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PEAL RINGING IN 1954

FINAL figures of peals rung in 1954 are to hand with the publication of the peals analysis tables. There was a steady decline in the total for 1954 compared with recent years; handbell peals again flopped, reaching only 123 as against 154 in 1953. The year 1949 saw 382 handbell peals recorded, and since then the decline has been continuous. At Bristol, the Peals Analysis Committee deplored 'the fading away of this branch of our art.' There has not been the expected improvement during the current year.

The following table gives the general trend of peals on tower bells, which is the lowest since 1948; the decrease continues, and it is unlikely that the 2,000 mark will be reached in 1955.

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Maximus	34	27	36	39	31
Cinques	33	55	43	48	50
Royal	105	96	82	121	86
Caters	83	97	86	104	89
Major	922	887	906	997	938
Triples	264	331	339	315	297
Minor & Doubles	842	919	904	1,008	870
Totals:	2,283	2,412	2,396	2,632	2,361

There was a drop in 12-bell peals from 82 to 67. St. Martin's Guild had only 12 against 24 last year, followed by Leicester with 11. Surprise Maximus, however, increased from 23 to 32, and in this respect Leicester cut new ground with five methods rung for the first time.

Very little change was noted in ten-bell ringing, the total being 188 against 193. These were shared between 39 Guilds and Associations as against 36 last year. More peals of Surprise Royal were scored—76 against 60 in 1953. Cambridge with 35 and Yorkshire with 19 were both advances on the previous year. The leading Associations for ten-bell ringing were Suffolk 17, Leicester 16, Chester 11 and St. Martin's 10. Two peals of Plain Bob Caters were somewhat of a novelty.

Major ringing was more prolific than in the past two years, with 922 peals against 887 and 906. The increase was in Surprise methods with a total of 578 against 455. Cambridge again headed the list as the most popular method with 111 (last year 115), followed by Yorkshire 94

(90), London 50 (51), Superlative 44 (35), Bristol 34 (31) and Lincolnshire 18. Spiced Surprise numbered 25 against 35. Chester Diocesan Guild had four new Imperial methods and Shropshire one. Will the excitement of these methods appeal to Surprise ringers? Chester feel that the departure is worth while.

Peals of Triples showed a marked drop of 67. Grand-sire Triples totalled only 132 compared with 183 and 209 in the preceding years, and Stedman 115 against 108. Leicester had 24 peals of Stedman—mostly Dexter's Variation. Plain Bob Triples had four peals.

While peals of Minor and Doubles totalled 842 this is less than in recent years, the 1,000 mark being exceeded in 1951. There were 622 peals of Minor (647) and 220 of Doubles (272 the previous year). Spectacular ventures were made in multi-method Minor peals, 45 being reached, by the Chester Diocesan, the Leicester Diocesan and the Yorkshire Association; and in the realm of Doubles 45 methods were reached by the Middlesex Association. Single method peals are still, in the main, generally favoured, with 259 of Minor and 128 of Doubles. The leading Associations for this class of ringing were Essex 65 peals (71), Lincoln 53 (65), Bath and Wells 48 (33), Kent 47 (54) and Ely 43 (40).

For the sixth year in succession the Leicester Diocesan Guild had most peals to their credit with 197 (196 in 1953). The order of the other leading Guilds or Associations is as follows: 2 Kent 146 (130), 3 Suffolk 127 (111), 4 Essex 123 (131), 5 Lincoln 106 (116), 6 Yorkshire 96 (86), 7 Lancashire 95 (135), 8 St. Martin's 92 (102), 9 Oxford Diocesan 88 (126), 10 Chester 86 (103), 11 Bath and Wells 71 (56), 12 Norwich 71 (84), 13 Sussex 66 (51), 14 Winchester and Portsmouth 65 (66), 15 Ely 64 (51). The progress of the Suffolk Guild from seventh to third position is promising; perhaps the young ringers of this county will restore East Anglia's former glory of being in the forefront of the Exercise.

Handbell peal ringing makes sorry reading with only 123 peals. Only one 12-bell peal was rung. While there were ten peals from Leicester, including Stedman Cinques, Kent T.B. Royal and Cambridge Surprise Major, there was not a single peal from Birmingham. Winchester and Portsmouth, however, kept the art alive with 17 peals. We hope the fact that 27 peals of Minor in one method (mostly Plain Bob) is an indication that a new generation of handbell ringers has made a start. If these people can blossom

out into Major ringing then there might be some hope. The Universities, however, still practise the art with 17 peals.

Mr. Walter Ayre and his committee deserve the thanks of all peal ringers for the enormous amount of work these tables entail. They do enable the Exercise to watch the trend of peal ringing.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in D.

FRANK E. HAYNES Treble	NORMAN J. GOODMAN 7
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 2	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 8
ALBERT WALKER 3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON 9
GILLIAN A. SMITH 4	JOHN PINFOLD 10
PAUL K. WILLIAMSON 5	GEORGE E. FEARN 11
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 6	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

A birthday compliment to the Vicar of Aston, Rev. Canon F. F. Guy Warman.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Nov. 24, 1955, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes, 100

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYA -

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 6
MURIEL REAY 2	*ANTHONY AGER 7
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 3	PETER BORDER 8
JOHN PINFOLD 4	FRANK E. HAYNES 9
*NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 5	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal of Yorkshire Royal.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Thurs., Dec. 1, 1955, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

ALBERT WALKER Treble	FRANK E. HAYNES 6
MURIEL REAY 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 7
RALPH G. EDWARDS 3	*JOHN PINFOLD 8
NORMAN J. GOODMAN 4	PETER BORDER 9
JOHN H. FIELDEN 5	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by W. PYE.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* 600th peal.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb.

*FREDERICK J. PLUMMER .. Treble	*†VALERIE WILLARD 6
*JAMES G. NEWMAN 2	*DENNIS KNOX 7
ARTHUR DAY 3	BERTRAM C. JOHNSON 8
ALFRED E. RUSHTON 4	*†JOHN W. SINFIELD 9
*HENRY B. WHITNEY 5	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM .. Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by DENNIS KNOX.

* First peal of Little Bob Royal. † First peal on ten tower bells. † First peal on ten bells. First peal of Little Bob Royal on tower bells in the county and for the Association.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. John J. F. Scammell and the Rev. P. D. C. Amor. In memoriam Josiah Nicholls, Ringing Master of this belfry for many years.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 26 cwt. 18 lb. in D.

*ARTHUR T. DUTTON .. Treble	FREDERICK G. HANDLEY .. 6
*SAMELA R. P. THOMAS .. 2	†STELLA HUGHES 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 3	GEORGE W. HUGHES 8
ERNEST STITCH 4	RICHARD C. INGRAM 9
P. GEORGE GOLDER 5	HOWARD HOWELL Tenor

Arranged by C. WALLATER.

Conducted by STELLA HUGHES.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Royal in the method. First peal of Royal as conductor.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in E flat.

EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. Treble	ARTHUR D. COOK 6
ALBERT WALKER 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 7
MURIEL REAY 3	JOHN PINFOLD 8
CLIFFORD A. BARRON 4	FRANK E. HAYNES 9
GEORGE E. FEARN 5	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

ICKLETON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

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

A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

GILES C. GALLEY Treble	*T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 5
J. DESMOND PAINTER 2	WILLIAM T. COOK 6
ROGER B. MORRIS 3	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. 7
*JOHN G. GIPSON 4	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Composed by G. BAKER.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method for the Association.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in D.

BRYAN F. SIMS Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
*MALCOLM G. HOOTON 2	ALAN S. SMITH 6
RONALD J. SHARP 3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS 7
C. HENRY HARDING 4	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal of Surprise as conductor. Rung as an 84th birthday compliment to Mr. C. W. Sinfield, father of the ringer of the fifth.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

BRIAN E. DOWNIE Treble	HENRY H. FEARN 5
MURIEL REAY 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
STELLA HUGHES 3	GEORGE E. FEARN 7
JOHN PINFOLD 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF 5184 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt 19 lb. in F.

ALBERT WALKER Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 5
*EVELYN M. FLETCHER 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
SHIRLEY V. RYMER 3	JOHN PINFOLD 7
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal of Bristol.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*MALCOLM COWLEY Treble	LESLIE W. STEVENS 5
COLIN HARRISON 2	HAROLD MARCON 6
CECILIA COWLEY 3	†DAVID HOUGHTON 7
PAUL L. TAYLOR 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by G. RONALD EDWARDS.

* First peal. † First peal of Major.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringers of 1 and 3 (twins).

BISHOP'S CLEEVE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's Tenor 20 cwt.

VALERIE WILLARD Treble	DAVID MARSHALL 5
*SHIRLEY M. PARSONS 2	CYRIL A. WRATTON 6
JOHN THOMAS 3	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 7
*PETER BAKER 4	DAVID BEACHAM Tenor

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First Surprise peal away from the treble.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP.

A PEAL OF 5152 JESMOND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD Treble	NORMAN J. GOODMAN 5
MURIEL REAY 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
STELLA HUGHES 3	GEORGE E. FEARN 7
JOHN PINFOLD 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

The first peal in the method.

CAERPHILLY, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

*D. WALFORD DAVIES .. Treble	SIDNEY J. PHILBRICK .. 5
THOMAS YEOMANS 2	WILLIAM T. PETTY 6
HAROLD CASSEL 3	WILLIAM DARE 7
JEAN M. POWELL 4	†ROYSTON T. ESCOTT .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM DARE.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal.

Rung in memoriam Mrs. H. Pike, wife of a much-respected member of the Caerphilly band.

ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in D.

J. WILLIAM CLARKE .. Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
HENRY O. BAKER 2	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. .. 6
FRED DUNKERLEY 3	EDWARD JENKINS 7
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed and Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

The first peal on the bells since rehanging.

Rung as an 87th birthday compliment to Mr. Samuel Jones, of Eccleston, who entertained the band to tea after the peal.

JESMOND SURPRISE MAJOR.

38, 16, 12, 16, 34, 58, 34, 1.

