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The Church of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol

OUR COVER PICTURE

The Church of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol

By ALAN P. HANCOCK

THE parish church of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, is generally accepted as one of finest examples of Gothic architecture in England. Indeed, Queen Elizabeth I, in 1574, described it as "the fairest, goodliest and most famous parish church in England." Later, in 1628, Charles I declared: "The parish church of Redcliffe for the foundation structures and buildings thereof is one of the most famous absolute fairest and goodliest parish churches within the realm of England."

Numerous quotations have been made before and since; sufficient to sum up with the phrase used by Thomas Chatterton, the boy poet: "The pride of Bristowe (Bristol) and the western land." The Rowley poems were written by Chatterton in the muniment room over the north porch and the church manuscripts were used as his parchments.

On the south side of the River Avon are the Red Cliffs and it is from the latter that the name originated; the church is that of St. Mary on the Red Cliff. It is hard to realise now that the "suburb of Redcliffe," as Pensvor described it, was once a separate entity from the city of Bristol. The River Avon separated them, Bristol being on the north bank and Redcliffe on the south. It was in Redcliffe that the wealthy merchants had their dwellings, wharves and warehouses. This glorious building, dedicated in honour of St. Mary, was the offering made to God by generation after generation of these men, among whom were Edward Colston, John Cabot and William Canynges.

The main features of the present church are its grandeur and the excellence of the proportions and the perfect symmetry of the cruciform design worked in ashlar blocks of stone from nearby Dundry. The roof is adorned by a variety of individual sculptured bosses which number about 1,200 and are covered with pure gold.

1,200 SCULPTURED BOSSES

The origins of the church are uncertain, but it is known that the inner north porch and the tower base are 12th century. The remainder of the church, with exception of the cloistery, the roof and eastern bay of the Lady Chapel, is 13th and 14th century. The last are 15th century. The present-day building was completed by the addition of the two upper stages of the spire in 1872. The capstone stands 292 feet above ground level, it measures 12 feet across and weighs over a ton.

Various catastrophes have befallen the building during the ages. In 1446 the spire was struck by lightning and the top two-thirds of it crashed to the ground. This brought about the first great restoration,

which was undertaken by William Canynges, a wealthy merchant. Further restorations have been required since then, the next being in the late 17th century, which brought about the Georgian appearance. The third great restoration of the church took place between 1840 and 1870, when the stonework was completely restored. The fourth took place between 1930 and 1933, when Lord Dulverton made himself responsible for the completion of the whole exterior restoration. In recent years the tower fabric has been completely restored and the rest of the church building washed down.

HEAVY BELLS

The earliest record of a ring of bells being present in the tower of St. Mary Redcliffe is from notes made by William Wyrcestre, about 1480, which stated that Redcliffe had six bells, the heaviest of which (tenor 62 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.; 5th about 44 cwt.; 4th about 30 cwt.) were equal in weight to those placed in St. Paul's Cathedral in the 19th century, when they were considered to be the heaviest ring in the world.

Since this early record of bells being present additions and alterations have been completed. In 1572 William Jeffers recast the 4th bell for £8. The next major work on the bells was undertaken in 1622 by Roger Purdue, who recast the tenor (42 cwt. 27 lb.) and the 5th (28 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.). The latter is still present in the tower as the 11th in the ring of 12. Not long after the recasting of the bells a new cage was erected. A ring of eight was achieved in 1698 when two new bells were cast by Abraham Rudhall. In 1763, Thomas Bilbie, one of the well-known founders of Chew Stoke, Somerset, recast the four middle bells. The ring of eight was made up to ten in 1823 by Thomas Mears of Whitechapel, London. Meanwhile the tenor had been recast at some time since 1622 and weighs 39 cwt.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank cast another two bells in 1872 (1st and 3rd) bringing the ring up to twelve. In 1888 Taylors, following consultation, rehung the bells in a new frame which for the first time introduced iron girders into the framework. At the beginning of the present century Taylors rehung the bells in a completely new frame of steel. The tenor and eight other bells were recast at this time and constitute the present ring of twelve with the tenor weighing 52 cwt. In 1951 a flat sixth was added to give a middle ring of eight, the tenor of which weighs approximately 19 cwt. This bell was placed as a memorial to Relf G. Morgan, organist at the church for 43 years.

Photo by Headley Price

THE RINGING WORLD

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DOUBLES NOTICE AMENDMENT

Dear Sir,—I wish to give notice that I shall propose the following amendments to the motion proposed by Mr. C. A. Lewis on the C.C. Agenda:—

- (a) That para. 4 and 5 be taken separately from para. 1, 2 and 3.
- (b) That para. 1, 2 and 3 be amended to read as follows:—

- (1) In the case of Doubles only, a variation be defined as the use in a plain method of calls other than the standard calls for that method. The resulting bobbed or singled lead must not by itself constitute a plain lead of another method. Each variation to be given its own name.

- (2) The variation must by itself be capable of producing the 120 true changes. Peal reports must draw a clear distinction between methods and variations, either by separate listing or, for example, "Plain Bob, New Bob, Old Variation, Eynsham Variation, etc."

- (3) One variation with one or more methods, or two or more variations with or without methods, may be rung in one extent, provided that the plain courses of all the variations and methods in the extent are different, and that there is included at least one of each of the plain lead and different calls for each of the different variations and methods rung in the extent.

I understand that the usual procedure is for the chairman to call to the floor for a seconder to an amendment.—Yours faithfully,

F. T. BLAGROVE.

57, St. Andrew's Crescent, Windsor.

Ely's Traditional Easter Monday

THE tradition of the Ely Diocesan Association of holding its festival on Easter Monday was observed this year when, after a round of visiting the many towers open, a large company assembled at Fordham for the service, the tea and business meeting.

At the meeting, presided over by Mr. W. W. Cousin, the traditional Bank Holiday gathering was challenged. The first proposal was for the business meeting to be held on the Saturday after Easter. This was withdrawn when a further proposition was made that the meeting should be held with similar arrangements as at present on a Saturday after Easter. Put to the vote, it was narrowly defeated. Finally, a proposal that the meeting should be held on Easter Monday with similar arrangements as at present was carried by a good majority. It is hoped to visit the Cambridge District next year.

The report for 1967, presented by Mr. H. S. Peacock, was again one of progress and showed a slight increase in membership. They were pleased to welcome one hon. clerical member, 21 non-resident members and 88 resident member. On the debit side they had some who had not paid their subscriptions for 1967.

The obituaries included George W. Johnson (Hilgay), Stanley Faircliffe (Burwell), Arthur J. Ginn (Over), Harry A. Piggins (Wisbech), J. P. Stocker (St. Ives), H. W. Pratt (St. Ives), H. Sherman (Great Gransden).

Only 29 peals were rung for the Association, reported Mr. G. Pearson (peal secretary), com-

pared with 56 in 1966. These comprised: Royal 1, Major 18, Triples 1, Minor 9. Eighteen towers were visited—Aspenden for the first time. Eighty members took part in peals, with over half only appearing once. There were five first-pealers and one first as conductor. The leading peal ringer was D. F. Murfet with 15 peals, and the leading conductor was D. E. Sibson. The Trumpington Tuesday band had now rung all A. J. Pitman's all-the-work Spliced Surprise Major in four methods to nine methods, and thanks were extended to D. E. Sibson for travelling regularly from London to Cambridge to conduct these complicated one-part compositions.

A paragraph in the report congratulated George Thoday on being the leading peal ringer of the Exercise in 1966. The reports were adopted.

The officers were re-elected with grateful thanks for their past services. They were: General secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. S. Peacock; peal secretary, Mr. G. Pearson; auditor, Mr. A. J. Davey.

Two appeals for money for restoration work were received, but owing to the amount of work in their own diocese it was decided that neither could be supported.

The service in the Church of SS. Peter and Mary Magdalene was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. J. Cole), Mrs. W. W. Cousins was the organist. The tea, attended by over 100, was served in the Victoria Hall.

The meeting closed with a sincere vote of thanks to all who had made the day a success and this was acclaimed by all. H.S.P.

Commentary — The Price of Privilege

By K. H. FLEMING

RECENTLY when holding a conversation with a Rector of a local church I was astounded when he came out with the following statement: "I would have thought that if bellringers wish to guarantee the long-term future of their art they would seriously be considering purchasing private towers with bells in various parts of the country."

You may be as initially shocked to the same extent as I was, but like me, if you allow a few days (or weeks) for this statement to fit into perspective, in view of one's own local experience, then you may also come to think that he has a much more enlightened outlook of the future than the greater majority of ringers. Of course, the conversation did not end on this controversial point—he was trying to put over the church planning authorities' view in a discussion on future building needs of the church. The planners are not just obsessed with the idea of building churches without towers, etc., but are governed by one hard fact—MONEY.

Also the likely outcome of recommendations of the publication entitled "The 1970 Report" were mentioned. This Report deals with diocesan reorganisation and long-term planning. If you think of your own locality I am sure there are many examples (especially in towns) where the future of some churches is bound to come in for question in the next few years. Should the church authorities try and maintain these old buildings in the centre of decentralised towns

and keep open others serving a fast lapsing congregation in small villages, or should they accept the challenge of the future and move and build in the fast-growing modern suburbs, thereby sounding the death knell for the older buildings?

No matter how prejudiced a ringer is, he will have to accept that this is going to happen, and provide the answer to the question, "Why not install bells in these modern new buildings?" The inevitable answer is MONEY.

Like the majority of readers, I for one was thrilled to read the article accompanying the picture in a recent issue of the "R.W." about the restoration of the bells of Edington Priory, and cannot help thinking this is the answer to the ringers' dream. But can we in all honesty expect to read of many more places undertaking such a colossal task? I doubt it very much.

In my opinion, although I may sound like a "prophet of doom," I can only foresee a lot of hard work (with sleeves rolled up and spanner in hand) and ringers having to give far more in terms of Money for the privilege which they enjoy at present in order to keep towers and bells in a condition for ringing. An excellent example of just what can and must be done was given in the same issue of the "R.W." by the Epsom ringers, and as I see it this is the pattern for the future. I do not wish to generalise, but my own local experience of what bell ringers as a collective body give in terms of hard cash when a restoration or augmentation takes place hardly

covers the cost of the bell-hangers' first journey from the foundry to the church in question.

Ringers should realise that their future is at stake, and that the only position they can afford to be in when arguing with the church planning authority over the future of a particular ring of bells is one of sound financial backing accompanied by the ability to take any practical step (hard work) necessary. This second ability not only helps in purely practical terms but also saves money.

Now I can hear a great wail going up that by doing a lot of any practical work necessary ourselves we would be entering into competition with the bellfounders, but before these people shout too loudly they should remember that the most costly item on any restoration bill is time (or labour). Just send a T.V. for repair and see which is the most costly item on the bill.

The Church as a body is at present undergoing considerable strain with not only the problem of future building needs but with a world full of troubles of war, famine and racial tension. Whilst we as ringers also face these same problems, being members of that Church, we must be prepared to face our own personal problem of the approaching serious challenge to the future of our art. Each and every ringer, of whatever means in life, must ask himself and herself just how much they are prepared to do and how much they are prepared to give in the hard terms of action and money for the privilege which they enjoy at present.

Suffolk Guild Push for 500 Members

AN objective of a membership of 500 by 1970 was put before the Suffolk Guild at its annual general meeting at Stowmarket on April 20th. Membership had again increased, by 37, and totalled 404 together with 20 probationers.

A change in the officers arose through the resignation of Mr. Andrew T. Beckwith, who had been hon. secretary and treasurer for the past four years. His successor is the Rev. Lawrence R. Pizzey, of Bramford Lodge, Bramford, Ipswich, who is assistant curate at Bramford.

The meeting attracted a large gathering of members and visiting ringers, who made good use of the 18 towers which were available from mid-day.

The Vicar of Stowmarket, the Rev. A. A. Muxlow, conducted a service in the Parish Church commencing at 4.15 p.m., at which the preacher was the Bishop of Dunwich (the Rt. Rev. D. R. Maddock). The service was preceded by a course of Grandsire Triples "in hand," and the lessons were read by the Ringing Master (Mr. G. W. Pipe) and Mr. Oliver G. Barnard. The congregation numbered 150.

Tea was served in the neighbouring Church Hall, where the Bishop and Mrs. Maddock were guests of the Guild.

The chairman, Mr. John W. Blythe, opened the business meeting by welcoming visitors from Warwickshire, Northants, Essex and Norfolk. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. G. Goodship, H. W. H. Leather, Dr. S. G. C. Harrison and the Horringer ringers.

Minutes of the 1967 annual general meeting at Beccles were read, approved and adopted. There were no matters arising.

LOSSES BY DEATH

A short period of silence was observed to the memory of those members and friends of the Guild who had passed on during the past year. These were Charles Bailey (Beccles), Mrs. Arthur Ballam (West Stow), Fred Boreham (Lavenham), Arthur Cuthbert (Wickham Market), William Faiers (Lavenham), Percy Marjoram (Tuddenham), Cecil Marriott (Ipswich), Arthur Moore (Bury St. Edmunds), John Stokes (Beccles) and Claud Woodard (St. Margaret's, Ipswich).

The Ringing Master, Mr. G. W. Pipe, said how pleased he was to see the improved relationships with the clergy and the increased membership during the past year. He illustrated the fluctuations in membership by the use of a graph and added that a membership of 500 by 1970 was a very real possibility. He also expressed pleasure at the increased support for the striking competition, the 12 teams at Horringer being the largest number entering so far. Twelve members had rung their first peal and four members had called their first peal.

The hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. Andrew Beckwith, also expressed his satisfaction at the increase in membership and congratulated the Guild on the promptness of payment of subscriptions. He urged members not to be hesitant about taking office in a District capacity and felt the experience to be gained in so doing was invaluable and often boosted a District when new enthusiasm was needed. On the financial side, the General Account was satisfactory and recorded a balance of £204 0s. 2d.

RESTORATION FUND HEALTHY

The Restoration Fund was in a very healthy state, the total income over the past year being £88 4s. 9d., making a balance of £240 13s. 7d. Funds had benefited by £16 12s. 6d. from the social at Bramford and there had been one or two other generous donations. A grant of £20 had been awarded to Stowmarket, and one of £25 had been promised for St. Mary's, Bungay.

The secretary then said that owing to having commenced business on his own account recently he was unable to spare the leisure time to cope with duties as he would like, and therefore would not be seeking re-election. He had made his decision known at the last committee meeting and the members present

had given most ready assent to his recommended successor. He concluded by thanking everyone for helping him during the past four years and for the welcome which he had always received.

The technical adviser (Mr. Ranald Clouston) said inspections had been carried out in six towers during the past year, as published in the annual report. He felt that as he resided out of the county a resident assistant would be of great help to him and asked if any keen young and agile member who had mechanical leanings would care to get in touch with him. Mr. Clouston also said that he felt that his approval should be given to completed restoration work before grants were paid. He hoped that the committee would give support to this suggestion.

Mr. Hubert Mitson gave details of the Pearson handbells, which were on loan, on behalf of the trustees, and added that £3 had been collected during the past year towards maintenance.

The aforementioned reports were accepted and approved with thanks to the respective officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice-presidents.—With the exception of Mr. Charles E. Fisher, who had passed away recently, the following vice-presidents were all re-elected: The Ven. T. R. Browne, Messrs. Bert Chilvers, Cecil W. Pipe, H. Claude Rush, Charles J. Sedgley and George E. Symonds. The meeting elected two new vice-presidents—Samuel Twitchett (Clare) and Andrew T. Beckwith (Ipswich).

Chairman.—Mr. C. W. Pipe occupied the chair during this election, and there were proposals for Mr. Blythe to accept office again and also a proposition that Mr. George Pipe become chairman. On being put to the vote a large majority voted in favour of Mr. Blythe continuing in office.

Ringing Master.—Mr. George W. Pipe was re-elected unanimously.

Hon. secretary and treasurer.—Following Mr. Beckwith's decision not to seek re-election, the chairman moved the election of the Rev. Lawrence R. Pizzey to fill the vacancy on behalf of the committee. The retiring secretary seconded the proposal and the meeting carried the election unanimously.

Hon. technical adviser.—Mr. Ranald W. M. Clouston was re-elected unanimously.

Report Editor.—Rev. Lawrence Pizzey proposed that Mr. Alan R. Bridges become Report Editor, and this was seconded by Mr. Hubert Mitson and carried.

Pearson's Handbell Trustees.—Dr. S. G. C. Harrison and Mr. Hubert A. Mitson were re-elected.

Hon. Auditor.—Mr. J. W. H. Preastner was re-elected as Guild auditor.

Mr. George Pipe proposed that the 1969 annual general meeting should be held at Bury St. Edmunds on April 12th. Mr. C. Stannard seconded and the proposal was carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Leslie Mills said he thought that election of Guild officers should be on proposals from members to their respective District meetings, and recommendations would be conveyed by District officers or other representatives to the general committee and thence to the annual meeting. Mr. Peter Bedford proposed that elections continue as at present and this was carried.

Mr. Cecil Pipe remarked on the complacent attitude of the St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, P.C.C. with regard to restoration of the ring of 12 bells. He proposed that a resolution be sent from the Guild stressing the urgency of

M.U.G.'s ANNUAL DINNER

NOT even "the sweetness of the grass and the tenderness of the moonlight" could convince the group of visitors in Fallowfield of the advantages of an airy night prior to their ringing on March 9th. Perhaps the array of the Saturday's mis-events will persuade us all to have a quiet "night before" next time. Despite the early morning fog, a Guild peal was rung at Marsden, its late start causing disruption to most of the other ringing arrangements.

In the evening, however, most managed to arrive at the Waldorf at the appropriate hour, and order prevailed. After an excellent meal, the president, Brian Tomlinson, offered the loyal toast and then invited the first speech from the steeplekeeper, David Ley. In the traditional proposal of the toast of "The Church," traditionally used as a mouthpiece of challenge to the Church, David introduced some well-chosen extracts from Birmingham University's Rag magazine. This was applauded, in part, by a tiny handbell, smuggled into the dinner by an ex-Master!

The reply came from the Rev. Alan Overall, the Rector of Sacred Trinity, Salford (our home tower), who took the challenge and put it down—much to the amusement of the company—and proceeded with further interesting tales. The secretary, Chris Munday, turned quips on almost all resident members—except his hand to a poem which seemed to include himself! He ended by proposing the toast of "The Visitors," and Graham Jones, of Leeds University, replied on their behalf.

Paul Coddington, of Lancaster University, proposed the toast of "The Guild," and amongst the funnies (a cleverly innovated mod speech), was a story which, he claimed, had been related by a past secretary three years previously. Discussion afterwards proved his point, and it was suggested that, for those who want to hear it again, it should be made a triennial tale. Unfortunately it cannot be included here!

