

THE RINGING WORLD

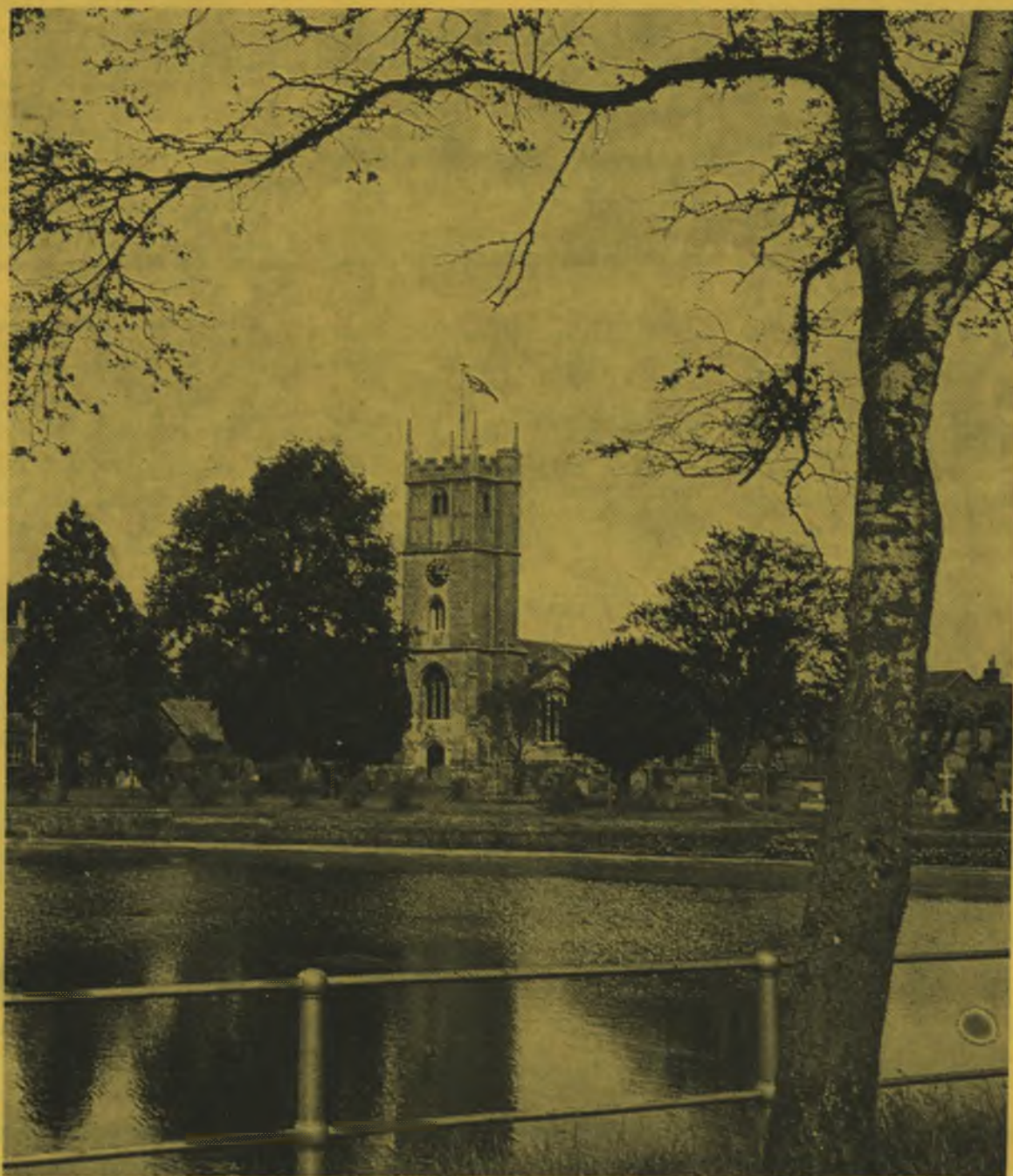
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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The Church of St. James, Southbroom, Devizes

[Photo by F. W. C. Merritt, Devizes.]

OUR PICTURE COVER

St. James' Church, Southbroom

THE graceful, slender 15th century tower is the only part which remains of the original church of St. James, Southbroom. The remainder was rebuilt in 1832, the year following the separation of the parish from Bishops Cannings. Previously it had been a chapel-of-ease, but it always had its own Churchwardens and Registers.

