



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

No. 2304 Vol. LI.

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1955

Registered at the G.P.O. for  
transmission as a newspaper

6d.

## RINGERS, RULES AND LOGIC

By T. R. BUTLER

IT is not unnatural that the Methods Committee's recommendations regarding Plain Bob Triples and irregular Minor methods have evoked a certain amount of criticism. The committee's proposals—brilliantly conceived and expounded—are rendered extremely convincing and conclusive, however, by the logic with which they are evinced.

The force of logical argument cannot be disputed. It is at once inestimable and inescapable.

Yet we Britons are not an exceptionally logical people. Our whole administrative system from Westminster and Whitehall downwards is, in many respects, piecemeal and patchy, though, on the whole, it functions reasonably well. Several of our laws are riddled with anomalies, nevertheless our general administration of justice is the envy of the whole world. Scattered throughout our history are causes and battles fought at the wrong time, often in the wrong manner, but usually won! In many of our institutions we frequently 'get round' awkward and difficult situations by adopting an inconsistent, but somehow workable and sensible approach.

On the other hand, our neighbours, the French, with their love of logic and possessing a written constitution, find it necessary to change their Government at an approximate average rate of once in every eight months. We have, also, seen some results of ultra logical dogma in Soviet Russia, Germany and a few other countries.

Writing about our police system in a recent issue of 'The Police College Magazine,' Brigadier P. D. W. Dunn, the distinguished Commandant of the College, uses the following inspired words—words which, perhaps, could well bear relation to our Exercise at the present time:—

'This illogical system, with all its faults, is a tremendous factor in the inherent stability of our country and is developing, and has developed, to keep pace with the changing scene and conditions in these islands. Perhaps this talent for compromise is another word for genius

for practical development. The average Briton is rather wary of rigid plans and rigid sets of rules. We in Britain prefer an art, an art that is not carried out as a science with mathematical precision, and I think that the genius of the British people is not for compromise, but is for development and for a practical approach in almost everything we do. When other nations take some of our institutions, rationalise them, codify the rules, they lose something which can never be replaced. One has only to think of the world of sport to see how true this is. One can over-develop the rules of a game. Many people think that the rules of golf have now developed in so rigid a fashion that the game has suffered greatly. If anything is reduced to a mathematical science governed entirely by a set of code rules, it is far harder to develop and one may reach finality and, as Kipling once said, "Finality is death." It is also dull.'

It has often been emphasised that our Exercise is an art and not a highly competitive business or sport. It is also intimately associated with our Church and a State renowned for its fairness and flexibility, even in the application and enforcement of its laws. Yet there are those who believe we have already hampered this art with too many rules and regulations. Regardless of any palliative circumstances, peals on seven bells are not recognised, a conductor must participate in the ringing and use no visible aids to memory. While these and other like measures have doubtless been imposed in a genuine effort to maintain a high standard, it is doubtful whether similar stringent restrictions would be so readily accepted by, say, members of choirs or orchestras.

Let us, therefore, not be overawed or overwhelmed by complex logical doctrine. If we still retain an affection for Bob Triples or any irregular method, well knowing their faults, by all means let us keep them. Too little consideration, one feels, has been given to the musical issue or what our audiences prefer to hear, though it is a comparatively safe guess that many would prefer the sound of Bob Triples to that of some of the legitimate methods.

Let us, too, ask ourselves the question, 'Whither are we heading?' and endeavour to leave ample scope for adventure in the Exercise.

Above all, let us be tolerant in these matters and governed by our hearts rather than the attractive power of logic.

**TEN BELL PEALS**

BANBURY, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Sat., Apr. 23, 1955, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,**A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS**

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WALTER F. JUDGE .. .. Treble	WILLIAM A. YATES .. .. 6
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 2	PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. 7
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 3	EDGAR J. SMITH .. .. 8
BRIAN BLADON .. .. 4	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 9
EDMUND A. PEARSON .. 5	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS .. Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. DEAL. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

**NOTTINGHAM.**

THE SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

On Sat., Apr. 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 35 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in C sharp.

Reeves'.	FREDERICK A. SALTER .. Treble	*CHARLES W. TOWERS .. 6
JEFFERY C. BIRT .. .. 2	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 7	
WILLIAM BUTLER .. .. 3	WALTER NICHOLS .. .. 8	
*JAMES H. PAILING .. .. 4	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. 9	
†GEORGE H. CLIFT .. .. 5	WALTER LEE .. .. Tenor	

Adapted and Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.

\* First peal on ten. † First of Bob Royal.

**LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.**

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 30½ cwt.

PAUL L. TAYLOR .. .. Treble	BRIAN G. WARWICK .. .. 6
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 2	HARRY POYNER .. .. 7
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. .. 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 8
SHIRLEY BURTON .. .. 4	WILLIAM J. ROOT .. .. 9
*REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 5	HAROLD J. POOLE .. .. Tenor

Composed by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.  
\* 100th peal for the Guild.

Rung to celebrate the marriage of Constance Wendy Dixon and Alec G. F. Welstead, which took place earlier in the afternoon at this church.

**MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.**

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CATERS**

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

*BASIL JONES .. .. Treble	EDWARD JENKINS .. .. 6
ALAN A. POTTS .. .. 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 7
JOHN WORTH .. .. 3	ROBIN TURNER .. .. 8
*GRAEME HUGHES .. .. 4	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 9
C. KENNETH LEWIS .. 5	PETER LAFLIN .. .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. HALEY. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal of Stedman Caters.

Rung in honour of the election of Ernest Bournemouth as president of the Scottish Association of Change Ringers.

**SOUTHAMPTON.**

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

**A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON EXERCISE ROYAL**

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

PETER NASH .. .. Treble	*ADRIAN TUMBER .. .. 6
NELIA M. LEAHY .. .. 2	REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD .. 7
BERYL R. PITTAWAY .. 3	MAURICE J. BUTLER .. 8
JESSIE M. KIPPIN .. .. 4	J. MICHAEL LAKIN .. .. 9
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

\* First peal of Royal. The first peal of Exercise Royal.

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES, CO. DURHAM.**

THE DURHAM &amp; NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 21 cwt. 11 lb.

*E. ALAN RAWLINSON .. Treble	ALAN N. BROWN .. .. 6
*ROBIN G. LEALE .. .. 2	DENIS A. BAYLES .. .. 7
CHARLES MC GUINNESS .. 3	KENNETH LAWSON .. .. 8
FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. 4	ROLAND PARK .. .. 9
CHARLES N. LEA .. .. 5	W. NORMAN PARK .. Tenor

Composed by S. THOMAS.

\* First peal on ten. The conductor's 100th peal as conductor for the Association.

The first peal of Pudsey Royal by all except the tenor ringer and for the Association.

**WARWICK.**

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS**

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb.

FRANK E. PERVIN .. .. Treble	LEONARD TREVOR .. .. 6
JOHN PINFOLD .. .. 2	DAVID A. CARPENTER .. 7
FRANK W. PERRENS .. .. 3	HUBERT E. ASHLEY .. .. 8
ARTHUR H. BEAMISH .. 4	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. 9
WILLIAM MALE .. .. 5	JAMES L. GARNER-HAYWARD Tenor

Composed by C. ROBERTS.

Rung in honour of the coming-of-age of Lord Brook, only son of the Earl of Warwick.

**EIGHT BELL PEALS**

OVER, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Apr. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

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

**A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 5
CYRIL A. HURST .. .. 2	WILLIAM T. COOK .. .. 6
JOHN G. GIPSON .. .. 3	MANSFIELD GINN .. .. 7
RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN .. 4	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

Rung in memory of Frank Warrington.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 7, 1955, in 2 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

**A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

E. MARGARET BRYCE .. Treble	ALBERT W. STONE .. .. 5
C. MOLLY MAY .. .. 2	ALAN PENDLEBURY .. .. 6
*DOROTHY M. HEAP .. .. 3	LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 7
ALLEN TWYMAN .. .. 4	ROBIN G. TURNER .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

\* First peal 'inside' of Major.

Rung for the 50th anniversary of the Mothers' Guild at St. Peter's Church.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., May 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

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

**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Tenor 8 cwt. 48 lb. in G.

Carter's Twelve-part.	ARTHUR W. DICKERSON .. Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN .. .. 5
H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 2	HERBERT HOWLETT .. .. 6	
ARTHUR G. BASON .. .. 3	BERT GOGLE .. .. 7	
THOMAS R. SIMMONS .. 4	GEORGE POYNIZ .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Rung to commemorate the 10th anniversary of V.E. Day.

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## NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Mon., May 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

## A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 lb.

RODERICK J. LEES .. .. Treble	HENRY HUBBALL .. .. 5
HOWARD HOWELL .. .. 2	DAVID M. LEES .. .. 6
HAROLD J. SHUCK .. .. 3	WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. 7
STANLEY PRESTIDGE .. .. 4	JACK TROMANS .. .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by WILLIAM DAVIES.

Arranged for the ringer of the treble, on leave from H.M. Forces, and rung for the 10th anniversary of V.E. Day.

## WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.

## THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., May 9, 1955, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

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

## A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

*IVOR G. HUGHES .. .. Treble	GORDON WALFORD .. .. 5
DAVID T. NORTH .. .. 2	GEOFFREY J. GAMMON .. .. 6
STANLEY N. BRISTOW .. .. 3	H. GEORGE SPARKS .. .. 7
ARTHUR H. REED .. .. 4	WILLIAM G. GIGG .. .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.

\* First peal.

Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, Preb. J. H. D. Grinter, who has left the parish after 21 years.

## PINGHAM, NORFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

## A PEAL OF 5056 SOUTHWELL SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 16½ in F.
*MIRIAM A. HIGDON .. Treble	GEORGE P. ADAMS .. .. 5
JOHN S. BARNES .. .. 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. .. 6
NOLAN GOLDEN .. .. 3	GEORGE SAYER .. .. 7
ARTHUR G. BASON .. .. 4	BERT GOOLE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal of Major. First in method by all and for the Association.

## WALLINGFORD, BERKS.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-le-More,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Hubbard's Ten-part.	Tenor 21½ cwt.
*ERNEST GARRARD .. Treble	JACK BERRY .. .. 5
JAMES P. BLOND .. .. 2	*C. JOHN CASTELL .. .. 6
ROBERT B. BLOND .. .. 3	*MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. .. 7
*WILLIAM L. GILKS .. .. 4	*FRANK REED .. .. Tenor

Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

\* First peal of Triples in the method.

## ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

## THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., May 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HUBERT G. SUMMERS .. Treble	FRANK W. PERRENS .. .. 5
A. ROBIN GUY .. .. 2	*L. MICHAEL CALLOW .. .. 6
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 3	PAUL R. WILLIAMSON .. 7
*JOHN W. T. TAYLOR .. 4	FRANK E. HAYNES .. .. Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

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

## LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., May 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

## A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR

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

VIVIANNE M. HORTON .. Treble	JOHN UNDERWOOD .. .. 5
*ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 2	*ALAN TAYLOR .. .. 6
*GORDON A. HALLS .. .. 3	*JOSEPH W. COTTON .. .. 7
*HAROLD TAYLOR .. .. 4	*DENIS R. CARLISLE .. .. Tenor

Composed by DENIS R. CARLISLE. Conducted by GORDON A. HALLS.