The Master replied on behalf of the Guild, expressing his surprise that the proceedings had managed to get that far, in view of the trail of disasters through the week-end. He reported that, although few peals had been rung, the Guild had been extremely active, both in and out of the belfry. There had been no "lasting links" formed during or after the summer tour, but the Guild congratulated Margaret and Ron Warford, who were married the week-end after. He then explained that it was a summer tour two years previously which had brought them together. Echoing the welcome to the visitors, he said there were people from Nottingham, Leeds, Lancaster and Sheffield Universities present, and commented that it was quite a pleasure to have representatives from the Branches coming up to head office from time to time.

Reporting on a cult of beard growing over the year, he commented that most had given up after a while, but a few were still trying. He concluded by introducing the Master for the coming year, Chris (Digby) Munday, almost the only one who had not yet attempted a beard.

The president then had the pleasure of announcing the engagement of Chris Movley and Jane Colley. When a speech was called for, Chris offered the few words, "Well, it all happened this afternoon, really," and thanked the Guild for the congratulations.

Formal then gave way to informal proceedings, which did not give way for quite a long time.

the problem. The meeting agreed to this. As there was no other business the chairman closed the meeting by expressing thanks to the many people who had contributed to a very successful day.

Ringing took place in a further four towers and thus ended another successful and much enjoyed meeting.

BELL ARCHAEOLOGY

J. E. Lewis Cockey Writes on the Cockeys

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Shepherd's letter in a recent issue, the writer is still in existence, and living in retirement at 47, Bath Road, Swindon. Now in the 80's and suffering rather badly with arthritis, one's ringing activities are much restricted; though still a member of the Christ Church company and an hon life member of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, I still manage to get an occasional ring here and there.

While on the subject, I would refer to Miss Overend's letter in your issue of April 18th, which is of considerable interest.

In your issue of April 16th, 1954 (No. 2,245), I submitted an article on the Cockey family, which has some bearing on the matter, and I venture to repeat some items. The draft of this was shown to the late Sir Cyril Flower of the Records Office, when I was residing in Ealing. Sir Cyril was a Warminster man, and had considerable knowledge of the district, and was much interested in the matter, giving me some useful information and making one or two suggestions.

I was aware of the dates of the trebles and sixth at Frome by William Cockey, and on New Year's Eve, 1938, had the pleasure of ringing the second to a good peal of Double Norwich, the first of Major on the bells, conducted by Mr. Nolan Golden, with Mr. Pat Cannon on the tenor. This peal was referred to by a lady visitor, "Pandora," in the "Sunday Times" in January, 1939.

It really appears that the family originated in the Bristol area, spreading eventually to many parts of the West Country, e.g. Salisbury, Totnes and many parts of Somerset. Stephen le Cokke was Provost of Bristol in 1261, and James Cockye was Baliff in 1487. In 1524 it is stated that a John Cockys was assessed upon his personal goods, the sum of 9s. in the Manor of Holcombe, near Frome.

A Lewis Cockey was casting bells in Bristol about 1680, and a Mordecai Cockey, near Totnes, about the same date. I saw one of these bells at the Croydon Foundry some years ago. Preb. Daniel states that a Lewis Cockey came from Warminster to Frome about 1680, and set up a bell foundry there. An old rate book states that Lewis Cockey with a residence in Frome paid a 3d. rate in 1682. In one document he is referred to as Mr. Lewis, implying a person of some importance. The registers at St. John's, Frome, refer to his burial in 1703, but strangely enough there is no trace of his grave, nor that of William Cockey, though the two family tombs give the names of father and son, etc., from about 1700 almost to the present time. In view of the above, it would really appear, though not certain, that there must have been two Lewis Cockeys, one at Bristol and another at Frome.

A William Cockey did much work in the Wincanton area for a number of years about 1703, and was churchwarden there. It is believed that he migrated to Frome, where he carried on with bellfounding, probably succeeding Lewis Cockey, and also being churchwarden there. The writer cannot definitely claim descent from William Cockey, and in fact cannot trace any children of his, if any, but is certainly descended from Edward Cockey, the last of the bellfounders, who was apparently the son of Christopher, died 1792—son of Lewis, died 1786.

It was an interesting experience some years ago to look through the church registers with the late Prebendary Randolph, but one was not able to get a complete record. I think that those at Warminster would provide some interesting information. I was told many years ago that there were some very old Cockey graves there, but was not able to find them.

Since my article of 1954 most of the persons mentioned are now deceased, and there are

few male members of the family now in this country. The firm of Edward Cockey and Sons Ltd. in Frome has now ceased to exist, so the name there has disappeared. It is noteworthy, however, that it is very numerous in the United States, a number of whom have shown great interest in their forbears here. U.S. records state that on January 26th, 1634, a Thomas Cockey, from Somerset, aged 25, with his wife, sailed from London on the ship "Bonaventure," commanded by James Rumsey, for Barbados, and apparently eventually settled in the Baltimore area. A family tree in my possession shows scores of names, almost to the present day, and it is noteworthy that they retain many of the old Christian names, such as William, Edward, Richard and Mordecai, but not apparently Lewis. There is also a reference to a John Cockey, 15 -- to 16 --, but no other information.

Recently I had considerable correspondence with a Mr. Randolph Lucas Cockey, of Baltimore, who was a direct descendant of the above-mentioned Thomas Cockey. He was preparing a book on the family, and was hoping to pay a visit to this country, but sadly enough he died a short while since.

Much might be said, too, about the magnificent astronomical and equation clocks made by Edward Cockey, of Warminster, in the 18th century—one of which is in Longleat House and a smaller one is in existence here in Swindon.

Possibly much of the above is not directly connected with the origin of this letter, but may possibly be of some interest.

One hopes that Miss Overend will be successful in clearing up the question of Lewis Cockey.—Yours faithfully,

J. E. LEWIS COCKEY.

Swindon, Wilts.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY ANNUAL DINNER

MINUTES of frenzied activity, spread over several weeks culminated on Friday, February 23rd, with the start of the seventh annual dinner of the Liverpool University Society. Visitors arrived throughout the evening, joining the practice at St. Francis Xavier's and later, with the kind permission of the Ringing Master, at St. Nicholas', Pier Head. From there we went to that most famous Liverpool dockside pub, the Pig and Whistle, and yet again caused much dismay to Wynn.

Ringing the next day had been arranged at Walton (8), St. Michael's, Aughton (6), Christ Church, Aughton (8), Halsall (6), Emmanuel, Southport (8) and Christ Church, Southport (8). A peal of Bristol was lost at Bromborough due to the conductor calling three consecutive bobs (nobody else noticed), but the Society managed to score its first peal of Cambridge Royal at Ashton-under-Lyne.

The dinner, showing yet again an increase in numbers, was held at Bedford House. After the typically excellent meal the Master proposed the loyal toast to the Duke of Lancaster, which was followed by Mr. H. Dobbin proposing the toast of "The Church." In response, Fr. G. S. Pedley, curate of St. Nicholas' and a great friend of the Society, thanked us for providing the best company he had found in Liverpool since his arrival. His speech, which bore little relevance to the Church, was one of the most interesting the Society has had in the past few years.

Miss S. Cowan, with assistance from the secretaries, welcomed the visitors, particular reference being made to those aged stalwarts

Lester and Joe, who seemed to be having an uproarious time. Congratulations were extended to our guest speaker, Chris Kippin, on his engagement to Miss Heather Walters, and, with a bit of confusion, to Elizabeth Immins, Bob Peers and Chris Eden, although it was not quite clear who was engaged to whom. Representatives from Bristol, Cambridge, Leeds, Southampton and Wales Universities were present and there were also visitors from Cambridge, Cheshire, Lancashire, Leicester, Norfolk, Nottingham, London, South Wales and Staffordshire.

In reply Mr. C. Kippin thanked us on behalf of all the visitors for the excellent meal. He said he wished that other universities would take a leaf out of our book—ham fritters, indeed! After several sharp witticisms he proposed the toast of "The Society," saying that he hoped it would continue to prosper and wished it every success in the future.

The reply was undertaken by the Master, Mr. David Moore, who reported that four peals had been rung during the year. He congratulated the Society members, Messrs. Fox, Fielden, Hatfield, Jenner and Bennett, on their recent marriages, and also Miss H. Arrow-smith on her engagement to Mr. J. Mackenzie, and two Society members on their engagement—Miss Julie Lethbridge and Mr. Bruce Veitch. He concluded by emphasising that the Society had been very active socially over the past year and thanking all those present for coming, and wishing them a pleasant evening.

The formal proceedings concluded, the Master led the company from the dining room to

the lounge, where the evening passed quietly away to the clinking of glasses and handbells.

The Master, Mr. David F. Moore, was accompanied on the top table by Miss G. Bidgood, Fr. S. Pedley, Mr. C. Kippin and Miss H. Walters, Mr. H. Dobbin and Miss M. Macdonald and Mr. G. Sparling and Miss S. Cowan.

Also present were Mr. and Mrs. P. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. J. Foot, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fox, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hatfield, Mr. and Mrs. D. House, Mr. and Mrs. J. Jelley, Mr. and Mrs. D. Jenner, Mr. and Mrs. P. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. M. Pilgrim, Mr. and Mrs. P. Rothera, Mr. and Mrs. M. Phillips.

Messrs. G. Austin, J. Bennett, J. Blacktop, P. Brown, R. Chantler, R. Collier, J. Coope, G. Cooper, M. Corry, R. Dennis, A. Dobbin, M. Dodson, C. Eden, T. Edwards, T. Fitzgerald, N. Goulding, L. Grey, K. Hesketh, T. Hesketh, E. Houghton, T. Howarth, G. Jones, D. Keast, S. Livesay, F. Mack, J. Mackenzie, A. Martin, J. Masefield, J. Martin, J. Parsons, D. Peers, R. Peers, C. Pocock, J. Prytherch, G. Pullin, J. Ridley, J. Ridyard, E. Rothwell, R. Shea, M. Snape, R. Starkie, R. Stevens, E. Thomas, B. Vietch, B. Wakefield, K. Walpole, A. Wilby, D. Wilford, D. Wood.

The Misses H. Arrowsmith, L. Brown, A. Fellows, A. Fenton, S. Harber, P. Jenkins, J. Kinsbrook, J. Lethbridge, J. O'Brian, B. Payne, J. Quilter, L. Roberts, J. Rostron, G. Smith, S. Sutton, E. Timmins, R. Wilson and A. Wright. H. D.

Letters to the Editor

SPLICED PEALS

Dear Sir,—May I communicate to you for publication the following unanimous decision of the Methods Committee:—

"The decisions on peals must cover both Regular and Irregular methods, therefore the leads must remain intact since Irregular methods can be rung which are asymmetric."

"We recommend that the decisions on Spliced Peals remain unaltered and the peal be accepted as published."

C. KENNETH LEWIS,
Convener on behalf of
the Methods Committee.

GRABBED AND TAUGHT

Dear Sir, — So Miss Anne Horsford, of Twickenham, has little time for the tower grabbers of this world! "Rejoice!" says she, "for the demoniac tribes who arrive at churches with a cloud of smoke, a squeal of brakes and long skid-marks in the gravel path are decreasing!"

But, you know, we are not so bad. I figured high in last year's tower grabbers but I also rang for at least 100 services, attended every one of them and taught 12 youngsters in the art of bell handling. Many other people in the celebrated list are known to me personally and a good number of them have done a great deal more for the Exercise than I can boast.

Please, Miss Horsford, don't frown on us too darkly. Most of us do our little bit to help, but we also like our fling on Saturdays and our tour in the summer, and if a person does not feel the collector's instinct and the wish to show off about his achievements, then he is no human!

Your list is an excellent idea; why not try it next year?—Yours faithfully,

DEMON PAR EXCELLENCE.

Name and address supplied.—Ed.

DOUBLES NAMES WANTED

Dear Sir,—During the quarter peal rung at Ledbury on April 27th the following variations were rung for which I can find no name:

P.C.	Bob	Single
A Rev. Cant.	Rev. Cant.	Pink's
B Rev Cant.	Antelope Sl.	Pink's
C Plain Bob	Antelope Sl.	Pink's
D Plain Bob	Pink's Sl	All Saints' Pl.
E Plain Bob	Grandsire	Pink's
F Plain Bob	All Saints Pl.	Grandsire
G Rev. Cant.	All Saints' Pl.	Grandsire

I would be very grateful if anyone can supply me with the names.—Yours faithfully,

R. K. WILLIAMS.

Ledbury, Herefords.

NOTTINGHAM BELL RHYME

Dear Sir,—Browsing through a library in Nottingham, I found this bell rhyme:—

Colston's cracked pancheons,
Screveton's egg shells,
Bingham's two rollers,
Whatton's merry bells.

Probably written by the ringers of Whatton! —Yours faithfully,

S. M. O'NEILL (Miss).

Gedling, Notts.

KENYA RINGER WANTS TO HEAR ENGLISH BELLS

Dear Sir,—I very much enjoy reading "The Ringing World," but greatly miss the sound of bells. I wonder if any reader who has tape-recordings of bells is willing to send me a copy of some part of his recordings? I would pay for postage and the cost of the tape in advance.

I would particularly like to hear Grandsire and Stedman but any methods would be welcome. Similarly, an Oxfordshire, Warwickshire or City of Cambridge tower would be preferable if there were a choice. If anyone would be good enough to go to this trouble I should be most grateful.—Yours faithfully,

JAMES STREDDER.

Chavakali Secondary School,
Private Bag,
Maragoli, Kenya.

WARNING AGAINST SMOKING IN SOUTHWELL MINSTER

Dear Sir,—I have today received the following warning from the Provost of Southwell, the Very Rev. H. C. L. Heywood, and I would be most obliged if you would give it the necessary publicity in "The Ringing World."

"When the time came to sweep the Ringers' Gallery after a number of visiting teams had been given the privilege of ringing there we found 17 used matches and two cigarette ends on the floor. This was a gross abuse of privilege and I am under the necessity of telling every team wishing to come that if anything like this is repeated I shall not be able to extend the courtesy of our belfry to visitors. Apart from other considerations the fire risk (there is so much wood about) is very great."

I would like to endorse the Provost's remarks, and also suggest that we all take this warning to heart. It is no use saying "This does not apply to me, I do not smoke." It is as ringers that we shall be judged, and if ringing is stopped it will apply to one and all, and it is therefore up to us to stamp this out here and now.—Yours faithfully,

W. L. EXTON,
Hon. Gen. Sec.

Nottingham.

RINGING AT SOUTHWELL A.G.M.

Dear Sir,—If you ask any member of the Southwell Guild about the ringing at the annual general meeting at Southwell they will make such comments as "The worst ringing of the year," "Five- and six-bell ringers trying to ring 12 bells," "Too many learners." These comments were made to me weeks before the meeting took place. The ringing on April 20th seemed doomed even before a bell was struck.

As Ringing Master for the first time at the annual general meeting I felt that something must be done about this to raise the standard but a little. As over 130 names were submitted for tea I therefore made the following plans to cope with such numbers and get the best striking: The ringers of limited ability on five, six and seven bells would have to content themselves with ringing rounds; the rounds should only have four learners ringing at a time; rounds should alternate with ringing on twelve, ten and eight bells.

On April 20th the long business meeting left only 20 to 30 minutes for ringing. To save time, the bells were raised as quickly as possible in alternate fours. This took approximately five minutes. A tower packed with ringers surely demanded several short touches. After the last touch had ended, some ringers were reluctant to go to tea straight away so I decided to take advantage of this and squeeze another touch in. The band was only "the chosen few" because there were then few remaining ringers.

We had even less ringing time between tea and the service so I decided to form a band to represent most of the Guild to ring a service touch. I could fill a book with my own comments on the result of this.

I feel that Mr. E. Shuttleworth is not in a position to criticise the meeting because he did not stay to the end. The ringing ended soon after nine o'clock and for the final hour the standard of ringing improved greatly, thanks to the co-operation and support I received from a few people, learners and experienced, visitors and Guild members who stayed to the not-so-bitter end.—Yours faithfully,

PETER WAKEFIELD,
Ringing Master, Newark District.

SURPRISE RINGERS AND BEGINNERS

Dear Sir,—If Messrs. King and Roberts (pages 342 and 363) really believe that people who ring Surprise Major or happen to like ringing peals are poor supporters of their local bands on Sundays and practice nights and do little teaching, their experience of ringing and ringers must be sadly limited. The childish nature of the remarks—who but Mr. King would call somebody who can ring Surprise an expert?—simply betrays a huge inferiority complex. I hoped when I read Mr. King's last letter (November 11th, 1966) that he would outgrow this, but he has obviously not done so yet.—Yours faithfully,

DAVID E. HOUSE.

Norwich.

SALISBURY GUILD A.G.M.

Dear Sir,—Once again democracy was given rough justice at the annual meeting of the Salisbury Guild.

The re-election of the existing officers en bloc was proposed from the chair, the meeting not being asked for other nominations. An objection was raised to the election "en bloc"; this was practically ignored, the same procedure being adopted for the committee and Central Council representatives.

The agenda did not indicate that Central Council representatives were to be elected. As the meeting was unprepared, the vacancy left by a retiring member was quickly filled under the old pals act, no further nominations being asked for.

When questions were asked about the attendance of the representatives at the Central Council the reply was vague, an indication being made that the information could be obtained from "The Ringing World." What made it so difficult to give a straightforward answer? If the representatives feel that attendance at the Central Council is "a waste of time" why do they not stand down and allow someone else to bear the responsibility which has been delegated to them?

This year it was seen fit to make a grant to a tower without prior application being made, yet in 1965 an application made at the meeting was ruled out of order.

It was unfortunate that poor acoustics in the hall made the proceedings difficult to follow for a large number of those present; this was probably responsible for making the meeting more apathetic than usual, or perhaps the steamroller had done its work.—Yours faithfully,

D. R. FULLER.

Swanage, Dorset.

BELL ROPES

JOHN NICOLL

SEE BACK PAGE

Letters—continued

A WIFE REPLIES TO THE SNEERS AT BIRMINGHAM

Dear Sir,—I am disgusted at the letter from Ian Roberts in "The Ringing World" of May 10th, which has acted on me as a last straw following many other attacks on the Birmingham ringers. I am sick of the meanness of small men who can do nothing but sneer and destroy the work of others. I have rung on 6, 8, 10 and (very little) on 12 bells, and I have rung quarter peals and peals, so that I say from experience that 12-bell ringing is the most difficult number to ring, and that the longer the length of ringing the greater the stress and strain on the ringer. Anyone who says otherwise expresses either ignorance or stupidity. To train and maintain a band to ring to a high standard on the higher numbers or to ring complex methods requires the most dedicated, concentrated, unceasing work for those who make the attempt.

As an outside observer who does not ring with the St. Martin's Guild, I believe that the St. Martin's Guild has maintained an excellent standard of ringing on all numbers of bells during very many years. This is something of incomparable value to the Exercise because of the St. Martin's Guild tradition of welcome to visitors from all parts of the country. If there were no established 12-bell bands, those enthusiastic ringers who wish to graduate to 12-bell ringing might well be unable to do so, as 12 Royal ringers do not make a Maximus band. A 12-bell band requires twice as many ringers as a 6-bell band, but many times more than twice as much effort to maintain. Mr. Roberts may not feel that the effort is worthwhile, but no one can deny that the effort is considerable.