Lying outside the ancient borough of Devizes, it is difficult to discover why the church was originally built, as the population around it at the time would have been negligible. One theory is that it belonged to a nearby Leper Hospital, served by monks whose "Friday fish" may have been provided by the pond shown in the foreground of the cover picture, and known locally as the Crammer. This stretch of water makes the setting of the church, with its trees and roses, one of the most beautiful and frequently photographed corners of Devizes. Crammer is possibly a corruption of Cranemere; for where there are fish there are often cranes. Nowadays swans add their graceful form to the scene.

The tower bears scars of the Civil War of the 17th century in which Devizes played so stirring a part. In 1643 the Parliamentary troops mounted a battery of guns on the rising ground to the east of the church and bombarded the town. To this day there can be seen in the east face of the tower two holes made by the cannon fire on that occasion.

The church originally had four bells. In 1909 the old treble was recast and a new treble and second were added, and the six bells hung in a cast iron frame by J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. Part of the old wooden frame was made into a cover for the font.

The weights and inscriptions are as follows:

Treble: Deum Timete Regem Honorate. In Mem: John Glyde Rose. OB. A.D. III ID: Dec. A.D. 1900.

D.D. Fil: William Rose et Walter Rose. A.D. 1909, Ed. VII Rege. J. Taylor, Fecit, Loughborough. Note F. 3 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

Second: G audete in Domino Hora Fugit. The Gift of Sarah, Wife of Henry Brownlee West 1909. J. Taylor, Founders, Loughborough. E flat. 4 cwt. 19 lb.

Third: Oremus. Robert Brothers and Thomas Adlen, Churchwardens 1663. Recast 1909. William Gardiner, Vicar. John G. Williams, Cyril G. S. Pugh, Churchwardens. J. Taylor, Founder, Loughborough (originally cast by W. R. Purdue). D flat. 4 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.

Fourth: Peace and Good Neighbourhood. A.R. 1742 (Abraham Rudhall, Gloucester). C. 4 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

Fifth: Searve God. I.W. 1612. (James Wallis, Salisbury). B flat. 6 cwt. 11 lb.

Tenor: Prayese the Lord. I.W. 1612. A flat. 7 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

Two of the present team of eleven ringers are the brothers Alexander and Joseph Weeks, who between them have completed 93 years as ringers of the church. Mr. Alex Weeks is the Captain, following in the footsteps of his father, Thomas Weeks (Captain 1932-1940), and his grandfather, Henry Brownlee West (Captain 1908-1932). Indeed, for four years (1928-1932) there were four members of this family who were ringers of the tower. The new second bell, added in 1909, was the gift of Mr. West's wife, Sarah.

Until 1960 Devizes was the home of the Wiltshire Regiment, the Depot Barracks being within the parish and St. James' the Garrison Church. There are other Army Camps nearby occupied successively by the Royal Artillery and the Pay Corps, and a considerable number of ringers from among the troops stationed here have visited the church and rung in the tower.

Since 1909 many peals and quarter peals have been rung on the bells,

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some of them recorded on peal boards in the ringing chamber.

One of these peals, Bob Minor of 5040 changes, was rung in 1959 to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the re-hanging of the bells and their augmentation to a ring of six. The occasion was also marked by a special service at which the preacher was the Archdeacon of Wilts, the Ven. C. A. Plaxton, himself a ringer and a former Vicar of St. James' (1932-1937).

St. James' has a long tradition of friendliness and lively worship which is continued in the thriving Family Service every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. There is a strong emphasis on music with a choir of some 45 voices. It is in this worship that the bells play their part.

A. T. W.

CHURCH
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A CENTENARY

GABRIEL LINDOFF — 1868 - 1941

By EDGAR C. SHEPHERD

A HUNDRED years ago there came into the world five persons who grew up to attain positions of eminence in the ringing Exercise and were destined to exert influence extending far beyond their own times and possibly exceeding their own imaginings. These men were James E. Groves, William Willson, Henry Law James, Charles Howard and Gabriel Lindoff. The first two became distinguished as notable conductors and leaders of men whose work has left an unmistakable mark on the Societies they served so well. The second was an important pioneer in the scientific investigation of composition and method construction, and an inveterate controversialist whose polemics stimulated and animated his contemporaries. The work of Howard as an administrator and innovator brought expansion and enterprise to Essex, and with it a succession of fine ringers. Gabriel Lindoff combined within him the qualities of each of the above in such measure that any one attribute would have been sufficient to raise him to a high position in the hierarchy of change ringing. For we find in him a highly competent ringer and conductor, an able administrator and a brilliant composer.