\* First peal in the method.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Soar on the birth of their twin daughters.

## NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., May 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

## A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES FERNLEY .. .. Treble	PETER LAFLIN .. .. 5
EDWARD JENKINS .. .. 2	*LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. .. 6
*ROBIN TURNER .. .. 3	ALAN J. BROWN .. .. 7
BASIL JONES .. .. 4	JOHN WORTH .. .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal of London Surprise Major.

Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. William Fernley.

## BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Sir A. P. Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans'.	Tenor 15½ cwt.
WILLIAM A. YATES .. Treble	ROGER CADAMY .. .. 5
FREDERICK J. STONTON .. 2	FREDERICK VICKERS .. .. 6
JOSEPH MARKS .. .. 3	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. .. 7
*DONALD J. MEAGER .. .. 4	HARRY SEAR .. .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. HOLLAND.

\* First peal of Stedman Triples.

## CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

## THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 12½ cwt.

PHILIP G. MORGAN .. Treble	REGINALD T. JONES .. .. 5
*CHARLES G. JONES .. .. 2	AUSTIN T. WINGATE .. .. 6
†JOSEPHINE GREEN .. .. 3	LESLIE EVANS .. .. 7
MOLLIE TILBURY .. .. 4	ALBERT E. JONES .. .. Tenor

Composed by E. STITCH. Conducted by REGINALD T. JONES.

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

Rung for the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Jones, who were married at this church on May 14th, 1930.

## FELSTED, ESSEX.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

At the Church of The Holy Cross,

## A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

HILDA M. SNOWDEN .. Treble	JACK H. BRETT .. .. 5
LEWIS W. WIFFEN .. .. 2	JOHN A. WARNER .. .. 6
FRANK CLAYDON .. .. 3	TERRY EARLE .. .. 7
*ALAN R. SYDER .. .. 4	HILDA G. SNOWDEN .. .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by HILDA G. SNOWDEN.

\* First Surprise peal.

Rung in honour of the 80th birthday of Mr. W. T. Farrow, tower-keeper at this church for over 50 years; also for the 13th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brett.

## HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

## THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 10 cwt. in G sharp.

Parker's Twelve-part	Tenor 10 cwt. in G sharp.
*MARK W. LEWIS .. Treble	*HAROLD STEVENSON .. .. 5
*DENNIS SIMPSON .. .. 2	JAMES W. RAITHEY .. .. 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER .. .. 3	WILLIAM L. EXTON .. .. 7
FRANK W. VERNON .. .. 4	CHARLES J. COPP .. .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

\* First peal of Triples. First of Triples as conductor.

Rung in memoriam Mrs. C. J. Mathews.

## MEOPHAM, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

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

## A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's No. 2 Variation.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Treble	HARRY SPRINGATE .. .. 5
FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 2	ALBERT E. BEANEY .. .. 6
TREVOR A. CROSS .. .. 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. .. 7
FREDERICK A. MITCHELL .. 4	THOMAS E. TAYLOR .. .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

### MIDDLEHAM, YORKSHIRE. THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. ALKELDA AND MARY,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 18 cwt. 8 lb. in E.
*M. P. HAMMOND (14) .. Treble	N. DAVID ROBINSON .. 5
DORIS M. KILLINGLEY .. 2	DENNIS R. AIREY .. 6
*JOHN HEMSTOCK (15) .. 3	THOMAS COOKE .. 7
HARRY PARRISH .. 4	BRIAN HARRIS .. Tenor

Conducted by DORIS M. KILLINGLEY.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Harry Parrish, who has been a ringer at this church for 52 years.

### ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

#### A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 23 lb. in E.

ROBERT COLLINS .. Treble	WILLIAM ROGERS .. 5
DORIS E. COLGATE .. 2	RAYMOND OVERY .. 6
LEONARD STILWELL .. 3	FRANK H. HICKS .. 7
*THOMAS E. SONE .. 4	*A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.

\* 50th peal together.

Specially rung to welcome the Rev. F. R. K. Hare, who was inducted Rector of this parish December 18th, 1954.

### SOUTH MOLTON, DEVON.

#### THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

#### A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (6th Observation).

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in D.

MARIELLA MUNDY .. Treble	DAVID BEACHAM .. 5
*NORMAN MALLET .. 2	JOHN L. S. GLANVILL .. 6
REV. J. H. B. ANDREWS .. 3	FREDERICK WREFORD .. 7
DAVID GAY .. 4	S. G. SULLY .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN L. S. GLANVILL.

\* 75th peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

Rung as a compliment to the South Molton ringers on winning the Devon Championship Shield for call change ringers.

### SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

#### A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 12 cwt.
LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	JOHN E. BIBBY .. 5
*WILLIAM G. BIBBY .. 2	ERNEST GOWER .. 6
RONALD KENRICK .. 3	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN .. 7
DOREEN DUTTON .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

\* First peal of Surprise Major

### STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

#### THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*LAURENCE U. C. KNOWLES .. Treble	WALTER A. PECK .. 5
FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 2	PETER R. ASLETT .. 6
ALAN F. THIRST .. 3	MARTYN W. HARBOTT .. 7
†MERIEL L. HAWKSLEY .. 4	JAMES F. DODSON .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ALAN F. THIRST.

\* First peal. † First of Bob Major.

### SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

#### THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

#### A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb.

JOAN E. HOODLESS .. Treble	*NATHANIEL T. MOXON .. 5
*KATHARINE BURCHNALL .. 2	ALLAN SIMPSON .. 6
*GRACE BURCHNALL .. 3	*W. ALLAN WILSON .. 7
CLEMENT GLENN .. 4	ARTHUR E. HOODLESS .. Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER.

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

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

### STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Wed., May 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).	Tenor 14 cwt. in F.
NUN L. WALKER .. Treble	JOHN A. SMITH .. 5
ALFRED BALLARD .. 2	*MICHAEL VERNON .. 6
JOHN H. BAILESS .. 3	JOHN VERNON .. 7
GRAHAM T. BALL .. 4	C. ROGER HAYWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED BALLARD.

\* First peal of Triples.

Specially arranged and rung by members of the local band as a compliment to Mrs. Sarah Peters, of Stoney Stanton, who was 100 years old this day.

### FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

#### BRANSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

#### THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Apr. 23, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents of Cambridge Surprise, Double and Single Court, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

LOUIS WILLIERS .. Treble	JOHN F. PEARSON .. 4
JOHN WORSNALL .. 2	RONALD APPLEWHITE .. 5
AMOS INGALL .. 3	JAMES H. MUSSON .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

Rung in honour of St. George's Day. The treble ringer has now 'circled the tower.'

### LOCKING, SOMERSET.

#### THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 7, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Cambridge, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr.

ALLEN MORGAN .. Treble	*MARJORIE LEGG .. 4
*RONALD D. SHORT .. 2	GEORGE PRESCOTT .. 5
REGINALD WOODYATT .. 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.

\* First peal in seven methods. First in seven methods as conductor.

### WRAYSURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 7, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's College Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Single Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in G.

FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. Treble	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 4
WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT .. 2	SIDNEY J. WOODCOCK .. 5
WALTER LEE .. 3	FRANK C. PRICE .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

Believed to be first peal of Minor on the bells.

### KIMBOLTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

#### THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., May 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*CHARLES G. JONES .. Treble	*JOSEPHINE GREEN .. 4
LESLIE EVANS .. 2	*DENIS F. JAINE .. 5
PHILIP G. MORGAN .. 3	REGINALD T. JONES .. Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD T. JONES.

\* First peal in five Minor methods. First peal in five Minor methods as conductor and 100th peal.

Rung as an 85th birthday compliment to Mrs. Evans, mother of the ringer of the second.

### HILPERTON, WILTSHIRE.

#### THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

#### A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Ten callings.	Tenor 7½ cwt.
*DAVID KNIGHT (12) .. Treble	*ARCHIBALD KNIGHT .. 4
FREDERICK S. SLATFORD .. 2	LAURENCE E. HITCHINS .. 5
HERBERT J. HUNT .. 3	PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. SLATFORD.

\* First peal.



NUTFIELD, SURREY.  
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.  
(Southern District.)

On Mon., May 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Paul,

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Consisting of seven 720's, each called differently.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in F sharp.

*ARTHUR R. CLARKE .. .. Treble	†THOMAS H. BIRD .. .. 4
*FREDERICK W. BIRD .. .. 2	COLIN J. CHAMPION .. .. 5
GEORGE OLLIVER .. .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. .. Tenor

Conducted by COLIN J. CHAMPION.

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

Rung to mark the retirement of the Rev. T. P. Owen, Rector of Nutfield, and Mrs. Owen, both good friends to all ringers.

LYMPSTONE, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

On Tues., May 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

At the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin,

**A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR**

Being seven 720's each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*L. KENNETH DAWE .. .. Treble	SIDNEY SKINNER .. .. 4
*HAROLD P. BURTON .. .. 2	JOHN L. S. GLANVILL .. .. 5
*ROBERT PERRY .. .. 3	†JOHN QUICK .. .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

\* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor. † 50th peal.

A 96th birthday compliment to the mother of the ringer of the second, whose birthday was on May 8th.

SWAFFHAM PRIOR, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Cyriac,

**A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES**

Being six six-scores of St. Simon's, 12 of Grandsire and 24 of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*FREDERICK TALBOT .. .. Treble	†ROLAND MORLEY .. .. 4
†ROGER PALMER .. .. 2	†JAMES MORLEY .. .. 5
*RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN .. 3	†DENNIS POLLARD .. .. Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN.

\* First peal of Doubles. † First peal in three methods. ‡ First peal.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Michael-on-the-Mount,

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FRANK D. MACK .. .. Treble	REGINALD G. HOOPER .. .. 4
MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. 2	TUDOR P. EDWARDS .. .. 5
BRIAN GRINTER .. .. 3	DAVID J. MARSHALL .. .. Tenor

Each ringer conducted an extent and part of the seventh.

HOLYWELL, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

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

**A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

E. JACK PARISH .. .. Treble	*OLIVER NORMAN .. .. 4
*DONALD PEACOCK .. .. 2	DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 5
FRANK ELSOM .. .. 3	STANLEY SHIPP .. .. Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY SHIPP.

\* First peal of Treble Bob.

MABE, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Laudus,

**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents (called differently).

Tenor 8 cwt.

*PETER ROWE .. .. Treble	GERALD A. UGLOW .. .. 4
MRS. J. M. SIMPKIN .. 2	†HARRY HARPER .. .. 5
ALAN CARVETH .. .. 3	DAVID PENROSE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN CARVETH

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor.