The St. Martin's Guild ringers are all concerned to maintain standards. They are not politicians who deliberately place themselves in a position to receive catcalls and criticisms and brickbats—they are not elected and paid to be opposed and attacked on their every word. I object intensely to their being treated as the Aunt Sally of the Exercise, as seems to have happened over the last couple of years. These letters full of sneers and derogation are spiteful and hurtful. For a community of Christians all working to improve their offerings to the Church, this newspaper should have no place for vicious, destructive letters.

I also object to the unpleasant sneers at my husband over the peal of Glasgow. The publicity was at the request of the Vicar of Edgbaston and was of immense benefit to the attitude of the Birmingham public towards ringing—it was appreciated everywhere in fact except in "The Ringing World," where it had been presented with the hope that it had several factors of interest to ringers as well as news value.

If, as a result of stupid letters in "The Ringing World," my husband were to refrain from contributing anything further, to stop hitting his head against brick walls (headaches, grumbles and large postal bills are the usual rewards of committed ringers, Mr. Roberts, rather than glory)—then I think the Exercise would be the poorer. My husband's regular service ringing, practice ringing and meeting attendance is beyond anyone's criticism, except possibly a wife's. He works hard to try to make arrangements to suit, encourage and develop scores of ringers. He gets his clothes filthy from bell frames. He cares intensely about the standards and fellowship of ringers. He has never written a letter to "The Ringing World" to sneer at the quarter peals of Grandsire Doubles ringers.

MR. PETER LAFLIN

An Appreciation

Peter Laflin passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 30th, at the age of 78 years. Peter led an active life right to the end; in fact on the Wednesday before he died he travelled to Chapel-en-le-Frith to visit members of his family, as usual. Both they and we are left with happy memories of a fine man who was also a fine ringer. It is association with people of Peter's stature that really makes ringing worthwhile. The example he set and the advice he gave was always worth following, both for the learner and the more experienced ringer. He never gave less than his best, whether ringing Plain Bob for a learner or more complicated methods with the regular peal band.

Peter enjoyed listening to good ringing almost as much as participating; he enjoyed listening to his new record of "The Bells of Bristol" in the last week of his life. If our memory of Peter is as happy as his memories of his ringing and his friends, I am sure that he would be well pleased.

R. B. S.

MR. E. T. SNELLER

A very well-struck in memoriam peal was rung at Ilsey, Berks, on May 4th for Edward Thomas Sneller, a churchman, chorister, churchwarden and ringer at the Parish Church for 60 years. In the band were five blood relations, all natives of the village, who with the other three in the band remember him with love and thankfulness.

MR. GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE

The Lancaster Branch of the Lancashire Association has lost a founder member by the death of Mr. George E. Braithwaite, of Burton-in-Kendal, on May 3rd, aged 61.

George did perhaps more than anyone to encourage peal ringing in the Lancaster area and rang 106 peals, all on tower bells. Approximately half of these were rung before the 1939-45 war and in his own locality, mostly in the basic methods. Without his unfailing attendance at Branch meetings in the years following the war the state of ringing in North Lancashire and South Westmorland would not be as it is at present, and indeed may well have succumbed to the pressure of modern life. He will long be remembered and greatly missed in Burton and the surrounding district.

Many friends attended the funeral service, interment being in a grave at the foot of the tower where he spent so many happy hours. Some of his favourite touches were rung before and after the service.

R. F. E.

I do not believe that the backbone of the Exercise is the regular parochial Sunday service ringer, nor do I believe it to be the ringer of peals only. The backbone of the Exercise is the fully committed ringer (in most cases a peal ringer), the man who works and organises, gives time and help and money, attending his commitments scrupulously, over many years. My husband is a fully committed ringer and no daft beggar. Mr. Roberts evidently knows nothing about the Birmingham ringers. What creditable reason can he have for expressing such ignorance?

I am sending this letter without reference to my husband.—Yours faithfully,

MARION S. AINSWORTH (Mrs.).
Halesowen Worcs.

OBITUARY

MR. J. E. JEATER

With deep regret we record the death of Mr. James Edwin Jeater, of Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, in hospital at Redruth on May 12th. He had been in indifferent health since January, and in February he tendered his resignation as accountant to "The Ringing World," to expire at the end of June. His health deteriorated and since the second week in April his books have been attended to at Guildford.

For more than 20 years Mr. Jeater has been accountant to "The Ringing World," having been appointed when Mr. G. W. Fletcher was general secretary and treasurer to the Central Council. He was then living at Petts Wood, Kent, but in 1953 he went to Cusgarne, Truro, where he had a bungalow and developed a beautiful garden.

The meticulous care with which he kept "The Ringing World" accounts won the admiration of the committee and the auditor. When he was first appointed about £2,500 a year was passing through his hands; in 1952 it had reached £4,000 and by 1967 it exceeded £12,000; such was the expansion of the paper. In 1964, when the Central Council met at Truro, he was requested to attend the meeting and receive personally the thanks of the Council for the faithful discharge of his duties. His work was a labour of love, and the friendly notes that he wrote to people in all parts of the world maintained the true family spirit which "The Ringing World" has endeavoured to engender. The Editor has lost a very sincere colleague.

Cremation at Truro on May 15th was private. To his widow and son, Robert, the sympathy of all our readers is extended.

MR. STANLEY S. BRISTOW

Ringers from the Wellington (Somerset) neighbourhood, and especially from his own tower at Ashbrittle, were saddened by the news of the death of Stanley Bristow on May 7th.

A ringer since 1919, when at the age of 14 he joined the little band which rang the five bells at Stawley, Stanley became captain at Ashbrittle in 1935 and held the post until 1967, when, on doctor's orders, he stopped working and retired to live in Wellington.

Stan was a gardener by trade and skill, but ringing was his pleasure. He was a loyal member of the Taunton Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association and was at one time Deputy Ringing Master and, later, Branch Ringing Master. Learners found his patience and kindness inexhaustible, and he was always ready to help a struggling band.

The bells of Wellington Parish Church were rung half-muffled for the funeral service, which was attended by a large number of ringing friends, and the Sunday service band at Sampford Arundel rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles, half-muffled, in his memory.

E. M. W.

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY GUILD

The University of Sheffield Guild held its annual general meeting on May 3rd, when the following were elected to office for the coming year: Master, Simon R. Cole; Deputy Master, John F. Eborall; secretary and treasurer, John D. Cooper, c/o 134, Walkley Lane, Sheffield S6 2NZ. Practices will continue to be held at St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, on Fridays at 8 p.m. during term-time.

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Berkshire Takes First Three in Oxford Guild Contest

THE semi-finals and finals of the Oxford Diocesan Guild striking contest were held on May 4th, a day which dawned bright and sunny but ended with the inevitable rain. However, even the lack of sunshine could not hide the natural beauty of this part of Oxfordshire, where the Witney and Woodstock Branch were acting as hosts.

One team from each Branch of the Guild—15 in all—were due to take part, but last-minute cancellations reduced the number of teams to nine. These were split into two semi-finals, the first held at St. James-the-Great, Stonesfield. Four teams took part in this contest: Headington (representing the Oxford City Branch), Thatcham (Newbury Branch), Eynsham (Witney and Woodstock Branch) and Hughenden (East Berks and South Bucks Branch). The Master of the Guild, the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, was the judge for this semi-final.

After the draw, the first team to ring were Headington. The band settled down very well and rang a good 240 of Grandsire without any trips. Thatcham followed, and rang Pitman's 240 of Grandsire in excellent style, marred by a slight mishap when one ringer missed his sally, and another when a ringer (who shall be nameless) decided to do a single dodge at a bob! Third to ring were Eynsham, who, as befitting a team in their own Branch, rang an excellent touch of Grandsire. Hughenden rang last and set an impeccable standard in their initial two minute rounds. However, a mistake at a single in their second 120 of Stedman rapidly built up a large number of faults. This concluded the contest ringing at Stonesfield, and after a few touches to enable the judge, stewards and other visitors to have a ring, the company moved off to Wootton Village Hall for tea.

Meanwhile the second semi-final was under way at St. Mary's, Northleigh. Originally it was intended to hold it at Coombe, but a broken stay and a broken rope necessitated a rapid reorganisation of plans. The teams taking part at Northleigh were: East Hagbourne (North Berks Branch), St. Mary's, Reading (Reading Branch) and Sonning (Sonning Deanery Branch). The judge was Mr. Frank Mack, who had travelled 150 miles from Exmouth to officiate. First to ring were East Hagbourne, who rang a very good touch of Grandsire Doubles. St. Mary's, Reading, were drawn next, and as was to be expected of a band of this calibre they rang a splendid 240 Cambridge Minor. Last to ring were Sonning, who were unfortunately handicapped by the fact that some of their band had lost their way, so substitutes had to be fielded (or should I say "towered"?). After their touch of Grandsire Doubles the bands converged on Wootton for tea.

A truly magnificent tea was organised by Miss Daphne Pollard. The judges then announced the results of the semi-finals. The Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, in his summing up, said that a very high standard of ringing had been set again. He awarded the faults to each team as follows: Eynsham 26 faults, Thatcham 28, Headington 36 and Hughenden 76. Mr. Frank Mack, in his summary, first remarked on the split-second accuracy of all the bands in their two minute rounds preceding their touch. None of them had exceeded two minutes and one second, and one was exactly two minutes. It was just as if they were timing it by a stopwatch (as they were!). He went on to say that the first team had rung some very good Grandsire, but some handstroke leads had been wide. He awarded them 31½ faults. The second team had rung Cambridge very well, but some faults had occurred when the tenor was turned in; 30½ faults. The final team had been unfortunate: they incurred 60 faults. This meant that East Hagbourne and St. Mary's, Reading, would compete against Eynsham and Thatcham in the final.

The rain, which had been intermittent all the afternoon, now settled into a steady drizzle.

The judges abandoned their original intention of judging from the Village Hall, performing their duties from inside the church. Knots of plastic-clad figures could be seen round the streets of Wootton, sheltering under trees, in doorways, cars and the church porch, all listening intently to the contest. East Hagbourne had been drawn first, and soon settled into some good Grandsire Doubles. Eynsham followed with another touch of Grandsire, the tenor adding a few extra faults by not standing first time at the conclusion of the touch. Thatcham rang at a slower pace than the previous two team, incurring extra faults through a couple of trips. St. Mary's, Reading, soncluded the ringing with an excellent touch of Plain Bob Minor.

All the company gathered in the church to hear the judges' decisions. Mr. Mack spoke for both of them, saying that a very high standard of ringing had been maintained. The good, steady ringing of the first team had earned them only 33 faults. The second team had rung rather hurriedly, which had led to some clipping in thirds and fourths place: he awarded them 44 faults. The third team's ringing had been "very nice, steady Grandsire Doubles, typical of a country band, with only two unfortunate trips; 28 faults." The last team, who had rung Plain Bob Minor, were probably the team who had rung Cambridge at the semi-final that afternoon. Their ringing had been excellent, only 12 faults being scored. The Rev. C. Elliot Wigg then announced that St. Mary's, Reading, were this year's winners, with Thatcham second and East Hagbourne third.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN GUILD

Cary Branch

The Cary Branch met at Barton St. David on April 27th, when 30 ringers attended the service in the Parish Church conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. S. Thomas), who was also the organist. The lesson was read by the Branch chairman (the Rev. G. S. Robinson), who took the chair after tea in the Village Hall for the business meeting.

The chairman presented certificates to four Barton St. David ringers and welcomed Mr. W. A. Prescott, tower captain, back to the tower after his operation and long illness. There was a special word of thanks to those who had carried on during his absence.

Ilchester Branch

The Ilchester Branch held its May practice at St. John the Baptist's Church, Pitney, on May 4th. Over 35 ringers attended, representing 12 towers, including Yealinton and Nailsea.

The Rector, the Rev. P. E. Holmes, conducted the belfry prayers, and ringing on this good going seven cwt. five was under the direction of Messrs. Gordon Rendell and W. E. Turner. This included rounds, Grandsire Doubles, Bob Doubles, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Stedman and St. Simon's Bob.

It was very gratifying to know that the Pitney ringers wished to become full members of the Branch, and the company were further delighted when the invitation came from the churchwarden, Mr. J. A. L. Young, and Mrs. Young to visit their house for refreshments after ringing down the bells. The thanks of the Branch and its visitors were expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Young and also to the Rector and Mr. Ed. Thyer, the tower Master, for allowing the use of the bells. M. M. L.

HILL FARRANCE, SOM.—On March 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss G. Stevens 1. R. Escott (first Doubles) 2. D. Escott (first Doubles) 3. R. Bartlett 4. R. Colman (cond.) 5. C. Barnes 6. For the marriage of Miss C. J. Beresford-Stooke and Mr. J. B. Henderson.

Miss Cross, hon. general secretary of the Guild, proposed a vote of thanks: to the incumbents of Stonesfield, Northleigh and Wootton, to the Witney and Woodstock Branch for making all the local arrangements, to the stewards for their services, to the Master and Mr. Frank Mack for acting as judges. Miss Cross added at this point that she hoped that they would take home a favourable impression of ringing in the Guild. Finally, thanks were due to Miss Daphne Pollard for giving up part of her holiday in order to prepare such a magnificent tea.

After a short prayer the company dispersed, some to the tower, others to wend their long way home, and some to . . . guess where?

W. B.

WHITSTABLE RINGERS VISIT BUCKS

It has been the tradition of the bellringers of All Saints' Church, Whitstable, to visit another part of the country at about Easter time, and this year saw seven of them off to Buckinghamshire to base at Stony Stratford. En route the light bells of Stoke D'Abernon (Surrey) were put to good use, and in the evening we had a short but enjoyable ring at Stony Stratford.

Tuesday saw the band ringing the unusual steel bells at Waddesdon—not as unpleasant as might have been anticipated, followed by the anti-clockwise old five at Nether Winchendon. Two Thomas Mears' sixes followed—the lovely five at Aston Clinton and the correspondingly unpleasant ring at Ellesborough in its fine tower. Evening practice was spent with the locals at Buckingham.

On the Wednesday some members went to chime the unringable and discordant steel bells at Thornborough, followed by some good ringing at Brill. At Steeple Claydon we were joined by Ann Carpenter, and one member landed himself on the floor after the lower. The light five at Beachampton in their minute tower were much enjoyed, but the weather failed to hold out for our evening visit to the superb eight at Woburn.

Thursday was spent in Oxford, where the traffic was compensated for by the lovely sixes at Cowley and St. Aldate's, and where Great Tom was also visited. En route back a short break was made at Calverton, with its 12 cwt. six. In the evening we went to the brick church at Fenny Stratford, where the second persistently slipped wheel and the fifth refused to stop ringing despite every appearance on the part of the rope that the bell was "set." During the day we were delighted to have the company of John and Beryl Baldwin, and in the evening that of Alan and Diana Frost.

Friday was the birthday of one member, who appeared disguised as a clergyman, to the consternation of the hotel staff. We were glad to have Andrew and Richard Haseldine with us again, and the first stop was at Wingrave, where the fine six provided some of the best ringing of the week.

In contrast, the heavy bells at Wing (29½ cwt.), with their long draught, were too much for most of the company, though the interesting church was much admired. The party then went on wildly differing routes to Caddington (a nice, light six), but the noisy bells at Eaton Bray, which followed, taxed both the patience and the abilities of everybody. The supposedly bad eight at Toddington in fact proved to be quite good, in spite of a cracked seventh, and the church was one of the finest of the tour.

Saturday put us en route for home, with a stop on the long-draughted five at Little Horwood, and thence by a miracle of navigation to the excellent six at Albury (Surrey), where lunch was eaten at 4.30 p.m.!

The band thank all who made their stay so enjoyable; we hope that they will visit us one day, and long may their bells ring out.

D. L. C.

QUARTER PEALS

ADDINGTON, SURREY.—On May 5th, 1,296 Anabelle's London Surprise Minor: Carol Cousins 1, N. Bennett 2, Amanda Powell (cond.) 3, 1. Willshire 4, R. Rayfield 5, E. G. H. Godfrey 6. For Matins.

ALVESTON, GLOS.—On Mar. 31st, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: Miss C. Hanson (first quarter) 1, Miss E. Starling 2, Miss P. Sturdy 3, G. Collins 4, D. R. Livsey (first as cond.) 5, A. R. Tuck 6. For Evensong.

BABBACOMBE, DEVON.—On Mar. 24th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Mavis Hawkins 1, A. J. Garbett 2, Vivienne Smith 3, W. Simmonds 4, P. A. Lock 5, G. J. Roberts 6, D. J. Roberts (cond.) 7, L. J. Burton 8. For Evensong.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At 24, Stourcliffe Avenue, on April 25th, 1,260 Doubles (four methods): A. V. Davis 1-2, W. T. Perrins 3-4, Rosemary Shearing (first quarter) 5-6.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—At St. Peter's Church, on May 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Susan E. M. Davis 1, D. L. Nibbs 2, Marion Kemp 3, B. J. Read 4, J. D. Cheecman (first of Royal) 5, H. J. Payne (first of Royal) 6, R. I. West (first of Royal) 7, P. J. Daniel 8, A. W. Bond 9, P. H. Mackie (cond.) 10. For Evensong.

CLAPHAM, LONDON.—At the Church of Our Lady of Victories, on April 18th, 1,260 Doubles (two methods): D. Netherton 1, Margaret Phelan 2, Miss R. M. J. Alcock (first quarter) 3, Irene E. Shanks 4, G. W. Shanks (cond.) 5, T. J. Farmer 6. For the 30th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Farmer. Also on April 21st, 1,260 Doubles (two methods): D. Netherton 1, Margaret Phelan 2, R. Bing 3, Irene Shanks 4, W. Shanks (cond.) 5, T. J. Farmer 6. For the Queen's birthday.

CLYST HONITON, DEVON.—On April 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Miss A. Retter (first quarter) 1, Mrs. G. E. Retter 2, Miss M. Retter 3, K. Clarke 4, J. Clarke 5, J. Quick 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, A. Holway 8. Also on April 28th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): Miss A. Retter 1, Mrs. G. E. Retter 2, Miss M. Retter 3, A. Holway 4, G. E. Retter 5, E. Gill 6, E. R. Retter 7, A. Broom 8. For Evensong.

