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CHRISTMAS

WE'LL be at home for Christmas rings more truly than any of the other popular ideas associated with this day. Most of the other popular Christmas ideas are not specifically Christian, and you can share them without being a Christian, even as you could share the yule log, feasting, light and fun in England, centuries before Christ. The association of home with a midwinter festival is obvious: the worse the weather the greater the attraction of the home lights beckoning the traveller through the snowy forest. But the association of home with the Christian Christmas is something deeper and more subtle.

'Home' is a strange paradox. Something to be got away from, as the lust of travel grips the adventurer and entices him away to strange lands and new experiences. And yet, something without which travel and adventure seem pointless, for as Odysseus saw centuries ago, a journey however long, as soon as it begins, becomes a journey towards home, gathering on the way experiences with which to enrich the return, tales to tell the family, riches to share around. Does this give us some idea of the true meaning of Christmas?

What is the real Christmas? The central event of world history. All before it is B.C., all after it is A.D. The event which altered all things. An interference, utter and complete, with history's course. An explosion so great that the pieces from it will never cease to scatter. An event which set up in mankind a tension compared with which the tension of home versus adventure is as nothing. An event which so affects all things, that the ringing of bells in east and west, in changes, carillons, unmusical clashes, or in any other way, to the strangely mingled elation and irritation of hundreds of millions, seems an obvious by-product of it.

Christmas: the event to which all history looked forward. For all history is concerned with the perfecting of mankind. The crown of creation, evolving by long, slow stages from something primitive, yet evolving to what? The grander man, the crown of creation, became, the greater were his possibilities for evil. History is one long record of man's powers for evil growing greater. History, as the Old Testament views it, is a record of man driving himself out of Eden, murdering his brother, drowning deservedly in a flood, continuing in evil, lust, hatred, reducing his religion to a cult of evil sacrifice. Then at last a new breath of fresh air sweeps in. The Prophets expect a

change. Others long for it also. Then at last, into history, the record of evil man longing for something better and unable to produce it on his own, there breaks the vision of perfection. Man as he should and can be. Man, perfect in desire, in power, in achievement, in humility; the Light in the darkness.

The moment this happens, there comes into all life a tension far greater than ever before. The goodness in man feels overwhelmingly attracted to it. In the presence of the Christ Child man feels at home; his arduous journey towards satisfaction accomplished, his best desires satisfied, his ambitions given a worthwhile exercise. Yet the badness in man feels repelled by it; he cannot stand this perfection; he must escape from it, destroy it, do anything to counteract this banishment of his freedom. This tension begins the first Christmas night and it must go on so long as the world lasts. Shepherds and wise men come, attracted to ennoble their gifts and their wisdom here in man's true home. Ambitious Herods will stop at nothing to try and banish the idea. So from Christ's birth the rest of His earthly life-story becomes inevitable. Disciples long to give Him their whole lives. Others, for every varied reason that man's evil nature can devise, must expel Him from life. Where Herod the Great failed, Caiaphas got Him in the end—so men thought.

But it was not so. Man's conquest paled before Christ's conquest of death with life, of evil by goodness. So the tension of Christmas has not vanished into history, like that between King and Parliament three hundred years ago. It continues and must for ever continue on earth. It is intimate within us all today. Christ repels many, all the more strongly because His deepest nature attracts them. Why do our fellow workers in factories, etc., rag us off when they find we go to church and ring, whilst if we took up some other unusual activity, like collecting spiders, they would not bother to do so? Because the tension of perfection, attracting all men home, yet challenging them to break away and be free, is as real today as ever. 'What have we to do with Thee, Jesus . . . art Thou come to torment us before the time?' cried the evil spirits. Christ's Spirit spreads in every land, conquering evil, leading men to do great things, yet stirring enmity everywhere. We, every one, feel His power in both directions. We feel forced to admire, to come to Him in worship and reflect Him in service, yet we often feel a strange resentment expressing itself in irrelevant ways which are interesting to analyse. The Rev. X. produces a different dislike from

that which Mr. X. produces. We find it harder to say the Confession than to sing 'Fight the good fight.' Church bells irritate in a quite different way from any other public sound. The only way to resolve the Christmas tension in ourselves is so to learn to share the life of the Christ Child, His love, His humility, His powerless power, that our adventurous love of the world and of freedom is swallowed up in the joy of being at home with the Power which is love and which longs for us all even as we truly long for Him.

GILBERT THURLOW.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

SOUTHWARK, S.E.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR.

A PEAL OF 5053 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 48 cwt.

FRANK E. DARBY Treble	WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS .. 7
JOHN CHILCOTT 2	WILLIAM HIBBERT 8
JOHN PHILLIPS 3	JOHN S. MASON 9
JAMES PHILLIPS 4	PHILIP A. F. CHALK .. 10
JOHN B. SANSOM 5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. 11
SELWYN H. DEARDEN .. 6	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by A. W. T. CLEAVER.

Conducted by JOHN CHILCOTT.

TEN BELL PEALS

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

ALAN A. POTTS Treble	JOHN WORTH 6
FRED DUNKERLEY 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY 7
BASIL JONES 3	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 8
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	PETER LAFLIN 9
C. KENNETH LEWIS 5	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5053 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

JUNE KNIGHT Treble	DOROTHY E. BEAMISH .. 6
LEONARD TREVOR 2	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH .. 7
JOHN E. S. MORETON .. 3	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. 8
JAMES DRAYCOTT 4	JAMES F. CLARKE 9
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 5	JOHN E. LLOYD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Rung with half-muffled clappers as a tribute to the memory of Dr. Neville Vincent Gorton, Bishop of Coventry, and Patron of the Guild, who was interred in the ruined Cathedral earlier in the day.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

KIRTLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Sat., Nov. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Carter's Twelve-part.	Tenor 16 cwt.
WALTER F. JUDGE Treble	EDWIN G. MOORE 5
*VERNON GREEN 2	*MALCOLM JOURNEAUX .. 6
ALEX GAMMON 3	FRANCIS A. WHITE 7
*CLIVE HOLLOWAY 4	FREDERICK C. WHITE .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal on eight bells.

BUCKLAND, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.

Tenor 16 cwt.

WALTER F. JUDGE Treble	EDWIN G. MOORE 5
*DAPHNE CASTELL 2	WILLIAM C. PORTER .. 6
FREDK. A. H. WILKINS .. 3	FRANCIS A. WHITE 7
PHILIP WALKER 4	J. RICHARD CHAUNDY .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal in the method.

ENVILLE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours.

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

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

CLIVE M. SMITH Treble	*PETER BERESFORD 5
ANN BARR 2	JEFFREY B. WEBB 6
*JOAN BERESFORD 3	†EDMUND MALIN 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* 100th peal together. † First peal in the method.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

*ORRELL DAVIES Treble	SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW .. 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 2	*JOSEPH THORNLEY 6
PETER CROOK, SEN. 3	CECIL RADDON 7
HENRY PARKER 4	HARRY W. HOWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

* First of Little Bob Major.

Rung to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER .. Treble	*SELWYN H. DEARDEN .. 5
DONALD G. CLIFT 2	RICHARD E. PRICE 6
WILFRED WILLIAMS 3	FRANK E. DARBY 7
GEORGE W. MASSEY 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

J. EDWARD CAWSE Treble	*RICHARD C. INGRAM .. 5
JEFFREY B. WEBB 2	PETER BERESFORD 6
JOAN BERESFORD 3	EDMUND MALIN 7
JOHN S. WYBREW 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER Tenor

Composed by J. M. LAKIN.

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

* First peal in the method.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5152 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

*C. EDWARD LANKESTER .. Treble	JOHN D. ROCK 5
†JOHN R. MAYNE 2	§THOMAS J. LOCK 6
‡MARY LAWRENCE 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE 7
†ALICK CUTLER 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

* 100th peal on this bell. † 50th peal together. ‡ First peal in the method. § 400th peal.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Davies's Transposition.		Tenor 21½ cwt.	
*SHELAGH WHITEHOUSE .. Treble	NORMAN HOBDEN 5		
GILLIAN R. PARSONS .. 2	ALBERT E. CHEESMAN .. 6		
HAROLD N. PITSTOW .. 3	ALBERT J. ADAMS 7		
†RAYMOND I. F. PARSONS 4	MICHAEL F. LAYTON .. Tenor		

Conducted by ALBERT J. ADAMS.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

BARNET, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5120 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Treble	JOHN W. V. SINFIELD .. 5
ARTHUR G. MASON .. 2	BRIAN BLADON 6
JOHN L. MORRIS .. 3	ALAN F. THIRST 7
DENNIS BERESFORD .. 4	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN L. MORRIS.

First peal of Surprise as conductor.

BIRSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5280 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, being 960 London, 928 Watford, 896 Bristol, 672 Cambridge, 512 Dorchester, 448 Pudsey, 448 Superlative and 412 Lincoln, with 121 changes of method. Contains all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

MILTON C. FOWLER .. Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 5
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 2	GIBSON JACKSON 6
*LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 7
HOWARD SCOTT .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* 100th consecutive peal of Surprise for the Yorkshire Association.

BOURNEMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

*JOHN A. BLACHFORD .. Treble	PHILIP N. TUBBS 5
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 2	MICHAEL J. BAZELEY .. 6
JOAN M. GRAY .. 3	RONALD N. MARLOW .. 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN .. 4	EDWARD J. DOEL Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* First peal.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

HARRY J. MILLATT .. Treble	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD .. 5
FRANK CLAYDON .. 2	CHAS. E. WILLMINGTON .. 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN .. 3	HILDA G. SNOWDEN .. 7
*TERRY EARLE .. 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

* First peal of Bristol.

CREDITON, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part		Tenor 27 cwt. in D.	
*JUDITH WILLIAMS .. Treble	GEORGE LUXTON 5		
CYRIL C. DEEM .. 2	JOHN L. S. GLANVILL .. 6		
EDWARD G. CORK .. 3	GEORGE E. RETTER .. 7		
GEORGE SKINNER .. 4	STANLEY J. SHARLAND .. Tenor		

Conducted by GEORGE E. RETTER.

* First peal.

Rung in memory of James Perkins, churchwarden, chorister and ringer at this church, captain of the local band for 50 years, who died on December 2nd, 1955.

ELVEDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE MEMORIAL TOWER OF THE CHURCH OF SS. ANDREW AND PATRICK,

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. in E.

KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. Treble	D. KAY ADKINS 5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 2	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN .. 6
WALTER G. PAUL .. 3	THOMAS W. SHEPPARD .. 7
WILLIAM WENBAN .. 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

The first peal in the method on the bells.

PONTEFRAC, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. Treble	†LESLIE BLACKBURN .. 5
D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 2	HARRY NEWTON 6
G. FRED TERRY .. 3	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD .. 7
*ARTHUR ATKINSON .. 4	†JOSEPH HOLDSWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

* First peal. † First attempt for a peal. 50th peal as conductor.

A compliment to the Rev. N. Haigh, Vicar of this church, who will complete 25 years in the Ministry on December 18th.

SHEDFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

PAULINE M. SAXTON .. Treble	†ROGER BALDWIN 5
*MARION J. PARKER .. 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON .. 6
S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT 3	FREDK. W. ROGERS .. 7
RUSSELL H. R. PARKER .. 4	†FREDK. W. BURNETT .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by FREDERICK W. BURNETT.

* First peal of Surprise on an 'inside' bell. † 25th peal together. The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

SHERFIELD ENGLISH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED MAJOR

Consisting of 4,800 changes of Bristol Surprise and 320 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob in 40 changes of method.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.

JESSIE M. KIPPIN .. Treble	R. ROGER SAVORY 5
ADRIAN TUMBER .. 2	J. MICHAEL LAKIN 6
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 5	MAURICE J. BUTLER .. 7
ROBERT C. KIPPIN .. 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Tenor

Composed by REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

The first time these methods have been rung 'spiced' to a peal.

A 12th birthday compliment to Christopher Kippin.



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WARFIELD, BERKSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

*LESLIE W. PAICE Treble	GEORGE GILBERT 5
WILLIAM J. PAICE 2	*ALFRED K. STREET 6
MRS. B. C. CASTLE 3	STANLEY C. DAY 7
MRS. A. J. N. RANCE 4	ARTHUR J. N. RANCE .. Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE.

* First peal of Major.

Rung to welcome the Rev. C. R. Brown to the benefice. Also as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

FRANK E. WALKER Treble	CYRIL S. JARRETT 5
BRIAN BLADON 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 6
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 7
JOHN L. MORRIS 4	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

Rung for the 25th anniversary of the induction of Canon Elliott Mitchell as Vicar.

SIX BELL PEALS

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Nov. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Childwall, St. Clement's, Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*ROLAND E. LEWIS Treble	PHILIP G. MORGAN 4
*C. WILLIAM NUTT 2	†JAMES WARD 5
JOHN CLEMENTS 3	REGINALD T. JONES .. Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD T. JONES.

* 25th peal together. † First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods as conductor. The 50th peal on the bells.

ULCEBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

*MICHAEL CROWDER Treble	MARTIN WALKER 4
†JOHN HALL 2	C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 5
JACK BRAY 3	IVOR LORD Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods 'inside.' Rung as a farewell to Rev. L. W. Goulding, who is shortly leaving this parish.

BREDWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 7½ cwt.

ALLEN COLCOMBE Treble	LESLIE H. COLCOMBE .. 4
THOMAS J. GUNDY 2	CHARLES PHILLIPS 5
REGINALD G. POWELL .. 3	AUBREY J. PROBERT .. Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD G. POWELL.

HIGHWORTH, WILTSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 18 cwt.

*CYRIL COOMBS (14½) .. Treble	HAROLD POPE 4
*JOHN T. SAWYER 2	THOMAS F. STONE 5
*JOHN A. HILL 3	*IVOR HAWKINS Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS F. STONE.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells by local band.

HOPE, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CYNFACHS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings).

Tenor 10 cwt.

*DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD Treble	GEORGE F. SPERRING .. 4
LEWIS S. GRIFFITHS 2	L. JOHN EVANS 5
*DAPHNE LESTER 3	JOHN W. ROBERTS .. Tenor

Conducted by LEWIS S. GRIFFITHS.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 1 Hour and 53 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In five methods: (1) Double Bob and Plain Bob, (2) Cambridge Surprise, (3) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (4) Kent Treble Bob (5) Oxford Treble Bob, (6) and (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in G.

MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON 4
JOHN M. JELLEY 2	ERNEST J. JELLEY 5
JOHN A. UNDERWOOD .. 3	BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

Rung on the front six. John M. Jelley has now 'circled the tower.'

MAGDALEN, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and St. Clement's and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.

*ARTHUR H. BRIDGES .. Treble	*PETER GASKIN 4
STANLEY G. ELSEY 2	ERNEST H. MASTIN .. 5
WALLACE W. COUSINS .. 3	CLAUDE COUSINS .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST H. MASTIN.

* First peal.

NETHER ALDERLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

In 25 methods: (1) and (2) Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal, St. Werburgh and Abbeyville Delight; (3) Willesden, Newdigate, College Bob IV, Old Oxford and Marple Delight; (4) College Exercise, Norbury, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and Morning Star Treble Bob; (5) Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby and Braintree Delight; (6) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and (7) Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

SYDNEY SAGE Treble	SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN... .. 4
ERIC SIMPSON 2	NEIL D. LOMAS 5
IVOR JENKINS 3	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

ORSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (15 different callings).

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in A flat.

F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER.. Treble	FRANK W. VERNON 4
FREDERICK G. HOOPER .. 2	WILLIAM L. EXTON 5
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	ALBERT FOSTER Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FOSTER.

Mr. F. W. Midwinter has now 'circled the tower.'

A birthday compliment to Mr. Albert Foster.

SOUTH MARSTON, WILTSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 20 extents of Grandsire (ten callings) and 22 of Plain Bob (four callings). Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM A. T. CARTER.. Treble	T. ARTHUR PALMER 4
*TOM COLLINS 2	FREDERICK J. READ 5
TERRY COLLINS 3	JOSEPH DURHAM Tenor

Conducted by TERRY COLLINS.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

A wedding peal for Micheal Looker and Evelyn Warren.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 40 six-scores and one 240 (six callings).

Tenor 7 cwt.

*CYNTHIA B. HALL Treble	ROBERT NICHOLLS 4
JOHN COLLEY 2	RICHARD F. DAVIES 5
ALFRED E. G. OWEN 3	*THOMAS H. ONIONS Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD F. DAVIES.

* First peal.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being the following extents from C.C.C.: 35, 38, 37, 39, 36, 34 and 50.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN R. COOPER Treble	*ROSEMARY E. GOWER 4
*RITA A. GOWER 2	RAYMOND J. CARLTON 5
CRAWFORD T. HILLIS 3	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND J. CARLTON.

* First peal.

APSLEY END, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Cuncecastre, Bourne, Wells, York, Cambridge, London and Norwich.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

EDWIN J. UPTON Treble	WALTER AYRE 4
*WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT .. 2	†KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 3	WILLIAM C. HUGHES .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* 50th peal. † First peal in seven Surprise methods.

A birthday compliment to the conductor.

BLAYDON, COUNTY DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Cuthbert.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of an extent each of Double Court, Double Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Cambridge S., Kent T.B. and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB .. Treble	CHARLES N. LEA 4
STEPHEN THOMPSON 2	PHILIP G. DRAFFAN 5
KENNETH ARTHUR 3	FRANK G. BROOMFIELD .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

Specially arranged and rung to celebrate the ordination to the priesthood of the Rev. T. H. Hood, assistant curate at this church and an initiate of the Exercise.

QUADRING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 10 cwt.

ALBERT H. BENNETT .. Treble	RONALD C. NOON 4
STANLEY E. BENNETT 2	HORACE BENNETT 5
JOHN G. AMES 3	FRANK TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.

50th peal as conductor.

UPCHURCH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being four different extents of Single Oxford, and three different extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

EMILY B. P. WALKER .. Treble	EDWARD C. BARTON 4
CECIL C. BISHOP 2	GEORGE KENWARD 5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL 3	GEORGE A. NAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to Mr. William John Walker, of Upchurch, for many years a respected ringer of the above Association, and father of Emily B. P. Walker, ringer of the treble. Mr. Walker was laid to rest this day within the sound of the bells he loved.



GILLETT AND JOHNSTON

LIMITED

No matter in which corner of the country you happen to be, as likely as not you will come across Gillett & Johnston bells or tower clocks. Gillett & Johnston craftsmanship is embodied in an all-embracing service — as much in the preservation and restoration of old rings of antiquarian interest as in the installation of new.

BELL FOUNDERS

AND

CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



WINGFIELD, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1955, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

CHARLES BROWN Treble	WILLIAM CRACKNELL 4
GEORGE J. FILBY 2	ROBERT PLUMMER 5
*ALBERT LAWES 3	GEORGE FILBY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE FILBY.

* First peal 'inside.'

Arranged for Mr. James Barber, on his 80th birthday; he was unable to take part owing to the illness of his wife. Also a birthday compliment to the ringer of the fifth.

WHICKHAM, COUNTY DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Double Bob, Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 7 cwt.

*MARION S. CAPEY Treble	†STEPHEN THOMPSON 4
*E. ALAN RAWLINSON 2	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD 5
†ROBIN G. LEALE 3	PHILLIP G. DRAFFEN .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in seven methods. ‡ 100th peal. Rung as a 90th birthday compliment to Mrs. Heron, mother of the verger of this church.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 48 lb. in G.

THOMAS R. SIMMONS .. Treble	HERBERT HOWLETT 4
ALBERT E. PEGG 2	ARTHUR DICKERSON 5
*BRIDGET MUTIMER 3	JOHN S. BARNES Tenor

Conducted by JOHN S. BARNES.

* First peal 'inside.'

BEENHAM, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being four 720's of London and three 720's of Cambridge.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

GILLIAN E. BROWN .. Treble	JOHN N. DISERENS 4
REGINALD W. REX 2	RONALD F. DISERENS 5
BRYAN C. STIRLAND 3	NOEL J. DISERENS Tenor

Conducted by NOEL J. DISERENS.

CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 11 cwt.

STANLEY G. HONEYBALL .. Treble	ROY DUESBURY 4
SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT 2	ARTHUR G. BUTTON 5
ROSEMARY SEABROOK 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

NEWHALL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in G.

WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. Treble	ALAN G. FOSTER 4
DEREK P. JONES 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 5
JOHN A. UNDERWOOD 3	FRANCIS R. LOWE Tenor

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

First peal in seven Minor methods as conductor and 50th peal this year.

SEALE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Single Oxford, Double Oxford, St. Clement's Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in A flat.

SYLVIA C. SHERWOOD .. Treble	*PETER G. SHERWOOD 4
ALAN E. HARTLEY 2	*HARRY POYNER 5
JOHN R. COOPER 3	J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by J. ALAN AINSWORTH.

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

WETHERDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt.

RONALD W. STEWARD .. Treble	GEORGE E. CATTON 4
LEONARD SHARPE 2	DAVID BRAND 5
ROBERT E. LESTER 3	EDWARD E. DAVEY Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD E. DAVEY.

First peal on the bells since being rehung on new ball bearings by Messrs. Gillett & Johnston, Ltd.

WILBURTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 1,440 changes each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent, and 720 changes of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

FRANK YARROW Treble	*GEORGE A. WALKER 4
HENRY W. SHARP 2	*ARTHUR YARROW 5
DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 3	STANLEY SHIPP Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY SHIPP.

* First peal in four methods.

A golden wedding compliment to the ringer of the second.

WYMESWOLD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

*FREDERICK WATSON .. Treble	WILLIAM JOHNSON 4
GERALD JOHNSON 2	MICHAEL VERNON 5
ERNEST MORRIS 3	*†JOHN VERNON Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* 25th peal together. † 50th peal.