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## BELL FOUNDERS AND CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



## LUPPITT, DEVONSHIRE.

## THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 16 240's and 10 six-scores.

BRIAN TOZER .. .. Treble	*JEFFERY COOMBS .. .. 4	Tenor 14½ cwt.
*ALBERT CRABB .. .. 2	WILLIAM WEBB .. .. 5	
CHRISTOPHER WEBB .. .. 3	JOHN REAL .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by WILLIAM WEBB.

\* First peal.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Sparks, of Cotleigh, on their 25th wedding anniversary.

## OAKS-IN-CHARNWOOD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

At the Church of St. James.

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

JEFFREY W. LOWE .. .. Treble	BERNARD S. PAYNE .. .. 4	Tenor 10 cwt.
ROYSTON WILMORE .. .. 2	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. .. 5	
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY .. .. 3	ROLAND BENISTON .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

Specially arranged as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bowley, who were married this day.

## OTTERTON, DEVON.

## THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents of Plain Bob, 14 extents of Reverse St. Bartholomew, 14 extents of Grandsire. Callings: Ten 120's and two 240's of Morris' arrangement.

CECIL PARKER .. .. Treble	JOHN QUICK .. .. 4	Tenor 12 cwt.
SIDNEY SKINNER .. .. 2	ROBERT PERRY .. .. 5	
L. KENNETH DAWE .. .. 3	NORMAN SKINNER .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by JOHN QUICK.

First peal in three Doubles methods for all.

## WESTON TURVILLE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

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

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Comprising eight extents of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Reverse St. Bartholomew and Plain Bob, and ten of Grandsire. Tenor 14½ cwt.

\*ROY WOODRUFF .. .. Treble | BERNARD C. COLLINS .. .. 3

†MARY HOBBS .. .. 2 | WALTER LEE .. .. 4

ARTHUR J. WHITE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR J. WHITE.

\* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal as conductor.

## CONSETT, CO. DURHAM.

## THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., May 15, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At Christ Church,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

MAVIS WILSON .. .. Treble	ROBERT B. SKELTON .. .. 4
ERIC OLIVER .. .. 2	RICHARD OLIVER .. .. 5
WILLIAM TYSON .. .. 3	PHILIP G. DRAFFAN .. .. Tenor

Conducted by PHILIP G. DRAFFAN.

Rung with the bells half muffled in memory of Mrs. Jean Draffan, a devoted member of this church and mother of the conductor.

## STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

## THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., May 16, 1955, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise.

MAURICE BENNETT .. .. Treble	STANLEY E. BENNETT .. .. 4	Tenor 14½ cwt.
ERNEST BRITTAIN .. .. 2	JOHN G. AMES .. .. 5	
JOHN H. BLUFF .. .. 3	FRANK TAYLOR .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.

Rung as a welcome to Rev. E. F. WRIGHT.

## WHICKHAM, CO. DURHAM.

## THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., May 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

*GEOFFREY P. CAIRNS .. Treble	†KATHLEEN SOFTLEY .. .. 4	Tenor 8 cwt. in A.
†MARGARET GIBSON .. .. 2	STEPHEN THOMPSON .. .. 5	
KENNETH ARTHUR .. .. 3	†PHILIP DRAFFAN .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

\* First peal (aged 14). † First peal in seven methods. ‡ First peal in seven methods 'inside.'

## WHETSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

*ERNEST J. JELLEY .. .. Treble	ERNEST MORRIS .. .. 4	Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in A.
*BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. .. 2	*JOHN M. JELLEY .. .. 5	
*MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. .. 3	*BRIAN G. WARWICK .. .. Tenor	

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

\* First peal in ten methods.

A 21st birthday compliment to Mrs. B. S. Chapman.

## HANDBELL PEALS

## SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., May 9, 1955, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,

In the Ringing Chamber of the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 720 each of St. Miles', Winchendon Place, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Columb, Old April Day and Plain Bob Doubles.

D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 1-2 | EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 3-4

ALAN SHEPPARD .. 5-6

Conducted by ALAN SHEPPARD.

## NORTHREPPS, NORFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., May 10, 1955, in 1 Hour and 58 Minutes,

In the Schoolroom of the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

\*RAYMOND W. BALLS .. 1-2 | †JOHN R. SMITH .. .. 3-4

CYRIL POOLEY .. .. 5-6

Conducted by JOHN R. SMITH.

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor 'in hand.' First peal 'in hand' as conductor.

## BRISTOL.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Wed., May 11, 1955, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Church of St. Michael,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

\*PATRICIA M. BOURN .. .. 1-2 | DAVID J. MARSHALL .. .. 3-4

ARTHUR R. WRIGHT .. 5-6

Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.

\* First handbell peal and 25th peal.

## OXFORD.

## THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Fri., May 13, 1955, in 2 Hours exactly.

At 23, Southdale Road,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Four callings.

\*PHYLLIS J. HOLBORN (St. Anne's) .. .. 1-2

†DONALD H. NIBLETT (Pembroke) .. .. 3-4

†DAVID HODGSON (Brasenose) .. .. 5-6

Conducted by DAVID HODGSON.

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor 'in hand.' ‡ First peal 'in hand.'

## PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., May 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,

At 9, Pembroke Road,

## A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

JOHN AMBLER .. .. 1-2 | WILLIAM BARTON .. .. 5-6

PERCY J. JOHNSON .. .. 3-4 | GORDON BENFIELD .. .. 7-8

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.



**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION****Lewisham District**

After 59 years as a member of the Kent County Association Mr. E. Barnett made his debut as chairman when he presided at the Lewisham district meeting at Cudham, attended by 55 members. Twenty-two new members were elected and the election of one non-resident life member ratified. The new band (11 members) at Greenwich and the revived band at St. Mary Cray were warmly welcomed.

Mr. J. Dafters moved that the congratulations of the meeting be extended to the chairman on the two anniversaries he was celebrating this year—70 years as a denizen of this world and 60 years as a ringer in one tower, Crayford. This was carried with acclamation.

Mr. J. Cannell urged that at all meetings the more experienced ringers should ensure that there were sufficient of their number in the belfry to assist effectively beginners in the first difficult steps in change ringing and advancement to new methods. It was very disheartening, he said, to find a preponderance of 'prentice bands in the ringing chamber whilst a wealth of instructional talent was otherwise engaged in the vicinity.

Other business included: West Wickham on July 23rd for the next meeting, the joint meeting with the Surrey Association at Croydon on October 8th, support for the proposed 75th anniversary dinner of the K.C.A. and an application to the committee to publish the agenda of the annual general meeting in 'The Ringing World' notices of that event.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. H. J. Burgess) who gave a refreshing address. The lesson was read by Mr. E. Barnett and Mr. Burgess acted as organist. Mr. J. Cannell directed the ringing.

**Ashford District at Ruckinge**

As it was Cup-final day, and as Ruckinge is not so easy of access as are some of the towers we visit, it was with a few misgivings that we made our way through the charming spring countryside to that pleasant village for our meeting on May 7th. But, as so often happens, our forebodings were quite unnecessary, as we found that between 30 and 40 visitors had arrived and been met by Mr. S. Sillibourne and Mr. H. G. Hill, the captain and secretary respectively, of the local band.

Ringing began about 3 o'clock, and whilst it was in progress the Rector (the Rev. H. Hammond) entertained the unoccupied ringers by showing them over the Norman church and by exhibiting the old registers (dating back to 1538) and an Elizabethan I. chalice.

A good proportion of beginners was present. It is a good sign when the learners, and more particularly the younger ones, lose their shyness and realise that our meetings are held to enable them to mix in with the more experienced, who are only too anxious to help them.

The Rector conducted the service at 4.30 and the Rev. G. Luckett (Rector of Pluckley and secretary of his band of ringers) read the lesson. A collection realised £1 18s. and was given to the Association's Belfry Repair Fund.

A lavish tea at the Blue Anchor Inn preceded the business meeting, at which the Rector presided. The feelings of the meeting were taken on several points in connection with the proposed 75th anniversary dinner of the Kent County Association.

A nucleus of members was elected from the Ruckinge band, bringing that tower in union with the Association (with a promise of more members to come).

W. P. G.

**A VETERAN LEADER RETIRES  
AT ABERGAVENNY**

Captain of St. Mary's, Abergavenny, since 1937, and a member of the band from 1923, Mr. George Lewis has retired from the captaincy and has been succeeded by Mr. George Ward.

Ringing in the tower flourished greatly under Mr. Lewis' leadership. He did much to get the old eight bell ring recast and rehung by public subscription, and through the generosity of a well-known local ringer and his wife the bells were augmented to ten in 1947-8.

First and foremost a Sunday service ringer, Mr. Lewis was not averse to the bells being used for peal ringing. He had the ideal personality for his position and all ringers, irrespective of class or standing, were given the same warm welcome to the tower. While retiring from office Mr. Lewis has assured the local band that his interest in its welfare is unabated.

**LLANFAFF AND MONMOUTH  
ASSOCIATION**

For the first time ever the Llandaff branch held a quarterly meeting at St. Bride's Major on May 14th.

Early arrivals quickly took the opportunity to ring on this delightful six, which has a tenor 11 cwt., in G. They were kept going until the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, Rev. H. A. James.

A very bountiful tea was provided by the ladies of the church. To them, a very hearty vote of thanks was given by the Branch secretary.

Sixteen new members were elected at the business meeting. Place of next meeting was provisionally arranged for Llanbradach.

R. E. C.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

# The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

# 'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central  
Council of Church Bell Ringers

EDITORIAL OFFICE: c/o Woodbridge Press,  
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to 'The Ringing World.'

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HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A.  
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JOSEPH T. DYKE.  
HAROLD J. POOLE.  
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The £100,000 appeal for the  
restoration of St. Martin's,  
Birmingham, has now been  
fully subscribed and the additional new flat  
sixth bell will be dedicated by the Rector of  
Birmingham, Canon S. W. Bryan Green, on  
Thursday, June 2nd, at 6.30 p.m.

## BELFRY GOSSIP

Another 'Kippinsian' is the first peal of  
Exercise Royal rung at Southampton on May  
14th.

We are informed that the tenor at Dun-  
kerton, Bath, weighs 5 cwt. 18 lb., and not as  
recently published.

Mr. Harold P. Burton has now completed  
the quartet of Kent Treble Bob—Minor, Major,  
Royal and Maximus.

Mr. Albert Walker, who recently rang in  
a peal for his 79th birthday, informs us, with  
the optimism of youth, that he only wants  
1,180 more peals for his 2,000.

With reference to the 'Lines by an Old  
Ringer' published in our last issue, Mr. Ben  
Thompson, of Lowestoft, who forwarded them  
to us, suggests that a collection of such verses  
should be made. The Boreham company had  
a considerable reputation in the 1880's and  
early 1890's.