Gabriel Lindoff was born at Leiston in Suffolk on November 19th, 1868, and very early in life he became interested in bells through watching the rehanging of the local ring. The attraction must have been very great, for he determined to teach himself to handle a bell. This feat he accomplished unaided, to the great astonishment of the local ringers. Very soon he was ringing with them, and at the age of eighteen he rang his first peal. Shortly afterwards he joined The Royal Engineers, and in this Corps he served for ten years. Wherever he was stationed he devoted much time to instruction, to the encouragement of local ringing, and to the development of his natural gifts for exploration and experiment in the field of composition.

His army service ending in 1896 Lindoff resided for a time at Lincoln, but in 1897 he left East Anglia to take up residence in Ireland, a move that had far-reaching effects on Irish ringing. There was now little scope for peal ringing but far more time for research, and the fruits of his work were to provide the ringing Exercise with a precious inheritance. Visits to England were marked by some notable events. In 1901 he took part in the (then) record peal of Stedman Cinques, the famous "Five Ones" at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, and two years later he was a member of Pye's band that rang the (then) record length of 14,112 of London at King's Norton. (It is said that after this great performance William Pye succeeded in reaching his home in Essex the same night, in time to post the account of the peal to "The Bell News." A remarkable feat of railway travel!) Both these peals were compositions by Lindoff. No one knew Gabriel and his capabilities better than that great judge of ringers, William Pye, and Pye assiduously sought out his old friend from Ireland for two more strenuous pieces of work, 18,027 of Stedman Caters at Loughborough in 1909 and the spendid 15,312 of Cambridge Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne in 1929. The latter was Gabriel's first peal of Cambridge Twelve.

But it is as a composer that Gabriel Lindoff is for the most part familiar to ringers and conductors, and to many there is magic in the very name. As the writer of the obituary notice in 1941 aptly put it: "His very name itself had an appeal in it seldom found in English nomenclature. It was a unique and striking combination which created a fascinating impression, whether spoken or written—Gabriel Lindoff."

He composed the 11,111 of Stedman Cinques rung at Birmingham, the 18,027 of Stedman Caters scored at Loughborough, and the 22,222 in the same method, of which Pulling called 19,738 at Guildford in 1912. But his chief work was as a pioneer in the scientific investigation of the principles of composition, bringing to the major methods the precise mathematical approach that Heywood and Earle Bulwer had made to Stedman Triples and which Davies had found with Grandsire. He expanded very considerably the scope of Treble Bob, and taking full advantage of the In and Fifths plan he produced a vast collection of peals of London. There was very little, from Grandsire Triples to the Surprise methods, that he did not touch and enrich, and the sureness of his touch was matched only, perhaps, by that of his great contemporary John Carter. It is indeed difficult to find where he put a figure wrong. He was firm of opinion and stout to defend what he considered correct, but in controversy he was moderate and restrained. He had nothing of the cocksureness of Law James and none of the bludgeoning of William Willson. His voice was less impulsive, less assertive, but no less compelling.

In 1897 Lord Iveagh presented a ring of ten bells to the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Dublin, and shortly afterwards Gabriel Lindoff went to reside in that city. The two events combined to bring about a momentous happening, and the Irish Association of Change Ringers came into being. It was Lindoff who circularised the five local societies and brought them together for a meeting in Dublin. A national Association was formed with Mr. R. R. Cherry (afterwards Lord Chief Justice Cherry) as President and Lindoff as Secretary. There was no other secretary until Lindoff's death in 1941. The vitalising effect of the Association on Irish ringing and the great spread of the art in the whole of the island are well known; but what is more radiantly apparent is the bond of Christian unity that has brought together all the ringers of Ireland in a brotherhood that transcends the differences and difficulties presented by political boundaries. In this alone there is a memorial to Lindoff that might of itself suffice.

This then is the man whose birthday we remember and whose memory we honour at this time; ringer, composer, teacher, administrator, a good companion and a gentleman of modest pretensions. On his work as composer the succeeding generation of theorists has been nourished and has thrived; on his memory those who knew him dwell with affection and a remembrance of pleasant and precious relationships. He died at a time when the bells of Britain were silenced, and of him Mr. C. T. Coles wrote: "When our bells are rung once more, the sound of them will always bring back pleasant memories of a great and true English gentleman." It was a simple and sincere tribute.