FAREHAM, HANTS.—On Feb. 25th, 1,259 Grand-sire Caters: Rosemary J. Kemp 1, Cmdr. J. Merritt, R.N., 2, Jennifer M. Tyack 3, J. G. Draper 4, Gillian M. Boyd 5, Renee Sturgess 6, J. A. G. Ball 7, F. E. Fagg 8, A. H. Sturgess (cond.) 9, S. A. Scott 10. Also on April 14th, 1,259 Grand-sire Caters: Renee Sturgess 1, Gillian M. Boyd 2, J. G. Draper 3, Christine Lanegan 4, Jennifer M. Tyack 5, R. K. Hawkins 6, J. A. Gunstone 7, S. A. Scott 8, A. H. Sturgess (cond.) 9, F. E. Fagg 10. For Evensong. Also on April 29th, 1,259 Grand-sire Caters: C. Scott 1, Renee Sturgess 2, Christine Lanegan 3, J. G. Draper 4, Gillian M. Boyd 5, J. N. Halle 6, F. E. Fagg 7, J. A. G. Ball 8, A. H. Sturgess (cond.) 9, S. A. Scott 10. Rung to celebrate the engagement of two Fareham ringers, John A. G. Ball and Rosemary J. Kemp.

GEDLING, NOTTS.—On April 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: P. R. Wild (first attempt) 1, R. F. Watson 2, Susan M. O'Neill 3, Sheila M. Anthony (first as cond. and 10th parting peal) 4, A. R. C. Harris (first "Inside") 5. Rung in memoriam Alfred Henry Shelton, Chairman of the Carlton U.D.C.

HARDWICKE, GLOS.—On April 28th, 1,300 Plain Bob and Grand-sire Doubles: Miss S. M. Perry 1, R. J. Page 2, M. N. Amphlett (first as cond.) 3, Miss J. G. Pillinger 4, P. W. Screen 5, Miss J. Slater 6. For Evensong and after the repainting of the bell frames.

HOLME-ON-SPALDING MOOR, E. YORKS.—On May 4th, 1,260 Minor (two methods): Gail P. Horton (first quarter) 1, Elizabeth Moag 2, M. Brook 3, R. A. Bradley 4, R. R. Horton 5, R. H. Jordan (first as cond. in two methods) 6.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.—On Feb. 21st, 1,344 Pl. Bob Major: R. J. Chandler 1, R. A. Beresford 2, M. J. Durham 3, J. P. Ottaway 4, G. Cooper 5, M. G. Dodson 6, Suzanne J. Withers 7, G. J. Jones (cond.) 8. To mark the birth of John Henry, son of the Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Williams.

KIMPTON, HERTS.—On May 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: T. J. Southam 1, R. A. Cochrane 2, A. G. Sears 3, H. Shire 4, J. G. Cull (cond.) 5, Diana Meredith (first quarter) 6. Also on May 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Day 1, Mary A. Coburn 2, F. C. Jacklin 3, L. Coburn 4, J. G. Cull 5, T. J. Southam (cond.) 6. Rung for Kimpton May Festival.

LIMERICK, EIRE.—At St. Mary's Cathedral, on May 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: C. A. Gash (first quarter) 1, T. T. Marsden 2, D. W. Galbraith (cond.) 3, G. H. Ellis 4, C. W. Galbraith 5, F. G. Bingham 6.

SOUTHWARK, LONDON.—At the Cathedral on April 28th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples (back eight): Mary Lewis 1, Mary Andrews 2, J. Rae 3, K. Small 4, G. Clarke (cond.) 5, F. Hurrell 6, P. Clarke 7, P. Shonk 8. For Evensong.

LYMINGTON, SUSSEX.—On April 19th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: G. Durrant (first quarter) 1, Mrs. A. M. Stevens 2, Miss E. W. Keys 3, G. Lee 4, P. Stevens (cond.) 5, W. G. Challen 6.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.—On April 7th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: R. Smith 1, J. Creer 2, G. Cooper 3, Margaret Manby 4, A. Rothwell 5, B. Groves 6, R. Andrew 7, A. McFall (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

OLD WOKING, SURREY.—On May 7th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: J. F. Soles 1, P. Laycock 2, B. Medhurst (cond. and first "inside") 3, D. Kalle (first "inside") 4, E. R. Warner 5, L. Gale (first quarter) 6.

PETERSFIELD, HANTS.—On May 5th, 1,260 Doubles (four methods): Sally Stacey 1, Carol Stacey 2, R. Tipper 3, D. Hatherly 4, K. Sansom (cond.) 5, R. Cross 6. For Evensong.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On May 5th, 1,296 Plain Bob Caters: P. King 1, P. Sloman 2, Penny Halliwell 3, B. Sadler 4, Pip Sadler 5, R. Furringer 6, Stephen Halliwell 7, M. Hallett 8, D. Sloman (first as cond. of Caters) 9, G. Eve 10. For Evensong.

PUTNEY, LONDON.—On May 5th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: Christine M. Cobb 1, Lesley A. Brookes 2, Alison M. Mann, L. W. Allen 4, Julie S. Armstrong (first as cond.) 5, B. H. Coatsworth 6, C. F. Mew 7, A. R. Patterson 8. For Patronal Festival.

RAMSBURY, WILTS.—On May 5th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: I. Foote (first quarter) 1, Dr. H. Craig 2, T. A. Palmer 3, K. F. Harvey 4, F. J. Read (cond.) 5, L. Foote 6. Rung to mark the baptism of Timothy Edward Cohen, of Hildrop Farm, Ramsbury.

SANDRIDGE, HERTS.—On May 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Elizabeth J. Shelley 1, Thelma-Lynn Willis 2, C. Forster (cond.) 3, G. H. Foster 4, J. T. Davey (first quarter) 5, A. T. Hawkins 6. First of Minor 1, 2 and 3, A 21st birthday compliment to Richard H. Collins.

STOWE, BUCKS.—On May 4th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: J. L. Thorogood 1, D. N. Weston (first "inside") 2, W. D. Lanyon 3, W. A. Yates (cond.) 4, P. J. Lankester 5.

STOWING, KENT.—On April 27th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): O. Webster 1, Margaret Jenner 2, J. Hemsey 3, Marion Kemp 4, A. Leers (cond.) 5, P. Thomas 6. First in three methods for all the band.

STOKE BISHOP, BRISTOL.—On April 28th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: Rosemary Snawdon 1, Rosemary Myers 2, Jennifer Murphy 3, D. Bentley 4, P. Gray (cond.) 5, F. Crofts 6. First of Stedman 1, 2 and 4. For Evensong.

STOKE DAMEREL, DEVON.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: J. Steere (first quarter) 1, A. Frost 2, G. E. Mudge (cond.) 3, S. G. Peirce 4, C. Mitchelmore 5, B. D. Knight 6.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.—At St. George's, on May 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Joyce Gardner 1, D. Davenport 2, R. King 3, K. Davenport 4, J. Bell 5, E. Roughley 6, J. Barker 7, L. Watkins 8, C. Bell 9, G. R. Gardner (cond.) 10. Rung half-muffled in memory of Peter Laffin, interred the previous day.

SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX.—On April 28th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: D. Brock 1, M. Loveday 2, J. F. Maybrey 3, A. J. Hampton 4, Carol Andrews 5, D. Boniface 6, M. Tyers 7, A. Tyers (cond.) 8. A compliment to Gerda Baresel (former Heston ringer) on her marriage, in South Africa, to Bob Humphreys.

THATCHAM, BERKS.—On April 28th, 1,264 Cambridge Surprise Major: A. Edens 1, R. Rex 2, Mary Marshall 3, R. Christopher 4, D. Mottram 5, R. Ashman 6, B. Taylor 7, W. Butler (cond.) 8. First of Surprise 1 and 5. Also on May 5th, 1,260 Doubles (six methods): G. Bolland (first quarter) 1, Jennifer Barker 2, Mary Marshall 3, W. Butler (cond.) 4, A. Edons 5, A. Christopher 6. Both rung for service.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.—On April 28th, 1,254 Grand-sire Cinques: S. Mount (first of Cinques) 1, E. Newnham 2, Susan Thomas 3, June Whitcler 4, Jane Darby (first of Conques) 5, M. C. Austin 6, R. Durrant 7, R. J. Chapman (cond.) 8, A. J. Slade 9, H. H. N. Duncan 10, R. E. J. Dennis 11, J. Murfit 12. For Matins.

WARMINSTER, WILTS.—On April 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Rosalind Payne 1, Mrs. Ruth Jones 2, E. C. Shepherd (cond.) 3, R. Jones 4, E. Norris 5, A. Payne 6, N. G. Knee 7, P. Roynton 8. First of Stedman 1, 2 and 4. Rung by a combined band from Corsley, Longbridge-Deverill and Warminster. For Evensong.

WARWICK.—At St. Nicholas' Church, on Good Friday, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss D. Holman 1, Miss C. Mackie 2, Mrs. D. Randall 3, P. Border 4, P. Mackie 5, F. W. Perrens (cond.) 6, P. Randall 7, J. L. Garner-Hayward 8. Rung half-muffled.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, on May 2nd, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Miss S. Hallett 1, M. Whiteley (first on eight) 2, R. Taylor 3, L. England 4, M. Bartlett 5, C. Jenkins 6, G. Salmon (cond.) 7, C. Wainwright (first quarter) 8. A welcome to the Rev. James Tomsett and Mrs. Tomsett.

WEST MEON, HANTS.—On May 1st, 1,260 Doubles (six methods): Janet Yeates 1, R. A. Stone 2, K. G. Waller 3, D. G. Hatherly 4, C. E. Bassett (cond.) 5, F. W. Sheffield 6.

WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.—On May 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Valerie P. Williams 1, J. P. Sale (first "inside") 2, D. Robinson (cond.) 3, R. A. Eldridge 4, D. J. Edmonds 5. A 15th birthday compliment to J. P. Sale.

WHITCHURCH, DEVON.—On April 5th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: H. P. Perkins (first quarter) 1, J. C. Mitchelmore 2, D. G. M. Pearce 3, D. R. Bould 4, G. E. Mudge (cond.) 5, E. J. Cann 6.

WHITTLESEY, PETERBOROUGH.—On April 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss B. Hart (first quarter) 1, Miss J. Gray 2, Miss S. Randall 3, Miss L. Stagg 4, W. Smith (cond.) 5, J. Edwards 6, T. Bell (first quarter) 7. For Evensong and the Queen's birthday.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Our sympathy to Barnwood, Glos. ringers, who have been bereaved by the death of their tower captain, Percy Newland.

The peal of Wigston Surprise Major reported on page 369 should read 5,152 changes, and not 5,040.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Harris both took part in a quarter of Stedman Triples at Hinton-on-the-Green, Worcs, in honour of their 40th wedding anniversary.

Furness Branch (Lancs) is losing two lady ringers—the Misses Doreen Maclean and Ann Blundell—who are shortly leaving for 12 months in South Africa. There was a farewell quarter at Broughton-in-Furness on May 4th.

The Davids have rung another peal, this time at the Bell Tower, Evesham—Cambridge Surprise Maximus. A footnote is necessary to identify the two David Marshalls. David P. Hilling, of Slough, conducted.

Miss Pam Gough, from Burwood, N.S.W., is working at St. Thomas' Hospital and was present at a recent St. Giles' practice of the Middlesex Association with two other Australians—Merrilyn Chambers and Walter Knight.

Lost—one chocolate cake! Finder rewarded on returning same to Bingham District (Southwell Guild) tea ladies.

Mr. Ross Bampton has completed his year in Melbourne, where he enjoyed the 10- and 12-bell ringing at the Cathedral, and is now back at Burwood with his young company.

The 21st birthday peal of Grand-sire Triples for David P. Moore at Leicester Cathedral on April 27th was intended to be Stedman Cinques. Alas, one of the cars broke down en route. The conductor wishes to associate the unfortunate victims with the peal, viz.: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Foster, Miss Juliet Stoy and Nigel Thompson.

Mrs. Nancy Poore Tufts informs us that the Potomac English Handbell Ringers last December gave two Christmas concerts to the British Embassy and also 12 concerts at EXPO 67, representing the U.S. Government. Mrs. Tufts is the owner and director of the bells.

Mr. Anthony J. Cox writes withdrawing the peal of Plain Bob Major at Bristol as being rung for the Gloucester and Bristol Association. He asks that it should be recorded as "Non-Association." (See issue of March 22nd, page 228.)

Bellfounders' Gift Page to 'The Ringing World'

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BELFRY GOSSIP

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A SURREY BELL FESTIVAL

Limpfield Chart's first-ever Bell Festival was held on May 4th. This was the opening event in the local campaign for Christian Aid. Visitors to the Festival at St. Andrew's came from Kent and Surrey, and some good ringing was enjoyed during the day.

The morning's programme included instruction on handbells, under the direction of Mr. E. Nixon, followed by a soup-and-sandwich lunch. A striking competition took place in the afternoon, the test piece being six to eight minutes of call changes. In spite of familiarity with the bells, St. Andrew's band (ten faults) could not outdo West Wickham's seven faults. Limpfield (St. Peter's) band took third place—it was good that their lack of experience did not deter them from entering. Mr. W. A. Hughes adjudicated, and after tea commented on the performances.

A selection of Central Council publications was on display; one of these was selected by Mr. J. Cannell as the prize to take back to West Wickham belfry, suitably inscribed. The Rev. Philip Haynes spoke appreciatively of the efforts of all concerned, both visitors and organisers. Prayers for Christian Aid were said in church, and then followed more ringing until the bells were lowered at 7.40 p.m.

A fiesta for bellringers, said the advance notice in the parish magazine, and it turned out that way. A visitor's impression was that the Festival deserved wider support, although choice of date was unfortunate. For future reference, parents please note that youngsters of all ages were well provided for. The organiser was Mr. R. Stephens, ably assisted by friends of the local band. R. W. S.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY

The annual general meeting of the University of Bristol Society was held on May 7th, when the following officers were elected for the 1968-69 session: Master, Mandi McCallion; secretary, Anthony J. Cox; treasurer, Michael J. Platt; tower secretary, Andrew N. Brock.

It was announced that the president, Dr. G. Hudson, would be leaving Bristol at the end of this session. The meeting decided to ask Dr. Hudson to remain in office until the next dinner day, when the question of his successor would be dealt with at the special general meeting of both resident and non-resident members.

Arrangements for the Reunion Week-end at Bristol on June 7th, 8th and 9th were outlined by the general secretary (Edward J. Mould) and non-resident members are asked to reply to the circular as soon as possible.

The summer tour will be held this year in the Worcestershire-Herefordshire area.

1968 HANDBELL RALLY

The next Handbell Ringers' Rally will be held on Saturday, October 5th, at Ecclesfield Comprehensive School, Ecclesfield, near Sheffield, Yorkshire. Entry forms for teams ringing are obtainable from Mr. W. C. Gregory, 26, Rawsons Bank, Ecclesfield, Sheffield S30 3ZL, and must be returned before May 31st.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION—N. DISTRICT

The first meeting at Feering for ten years drew a goodly number of ringers to try out the recently rehung eight. A splice in the tenor rope began to look a little dodgy, but it had the decency to last out the day.

During the service the Vicar (the Rev. A. Moody) gave an address (somewhat reluctantly), in which he traced the history of bells and ringing from the pre-Christian era. R. T.

NEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Ringing in the East has reached new heights during the last year or so with the renewed ringing activity at Hingham as the possible highlight. Mr. W. A. Theobald, of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, has been touring the States on business, and has had the opportunity to explore the ringing situation over a wide region. His visit has greatly stimulated interest, particularly in the areas where visits from experts are rare.

At the end of May a ringing week-end is being arranged. The towers included are at Kent, Smith College, Hingham, Perkins School for the Blind (Watertown) and Groton. We are hoping that as many as possible will be able to participate, and are particularly looking forward to meeting Frank Price (Warfield, Berks) and Tom Goodyer (Sydney, Australia), who will be in the area at that time. This will probably be the first regional meeting to be held, and it is hoped that everyone will get a chance to practise something special.

Handbell ringing in the area, fostered especially at Smith College in recent years, has become popular, and a quarter peal of Bob Minor was rung in early May by two New England locals (Joan Hutchinson, who is going to Warwick University in the autumn, and Geoffrey Davies) and Richard Dirksen, on a visit from Washington.

WHERE WILL IT END ?

Inspired by the leading article in "The Ringing World" of May 3rd, "Whither into the Realm of the Unknown," the following has been composed by a Hampshire ringer as coming from any of a dozen "old sweats" who do not aspire to be any of the future 400.

As life goes on I sing my song,
With Double Norwich I'm really clever.
These young lads now they come and go
But I go on for ever.

To call nine-spliced is really nice,
And to these bands we offer
Best wishes for future success
In everything they proffer.

How far can we ever foresee
To what the future holds,
As long as there are bells to ring,
Or of failures left untold.

Ten years from now will they still go
On Saturdays and week-nights, too,
To ring these peals so far from home;
The answer is it's up to you.

I've tried it all and like to call
And ring the tenor when I can.
I'll ring it fast or ring it slow.
And strike it as good as any man.

So to you all, both big and small,
Whatever methods you may try,
Will you still be here in twenty years
Or given up, I wonder why?

I've seen them come and when they've rung
Rush off to pastures new.
Their lists of towers soon grow and grow,
Leaving their own band to stew.

We are all the same when in God's name,
Whatever our standards be.
Our ringing is done to summon all,
For this we dedicate ourselves to Thee.

URANGWOT—6

Recently three friends of mine decided to have another go at a peal of Minor "in hand." They all read "The Ringing World" and, what is more, they all buy "The Ringing World," and I have often heard them talk about useful tips they have culled from its pages. They passed one on to me on this occasion: "This may not be a record attempt but there's still no need for you to ring up to find out how we're getting on." "All right," I said, "but I shall want to know how you get on this time." "We'll make a bargain with you," said the conductor, "for I suppose you'll be round at the Forth and Inn as usual." "Naturally," I concurred. "Well, we'll join you afterwards and if we ring the peal you can buy us all a drink, and if we've failed we'll all buy you a drink." "Done," I said, adding "Best of luck. See you all on Friday night."

Friday came and in due course my friends joined me in the lounge. I fished in my pocket for my money just in case, but they would not at first give me a direct answer as to whether they had rung the peal or not. They told me that they had decided among themselves that each one would tell the truth or tell a lie in answering any questions that I cared to put and each knew what the others were to do. Fortunately I knew which pair of bells each would be ringing and I also had some idea of the questions to ask. Firstly, I asked the 1-2 man whether the other two were to adopt the same policy as each other about answering truthfully or lying. Secondly, I asked the 3-4 man whether the 1-2 man was more prone to tell lies than the 5-6 man in their arrangement. Each question was answered with "Yes" or "No" and, after considering the answers I received, I realised that I could be quite sure of how I stood with the 5-6 man and so I asked him "Did you ring the peal?" He answered "No."

In those circumstances would you have paid for the drinks or not? If you can work out the answer and send it to the Editor you might get him to pay for a drink or two if yours is opened first! Closing date is May 31st.

T. SURR.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

By kind permission of Mr. H. L. Hatfield, the annual general meeting of the Liverpool University Society was held on May 4th at 23, Cumberland Avenue, Liverpool.

A new committee was elected consisting of: Mr. G. Sparling, Master; Mr. H. Dobbin, secretary; Mr. M. Cony, treasurer; Miss P. Jenkins, ordinary member, and, following an amendment to the constitution, they took office after a joint committee meeting on May 8th.