Mr. George Poyntz, of Saxlingham Nether-  
gate, returned to peal ringing on May 8th  
after an absence of five years. During this  
time he has undergone a series of operations  
and now may be the only peal ringer with  
plastic hips!

Five new members were introduced to the  
'Society of Roving Owls,' at Harmston, Lincs,  
on May 14th when, during a thunderstorm, the  
lights went out. Luckily they came on three-  
quarters of an hour later, when the conductor  
was wondering whether the peal would be  
completed.

The Yorkshire Spliced Sur-  
prise band attempted on May  
14th a peal of 53 Spliced Sur-  
prise Major methods. The attempt failed  
about four courses from the end after a won-  
derful performance of fine ringing.

In reply to Mr. J. C. Macbeth, the last peal  
was rung at Nayland, Suffolk, in 1938.

Mr. Archibald Knight and his 12-year-old  
son, David, rang their first peal together at  
Hilpert on May 9th. This was the first peal  
on the bells since rehanging.

A bell fund is being started at Chevington,  
Suffolk, where there are five bells now un-  
ringable. It was here that Mr. A. W. Rolfe,  
of Whipstead, Bury St. Edmunds, started to  
ring about 50 years ago.

With the peal at Stockton on May 14th,  
Mr. Denis A. Bayles has conducted 100 peals  
for the Durham and Newcastle Association.  
This feat has only been accomplished by the  
late Mr. W. H. Barber and Mr. T. T. Gofton.

Mr. A. W. Rolfe informs us that it was at  
Hartest-in-the-Clare, Sudbury District, that he  
was able to give six young ladies a start some  
two years ago. They are now ringing five or  
six different methods of Doubles and also Plain  
Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob  
Minor.

One of the few peals on the bells of St.  
Mary's, Warwick, took place on May 14th.  
The band included Mr. John Pinfold, who rang  
his first peal here in 1910, and regarded St.  
Mary's as his home tower. Mr. W. Collett  
acted as 11th man to the peal and the band  
would like to associate his name with the per-  
formance.

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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# BRISTOL AND ITS BELLS AND RINGERS

By FRANK SKIDMORE.

**B**RISTOL has played a great part in the development of change ringing in the past, and has produced some very prominent conductors, and also possesses some very good rings of bells. Unfortunately World War II had a devastating effect on some of the bells, the city having lost four of its rings, the glorious ten at St. Nicholas', the eight at St. Mary-le-Port, the eight at St. Peter's, and the modern ring of eight at St. Andrew's, Clifton.

The city still possesses one ring of 12, three 10's, eight 8's, nine 6's and one 5.

The bells of St. Mary-le-Port, St. Peter's and St. Andrew's were completely destroyed, but the ring at St. Nicholas' was damaged by fire, taken down and is still in the crypt; the bells of Holy Cross (Temple) were taken down for safety and are still in the base of the tower, although both St. Nicholas' and Temple Churches were completely gutted, only the towers remaining in each instance.

Bristol was always called the city of churches, and in the 19th century, there was a church on practically every corner, quite as close as they were in the city of London. In the year 1879, the church of St. Werburgh was removed in its entirety from the centre of the city to one of the suburbs, where it still stands complete with its ring of six.

Old Bristol had several churches built on its walls, St. Leonard's, St. Lawrence's and St. John's, the last-named being the only one remaining. The city also possesses its own church, St. Mark's (the Lord Mayor's chapel), which also has a ring of six.

One of the oldest ringing societies is The Ancient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers, which undoubtedly when formed comprised the ringers of St. Stephen's Church. In the present day, however, it is a body of prominent business men, who hold an annual meeting and dinner, and make themselves responsible for the fabric of St. Stephen's Church. At the outbreak of World War II, they had a very prominent ringer amongst their number, in the person of Stephen H. Wood, who was killed in the first major blitz on Bristol in November, 1940.

## FAMOUS RINGERS

Change ringing in the city has seen some ups and downs, but it appears that the period from the beginning of the century until the 1914 war saw the greatest activity; there were then two or three rival companies and there was quite a lot of peal ringing, mostly on the tens, at St. Stephen's, St. Nicholas', Christ Church and St. James'. It was during this period that Bristol possessed some notable conductors, amongst whom were James Hinton, Henry Portch, George Dalry, William A. Cave, Fred G. May, John A. Burford. There are still a few left who can remember these people quite well. I believe the oldest surviving ringer is Mr. Alfred Pearce, of St. James'.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey was also a great influence in the ringing world of that time. World War II had a great effect in leaving a void in the ranks of the ringers, the ones of the older generation having passed over, whilst there were too few to take their places, and the period since the war has been fully occupied in training young ringers. The same applies to conductors, but there are several young ones who are showing good promise.

Bristol also possesses a school of ringing, where potential ringers are taught to handle a bell, and taken through the elementary stages of change ringing, and a lot of benefit has been

## A Welcome to Bristol

*On behalf of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers, I extend a very hearty welcome to the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers to Bristol, for the occasion of their annual Conference at Whit-Tuesday.*

*We appreciate, very much, the work done by the Council, and sincerely hope that their meeting on Whit-Tuesday will meet with every success.*

*A comprehensive programme has been arranged during the weekend and it is my sincere hope that this will prove to be one of the best meetings held by the Council.*

CYRIL R. HARDING, Master.  
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

gained through the efforts of this school. It is held every week at St. John-on-the-Wall. The position with regard to Sunday service ringing has greatly improved of late, and towers which only rang occasionally now ring regularly, which is a good omen for the future.

When the Central Council visit Bristol next week they will find plenty of ringing to occupy their time, with unlimited scope.

Just a few words about Bristol itself. The city is slowly recovering from the ravages of the war, and is gradually taking on quite a 'new look,' which is all part of a long term planning, which will take years to complete. There are several well known beauty spots in and around Bristol, for instance Clifton Downs and the Suspension Bridge, the Avon Gorge, Blaise Castle and its lovely grounds (which are adjacent to Henbury Church), which are publicly owned, and refreshments can be obtained there. There is Clifton College and the Zoological Gardens, both of which are close to Emmanuel Church. Farther afield there is Burrington Coombe, the Mendip Hills, Cheddar in one direction, with the Cotswold Hills in the other.

## GUILD OF MEDICAL RINGERS

The formation of this new association was the outcome of a meeting of medical ringers, held at the Church of All Hallows, Twickenham, on May 7th. Before the business meeting members and friends, among them the Master of the Middlesex Association, had enjoyed two hours of ringing on these fine bells, so successfully transferred from their original home in the City. Tea was kindly provided by Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Neal Smith, to whom for this, and indeed all the other arrangements of the day, great thanks are due. At 6.30 members attended choral evensong, conducted by the Vicar, who also gave a short address.

The meeting which followed decided to embark on the formation of the Guild, membership to be open to all medical ringers and to students engaged in clinical studies. The officers elected were: President, F. S. Poole; Master, R. E. Price; Secretary, D. L. Gullick, to whom were entrusted the consideration of detailed arrangements.

A very enjoyable day was brought to an end with dinner, by the river, at Richmond; the forerunner of many more such occasions, it is to be hoped.

# THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

## Arrangements for Whitsun

**Headquarters:**—The Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol. All ringers and friends will be welcome at headquarters during the week-end and after the Council meeting.

## WHIT TUESDAY

Holy Communion in the Cathedral at 7.30 a.m. Council meeting in the Palliser Martin Hall of the Cathedral School at 10 a.m.

Civic reception by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bristol at the Red Lodge, Park Row, at 5.30 p.m.

Inspection of Great George, 9 tons 11 cwt 2 qr., at 7 p.m. following the reception.

Social evening at headquarters.

E. A. BARNETT,  
Hon. Secretary.

## RINGING ARRANGEMENTS

Friday, May 27th:—				
	Bells	cwt.	Times	
St. Werburgh's	.. (6)	12	7-8 p.m.	
Henbury	.. .. (8)	20	7.30-9 p.m.	
Long Ashton	.. (8)	28	7.30-9 p.m.	

Saturday, May 28th:—				
St. John-on-the-Wall	(6)	11	6-7 p.m.	
St. Stephen's	.. (10)	21	6.30-7.30 p.m.	
Christ Church	.. (10)	23	7.30-8.30 p.m.	

Sunday, May 29th:—				
St. Ambrose's	(8)	11½	9-10	5.30-6.30
St. James'	(10)	28	10.15-11	5.30-6.30
Christ Church	(10)	23	10-11	5.30-6.30
St. Stephen's	(10)	21	10-11	5.30-6.30
St. Philip's	.. (8)	20	10-11	5.30-6.30
Emmanuel	.. (8)	16	10.15-11	
Stoke Bishop	(6)	13		5.30-6.30
St. Thomas'	.. (8)	29		5.30-6.30
St. Mary Redcliffe	.. (12)	50	10-11	5.15-6.15
			also	12.10-12.45 (approx.)

Visitors wishing to ring at Redcliffe on Sunday morning must assemble at the South Gate by 9.55.

Monday, May 30th:—				
St. Ambrose's	.. (8)	11½	10-11 a.m.	
St. George's	.. (8)	16	11.15-12.15 p.m.	
St. John-on-the-Wall	.. (6)	11	10.30-11.30 a.m.	
Christ Church	(10)	23	12-1 p.m.	
Long Ashton	.. (8)	28	2.15-3.15 p.m.	
Wells Cathedral	(10)	56	3-4 p.m.	
St. James'	.. (10)	28	4-5 p.m.	
St. Thomas'	.. (8)	29	5-6 p.m.	
St. Stephen's	(10)	21	6.30-8 p.m.	
St. Mary Redcliffe	.. (12)	50	8-9 p.m.	

## TOURS

**Sunday**, leaving headquarters 1 p.m., Wells Cathedral and Bath Abbey.

**Monday**, leaving headquarters 9.30 a.m., the Cotswold country—Tetbury, Stroud, Painswick and Cheltenham.

## A WELCOME PEAL AT LAST

Three attempts were made to get the welcome peal for the Rev. F. R. K. Hare, the new Rector of Rotherfield. The first was on December 18th and was lost after two hours; the second attempt lasted 2 hours and 10 minutes. Success came on May 14th when Yorkshire Surprise, with A. P. Cannon driving the difficult tenor, was brought round in 3 hours and 5 minutes, the fastest time for a peal on the bells. Coupled with the peal were marriage congratulations to Basil White and Mary Howell, married at Henfield that day, and birthday greetings to W. Rogers.



## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

### Feltham's Plans for a Ring of Ten

ON the debatable question of the recognition of peals of Bob Triples, the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, at their annual meeting at St. James', Clerkenwell, on May 14th, decided to give no instructions to their representatives.

In the afternoon, ringing took place at St. Mary's, Holloway Road, and Clerkenwell, and in the evening at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. The service at Clerkenwell was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. T. M. Browne, who also gave an address.