RINGING IN YORKSHIRE

The Joint Council of Yorkshire Associations has just issued its annual report for 1967. One of the aims of the Joint Council is to present a unified annual report, and some nine Societies have co-operated in this object. There are also reports from the Joint Council and the parent body, the Yorkshire Association.

"To paint a picture of the state of ringing in the vast area covered by the Yorkshire Association is a formidable task," states the annual report. "There are over 250 towers with ringable bells in the county; it is quite certain that we have not the 2,000 ringers that would be required if all these towers were to be effectively manned. Much solid work is being done by a number of dedicated ringers in all four Districts, and the number of inquiries from silent towers where there is a desire to resume ringing is encouraging. It is pleasing to observe the high proportion of teenage ringers present at any District or general meeting.

In the Northern District an average attendance of about 30 members can be secured at most meetings; those who attend are mainly the enthusiasts, but they are also the people who are doing much sound work between meetings, and there is no lack of encouragement for those who would seek to progress. It is pleasing to note that outstanding progress has been made at Northallerton, the county town of the North Riding.

In the Southern District the standard of ringing is good and there is a goodly number of very competent and active instructors. The Eastern District is prospering under the guidance of a very enthusiastic District Committee;

very few towers in the District are completely silent. It is in the Western District that it is most difficult to obtain a complete picture. Perhaps the brightest feature is the success of the evening practice meetings, inspired by the Ringing Master, Maurice Thurmott. These meetings have met a long-felt need in the Craven area and are undoubtedly bearing fruit.

On the administrative side, it is good to realise that we now have a set of rules and standing orders which is much more comprehensible than the former rules, which were unknown to most ringers and understood by very few. We have welcomed Chris Moxon as our new and energetic treasurer, and by reappportioning the work of preparing the annual report have, we hope, lightened the heavy burden borne long and willingly by our peal secretary, Eric Critchley.

The General Committee is already considering plans for the Association's Centenary in 1975. It may be stated with full justification that the year 1967 can be recorded as one of steady progress in the long period which has elapsed since Jasper Snowdon first conceived the idea of uniting Yorkshire ringers into a fellowship of service to and in the Church."

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.—At All Saints' Church, on Nov. 24th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Miss W. Burkey (first quarter) 1. K. Goddard 2. Mrs. C. M. Clarke 3. Miss S. Cameron 4. J. A. Harrison 5. W. Burkey 6. R. Beattie (cond.) 7. F. Beattie 8. First in method for 3. 4. 5. Rung to commemorate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. K. Goddard; also on the occasion of a visit by the Bishop of Oxford.

JOHN BUNYAN AND ELSTOW ABBEY

By the late ERNEST MORRIS



JOHN BUNYAN

From a drawing by Robert White

The Church of SS. Mary and Helena, Elstow, Beds, has a noble detached tower on the north-west, with low spire, containing a clock and six bells, five ancient ones rehung in 1909 and a new treble added.

It was here that John Bunyan used to ring originally the fourth, but now fifth, and the bell still exists to this day. It is unusual in its inscription, being what is described as an "alphabet" bell, and was cast in Leicester but is undated. Here it is:

"†ABCDEF ‡ABCDE ‡RSTVM ‡"

(Some letters are upside down.)

It weighs 7 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

Among the noted bellringers of England perhaps there is none so "picturesque" as John Bunyan, the author of "Pilgrim's Progress" and other works. He was born at Elstow in 1628 and, like his father, followed the trade of a tinker and brazier. He was a lad of spirit and imagination, but not—he solemnly assures us—ever drunken or unchaste, although given to swearing.

At the age of 20 he found a respectable young lady willing to marry him, and although neither his prospects nor hers were brilliant, they duly married. Bunyan tells us that all she brought him were two books which belonged to her father, and these were "The Plane Mans Pathway to Heaven, wherein every Man may clearly see whether he shall be saved or damned," by Alfred Dent, a Puritan minister, and "The Practice of Piety," by Lewis Bayle, Bishop of Bangor.

Bunyan settled down with his wife at Elstow. They read these books together, and she would often be telling him "what a Godly man her father was, and how he would reprove and correct vice, both in his house and amongst his neighbours; what a strict and holy life he lived in his days, both in word and deed". For a long time Bunyan's mind and conscience were bewildered among his puritanical books and conversations. The aspect of religion thus presented to him tended to make his conscience "tender" about what he should or should not do, without giving him an insight into the principles or power of Christianity.