Mr. J. Fox (of Flat 4, The Chalet, Budworth Road, Noctern, Birkenhead, Cheshire), was elected dinner secretary, to be held on February 22nd. Other dates arranged were: E.G.M., Friday, October 18th, and A.G.M. on Saturday, May 3rd, 1969. The annual tour (August 23rd-30th), which is to be organised by Mr. R. Shea (of 19, Maryport Street, Usk, Mon), is hoped to take the form of a cruise on a canal narrow boat. P. J.

TOWER BELL PEALS

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE, Som.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 4 lb.

Raymond P. Selway .. Treble	H. E. George Jeans .. 4
H. Dennis W. Bishop .. 2	Albert W. Dyer .. 5
Gilbert W. Rendell .. 3	William E. Turner .. Tenor

Conducted by William E. Turner.

Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Turner.

HIGH HAM, Somerset.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in 21 methods/variations, two extents each of Stedman, Union, Stedman Slow Course, Plain Bob, April Day, Kennington, Southrepps, Clifford's Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon, Eynsham, St. Albans, St. Martin, St. Leonard, St. Paul, St. Giles, Lapley, St. Nicholas, St. Miles, St. John, Winchendon.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

Mervyn R. Arscott .. Treble	Robert Parker .. 3
Arthur H. Reed .. 2	Keith E. Beale .. 4

Raymond F. Arscott Tenor

Conducted by Keith E. Beale.

Most methods/variations to a peal by all the band.

Rung as a birthday compliment to F. Mills, of Norton Fitzwarren.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

BRISTOL.—At Christ Church with St. Ewen.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

Patrick J. Bird .. Treble	Anthony J. Cox .. 6
Christine A. Foster .. 2	†Andrew N. Brock .. 7
Alan Metters .. 3	C. Martin Foster .. 8
Elizabeth M. Emmett .. 4	Ian C. Maycock .. 9
*Michael J. Platt .. 5	Edward G. Mould .. Tenor

Composed by Albert M. Tyler.

Conducted by Patrick J. Bird.

* First peal of Grandsire. † First peal "inside."

LONGNEY, Gloucestershire.—At the Church of St. Lawrence.

On Sun., May 5, 1968, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt.

Patrick J. Bird .. Treble	Michael J. Platt .. 5
*Christine A. Foster .. 2	C. Martin Foster .. 6
*Jonathan G. Rose .. 3	Edward G. Mould .. 7
Anthony J. Cox .. 4	Ian C. Maycock .. Tenor

Composed by Simon Humphrey.

Conducted by Ian C. Maycock.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

SOHAM, Cambridgeshire.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5052 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

M. Hutchings (Newham) Treble	R. S. Bradley (Clare) .. 6
*R. A. G. Inglis (Selwyn) 2	*R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel) 7
G. H. Jones (St. John's) 3	E. N. Thomas (St. John's) 8
R. L. Underwood (P'house) 4	A. F. Scholfield (Clare) .. 9
A. T. Winter (Christ's) .. 5	D. P. Sturge (St. John's) Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Richard A. G. Inglis.

* 25th peal together.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Major J. H. R. Freeborn and Mrs. Ada Miller.

BUSHEY, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. James.

On Mon., April 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

C W. Woolley (Selwyn) Treble	K J. Darvill (St. Cath's) 5
R W. H. Hayes (Caius) .. 2	C M. Press (King's) .. 6
C. H. Rogers (Emmanuel) 3	D. E. Rothera (Trinity Hall) 7
P. F. Windley (Jesus) .. 4	M L. J. Jordan (Trin. Hall) Tenor

Composed by G. Lindoff.

Conducted by C. W. Woolley.

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

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

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

M J. Pickup (Churchill) Treble	D. S. Pont (Christ's) .. 5
D P. Sturge (St. John's) 2	*G. H. Jones (St. John's) 6
Merryn Hutchings (Newn.) 3	V Nutton (Selwyn) .. 7
R L. Underwood (P'house) 4	R. A. G. Inglis (Selwyn) Tenor

Composed by Norman Smith.

Conducted by Vivian Nutton.

* 25th peal for the Guild.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FRODSHAM, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Lawrence.

On Fri., April 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's .. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.	
Oswald D. Claybrook .. Treble	Keith Walpole .. 5
Keith Hackney .. 2	John R. Bibby .. 6
Cynthia Warrilow .. 3	William G. Bibby .. 7
John E. Bibby .. 4	Walter Allman .. Tenor

Conducted by John E. Bibby.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Bryan D. Claybrook and Miss Muriel E. Orme.

ACTON, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Tues., April 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In 42 methods/variations, being one extent each of St. Simon, St. Albans, Cassington, Elford, Eynsham, St. Martin, St. Paul, St. Peter, Austrey, St. Leonard, St. Nicholas, St. Giles, St. Thomas, Shareshill, Lapley, Winchendon Place, St. Miles, St. Luke, Ryton, St. John, Grandsire, Rev. St. Bartholomew, Northrepps, Fortune, Tredington, Preston, Thrumpton, All Saints', Rushall, Marchington, Rev. Canterbury, Clifford's Pleasure, St. Columb, Southrepps, Wychbold, Little Aston, Plain Bob, April Day, Old, Kennington, Dedworth and Seighford.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in F.

*Stanley Sutton .. Treble	Frank R. Morton .. 4
†Geoffrey A. Edwards .. 2	†John R. Scott .. 5
Frederick S. Sutton .. 3	*Herbert Sutton .. Tenor

Conducted by John R. Scott.

* First peal in 42 methods/ variations. † 125th peal for the Guild. First in 42 methods/variations as conductor.

Rung fully muffled in memoriam Mr. J. H. Harrison, people's warden of this church.

STOKE-ON-TERN, Shropshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Fri., May 3, 1968, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

*Frank R. Morton .. Treble	Brian Harris .. 4
Stephen P. Newton .. 2	Geoffrey A. Edwards .. 5
†David Allman .. 3	*John R. Scott .. Tenor

Conducted by Frank R. Morton.

* Has now "circled the tower" to peals. † 50th peal, all rung with 1 and 5. Conductor's 125th peal as conductor and has now conducted a peal from each bell in this tower.

Rung in memoriam Mr. Peter Laffin, the hon. librarian of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DODDERHILL, Worcestershire.—At the Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury.

On Sat., April 20, 1968, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in E.

E. Anthea M. Sparshott .. Treble	Robert W. Sherriff .. 5
Shirley E. Jones .. 2	Stephen F. Royal .. 6
Peter C. Randall .. 3	Ian C. Maycock .. 7
Anthony J. Cox .. 4	James W. Belshaw .. Tenor

Composed by S. J. Ivin.

Conducted by Ian C. Maycock.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Alan Russell and Avril Smith, both local ringers, who were married later in the day.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

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

On Sat., March 9, 1968, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. in F sharp.

*Jill K. Orme .. Treble	Frank W. Rivett .. 5
C. Edward Jeffries .. 2	Rodney H. French .. 6
Alfred E. Rushton .. 3	C. Michael Orme .. 7
†Ronald J. Sharp .. 4	Philip Mehew .. Tenor

Composed by Norman Smith.

Conducted by Philip Mehew.

* First peal on eight bells. † 450th of Surprise. First in the method as conductor. First in the county for this Society by a resident band since 1949.

THE DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—At the Church of St. Andrew, Litchurch.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in E.

J. Edward Cawser .. Treble	David K. Walklate .. 6
Beryl E. Cawser .. 2	B. Stedman Payne .. 7
Alan Evans .. 3	†Roger I. Kendrick .. 8
*Geoffrey Bridges .. 4	†Ian V. J. Smith .. 9
*Kevin A. Betesta .. 5	Russell S. Morris .. Tenor

Conducted by J. Edward Cawser.

* First peal of Royal. † First of Yorkshire Royal.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

On Sat., April 28, 1968, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5022 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in G.

Philip J. Rothera Treble	John S. Rank 5
Susan Rothera 2	John G. Gipson 6
*Geoffrey Pearson 3	David E. Rothera 7
Donald F. Murfet 4	Kenneth J. Hesketh .. Tenor

Composed by S. Humphrey.

Conducted by Kenneth J. Hesketh.

* 250th peal

Rung in honour of the christening of Ann Louise Motley.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAM ABBEY, Essex.—At the Abbey Church of the Holy Cross and St. Lawrence.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 38 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in C.

*Caroline R. F. Cole .. Treble	Michael C. Austin .. 7
†Robert E. J. Dennis .. 2	Kenneth Warner .. 8
Julia A. Fellows 3	Jonathan S. N. Porter .. 9
Robert J. Chapman .. 4	Donald E. Cobb .. 10
Andrew J. Slade 5	John C. Slater .. 11
Dennis Ellidson 6	*†George E. Bonham .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Robert E. J. Dennis.

* First peal on 12 bells and of Stedman. † 25th peal together.

Rung for the anniversary of the consecration of Waltham Abbey, which took place on May 3rd, 1060.

CHELMSFORD, Essex.—At the Cathedral Church of SS. Mary the Virgin, Peter and Cedd.

On Mon., April 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 34 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in C sharp.

*Keith W. Brown .. Treble	Joe E. G. Roast 6
Josephine A. Quilter .. 2	David E. Rothera 7
†Susan Rothera 3	Alfred J. House 8
Robert E. J. Dennis .. 4	Philip J. Rothera 9
Andrew J. Slade 5	James L. Towler .. Tenor

Composed by Roderick W. Pipe. Conducted by Robert E. J. Dennis.

* First peal on ten bells. † 250th peal.

Rung to welcome the new Bishop of Bradwell.

LEYTON, Essex.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in A flat.

*Christine A. Morton .. Treble	†David A. Wright 5
Charles A. Hughes 2	Dennis A. Hewitt 6
Kenneth Warner 3	Dennis Ellidson 7
†Stephen G. Halliwell .. 4	*Michael G. Hollis .. Tenor

Composed by J. J. Parker. Conducted by Dennis Ellidson.

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

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTH MYMMS, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5048 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

*Frances Dodds .. Treble	Roger D. R. Brown .. 5
Katharine S. Hardy .. 2	Thomas J. Lock 6
*†Susan E. Farnes 3	Gerald Penney 7
Eric Edmondson 4	Robert E. Hardy .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. Kippin. Conducted by Robert E. Hardy.

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

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

LIMERICK.—At the Church of Mount St. Alphonsus.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr.

Patrick Hanley .. Treble	Anthony Curtin 5
*Noel Newman 2	Liam Benson 6
†Joseph Neville 3	John T. Dunwoody .. 7
*Hugh O'Brien 4	*†John O'Neill .. Tenor

Composed by H. Hubbard. Conducted by John T. Dunwoody.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal, first attempt.

Rung in honour of the centenary of the Arch Confraternity of the Holy Family. Limerick (1868–1968).

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEWISHAM.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., March 16, 1968, in 3 Hours.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

*Michael Rigby .. Treble	*Robin Grant 5
Maureen J. Carruthers .. 2	David G. Hollis 6
Christopher J. Easton .. 3	John Pladdys 7
Richard A. J. Bower .. 4	Christopher P. Starbuck .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. Prichard. Conducted by Christopher P. Starbuck.

* First peal on eight bells.

STAPLEHURST, Kent.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5184 EALING SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in E flat.

Doris E. Colgate .. Treble	Stanley Jenner 5
*Margaret E. Oram 2	Ian H. Oram 6
*Simon A. B. Wigg 3	*Thomas Cullingworth .. 7
Ralph Bird 4	Tony Lewis Tenor

Composed by Stanley Jenner.

Conducted by Tony Lewis.

* First peal in the method.

DOWNE, Kent.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In six methods: (1) Kent and Oxford, (2) Beverley, (3) Single Oxford, (4) Cambridge, (5, 6 and 7) Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 lb. in G.

Christopher J. Easton .. Treble	Peter G. Holden 4
Maureen J. Carruthers .. 2	*Robin J. Grant 5
*Anthony P. Smith 3	John Pladdys Tenor

Conducted by John Pladdys.

* Most methods to a peal.

Rung following the village "May Queen" Festival, and also as a 20th birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEICESTER.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's 12-part (7th obs.).	Tenor 25 cwt. 20 lb. in D.
Cecil W. Pipe .. Treble	Richard Grant 5
Elizabeth Timmins 2	Bernard J. Stone 6
David F. Moore 3	Richard C. Stevens .. 7
Russell Morris 4	Andrew J. C. Brown .. Tenor

Conducted by Richard C. Stevens.

Rung with the best wishes of the band to David F. Moore on his 21st birthday.

GREAT BOWDEN, Leics.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

On Tues., April 16, 1968, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent T.B. and Plain Bob and one 720 Oxford T.B. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 lb.

Raymond H. Martin .. Treble	Hazel J. Nichols 4
John Hunt 2	Edward Guy Slater .. 5
Edward C. Cowd 3	Edward W. Martin .. Tenor

Conducted by Edward W. Martin.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, Yorks.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

Jack L. Millhouse .. Treble	Richard D. Gibson 7
Rev. Frederick Ross .. 2	Geoffrey R. Parker .. 8
Geoffrey W. Randle .. 3	Alan H. Bridges 9
Harold F. Gibson 4	Michael Maughan .. 10
*Elizabeth Foster 5	Michael W. Crowder .. 11
Geoffrey Paul 6	George E. Dawson .. Tenor

Composed by Andrew S. Hudson. Conducted by Jack L. Millhouse.

* First peal on 12 bells.

Tenor 26 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in D.

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

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Tenor 8½ cwt.

John Walden .. Treble	Walter Tomlinson .. 4
William R. Parker .. 2	Philip C. Pitchford .. 5
Louis Willders 3	Peter A. Sharp .. Tenor

Composed by Rev. E. Bankes James. Conducted by Peter A. Sharp.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. H. G. E. Smith, of Eagle, who celebrated his 80th birthday on May 1st, 1968.

THE LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BAGLAN, Glamorgan.—At the Church of St. Catherine.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two extents Plain Bob, five 240's and 30 extents of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr.

Thomas E. Hiddins .. Treble	Nigel V. Hill 4
D. Walford Davies 2	William T. Petty 5
Raymond J. Mayle 3	Harold Preece Tenor

Conducted by William T. Petty.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.—At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

On Tues., April 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 LYME SURPRISE MAJOR

Frank Chambers .. Treble	†Robert L. Piron 5
*Richard J. Clifton .. 2	†Arthur E. Rowley .. 6
†Rev. M. C. C. Melville .. 3	G. Ronald Edwards .. 7
Joseph W. Cotton 4	Roland Beniston .. Tenor

Composed by Roger Baldwin. Conducted by Roland Beniston.

* 400th peal. † First in the method. First is the method as conductor.

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

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.—At the Bell Foundry Campanile.
On Tues., May 7, 1968, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 WHITWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

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

Richard J. Clifton .. Treble	*Frank Chambers 5
*John K. Smith 2	Arthur E. Rowley 6
*Rev. M. C. C. Melville .. 3	G. Ronald Edwards 7
Joseph W. Cotton 4	Roland Beniston Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. Speed.

Conducted by Roland Beniston.

* First peal in the method.

WINSHILL, Derbyshire.—At the Church of St. Mark.

On Tues., April 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

42 extents.

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. in F.

*Kathryn J. Brooks Treble	George L. Roobottom 4
*Susan E. Roberts 2	John K. Smith 5
Cyril T. Haynes 3	*Neil Golder Treble

Conducted by John K. Smith.

* First peal.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GREAT YARMOUTH, Norfolk.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.
On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5042 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 30 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in D.

Colin A. Tester Treble	*Peter S. Muchlinski 7
Judith M. Corby 2	Martin L. Howe 8
Olive D. Tester 3	†Rev. Peter N. Bond 9
Trevor A. Cross 4	Andrew J. Corby 10
Bernard F. L. Groves 5	Robert B. Smith 11
Richard Hayes 6	Philip A. Corby Tenor

Composed by Peter Border. Conducted by Bernard F. L. Groves.

* First peal on 12 bells. † First of Surprise Maximus. ‡ Completes Cambridge from Minor to Maximus.

NORWICH.—At the Church of St. George, Colegate.

On Fri., May 3, 1968, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being extents of Beverley, Cambridge, London, Norwich, Surfleet, Warkworth and Wells. Tenor 5 cwt. 80 lb.

Ann E. Fellows Treble	David E. House 4
David Cubitt 2	Geoffrey H. Pullin 5
*Janet House 3	Martin Cubitt Tenor

Conducted by David E. House.

* First peal in seven Surprise methods.

Rung to welcome the Rev. Roy P. Flindall, B.D., Vicar of St. Saviour with St. Paul the Hermit and priest-in-charge of St. Clement with St. Edmund and St. George, Colegate, instituted and inducted in this church on April 29th.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ADDERBURY, Oxon.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5022 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. 14 lb.

Roger W. Smith Treble	Alan A. Paul 5
Kilby R. Holtom 2	Barry E. Saunders 6
Richard F. B. Speed 3	Graham C. Paul 7
Robert A. Reeves 4	Barrie Hendry Tenor

Composed by Charles Middleton. Conducted by Richard F. B. Speed.

EAST ILSLEY, Berkshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in G.

Thurstans' four-part.	Brian R. White 5
Patricia E. Hibbert .. Treble	John W. T. Hibbert 6
David A. Vince 2	John H. Napper 7
Marjorie C. Hibbert 3	Harry R. Wells Tenor
William Hibbert 4	

Conducted by John H. Napper.

Rung in memoriam Edward Thomas Sneller.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

On Fri., May 3, 1968, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 VANDERPLANCK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

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

Composed by Gabriel Lindoff. Conducted by Richard F. B. Speed.

First peal in the method.

VANDERPLANCK SURPRISE MAJOR

C 38—58, 16—56—36—14—58, 14—14, 78.

FLORE, Northants.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Fri., April 26, 1968, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR

Containing 63 methods in the following seven extents: (1) Marple, Taxal, Elston, Old Oxford, College Bob IV, Newdigate, Willesden, Braintree, Humber, Clarence, Neasden, St. Albans, Charlwood and Wragby Delight, Morning Star T.B., (2) Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Rosendale, Stamford, Annable's London and Netherseale Surprise, (3) Oxford, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Capel, Kingston, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Ockley and Norbury T.B., Pontefract, Wath, Donottar and Carisbrooke Delight, (4) Ely, Wilmslow, Boge-done, Rostherne, Knutsford, Balmoral, Fotheringay, Chepstow and Skipton Delight, Bourne and Hull Surprise, Nelson T.B., (5) Castle-ton, Peveler, Leasowe, Melandra and Beeston Delight, (6) Abbeyville, Canterbury, Combermere, Vale Royal, Crowland and St. Werburgh Delight, (7) Cambridge, Beverley, Surfleet, Primrose, Berwick and Hexham Surprise, with 124 changes of method and a plain lead of each included. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

Stanley M. Ruddlesden .. Treble	Barry E. Saunders 4
*Alan A. Paul 2	*Graham C. Paul 5
David J. Marshall 3	Barrie Hendry Tenor

Conducted by Graham C. Paul.