The Association during the past year lost its president, the Rev. P. Gough, and Mr. W. H. Coles was voted to the chair. He was supported by Mr. E. C. S. Turner (hon. secretary), Mr. W. N. Genna (assistant hon. secretary) and Mr. T. Price (ringing master).

### LOSSES BY DEATH

The meeting stood while the following members who had died since the last meeting were remembered: V. J. F. Bennett (Oxford), R. P. Crump (Hornsey), E. A. Dench (Edmonton), Rev. P. Gough (Acton), G. Hughes (Stanmore), G. L. Joyce (Hornchurch), Mrs. C. J. Matthews (Southfields), F. Oram (Harrow), W. C. Parker (Staines), Rev. P. W. Shepherd-Smith, F. Start (Enfield), F. Warrington (St. Ives), W. J. Winter (Heston), S. Wright (Southgate), Rev. Mr. Denham (Harrow Weald), Mr. Tubbs (Finchley).

The annual report, read by the hon. secretary, stated that new members elected totalled 60, and consisted of four honorary, 43 ringing and 13 non-resident life members.

### NEW METHODS

Forty-nine peals were rung, two being on handbells. Eight Surprise Major methods were rung to peals for the first time, viz.: Enfield, Byfleet, Harlesden, Olney, Twickenham, Ufford, Ventnor and Zennor. All were conducted by Mr. R. F. B. Speed, who also conducted peals in six and seven Spliced Surprise Major methods, in which for the first time all the bells rang all the work of each method. Four other Surprise Major methods rung for the first time for the Association were Aldenham, conducted by Mr. Speed, Felstead and Premier, conducted by Mr. C. W. Roberts, and Staffordshire, conducted by Mr. B. D. Threlfall. Another method rung for the first time by the Association was London Surprise Royal (No. 3 Version). A record in Doubles ringing was set up at Stanwell when Mr. F. T. Blagrove, ringing two bells, conducted a peal in which 45 methods were spliced into 42 different extents.

Nine members rang their first peal, including Mr. A. A. Richardson, who had been blind from birth. Quarter peals reported totalled 123 with Harrow Weald heading the list with 27 in twelve different methods. Congratulations were offered to Mr. R. Sanders, who celebrated his 80th birthday by ringing the 9th at All Saints', Fulham, to a peal of Stedman Caters.

In the absence of the hon. treasurer, Mr. Turner also presented the accounts. The general fund showed an excess of income over expenditure of £5 6s. 10d. The Bell Restoration Fund had a balance of £25 17s. 10d.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In the vacancy for the presidency caused by the death of the Rev. P. Gough, the Rev. G. C. Taylor, Vicar of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, was elected. He was commended to the members by Mr. T. J. Lock as one who had a personal interest in ringers and would fill the office with sincerity and dignity.

Mr. G. Hart and Mr. W. H. Coles were re-elected vice-presidents and Mr. E. C. S. Turner in acknowledging his re-election as secretary said he hoped to do more work for the Association this year than last and hoped soon to do

a little ringing. Mr. W. Norman Genna was re-elected assistant hon. secretary. Mr. Tony Price ringing master, Mr. C. W. Roberts hon. treasurer, Mr. Maurice Hodgson hon. auditor and Messrs. T. J. Lock, E. C. S. Turner and C. W. Roberts trustees.

Elected as non-resident life members were Messrs. Burton, W. Jones and Christopher Jones, exchange teachers, from the United States, who had been ringing at Hendon and Miss M. Lawrence, Miss Shirley Townsend (Edgware) and Mr. John R. Maltby were elected ringing members.

A new office was created, that of librarian. As the library is kept in St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Mr. Geo. Parsons, the tower-keeper, was elected to the post.

The meeting favoured the Association having its own badge. It was left to the secretary in consultation with certain members to select a design and place an order for badges and brooches.

### TEN BELLS FOR FELTHAM

The chairman said it had been suggested by the committee that a donation should be given to the bell fund for Feltham. The scheme was to augment the bells to a ring of ten.

Mr. Tony Price said a design for the bell frame had been prepared by the bell-founders and the ringers were prepared to make it. They had a price of just over £300 for the two extra bells and the ringers were prepared to hang them.

On the proposition of Mr. Turner it was decided to vote 10 guineas.

A long discussion took place on the venue for the next annual meeting. Eventually it was decided to hold the meetings alternatively in the North and East and South and West districts. St. Mary's, Twickenham, was selected for the next annual meeting.

The Central Council agenda was also considered, particularly in relation to Bob Triples. On the proposition of Mr. C. Mayne the meeting decided to leave the matter to the Association's representatives.

Mrs. Mayne initiated a debate on 'The Ringing World.' The convener of 'The Ringing World' committee, Mr. J. Frank Smallwood, and the editor contributed to the discussion.

Mr. F. W. Goodfellow reported that a memorial fund had been opened at Acton for their late president. On his proposition, seconded by Mr. A. Cutler, it was decided to send a donation of two guineas and to leave it open for members to augment the sum by individual donations.

The meeting also decided to send a letter to Mr. Jim Bennett with their best wishes for his speedy recovery. Mr. T. J. Lock read a letter he had received from Mr. Bennett stating that because of his accident it was a big disappointment that he could not take part in the peals at Evesham and also Mr. Audsley's 1,000th peal. Mr. Bennett's leg was broken near his hip.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Turner to the incumbents and Mr. and Miss Prockson for the tea arrangements.

### Maidstone Grammar Schools' Society

The Society had an enjoyable meeting at Harrietsham on May 7th, where they were welcomed by the Rev. F. W. Phillips, who also conducted the service. In his address he spoke of ringers who ring for services and then creep out of the back tower door. Those nearest the bells should heed them most.

Harrietsham ringers and their wives provided a splendid tea. At the business meeting John Hooker was elected treasurer and two new members were elected. An appropriate vote of thanks to all who contributed to the success of the meeting was passed.

## ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

### 'Dictatorship in Ringing Circles'

YET again the Ely Diocesan Association was blessed with a beautiful spring morning for the start of its annual general meeting on Easter Monday and more than one hundred ringers attended. About half of these were resident members while the rest were friends, old and new, from other associations as far apart as Kent and Cheshire and included a very good contingent from Leicester.

### ON THE PLEASANT EIGHT

Ringling started with a touch of Plain Bob Major, at St. Ives, at 10 a.m. Touches of Cambridge, Bristol and even Spliced Surprise in five methods were asked for and successfully accomplished. At the same time the tuneful little six at Holywell were rung to a variety of Minor methods.

At 12 o'clock a move was made to two more towers—Houghton and Hemingford Abbots—both again in really lovely old-world villages.

The afternoon's towers included Godmanchester, one of the best eights in the Diocese and restored only two years ago, the eight at Huntingdon St. Mary's, which are in need of the bell-hanger's attention, and the very handy little six at Huntingdon All Saints'.

The service was held in All Saints' Church and we were treated to a very inspiring address on the subject of 'Unity,' by the president of the Huntingdon district, Canon B. F. Sheppard.

After tea, well organised by the local district secretary, the Association held its annual business meeting with Canon Sheppard in the chair. Among apologies received was one from the president, the Lord Bishop of Ely, who assured us that he was conscious of the good work being done by the Association and wished us every success.

The annual report had been printed and circulated and it showed that membership had been maintained at about 350 resident performing members and that interest was definitely on the up-grade. The number of peals rung during 1954 was the second highest on record and the peals included 23 first pealers and more than 100 members ringing their 'first in the method.' Another good feature was the financial statement which showed the largest balance in hand that the Association had ever had.

There was a lengthy discussion on an amendment to the report, namely, that the peal of Fordham Surprise Major, which had been the cause of correspondence in 'The Ringing World,' be deleted. One of our visiting friends, Mr. H. J. Poole, was asked to contribute to the discussion and supplied some sobering thoughts on the present trend towards dictatorship in ringing circles. He asked members to consider the relative importance of a single peal to the health of an association whose aims were more and better Sunday service ringing. Eventually a proposal that the discussion cease was carried with acclamation, there being but one dissenter. The report was then adopted unanimously.

Officers were elected as follows: General secretary and treasurer, W. J. Ridgman; peal secretary, R. J. W. Housden; auditor, T. R. Dennis.

Ely was chosen for the next annual general meeting the secretary being instructed to endeavour to arrange the service at the Cathedral and to persuade the Lord Bishop to give an address. (For the advanced information of younger 'tower-grabbers,' we hope to have Soham (10) in action on that day.)

After hearty votes of thanks all round, the meeting closed and ringing continued at Godmanchester and Huntingdon until 9 p.m.

W. J. R.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THE FUTURE OF MUFFLED RINGING

Dear Sir,—The concluding words of a ringer's obituary notice in a recent issue of 'The Ringing World' about open ringing as the wish of the deceased raises a question of the future of muffled ringing, and what will be the position of ringers if these requests and desires become more general as during the last 20 years or so they have tended to do.

It used to be a sort of unwritten rule that at the passing of a Church dignitary, notable person, or ringer, the bells would be rung muffled or half muffled either at the time of death or the funeral. Now the bells are more often rung in the open position on such occasions, and muffled ringing rather the exception than the rule.

It would seem moreover that some of the clergy are more or less in favour of open ringing at such times and can use their influence to encourage it.

When the rector of a parish where I was in charge of the tower died some years ago I was preparing to muffle the bells when I was informed by a parishioner that the bells were to be rung 'open.' I would not accept this until I had seen a member of the family, who confirmed it and we were thanked afterwards for our help in 'uplifting their spirits.' At the time of the death of the late King George VI we were refused permission by the rector of a parish to attempt a muffled peal because, to use his own words, 'we have had enough of muffled ringing.'

This change of ideas about muffled and open ringing may be due, I think, to two different lines of thought. It may be that the passing of a relative or friend is now looked upon in a less solemn way and the open bells to express an earnest of the Resurrection: or it may be that in this modern age with its jazz music and other light-hearted ideas of recreation the sound of muffled bells is too sad and solemn and a merry 'peal' at all times is preferred.

In a parish where my father was once tower-keeper a curate suggested that when the bells were rung muffled at a funeral, after the ceremony the muffles should be removed and the bells rung open, much like what is done at a military funeral when the band plays a slow solemn tune on the way to the place of burial and on the return to barracks a lively regimental march. My father asked the then Master of the Oxford Guild for his views on the matter and his answer was short and emphatic, 'Nothing but muffled ringing on the day of a funeral.'

Apparently there is a feeling in some people's minds that muffled ringing has a morbid effect but such minds are not able to appreciate the soft beauty of good muffled ringing. Perhaps organists for the same reason are not asked to play the 'Dead March' as often as they used to be. I don't know.

Will it then become eventually the regular custom to ring the bells 'open' on all occasions, sad or gay alike for funerals and weddings, and the muffles hang unused and unwanted in the bell chamber? It may well come to that.

I, for one, hope the day is far distant when the beautiful and moving tones of well struck muffled and half muffled ringing will be but a memory.—Yours faithfully, W. J. PAICE.