2nds place lead-end. 4ths place bob.

Rung at Birmingham Cathedral. Dec. 8th, 1955.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

E. CHARLES TURNER .. Treble	BRIAN G. WARWICK 5
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 2	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
*RALPH ELKINGTON 4	JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER (No. 17). Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* 25th peal.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

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

*MARY WORTH (aged 11).. Treble	ALAN J. BROWN 5
ALAN A. POTTS 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY 6
MRS. L. BOUMPHREY .. 3	PETER LAFLIN 7
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 4	BASIL JONES Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by BASIL JONES.

* First peal at first attempt.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt.

SYDNEY SAGE Treble	*GEOFF. D. FEARNEHOUGH .. 5
SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. 2	NEIL D. LOMAS 6
*TREVOR TAYLOR 3	*DEREK TAYLOR 7
ALLEN TWYMAN 4	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN (No. 39).

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal in the method.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E.

ALBERT J. DUNK Treble	CYRIL S. JARRETT 5
DORIS G. DOBBIE 2	THOMAS E. SONE 6
PETER BORER 3	GEORGE KENWARD 7
EDWARD C. BARTON 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

In memoriam William J. Walker, of Upchurch, a much-respected member of the above Association for over 60 years.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 14 cwt. 24 lb. in F.

*PETER PHILLIPS .. Treble	FRANK C. PRICE 5
FREDK. W. GOODFELLOW .. 2	FRANK CORKE 6
†ALBERT R. G. TWINN .. 3	HERBERT W. IMPEY 7
*CHARLES J. SHEPHERD .. 4	WILLIAM H. COLES Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT W. IMPEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples.

Rung to mark the third anniversary of the rededication of the bells.

First peal on the bells since being recast and rehung in December, 1952, and believed to be 20 years since a peal was rung in this tower.



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THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 15, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEOFFREY E. WATSON .. Treble	RICHARD F. ROE.. .. 5
BRIAN AUSTIN 2	BRYAN S. COPE 6
BARRIE HENDRY 3	BRYAN PATTISON 7
PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 4	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.. .. Tenor

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

Composed by H. DAINS.

First peal in the method by all.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 15, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE.

A PEAL OF 5152 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 4 cwt 3 qr. 19 lb.

WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS .. Treble	FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS .. 5
DONALD H. NIBLETT .. 2	KENNETH W. MACKINTOSH .. 6
MALCOLM S. CLOKE.. .. 3	CHARLES COLES 7
*DAPHNE CASTELL 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM T. PETTY.. .. Treble	FRANK ROWSELL 5
*MALGWYN H. WILLIAMS.. 2	ALBERT J. PITMAN 6
ALFRED HANNINGTON .. 3	GWYN I. LEWIS 7
THOMAS YEOMANS 4	*HAROLD PREECE.. .. Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT J. PITMAN.

* First peal of Triples.

Rung as a 90th birthday compliment to John W. Jones, of Newport, and a 78th birthday compliment to Seymour R. Barker, of Cardiff.

CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANTA AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.

ANTHONY LOCKE Treble	A. HUBERT EPLETT 5
REV. A. S. ROBERTS .. 2	DAVID N. PENROSE 6
ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD .. 3	ALAN CARVETH 7
GEOFFREY W. TAYSON .. 4	GERALD A. UGLOW Tenor

Composed by J. HOWLETT.

Conducted by REV. A. S. ROBERTS.

A thanksgiving for the life and work of the late Mrs. A. S. Roberts, and rung on the eve of the seventh anniversary of the consecration of the church and creation of the parish of Carbis Bay.

CHEWTON MENDIP, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

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

ERIC NAYLOR Treble	WILLIAM F. J. COPE 5
*ERNEST E. BRAY 2	GEORGE W. MASSEY.. .. 6
RONALD G. BECK 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE.. .. 7
EDWARD J. CHIVERS .. 4	DAVID HOARE Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.

* First peal of Major.

DUNSTABLE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

At THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

*DEREK G. BROYD Treble	PHILIP MEHEW.. .. 5
K. PATRICIA HUTTON .. 2	DEREK P. JONES 6
JAMES G. NEWMAN.. .. 3	*STEPHEN IVIN 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	*JOHN W. V. SINFIELD .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

* First peal of New Cambridge.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, being 960 London, 923 Watford, 896 Bristol, 672 Cambridge, 512 Dorchester, 448 Pudsey, 448 Superlative and 416 Lincoln, with all the work of each method for every bell. 121 changes of method.

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

ALAN A. POTTS.. .. Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
FRED DUNKERLEY 2	ALAN J. BROWN.. .. 6
EDWARD JENKINS 3	PETER LAFLIN 7
BASIL JONES 4	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

A birthday compliment to W. Edward Jenkins (Dec. 19th).

W. Wolstencroft (Dec. 17th) and

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Elloe Deaneries Branch.)

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

*JOHN E. MORTON Treble	W. ALLAN RICHARDSON .. 5
STANLEY E. BENNETT .. 2	HORACE BENNETT 6
RONALD C. NOON 3	JOHN G. AMES 7
MAURICE BENNETT 4	FRANK TAYLOR Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

* First peal.

Rung for Confirmation service. Also a birthday compliment to Mr. S. E. Bennett.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF 5184 XAVIER SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 19 lb. in G.

JOHN E. ROOTES.. .. Treble	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY .. 5
ALICK CUTLER 2	THOMAS J. LOCK 6
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW .. 3	JOHN R. MAYNE.. .. 7
ALFRED J. HOUSE 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

The first peal in the method. The ringers of 2, 3, 4 and 6 have now rung peals of Surprise Major with names beginning with each letter of the alphabet.

WESTERHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's No. 2 Variation.

Tenor 23½ cwt. in E.

BERNARD V. COLLISON .. Treble	DORIS E. COLGATE 5
THOMAS E. SONE 2	ERNEST J. LADD.. .. 6
MAXWELL F. OAKSHETT .. 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER 7
CYRIL S. JARRETT 4	FREDERICK W. BUDGEN .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED TRIPLES

In 11 methods, consisting of 840 changes each of Grandsire and Double Court, 420 each of Reverse Grandsire, Double Grandsire, St. Clement's, College, Oxford and Court, 280 each of London, Hereward and Double Oxford, with 125 changes of method. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 lb.

WILLIAM DAVIES Treble	THOMAS HEMMING 5
FREDERICK JUKES 2	BERNARD LAWTON 6
JOHN LLOYD 3	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 7
ARTHUR PEAKMAN 4	HARRY HUBBLE Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by CLIFFORD SKIDMORE.

First peal of Spliced Triples in the county.

XAVIER SURPRISE MAJOR.

56 x 56, 14, 56 x 56, 38 x 14 x 58 x 14 x 58.

8ths place lead-end 4ths place bobs.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

CLARENCE R. STEED Treble	HAROLD HUXLEY 5
WILLIAM H. MALE 2	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 6
JOHN L. FINDON 3	VINCENT A. HEMMING .. 7
FRED C. LYNE 4	GERALD C. HEMMING .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

First peal of Major on the bells.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

BRATTON, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

42 six-scores (ten callings).

Tenor 12 cwt.

PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING Treble	MICHAEL NOAD 4
*DAVID KNIGHT 2	FREDERICK S. SLATFORD .. 5
ARCHIBALD T. KNIGHT .. 3	LAURENCE E. HITCHINS .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. SLATFORD.

* First peal 'inside.'

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

WALTER KERRISON Treble	† G. ANTHONY SUTHERLAND 4
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 2	REGINALD R. DARCH .. 5
*JOHN W. G. KINDRED .. 3	PETER KINDRED Tenor

Conducted by PETER KINDRED.

* First peal of Minor. † 25th peal. First peal as conductor. 60th peal on the bells.

UPHILL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE OLD CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

*MARION MACFARLANE .. Treble	*TERRY K. PRICE 4
MARJORIE LEGG 2	GEORGE E. RUCK 5
FRANK PARRAMORE 3	GEORGE PRESCOTT Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.

* First peal of Minor.

CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 21 240's by Morris (eight callings).

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*GEORGE FORRESTER .. Treble	† HARRY CALLWOOD 4
ROBERT BARRATT 2	ERNEST PIMLOTT 5
*JOHN P. JACKSON 3	GEORGE BARKER Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST PIMLOTT.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal away from treble.

In this peal there were 372 singles and 66 bobs. This is the most calls that can be made to a peal of Grandsire Doubles.

Rung by member of the Sunday service band as a welcome to Rev. C. H. Lee, who was inducted in this church on December 10th.

LOCKING, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Tues., Dec. 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 six-scores of Grandsire.

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

MARJORIE LEGG Treble	JUNE LEGG 4
GEORGE PRESCOTT 2	*IAN SCOFIELD 5
*JOHN ORAM 3	HENRY BUTTON Tenor

Conducted by MARJORIE LEGG.

* First peal of Doubles.



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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



PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 15, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb.

*HORACE W. EASEY Treble	JOHN W. G. KINDRED .. 4
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 2	A. WILLIAM BIRD 5
*DOUGLAS MITCHELL 3	PETER KINDRED Tenor

Conducted by PETER KINDRED.

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

NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 16, 1955, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of London, Beverley, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

JAMES FORDER Treble	ERNEST LONG 4
STANLEY COPLING 2	GODFREY WALPOLE 5
FREDERICK GUNTON 3	WILLIAM BARRETT Tenor

Conducted by GODFREY WALPOLE.

UPHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 16, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents (four callings).

Tenor 8 cwt. 19 lb.

*PAUL W. M. JONES .. Treble	MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 4
†MICHAEL V. WHITE .. 2	PETER NASH 5
J. MICHAEL LAKIN 3	DEREK C. JACKSON Tenor

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside' and of Minor. 25th peal as conductor.

BYFIELD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of St. Clement's, one 720 of Double Oxford, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

*A. HENRY CATLIN .. Treble	MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. 4
KILBY R. HOLTOM 2	†PETER G. DAVIES 5
DONALD H. NIBLETT .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in four methods. Mr. K. R. Holtom's 50th peal. First peal in more than one method on the bells.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID.