The Rev. Dr. Brown, in his "Life of Bunyan", thus describes this period of religious perplexities: "When a man comes under the dominion of conscience and is a stranger to love, conscience is apt to become somewhat of a tyrant: a false standard is set up, and things right enough in themselves seem to become

wrong to the man. Bunyan had hitherto taken pleasure in the somewhat laborious diversion of ringing the bells in the tower of Elstow church. He began to think this was wrong, one does not quite see why; still, having this misgiving about it, he gave up his bellringing, but not the love of it."

BUNYAN'S DILEMMA

Bunyan's own words, from "Grace Abounding", say—:

"Now you must know that before this, I had taken much delight in ringing, but my conscience beginning to be tender, I thought such practice was but vain, and therefore forced myself to leave it, yet my mind hankered. Wherefore I should go to the steeple house and look on though I durst not ring. But I thought this did not become religion either, yet I forced myself and would look on still. But quickly after I began to think, how if one of the bells should fall? Then I chose to stand under a main beam that lay overthwart the steeple, from side to side, thinking there I might stand sure. But then I should think again, should the bell fall with a swing



THE BELLS OF ELSTOW

The Fifth is known as Bunyan's Bell

[Photo by M. J. Marriott.]

it might first hit the wall and then rebounding upon me, might kill me for all this beam. This made me stand in the steeple door; and now, thought I, I am safe enough for if a bell should fall then I can slip out behind these thick walls, and so be preserved notwithstanding.

"So after this, I would yet go to see them ring but would not go further than the steeple door, but then it came into my head, how if the steeple itself should fall? and this thought, it may fall for ought I know, when I stood and looked on did continually so shake my mind that I durst not stand at the steeple door any longer, but was forced to flee for fear the steeple should fall on my head.

Another thing was my dancing. I was a full year before I could quite leave that. But



SS. MARY AND HELENA, ELSTOW

(A detached tower)

[Photo by M. J. Marriott.]

all this while, when I thought I kept this or that commandment, or did, by word or deed, anything that I thought was good, I had great peace in my conscience; and should think with myself, God cannot choose but be now pleased with me, yea, to relate it in mine own way, I thought no man in England could please God better than I. But poor wretch as I was, I was all this while ignorant of Jesus Christ, and going about to establishing own righteousness; and had perished therein, had not God in mercy, showed me more of my state by nature."

IN PRISON

Bunyan afterwards joined a Baptist congregation at Bedford, of which he was called to be the minister in 1655. After the Restoration he got into trouble for offences against the law relating to religious conformity by preaching, and was imprisoned from 1660, with one brief interval, till 1672. During this enforced seclusion from his usual work he wrote several books, including the biographical "Grace Abounding", and in a subsequent short imprisonment in 1675 he wrote the immortal "Pilgrim's Progress", which has made his name known throughout the world wherever the English tongue is spoken. In this allegory he speaks of bells being in the Heavenly City. He says of the two pilgrims approaching it:—

"They had the City itself in view, and they thought they heard all the bells therein to ring to welcome them thereto."
And a few lines later:—

"Now I saw in my dream, that these two men went in at the gate, and lo! as they entered, they were transfigured; and they had raiment put on that shone like gold. There

PRICE INCREASE

Since the price increases came into force in July, no fewer than 430 subscribers have made a voluntary contribution amounting to £225 7s. 1d. to bring their last payments into line with the new rates. We offer them our sincere thanks for their helpful support and invite all those who have not yet done so to join their number.

John Bunyan—continued

were also that met them with harps and crowns, and gave them to them; the harps to praise withal, the crowns in token of honour. Then I heard in my dream that all the bells in the City rang again for joy, and that it was said unto them 'Enter ye into the joy of your Lord'."

Bunyan died of a fever consequent on a cold while on a visit to London on August 3rd, 1688, and was buried in Bunhill Fields.

THE BELLS

Mr. Martin Marriott has provided us with the following details of the bells:—

The original five bells in the tower were taken down in 1908 and rehung by Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, in a new low-sided iron frame. He provided all new fittings and cast a treble bell to make a ring of six. The bells are on plain bearings and go quite well, with a draught of rope 55 feet. The ringing chamber was restored and a new floor added in 1964, to make a ceiling of about 12 feet.