Wokingham, Berks.

## IS IT UNNAMED?

Dear Sir,—Has the method which is Reverse Bampton with dodging on the front been named?

It has been rung at Itchingfield and if not previously named we would like to call it 'Twineham.'—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE FRANCIS.

Itchingfield.

## CHRIST CHURCH, POPLAR

Dear Sir,—I do not know where Mr. Bullock got his information, but I can assure him that Christ Church, Poplar, is not to be pulled down, in fact it is now the parish church of the Island, and has recently had £15,000 spent on its restoration.

The bells are in good order despite the rumours that certain ringers have spread about, for what purpose I cannot imagine.

St. John's, Cubitt Town (one bell), is to be destroyed. Incidentally, quite a few peals have been attempted at Cubitt Town since the war.

I do think that this continual use of the word 'silent,' when referring to towers where few peals are rung is a misnomer, as I can supply names of towers where the bells are far from silent on a Sunday but few peals are attempted. I feel that the Rev. K. Felstead should have known better than to have coined such a term.—Sincerely yours,

ERNEST J. ROWE.

Tottenham, N.15.

## YOUNGEST BAND TO RING SURPRISE ROYAL

Dear Sir,—With reference to the query in 'Belfry Gossip' regarding the average age of a band having rung a peal of Surprise Royal, members of the Leicester Diocesan Guild took part in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at the Bell Foundry Campanile, Loughborough, on September 30th, 1949, the average age of the band being 20 years 4 months.

Congratulations to the 'young band' who rang the peal at Wimborne, especially to the two who rang in the first peal of Surprise Royal.—Yours faithfully,

PETER J. STANFORTH.

Leicester.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO WANLIP

Dear Sir,—I have been waiting for more abler pens than mine to offer congratulations to the Wanlip (Leicestershire) ringers on their remarkable progress since their band was formed a year ago.

So far, this has gone without acknowledgment, so I beg to send through your paper my own humble praise.—Yours faithfully,

'ADMIRER.'

Barnard Castle.

## IMBERHORNE, KIRKLINGTON, ALDRIDGE, UMBERSLADE

Dear Sir,—In reply to the query of Messrs. S. H. Hoare and J. R. Mayne, let me say that, in all the above methods, seconds place is made in the treble lead. 'Imberhorne' was published in Corrigan's Collection, Series II. (165 Unnamed Surprise Methods), as A. G. Driver's No. 1. But if this has been missed I will supply same in notation form. 'Imberhorne' 58-14-56-36-12-58-16-18. The false Course is 24365.

I would like to say how thoroughly I am in agreement with Mr. Mayne, that all methods should be published as soon as possible after being rung. There are now two methods to be published, not taking into account 'Hanslope.' These methods were rung in February, under the name of 'Deritend' and 'Digbeth.' Some people know one of these methods; some people know the other. But very few know both of them. Will you please let us have them to bring our records up to date.—Sincerely yours,

E. W. TIPLER.

47, Baker Street,  
Lutterworth, Rugby.

Mr. W. Rogers also sent us 'Imberhorne' which was first rung on November 21st, 1953, conducted by Frank H. Hicks.—Ed.

## BEWARE OF THE VERBAL TWIST

Dear Sir,—A parallel to Bob Triples is surely Canterbury Pleasure Major?—always recognised by the Central Council (until a few years ago) as a perfectly legitimate method, from which several true peals have been composed, and rung by some of the leading peal ringers in this country (I see Mr. Herbert E. Audsley's 1,000 includes three) including Central Council members themselves: the same method, be it remembered, is still recognised on five bells!

To those who are very fond of saying, 'The Council doesn't dictate and tell ringers they have not to ring these methods, that they merely say they won't recognise them,' I am reminded of a story told by the Vicar of Castor, near Peterborough, at a ringing meeting: 'A certain king, because a fortune teller told him that all his relatives were going to die before him and leave him a lone man, had the teller locked up in prison. Later, a second teller told the same story, only using different words, saying that he would outlive all his relatives, to which the king smiled and did not lock this second teller in prison.' I am also reminded of 'the man who refused to call a spade a spade, but said he would recognise it as an agricultural implement.' Let ringers bear these points in mind when they hear it said that 'the Central Council doesn't say they shall not ring Bob Triples, Canterbury Pleasure, etc., etc., that they only say they won't recognise it,' and not be gulled or misguided by this verbal twist of words simply to 'get round' the issue.

As one interested in the welfare of five-bell towers, I feel, as I know a number of other five-bell conductors do, that far too much interference comes from those not interested in our welfare. And with the speaker at Southwell, I agree that if 120 changes could be produced, though they include a bob of one and a single or plain lead of another, these should be accepted! Many of these are given saints' names: St. Giles, St. Peter, St. Matthew, St. Leonard, etc., upon whose days a peal is far more likely to appeal to the clergy than someone wanting to ring a peal of Cambridge for their own birthday, or for the mere sake of just another peal!

The Central Council should be helpful, and not try to dictate or become bureaucratic. Be it also remembered that some of those methods it now says it won't recognise, the Council itself got out and published in its 1931 Collection of Doubles and Minor Methods.—Yours sincerely,

P. AMOS.

Weston Favell,  
Northants.

## BELLS (?) AT WEYMOUTH

Dear Sir,—My thanks to the correspondents who have enlightened me regarding the bells removed from Christ Church, Melcombe Regis, to Lincoln; so they are gongs.

The Vicar of St. Andrew's, Lincoln, who chides me for not finding the entry in 'Dove,' does not say that I should look under 'M' instead of 'W.'

I know, of course, of the rings at Wyke Regis, Upwey and Preston, but the Sarum Diocesan Directory lists these parishes under their proper names. Whatever the civil boundaries of the borough may be, it would appear that, ecclesiastically, they are not in Weymouth, and the meticulous compiler of the 'Bellsinger's Guide' is correct in omitting the name of this delightful seaside resort from his book.—Yours sincerely,

E. G. CAPLE.

Springe, Lower Saxony.



## IRISH ASSOCIATION

### Presentation to Mr. R. S. F. Murphy

The finals of the striking contests to decide the destination of the all-Ireland trophy, the Murphy Cup, was held on the bells of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on May 14th. The cup was won by Mt. St. Alphonsus', Limerick, with 34 faults. St. Peter's, Drogheda, were second, with 54 faults; and Hillsborough third, with 105 faults. The judges were Messrs. A. Bakker, F. Bogan and H. Brown. The acting Ringing Master was Mr. W. E. Lynch.

The cup was presented to the winners by the donor, Mr. Robert S. F. Murphy, P.C., amidst popular applause. Mr. Brown (judge), in making his report, commented favourably on the 'open-hand stroke' lead, which was very pronounced, also the rhythm of the winners, which would be very difficult to beat.

A presentation was made to Mr. R. S. F. Murphy from the members in recognition of his long and valued services to bell-ringing in Ireland. Mr. W. Pratt (president) in making the presentation, which was a suitably engraved silver cigarette box, said Mr. Murphy, perhaps more than any other man, had done much to improve ringing in Ireland and also the attendances at Sunday services. He was also responsible for the inauguration of the Bell Restoration Fund.

Mr. Murphy, who is now in his 83rd year, in thanking the members, recalled his ringing career since the days in 1890 when he used to ring at St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny, until he arrived in Dublin in 1900 and joined St. Patrick's Cathedral band. He then had associations with Lord Chief Justice R. R. Cherry, Gabriel Lindoff, J. W. Washbrook and other well-known Irish ringers.

The annual Executive Council meeting was held the same day. It was decided to send a strong invitation to the Central Council to hold its meeting in Ireland in 1958. The Southern District's delegates said they hoped the councillors would visit their District. The Northern delegates said they had a claim, too. It was, however, suggested that tours should be arranged to include all Districts.

The Association's representatives on the Central Council were given a free hand to vote as their consciences told them in connection with the Plain Bob Triples motions at Bristol.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, William Pratt (Holywood); Ringing Master and librarian, Robert S. F. Murphy (Dublin); general secretary, Fred E. Dukes, M.I.E.E., Meadow Cottage, Julianstown, Co. Meath; auditors, W. E. Bovenizer and R. W. Smyth; badge secretary, John T. Dunwoody, 11, Church Avenue, Holywood; 'Irish Bell News' Editorial Committee, F. E. Dukes (editor), Miss J. Stewart, Mrs. Dukes and G. Bingham.

Mr. David Benson, who has been a ringer at Mt. St. Alphonsus', Limerick, for over 50 years, and Mrs. R. Adamson (Belfast), who had presented a cup to the Northern District for change ringing, were elected life members.

### Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Peals.—Sherburn-in-Elmet 2s. 6d., Bristol 1s. 6d., Wellington 4s., Harmston 4s., Bletchley 4s., Nottingham 2s., Locking 2s. 6d., Hilperton 3s., Holywell 1s. 6d., Rotherfield 4s., Staines 2s. 6d., Clifford 4s.

Quarter peals.—Walsall 2s., Cheriton 4s., Langport 3s., Porthkerry 2s. 6d., Luton 2s. 6d., Wandsworth 3s., Wimbledon 2s. 6d., Upper Clapton, 2s., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s., Watlington 3s., Lewknor 5s., Iden 2s. 6d., Steeple Claydon 3s., Yatesbury 2s. 6d.

## OUTINGS

### NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS

This year's outing, arranged and conducted by Mr. W. Midwinter, held on May 7th, was a visit to Derby and its outskirts. Before reaching Derby ringing was enjoyed at St. Mary's, Eastwood (8, 19 cwt.), St. Lawrence's, Heanor (8, 15½ cwt.) and St. Alkmund's, Duffield (10, 17½ cwt.). At the last named, famous home tower of Sir A. P. Heywood, the spliced method of the day, Duffield Major, was rung.

The programme at Derby included visits to the Cathedral (10, 19 cwt.), St. Peter's (8, 11½ cwt.), St. Andrew's (10, 18 cwt.) and St. Luke's (8, 30 cwt.). The unusual features of St. Luke's Church, a magnificent building with a fine ring of bells, were explained by the Vicar.

A tired party reached St. Werburgh's, Spondon (6, 10 cwt.). The ringing room bore signs of disuse, and it was impossible to ring the third bell. During the day 382 steps were climbed and descended and methods included Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Caters, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise Major.

Thanks are due to incumbents and ringers who met the party and also to the organiser.

### CYCLING OUTING IN NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE

On April 26th a small but determined band consisting of members of Bedford's two public schools met at Meppershall, Beds, where ringing on the five began the day's programme soon after 9 a.m. Then after an easy ride to Hitchin we rang at St. Ippolyts, with its nice 'lazy' six. Cambridge was rung with the assistance of Mr. Derek Jones, who joined us there. The tone of the fine octave at Stevenage was much admired.