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*MARGARET S. RHODES .. Treble	*WILFRED LEE 4
*WILLIAM SCRIMSHAW .. 2	PETER DAWSON 5
*PERCY WHITAKER 3	DOUGLAS THORP Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS THORP.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

ROTHLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Syston District.)

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY-THE-VIRGIN AND JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

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

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. in F sharp.

ROGER A. BREWIN .. Treble	*GEOFFREY M. BREWIN .. 4
B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 2	GEOFFREY J. LOWE .. 5
ROYSTON WILMORE .. 3	MAURICE BISHOP Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY M. BREWIN.

* First peal in seven methods and first as conductor.

WEARE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*W. JOHN PARSONS (age 14) Treble	GEORGE PRESCOTT 4
JUNE LEGG 2	EDWARD C. WICKHAM .. 5
MARJORIE LEGG 3	*P. JOHN HUDSON Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.

* First peal.

WILLOUGHBY WATERLEYS, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In six methods, being seven extents each of Stedman, April Day, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 6½ cwt. in B flat.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Treble	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. 3
*RALPH ELKINGTON .. 2	ERNEST J. JELLEY .. 4

JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal in six methods and of Doubles.

HANDBELL PEALS

EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE UNIVERSITIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1955, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes.

AT 3, COLLEGE ROAD, W.13,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

Tenor size 12 in F sharp.

J. DESMOND PAINTER .. 1-2 | R. JAMES COOK 3-4

WILLIAM T. COOK 5-6

Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Dec. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours.

AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS,

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 1-2 | JOHN A. ACRES 5-6

ERNEST MORRIS 3-4 | MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 7-8

Composed by E. J. LINDLEY. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT 29, HINTON.

A PEAL OF 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

*VALERIE WILLARD .. 1-2 | JOHN THOMAS 5-6

MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4 | JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 7-8

†DAVID MARSHALL 9-10

Composed by G. R. NEWTON. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First Treble Bob Royal 'in hand.' † First peal of Royal.

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes.

AT NEWSTEAD, STOKE ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation).

NANCY E. MARKLEY .. 1-2 | *EDGAR VALLANCE .. 5-6

ALFRED BALLARD 3-4 | HECTOR A. KNIGHTS .. 7-8

Conducted by ALFRED BALLARD.

* 100th peal.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 11 Minutes.

AT 38, CASTLE HILLS ROAD, SCAWTHORPE,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 14 in C.

*HOWARD SCOTT .. 1-2 | †GIBSON JACKSON .. 5-6

*WILLIAM H. JACKSON .. 3-4 | †W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 7-8

Composed by STEPHEN H. WOOD. Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method on handbells.

BURWASH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 16, 1955, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes.

AT THE GLEBE COTTAGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents each of St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob (four callings each).

Tenor size 15 in C.

MISS V. LAMBERT .. 1-2 | FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 3-4

MRS. GRAINGER 5-6

Conducted by FREDERICK J. LAMBERT.

First handbell peal in three methods by all.

Rung as an 88th birthday compliment to Mrs. F. J. Lambert.

New General Secretary To The Suffolk Guild

A well-attended general meeting of the Suffolk Guild took place at Woodbridge on December 17th, when the fine ring of bells was rung to methods up to Spliced Surprise. The service was held at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rector, Canon A. W. Sarson, whose address was based on 'Whatever thou doest, do it with all thy might.'

Forty-three were served with tea in pleasant surroundings, and at the business meeting the chair was taken by the Rev. E. C. Charlsworth, curate of St. Mary's, supported by Mr. C. E. Fisher (vice-president), Mr. C. J. Sedgley (Ringing Master), the minutes secretary and general secretary. Ten new members were elected.

The general secretary (Mr. Cecil W. Pipe) said he took office in 1945 and wished to retire at the end of the year. He felt very sure a change would be good for the Guild and thanked all those who had supported him, especially past and present district secretaries.

The Guild was in a healthy financial position with assets at over £200. Twenty-seven restorations had taken place since the war, but much more was needed to be done. A lot of work was entailed which required the support of all members if the office of general secretary was to be successfully run, and he appealed to all present to support the general secretary elect by early payment of subscriptions, attendance at meetings and services, and definitely notification when tea was required.

In the committee's choice of Mr. John W. Blythe as future general secretary, they had a

popular young conductor who was recently married to a charming young lady ringer, and he hoped his term of office would be a happy one. He concluded by asking all ringers to be at their ropes Christmas Eve and morning, and New Year's Eve—occasions when the public really loved to hear the bells—and finally, he wished them all a happy Christmas.

Mr. Pipe's resignation was accepted, and there being no other nominations Mr. John W. Blythe was unanimously elected general secretary and treasurer, with effect as from January 1st next.

Mr. Blythe thanked the members for their confidence in him, and with support he would do his best on behalf of the Guild.

Mr. C. E. Fisher and Mr. C. J. Sedgley thanked Mr. Pipe for his work, and the usual votes of thanks to the Rector and organist and Mr. Stanley Woodard were made.

The address of Mr. John W. Blythe is 18, Barnaby Green, Southwold, Suffolk.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—St. Paul's Cathedral Society, Melbourne £1 13s. 6d., Miss S. R. P. Thomas 5s., T. J. Thurley 2s. 6d., C. E. Banham 4s.

Peals.—Caerphilly 4s., Bratton 3s., Chewton Mendip 4s., Bridgend 4s., Calverley 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Swindon 4s., Stourbridge 2s., Hereford 3s., Scorton 4s., Rotherham 2s. 6d., Piddlehinton 3s., Thanet 2s., Bushey Heath 4s.

ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD

On December 10th, a quarterly meeting of the Guild was held at Pembroke. The bells were available to the ringers at 2 p.m., and members came from Tenby, Carmarthen, Burry Port, Llanelly, and were well supported by the Pembroke ringers.

A service was held at which the Vicar, the Rev. D. Reece, kindly officiated, the lesson being read by Mr. R. E. Davies, of Burry Port. The members were afterwards entertained to a very nice tea at the Church Hall, where everyone enjoyed themselves on a cold but lovely day.

The Vicar presided at the usual business meeting, and a very hearty address of welcome was extended to members by Mr. Humphries, of Pembroke. He expressed his appreciation of the work done by Mr. Phil Rogers and members of the Guild in helping the St. Mary's ringers to become good ringers.

The usual touch on the handbells was given by the Llanelly boys and girls, ringing tunes and carols.

The place of the next quarterly meeting will be Llandilo. A collection for the Bell Restoration Fund realised the sum of £1 11s. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to the Vicar by the Master (Mr. Ed. J. Thomas, of Carmarthen).

The ringers then returned to the tower to wind up yet another good meeting, and the climax came with a well-struck 720 of Grandsire Doubles, which was rung to celebrate the marriage of Captain Ivor Ramsden, son of Mrs. Basil Ramsden, of Cosheston Hall, Pembroke, which took place in London on this day.

C. H.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

EDITORIAL OFFICE: c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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JOSEPH T. DYKE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Ringling has been suspended at Darfield Church, near Barnsley, owing to mining operations under the church. Two valuable stained-glass windows have been removed and are being stored at Sheffield. Owing to an abundance of water in the workings the task of removing the coal may be delayed, and there are little prospects of ringing being resumed next year.

After the induction service of the new Vicar of Chelford, Cheshire, the Lord Bishop of Chester came in the tower and took a rope to 120 of Grandsire Doubles.

In connection with the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal at Bedford, the conductor wishes to express his thanks to Mr. C. E. Jeffries for standing out after meeting short for Stedman Caters.

We thank the readers who have sent copies of the British Railways Magazine for December with its cover picture depicting ringing by railwaymen at Boughton Monchelsea, Kent. It is about time that railwaymen rang another peal!

Four members of the Middlesex Association—Messrs. F. W. Brinklow, A. Cutler, A. J. House and J. T. Lock—have rung peals of Surprise Major with names beginning with each letter of the alphabet. To complete the 26 we have the first peal of Xavier Surprise Major.

For 22 years Mr. Cyril A. Burgess has given very loyal service to Burnham, Bucks, tower. Previous to his departure for Kent he was presented with a case of fish eaters by the Vicar, on behalf of his fellow ringers. A safe ringer and conductor, Cyril takes with him a total of 63 peals, 44 of which have been rung at Burnham. As G. G. writes, 'Burnham's loss will be Kent's gain.'

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. C. W. Pipe, who has been general secretary of the Suffolk Guild since 1945, has resigned. His successor, from January 1st, is Mr. John W. Blythe, Barnaby Green, Southwold, Suffolk.

Congratulations to Mr. John Pinfold, of Birmingham, in ringing his 600th peal.

Dr. D. Longridge, a Devonian, who is now living in British Columbia, has been elected a member of the Guild of Devonshire ringers.

Another pair of ringing twins—Mr. Malcolm Cowley and Miss Cecilia Cowley—have come of age. The celebrations included a peal on the Foundry bells at Loughborough.

Mr. Fredk. Sharpe and his handbell team were seen on television on December 22nd, playing at a carol service at Caversfield Church, near Bicester.

With a handbell peal at Hinckley, Leics, Mr. Edgar Vallance has completed his 100 peals. This has taken him 45 years. His first peal was rung at Stoke Golding on December 5th, 1910, under the conductorship of the well-known Leicestershire ringer, Mr. E. H. Stoneley.

Mr. Jack Bray, the secretary of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, rang his 600th peal on Dec. 17th. It was a handbell peal of 5.068 Spliced Kent Treble Bob and Kent Little Court Royal.

Mr. Leslie Oliffe completes, on January 9th, 25 years as foreman of St. Mary's Church, Witney. His cheerfulness and good nature pervades the tower, where since he began ringing in 1918 he has earned the respect of so many.