Rung to mark the birth of a daughter (Charlotte Faith) to the Rev. Lawrence Jackson, A.K.C., and Mrs. Jackson, of the Vicarage, Wymeswold.

HANDBELL PEALS

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT NEWSTEAD, STOKE ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

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

*NANCY E. MARKLEW .. 1-2	ALFRED BALLARD 5-6
EDGAR VALLANCE 3-4	HECTOR A. KNIGHTS .. 7-8

Conducted by ALFRED BALLARD.

* First peal away from 7-8.

Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Vallance.

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1955, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT CLEATHAM HOUSE FARM.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition. Tenor size 15 in C.

JOHN FREEMAN 1-2	*JACK BRAY 5-6
GEORGE E. FEIRN 3-4	*PHILIP BARNES 7-8

Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

* First peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand.'

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The last monthly meeting of the year was held at Rawmarsh on December 3rd when, unfortunately, the attendance was below average for the district. The bells were rung up soon after 3 p.m. and good use was made of the ringing time until 5 p.m., when tea was served in the church hall.

A short business meeting was held, at which the chair was taken by Mr. N. Chaddock. Apologies for absence were received from the president (Mr. H. O. Chaddock) and the Ringing Master (Mr. J. J. L. Gilbert).

The ringers then returned to the tower, where ringing continued in a variety of methods from Plain Bob to Surprise Major, until 9 p.m.

The next meeting is due to be held at Ecclesfield on January 7th. D. J. S.

GOOD WISHES DESPITE PEAL FAILURES

The wedding took place at All Saints' Church, Walsoken, on December 3rd between Mr. M. R. Reed and Miss J. E. Colson, both of Wisbech.

To commemorate this event, six friends of the bridegroom, who is also a bellringer, attempted a peal at St. Leonard's Church, Leverington, but this came to an untimely end owing to the clapper parting company with the tenor bell! The same ringers met again on Dec. 10th at St. Wendreda's Church, March, and again attempted a peal, which after 2 hrs. 50 mins. was stopped, this time owing to bells being in the wrong order at the final part of the last extent.

Despite the fact that no congratulatory peal was forthcoming, the participating bellringers heartily send their best wishes for the future to Mr. and Mrs. Reed.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**Mayoral Visit to Rochdale Branch**

St. Luke's, Heywood, was the venue for the Rochdale Branch annual meeting and party on December 3rd. The bells were available from 2 o'clock but ringing did not really commence until half-past. Although the weather was bright the attendance in the afternoon was disappointing. A short service was conducted by the Rector, and the curate gave a very good address.

A very good tea followed, and not mentioning any names, some members really shine at this part of the proceedings!

The business meeting was presided over by the Branch Ringing Master, Mr. Ivan Kay. Two new members were elected, both of Rochdale Parish Church, and the Branch secretary (Mr. F. Pritchard) was re-elected for the next two years.

A whist drive was held in one room, and the large schoolroom now gradually filled and dancing was enjoyed until 11 p.m. The Mayor and Mayoress of Heywood visited the gathering and stayed to listen to the Moorside (Oldham) handbell ringers' two performances of tune-ringing.

The party was a great success and the Heywood ringers are to be congratulated for the arrangements, especially Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Mills and Mr. Alan Crabtree.

F. P.

MR. D. H. ROOKE'S 100 PEALS

With a peal at Cresswell, Derbyshire, on Dec. 3rd, Mr. Douglas H. Rooke, of Warsop, Notts, completed his first 100 peals. Details are appended:—

Royal: Kent Treble Bob 1, Plain Bob 2, Spliced Plain and Little Bob 1.

Caters: Grandsire Caters 1.

Major: Double Norwich Court Bob 3, Kent Treble Bob 4 (cond. 1), Plain Bob 3 (1), St. Clement's College Bob 1.

Triples: Grandsire Triples 1.

Surprise Minor: 5 Surprise 1 (1), Cambridge 7 (2), Norwich 5, Westminster 2, Primrose 1, Norfolk 1 (1).

Delight Minor: 7 4ths Place Delight 1.

Treble Bob Minor: 23 T.B. methods 1, 20 T.B. methods 1, 10 Spliced 1, 9 Spliced 1, 7 Treble Bob 8 (1), Trinity Sunday 1, London Scholars' Pleasure 1, Oxford 2 (2), Kent 6 (1).

Plain Minor: 7 Plain 1, 4 Plain 2, St. Clement's College Bob 1, Plain Bob 9 (7).

Minor: 7 methods 6, 6 methods 1, 5 methods 8 (2), 4 methods 7 (2), 3 methods 5 (3), 2 methods 1.

Doubles: Stedman 1, Grandsire 1.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On Nov. 13th. 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Stretton (12, first quarter) 1, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 2, Mrs. B. G. Warwick 3, R. Jelley 4, B. S. Chapman 5, J. M. Jelley 6. For Evensong.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

Analysis of Peals rung on Tower Bells during the

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell

ASSOCIATION	MAXIMUS	CINQUES	ROYAL	CATERS	MAJOR
	Cambridge Yorkshire Other Surprise Kent Treble Bob Plain Bob	Grandshire Stedman Plain Bob	Spliced Surprise (2) Cambridge Yorkshire Oakham Pudsey Rutland Other Surprise Kent Treble Bob Plain Bob Other	Erin Grandshire Stedman Plain Bob Aldenhams Ashstead Belgrave Bristol Cambridge Ealing Gainsborough London Lincolnshire New Cambridge Painswick Pudsey Rutland Superlative Yorkshire Other Surprise Kent Treble Bob Oxford Treble Bob Kent & Orford T.B. Double Norwich Double Oxford Plain Bob Little Bob Spliced (2) Ditto (3) Ditto (4)	Cambridge Yorkshire Other Surprise Kent Treble Bob Oxford Treble Bob Kent & Orford T.B. Double Norwich Double Oxford Plain Bob Little Bob Spliced (2) Ditto (3) Ditto (4)
An. Soc. College Yths.	1			1	2
Bath and Wells Dio.				1	2
Bedfordshire					
Cambridge Univ. Gld.					
Chester Diocesan			1 5 1	1 1	2
Cleveland & N. Yorks					
Coventry Dio. Guild	1		1	1	1
Cumb'l'd & N. West'd					
Derby Association				1 1 2	
Devonshire					
Dudley and District					
Durham & Newcastle			2		
E. Derby and Notts					
East Grinstead Guild					
Ely Diocesan		1			
Essex Association	1	1	1 1	1 1	
Gloucester & Bristol		2 2		3 1	
Guildford Diocesan			1		
Hereford Diocesan				1	
Hertford County				1	1
Irish Association					
Kent County	2		1 1	2	
Ladies Guild					
Lancashire Assoc.	1	2	2	1 1 1	2 7
Leicester Dio. Guild	3 1 6	1	5 2	2	5
Lincoln Dio. Guild		1 2	2		2
Llandaff & Monmouth			1 1		1
London County Assn.					
Middlesex County		1	1	1	1
Midland Counties					
North Staffs Assn.			1		
North Wales Assn.					
Norwich Diocesan		1		4	
Oxford Dio. Guild			2		
Oxford Society		1			1
Oxford University Soc.		1	1		
Peterborough Dio.			1		
Police Guild					
St. David's Dio. Guild	4 2	6	1 5 1 1	2	
St. Martin's Guild	1				
Salisbury Guild					
Salisbury Guild	1				
Scottish Association			1		
Shropshire Assoc.			1		
Soc. R. Cum. Youths		1			
Southwell Dio. Guild					
Stafford Archdeaconry					
Suffolk Guild	1 1		2 2	1 1 3 2	2 7
Surrey Association	1 1				1 1
Sussex Association			1	1 2	
Swansea and Brecon					
Truro Diocesan					
Universities Assoc.			1		
Win. and Portsmouth			2 1		
Worcester & Districts	1 1				
Yorkshire Assoc.	1 1 1	2	1		
Unattached		1		2	
TOTAL	20 5 7 1 1	6 26 1	1 36 19 3 4 1 12 8 15 6	1 31 49	2 7 — 2 34 111 2 3 5 18 7 5 10 13 44 94 120 58 9 5 76 4 184 17 3 3 1

FOOTNOTES

One each of the following Surprise Maximus Methods:— *Leicester Diocesan Guild*: Langley, Stoneygate, Gartree, Framland, Goscott. *Yorkshire Association*: Southwell.

Surprise Royal Methods:— *Chester Diocesan Guild*: London. *Essex Association*: Lindsey. *Lancashire Association*: Ludgate. *Leicester Diocesan Guild*:

Southwell, York. London County Association: Belgrave, Lincolnshire, Prittwell, Southwell. *Middlesex County Association*: London. *Suffolk Guild*: Solihull. *Winchester Diocesan Guild*: New Cambridge, Southwell, Winchester.

Other Royal Methods:— *Essex Association*: Cambridge T.B. *Hertford County Association*: Crayford College. *Suffolk Guild*: D. Norwich, Little Bob.

Spliced Surprise Major:— *Yorkshire Association*: One each in 48, 42, 36 methods.

Other Surprise Major Methods:— *Bedfordshire Association*: Whitwick. *Chester Diocesan Guild*: Premier, Claybrooke, Stockport, Southwell. *Derbyshire Association*: Derby. *Devonshire Guild*: Lyme. *Ely Diocesan Association*: Fordham, Ickleton, Watford. *Essex Association*:

Falmouth, Porton Kendal, Guildford Guild: well. *Hereford Guild*: *ford County Association*: *County Association*: So wick (2). *Lancashire Association*: Branstons, Ickleton, Rochester, Kendal. *Lancashire Guild*: Bushey (2), Do mingham, Irchester,

year 1954

Ringers

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Ditto (7)	Ditto (8)	Other Spliced Surprise	Other Major	Grandfire	Oxford Bob	Shedman	Plain Bob	Spliced 2, 6, 10, 11	Other Triples																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									

th, Colchester, Lyme (2), Southgate, Southwell (2), Staffordshire, Stoughton, Whitwick (2), Wigston, York. *Lincoln Diocesan Guild*: Evington, Norfolk, Whitwick. *London County Association*: Southwell. *Middlesex County Association*: Byfleet, Enfield, Felstead, Harlesden, Premier, Olney, Twickenham, Staffordshire, Ufford, Ventnor, Zennor. *Norwich Diocesan Association*: Braunstone. *Oxford Diocesan*

FOOTNOTES—continued

Guild: Lyme, Rugby, Southwell (2). *St. Martin's Guild*: Barnet, Bordesley, Bushey, Cassiobury, Colmore, Darlington, Erdington, Frankley, Hockley, Kendal, Lindum, Lutterworth, Moseley, Oxfordshire, Norfolk, Olney, Quinton (2), Ribblesdale, Ramsey, Shirley, Truro, Tyburn, Tyseley, Withyham, Wombourne, Ullenhall, Bromford. *Salisbury Diocesan Guild*: Lyme. *Shropshire Association*: Braunstone. *Southwell Diocesan Guild*: Southwell. *Suffolk Guild*: Ipswich, Southwell. *Sussex County Association*: Horsham, Warnham, Ramsey. *Winchester Diocesan Guild*: Southwell, Winchester. *Yorkshire Association*: Elford, Campsall.