After lunch various methods were tapped on the light six at Wymondley. At Graveley various Doubles methods were rung on another light six as well as the customary course of Cambridge. The five at Weston were put to good use, several of us ringing our first course of Erin. At Baldock we were able to ring Grand-sire and Bob Major on the eight, and Cambridge on the back six. We decided that it must have been fatigue which prevented us from doing justice to the pretty little eight at Norton. Thanks were passed to all incumbents and local ringers, also to the two organisers, Messrs. Pattison and Stoughton. S. J. I.

### Essex Association

Miss H. G. Snowden not only acted as organiser, but as district ringing master presided at the business meeting of the Northern District held at Witham on May 7th and attended by 55 members.

Mr. R. C. Heazel called attention to the forthcoming Chelmsford Cathedral Festival and to the weekend ringing course at Thaxted. Three new members were elected and Gestingthorpe selected for the next meeting in August.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar of Witham, who conducted the service and all who had worked hard to make the meeting a success.

### PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR WITHDRAWN

Dear Sir,—I wish to withdraw the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major rung at Loughborough Bell Foundry on March 30th. The composition, a 5,088, by Nolan Golden, published on page 105 of the Essex Association Annual Report for 1953 is false. The second lead of the 13th course is false against the end of the first lead of the 19th course.

No doubt the Essex Association will take appropriate action concerning this composition and also the peal of Yorkshire rung at Writtle on November 21st, 1953.—Yours faithfully,

South Wigston. BRIAN G. WARWICK.

## BECCLES CHIMES

The clock chimes of Beccles are the cause of a local controversy. A visitor to the town who stayed at the King's Head Hotel wrote to the Town Clerk complaining of his inability to sleep owing to the striking of the church clock throughout the night. As a result he had been obliged to cancel his arrangements to stay at the hotel over the week-end.

The complaint was considered by a committee of the Council and they were informed that in order to stop the striking of the clock during the night and restart it in the morning it would be necessary for the clock contractor to attend to it every morning in addition to his regular evening visit to wind it. The clock is over 260 years old. The committee recommended that no action be taken.

The landlord of the King's Head Hotel told the East Anglian 'Daily Times' that he received many complaints.

The stopping of the chimes at night would cost Beccles Town Council another £2 a week, which was the equivalent of over a halfpenny rate.

Yachtsmen and boat owners on the Waveney set their watches by the chimes. A 78-year-old lady, writing in praise of the bells, states: 'When I was a small child my home was in Beccles, and my mother used to open my window when I went to bed for me to hear the church chimes and beautiful bells—as I loved them so much—and, holding my hand she used to sing the following verse:—

Those evening bells, those evening bells,  
How many a tale their music tell;  
Of youth and home, and that sweet time.  
When first I heard their tuneful chime;  
And so it will be when I am gone,  
Those lovely bells will still ring on;  
And other bards will walk these dells,  
And sing your praise, sweet evening bells.'

## BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

### First Visit to Haynes

The first meeting of the Bedford District ever to be held at St. Mary's, Haynes, took place on May 7th. The five bells in this tower were rehung, retuned and two trebles added by Gillett and Johnston in 1953 and have an eight cwt. tenor. Sad to relate, these bells have only been rung three times previously, and in consequence the wide range of methods rung were nearly all the first on the bells.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. C. Cox) and was noteworthy for some really exceptionally lusty and spirited singing by the choir! Tea was taken in the Church Hall, two miles away. An enormous and sumptuous meal was prepared by the ladies of the W.I. and church helpers, being kindly given free. The Belfry Repair Fund will probably benefit by the tea money collection.

Seven new members were elected. Keysoe was chosen for the July meeting, with Mr. G. Seth as Ringing Master, Mr. Roy Ward to fill that post at Willington in June.

Mr. Bryan Pattison announced that Mr. William Stapleton, tower captain at St. Peter's, Bedford, had been forced to retire owing to ill-health, and was soon going into hospital for an operation. He said Mr. Stapleton's retirement would be a great loss not only to St. Peter's and his close friends but to the whole Association. He was the foremost conductor in his time, certainly in the county and Association if not in East Anglia. He had been ringing for over 50 years and was connected with the enterprising St. Peter's company of the 1920's, who rang many multi-method Minor peals.

The secretary was instructed to send a letter from the meeting thanking Mr. Stapleton and wishing him a sound recovery. P. J. S.







## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

### Quality of Peals High

The annual meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held in the Chapter House on April 30th. Evensong was attended at the Cathedral.

The Master (Mr. J. A. Freeman), in his report, stated that the total of peals rung during 1954 was 106, ten less than in the previous year. There had been a decline in recent years but he found no cause for alarm as the quality of peals had been high. The first peals ever of Oakham Surprise Royal and Evington Surprise Major and the first of Whitwick Surprise Major for the Guild were rung.

'The outstanding peal, in my opinion, was Spliced Surprise Major in 32 methods, conducted by John Freeman.' This peal contained the greatest number of Surprise Major methods yet rung in a peal for the Guild. By ringing in this peal Miss Betty Brown achieved the distinction of scoring a peal in more Surprise Major methods than any other lady ringer to date.

During the year the bells of Norton Disney were recast and augmented to six.

The Northern Branch reported membership steady at 301, compared with 300 last year. A membership of over 100 was reported by the Eastern Branch and 141 by the Elloe Deaneries Branch. The Southern Branch had been well attended with some very good ringing at meetings.

The Guild account showed a balance in hand of £24 7s. 9d. Balances of Branches were: Northern £39 1s. 8d.; Southern £21 17s. 10d.; Eastern £22 4s. 6d. and £9 3s. 3d. in the Belfry Repair Fund; Elloe Deaneries £44 19s. 8d. and £50 3s. 10d. in the Belfry Repair Fund.

The officers of the Guild were re-elected, viz.:—Master, Mr. J. A. Freeman; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Bray; hon. peal secretary, Mr. G. E. Feirn; hon. auditors, Messrs. C. Brown and W. Tomlinson.

### SEVERN TUNNEL OUTING

On May 14th ringers and relatives from Yatton, Chew Magna, Kewstoke, Keynsham, Kingston Seymour, Locking, Wembdon and Worle joined in an outing well and carefully organised by Mr. H. Price, of Yatton.

Picking up en route from Weston-super-Mare, our party travelled by train via the Severn Tunnel to Cardiff, where we were met at St. John's by Mr. S. Barker and the Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, Mr. Fred Bailey. This tower has a wonderful view from the top as well as a grand ring of ten.

By coach then to Llandaff Cathedral, where during restoration the spire is being dismantled and the stones placed in order on the floor inside. A sandwich lunch preceded ringing, when the two trebles, hung above the rest, were found tricky.

The literally coal-black river was followed up to Pontypridd. Slow ringing at first on the light eight, but a lively touch of Grandsire concluded the ringing here and received praise-worthy comment. High tea at the New Inn Hotel was had before going on to Caerphilly, with its moated castle. In the fairly modern church we found a beautifully laid out 'Easter Garden.' The tower contains a pleasing light eight.

Finally to St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, where the Dean came into the ringing room to give us a friendly welcome. Ringing included a fairly good course each of Grandsire and Stedman Cinques, being the first changes on 12 by some, and the first of Stedman Cinques by seven of the band who stood in. A good fall of all 12 bells ended the ringing.

R. D. S.

## NOTICES

### Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

### BIRTH

UPTON.—On May 12th, 1955, at the Shrubbery Maternity Home, Basingstoke, to Olive June (nee Osler) and Dennis, a son (Michael Richard). 6392

### DEATH

FISHER.—On May 21st, 1955, at the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, Frank Leslie, of Ufford, devoted husband of Frances and only brother of Charles, after a long and painful illness borne with courage and fortitude. 6411

### HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—Odd handbells (singly or more). If possible state size, note and founder. Also condition and price required.—P. Newing, College, Henwick Grove, Worcester. 6418

A GOOD second-hand set of handbells, suitable for tunes and change-ringing. Write: The Headmaster, Woodville County Secondary School, Woodville, Nr. Burton-on-Trent, Staffs. 6355

### PUBLICATIONS

'FIRST PRODUCTION TOMPION'S GREAT CLOCK,' by A. J. Nixseaman, M.A., New light on Tompion's early life, and an account of his own village turret clock. Obtainable from the author, Northill Rectory, Biggleswade. Beds. 3s. 6d. 6349

NOTES FOR BEGINNERS.—12 short easy chapters. FIFTH EDITION ready end June. Order now. 5 or more, post free, at 5 for 2s. 6d. Less than 5, 6d. each, plus 3d. postage, etc.—W. G. Wilson, 28, Abbey Avenue, Alpertown, Wembley. 6383

### MISCELLANEOUS

CHRIST CHURCH, MITCHAM (close to Colliers Wood Underground Station).—Commencing June 7th, practice night will be Tuesday. All visitors welcome. Ringing times: Sunday 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Tuesday 7.15 p.m. 6393

VISITING BOURNEMOUTH?—You are very welcome at St. Peter's Church. Ringing times: Sundays, 9.30 a.m.–10 a.m., 11–11.15 a.m., 5.50 p.m.–6.30 p.m. Practice, Thursdays, 7.30 p.m.—Arthur Davis, 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth. 6426

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

### MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Branch.—Practice meeting, Berrow, Saturday, May 28th. Bells (6) 5 p.m.—E. C. Wickham, Hon. Branch Sec. 6400

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting, Shardlow, Saturday, May 28th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Please note change of programme: June now to read Ikeston, and joint meeting with Midland Counties Guild, at Melbourne, on August 27th.—M. Bailey. 6376

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Misson (6), May 28th, at 2.30. Names for tea to Mrs. Young, The White Horse, Misson, Notts. A better attendance, please, this time.—F. Jackson, Sec. 6381

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Meeting on May 28th at Wadhurst, Sussex, when it is hoped to dedicate the new trebles to the recently rehanging and retuned six. Service 2.45. Tea 5 in the Institute. Everyone welcome. 6327

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Guildford District) and LADIES' GUILD (Southern District).—Combined meeting at Puttenham, Saturday, May 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea at the Jolly Farmer 5 p.m. 6354

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—By-meeting, Egerton May 28th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names, please, to R. L. Sills, The Square, Wrotham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Practice meeting, Saturday, May 28th, St. George's, Barkingside (8), two minutes Gants Hill (Central Line) 3.30–4.30. Tea, own arrangements. St. Margaret's, Barking (8), 6–8 p.m. Everyone welcome.—Bullock, Dis. Sec. 6391

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Chenies (6), May 28th, 3.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—W. Butler, 2, Faraday Road, Slough. 6384

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Practice meeting, May 28th, Berwick St. John, 2.30. Tea 5. Broadchalke in evening.—Y. L. Eloie, Branch Sec. 6396

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Walpole St. Andrew, Whit-Monday, May 30th. Bells (6), 2.30 p.m. Service, 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 6373