A pleasing ceremony took place in St. Andrew's Church belfry, Derby, on December 18th, when Mr. Barrie Wayne, on behalf of the ringers and friends, presented a smoker's outfit to Mr. George Freebrey (Ringing Master) on the occasion of his 74th birthday.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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PEAL RINGING IN WORCESTERSHIRE

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

WORCESTERSHIRE was amongst the earliest counties to take up the art of change ringing and the county has always been prominent in the peal lists. Thus there are six towers which have passed the century of peals mark since 1881, which means that it is well up the list of counties in this respect (ten have more and the remaining 28 less). Of the six, three are 10-bell towers and one is a 12-bell tower, so ringing on the higher number has been popular.

We find the most at Dudley (10) where 180 peals have been rung, commencing in 1886. They have been spread out fairly evenly through the years (and all the years of the first world war are represented). Thus there were 79 peals from 1886 to 1916, and 77 from 1917 to 1940. Of these 156 peals, no less than 116 were of Grandsire Caters (the remaining 40 comprise 16 of Royal—mainly Bob and Kent; seven of Caters—Stedman and Bob; five of Major and 12 of Triples—ten Grandsire). There certainly was a liking for Grandsire before 1940! It is not so apparent now, for only two of the 24 post-war peals have been of Grandsire Caters and there has been a much greater variety, the most being of Stedman Caters (7).

Second comes Kidderminster (12). The heyday of this tower was before the first war when it had eight bells. Of the 163 peals, 118 were rung then, commencing in 1882. It was the most popular peal-ringing tower in the county in that period. Thirteen more peals were rung from 1918 to 1926, and then there was silence until augmentation to 12 in the middle 1930's. Twenty-two peals were then rung before the war stopped further attempts, and there have been ten since 1943, so there is not very much peal activity here nowadays.

An 8-bell tower comes third—Netherton, with 150. The best yearly averages are being accomplished in this post-war period, for 49 have been rung since 1945—the most in any tower in the county (although closely followed by Madresfield). There were 59 from 1888 to 1915 and 42 between the wars, so it has had a consistent peal history. Then comes Selly Oak (8). Like Kidderminster, we must look to the pre-1914 period for the most peals. A total of 108 was rung from 1887 to 1915—nearly as many as Kidderminster. There was only an average of one a year from 1918 to 1939 (21 peals) and there have been 16 from 1944 to 1954.

The remaining two centenarians are both 10-bell towers and both have 112 peals to their credit. Bromsgrove had 58 of the peals from 1881 to 1914, 38 from 1920 to 1936 and 16 in the last ten years. King's Norton was an 8-bell tower at first, and 76 peals were rung from 1884 to 1915, followed by six from 1917 to 1926. After the addition of the trebles, 21 peals were rung from 1928 to 1939 and there have been nine since 1945. Thus the heyday here seems to be prior to 1914.

HALESOWEN ALSO A CENTENARIAN

Although I have only 'logged' 99 peals at Halesowen (8) since 1881, the tower is really a centenarian, for I have come across two other peals prior to the period under review. Of the 99, 44 were rung from 1887 to 1914, 42 from 1919 to 1938 and 13 since 1944 (none this year yet). Claines (10) has had a relatively short ringing history for its number of peals (93). No peal had been rung there when its six bells became eight in 1927, but there followed 47 peals from 1927 to 1939, making it the most popular tower of that period. Further augmentation came in 1940, but the first peal could not be rung until 1943 because of the ban on ringing. Since then there have been 46 peals, but the number is dwindling, for the tower has not yet appeared in the peal lists this year and it only

was mentioned twice last year. We hope it will soon reach the 100 mark.

It is unusual to find a 6-bell tower so high up in the peal list, but that is the case in Worcestershire, for Hanley Castle has had 90 peals—equalled only by three other 6-bell towers in the whole country. Of these, 79 were rung from 1919 to 1938—more than any other tower in those 20 years, but it has dropped off since the war, only six being rung from 1944 to 1952. The remaining five came from 1888 to 1913. It was the first 6-bell tower in the county to have a peal, I think. Clent's (8) 82 peals have been spread evenly over the years from 1889—39, 30 and 13 in the usual three periods respectively.

Tenth on the list comes another of the three 12-bell towers—Evesham. This tower is enjoying its best time now, for 36 of the 73 peals have been rung since the war. It is, of course, one of the most recent 12's, having been augmented in 1952. On the ten bells, 16 peals were rung from 1889 to 1916 and a further 21 from 1918 to 1937. Fifteen more were rung in the years 1944 to 1949 and there have thus been 21 peals on the 12 since 1952.

Whilst talking about a 12-bell tower, we might as well mention the remaining one—Worcester Cathedral. Here only 20 peals have been rung at an interval of every few years (four since the war). Similarly, there is just one 10-bell tower not yet mentioned—it is Worcester, All Saints', where 53 peals have been rung. Its yearly average is best at the moment for 21 of the peals have come since 1944. There were five from 1887 to 1889, an odd one in 1915 and then 26 from 1918 to 1937.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN NOW POPULAR

In order of peal totals, Upton-on-Severn (8) follows Evesham with 70 peals. The first peal was in 1902 and eight were rung to 1915. Since 1919 it has averaged two a year—43 in the 21 years from 1919 to 1939 and 19 since 1944. Two 8-bell towers have 69. They are Hagley, whose best time was in the last century, and Hinton-on-the-Green. At the former, 34 peals were rung from 1885 to 1900, followed by eight from 1902 to 1913, 21 from 1922 to 1939 and six from 1944 to 1952. At the latter, three peals had been rung in 1902 and 1920 (two) before it became an 8-bell tower in 1930. Since then, there have been 22 peals from 1931 to 1939 and 44 peals since 1943, so it is very popular now. Hanbury (8) also did well after the last war, although it has dropped off recently. Of the 68 peals, 35 were rung from 1944 to 1952 (none since).

The remaining 33 are almost equally divided between the two earlier periods commencing in 1885. Another 6-bell tower comes next—Wollaston. The 67 peals have come quite regularly through the years from 1889. There hasn't been one since 1953. Oldbury (8) has 64. Fifty of these were rung before the first war, so it isn't heard much of now, but there have been six since 1945. Three towers have 56 peals—Great Hampton (8), Stourbridge, St. Mary's (8), and Madresfield (6). The first was a 6-bell tower until six years ago. There had been 19 peals from 1903 to 1914, 16 from 1920 to 1936 and two in 1945 and 1946. There have been 19 since augmentation in 1949. At Stourbridge, the peals have come regularly since 1894, but at Madresfield, no less than 48 of the peals were rung from 1919 to 1939 and there haven't been any since.

The only other tower which has passed the 50 mark and not already mentioned is Badsey (8). There has been a peal every year or so since 1898, with the usual war gaps. Nearing 50 are Hallow (49), Worcester, St. John (48),

and Worcester, St. Helen's and Hartlebury (45). All are 8-bell towers. All the 8-bell towers have had peals—the longest silent of them is Moseley whose two peals were rung in 1904 and 1905.

A few more 6-bell towers deserve mention. Ripple has 32 peals and is going well. All but the first (in 1912) have been rung since 1923. Bredon with Norton has 28, 17 between 1947 and 1953. Areley Kings has 27—11 from 1892 to 1913 and 14 from 1950 to 1953. Wyckbold has 26 (12 between the wars and 12 since 1944) and Suckley 25 (five, eleven and nine in the three periods, commencing in 1904). Others over 20 are Kempsey (22) and Martley (20). Six or seven 6-bell towers remain to be 'conquered'. They are Abberley, Astley, Elmley Lovett, Fladbury, Inkberrow and Worcester, St. Martin's, with possibly one of the two Droitwich 6-bell towers. (I have 12 peals there and have not been certain to which towers they have applied—the dedications of the churches seem to be different to those given in Crockford sometimes—I should be grateful for clarification by a local ringer.)

There are only nine 5-bell towers in the county. Three of these have had peals (none since the war). They are Berrow (two, in 1932 and 1938), Bredon (one in 1917) and Broadwas (one in 1919). Still to be 'conquered' are, therefore, Birlingham, Evenlode, Grafton Flyford, Church Honeybourne, Peabworth and Severn Stoke. Peals are inclusive of those published up to December 9th, 1955.

THREE GUILDS MEET AT NEATH

History was made at Cadoxton (Neath) on December 3rd, when over 50 ringers from three Guilds held a joint meeting and rang the very musical 'six' at St. Cattwg's Church. Sponsors of the meeting were the Llandaff Branch of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, Southern District of Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild and the S. Wales District of the Ladies' Guild.

The Ladies' Guild held their meeting before the service. The president was unable to attend and Mrs. Coles was voted to the chair. The next meeting will be held at Aberavon. While this meeting was in progress the bells were being rung to various methods before the service which commenced at 4.30 p.m.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. Ishmael), and the address, on the relationship between the bells and the church, was given by the Curate (the Rev. G. L. Nicholas).

A very enjoyable tea followed and a vote of thanks was accorded the ladies on the excellent arrangements made.

At the business meeting, with the Vicar presiding, the Swansea and Brecon Guild agenda was taken first. All officers were re-elected and were thanked for their service during the year. The district secretary was asked to arrange a joint meeting with the St. David's Guild next March, and failing this, it was agreed to go to Baglan. Mr. Roderick, on behalf of all members, expressed their appreciation of Mr. Jack Pitman's recent composition of Spliced Surprise methods.

The agenda of the Llandaff Branch meeting followed. It was decided to visit Coity for the next meeting in the New Year.

Progress, it was noted, was being well maintained throughout the diocese. Penarth and Cowbridge were mentioned in the report.

The chairman remarked that he was pleased to see so many young people at the meeting.

Several new members were enrolled, and Mr. D. J. Lewis proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding at the meeting, to the organist, and to all those who helped to make the meeting a success.

Further ringing took place at Cadoxton and at Neath, but many ringers had to leave early, as they had a long way to go.