Other Major:— *Chester Diocesan Guild*: Farndon Imperial, Handbridge Imperial, Shrewsbury Imperial, Queen Imperial, Spliced Plain—two methods. *Ely Diocesan Association*: Spliced Plain—four methods. *Essex Association*: Hereward B., Gainsborough L.B. *Hertford County Association*: Loughborough B., Beretun B. *Irish Association*: Holywood Delight. *Kent County Association*: Ashbourn College. *Leicester Diocesan Guild*: St. Wolstan's Delight. *Lincoln Diocesan Guild*: S. Oxford, St. Clement's. *Midland Counties Association*: New Cambridge and Plain Bob Spliced. *Norwich Diocesan Association*: Cawston L.B. *Oxford Diocesan Guild*: Regina B. Fulbeck B. *Shropshire Association*: Ellesmere L. Court, Hodnet Imperial, St. Clement's. *Sussex County Association*: St. Clement's. *Yorkshire Association*: Winchester B.

Other Triples:— *Chester Diocesan Guild*: Carshalton B. *Llandaff and Monmouth Association*: two methods spliced. *Oxford Diocesan Guild*: St. Edmundsbury. *Southwell Diocesan Guild*: St. Clement's. *Winchester Diocesan Guild*: Original. *Worcester Association*: one each 11, 10, 6 methods spliced.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN

The annual meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch, which was well attended, was held at Wrington on December 3rd. Ringing was enjoyed on the ten bells until the service, conducted by the Rector, Rev. Bernard Lee. After the usual magnificent 'Wrington tea' (perhaps this had something to do with the attendance!) the business meeting was held, and as the Rector was unable to stay to the meeting, due to a service, Mr. Roger Fry proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and for conducting the service. Mr. Knight then asked all to stand in silence for a moment as Mr. George Fisher, of Congresbury, had passed away since the last meeting.

Arising out of the minutes was the subject of badges, and Mr. Fry was able to inform the meeting that a new die had been made and badges would shortly be available at the price of three shillings. The Branch officers were re-elected en bloc—Mr. H. W. Knight, chairman and Ringing Master; Mr. P. G. Yeo, secretary and representative on the general committee; Messrs. L. Derrick and L. Pullin, deputy Ringing Masters. Mr. Michael Horseman was elected to the additional office of reporter to 'The Ringing World.'

There being no new members, the next item was places of meetings, and it was decided that if permission was forthcoming the quarterly meeting should be held at Portishead in April, with practice meetings at Barrow Gurney (Jan.), Nailsea (Feb.) and Dundry (March). The Corporate Communion will be held at Wraxall on the fourth Sunday in April.

Votes of thanks to Mrs. Knight and her helpers, for providing tea, to the organist, for his services, and Mr. Knight and Mr. Yeo, for their untiring efforts on behalf of the Branch, concluded the meeting, and ringing then continued in a variety of methods up to Cambridge Royal.

M. J. H.

DIAMOND WEDDING OF VETERAN READING RINGER

Many of the older generation of ringers in Berkshire will recall the name of Ambrose Osborne, of Reading, who is now 83 years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Osborne will, D.V., celebrate their diamond wedding on Boxing Day, when we are sure all ringing friends will join in hearty congratulations to them.

Mr. Osborne commenced ringing at the latter part of the last century at St. Mary's, Reading, and it was here he rang his first peal (Grandsire), and called his first peal on the same bells. He joined the Oxford Guild in 1902.

He afterwards turned his attention to St. Laurence's with its ring of ten. Here he rang his first peals of Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Bob Royal; in the latter the late Rev. F. E. Robinson rang his first peal of Royal. He later returned to St. Mary's and taught a new band to ring Grandsire and Stedman.

Finally, he attached himself to St. Giles', with its fine ring of eight, where for 44 years he served as ringing foreman, when he had to give up ringing a few years ago. It was here he called the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob to be rung in Reading.

In all, he rang over 200 peals, mostly of his favourite method—Stedman, many of which were rung with the late Rev. F. E. Robinson.

Mr. Osborne is now confined to the house with rheumatoid arthritis, and misses his ringing very much.

If any of the older, or new, generation would care to send a word of cheer, the address is 17, Dorothy Street, Reading.

E. M. M.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

West Dorset Branch

The annual meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held at Lyme Regis on December 3rd. Nine towers were represented; method ringing did not exceed Stedman Triples and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

The Guild's service was conducted by the Vicar, assisted by the Master of the Guild (Canon C. Carew Cox). Tea was served in the Church Hall, generously given by the Lyme ringers, their wives acting as helpers.

At the business meeting the hon. secretary's report was adopted and the accounts passed, which showed a credit balance of £51 8s. 9d. Canon Cox was re-elected chairman for the 26th year in succession and the Rev. O. L. Willmott re-elected vice-chairman. Miss E. Russell, of Netherbury, was elected hon. secretary and treasurer, in place of Mr. J. T. Barrett, who was not standing for re-election. Mr. H. D. W. Bishop was re-elected Ringing Master, with Messrs. J. T. Barrett, G. Stedman Morris and A. J. Scott Deputy Ringing Masters.

The following were elected members: Rev. P. Smith, E. Churchill, M. Froom, Miss C. White, A. Larcombe, C. Walters, P. Bowditch (all of Hawkhurst); M. A. Stenhouse K. J. Eastment, F. Diment, R. G. House, H. J. House, D. J. Leech, L. Neal, A. Neal, D. B. Portch, S. J. Stenhouse, M. Wood and the Rev. J. C. Townsend, an hon. member (all of Melbury Osmond); the Rev. W. R. Rodda, A. E. Case, E. J. Crabb, K. G. Hoare, A. D. Crabb, P. Bulgin, B. Bayliss (of Broadwindsor); the Rev. Geoffrey Tiarks (hon. member, of Lyme Regis).

Canon Cox spoke of Broadwindsor's restoration scheme, and the Branch voted £5 5s. from its funds to help in the effort to find £600. Mr. F. Spiller expressed appreciation on behalf of Broadwindsor.

The chairman proposed the usual vote of thanks.

J. T. B.

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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For 31 years captain and steeplekeeper of St. Mary's Church, Mr. W. B. Aldridge has left Woolwich and is now living at 24, Ruxley Close, North Clay, Kent. His departure is keenly felt by Woolwich ringers. His successor as captain and steeplekeeper is Mr. A. Grove, sen., a nephew of the late Mr. W. G. Grove, who conducted peals at Woolwich 65 years ago, and son of the late Mr. F. Grove, who was also a ringer at St. Mary's until he died in 1922.

Congratulations to Miss June Knight, of Bulkington, for the splendid way she rang at Chilvers Coton in the memorial peal for the late Bishop of Coventry, Dr. N. V. Gorton. It was her first attempt for a 10-bell peal.

As a welcome to the Rev. C. R. Brown, on accepting the benefice of Warfield, Berks, a peal was rung on the bells on December 10th. At the conclusion the new Vicar visited the tower and congratulated the band. He afterwards entertained them to tea.

Harbury, near Leamington Spa, bells were rung half-muffled on the day of the burial of the Bishop of Coventry. It is hoped to rehang these bells and add a treble in the near future, for which £1,400 is needed. 'Plain Bob' writes if any ringers or friends like to help the Rector would be pleased to receive any gift, large or small.

Lt.-Comdr. Instructor R. G. Cross called his son, Paul's, first quarter at Radley on December 4th. There were two other firsts in this quarter of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles—Sonia Allen, aged 12, and Daphne Pollard (12). The girls, with the rest of the band, are in the church choir, and on Sunday afternoons play recorders for Sunday School as there is no organist for this service.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

Meeting one short for a quarter peal of Major on December 9th, at Horbury, Yorks, Mr. H. Rowley, the 87-year-old captain, stood down but conducted from a chair.

Mr. James R. Lawson, of Chicago, has published three compositions for carillons by Clifford Ball (Bournville), one by John Gordon (Sydney, Australia) and two by Schwyn Baker (Wellington, New Zealand).

The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead writes that there have been three previous peals at North Curry, Somerset—in 1898, 1913 and 1922. All were Grandsire Triples. 'I find two previous peals of Little Bob Major in Wales—at Bridgend on August 22nd, 1928, and at Caerphilly on July 28th, 1951. There was also a peal of Tiverton Little Bob Major at Buckley on October 18th, 1947.'

Before the Cheshire band was successful in Mr. Pitman's peal in eight spliced methods with each bell doing all the work of each method, an attempt was made at Willesden by the Middlesex ringers the night before. The band had settled down well, but after a little more than an hour a miscall by the conductor put paid to the attempt. It will probably be in January that the next attempt will be made.

Miss Lucy Allen, who conducted the 19th quarter by the present band at Brampton, Hunts, on November 23rd (1,320 Plain Bob), has been warmly congratulated on her first peal as conductor. R. F. B. writes: 'The calls were made very confidently at the right moment, and it was evident that she was quite at ease. The time is rapidly approaching when, in the case of Lucy, the pupil will out-teach the teacher. Given the opportunity, I see a great future for her in the ringing world.'

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UMPIRES FOR SPLICED PEALS ADVOCATED

Dear Sir,—Anything on ringing matters from the pen of Mr. J. T. Dyke is always worthy of consideration, and he has done a service to the Exercise in drawing attention to the risk of inadvertent errors on the part of conductors of peals of Grandsire Doubles.

I am prompted by his article to attempt again to draw the attention of the Exercise to a similar and possibly even greater risk in another department of ringing activity, namely, Spliced Surprise Major in many methods, or for that matter, multi-method Minor peals.

It is the easiest thing in the world to call the bobs correctly, but to call the method or combination of methods wrongly without ever realising that one has done so. I submit, therefore, that such peals should only be rung in the presence of an umpire in the belfry who will check the methods as called.

Compositions in up to eight methods with all the work for every bell have now been rung. The conductors concerned in these peals are men of the highest integrity and ability. I know and have rung with all of them and am quite certain they could be depended upon to the last degree, but there is the grave risk of a genuine and undetected mistake, and in my view serious consideration to the matter by the Exercise is overdue.

There is a story told—I know it well in outline but am not certain of the exact details—of the late William Pye, when calling the peal, I think in 12 methods, at Willesden. He realised he had called London instead of Rutland, or vice-versa, but decided to continue to the end of the peal in the hope that the alteration would not affect the truth of the composition. Fortunately, the alteration made no difference, but one hesitates to think what might have happened had the conductor been a less able or a less honest man, if the error had affected the truth of the composition.

I am not without experience of calling compositions of the kind mentioned, but I would greatly appreciate expressions of opinion from other conductors of this type of peal. To make the point that anyone of sufficient ability could 'cook' any peal is no answer. 'Cooks' of that type are worthy only of contempt. I am writing not of their activities but of errors made in genuine innocence.—Yours faithfully,

P. A. CORBY.

Melton Mowbray.