* 200th peal together. Most methods rung to a peal by all the band and for the Guild.

(Northampton Branch)

BRAFELD-ON-THE-GREEN, Northants.—At the Church of

St. Laurence.

On Fri., May 3, 1968, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Oxford Treble Bob and two each of Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

Philip Jones Treble	Iestyn G. Morgan 4
Anne Henman 2	Raymond Henman 5
David J. Morgan 3	Allan R. Jones Tenor

Conducted by Allan R. Jones.

Rung by the Sunday service band.

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

BIRMINGHAM.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Philip.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5042 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

Roderick W. Pipe Treble	James W. Belshaw 7
Susan E. Smith 2	Andrew J. Corby 8
Norman J. Goodman 3	David Beacham 9
Vernon Green 4	George E. Fearn 10
Maurice F. Edwards 5	J. Alan Ainsworth 11
James Insley 6	Clifford A. Barron Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Roderick W. Pipe.

BIRMINGHAM.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Aston.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5042 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 24 cwt. 102 lb. in D.

Norman J. Goodman .. Treble	*Stephen W. Barton 7
Susan E. Smith 2	James W. Belshaw 8
Maurice F. Edwards 3	Terry R. Hampton 9
John R. Insley 4	Andrew J. Corby 10
Vernon Green 5	J. Alan Ainsworth 11
James Insley 6	Martin D. Fellows Tenor

Composed by Roderick W. Pipe.

Conducted by J. Alan Ainsworth.

* First peal of Maximus.

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THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHARMINSTER Dorset.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

*Joseph W. Marshall .. Treble	†Ernest H. Amey 5
*†R. H. Jack Mears 2	*Philip R. Board 6
*Roderick A. Bryant 3	§Timothy F. Collins 7
*Christopher W. Tidwell .. 4	‡Richard H. Duke Tenor

Composed by H. Hubbard. Conducted by Timothy F. Collins.
 * First peal on eight bells. † First away from tenor. ‡ First of Triples in the method. § First of Triples. First on eight bells as conductor. First on the bells since augmentation to eight.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Jennifer Smith, daughter of Mr. E. S. Smith, churchwarden, and Mr. Peter Spence, immediately after the ceremony. Tenor 15 cwt. in F

WAREHAM, Dorset.—At the Church of Lady St. Mary.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

A PEAL OF 5120 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

*Frances J. N. Brown .. Treble	David W. Grimwood 5
†Ross G. W. Robertson .. 2	John N. Longridge 6
Philip R. Keough 3	Ronald N. Marlow 7
*Robert C. A. Philpott .. 4	Timothy F. Collins Tenor

Composed by W. Harrison. Conducted by Timothy F. Collins.
 * First peal on eight bells. † First of Major. First of Major as conductor.

Rung as a wedding anniversary compliment to the incumbent, Canon J. C. Wallis, and Mrs Wallis. Also a birthday compliment to Mrs. Wallis. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in E.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EDGMOND, Shropshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.	Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in G.
George E. Morrall .. Treble	Ernest C. Morrall 4
*Keith Daniels 2	Frank Beech 5
Ruth A. E. Fairbrother .. 3	Edward R. Fairbrother .. Tenor

Conducted by Edward R. Fairbrother.

* First peal "inside."

The treble ringer has now "circled the tower."

Rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Rev. R. J. Taylor.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

NOTTINGHAM, Nottinghamshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5042 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb.	
Tudor P. Edwards .. Treble	David E. Rothera 7
Susan Rothera 2	Philip J. Rothera 8
Maryl R. Fielden 3	Edward Jenkins 9
Ann E. Fellows 4	Derek Butterworth 10
Richard S. Starkie 5	John H. Fielden 11
Kenneth J. Hesketh 6	Ralph G. Edwards Tenor

Composed by Peter Border. Conducted by Tudor P. Edwards.

BABWORTH Nottinghamshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Wed., April 24, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Single Oxford and five of Plain Bob.	
Harry Poyner Treble	*Christine M. Wright .. 4
Linda M. Wilkinson 2	†Bryan Birkett 5
S. Geoffrey Pick 3	Keith Hilton Tenor

Conducted by S. Geoffrey Pick.

* First peal in two methods. † First "inside."

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Arthur Hilton, father of the tenor ringer, on his retirement. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

HOLME PIERREPONT, Notts.—At the Church of St. Edmund.

On Fri., April 26, 1968, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In nine methods, being five extents each of All Saints', Rushall, Reverse Canterbury, Southrepps, Little Aston, Plain Bob, Kennington and Seighford and two extents April Day.	Tenor 11 cwt.
Mrs. Joyce M. Marsh .. Treble	W. Gordon Marsh 4
Andrew L. B. King 2	Maurice W. Harrison .. 5
Ruth Blackshaw 3	Robert D. Marsh Tenor

Conducted by W. Gordon Marsh.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam William Brailsford Wood, aged 64 years, churchwarden at age of 21 and a faithful church officer, who passed to higher life on April 16th, 1968.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WITHYHAM, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sun., April 28, 1968, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 9 lb. in E.	
Richard Haves Treble	Philip A. Corby 5
Judith M. Corby 2	*Tony Lewis 6
Philip J. Symmonds 3	John W. Smith 7
Frank I. Hairs 4	†Ernest J. Ladd Tenor

Composed by Roger Baldwin. Conducted by Ernest J. Ladd.
 * 200th peal. † 50th peal on the bells.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. J. F. Woolford, granddaughter of the ringer of the fourth.

BOLNEY, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. in F.

June M. Mitchell .. Treble	†Roger Osborn 5
Derek Slater 2	‡James M. Hills 6
*Valerie J. Howard 3	David D. Smith 7
Herbert W. Woolven .. 4	John A. Howard Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by John A. Howard.
 * First peal in the method. † First of Surprise Major "inside."

‡ First of Major in the method.
 Rung with the best wishes of the band to Jessie and Bert Woolven, emigrating to Australia.

FINDON, Sussex.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different callings.	Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.
Henry C. Weaver .. Treble	Graham R. Hills 4
Brenda I. Cox 2	Roy M. Cox 5
Colin J. Champion 3	Raymond P. Wood Tenor

Conducted by Colin J. Champion.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LILleshall, Shropshire.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being in the following extents: (1) London Surprise, (2) Oxford T.B., (3 and 4) Cambridge Surprise, (5) Kent T.B., (6) St. Clement's, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat.

*Gillian Bosworth-Smith Treble	*Philip R. Johnson 4
*Alan J. Fletcher 2	Ian Friend 5
*Stephen T. Yates 3	Philip G. K. Davies .. Tenor

Conducted by Philip G. K. Davies.

* First peal in six methods.

THE UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, E.C.

On Wed., May 8, 1968, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In six methods, viz.: (1) Kent and Oxford T.B., (2) Beverley, (3) Surfleet, (4) Cambridge, (5) Cambridge, (6) Plain Bob, (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. in F.

Christopher J. Easton .. Treble	Peter G. Holden 4
*Maureen J. Carruthers .. 2	†Timothy G. Pett 5
†Audrey R. Alexander .. 3	John Pladdys Tenor

Conducted by John Pladdys.

* 25th peal. † 25th peal together.

Rung to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. C. G. How.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

EVESHAM, Worcestershire.—At The Bell Tower.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5042 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 35 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in C sharp.

David P. Hilling .. Treble	David A. Cornwall 7
David E. Parsons 2	David J. Llewellyn 8
David J. Forder 3	David Beacham 9
David E. Rothera 4	David W. Friend 10
David J. King 5	†David J. Marshall 11
*David J. Marshall 6	David J. Purnell Tenor

Arranged by Peter Border. Conducted by David P. Hilling.

* From Derbyshire. † From Daventry.

First peal of Maximus by a band of Davids.

STOKE PRIOR, Worcs.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sat., April 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

Morley P. Tobin .. Treble	Stephen W. Barton 5
Arthur C. Berry 2	Robert Edwards 6
Margaret A. Swain 3	Martin D. Fellows 7
Clifford Skidmore 4	Gerald C. Hemming Tenor

Composed by Arthur Craven. Conducted by Gerald C. Hemming.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., May 4, 1968, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 42 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. in C.

M Susan Jackson .. Treble	C. Barrie Dove 7
Richard H. Youdale .. 2	Gwilym Salmon 8
Christopher M. Movley .. 3	Philip N. Tubbs 9
Michael J. Thomas .. 4	Edward J. Chivers 10
Ronald J. Snack 5	Robert C. Kippin 11
Frank L. Harris 6	John Potts Tenor

Composed by J. Carter. Conducted by Frank L. Harris.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HUNTINGTON, Yorkshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Mon., April 15, 1968, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In two methods, being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 5 cwt. 17 lb. in B flat.

*A. Colin Banton Treble	Jennifer E. Pearce 4
Christine Broadley 2	J. Martin Thorley 5
Patsy M. Barnes 3	Christopher J. Groome .. Tenor

Conducted by Christopher J. Groome.

* Has "circled the tower" to peals.

MARKET WEIGHTON, East Yorks.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Mon., April 15, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in A flat.

Christopher J. Groome .. Treble	Jennifer E. Pearce 4
Cynthia E. Barnett 2	J. Martin Thorley 5
A. Shirley Beanland 3	*A. Colin Banton Tenor

Conducted by A. Colin Banton.

* 50th peal for the Association.

Rung in memory of Ernest H. Lindley, of Tadcaster.

WHIXLEY, West Yorkshire.—At the Church of the Ascension.

On Thurs., April 18, 1968, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In four methods, being one extent each of Single Oxford, Double Oxford and St. Clement's and four extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 5 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in G sharp.

Christine Broadley Treble	†Jennifer E. Pearce 4
*Cynthia E. Barnett 2	†Christopher J. Groome .. 5
†Susan E. Thompson 3	A. Colin Banton Tenor

Conducted by A. Colin Banton.

* First peal in more than one method. † 25th peal. ‡ 50th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Patsy Barnes.

(Huntington Guild)

HUNTINGTON, York.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sun., May 5, 1968, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in five methods, viz.: (1) Oxford T.B., (2) St. Clement's, (3) Kent T.B., (4) Single Oxford, (5, 6 and 7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 5 cwt. 17 lb. in B flat.

Susan Mitchell Treble	*Cynthia E. Barnett 4
*Patsy M. Barnes 2	Susan E. Thompson 5
A. Colin Banton 3	Christopher J. Groome .. Tenor

Conducted by A. Colin Banton.

* First peal in five methods.

Rung for Evensong and to mark the beginning of Christian Aid Week.

BENTLEY, YORKS.—On April 21st, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Miss A. Godbold 1, Miss J. Anderson 2, E. Cooper 3, R. J. Sanderson 4, J. Whitham (cond.) 5. First quarter 1, 2. Also on April 28th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Miss J. Bryant 1, G. Robinson 2, E. Cooper 3, R. J. Sanderson 4, J. Whitham (cond.) 5. First quarter 1, 2.

BRIGHTWELL - CUM - SOTWELL, BERKS.—On April 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mary Earle 1, Glenda Emmett 2, Angela Ayres 3, A. R. L. Cope 4, A. T. Pearce 5, P. G. McIlhone (cond.) 6. For early Communion.

COLEMANS HATCH, SUSSEX.—On April 16th, 1,264 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Hilary A. Thick 1, R. Jean Osbon 2, Janet E. Blake 3, Charlotte M. Harris 4, E. J. Ladd 5, R. Osbon 6, C. Osbon 7, F. H. Hicks (cond.) 8. First in method by 1, 3, 4 and 6.

EVERCREECH, SOM.—On April 26th, 1,287 Stedman Caters: H. J. Sanger 1, Mrs. M. Jones 2, J. Dunford 3, R. G. Beck 4, S. Lucas 5, V. Savage 6, D. Mackay 7, E. J. Chivers 8, G. Salmon (first Stedman Caters as cond.) 9, I. Whitehead 10. First of Stedman Caters 2, 3, 5 and 10.

GATESHEAD, CO. DURHAM.—On April 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Irene Richardson 1, Margaret A. Thow 2, Christine H. Telfer 3, M. Maughan 4, R. N. Scholes (cond.) 5, W. A. Thow 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. L. C. Knight, lay reader. Also on April 5th, 1,320 Minor (three methods): W. A. Thow 1, Margaret A. Thow 2, Christine H. Telfer 3, D. Martin 4, M. Maughan 5, R. N. Scholes (cond.) 6. A wedding compliment to Miss Doreen Bourn and Mr. Leslie Cowan. Also a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Ann Corden, of Shildon. Also on April 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. A. Thow 1, Margaret Hart 2, Margaret A. Thow 3, R. N. Scholes 4, C. W. Ottaway 5, I. V. Wintrip (first as cond.) 6. An engagement compliment to Brenda Cooke and Bill Davidson.

QUARTER PEALS

HEMINGTON, SOMERSET.—On May 7th, 1,440 Spliced Surprise Minor (nine methods): P. J. Devrell 1, J. E. Newman 2, D. G. Massey 3, D. J. Orledge 4, R. E. J. Baker 5, G. W. Massey (cond.) 6.

HILLINGDON, MIDDX.—At St. John's Church, on April 28th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: G. W. Critchley 1, F. W. Goodfellow (cond.) 2, Claudia Critchley 3, Patricia Copas 4, R. F. Prime 5, R. K. Russ 6, M. J. Palmer 7, M. W. Seymour 8, A. R. G. Twinn 9, W. H. Coles 10. For Evensong. Also on May 1st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: C. Venn 1, F. W. Goodfellow (cond.) 2, Marjorie Hill 3, Patricia Copas 4, R. K. Russ 5, M. W. Seymour 6, W. H. Coles 7, M. J. Palmer 8, A. R. G. Twinn 9, P. Venn 10. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Lady Juliet S. Craig, who was cremated this day; a friend of Hillingdon ringers all her life.

HOLME-ON-SPALDING MOOR, YORKS.—On April 20th, 1,140 T.B. Minor (11 methods): G. K. Smith 1, C. L. D. Munday 2, S. K. Thompson 3, Maris C. Stephenson 4, R. Ducker 5, J. R. Leary (cond.) 6.

HOLME PIERREPONT, NOTTS.—On April 5th, 1,320 Reverse Canterbury Doubles: J. M. Marsh 1, R. D. Marsh 2, W. G. Marsh 3, R. Blackshaw (cond.) 4, M. W. Harrison 5, R. T. Willey 6. Also on April 7th, 1,320 Doubles: Same company. For Evensong. Also on April 14th, 1,320 Reverse Canterbury Doubles: J. M. Marsh 1, W. G. Marsh 2, R. Blackshaw (cond.) 3, R. D. Marsh 4, M. W. Harrison 5. For Evensong. Also on April 17th, 1,320 Doubles. Rung half-muffled by same band in memoriam W. B. Wood, churchwarden for over 30 years. Also on April 21st, 1,320 All Saints: J. M. Marsh 1, G. W. Marsh 2, R. Blackshaw (cond.) 3, R. D. Marsh 4, M. W. Harrison 5, Hazel Carter 6. For Evensong.

HANDBELL PEALS

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MARPLE, Cheshire.—At 40, Ridge Crescent, Hawk Green.

On Thurs., April 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

*Alan F. Scholfield 1-2	Bernard F. L. Groves .. 5-6
†Alan A. Potts 3-4	Gerald Moorhouse 7-8
Robert B. Smith 9-10	

Composed by Arthur Knights. Conducted by Bernard F. L. Groves.

* First peal of Oxford T.B. Royal. † First of Treble Bob Royal "in hand."

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

COVENTRY, Warwickshire.—At 68, Warwick Avenue.

On Wed., May 1, 1968, in 2 Hours and 9 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

Frank W. Perrens 1-2	*Geoffrey Pratt 5-6
Hubert E. Ashley 3-4	Hubert G. Summers .. 7-8

Composed by J. Nicholl. Conducted by Geoffrey Pratt.

* First peal of Kent on handbells

THE DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—At Friarsfield, 5, Peet Street.

On Wed., May 8, 1968, in 1 Hour and 41 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In two methods, being one extent of St. Clement's and five of Plain Bob. Tenor size 11 in G.

Geoffrey Bridges 1-2	Michael J. Fellows 3-4
A. Colin Banton (cond.) .. 5-6	

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WHEATHAMPSTEAD, Herts.—At Rhossilli, 55, Wick Avenue.

On Thurs., April 11, 1968, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

Frederick W. Ellis 1-2	Brian J. Woodruffe 5-6
Julia A. Fellows 3-4	Peter T. Dale 7-8

Composed by Arthur Knights. Conducted by Brian J. Woodruffe.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WARFIELD, Berkshire.—At The Willows.

On Tues., April 23, 1968, in 1 Hour and 54 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE BOB MINOR

Comprising seven different extents. Tenor size 28 in A sharp.

Susanne Sargeant 1-2	Frank C. Price (cond.) .. 3-4
Jeffrey L. Cloughton 5-6	

First peal in the method by all the band.

LINCOLN.—At the Cathedral, on April 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: I. Minns 1, H. Lowman 2, J. Parkin 3, G. R. Parker 4, W. Tomlinson 5, W. Froggatt 6, P. Pitchford 7, I. Walden 8, J. L. Millhouse (cond.) 9, H. Gibson 10. First of Royal 1, 3, 6. For H.M. the Queen's birthday.

MILFORD-ON-SEA, HANTS.—On April 19th, 1,440 Kent T.B. Minor: Mrs. Rosemary Simpson 1, Flora Stocker 2, Faith Riley 3, A. Nunn 4, W. Godfrey 5, F. Harris (cond.) 6. First in method 1, 2, 3, 4. A farewell compliment to William Godfrey, going to St. Boniface College, Warminster.

SCOTHERN, Lincs.—On April 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. J. R. Herring (first quarter) 1, G. A. Dixon 2, D. W. Bee (first "inside") 3, C. V. Cade 4, H. J. Radley 5, A. C. A. Hopkins (first as cond.) 6. Half-muffled in memoriam the Very Rev. M. D. S. Peck Dean of Lincoln.

SHELFORD, NOTTS.—On March 17th, 1,260 Antelope Bob Doubles: A. Lazzarini 1, Mrs. D. Bradley 2, D. Lazzarini 3, F. Bradley 4, B. Mills (cond.) 5. Also on March 24th, 1,320 Canterbury Pleasure Doubles: A. Lazzarini 1, Mrs. D. Bradley 2, D. Lazzarini 3, F. Bradley 4, B. Mills (cond.) 5. Also on March 31st, 1,320 Reverse Bob Doubles: A. Lazzarini 1, Mrs. D. Bradley 2, D. Lazzarini 3, F. Bradley 4, B. Mills (cond.) 5. Also on April 14th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): R. Mills 1, A. Lazzarini 2, Mrs. C. Mills 3, D. Lazzarini 4, B. Mills (cond.) 5. All for Evensong.