ST. MARGARET'S WOLSTANTON

By E. H. EDGE

THE Parish Church of St. Margaret, surrounded by its village and common, known as the Marsh, stands high up on one of the north-south ridges which fall away from the Pennines to the Shropshire border in the west. From the tower one has magnificent views—rising moorland to the east beyond Hanley and Burslem, lesser hills to the west and south. In the distance, some 40 miles away, can be seen the conical outline of the Wrekin.

The church is believed to have been founded in Saxon times by one Wolstan, whose descendant and a native of the parish was later Bishop of Worcester in the early 11th century. The church certainly had its resident priest in 1086, and the manor held by Algar, Earl of Mercia, and son of Leofric and Lady Godiva, was of sufficient importance to be mentioned in the Domesday Book. The church was enlarged in the 13th century, whence dated the lancet windows in the chancel, since removed, and the nave arcade. The tower is of this period but contains Saxon work.

'It was G-SB-W

That brought me to my end
Dear Parents mourne not for me,
For God will stand my friend.
With half a pint of Poyson
He came to visit me.
Write this on my grave
That all that read it may see.'

This latter must be one of the few accusations of murder in such direct form.

Some unique pottery tombstones of the 18th century are now in the south porch, others from the church having found their way to Liverpool Museum.

The fabric deteriorated in the course of time and the church was rebuilt on its old foundations in 1859 when the roof was restored to its original pitch and the stonework of the nave arcade redressed. The 'poppy-head' bench ends were installed in 1859 when the three-decker pulpit, west gallery and original font was removed. The tower was not touched at the rebuilding except that the spire, rising some 65-70 feet above the tower, itself 78 feet high, had its top section carried up to its original



WOLSTANTON ST. MARGARET'S
before the erection of the lych gate in 1951

A fire is believed to have destroyed part of the building in the 16th century and a new roof of low pitch and a clerestory were constructed in 1623. The churchyard contains some interesting tombstones, one reading:—

Heare lyth the body of Randall Bristall
Broad Glasse Maker, who died the second
of April in the year of our Lord God 1668.

the other:—

Here lieth the body of Sarah Smith, daughter
of Samuel and Martha Smith of Bradwell Park who departed this life Nov: 29,
1763, in the 21st year of her age—

taper, and a parapet and corner pinnacles replaced the mediæval castellations. The tower abuts the north side of the north aisle, an unusual feature in a church of such age, although the bell tower of Astbury, just over the Cheshire border, occupies a similar position. The tower arch into the church was opened at the rebuilding and the lower chamber now forms the vestry.

The entrance to the tower is by a low door in the north face and the ringing chamber is reached by a spiral staircase. The walls of the chamber, some three feet thick, are wainscoted below, the upper portion being in the natural

red-sandstone. A large peal-board bears witness to the efforts of earlier bands, and a board dated 1816 carries the familiar doggerel rules:

If to ring you do come here,
You must ring well with hand and ear:
And if a bell you over-throw,
Twopence you pay before you go;
And if you ring with spur or hat,
Fourpence is due, take care of that:
And if you either swear or curse,
Sixpence is due, pull out your purse
So if our rules you do consent
Then take a bell and be content.

The floor above contains the clock mechanism and above that is the bell-chamber, open to the spire. Here in a modern iron frame hangs the ring of eight bells (tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb. in F):

1. The Gift of Chas. Challinor Esq., of Basford Hall, 1884.
2. Abr. Rudhall cast us all 1714.
3. Richard Marlow, William Hall. Ch.W. A-R 1714.
4. Jeffrey Williams A.M. Minister A-R 1714.
5. George Blaxton, R. of Berwick in Elmet 1714.
6. Richard Astbury of this town, Blacksmith gave me in 1623 and recast 1714.
7. John Lord Gower. Kath; Lady Dowager Gower, 1714.
8. The gift of the Wolstanton Change Ringing Society, Easter 1884. W. Miller, S. Spencer (conductor), L. Miller, S. J. Wootton, G. Hodgkins.

The middle six bells cast in 1714 were brought from Trentham Church (now towerless) in 1767 at 9d. per pound in exchange for one large bell at like terms. The bells were augmented in 1884 and 'The Bell News' recorded that the 'fund has been aided by proceeds from hand-bell entertainments and other legitimate sources.' The cost of augmentation was £333, of which the ringers themselves gave £143; five of the ringers agreed to forgo their ringing fees for some seven years to help raise this money, and their names are inscribed on the tenor together with the motto of the St. Margaret's Society, 'Perseverance will ensure success.'

THIRTY-FOUR RINGERS IN 1875

The records of the St. Margaret's Society date back to 1875, the oldest extant minutes having only been discovered and restored to the tower this year.

The Society was strong in numbers and ability in 1875 and much of the business meeting time was spent in revising the rules which dated from an earlier period. A firm discipline was maintained and one of the rules for approval at the first recorded meeting reads as follows:—

'Rule 6. That the secretary shall draw out a list for each month showing what ringers are set down for duty on the different Sundays in the month and post the same in the belfry one clear week before the beginning of the month and that any member finding it inconvenient to attend on the day for which he is appointed, shall give one clear week's notice to the secretary or find an efficient substitute.'

On being voted members of the Society, ringers had to sign their agreement, and 34 names are appended to the first set of rules.

Then, as now, the ringers received moneys from the Church, and until the last war augmented them by Christmas collections. These were systematic and a list of householders of the village was drawn up for this purpose. Judging by the very few who failed to subscribe, the bells were much appreciated or the ringers extremely persuasive.

From the payments, as today, fines were deducted for lateness or absence and one of the privileges for good attendance was inclusion in a 'short list' for special ringing occasions.

(Continued on page 827)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'THE WRITING ON THE WALL'

Dear Sir,—And our 'E. J. R.' seems to be doing plenty of it—wants rubbing off; so rub it off. What a propagandist! Christmas is here and old Scrooge is out again. What a gloomy thought and prospect for Christmas.

What is E. J. R. doing towards rubbing the writing off the wall? He seems to be rubbing it in, not off. One would imagine from the way he writes, he is, or would like to, go round spreading this pernicious doctrine.

I take the trouble wherever I go—and I get about pretty well—to ask the people in the near vicinity of the bells what they think of the ringing and the noise, especially on practice nights. Only on one occasion have I had any real complaint, and that was about our own bells, and also about the church, parson, and everything and everybody connected with the church. That explains the outlook of the two complainants who are hammering at home all Sunday; both their parents love the church and bells.

Some time ago I wrote in 'The Ringing World' a defence of ringing, and as Paul Field rightly mentions, our chief reason for ringing is, or should be, to the glory of God, which is a quite sufficient reason, and defence, if either is necessary.

Why, anyway, should we have to justify and defend our ringing? The 150,000 football patrons at Hampden Park do not have to justify their 'Hampden Roar,' or the 75,000 rugger patrons at Twickenham their 'Twickenham Shout.'

If the popular press publish protests about ringing, that is no reason why ringers should do so. I also said in my letter of defence, provided we observed the ordinary decencies of conduct and customs, and try to give of our best, even on practice nights, we need not be too apologetic. It is a very strange thing, that people who do not know the first thing about ringing know when it is good.

Speaking of privilege, it is the public's privilege to hear the bells as well as ours to ring them.

A happy New Year, E. J. R., and happy ringing.—Yours, etc.,

W. FRANK STENSON.

Crewe.

FOOTNOTES TO PEALS

Dear Sir,—Mr. Morton has committed the cardinal error of rushing into print without first ascertaining the facts. Far from being an afterthought, the footnote states the reason for which the peal to which he alludes was rung (by special request, incidentally), it being thought appropriate that a great occasion in the annals of an Austrian art should be greeted by one exclusively British. 'Art knows no bounds.'

Mr. Morton's remarks about coupling the House of God with an opera programme lack significance, as the bells of St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna, were rung for the formal opening of the Opera House, referred to in Austria as 'our Coronation.'

If Mr. Morton considers there is a necessity for a reduction of footnotes I trust we shall be seeing objections from him to those recording peals and quarter peals rung 'by eligible bachelors,' 'for the birthday of the ringer of the third's mother,' for a 'winter fair,' and in connection with a function of a secular society, in this month's issues of 'The Ringing World,' not to mention those performances which perennially appear for welcomes, farewells, births and national (State) occasions, if he has noticed them.—Yours faithfully,

CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

Birmingham.

ST. MARY'S, PENZANCE

Dear Sir,—The information given in 'Clavis Campanalogia' regarding a previous ring of ten bells at Penzance is undoubtedly wrong. I remember noting this some years ago. The whole of Penzance used to be in the parish of Madron, with a Chapel of Ease in Penzance, built in 1789. A print of this Chapel shows that it had a small tower and spire, but certainly not big enough for a ring of ten. I believe there was one bell. This church was pulled down and the present St. Mary's erected in 1834. In 1865 Taylors put in a ring of eight with a tenor of 20 cwt. These were completely recast and restored in 1929 with the result of the present very fine ring with a tenor of 23 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

There are now two other churches in Penzance. St. Paul's was built in 1843. It has no plan for a tower. The fine church of St. John, built in 1881, was planned to have an imposing tower with spire over the west porch with, no doubt, the ringing chamber over the entrance porch. A spiral staircase goes up in one corner to roof level and is capped with a small wooden erection which houses one bell. It seems most improbable that this will ever be completed now.—Yours faithfully,

A. S. ROBERTS
(Rural Dean of Penwith).

St. Ives, Cornwall.

OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

Dear Sir,—I regret to have to correct Mr. Felstead, but the peal of Oxford Bob Triples rung at Horsham in 1882 was apparently not the first in the method. A peal board in the belfry of Benenden, Kent, records a peal in the method on March 7th, 1821. Also this board does not claim it to be the first ever, so we still do not know definitely when the first ever was rung.

Mr. Malcolm S. Cloke also made this correction in 'The Ringing World' a few years ago, but apparently it has escaped Mr. Felstead's eye or memory.—Yours sincerely,

A. H. KEMP.

Hawkhurst, Kent.