ST. SIMON'S TRIPLES

Dear Sir.—On looking through the peals recorded at St. Helen's, Darley Dale, Derbyshire, we find that a peal of St. Simon's Triples was rung here on Wednesday, August 6th, 1913. The Midland Counties' report of that year shows that the performance was by an all-local band, viz.: John Siddall (jun.) 1, William Taylor 2, Henry Gregory 3, Thomas White 4, James L. Wright 5, Edwin Blackwell 6, Alfred C. Wright 7, John W. Derbyshire 8.

The peal was composed by Arthur Knights and conducted by A. C. Wright, and was the first in the method for the M.C.A., as also were two other peals rung the same year by an identical band—St. Clement's Triples and Little Bob Major.

Incidentally, St. Helen's was the leading tower for the M.C.A. that year, with ten peals. SS. Peter and Paul's, Aston, Birmingham, and St. Mary and All Saints', Chesterfield, coming joint seconds with seven peals.—Yours, etc.,

H. F. TAYLOR.

Darley Dale.

THE COLLECTION OF DOUBLES METHODS

Dear Sir,—The collection of Doubles methods contains all the regular single-hunt three or four lead methods, and for the sake of completeness, the following are all the worthwhile irregular single-hunt three or four lead methods which conform to the individual plain-course requirement, 'no method shall be the bob lead of another single-hunt method.'

Reverse Union	Reverse St. Faith	Reverse St. Julian	Bedfont S.C.
12345	12345	12345	12345
21435	21435	21435	21435
24153	24153	24153	24153
42513	42513	24513	42513
24531	42531	42531	24531
42351	24351	24351	24351

14523	14523	14523	12543
14532 A	14532 A	14532 A	12534 B

Boveney S.C.	Eton S.C.	Poyle S.C.	Yeoventy S.C.
12345	12345	12345	12345
21435	21435	21354	21354
24153	24153	23145	23145
42513	24513	32415	32415
42531	42531	34251	23451
42351	42351	43251	24351

12543	12543	12435	12435
12534 B	12534 B	12453 B	12453 B

Runcmede S.C.	Harmonds-worth S.C.	Colne S.C.	Crane S.C.
12345	12345	12345	12345
21345	21345	21354	21354
23154	23154	23154	23154
32514	32514	32514	32514
35241	23541	35241	23541
53241	25341	53241	25341

12543	12543	12543	12543
12534 B	12534 B	12534 B	12534 B

Augustine Bob	St. George Place	Reverse St. Sebastian	Chase Bob
12345	12345	12345	12345
21354	21345	21354	21354
23145	23154	23154	23145
32415	32514	32514	32415
34251	35241	35241	34251
43521	53421	53421	43521

15432	14523	14523	15432
15423 C	14532 C	14532 C	14532 C

Methods marked A have a Grandsire single above the treble for a bob.

Methods marked B have a fourths place bob at the lead end.

Methods marked C have a Grandsire extreme above the treble for a bob.

There are only six worthwhile single-hunt two-lead methods, as follows: Reading Bob, Wexham Place, Ascot Bob, London V Bob, Lampton Place and Osterley Bob which are R. Union, R. St. Faith, R. St. Julian, St. Augustine, St. George and R. St. Sebastian respectively, with no places at the lead end. The first three have 3rds for a bob above the treble, when treble is coming down in 21, and 345 for a single. The last three have 3rds for a bob below the treble, when treble is coming down in 54, and 123 for a single. There are 12 extents as in Cranbourne Imperial.

As this gives Doubles ringers a complete list of all the 100 different individual plain course single-hunt methods, might I suggest that in future, variations on these methods (i.e., the use of a different bob) retain their distinguishing

names, but add to their title the classification 'Pleasure,' i.e., April Day Pleasure, Cassington Pleasure, Rushall Pleasure, etc.; and that peals of Doubles be analysed according to the number of different individual plain courses they contain? The Methods Committee suggest that the different bobs could be used, but that the variations should use the name of the plain course, i.e., publish a peal as 'a peal of Plain Bob, 12 different callings.' I suggest that it would be better to publish it as 'a peal of Plain Bob, Norfolk Pleasure and Old Pleasure,' and claim it as a peal in one method.—Yours sincerely,

F. T. BLAGROVE.

Stanwell.

LITTLE BOB METHODS

Dear Sir.—If Mr. Blagrove refers to 'The Ringing World' journals of March 6th, 1925, and March 17th, 1933, he will find the figures of Dartford and Northfleet Little Bob respectively.

I do not think the figures of Erith Little Bob were published when the first peal was rung, but the method is the same as Dartford except that in Erith the 3-4 places are reversed.—Yours truly,

E. BARNETT.

10, Kings Close, Crayford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

Visitors from Aldbourne, Bristol, Cheltenham, Devizes and Gloucester attended the annual meeting of the Swindon Branch on December 10th, and a hearty welcome was extended to Mr. Frank Skidmore, General Secretary of the Association.

The Vicar (Rev. Canon F. W. Thomas) welcomed the ringers to Christ Church and conducted the service. He also paid tribute to Mr. Charlie Gardner, who had completed 60 years' service as a member of the local band.

The company was entertained to tea by the Christ Church ringers, and at the business meeting all the retiring officers were re-elected. The branch secretary reported that membership was being maintained and there had been an increase in the number of peals rung in the Branch compared with the previous year.

It was proposed that meetings be held at St. Mark's, Swindon, Stratton St. Margaret and Wroughton during the next three months. Ringing was resumed after the meeting and ranged from rounds to Cambridge Royal.

W. B. K.

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

Mrs. E. M. Mitchell, of Gravesend, was taught to ring in 1909 by Mr. Osborne, of Reading, whose diamond wedding on Boxing Day is mentioned in this issue.

The Librarian of the Central Council acknowledges with grateful thanks the gift of a MS. by James R. Lawson, Carillonneur of the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel at the University of Chicago, entitled, 'Carillon Bibliographies.' It contains a complete bibliography of published music for carillons by contemporary carillonners. Thirty-three compositions are listed: 29 of these are written for four-octave carillons, three for three-octave carillons and one for a two-octave carillon.

To honour the 90th birthday of Mr. J. W. Jones on December 5th, six members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association met at Llanfrehfa on December 10th for an attempt for a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor. Unfortunately, the rope of the fifth slipped wheel in the first 720 and it was not possible to go for a peal. However, a 720 of Cambridge Minor was rung on six of the remaining bells by the Rev. I. J. Richards 1, D. G. Clarke 2, Miss J. S. Evans 3, D. King 4, G. Lewis 5, T. M. Roderick (conductor) 6.

PEAL RINGING IN WILTSHIRE

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

AFTER some six counties with either large numbers of bells or large number of peals to talk about, we come to one which is 'average' in both—Wiltshire. Only one tower has reached the century of peals mark, and it did so nearly 45 years ago—Salisbury, St. Martin's (8). Before the first war, this was the chief centre of ringing in the county—in fact only four other towers had reached double figures in peals by 1914—Trowbridge, Christ Church, Swindon, Colerne and Wootton Bassett (only the Swindon tower had passed the 20 mark.) Thus the 105 peals rung at St. Martin's from 1887 to 1912 far surpasses all the others. Since then, however, only 14 peals have been rung there—nine between the wars and five since 1946, so things have changed very considerably here.

Second on the list is the only 12-bell tower in the county—Trowbridge. From 1886 to 1922 18 of the 90 peals were rung. Then, in 1923, came the first peal on ten bells in the county, followed by 37 more by 1936 when the augmentation to 12 took place. There were seven on the 12 before the war and there have been 27 in the past ten years. Christ Church, Swindon, follows with 82 peals. It was the second most popular 8-bell tower before 1914 and had 41 peals from 1884. Nine more came from the four years after the first war, and then the trebles were added. From 1925 to 1937 18 peals were rung on the ten and there have been 14 since 1945. Except for North Bradley, these last two towers have had as many or more peals since the last war than any other Wiltshire tower. Christ Church is the only 10-bell tower in the county.

Apart from the above three churches, there are no others which have passed the 50 mark. Melksham (8) is nearest with 46—eight from 1896 to 1914, 25 from 1925 to 1935 and 13 since 1945. There are two in the 30's (already mentioned in passing). They are Wootton Bassett (8) with 38 and North Bradley with 37. Exactly half of the former's peals were rung from 1891 to 1914 and 14 more from 1921 to 1932. The remaining five came in 1935, 1939, 1950, 1951 and 1955. Only one peal had been rung at North Bradley prior to 1914—in 1913. It then had to wait until 1930 for the next and then seven more were rung up to 1938. It was still a 6-bell tower when 17 peals came from the years 1945 to 1949, and as an eight, 11 peals were rung from 1950 to 1954 (none this year so far).

In the 20's are, first, Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon (8), with 29. The first peal was in 1924, and there were 20 in all up to 1939 including a 10,032 Bob Major in 1927. There have been nine since the war. Colerne (8) has 28—exactly half from 1888 to 1916, eight from 1924 to 1931 and six from 1950 to 1954. Then follows Devizes, St. John's (8), with 26—six before 1914, six since 1947 and the remainder from 1919 to 1937. Warminster (8) has 24, the first in 1881. There was a big gap then until 1919 when 16 peals came in the next 16 years. There have been seven since 1947. Both Stratton, St. Margaret's (8), and Bradford-on-Avon, Holy Trinity (8) have 23. At the former 14 have been rung since the war, so it is doing well now. The tower had six bells up to about 1930 and only three peals were rung before that, in 1914, 1921 and 1924. The remaining peals were rung in the 30's after augmentation. At the latter, we find a peal every two or three years since 1891. Bishops Cannings has 20 peals—14 from 1920 to 1935 and the remainder in 1890, 1901, 1914, and three from 1944 to 1947. That completes the towers with 20 or more peals in the 8-bell rings. The only 8-bell tower still to be 'conquered' is Malmesbury—recently an eight, I believe.

TWENTY-NINE 6-BELL TOWERS WITHOUT A PEAL

There are still 29 of the 85 6-bell towers which have not had a peal, so there is plenty of scope for tower grabbers here! Of the 56 which have, Hilperton has the most with 20—four from 1909 to 1913 (it was amongst the first 6-bell towers to have a peal), seven between the wars and nine since, so it is enjoying its best period now. Fourteen of Rodbourne-Cheney's 19 have been rung since 1945. The other five came from 1934 to 1938. Thirteen peals have been rung at Blunsdon and Holt. At the former, five were rung from 1920 to 1932 and eight since 1947. At the latter, there were peals in 1909 and 1913, eight from 1926 to 1936 and in 1945, 1946 and 1949. Southbroom has 12—the first in 1913 and another in 1914, with five from 1930 to 1932 and five from 1944 to 1947. The only other towers to reach double figures are Britford and Keevil with ten each. At the former nine have been rung since the war (the other was in 1920), whilst at the latter there were three from 1910 to 1914, five from 1923 to 1930 and odd ones in 1947 and 1948.