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Chelmsford, Whit Monday, May 30th. Service in the Cathedral at 11 a.m. conducted by the Provost; address by Canon M. N. Lake, M.A., Vicar of Stansted Mountfitchet. Annual meeting to follow immediately after the service in the Chapter House. Bells available: Cathedral (13) 9.30 a.m.–11 a.m. and from 5 p.m.; 3 p.m.–6 p.m., Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6); from 6 p.m., Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6). Light refreshments available at popular prices in the Cathedral Hall from 10 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. Lunch 1.30 p.m. (cost to members 4s., non-members 5s.). Tea, served as a running buffet, from 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. (cost 1s. 6d.).—F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch, Essex. 6316

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Annual Festival at Exmouth, Whit Monday, May 30th. Service Holy Trinity Church 12.15 p.m. Luncheon, Forte's Channel View Cafe (next the Pavilion on the sea front) 1.15 p.m.; prepaid tickets 5s. each. Bells: Littleham (8) and Withycombe Raleigh (8) 10–11.45 a.m. and after the meeting. 6305

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Next meeting, June 4th. Ringing, St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, S.W., 3.30. Business meeting, Ship, Talbot Court, E.C., 6 p.m. There will be no meeting at Southwark Cathedral on Whit Tuesday, May 31st. 6410

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Branch.—Meeting at Wilton (8), Saturday, June 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea.—A. H. Reid, George Street, Taunton. 6397

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Monthly meeting at Willington (6), Saturday, June 4th. Usual arrangements commencing 2.45. Rounds to special methods: Thelwall, Childwall, Norwich and Westminster Surprise. Everyone welcome. Catch Biggleswade bus.—Peter Shipton, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6399



**COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Joint meeting of Northern and Southern Districts at Alcester 3-4 p.m., and Salford Priors 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, June 4th. Tea at Alcester.—H. M. Windsor. 6402

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—Meeting at St. James' Church, Benwell, on Saturday, June 4th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by May 31st, to Mr. R. S. Mallabourne, 8, Fergusons Lane, Newcastle 5. 6409

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—Meeting, Staindrop, June 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, by June 2nd, please, to E. P. Rock, 64, Tollesby Road, Middlesbrough. 6421

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ely District.—Meeting on Saturday, June 4th, Chippenham (6), 3 to 4.30. Service at 4.30. Tea 5.15 at Fordham Crown. Fordham (6) after tea.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec. 6386

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western.—Meeting, Havering-atte-Bower, Saturday, June 4th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to F. Goodwin, Lydstep, Havering Road, Havering-atte-Bower. 6388

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol City Branch.—Saturday, June 4th, Abbott's Leigh (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Schoolroom. Meeting to follow. Please attend.—A. Bennett. 6412

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Chertsey District.—Meeting at Send (6) on Saturday, June 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 in Red Cross Hut. Names, by June 1st, to S. Strudwick, Eskholm, Potter's Lane, Send.—R. Collins. 6382

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Watford District.—Meeting at Abbots Langley (6) June 4th. 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Names for tea to K. R. Dunstan, Dis. Sec., 8, Bridge Road, Hunton Bridge, King's Langley. 6417

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—Combined meeting with the LADIES' GUILD at Biddenden (8), June 4th. Bells, 2.45 p.m. Service, 4.25 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m. Fritenden (8) bells also available from 6.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. G. Payne, Curteis Cottage, 38, Headcorn Road, Biddenden, by Tuesday, May 31st. 6369

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, St. Peter's, Thanet, Saturday, June 4th. Bells, 2.30 p.m. Service, 4.15 p.m. Tea, 2s. per head. Please notify Miss P. M. Taylor, St. Denys, 10, Dumpton Park Drive, Broadstairs, Kent, not later than Monday, May 30th, enclosing cash.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Sec. 6370

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Hever, on Saturday, June 4th. Bells (6), 3 p.m. Service, 5.15 p.m. Tea (2s. 3d.), 6 p.m. Names for tea, with cash please, by Wednesday, June 1st, to Miss Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 6374

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Midland District.—Meeting at Aylestone (8), Leicester, on Saturday, June 4th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the Aylestone Boat-house. Names for tea, not later than Wednesday, June 1st, to Miss J. M. Simpson, 9, Woodgon Road, Anstey, Leicester. All ringers and friends welcome. 6403

**LADIES' GUILD.**—West Midland District.—Annual meeting at St. James', Bulkington, near Nuneaton, June 4th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday, May 31st, to Stella Hughes, 3, Delves Road, Walsall, Staffs. 6419

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, June 4th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 6390

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—South Norfolk Branch.—Meeting, Pulham St. Mary, June 4th. Bells (8), 2.30 p.m. Service, 4.15 p.m. Preacher, the new president, Rev. H. G. Lillingston. Tea, 5 p.m., followed by meet-

ing. Names for tea to Mr. E. Whiting, 25, Council Houses, Pulham St. Mary, Diss, Norfolk, by May 30th. Pulham Market bells (8), evening.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec. 6380

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at Compton (6), June 4th. Bells, 2.30 p.m. East Ilsley (8) available after tea. Names by Wednesday, June 1st, to J. Butler, Westfield, Compton, Newbury. 6372

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting at Shenley, Saturday, June 4th. Bells, 2.30 p.m. Service, 3.30 p.m. Address by the Bishop of Oxford. Names for tea, please, by May 30th. A good attendance desired.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 6368

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Sonning Deanery Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Twyford on June 4th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 6 p.m. Ringing at Twyford and Wargrave after tea. Notify for tea by May 31st.—B. C. Castle, The Briars, Westfield Road, Winnersh, Wokingham. 6398

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting at Naseby, June 4th. Names for tea to me by Tuesday previous.—W. J. Kinchin, Main Street, Yelvertoft, Rugby. 6424

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Marlborough Branch.—Meeting, Aldbourne, Saturday, June 4th. Names by May 31st.—T. A. Palmer, 16, Oxford Street, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wilts. 6406

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Cup contest at Old Whittington, June 4th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by June 2nd, to Mr. G. Newman, 54, Brearley Avenue, New Whittington, Chesterfield.—J. Seager, Sec. 6420

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Quarterly meeting at Meopham, Kent, Saturday, June 4th. (Train from Victoria.) Bells (8) available 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting at the Cricketers' Inn, 5.15 p.m. Wrotham bells (8) available after tea (6.30 p.m. bus from Meopham). Names for tea by Tuesday, May 31st, without fail, please.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec., Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Kent. 6361

**SOUTHWELL GUILD** (Nottingham District) and **LEICESTER GUILD** (Melton District).—Joint meeting, Nottingham, June 4th. St. Mary's bells (10), 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. St. Peter's (10), after 6 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at St. Mary's Institute. Names by previous Tuesday to Mr. W. Nichols, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgford.—C. W. Towers and J. H. Cook. 6365

**SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—Quarterly meeting, East Grinstead (8), Saturday, June 4th. Ringing 3.30. Service 4 o'clock. Names for tea, by June 2nd, to Mrs. E. Rapley, Hon. Div. Sec., 48, Swindon Road, Horsham. 6404

**TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Practice meeting at St. Kea on Saturday, June 4th. at 7 p.m.—D. Burnett. 6389

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Tichborne, June 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 at Riverside Farm. Names, by previous Tuesday, to R. F. Brewer, Sparsholt, Winchester. 6405

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, B'dford-on-Avon (8), Saturday, June 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting. Names for tea by June 1st.—W. J. Newman, 7, New Road, Hampton, Evesham, Wores. 6408

**WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, King's Norton (10), Saturday, June 4th, 3 p.m. Service, 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and business. Names for tea by June 1st, please.—Bernard C. Ashford, Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge. 6367

**BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Annual Shield Six-Bell Contest, at Ossett, June 11th. Entrance fee, 10s. All entries to reach me not

later than June 4th. Names for tea to reach Mr. F. Bennett, Carlton House, Dale Street, Ossett, not later than June 4th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 18, Chapel Street, Shafton, Nr. Barnsley. 6380

**LADIES' GUILD.**—South Wales District.—Meeting, Saturday, June 11th, St. Mellons, Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and important business. Gentlemen cordially invited.—J. S. Evans, Dis. Sec. 6387

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Sussex District.—Meeting at All Saints', Hastings, on June 11th. An attempt to form a section in this area. Details later. All ladies, please support. Gentlemen cordially invited.—B. Percy. 6407

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Grimsby District.—Meeting at Great Carlton (5), June 11th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Ringing after the meeting at Louth (8). Names for tea, by June 7th, to Mr. A. Holmes, Great Carlton, Louth, Lincs. 6401

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northern Branch (Lincoln District).—Quarterly meeting, Caythorpe (8), June 11th. Tea for those who notify me by Wednesday previous.—C. Brown, 3, Aitham Terrace, Lincoln. 6415

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Weedon, Saturday, June 11th. Names for tea, by Saturday, June 4th, to Mr. V. Perry, The Yews, Weedon, Northants.—F. W. Hancock. 6416

**SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at Welshpool June 11th, at 3 p.m. Names for tea to E. V. Jones, 30, Oakley Street, Shrewsbury. 6422

**SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.**—Ringing at All Saints', Inveraray (10 bells), after lunch on Saturday, June 11th. All visitors very welcome. For those making own transport arrangements the service bus leaves Broomielaw Bus Station, Glasgow, at 9 a.m. 6425

**SOUTHWELL GUILD.**—North Notts District.—Crawford Cup contest and meeting and Bawtry (6), Saturday, June 11th, 3 p.m. start. Names for tea, by 7th, to Mr. A. Wilson, Shady Nook, Doncaster Road, Bawtry, Doncaster.—H. Denman. 6414

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**—Frome Branch.—Corporate Communion at Midsomer Norton, Sunday, June 12th. Bells 7 a.m. Service 8. Names for breakfast essential to E. Chivers, Wingles, Chilcompton. 6395

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Annual general meeting, Guildford, Saturday, July 2nd. Details of bells available will be published shortly. The Central District is organising transport from London. Members and friends interested please write for details to Mrs. T. J. Lock, 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield. 6413

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Advance notice. The Snowdon Commemoration Dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 15th, 1955, at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds. Tickets, price 11s. 6d. each, now available from A. E. Marsh, 19, Priestley Gardens, Pudsey, Leeds. 6384

## ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX

The recently recast octave at St. Peter's, Sowerby, were put to good use at the meeting of the Archdeaconry of Halifax Guild, on May 7th, attended by 30 members.

Mr. C. J. Sutcliffe presided at the business meeting when it was announced that the Guild's official trip on Whit-Monday would not take place but a small party would probably visit Whitby on that day. The Vicar was thanked for making the Guild so welcome, and Mr. G. A. Briggs in reply said he would be delighted to give the collection, taken for tea, back to Guild funds.

Considerable discussion followed the suggestion by Mr. P. Birkett that a series of lectures and higher instruction be arranged. This would probably be followed up next winter. A good lower in peal at 9 p.m. concluded a successful meeting.



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