annual meeting, Hook Norton (8), Saturday, June 17th, 3. Names for tea by Tuesday previous.—J. Keyte, Charlbury, Oxon. 7101

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Meeting at Otlands Park, Saturday, June 17th. Details later.—Miss W. Oliver. 7120

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting, Chaddeley Corbett, Saturday, June 17th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and business. Names for tea by previous Thursday, please.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge. 7121

(Notices continued on next page.)

NOTICES—continued.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
—The annual meeting and six bell prize contest, June 24th, at Lindley. For teas please notify Mr. G. Gee, 92, Wellington Street, Oakes, Huddersfield, by June 10th. Entrance fee (10s.) to A. Farrand, 12, Greenhill Cottages, Roughtown, Mossley, Manchester, by June 10th if possible. 7047

STAFFORD ARCHDEACONEY SOCIETY.
Annual meeting, Lichfield, June 24th. Bells, Cathedral (10) 2.30 to 3.15 and 6.15 to 7; St. Mary's (8), St. Michael's (6) from 3 p.m. Cathedral service 3.30. Tea in St. Mary's Parish Room 4.30, followed by meeting. Names for tea by Tuesday, 20th, to Rev. C. H. Barker, Swindon Vicarage, near Dudley. 7110

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual shield contest at Wentworth, July 10th. Draw 2.45 p.m. Ringing commences 3 p.m. Closing date for entries June 3rd. Names for teas not later than June 3rd to Mr. G. West, 25, The Square, Wentworth, near Rotherham. — D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 7086

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.—On May 3rd, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Myhill 1, H. Devenish 2, E. J. Rnuter (cond.) 3, R. Thrift 4, W. Glover (first in method) 5, H. W. Shadrack 6. Birthday compliment to the ringers of 3 and 5.

TURRAMURRA, SYDNEY.—At St. James' on April 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Cooper 1, J. Clark (first as cond.) 2, K. Stacey 3, C. Parr 4, W. Smith 5, J. Smith 6. For the wedding of a former captain of the tower, Mr. John Street.

WIDCOMBE, BATH.—On May 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Collett 1, Beryl Bate 2, Janet Davis 3, D. Percy 4, H. Newman (cond.) 5, E. Elkins 6. First quarter by 1, 2 and 3. A wedding compliment to Donald Percy and Joyce Fry.

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