Only seven of the 47 5-bell towers have had a peal yet and only one of these has had more than one—Chilton Foliat, with two, in 1933 and 1947. The others, with the dates of their peals, are All Cannings (1931), Chilton (1934), Cricklade (1950), Ogbourne St. George (1953), Shalbourne (1953) and Yatesbury (1949).

So much for Wiltshire. A total of 974 peals has been rung in the county since 1881—the peal at Warminster being the first I came across. Totals include all published up to November 4th, 1955.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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Personal.—Anon 10s., Anon, 5s.; X. Y. Z. 2s. 6d.

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THE LADIES' GUILD

Many members and friends attended the winter meeting of the West Midland District, which was held at St. Mary's, Handsworth, on December 3rd. At times there was hardly standing room in the belfry. The newly-cast bells were ringing continuously in the afternoon and evening, at times by bands of ladies.

Evensong was said in the church by the Rector, the Rev. J. C. H. Tompkins, who, before the service, welcomed the Guild to his church.

A sumptuous tea was provided in the church hall by local lady ringers. The Vicar was unable to attend, but Miss Evelyn Fletcher, while thanking the local ringers, asked that thanks should be conveyed to the Rector. It was pleasing to note that the gentlemen were outnumbered at tea.

With the mellow sound of Double Norwich ringing in our ears, a business meeting was held. Four apologies were received, and four new members were elected. Members hoped that the next meeting would be held jointly with the Hereford District on the first Saturday in March.

OBITUARY

FREDERICK J. TILLET—1867-1955
AN APPRECIATION

With the passing of Fred Tillet on December 7th in his 89th year, East Anglia loses a great ringing personality. To the present generation he was but a name, but his contemporaries knew him as an outstanding tenor ringer. He was built for the job, a tall, upright, powerful man: to see him ring a heavy bell was a lesson in good striking coupled with economy of effort.

Perhaps his greatest performance was ringing the 20 cwt. tenor at Debenham to the 16,608 of Oxford T.B. Major, away back in 1892; but he also rang the tenors at Woodbridge, Leiston and Ufford to other long peals. He did not travel far; there were not the facilities in his day that we have, but he had rung the tenors at Cornhill, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Norwich, Chelmsford and Fulham to peals. He rang St. Mary-le-Tower tenor to over 50 peals, including the first ever of New Cambridge, Superlative, Yorkshire and Pudsey S. Maximus, and also to Cambridge and York S. Double Norwich C.B., Oxford and Kent T.B., Plain Bob, Duffield and Forward Maximus.

He was, too, a notable handbell ringer, with a lovely sense of rhythm, and had rung peals of Oxford and Kent T.B. and Plain Bob, Maximus, Royal and Major, Grandsire Cinques, Caters and Triples, Stedman Caters and Double Norwich C.B. Major. The full record of his peals is not available, but I find he rang about 70 peals of Maximus.

He gave up active ringing for a few years in middle life and took up pigeon racing, and in this connection during the first world war, although in a reserved occupation, and well over military age, he 'wangled' himself over to France in charge of a pigeon locker. He was ever a roamer but returned to his first love after the war to take part in many more peals. He was possessed of a lively wit, and a gift of repartee which could be devastating. His sense of humour was keen, as the following shows. We used to fill up an odd five minutes at St. Mary-le-Tower with three leads of Treble 12, which he would call. On one occasion he said: 'Go, Kent,' and we on the front rang Oxford. Of course, he spotted it, but he had an answer to that, for the next time we rang it he said: 'Go, Treble Bob, and ring what you like!'

He came of a long line of ringers: his great grandfather's name appears on a peal board in St. Mary-le-Tower belfry in 1811, and his grandfather and father were ringers, as are also his son and grand-daughter, which gives six generations—a fact of which he was very proud.

He was laid to rest on December 12th in Ipswich cemetery. Amongst those present were several old ringing associates, and handbells were rung at the graveside by E. Evans, C. J. Sedgley, G. E. Symonds and G. W. Pipe. May he sleep well. C. J. S.

5,056 Superlative Surprise Major

By CHAS. J. SEDGLEY

M	W	H	2	3	4	5	6
—	—	3	5	2	4	3	6
—	—	3	4	6	2	5	3
—	—	—	2	3	6	4	5
—	—	—	4	6	5	3	2
—	—	—	3	4	5	2	6
—	—	—	5	3	2	4	6
—	—	—	4	2	6	5	3
—	—	—	6	2	5	3	4
—	—	—	3	5	4	2	6
—	—	—	2	6	3	4	5
—	—	—	5	3	2	4	6
—	—	—	4	6	5	3	2
—	—	—	3	4	5	2	6
—	—	—	2	3	6	4	5
—	—	—	4	6	5	3	2
—	—	—	3	4	5	2	6
—	—	—	5	3	2	4	6
—	—	—	4	2	6	5	3
—	—	—	6	2	5	3	4
—	—	—	3	5	4	2	6

Has the seven reverses.

QUARTER PEALS

APSLEY END, HERTS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Minor (720 St. Clement's, 540 Plain Bob): Joyce Philips (first quarter) 1, R. Shutter 2, A. V. Good 3, E. Upton 4, K. Good (first as cond.) 5, W. Puddifoot 6.

BIDFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKS.—On Nov. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Kinchin 1, A. C. Morris 2, W. H. Male 3, A. A. Upton 4, H. Huxley 5, F. C. Lyne 6, A. C. Manning (cond.) 7, J. Moore 8.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Miss H. Ford (first quarter) 1, W. Birmingham 2, E. E. Gosling 3, G. W. Limmer 4, R. Scott 5, G. Gilbert (cond.) 6. Rung as a farewell, to Cyril A. Burgess, 20 years a loyal member at Burnham, on his departure for Strood, Kent.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. Freeman 1, D. Sims 2, E. Deacon 3, S. W. Bigmore 4, K. Everett (cond.) 5, H. Stebbings 6. For morning service.

CAMBERWELL, S.E.—On Dec. 11th, at St. George's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. R. Iveson 1, L. V. Roberts 2, Miss V. M. Westray 3, B. P. Danbury 4, E. G. Webb 5, W. D. Grainger 6, F. R. L. Blewer (cond.) 7, W. W. Shorter 8. Rung half-muffled (tenor open) to the memory of Mr. A. S. Gillott, late ringer, churchwarden and lay reader at the above church.

CLIFFE, KENT.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Phyllis Pryce (first quarter, 13) 1, Miss J. M. Highley 2, G. Pryce (first 'inside' of Triples) 3, H. Springate 4, R. C. Burns (first 'inside' of Triples) 5, C. S. Jarrett 6, P. F. Borer (cond.) 7, J. C. S. Benson 8. Rung for the Restoration Fund service.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Hooper 1, J. Brinson 2, A. Peters 3, H. Hooper (cond.) 4, J. Hardwidge 5, F. S. Paramore 6. For the patronal festival.

FARNWORTH, LANCs.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Patricia Lees 1, Mavis Speakman 2, J. Thornley 3, O. Davies 4, P. Crook, sen. (cond.) 5, B. Cooper 6. First quarter 1, 2 and 6. Rung to celebrate the Feast of St. Andrew.

FOLKINGHAM, Lincs.—On Nov. 30th, 1,449 Plain Bob Minor: J. Lindsey 1, Miss I. Lindsey 2, H. Collin 3, W. Weston 4, C. T. H. Bradley (cond.) 5, J. H. Musson 6. Longest length of Minor for 1 and 2. Rung for St. Andrew's Day (the patronal festival) and Sir Winston Churchill's 81st birthday.

GREEN'S NORTON, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Minor (720 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Kent Treble Bob and 180 Double Oxford): C. Rigby 1, Betty M. Mansfield 2, A. A. Booth 3, G. G. Mansfield 4, N. Cox 5, A. W. Mansfield (cond.) 6. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. N. Cox, who were married at Abthorpe, Northants, the previous day.

HELMDON, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Sheppard 1, C. Hinton 2, W. J. Chester 3, M. Saunders 4, E. Lines 5, B. Saunders (cond.) 6. Rung by members of the Monday night band as a compliment to Bill Yates and Miss Kay Ballard on their engagement.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. R. G. Spicer 1, M. J. Dyer 2, D. Knights 3, F. L. Nichols 4, S. Shipp 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6. For Sunday service.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,248 Plain Bob Major: C. V. Hare 1, P. Jackson (aged 14, first on eight bells) 2, L. Runnacles 3, P. Meyhew 4, J. Coppage 5, A. C. Harris 6, K. C. Timbury 7, D. P. Jones (comp. and cond.) 8.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLEX.—On Dec. 4th, 1,296 Little Bob Royal: T. G. Bannister 1, Mrs. E. Turley 2, F. W. Goodfellow 3, Miss S. Clayton 4, A. R. Twinn 5, E. Thurton 6, D. Robinson 7, W. H. Coles 8, N. W. Genna 9, F. C. Price (cond.) 10. First quarter in the method by all the band except the treble ringer. Rung for the christening this day of Beverley Brownen Price, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Price. Also on Nov. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: T. G. Bannister 1, Mrs. E. Turley 2, E. W. Thurton 3, D. Robinson 4, Miss S. Clayton (first in method) 5, F. W. Goodfellow 6, A. R. G. Twinn 7, N. W. Genna 8, F. C. Price 9, W. H. Coles (cond.) 10.

HORBURY, YORKS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,320 Plain Bob Minor: Valerie M. Hall 1, Pamela M. Wood 2, E. Atkinson 3, P. D. Atkinson 4, R. F. E. Axford 5, I. Slack 6. Conducted by H. Rowley. Rung before the service of insult of the Rev. John Godfrey Seebold to the above parish by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Wakefield.

HOLYWELL, HUNTS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Peacock 1, F. Elsome 2, C. Young 3, O. Norman 4, J. Parish (cond.) 5, W. Papworth 6. For morning service.

KINGSDON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Cheeseman 1, D. Sweet 2, R. J. Vardy (first 'inside' 3), A. Callow 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5, F. C. Davis 6.

LADBROKE, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (10 different callings): R. J. Edden (first as cond.) 1, A. R. Barrett 2, H. Reeves (first quarter) 3, A. J. Barrett 4, G. Aldhouse (first 'inside' 5), Rung half-muffled after the burial of the Bishop of Coventry.

LACOCK, WILTS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. J. Blanchard 1, J. E. Billings 2, R. Tigwell 3, H. Heath 4, H. E. Blacker (cond.) 5, R. Lovelock (first quarter) 6. Believed to be the first quarter peal on these bells. For Evensong.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. L. Taylor 1, Mrs. C. W. Powell 2, C. W. Powell 3, Canon C. C. Cox 4, H. G. Keeley 5, G. H. Whitmore 6, G. S. Morris (cond.) 7, J. Rattenbury 8. For Evensong.

MANCHESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 11th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: H. Hollingworth 1, Mrs. Tonge 2, Miss Walshaw 3, H. Reynolds 4, H. Longden 5, B. Walshaw 6, E. Jenkins 7, F. W. Grocott 8, R. Longdet (cond.) 9, G. Longden 10. For Evensong.