SOLIHULL, WARMS.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. H. Leeson 1, T. J. Warner 2, G. E. Fearn 3, E. J. Cole 4, V. Green 5, D. Main 6, R. J. Cann (cond.) 7, A. Crabtree 8. For Patronal Festival service.

SUTTON-IN-HOLDERNESS, YORKS.—At 7 Westwood Close, on April 9th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor on handbells: Maris C. Stephenson 1-2, S. K. Thompson 3-4, J. R. Leary (cond.) 5-6.

NOTICES

NEW SCALE OF CHARGES

Minimum charge 5s. for 30 words, afterwards additional charge 2d. per word. For meetings only, each additional insertion half-charge.

Display in box 7s. 6d. per inch (7 lines) single column for each insertion. Per page, ordinary £10, cover £20, half-page £5 10s., half-page cover £10. Reduction for series on application

BIRTH

SMITH.—On Sunday, May 5th, 1968, at 114, Cotswold Way, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, to Susan Elizabeth (née Burt) and Anthony Dunn, a son (Graham Dunn). 3959

ENGAGEMENT

NEUBOULD—GARDINER.—The engagement is announced between Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Neubould, of Rothwell, and Patricia Maureen, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Gardiner, of Hessele. 3958

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

LYMPNE, KENT.—Any correspondence for this tower should be addressed to the captain, Miss Elizabeth Todd, Studfall, Lympe, Hythe, Kent, for the next four months during the absence of the secretary, abroad. 3973

PERSONAL

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."—Romans xv, 4.

Will Mr. P. M. Evans, of 89, Greenfield Road, Harborne, Birmingham 17, please contact this office, as his copy of "The Ringing World" is being returned marked "Gone Away."

Will Mr. P. Dale, of 26, Willow Way, St. Albans, Herts, please contact this office, as his copy of "The Ringing World" is being returned marked "Not Known."

Will Mr. C. D. Corby please send his address to the Editor.

RETURN THANKS

JEATER.—Mrs. Jeater and family desire to express their sincere thanks for letters of condolence and their appreciation of the floral tributes from Mr. Carveth and the Truro Diocesan Guild, the Central Council and Mr. Jeater's colleagues on "The Ringing World."

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

FURNISHED HOLIDAY BUNGALOW.—To let; modern conveniences; 2 double bedrooms, lounge and kitchen; car space. Vacancies from middle June onwards.—L. Walters, Statens Cottage, Castle Street, Combe Martin, North Devon. 3917

FOR SALE

TWELVE HANDBELLS.—Fine set (eight 19th century, four modern, bass 6½ F) in original case. Need slight attention. Telephone 01-286 9975 or write 56, Delaware Road, London, W.9. 3675

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

On May 14th, 1968, the following affiliation fees were still unpaid:—

Kent County Association.
Oxford Society.
South Derbyshire and North
Leicestershire Association.

This is the third application. May these please be remitted to me without further delay.

VERNON BOTTOMLEY,
Secretary.

45, Westercroft Lane,
Northowram,
Halifax, Yorkshire.

MISCELLANEOUS

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING

SOUVENIR BOOKLET

The Worcestershire and Districts Association has produced a Souvenir Booklet for the occasion. It contains chapters on the growth of change ringing and bellfounding in Worcestershire and notes on the bells of the City churches. Also descriptions of the four ringing tours with notes on the churches and bells; 24 pages and four pages of photographs.

A special Presentation Copy is being sent to all members of the Council. Others may obtain a copy for 3s. (inc. postage) from Mr. G. L. Bowen, 35, Chesshire Avenue, Areley Kings, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs. 3981

ST. MARY'S,

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX

A Flower and Bell Festival will be held on July 20th in this lovely church. Refreshments all day. Ringers are especially welcome. Bells 10 a.m. till 8 p.m. Note the date. 3962

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS, MUSIC, PAINTINGS AND RINGING

ASPENDEN, HERTFORDSHIRE

June 1st, 2nd and 3rd

Bells available Bank Holiday Monday, June 3rd, from 11 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Fete at Aspenden House from 3 p.m. Festival programme details from Mr. H. G. Poole, Aspenden House, Aspenden, Buntingford, Herts. 3985

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Aldershot Tower: As from first week in June, weekly practices will be held on Thursday evenings, 7.30-9 p.m., instead of Fridays.—S. J. Tate-Mitchell, Tower Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD Leatherhead District

Summer Festival, June 1st, 1968

Merrow (6)	10.30-11.15
West Clandon (8)	11.00-11.45
Ockley (6)	11.30-12.15
Newdigate (6)	12.15-1.00
Banstead (8)	1.45-2.30
Dorking (8)	2.00-3.00
Ashted (8) (Time later)	
Ewell (8)	3.30-4.30

Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.

Epsom (10)	6.00-7.00
Epsom Common (8)	6.15-7.00
Leatherhead (10)	6.30-7.30
Stoke D'Abernion (6)	7.00-7.45
Cobham (6)	7.30-8.15

Capel bells are unfortunately not available.

Names for tea to Mrs. C. W. Munday, 37, Bradford Drive, Ewell, by May 29th, please.—Jill Oakshott, Dis. Sec. 3943

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

The President is holding a Garden Party at Goosnargh Vicarage (near Preston) on Saturday, June 29th. 3964
Details later.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.—Preliminary Notice.—The 345th Anniversary of Great Ringing Day will be held on Saturday, June 29th. Please book the date.—L. E. Pitstow, 4, Highlands. 3948

TRURO CATHEDRAL.—Owing to activities in the Cathedral on May 21st and 28th, the practice will be held at Kea and Ladock respectively. Leave High Cross, Truro, 7.30. Visitors welcome. 3956

WANTED.—C.C. Collection of Plain Major Methods, any edition. Any condition as long as names and figures legible.—S. K. Thompson, Hertford College, Oxford. 3966

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please send all subscriptions due on postal copies at the beginning of April to Mr. C. W. Lucas, "The Ringing World," c/o Seven Corners Press, Onslow Street, Guildford.

PEALS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS

Prices. — Peals: Set of 12 for 16s.; 18 for 22s.; 24 for 36s. Quarter Peals: 12 for 15s. and 3d. for each additional card.—"The Ringing World," Onslow Street, Guildford.

MEETINGS

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Surprise practice at Dorking on Monday, May 20th, 7.30-9 p.m. 3942

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—The striking competition will take place at Marston Bigot on Saturday, May 25th, commencing at 3 p.m.—E. Chivers, Chilcompton. 3980

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Striking Competition at Harston (6), Saturday, May 25th, 3 p.m. (Competitors approx. 2.30 p.m.) Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Village Hall. General ringing after tea.—B. Pratt, Dis. Sec. 3993

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Ash (6) on Saturday, May 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Church Hall. Names for tea to Mrs. A. Smart, Okemead, Hutton Road, Ash Vale, Aldershot. (Aldershot 25710.) — Mrs. B. R. Simpson, Dis. Sec. 3899

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Hawkhurst, Saturday, May 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—A. H. Kemp, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at St. Catherine's Church, Blackrod, (6), May 25th, start 2.30. Please make own tea arrangements. Ringing till 8 p.m.—A. J. Illingworth, Hon. Sec. 3971

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, Lytham, on Saturday, May 25th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m.—Harry R. Preston. 3969

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S and W. District.—Meeting on Saturday, May 25th, at All Hallows', Twickenham (10). Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Ringing at Chiswick (8) 6.30 p.m.-7.45 p.m.—M. J. Palmer. 3952

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—High Wycombe, Saturday, May 25th. Ringing 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please note new secretary: J. Muller, 7, Brampton Court, Ray Park Avenue, Maidenhead. 3953

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD (Mansfield District) and E. DERBYS and WEST NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting at Blackwell, Derbys (6), Saturday, May 25th. Bells 3-9 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. South Normanton bells (6) available 6-9 p.m. Cup Contest: Contestants only, please, to Fibshelf—draw 2.30 p.m. sharp. Names for tea to Mr. A. Smithson, 29, Littlemoor Lane, Newton, Derby, DE5 5TY.—D. J. Beach, Dis. Sec. 3932

SUFFOLK GUILD.—S.W. District.—Meeting at Kedlington, Sat., May 25th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Please note change of venue. It is hoped that the meeting on August 24th will be at Polstead. Names for tea, please to Mr. G. F. Senior, 127, Westward Deals, Kedlington, Haverhill, Suffolk.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Evening practice, Richmond, May 25th, 7 p.m.—E. G. H. Godfrey, Dis. Sec. 3886

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Rye, Saturday, May 25th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Further ringing after tea and meeting. Names to me as soon as possible.—G. M. FitzHugh, Cartref, Arundel Close, Hawkwood, Hailsham, Sussex. 3895

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch and Southampton District.—Meeting, Fawley, Saturday, May 25th. Bells 2.30. Tea (5 p.m.) and meeting in Church Hall. Ringing at Eling after. Names for tea essential to Lionel V. Smith, 10, Springfield Grove, Fawley. 3944

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Surprise Royal practice at Hillingdon, May 27th, at 7.45 p.m.—M. J. Palmer. 3990

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Learners' practice meeting, Humberstone (6), Thursday, May 30th. Ringing 7 p.m.—F. W. Faulkner. 3963

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN.—Ilchester Branch.—Quarterly meeting, St. Michael's, Somerton (6, 19 cwt.), June 1st, 3 p.m.—9 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting following. Names for tea, please, to Mr. G. Jeanes, Mill Lane Farm, Somerton, Som, by Monday previous.—Mrs. M. Leggett, Branch Hon. Sec. 3939

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting, Stagden, Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) from 5.30 p.m. Everyone welcome.—C. M. Payne. 3983

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The Mini-Ringing Festival will be held on June 1st, when the following towers will be open: Alderminster 2-2.45, Ilmington 3-3.45, Shipston-on-Stour 4-4.30, Long Compton 5.15-6, Whichford 6.15-7, Tysoe 7.15-8. Please make own tea arrangements. Grand picnicking country. All welcome.—R. W. Sherriff, Dis. Sec. 3955

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Ribchester on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. until tea. Cups of tea at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting and further ringing.—Brian Tomlinson, Branch Sec. 3977

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Northern District

Evening practice meeting at Wallington (6) on Saturday, June 1st, from 5.30 p.m.—Mrs. C. A. Agg, Dis. Sec. 3984

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Meeting at Heversham on Saturday, June 1st. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. P. Handley, Tarn Bank, Underbarrow, Kendal. 3972

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Wareham, Saturday, June 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4, followed by tea and meeting. Further ringing 6.30 to 7 and Lytchett Minster (6) 7 to 8.30. Names for tea to Miss F. Brown, 14a, North Street, Wareham, by May 29th. 3873

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Meeting to be held at Hilperton on Saturday, June 1st. Ringing commences at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, please, to Mr. H. Hoskins, 107, Church Street, Hilperton, Trowbridge. 3994

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Wortley (8) on June 1st, 3-4.30 p.m., and Ecclesfield (8), 4.30 p.m. and after tea. Names for tea, please, to Mothers' Union Secretary, The Wheel, Ecclesfield.—R. Fletcher, Hon. Sec. 3978

SOCIETY OF FRAMLAND RINGERS.—Evening meeting, Harby (5), June 1st. Ringing 7 p.m.—8.30 p.m. 3991

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting at Southover (10), with a talk on bells and bellfounding by Mr. G. Elphick, on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Talk 5.45 p.m. Ringing approximately 6.30 p.m. Names for tea to me, please, as soon as possible, at 79, Blount Avenue, East Grinstead. Tel. E.G. 23815.—Jean Osborn, Hon. Div. Sec. 3987

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Quarterly meeting to be held at Steep on June 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. No ringing here after tea, but Petersfield 6.30-8.30. Numbers for tea to C. E. Bassett, 85, Brook Lane, Warsash (Tel. Locks Heath 2404), by May 28th. 3989

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A.G.M. at Chelmsford, Monday, June 3rd. Service 11 a.m. Meeting following in Chapter House. Coffee 10.15 and lunch (6s. 6d.) in Cathedral Hall. Tea (3s.) in St. Mary's Hall, Bocking. By ticket only from P. J. Eves, 8, Lordship Road, Writtle. No credit; P.O. with s.a.e., please. Ringing at Cathedral 9.30 a.m. and 3-4. Further details with tickets.—P. W. Saltmarsh, Hon. Gen. Sec. 3957

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Festival at Hereford, June 3rd. Service, Cathedral, 3 p.m. Tea 4 p.m. Application for list of towers open and tea tickets (5s., payable in advance) with s.a.e. to G. T. Cousins, 7 Merrivale Crescent, Ross-on-Wye, not later than May 27th. 3950

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Leigh, 3-5 p.m. and Charlwood, 6.30-8.30 p.m., on June 8th. Names for tea, please, to M. D. B. Roberts, 87, Hitchings Way, Reigate, Surrey, by Thursday, June 6th. 3979

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Meeting at Prittlewell, Saturday, June 8th. Bells (10) from 3.30. Service 4.30., followed by tea. Further ringing after tea. Names, please, to Miss J. Emms, 76, Eastwood Road North, Leigh-on-Sea. 3967

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Forest Branch.—Meeting, Awre (6), June 8th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Names for tea to Mr. Winspear, Brook House, Blakeney, Glos, by June 5th. 3986

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting at Margate, June 8th. Service at 3.15 p.m. Bells from 3.45 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. A. J. Dadds, 130, Byron Avenue, Margate, not later than May 31st. No names, no tea. 3965

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—By-meeting and striking competition at Hartlip, Saturday, June 8th. Competition 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. General ringing after tea. Names for tea, please, to Rev. J. Green, Hartlip Vicarage, Sittingbourne, by previous Wednesday.—T. Barton. 3965

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Striking Competition at Witham-on-the-Hill (6), Saturday, June 8th. Opening service 2 p.m. prompt. Competition (Southern Branch towers only) 2.30-5.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m., followed by announcement of results. General ringing afterwards until 8.45 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mrs. J. R. Holmes, 2, Willow Terrace, Grantham, Lincs, by June 3rd. 3976

LLANFAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Pentre (Rhondda), Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4, followed by tea. Names for tea to Iolo Davies, Hon. Sec. Llandaff Branch, Cowbridge Grammar School, in reasonable time, please.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—S.E. District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Copdock (6) on Saturday, June 8th. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea in the Sproughton Parish Room at 5.15, followed by the business meeting. Ringing at Sproughton Church 7-9 p.m. Please note change of meeting, as in the Suffolk Report. For tea, please book to Mrs. Winifred Lockwood, 2, Chalk Pit Cottages Offton, near Ipswich, not later than Wednesday, June 5th. Please make this nearly 100 per cent. turn-out. All friends welcomed.—W. L., Dis. Sec. 3982

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.—South Western District.—Meeting, Somerset, June 15th. Shepton Mallet 1.45-2.45, Ditcher 3 p.m.—4 p.m., Castle Cary 4.15-5.15. Tea 5.30 p.m. Evercreech 7-8. Names for tea to me by June 8th.—G. T. Cousins, 7, Merrivale Crescent, Ross-on-Wye. 3974

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Hope (6), Saturday, June 15th. Bells 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea, please, to W. Catherall, 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham, not later than Saturday, June 8th. 3970

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Northrepps, Saturday, June 15th. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. J. W. Richardson, 30, Church Street, Northrepps, Norfolk, by the 12th, please.—C. Bird, Hon. Sec. 3988

LADIES' GUILD.—A.G.M., July 6th. Tickets for lunch (6s.) and dinner (24s.) are now available from Miss V. E. Ware, 4, Book Centre Mansions, North Circular Road, Neasden, N.W.10. Please enclose s.a.e. Numbers must be received by June 21st. 3947

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

The next Northern Universities meeting will be held in Sheffield on June 22nd. About 18 towers will be available for ringing. 3960

1967 INDEX NOW READY. SEND

6d. and s.a.e. to Ringing World, c/o Seven Corners Press Ltd., Onslow Street, Guildford. Other years available.

LATE NEWS

Central Council A.G.M.

Will those who have booked on the coach outing on Whit Monday let Mr. P. Cattermole, St. Alban's House, The King's School, Worcester, know if they prefer roast lamb to cold meat and salad.

A WORCESTER SOUVENIR

A very attractive souvenir of Worcester has been prepared by Mr. P. Cattermole for the Worcestershire and Districts Association in connection with the Central Council's visit. Copies are being sent to members of the Council, but are available to the general public, price 3s.

It is a souvenir especially for ringers. There is an historical section on the development of change ringing and local bellfounders at Worcester, Evesham and Bromsgrove, together with the story of the Cathedral. This souvenir should accompany every tourist anxious to "grab" new towers, as brief details are given of most of the churches in the county. The illustrations are well chosen.

QUARTER PEALS

BARKINGSIDE, ESSEX.—On April 28th, 1,280 Cambridge Major: Barbara Shaw 1, Mary Wilkinson (first in method) 2, Jane Fransella 3, T. Sharp 4, Valerie Jones 5, R. Collis 6, D. Ellidson (cond.) 7, J. Porter 8. For Patronal Festival.

BARNWOOD, GLOS.—1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Williams 1, G. Clark (cond.) 2, A. Gazey 3, M. Powell 4, D. Pobjoy 5, A. Hooper 6, Rung half-muffled in memoriam Percy Newland, beloved tower captain.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On May 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Jean Kimber 1, Juliet Stay 2, D. G. Spittle 3, L. Bance 4, F. D. Jennings 5, R. J. Cook (cond.) 6, S. F. Kimber 7, N. Thomson 8. For Confirmation.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.—On April 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. Huckstepp 1, B. Johnson 2, Brenda Davies 3, Pam Court 4, C. Sindin 5, A. Berry 6, D. Manger (cond.) 7, H. Deacon 8.

BLACKWELL, DERBYS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Smithson 1, E. A. Wilson 2, W. Riley 3, W. Steele 4, A. Tomlinson 5, A. Wheeler (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

BROMHAM, BEDS.—On April 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. G. Hutchings 1, F. W. Rivett 2, R. Chapman 3, J. E. Cook 4, J. H. Edwards 5, C. M. Payne 6, C. E. Jeffries (cond.) 7, R. H. French 8. Rung prior to Choral Evensong, Rededication of Organ and Inaugural Recital given by Sir Thomas Armstrong, Principal of the Royal Academy of Music.

BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCs.—On May 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Doreen Maclean (first on eight) 1, N. M. Newby 2, J. E. Burles 3, A. Capstick 4, J. Sagnall 5, T. F. Metcalfe 6, K. M. Price (first of Grandsire Triples as cond.) 7, J. Whalley 8. Rung by the Furness Branch as a farewell to the treble ringer and Miss Anne Blundell, shortly leaving for South Africa for 12 months.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK.—At the Norman Tower, on April 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: E. Brown 1, G. Stannard 2, A. Feaver 3, W. Cousins 4, C. Cousins 5, R. J. Martin 6, T. Bird 7, R. Suckling (cond.) 8, J. H. Brett 9, N. V. Harding 10, First Bob Royal 1, 7 and 9. For Evensong.