PEAL RINGING IN WARWICKSHIRE

Dear Sir,—In the course of his article published on December 16th, my friend, the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, writes in connection with St. Michael's Stoke (Coventry): 'I gather these bells are almost unringable now.' I am pleased to state that Mr. Felstead has been misinformed for on September 25th last I had the pleasure of ringing on these delightful, easy-going bells.—Yours sincerely,

E. T. PAUL FIELD.

Long Sutton, Somerset.

GUESTS AND ETIQUETTE

Dear Sir,—According to the article 'An Ordinary Peal' in your recent issue, it would appear that the ringers were the guests of the church concerned.

It is generally considered ill-mannered to criticise one's host's domestic arrangements, and worse than ill-mannered to publicise one's criticism.—Yours sincerely,

ALAN PAYNE.

Over, Cambs.

PEALS AT BRERETON

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. B. J. Ongley's letter re peals at Brereton, I have only come across the three peals he mentions—in 1926, 1937 and 1955.—Yours sincerely,

K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

Southampton.

BACHELORS AND STEDMAN CINQUES

Dear Sir,—I note in the Belfry Gossip that, following a recent peal of Major, rung by a band composed entirely of bachelors, somebody has written from this ancient city, suggesting a peal of Stedman Cinques by a similar band.

In view of the alarming increase in the number of young women ringers in our midst today, I hope that the members of this peal band, if successful, will not later have cause to regret this advertisement of their blessed status.—Yours, etc.,

R. O. FRY.

Bath.

Joint Meeting at Sawbridgeworth

There was a good attendance at Sawbridgeworth on December 10th for the joint meeting between Herts Eastern District and Essex North-Western District, when the eight bells (tenor 25 cwt.) were rung in the afternoon and evening. A service was held in the church at 4.30 p.m. and tea followed at 5 p.m.

After tea, greetings were exchanged between officers of the two Associations, and a plain course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells.

Ringing was then resumed in the tower. Methods rung during the meeting ranged from Plain Bob Doubles for the learners to Superlative Surprise Major. Other methods included Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Little Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

C. E. H.

Have you seen the enlarged Ringer's Notebook and Diary?

Compiled by William Viggers and Maurice Hodgson

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St. Margaret's, Wolstanton—Cont.

There was one official practice a week, but it is apparent that practices took place on other evenings in the week since absences from these did not carry any penalty. Business meetings of the Society were held almost every week.

Under the rota system full 'peals' of 720 changes of Minor were rung every Sunday by the appointed band. 'Date' touches were also popular and rung each Easter for many years. Thus on Easter Sunday, 1878, were

'438 Court Bob
720 Kent Treble Bob
720 Oxford Treble Bob.

1,878 changes in 1 hour and 7 minutes.
In 1892 that number of Grandsire Triples was rung and in the following year 1893!

(To be continued)

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—On Dec. 11th, at the Church of St. Matthew, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Miss J. Highley 1, Miss N. Hales 2, Miss G. L. Friswell 3, J. A. Hales 4, J. Hales 5, R. K. C. Wilkings 6, G. A. Parsons 7, D. Neal (cond.) 8.

QUARTER PEALS

ACLE, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Daphne M. Le Grice (first quarter) 1, Doris E. Lidbetter 2, June E. Gladman 3, H. W. Lidbetter 4, K. L. Brown (cond.) 5, May Lidbetter 6.

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss E. Stewart 1, Mrs. M. Brown 2, G. K. Williamson 3, R. Corke 4, D. Macpherson 5, Miss S. Corke 6, W. H. Viggers (first in method as cond.) 7, G. Brown 8. First in method for 1, 2 and 3. Rung as a welcome back from H.M. Forces of R. Corke.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Dec. 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Major: Miss J. A. England 1, Miss K. E. Weller 2, Miss J. M. Winchester (first of Surprise) 3, J. Pink 4, D. E. Parsons 5, F. D. Jennings 6, R. D. Tomlin 7, S. F. W. Kimber (first of Surprise as cond.) 8.

BLECHINGLEY, SURREY.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Harwood 1, T. H. Bird (cond.) 2, J. Weeks 3, G. Olliver 4, F. W. Bird 5, M. Johnson 6, A. Streeter 7, J. Burgess 8. Rung for Confirmation service, held this day by the Bishop of Southwark.

CARDINGTON, BEDS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: K. Wakefield 1, D. Jeeves 2, C. H. Harding 3, E. Izzard 4, B. Pattison (cond.) 5, D. Bridges 6. Rung in honour of the visit of the Bishop of St. Albans (the Rt. Rev. E. M. Gresford-Jones) for Confirmation service.

CRANTOCK, CORNWALL.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. B. Eplett (first quarter) 1, A. H. Eplett 2, J. Roberts 3, C. H. Stephens 4, R. A. Southwood (cond.) 5, D. Docking 6. First 'inside' for 3 and 4.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: A. Richardson 1, F. R. Lowe 2, J. Bailey 3, Rev. G. G. Graham 4, H. E. Taylor 5, G. H. Paulson 6, W. Lancaster 7, S. J. Merry (cond.) 8.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, Lincs.—On Dec. 10th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. Bennett 1, S. E. Bennett 2, G. R. G. Butler 3, R. C. Noon 4, J. G. Ames 5, F. Taylor (cond.) 6. Rung on the 22nd wedding anniversary of G. R. G. Butler, and also for his son's 21st birthday.

DISS, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 10th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: A. G. Harrison 1, Miss B. Syrett 2, C. Catchpole 3, T. C. Ford 4, E. A. Chilver (first of Major) 5, H. Moss 6, F. Philippo (first in method as cond.) 7, A. E. Cook 8.

FELMERSHAM, BEDS.—On Advent Sunday, 1,152 Bob Major: N. Hull 1, Phyllis Gray 2, C. E. Jeffries 3, C. Bransom 4, F. Tysoe 5, R. Lennard 6, J. B. Long 7, B. Pattison (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Dec. 4th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: H. M. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Belcher 3, Miss A. Garnett 4, B. K. Lunn 5, James Phillips 6, C. Watts 7, John Phillips (cond.) 8. For Evensong and as a birthday compliment to H. M. Page. Also on Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Venn (first quarter) 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Belcher 3, James Phillips 4, J. Allsop 5, John Phillips 6, H. Page 7, J. Bell 8.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Woodley 1, H. K. White 2, Mrs. A. Woodley 3, H. L. Bishop 4, G. W. Bishop 5, M. Bishop 6, A. H. Webb (cond.) 7, D. Napper 8. Rung for the wedding of Miss Clarissa Wedderburn and Mr. James Robinson.

HERTFORD.—At the Church of St. Andrew, on Nov. 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. Dodds (first in method as cond.) 1, G. Penney 2, W. J. Arnold 3, T. J. Southam 4, M. D. Frost (first of Triples) 5, J. E. Ewer 6, B. C. Johnson 7, V. Neale 8. Rung on St. Andrew's Day.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,024 Bob Major: C. V. Hare (77) 1, P. Jackson (14) 2, P. Mehew 3, R. J. Coppage 4, D. P. Jones (comp. and cond.) 5, A. C. Harris 6, K. C. Timbury 7, C. M. Orme 8. For Matins.

HUNSLET, YORKS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Minor (720 Cambridge, 540 Plain): Miss D. Hogg (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Rhodes 2, F. Raymond 3, J. M. Thorley (cond.) 4, A. Cole 5, I. Slack 6, J. Hogg cover. Rung as a farewell to the curate (the Rev. J. F. Oates, M.A.).

HUNTISHAM, DEVON.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Upton 1, Barbara J. Stevens 2, C. J. Stevens (cond.) 3, Pamela M. Stevens 4, L. H. May 5, D. M. Bellamy 6, J. Kelland 7, V. N. Burrow 8.

HURST, BERKS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Rivers (first quarter) 1, L. Hall 2, J. Froome 3, R. Rivers 4, Mrs. B. C. Castle 5, S. G. Day 6, B. C. Castle (cond.) 7, F. Hicks 8. Rung in honour of the patronal festival.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On Nov. 27th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. Papworth 1, C. Button 2, H. P. Gardner 3, J. Elliott 4, C. Burton (cond.) 5, R. Pye 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

KEMPSTON, BEDS.—On St. Andrew's Day, 1,259 Doubles (240 St. Simon's, 360 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Plain Bob, 299 Grandsire): Phyllis Gray 1, C. Gilbert 2, N. Line 3, R. Line 4, B. Pattison (cond.) 5.

KINGSTHORPE, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. E. Frost (cond.) 1, J. Felce 2, F. Benfield 3, F. Joyce 4, J. Payne 5, D. F. Wright 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. H. Clarke.

LAMBETH, S.E.—On Dec. 4th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. A. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender 2, A. W. J. Butler 3, F. Ranson 4, N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 5, F. P. Mead 6, J. Hales 7, L. W. Bullocks 8. For Evensong.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Pryke 1, L. Pryke 2, S. H. Symonds (cond.) 3, S. Smith 4, F. Boreham 5, F. Mortlock 6, W. Jarvis 7, L. Offord 8. A birthday compliment to L. Pryke.

LEICESTER.—At St. Margaret's Church (on the Margaret eight), on Dec. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. Kirk (first of Stedman) 1, E. Morris 2, J. B. Bennett 3, Barbara A. Endall 4, E. J. Clements 5, P. Walker (cond.) 6, G. A. Olliffe 7, T. H. Bent 8. For Evensong, also to mark the engagement of the 3rd and 4th ringers.

LEIGH, GLOS.—On Nov. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Palfrey (first quarter) 1, Miss S. M. Parsons 2, K. Poulton 3, D. W. Beard (cond.) 4, W. H. Poulton 5, H. E. Poulton 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of S. J. Hughes, a ringer at this church for many years.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.—On Dec. 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: L. E. Last 1, C. R. Smith 2, L. Batley 3, C. A. Hughes 4, J. Armstrong 5, J. H. Crampion (cond.) 6, E. D. Smith 7, C. E. Willmington 8.