MERROW, SURREY.—On Dec. 10th, 1,440 Doubles (480 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob): Miss J. Lane (first quarter) 1, Miss J. H. Wilson 2, Miss E. Taussig 3, G. M. Battersby 4, J. A. Etherington (cond.) 5, R. F. Warren 6. Longest length for 2, 3 and 6. A birthday compliment to R. F. Warren.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Dec. 6th, at St. Andrew's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (10 callings): Barbara Browning (first quarter) 1, R. Drennan (first quarter) 2, D. Farnham (first 'inside' 3), T. G. Myers (cond.) 4, F. E. Day (first of Doubles) 5, W. J. Harvey 6. Rung on the front six.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire and 480 Plain Bob): Sonia Allen (aged 12), 1, Miss M. R. Cross 2, Daphne Pollard (aged 12) 3, Janet Eason 4, R. G. Cross (cond.) 5, P. Cross 6. First quarter by 1, 3 and 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Cross and to Jane Cross.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—At All Saints' Church, on Nov. 16th, 1,456 Plain Bob Major: Miss E. Wandill 1, B. Holland 2, H. Woodall 3, F. J. Jackson 4, H. O. Chaddock 5, F. Fisher 6, Rev. G. G. Graham 7, N. Chaddock (cond.) 8. A birthday compliment to Herbert O. Chaddock and Miss E. Wandill.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On Nov. 23rd, at the Abbey, 1,260 Stedman Triples: B. A. Cornell 1, G. Penny 2, H. E. C. Goodenough (cond.) 3, G. Dodds 4, R. F. Ewer 5, W. Little 6, W. J. Arnold 7, W. Nicolls 8. Also at St. Peter's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. W. Darvill 1, H. G. Mason 2, T. J. Southam 3, B. C. Johnson 4, F. J. Spicer 5, H. V. Frost 6, G. W. Debenham (cond.) 7, A. E. Ewer 8. Both rung half-muffled to the memory of Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.—At the Cathedral, on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: M. Brook (first quarter) 1, F. Ward 2, Mrs. E. Wright 3, R. S. Long 4, J. Seager 5, D. Armstrong 6, R. Birch 7, B. Holland 8, G. K. Chaddock 9, H. O. Chaddock (cond.) 10. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. J. W. Kennedy, late Precentor, on his appointment as Vicar of Thurcroft.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Plain Bob, 1,020 Grandsire): I. H. Pett (first quarter) 1, T. P. Harris 2, Stella J. Devereux (first 'inside' 3), P. J. Lawton 4, P. Newing (cond.) 5, E. J. Sharp 6.

STAFFORD.—On Nov. 24th, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Warrilow 1, R. J. Warrilow (cond.) 2, R. Piron 3, F. Eley 4, R. K. Mowforth 5, A. E. Garbett 6, E. Malin 7, C. Evans 8. First for 1 and 8. Rung for Communion of Assize and as a compliment to A. B. Garbett on attaining his majority, and who, before taking an appointment in Glasgow, rang regularly at the above church.

STANMORE, MIDDLEX.—On Oct. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Lambert (first away from tenor) 1, E. J. Leversuch 2, J. Wilcockson 3, C. Wenban 4, W. Wenban (cond.) 5, A. Wenban 6. Also on Nov. 17th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: D. M. Ward (first in method) 1, J. R. Mayne (cond.) 2, J. Wilcockson 3, E. J. Leversuch 4, W. Wenban 5, C. Wenban 6, A. Wenban 7, R. Lambert 8.

STOKE, COVENTRY.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Rosemary Ashley 1, R. D. Hayne 2, H. E. Sibley (cond.) 3, F. Brassington 4, H. Folwell 5, N. Haile 6, H. Ashley 7, F. Rouse 8. First in the method by 1 and 5. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memoriam Dr. Neville Gorton, Bishop of Coventry, who was interred that day in the ruins of Coventry Cathedral.

STREATHAM, S.W.—At Immanuel Church, on Dec. 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. Rea (first of Treble Bob) 1, G. Parsons 2, M. Oakshott 3, D. Woodham 4, G. Peters 5, D. Beresford 6, R. Story (first of Cambridge) 7, J. Euston (cond.) 8.

SWINDON, WILTS.—On Nov. 24th, at St. Mark's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Stella A. Miles 1, C. J. Hathaway 2, W. J. Buckland 3, Terry Collins (cond.) 4, C. Cavallot 5, W. A. T. Carter 6, P. Anger 7, T. Collins 8.

WAKEFIELD, YORKS.—On Nov. 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: H. Naylor 1, M. Stephenson (first quarter) 2, D. Banks 3, D. Cubitt 4, P. Woodward 5, J. Kirby 6.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—At the Church of St. Mary, on Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Hayes 1, R. Lumsden 2, D. Hewitt 3, C. T. W. Coles 4, E. E. Holman 5, A. J. N. Boyack 6, H. Rumens (cond.) 7, R. J. Chapman 8. Rung for Evensong and as a 14th birthday compliment to M. Hayes.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. S. Langdon 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, Miss A. Garnett 3, K. Small 4, H. Belcher 5, John Phillips (cond.) 6, James Phillips 7, B. K. Lunn 8. For Evensong and in commemoration of Donor's Day.

WARSO, NOTTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Bullivant 1, R. Bullivant 2, Miss D. Marshall 3, Miss J. Smith 4, H. T. Rooke (cond.) 5, F. Flint 6. For Evensong.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,253 Stedman Caters: J. R. Mayne 1, W. G. Paul 2, Miss J. M. Wilcockson 3, W. Wenban 4, D. Laud 5, K. R. Dunstan 6, C. W. Woolley (cond.) 7, S. H. Hoare 8, D. K. Adkins 9, J. Axtell 10. First quarter for 3 and 5.

WASHINGBOROUGH, Lincs.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Pyle 1, A. T. Lowman 2, W. Heaton 3, J. A. Freeman 4, W. Tomlinson 5, W. Clark 6, H. L. Pask (cond.) 7, H. E. Walker 8. Rung on the 80th birthday of Mr. T. Pyle.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: H. C. Edwards 1, F. C. Case 2, W. A. Yates 3, H. Daniels (first in method) 4, G. W. Holland 5, T. E. Roberts 6, W. F. Eyden (first in method) 7, G. E. Green (cond.) 8.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICS.—On Nov. 18th, 1,280 Wigston Surprise Major: C. H. F. Knight 1, T. E. Harrold 2, Maureen Lloyd 3, A. Chamberlain 4, R. J. Carter 5, A. R. Carter 6, K. A. Roe 7, G. E. Green (cond.) 8. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mary, daughter of Mr. J. S. Carter, and Colin Walker, who were married on October 29th.

WOODBURY, DEVON.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Glanvill 1, K. Dawe 2, J. Carter 3, C. Deem (cond.) 4, G. Betts 5, J. L. Glanvill 6, J. Briggs 7, J. Gooding 8. Rung in honour of the visit of the Bishop of Crediton for Confirmation service.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Bishop (first in method) 1, H. Cox 2, P. Devenish 3, J. Tomsett 4, M. Sinden 5, F. Corfield (cond.) 6.

WORCESTER.—On Nov. 29th, at the Cathedral, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: J. Slater (first quarter) 1, G. J. Lewis 2, W. H. Compton 3, R. Woodvatt 4, W. Sidwell 5, D. Sayers 6, D. Beacham (first of Caters as cond.) 7, T. W. Lewis 8, G. Ambler 9, J. Stanier and F. C. Pugh 10.

YATTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. I. Beechey 1, Miss P. Barnard 2, E. A. Price 3, L. H. Pullin 4, P. H. Marshall 5, R. H. Brice (first quarter as cond.) 6, H. A. Price 7, S. G. Smith 8. For Evensong and as a birthday compliment to ringers of 1 and 7.

Christmas Greetings to all Readers

The Editor and staff of 'The Ringing World,' at Guildford, and Mr. J. E. Jeater, send their good wishes to all readers and thank the many correspondents for their cards and greetings.

St. Mary's, Apsley, ringers send hearty Christmas greetings and best wishes for the coming year to all ringing friends. May 1956 be a year of many reunions. Old friends especially welcomed at Apsley on Monday evenings. 7454

To the ringers at home and in faraway places I wish a merry, merry Christmas and a happy New Year.—Jennie Armstrong, Morpeth. 7394

A happy Christmas to all our ringing friends wherever they may be, and to the locals. Better luck with peals next year.—Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Bassett, Ann and Jean, Wadhurst, Sussex. 7455

Hearty seasonal greetings to my many ringing friends wherever they may be, and a welcome to Shropshire at any time. From the Editor to the Printer's Devil of 'The Ringing World,' best wishes for 1956.—F. Hector Bennett, Brewery Cottage, Chester Street, Shrewsbury. 7453

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bullen, of Station Road, Darley Dale, Derbyshire, send heartiest greetings to all their friends both old and new, and wish them a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year, with plenty of success in 1956. 7414

From Cape Town, South Africa, the band of 'St. Mary's, Woodstock, greet all friends near and far. Especially Bob Stickley in Nigeria, and those who have rung with us—we wish you all a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. A warm welcome awaits every tower-grabber. 7357

The season's greetings to all English ringers.—The members of Christchurch Cathedral Society of Bellringers, New Zealand (G. N. Sloan, secretary). 7464

To all ringers and their families:—

We wish you a happy Christmas—

A time that's bright and gay,

With pleasures that will fill your hearts

Long past Christmas Day.