CORSLEY, WILTS.—On May 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Barbara Carr 1, Christine Baker (first "inside") 2, Sally Baker 3, Rosalind Payne 4, D. G. Massey (cond.) 5, C. Baker (first quarter) 6. First quarter peal by an all-Frome Grammar School band.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On May 5th, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: E. Razzell 1, J. Prytherch 2, J. Winram 3, F. E. Mitchell 4, N. Brown 5, I. M. Parry 6, K. Taber (cond.) 7, A. Brown 8. For Evensong.

DAMERHAM, HANTS.—On April 23rd, 1,320 Dragon Doubles: D. C. Jackson (cond.) 1, Susan V. Banks 2, Elizabeth A. Banks 3, L. D. Smith 4, R. Allinson 5, J. S. Hopwood 6. For St. George's Day.

FILTON, GLOS.—On May 5th, 1,440 Doubles (12 methods/variations): Lynn Vincent 1, Mary Haslum 2, A. N. Plounz 3, D. C. Haslum 4, A. F. Howard (cond.) 5. A 21st birthday compliment to Mary Haslum.

FULHAM, LONDON.—At All Saints', on May 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Gwendoline G. Meyer 1, Caroline F. Madge (first of Stedman) 2, Rosemary J. Cotton 3, Deborah Bishop 4, A. J. Hampton 5, A. S. Bishop 6, C. M. Mayer (cond.) 7, E. J. Adams 8. For Evensong.

GODMANCHESTER, HUNTS.—On May 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. E. A. Morris 1, Miss S. Baganel 2, Mrs. J. M. Morris 3, Mrs. R. B. Davey 4, E. J. Thoday 5, A. J. Davey 6, P. E. Wells (cond.) 7, G. W. Henson 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Ellen Louisa Allen, a ringer at this church for over 30 years and tower captain for 14 years, and the first lady member of the tower.

GREAT BARFORD, BEDS.—On May 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Rev. F. Warnes (incumbent) 1, R. D. Bellamy 2, P. S. George 3, I. P. Sawford 4, C. D. Corby (cond.) 5. A birthday compliment to Roy Goddard.

HARROGATE, YORKS.—At the Dirlton Hotel, on April 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: J. R. Norris 1-2, C. I. Ronson (cond.) 3-4, P. D. Hepburn 5-6. First on handbells 1-2, 5-6. Also on April 26th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: J. R. Norris 1-2, B. J. Stone (first on handbells) 3-4, C. I. Rowson (cond.) 5-6, P. D. Hepburn 7-8.

HINTLESHAM, SUFFOLK.—On May 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: I. Whitear 1, S. Christian 2, Jennifer M. Andrews 3, R. L. K. Whittell 4, N. F. Whittell (cond.) 5, J. Holling 6.

HEYWOOD, LANCs.—On April 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Brierley (first quarter) 1, C. F. Thompson (first Doubles) 2, Christine Broadley (first Doubles) 3, J. Smith (first Grandsire Doubles) 4, J. P. Partington (cond.) 5, M. Boardman (first quarter) 6. Rung in memory of the Mayor of Heywood, Cllr. F. Walmsley, J.P., who died suddenly the previous Friday.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCS.—On April 21st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. V. Barnes 1, Mrs. P. Harris 2, Mrs. J. Thomas 3, J. D. Johnson 4, P. Harris 5, R. Harris (cond.) 6, J. E. Newman 7, M. E. Newman 8. For Evensong and as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. R. Harris on their 40th wedding anniversary.

HORNCASTLE, LINCs.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: H. Bennett 1, Edna Bennett 2, Sarah Cook (first quarter) 3, D. Hare 4, R. Bennett 5, F. Reed (cond.) 6.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On April 28th, 1,260 Spliced Stedman and Grandsire Triples: F. V. Gant (cond.) 1, Joan M. Peacock 2, S. Penfold 3, F. G. Richardson 4, C. C. M. Pain 5, J. W. Stephenson 6, J. McDonald 7, P. Sippitt 8. For Matins.

HORRINGER, SUFFOLK.—On May 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Theresa R. Orriss (first on a working bell) 1, Janet I. Rogers 2, T. Spurling 3, B. E. Whiting (first as cond.) 4, R. H. Rogers 5, R. G. Bumstead 6.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On April 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Jennifer Felton 1, P. Felton (cond.) 2, Mrs. K. Parr 3, Mrs. O. Rogers 4, H. W. Rogers 5, C. T. Richards 6, C. H. Rogers 7, N. F. Felton 8.

KEYMER, SUSSEX.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. F. High (cond.) 1, N. P. J. Cossey 2, P. F. Romney 3, R. E. Peckham 4, M. J. Howes 5, H. W. Evans 6. For Easter and as a birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.—At St. Margaret's Church, on April 23rd, 1,260 Minor (Cambridge and Plain): R. Newson 1, O. Claxton 2, W. W. Cousins 3, L. Houghton 4, C. Cousins 5, N. V. Harding (cond.) 6. Rung on St. George's Day and to welcome the arrival of a great-nephew, Nicholas James Farmer, of ringet of 4th.

KINGSTON SEYMOUR, SOMERSET.—On April 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss C. Stone 1, E. Baker 2, D. Willis 3, L. Derrick (cond.) 4, W. Neath 5, L. Childs 6.

LEDBURY, HEREFORDS.—On April 27th, 1,320 Doubles (33 variations): R. W. Collins 1, Rosemary F. Collins 2, S. B. Bell 3, P. G. Hickey 4, R. K. Williams (25th quarter and 15th as cond.) 5, R. J. Bullock 6. Rung prior to a performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah." Most variations rung to a quarter peal by all the band and on the bells.

LOCKING, SOMERSET.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Doubles (two methods): Marjorie Legg 1, Jane Markham 2, Yvonne Criddle 3, June Legg 4, J. Coombs 5, G. Prescott 6. For Early Communion.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—On April 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Craven 1, S. M. Harris 2, R. A. Charman 3, E. M. Garman 4, M. L. Haigh 5, A. P. Lee 6. For Morning Service.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—West Dorset Branch 10s., E. F. Hancock £2 5s., Liverpool University £1.

Peals.—Charminster 4s., Wareham 4s., Edgmond 6s., High Ham 5s., Baglan 3s., Corby 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Solihull 5s., Whitechurch 3s., Stoke Damerel 3s., Croydon 4s., Piddletrenthide 2s., Warminster 4s., Clapham (2) 6s., St. Peter's, Brighton 5s., Putney 4s., Lymington 6s., Barnwood 3s., Holme-on-Spalding Moor 2s., Biddenden 4s., Blackwell 2s. 6d., Fulham 3s. 6d., Bromham 4s., Godmanchester 2s. 6d., Broughton-in-Furness 4s., Hardwicke 3s., Heywood 2s. 6d., Portsmouth Cathedral 5s., Sandridge 3s., Prittlewell 5s., Corsley 2s. 6d., Hemington 2s. 6d., Old Woking 3s., Ramsbury 3s., Whitechurch 4s., Mark 4s., Nailsea 3s., Stockbury 2s. 6d., Brampton 3s., Southwell Cathedral 2s. 6d.

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.—On April 18th, 1,280 Spliced Surprise Major (Bristol, Cambridge, London, Rutland, Pudsey, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire and Superlative): Heather Walters 1, S. Brown 2, J. H. Gilbert 3, P. Bridle 4, J. Brain 5, S. Woodcock 6, J. H. Taylor 7, R. C. Kippin (cond.) 8. A wedding compliment to Mr. P. Bridle and Miss D. Chapman, who were married on March 30th.

LONG EATON, DERBYS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Veronica Belfitt 1, C. Geary 2, A. Humehey (cond.) 3, A. Hartland 4, C. Stringer 5, C. Beswick 6.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. M. Thompson (first quarter) 1, T. V. Barnard (cond.) 2, E. S. Stuart 3, Glenda O. Crane (first "inside") 4, R. J. Thompson 5, S. Clack 6. For Evensong.

NAZEING, ESSEX.—On April 22nd, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss C. Long 1, B. Burton 2, R. G. Seymour 3, C. Sams (cond.) 4, R. Holness 5, K. Wood 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam S. J. Martin, Churchwarden, 1937-1956.

OXFORD.—At the Church of St. Ebbe, on May 2nd, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: H. W. Badger 1, C. C. Clarke 2, B. W. Hall 3, F. W. Soden 4, R. J. Wilshear 5, B. J. Coggins 6, C. Coles 7, P. J. Heritage (cond.) 8. Rung during the visit of H.M. the Queen to Oxford.

PIDDELTRENTIDE, DORSET.—On April 18th, 1,260 Doubles (four methods): E. H. Amey 1, C. W. Tidwell 2, R. A. Bryant 3, R. J. Vardy 4, T. F. Collins (cond.) 5. A wedding compliment to Miss Janet Cauell and Mr. Alan Craven, married earlier this day, also as a 29th wedding anniversary compliment to the Rev. and Mrs. Cattell.

ST. IPPOLYTS, HERTS.—On May 4th, 1,296 Minor (Cambridge and Oxford): M. Chalkley 1, Josephine Trigg 2, L. Runnacles 3, A. C. Harris 4, F. W. Croft 5, M. D. Trigg (cond.) 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

THE annual general meeting of the Stow-on-the-Wold Branch was held at Moreton-in-Marsh on May 11th. The newly-elected chairman, the Rev. C. H. Pickthorne, Rural Dean, in his opening remarks congratulated Mr. Bernard Phillips and Mr. A. W. Wright, both of Bourton-on-the-Water, on being elected honorary life members of the Association. Both have been regular Sunday service ringers for over 50 years and have held various offices in the Branch with distinction.

The following officers were re-elected: Chairman, Rev. C. H. Pickthorne, R.D.; secretary and treasurer, Mr. L. C. Dowdeswell; Ringing Master, Mr. L. Joyces.

It was learned with regret that the Rev. L. W. Potter had resigned from the office of chairman, a post that he had held since 1960, as he was emigrating to Canada in October.

It was decided that the Branch support the Association ringing competition and that teams from Moreton-in-Marsh and Bourton-on-the-Water be invited.

The Branch secretary's report called attention to the formation of a travelling band of ringers to visit towers in the Deanery, which had proved an enormous success. A new band had been formed at Bourton-on-the-Hill, with the Rev. and Mrs. P. Newing as tutors.

The chairman asked the meeting to consider the possibility of holding a Branch Ringing Festival. He said that the clergy in Chapter had given their support and all bells in the Deanery would be available if required. It was decided to give the matter further consideration.

The secretary commented that this was a big undertaking for so small a Branch. A Cotswold Ringing Festival would certainly give the Branch wide publicity, and he would draw up an itinerary for approval.

Two new members from Stow-on-the-Wold tower were elected—Misses D. Fisher and K. Morton-Lloyd.

During the afternoon and evening some excellent touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung. A well-struck touch of Bob Major was rung for the service, which was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. O. A. Griffiths.

OVERTON'S RESTORATION SCHEME

LAST year the ringers of Overton, Hampshire, with the active help of their Rector, Canon F. A. Sanders, himself a ringer, decided that something must be done about their ring of eight. It was the news that an old parishioner had left the church something over £1,000 that started it all. So, Mr. F. Sharpe was asked to inspect the bells, which he did with his customary thoroughness. He recommended renewal of all fittings that were worn, drilling out the cast-in crown staples on the bottom six and, if possible, rehanging these and retuning the whole eight. Also possible was the recasting of 4 and 5.

A MIXED RING

As in all towers with old bells, the eight came from different sources. The treble and second were put in by Mears and Stainbank in 1945. The 3rd was also from the same foundry in 1908. The 4th and 5th were the oldest—and most inferior in tone—cast by Robert Beconshall in 1606. The 5th and tenor were cast by William Knight, of Reading, in 1663 and 1660 respectively. Finally, the 7th was from the Aldbourne, Wiltshire, foundry of Robert and William Cor, dated 1710.

PUBLIC INTEREST

All this focused local interest in the bells, which have always been greatly appreciated in the village. Unusual publicity was given in the quarterly "Portals News-Letter," from the local firm of currency paper-makers. There was an article on the Overton ringers, with the accompanying photograph, showing what the photographer thought might happen. Anonymous donations of £100 and two of £25 (one in memory of a past ringer) started the Bell Repair Fund. The ringers gave their wedding fees, ran coffee mornings and generally got to work. Meanwhile, the original legacy had been found to exceed £2,000, but the Charity Commissioners ruled that only the interest could be used by the Church Council. In spite of this the Council decided to go ahead with the full scheme, including recasting the Beconshall bells.

THE BELLS GO

So the P.C.C. accepted an estimate from Mears and Stainbank for the work, at a cost of £1,050, including cutting the trapdoors. Incidentally, the bells had been "built-in" to the tower when it was reconstructed in 1908! The P.C.C. set aside £300 from the 1967 accounts and with this, swelled by the interest of £200 on the original legacy, the fund grew. The Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild gave £10 and a grant is hoped for from the Diocesan Guild itself. Nearly £800 is now in the fund. Meanwhile the bellhangers had moved in on Easter Tuesday and quickly took the bells from Overton for the first time in their history. The parishioners objected to the silence and so a small bell from the local school, itself 100 years old, was pressed into service and hung in amateurish fashion in the tower.

A FINAL EFFORT

The annual church garden party is being run this year for the bells and appropriately named "The Bell Fair," with emphasis on



OVERTON TOWER

(Special photographic effects by Don Bradshaw.)

bells and ringing. It is to be on Saturday, June 8th, and opens at 2.30 with an amplified recording of the Overton bells. The school bell is being lowered again for a competition involving throwing coins into it, and neighbouring towers are joining in a lighthearted tug-of-war competition for teams of six, with the District Ringing Master, Mr. C. Osler, as referee. There will be tune handbell ringing by younger members. With numerous other diversions and a grand draw it is hoped to clear off the remaining money. Any ringers who are in search of an afternoon's entertainment will be very welcome.

THE RETURN

While the bells are away the ringers are busy cleaning and repainting the frame. Before the rededication on August 21st they hope to redecorate the ringing chamber. Then all will be set for Canon Gilbert Thurlow to offer to God these metal servants of the Church to begin another chapter in their long history, and the Overton ringers will have achieved their ambition.

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

Dear Sir,—For those ringers who watch television and have wondered what tower it is on the Bird's-Eye advertisement, it belongs to St. Mary the Virgin's, Goudhurst, Kent, and contains a heavy ring of eight with a tenor weighing 25 cwt. 5 lb.

The bells are of good tone but require a little extra care in handling, etc., if good ringing is required.—Yours sincerely,
Chislehurst, Kent. TONY LEWIS.

WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY TOUR

Following the success of previous years, the staff and friends of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry gathered once again for their now annual ringing outing on April 27th.

Once clear of the smoke and noise of the city, the coach made its leisurely way to our first stop, at Balscote, near Banbury, where the ringing had a lively start as we tried our hand on Mr. C. A. Jarvis' tuneful little ring (tenor 1 cwt. 21 lb.). Although some difficulties were experienced by most of us, owing to our untamilarity with the handling qualities of such small bells, we did, after a little practice and an agreement on the best speed, manage to improve the standard of the ringing.

Our journey then took us over Edge Hill, but the famous view was rather obscured by cloud and mist. At the Ettington Park Hotel, Alderminster, the company were generously entertained to luncheon by Messrs. William and Douglas Hughes.

Lunch completed, we then boarded the coach bound for Holy Trinity, Stratford-on-Avon, where a variety of ringing took place under the leadership of Mr. Trevor Bailey on the fine ring of ten. A short journey then brought us to St. Mary's, Warwick, where John Slater took charge of the ringing. Some members of the party visited the nower festival being held in the church. As the coach passed through the lower arches of the tower, which are open to the road, a well-known bell-hanger remarked that it was a pity that such good facilities for transferring bells, etc., from tory to beltry were not provided at more towers.

Our last tower of the day was at Weedon Bec, where, naturally, Mr. Harry Weedon, our Ringing Master, was called upon to control the ringing. Here the ringing ranged from rounds and call changes to Yorkshire Surprise Major, and was concluded with a good touch of Stedman Triples.

The ringing was now finished, but the evening had just begun, and the party adjourned to the Crossroads Hotel, where a buffet and refreshments were available for the benefit and enjoyment of all.

The thanks of the party are accorded to Mr. Harry Weedon and Mr. Trevor Bailey, for their excellent organisation. R. A. H.

TAUNTON BRANCH AT SAMPFORD ARUNDEL

With the chairman (the Rev. Michael Odium, Vicar) and the vice-chairman (Mrs. S. G. Williams, churchwarden), members of the Taunton Branch were assured of a successful and happy meeting at Sampford Arundel on May 11th. The light, musical six bells were made good use of, and a service was conducted by the Vicar. A delicious tea in the Village Hall, provided by the ladies, followed.

At the business meeting Mr. A. H. Reed (Branch secretary) spoke in feeling terms of the loss sustained by the Branch in the recent death of Mr. Stanley Bristow, a faithful churchman, for many years captain of the Ashbrittle ringers and a one-time Ringing Master of the Branch. Members stood in silent tribute to their old friend. The chairman then welcomed the visitors, among whom was the Rev. Roger Fry.

The striking competition, held at the end of April, produced 17 entries and was voted a very successful first effort by the Branch. One new member was elected from Trull, and the next Branch meeting arranged for September 21st at Ruishton, with practice meetings at Milverton on July 20th, West Bagborough on August 17th, starting at 6.30 p.m. all subject to local permission. Attention was drawn to the Dunster Branch meeting at Wiveliscombe coinciding with the meeting at Sampford Arundel, and it was hoped that it might be possible to avoid a clash of dates in future.

Warm thanks were accorded to the Vicar and all who had helped to make the afternoon so enjoyable, and later in the evening the ringers went on to ring at Wellington. M. P.

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5,080 CORK SURPRISE ROYAL

By R. F. B. SPEED
23456 M I/F W H

34256	—	x	—	2
45236	—	x	—	
32654	—	—	—	
32546	—	x	—	
65243	—	—	—	
54263	—	x	—	
32465	—	—	—	
24365	—	x	—	2
46325	—	x	—	
23564	—	—	—	
36245	—	x	—	
64352	—	x	—	
23456	—	—	—	

5,088 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

By C. H. KIPPIN

23456 B In M W 4ths H

56234		2	—	
427365		—	—	
567432		—	—	
237546		—	—	
42563	—	—	—	—
357624	—	—	—	—
56342	—	—	—	3
64523	x			3
42635	x			3
42356		2	2	—
23456		3		2

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32465	—	—	
64523	—	—	
54326	—	3	3
42563	2	2	3
26435	2	2	
63254	2	2	3
23456	—	—	

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—	—	—	—	42356
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