LISS, HANTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): T. Riley 1, H. E. Tice 2, H. J. Newman 3, D. Wheeler (first 'inside') 4, A. Betsworth (cond.) 5, B. Brown (first quarter) 6, P. Heath 7, W. Baker (first quarter) 8. For Advent Sunday.

MEREWORTH, KENT.—On Nov. 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Ann Chantler 1, T. Warner 2, J. Medhurst 3, C. Saunders 4, G. Fry 5, H. H. Osborne (cond.) 6.

MONKS KIRBY, WARWICKS.—On Nov. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs W. Vann 1, M. Chown 2, T. Pittham 3, J. Underwood 4, S. Merry 5, S. G. Osborne (cond.) 6, C. Underwood 7, W. Southam 8. Rung for Church Market.

OXENDON, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Gilbert (first quarter away from covering bell) 1, A. Flutter 2, E. Storey 3, D. Griffin 4, A. Millward (cond.) 5.

OXFORD.—On Dec. 4th, at St. Thomas' Church, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: D. H. Niblett 1, D. J. Roaf 2, Miss E. M. T. Powell 3, D. A. Edwards 4, J. J. P. Ellams 5, P. R. Sanders (cond.) 6. First of Kent Minor by all.

PAKENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: L. Melton 1, L. Pierce 2, L. Nice 3, K. G. Brown (cond.) 4, H. King 5.

PAULERSPUY, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Smart 1, Miss K. Ballard 2, W. Yates (cond.) 3, P. Foster 4, J. Foster 5, A. Kingston 6. Rung as a compliment to Mr. W. Yates and Miss K. Ballard on their engagement.

READING, BERKS.—On Dec. 11th, at the Church of St. Giles, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Twydale 1, Miss S. Cope 2, Miss D. Gibbons 3, J. White 4, R. Turner (cond.) 5, J. Coates (first quarter) 6.

RICHMOND, YORKS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Judith Rodber (first quarter) 1, Doris M. Killingley 2, B. Harris 3, C. J. Herbert 4, G. Holmes (cond.) 5, M. P. Hammond (first of Doubles) 6. Rung as a compliment to the conductor on completing 50 years as a ringer at this church.

RICKINGHALL, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,320 Double Oxford Bob Minor: R. Francis 1, L. Sharpe 2, C. Orves 3, A. Cook 4, J. Bailey 5, K. G. Brown (cond.) 6.

RUGBY, WARWICKS.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Howitt (first quarter) 1, Mrs. W. Vann 2, G. A. Peck 3, W. Vann (cond.) 4, C. Underwood 5, A. R. Pocklington 6, S. G. Osborne 7, J. Click 8. For patronal festival. Also on Dec. 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Vann (cond.) 1, C. Underwood 2, Mrs. W. Vann 3, S. Merry 4, S. G. Osborne 5, J. Underwood 6, A. R. Pocklington 7, J. Click 8. For Confirmation.

ST. IPPOLYTS, HERTS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,440 Bourne Surprise Minor: P. Jackson 1, L. Runnacles 2, A. C. Harris 3, G. Cherry 4, K. C. Timbury 5, F. W. Croft (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

SHARESHILL, STAFFS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss L. Butler (first quarter) 1, A. Armstrong 2, J. Allen 3, H. Butler 4, G. Bradbury (cond.) 5, M. H. Butler 6. Rung as a 12th birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

SHOREDITCH, E.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Nov. 27th, 1,311 Stedman Cinques: Mrs. T. H. Francis 1, Mrs. F. J. Matthews 2, Mrs. R. F. Deal 3, Miss A. Bailey 4, T. H. Francis (cond.) 5, D. Priestley 6, F. E. Hawthorne 7, F. D. Bishop 8, A. P. Cave 9, A. R. Ling 10, J. R. Leeming 11, F. J. Matthews 12. Rung for the dedication of the new east window.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On Nov. 27th, at St. Thomas' Church, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Norman (first quarter) 1, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 2, Mrs. B. G. Warwick 3, R. Jolley 4, J. M. Jolley 5, B. S. Chapman 6. For Evensong on Advent Sunday.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—At St. Thomas' Church, on Dec. 11th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Jill Tombs 1, P. W. Webb (first in method) 2, A. L. Dunn 3, F. V. Nicholls 4, J. R. Niblett 5, R. Smith (cond.) 6, R. Cooper 7, D. H. Watson 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Watson for the gift of twins (Nicholas and Stephen), born on December 7th, 1955.

STREATHAM, S.W.—At the Church of Immanuel, on Nov. 27th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss M. Cox 1, Mrs. J. Calvert 2, J. Rea 3, G. Parsons 4, J. W. Euston 5, S. Howard 6, D. Woodham 7, E. G. Talbot (cond.) 8.

SWINDON, WILTS.—On Dec. 11th, at Christ Church, 1,360 Kent Treble Bob Royal: H. Craig (first of Royal) 1, Mrs. F. Wilton 2, R. G. Townsend 3, G. W. Townsend 4, R. C. Westney (first of Royal) 5, F. Wilton 6, T. Townsend 7, E. J. Berry 8, W. W. T. Daniell 9, E. Sutton (first in method as cond.) 10. Rung to mark the completion of 60 years' ringing at Christ Church of Mr. C. J. Gardner, who is still an active ringer but was indisposed.

TETTENHALL, STAFFS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss C. Slater (first quarter) 1, Miss B. Falkiner (first 'inside') 2, R. Humphries (first 'inside') 3, E. Southwick 4, A. G. Newman (first as cond.) 5, H. Harris 6.

TYRINGHAM, BUCKS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: A. A. Armstrong 1, Miss E. Sharp 2, S. G. Birch 3, F. Orchard 4, V. Adams (cond.) 5. An 82nd birthday compliment to J. Sturges, churchwarden at St. Peter's, Tyingham.

WEEDON BEC, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 10th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. Baker 1, V. Perry 2, A. Millward 3, D. Griffin 4, R. Seaton 5, S. Brown 6, E. Orland 7, M. Amos (cond.) 8. First quarter on eight bells for 1, 5 and 6.

WIVELSFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sept. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Truran 1, Agnes F. Millam 2, B. J. Harfield 3, Anne W. J. Harfield 4, Edna M. Everest (first as cond.) 5, Dilys M. Smith 6. Rung for the harvest festival.

OBITUARY

MR. ALFRED W. HEATH

The death occurred on December 15th of Mr. Alfred W. Heath (affectionately known to most ringers as 'Bill'), of Cardiff. A native of Somerset, he learnt to ring at Bridstow in Hereford. He came to Cardiff and joined the city's Fire Service, of which he was a member until his retirement a few years ago.

For over 50 years he was a member of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, and was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and National Police Guild. He was a regular ringer at St. John's, Cardiff, until the last two years when he was forced to give up ringing owing to ill-health.

Mr. Heath had rung a fair number of peals, but his duties while in the Fire Service limited his opportunity for peals. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues at St. John's and neighbouring towers.

F. J. H.

Mr. O. J. Hunt's Last Peal

Dear Sir,—Reading the obituary of Oswald J. Hunt, and mention of his last peal in 1937, brought to memory a very fine peal—a peal as near to perfection as one could wish for—not a misblow or a word spoken, from start to finish. Conducted by the late T. B. Worsley, the band consisted of O. J. Hunt, J. Fearney, A. J. Brown, C. Gudgeon, T. B. Worsley, D. Vincent, C. K. Lewis and N. Heaps.

This is the kind of memory we in North Cheshire and South Lancashire have of Oswald J. Hunt. He was a fine ringer and always good company. We regret his bad health did not allow him to do more peal ringing.—Yours, etc.,

ALAN J. BROWN.

Bowdon.

AN EAST ANGLIAN ATTEMPT

An eagerly-awaited event was successfully fulfilled on December 10th, when eight members of the Hertford County Association travelled in three cars to Elveden, Suffolk, for a peal attempt.

Prior to the commencement of the attempt we were kindly shown over Elveden Hall, which proved very interesting. We then proceeded to the memorial tower of SS. Andrew and Peter and rang an excellent peal of Bristol.

Following the peal we were admirably entertained to an excellent dinner, which was much appreciated by all. The journey home was somewhat eventful as the third car unfortunately took the wrong road and had to take a roundabout route, which included a stop by the police to enquire whether we had any turkeys on board!

However, the day was successfully concluded and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Thanks are extended to the organiser and his 'contacts' at Elveden for the grand reception.

Total mileage was 160.

K. R. D.

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

When the Melton District of the Leicester Guild met at Eaton on November 26th, they had the pleasure of meeting the new Vicar, the Rev. S. G. Turner, and Mrs. Turner. The Vicar's wife is the daughter of Mr. F. S. Macey, of Sutton Valence, Kent, and ringers in the district hope that Mr. Macey will be a frequent visitor to Eaton Vicarage. He was present when Mr. Turner was inducted, and took part in the ringing at Eaton.

The Melton District of the Leicester Diocesan Guild comprises 17 towers, of which all but three are sixes and fives. Melton is the only town covered, and the members feel proud to be able to achieve an attendance of 70 at their district dinner on December 3rd.

MELBOURNE RINGERS' ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of St. Paul's Cathedral Society of Changeringers, Melbourne, Australia, was held on August 31st in the tower. The Very Rev. Dr. S. Barton Babbage, Dean of Melbourne, presided, and 20 members were present. The Dean opened the meeting with prayers, and Mr. J. Roper welcomed him.

Dr. Babbage thanked Mr. Roper for his words of welcome, and on behalf of the Chapter thanked the Society for its work.

After the treasurer's report and balance sheet were accepted, the election of new members took place; those accepted were the Misses F. Eggleton, M. Kemp, D. Scarlett, E. Scarlett, F. Sheppard and Mr. K. Lindsay.

In his report, the captain, Mr. J. Roper (who had been acting as captain since early July, after the departure of Mr. P. Gray to England), stated that since the last annual meeting, the Society had lost four members, viz.: Miss Valerie Willard, Miss B. Beeson and Mr. and Mrs. P. Gray, all having returned to their native land, England. Their departure had left a gap in the Society, which would not be easy to fill. Although the Society had lost four members, the membership was still substantial, there being a number of enthusiastic learners; however, there was still a need for an increase in membership.