We wish you peace and plenty,

Work that ensures good store,

We wish you all you long for,

If we could we would wish you more.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Coles and family, Hillingdon. A very happy Christmas and New Year to all ringing friends, especially Cumberlands, is the sincere wish of Marjorie and George H. Cross. 7471

Danbury (Essex) Church tower again send Christmas greetings to all their friends both far and near, and wish them all good ringing in the new year. 7470

Mr. I. Emery and Mr. P. J. Spice, of Bromley, extend their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all ringing friends, both far and near. 7421

Sincere good wishes for Christmas and 1956 and gratitude for good companionship in 1955 are conveyed to all their ringing friends everywhere by Paul, Flo and Mischief Field, Marshfield, Knole, Langport, Somerset. 7430

Christmas greetings and every good wish for the coming year to all our ringing friends.—Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Francis, 1, Abbots Close, Orpington, Kent. 7457

To all my ringing friends, good wishes, happiness and prosperity.—H. Goodwin, Cotleigh, Main Road, Salcombe, S. Devon, late of Blaxtol, Sevenoaks, Kent. 7435

Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Hairs.—To friends old and new: 'More health and happiness betide you than can my tongue deliver.' 7438

Wishing the 'R.W.' and all ringing friends a very happy Christmas and success all the New Year through.—Hubert Hatto. 7465

To wish a very happy Christmas to the ringers of Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, Linslade and Woburn, with many thanks for an excellent outing.—From the ringers of St. Lawrence, Hawkhurst, Kent. 7417

Heartiest Christmas greetings and every good wish for a very prosperous and peaceful New Year to all our ringing friends wherever they may be. Good luck, good health, good ringing.—Mr. and Mrs. Alan A. Hilliard (Jack), Bristol. 7429

Seasonal greetings and good wishes to ringing friends everywhere, especially remembering the welcome received when on outstation work.—Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts. 7461

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Ladd and Margaret send the old, old wish, 'A very happy Christmas, and a bright and prosperous New Year,' to all friends far and near.—Tunbridge Wells, Kent. 7456

Our best wishes and good health for Christmas and 1956 to all our ringing friends near and far, from Mr. and Mrs. R. Lathbury and Nora, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames. 7462

All good wishes for a merry Christmas, and happiness in the New Year to all our friends, from David, Frances, George and Hilda Massey, Parbury Bungalow, Vallis Road, Frome, Somerset. 7437

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Mitchell send Christmas and New Year greetings to all ringing friends. Mrs. Mitchell especially to all members of the Kent Branch of the Ladies' Guild. 7436

Wishing all our ringing friends a very happy Christmas, a prosperous and bright New Year, with plenty of new hunting ground.—N. S. T. G., Nailsea. 7451

Season's greetings and good wishes to Hazel Leatherland in New Zealand, also to John Walker on the high seas, to all his friends in towers overseas where he is made welcome, and to ringers everywhere, especially at Birmingham, Bisley, Knowle, Shirley and Solihull. A merry Christmas from Packwood. 7452

My very best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all my ringing friends, especially those in the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—F. Precey, Bovington Camp. 7445

Greetings to all our friends: we wish you happiness this Christmastide and good health and prosperity throughout 1956.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Price, St. Michael's, 9, Fisherman's Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth. 7425

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Poole and Bernard wish all ringing friends a very happy Christmas and a New Year of prosperity and good ringing. 7459

To all ringing friends a happy Christmas and a successful New Year is the sincere wish of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Pulling, 144, Woodside Road, Guildford, Surrey. 7427

The best of good wishes, to friends old and new, May we meet again some day and goodwill [renew.

The 'R.W.' oft tells of what you have done; May next year bring to you lots of good fun.—Charles Rouse, Cheltenham, Glos. 7460

Albert E. Sellers sends hearty Christmas greetings, with best wishes for the New Year, to all members of the Eastern District, Yorkshire Association.—3, Elwell Avenue, Beverley. 7446

Best wishes for a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to all ringing friends, especially the Beverley and District Ringing Society, from Albert E. Sellers, Elwell Society. 7447

Hearty greetings and all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all ringers everywhere, together with continued success to 'The Ringing World.'—William Shepherd, Addlestone, Surrey. 7401

To ringers everywhere: a very happy Christmas with all the season's good cheer, also a bright and prosperous New Year, is the sincere wish of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Skidmore, 80, Carlyle Road, Bristol, 5. 7466

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Smallwood send greetings to all ringing friends, with best wishes for the festive season, and for health, happiness and prosperity in the coming year.—122, Lee Road, Blackheath, London, S.E.3. 7415

Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Sone, of Warrington House, Paddock Wood, send best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all their ringing friends, near and far. 7448

This is to wish all my ringing friends, old and young, at home and overseas, a very merry Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year, with plenty of good striking.—Evelyn Steel. 7449

Heartiest greetings for Christmas and sincere good wishes for the new and succeeding years. With thanks to all my ringing associations and friends, wherever they may be, for many hours of pleasure, including 'The Ringing World' and the Editor, Mr. T. W. White; the Chester, 'Dick' Langford, 'Sam' Jones and young Sam (86); Archdeaconry of Stafford, Howard Howell, Fred Bennett; North Staffs, Shelagh Seery; Shropshire, 'Ted' Rodenhurst, 'Bill' Farmer; Worcester, Geof. Hemming and 'Mother'; Lincoln, John A. Freeman; Derbyshire, Bill Lancaster, Den Carlisle; Sid, Mrs. Jones and Shelagh; Peterborough, Ron Noon; Midland, Barney Key and family, and Joe Cotton; North Wales, Fred Evans, Mr. Griffiths, Gresford; Hereford, Wilfs Overton and Moreton; Swansea and Brecon, Leslie Evans; Norwich, Nolan Golden; St. Martin's, Birmingham, Albert Walker, George Fearn; Devonshire, Tom Myers and 'Father'; Ashton-under-Lyne; 'Ted' Walker, Dover; David 'C.' Vincent; Philip Gray; Jack and Mary Armstrong, Australia; 'Ole Joe' Burgess, Friesland; Lancashire (Liverpool), Percival Cave; Arthur Yorke, Alsager—hurry up and come back, Arthur; Peter and Alec.—W. Frank Stenson, Crewe. 7390

To all ringers and friends. Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, with good health and ringing.—Mr. and Mrs. E. Stitch, The Laurels, 233, Penn Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs. 7427

Christmas greetings and every good wish for the coming year to all our ringing friends.—Martin and Paddy Thorley, 146, Broadgate Lane, Horsforth, Leeds. 7416

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wickens, also Stella and Ken, send Christmas greetings to all ringing friends, not forgetting new friends in Lincolnshire, and their own Sussex County Association. Good ringing for 1956. 7450

Mr. E. Alexander Young sends his greetings for Christmas and the New Year to friends both old and new. His new address is 60a, Lansdown Road, Bromley, Kent. 7468

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.

DEATH

WILLIAMS.—On December 9th, 1955, William Edward Williams, of The Orchard, Tillington, Herefordshire, aged 66 years. A Freeman of Hereford Diocesan Guild and a lifelong ringer at Burghill Parish Church. 7472

HANDBELLS WANTED

HANDBELLS.—Set urgently needed to interest, instruct and hold young people in a village church. Would someone please consider disposal at a reasonable figure. Details to Rev. J. W. Peacock, 24, Holway Road, Taunton, Somerset. 7469

BOURNEMOUTH HOLIDAY
ACCOMMODATION

*'Heaven from all mortals hides the book of fate,
All but the page prescribed—their present state.'* (Æsop's Fables, 'The Astrologer and the Traveller'.)

We thank all our patrons for their support during the past 'season.' It was a happy one; but the 'present state,' quoted in the aphorism above, proves to us the impossibility of maintaining our high standards at 1952 charges, and we wish to draw attention to our revised charges for 1956.

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PUBLICATIONS

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MEETINGS

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Boxing Day, ringing at Walton-on-Thames, from 11 a.m. All welcome.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 7475

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Monday, Jan. 2nd, 7.15 p.m., practice, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. Saturday, Jan. 7th, St. George's, Camberwell, 3 to 4.15. Service 4.15. Tea 5, in Church Hall. Business—six nominations; St. Giles', Camberwell, 7.30 to 8.30. Names for tea, please. Saturday, Feb. 4th, A.G.M., Southwark Cathedral, St. John's, Waterloo, etc. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. 7442

DEVON GUILD.—N. E. Branch.—Annual, Jan. 7th, at St. Peter's, Tiverton. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. Numbers for tea by Jan. 3rd.—W. H. Ware, 1, Holly Road, Cowleymoor, Tiverton. 7440

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Great Waltham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, Cornerway, Plantation Road, Boreham. 7443

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, January 7th, at Barking. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea, by January 5th, to Mr. W. Beard, 159, Clements Road, Barking, E.6. 7473

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Annual district meeting at Hertford St. Andrew, Saturday, Jan. 7th, 3 p.m. All Saints' after tea. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—T. J. Southam, District Sec. 7439

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 7th, at Tunbridge Wells. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 5th please, to Mr. B. Collison, 169, Queens Road, Tunbridge Wells. No name, no tea. 7441

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Wye (8) on January 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to Mrs. W. Greenstreet, 3, Church Street, Wye, Ashford, Kent, by Tuesday, January 3rd.—W. P. Garner. 7467

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 7th, at St. Mary's, Nottingham. Bells (10) available 2.30 p.m. Tea at St. Mary's Institute, Barker Gate, 4.30. Meeting in belfry 5.30. Names for tea by previous Tuesday to Mr. W. Nichols, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgford.—C. W. Towers. 7476

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Northern Section.—Annual meeting at St. Mary's, Brecon, on Saturday, Jan. 7th, at 2.30 p.m.—G. Davies, Hon. Sec. 7458

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Quarterly meeting to be held at York on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Minster bells (12) 2 p.m. Evensong in Minster 4. Tea 5 p.m., at the Tea Shop, Sandal. Names for tea to Miss M. Wilkinson, 10, St. Oswald's Road, York, by Thursday, Jan. 5th. Accomb bells (6) available after tea.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 7444

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Nov. 27th, 1,280 Treble Bob Major (Worcester Variation): Miss A. Lowings 1, S. Penfold 2, Miss J. Peacock 3, J. Carrott 4, A. Salisbury 5, A. House 6, T. East 7, F. V. Gant (cond.) 8. For Advent Sunday. Also on Nov. 29th, 1,264 Little Bob Major: Miss A. Lowings 1, S. Penfold 2, J. Carrott 3, F. V. Gant 4, A. Salisbury 5, A. House 6, T. East 7, L. S. Woods (cond.) 8. For the patronal festival.

OBITUARY

MRS. A. V. DAVIS

We regret to record the sudden death on Dec. 15th of Mrs. Grace M. Davis, wife of Mr. Arthur V. Davis, of 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth. Mrs. Davis, who was 54, shared her husband's deep interest in the welfare of St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth, and was held in affection by a wide circle of ringing and other friends. Mr. Davis shares his bereavement with his son and daughter.

The funeral service was held at St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth, last Tuesday.

MR. ARTHUR S. GILLOTT

It is with deep regret that we record the death, on December 7th, of Mr. Arthur S. Gilloft. He was 77 years of age.

For many years ringer, secretary and master of the Guild of St. George, Camberwell, Mr. Gilloft as a younger man was an ardent cyclist, and it was his regular practice to attend Communion at St. George's, ride into the country, ring at a church, and be back in the evening for ringing at his own church.

About four years ago he handed over his belfry work to the 'younger generation,' but he was still interested in the welfare of the tower, and only four months ago he ascended the vertical ladder to the bells to see how repairs were going on.

On December 11th, 1260 Grandsire Triples were rung half-muffled (tenor open) to his memory by E. R. Iveson 1, L. V. Roberts 2, Miss V. M. Westray 3, B. P. Danbury 4, E. G. Webb 5, W. D. Grainger 6, F. R. L. Blewer (cond.) 7, W. W. Shorter 8.

MR. O. J. HUNT

Mr. Louis A. Wilson, of Wootton Bassett, writes: With deep regret I read of the passing of Oswald James Hunt. As Ringing Master at Wootton Bassett, I instructed him as a choir-boy. Like many others, he was rather slow in picking up change ringing—in fact, this was a joke between us.

I was always pleased to read of his progress in ringing matters as it paid me for all the trouble I took with him. He always sent me a card at Christmas, which I was looking for when I received my 'Ringing World.' May he rest in peace for he was one of the truest servants of the Church.

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4 3 2 6 5 2 1 1

4 2 6 3 5 1 2

4 6 3 2 5 1 2

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