Mr. Roper concluded his report by saying that if the Society is to maintain its standard of ringing, the forthcoming year would be one of perseverance and teamwork, and he hoped that each member would attend practice nights and Sunday service ringing regularly.

In the absence of the steeplekeeper, the secretary read the steeplekeeper's report, and stated that, except for a rope breaking on a number of occasions, the bells were in good order.

The Rev. H. H. Gurvan proposed and Miss B. Sheppard seconded that the Society record its appreciation to Miss V. Willard and Miss B. Beeson for their work with the Society.

The election of officers for 1955-56 resulted as follows: Captain, J. Roper; vice-captain, B. Sheppard; secretary, K. Minchinton; treasurer, N. Wilson; steeplekeeper, A. Bennett; assistant steeplekeepers, T. Bennett and D. Cornish; librarian, J. Willis; auditor, Rev. H. H. Gurvan.

It was decided that a peal board recording the peal of Plain Bob Major rung on Sunday, April 17th, 1955, be printed and framed.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. J. Willis for his work in compiling the 'History of the Society.' Mr. J. Roper thanked the Dean for presiding, and at the conclusion of business supper was served.

THE 1956 OLYMPIC GAMES

Melbourne is very proud to have been chosen to play host to the world at the 1956 Olympic Games. It will be a very big event in the life of this city, and all Australia is working to make it a huge success.

The team from St. Paul's Cathedral are also keen to organise special ringing, and we would be pleased to hear from any ringers who will be coming over from England for the Games.

Our present team is not strong enough for peal ringing, and although we will have ringers from other states over for the occasion, it would also be a great help to us to have visiting ringers from overseas.

If ringers are coming over for the Games, which we are confident will be the best ever held since their inauguration, would they please let us know as soon as possible, stating where they are likely to be staying and the extent of their ringing ability.

The address is: Hon. Secretary, St. Paul's Cathedral Bellingrings, St. Paul's Cathedral, Flinders Street, Melbourne, Australia.

LATE NOTICES

BIRTH

GILBERT.—On December 18th, 1955, to Joyce and John Gilbert, of Sheffield, a daughter, Judith Jane. 7512

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE.—Offers required for ring of 12 handbells. Perfect condition.—R. Hansted, 15, Mavis Crescent, Havant, Hants. 7500

MEETINGS

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Annual general meeting. St. Peter's (8), Bedford, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. in St. Peter's Hall. Usual business of election of officers, etc., so a really good attendance is absolutely essential. No names no tea. St. Paul's (10) after meeting.—Peter Shipton, Sec., 16a, Kimbolton Road, Bedford. 7509

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting at Whitnash on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea early to H. M. Windsor, The Bakery, Long Itchington, near Rugby. 7507

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Annual meeting at Cambridge, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells: St. Andrew-the-Great (8), 3 to 4.30 p.m.; service 4.30; R.C. (8), 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Benet's (6), 2.30 to 4 p.m. and 6.30 to 8 p.m.; St. Mary-the-Great, 7 to 8 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. in St. Andrew's Parish Room, Emmanuel Road.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 7503

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Annual meeting at the Cathedral on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Ringing from 3 to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards. Half-hour service in the Cathedral, 4 to 4.30 p.m. Tea provided, nominal charge. Names for tea to Mr. Charles W. Blakey, 133, Ormerod Street, Accrington, not later than Wednesday, Jan. 4th. Meeting to follow tea. Everyone welcome. 7504

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, All Saints', Wigan (10), Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30. Own arrangements for tea. Cafés nearby.—M. E. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Annual general meeting at East Haddon, Jan. 7th. Names for tea to me by Tuesday previous, please.—W. J. Kinchin, Hon. Sec., Main Street, Yelvertoft, Rugby. 7506

HAMPSTEAD.—Ringers' Evensong on Sunday, Jan. 8th, at St. Stephen's, Pond Street, Hampstead. Ringing from 5.15 p.m. Refreshments in Church Hall after service.—T. Bevan. 7510

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Saturday, Jan. 14th, quarterly meeting at Barming (6). Bells 2.45. Other details later.—R. L. Sills, The Square, Wrotham. 7505

LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.—Annual meeting at Houghton-le-Spring on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. W. Sheraton, 27, St. Aidan's Terrace, New Herrington, Houghton-le-Spring, by Thursday, Jan. 12th. 7502

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, Jan. 14th. St. George's bells from 2.30 to 4 p.m. and 6.30 to 8 p.m. St. Peter Mancroft, 3.45 to 4.15 and in evening. Service at St. Peter Mancroft 4.15. Tea in Chantry Hall, 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. Nolan Golden, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich, by Wednesday, Jan. 11th, please.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec. 7501

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davertry Branch.—Annual branch meeting will be held at Daventry on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Important: names for tea to me by Saturday, Jan. 7th.—F. W. Hancock, Willoughby, Rugby.

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.

ENGAGEMENT

WATERS—HAFFENDEN.—The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Waters, of Bishopsdale Farm, Biddenden, Kent, and Jill, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Haffenden, Church Green, Marden, Kent. 7493

DEATH

JENNISON.—On Dec. 10th, 1955, at his home, 98, St. Albans Road, Bulwell, Thomas Jennison, aged 81, passed peacefully away after a short illness. A regular service ringer at St. Mary's Church for nearly 50 years. 7480

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

Sincere greetings for the New Year to all ringers.—Stafford Green. 7499

The ringers of St. Paul's Cathedral Society of Change Ringers, Melbourne, Australia, extend to all ringers their best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year. A cordial welcome awaits any ringer attending the 1956 Olympic Games.—K. J. Minchinton, Hon. Sec. 7477

PUBLICATIONS

AN IDEAL GIFT

'TOWERS AND BELLS OF BRITAIN.'—This beautifully produced book will soon be out of print. Obtain your copy now, before too late. Direct from the author: Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. Price 21s. net. 7100

NOW AVAILABLE.—Central Council's Collection of Doubles Methods. Price 2s. post free from Miss P. J. Ayris, 10, Sherwood Close, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED TO BUY.—Back files of 'The Ringing World' that include at least last year; a copy of Morris' 'History and Art of Change Ringing'; any books on the theory or practice of change ringing.—David Dickinson, R.D. 1, Box 102A, State College, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. 7483

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

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

MEETINGS

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

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Practice meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on Monday, Jan. 2nd, at 7 p.m. One minute from Tottenham Court Road tube station.—T. J. Lock. 7479

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Annual meeting at Bridgwater, Jan. 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea to R. Short, Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater. 7487

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

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Annual meeting, Quedgley, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Meeting follows tea. Notify for tea by Jan. 3rd.—A. Lynall, Marlyn, Ermin Park, Brockworth, Gloucester. 7488

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kingston District.—Annual meeting at Staunton-on-Arrow. Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells (6) 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Names early, please, to J. Preece, Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow. 7496

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. Collision, 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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Monthly practice meeting at Hornby (8 bells), Saturday, Jan. 7th. Ringing 2.30–7.30. Tea at 4.30. Names for tea to E. Goth, 14, Main Street, Hornby, near Lancaster.—R. F. Eccles, Branch Secretary. 7498

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Annual general meeting, Sibley, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by the 5th, please, to Mr. Draper, Highgate Road. 7484

LINCOLN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District).—Annual meeting, Metheringham. Jan. 7th. Tea for those who notify me by Wednesday previous.—C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 7476

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Longton, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea—cafes close to church.—E. H. Edge, Hon. Sec. 7489

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice at Wargrave on Jan. 7th at 6 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 7478

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—Annual meeting, Thrapston (8), Jan. 7th. Names for teas by Tuesday previous, please.—L. R. C. Witten, 4, John's Street, Thrapston, Kettering. 7482

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting at 6 o'clock at the St. Martin's Hotel, Jamaica Row, on January 7th. Bells available—Cathedral (12) 4 to 5 p.m., St. Martin's (12) 5 to 6 p.m.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec. Phone: SPR 1025. 7481

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual meeting, Devizes (three towers), Jan. 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Service. Tea. Names to F. Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 7497

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.—C. W. Towers. 7476

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Cuckfield (8), Jan. 7th. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, Jan. 4th, to I. Butcher, East Bungalow, Paddockhurst, near Crawley. 7492

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. Acorn bells (6) available after tea.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 7494

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Annual meeting at Marsden (10), Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Bells until 9 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Thursday previous, to Mr. D. B. Cater, Newlands, 7, Lane Ings, Marsden, Huddersfield. 7490

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Midsomer Norton, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. It is essential that names for tea be sent by the 11th. The Master of the Association will give the address.—E. J. Chivers, Wingles, Chilcompton. 7495

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Annual meeting at Soham on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Fordham bells (6) available after tea. Names for tea, please, by Jan. 7th, to R. J. Housden, 20, Carter Road, Burwell, Cambs.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec. 7463

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Annual meeting at St. Peter's, Colchester, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and business in St. Peter's Hall. St. Leonard's (6) also available except during service and meeting. Names for tea by the 11th, please, to H. J. Millatt, 301, Harwich Road, Colchester. 7486

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes (10), on Jan. 14th. Ringing 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5, followed by business meeting, election of officers. Ladies, please support: gentlemen cordially invited. Names for tea, please, to Mr. R. C. Hide, 1, Priory Place, Southover, Lewes, by Wednesday, Jan. 11th.—Kathleen Yeo, Hon. Sec. 7474

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Overseale, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify J. W. Cotton, Overseale (264), Burton-on-Trent. 7491

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Bodicote (5), Jan. 14th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please notify E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury, Oxon. 7485

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Annual meeting at Retford, Saturday, Jan. 14th. East Retford (10), West Retford (6) and Ordsall (6) from 2.30. Service in East Retford Church at 4.30. Plenty of cafes in town. Meeting in East Retford belfry at 6 p.m.—H. Denman. 7494

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