The clappers are Bowell's own type, being of wood and metal. The wooden part hinges on the crown staple and to this is bolted a clapper flight. I understand this was Bowell's usual method.

Three years ago, during restoration work on the tower (which is detached), the supporting beams of the frame were themselves supported by four rolled-steel joists to make everything secure.

THE INSCRIPTIONS

Treble.—Height 21½". Dia. 24". 3 cwt. in E. Inscription: Alfred Bowell made me 1908. VOCO BENEDICAT. S. Whitbread, Patron. C. F. B. Hawkins, Vicar. A.D. CMCViiij.

Second.—Height 22". Dia. 27". 4 cwt. 1 qr. in D. Inscription: Christopher Graie Made Me 1655. Founder: Christopher Graie, Ampt-hill. Beds.

Note.—Christopher Graie was one of the itinerant bellfounders who travelled around and dug pits in fields near the churches where bells were to be hung. The lettering on his bell is of the crudest type. He was probably a son of Miles Graie, the Colchester founder.

Third.—Height 23". Dia. 30". 5 cwt. 1 qr. in C. Inscription: Praise the Lord 1602. Founder: Hugh Watts, of Leicester. (Letters very beautiful large ornate Gothic capitals.)

Fourth.—Height 26". Dia. 33". 6 cwt. 3 qr. in B. Inscription: God Save Our King 1631. Founder: James Keene, of Woodstock.

Fifth (Bunyan's bell).—Height 28". Dia. 35". 7 cwt. 1 qr. in A. Inscription: See above. Founder: Newcombe, of Leicester, about 1600. (So-called "Alphabet Bell".)

Tenor.—Height 28". Dia. 36". 9 cwt. 3 qr. in G. Inscription: BE · YT · KNOWNE · TO · ALL · THAT · DOTH · ME · SEE · THAT · NEWCOMBE · OF · LEICESTER · MADE · MEE · 1604. Founder: Newcombe, of Leicester, 1604.

REV. WALTER NICHOLSON

A peal was rung at Epworth, Lincs, in thanksgiving for the life of Rev. Walter Nicholson, former Rector of Sturton-by-Stow. Mr. Nicholson served in the West Riding Police Force, becoming detective chief superintendent and later commandant of the Police Training School at Bannels Ash, near Harrogate. He resigned from the Force in 1950 and trained for the ministry.

LEICESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Oct. 21st, 1,263 Stedman Caters: P. J. Stanforth (cond.) 1, G. W. Smith 2, D. Hunting 3, F. Price (Bournemouth) 4, W. A. Skinner 5, D. J. Tranter 6, S. Burton 7, D. G. Massey 8, W. J. Root 9, H. B. Bowley 10. Rung to the memory of Lay Canon S. Everest.

OBITUARY**Mr. RONALD RUSSELL****An Appreciation by Percy Amos.**

We first met each other in 1927 in an unsuccessful peal attempt at Libbourne—a village with five bells in the extreme north-west corner of Northamptonshire, near Rugby.

In the late 1920's and 1930's we would frequently meet for peals with the band shown in this picture, mainly in an attempt to help the late Mr. Ernest Morris ring a peal in every tower in Leicestershire, which he did in all but two (Shawell and Skeffington); but Skeffington's, unringable during Ernest's lifetime, have since been rehung, although Shawell's are still deplorable. Others (such as Theddingworth) are now on the unringable list. Towers in Northamptonshire and in Rutland were among others visited.

In those days Ron with his P. & M. Panther, Geoff and Norman with their old Clynor car and myself with an old flat-tank Douglas would find our way to in all some 50 or more places for peals and unsuccessful attempts which were not without incidents.

One such was in 1934, when a violent thunderstorm broke over the Midlands; it started as we raised the bells (at Cottesmore, in Rutland), went unabated through the whole of the peal of 3 hours and 2 minutes, ending as we lowered the bells.

Then in 1933, at Harringworth, a rope broke on the stroke of rounds at the conclusion of a 5,040, just as John H. Bluff called "This is all"; Norman Geary was ringing the bell concerned.

On another occasion, at Hallaton, a bell was found to have no stay, so one of us volunteered to ring in the peal without it and the peal was successfully accomplished.

"You'll never ring those bells to a peal" was the verdict in 1950 of the late Mr. William Rose, referring to the bells at Thornhaugh. But after a morning spent on tightening the fittings, cleaning and greasing the bearings by myself, a peal was rung to prove W. R. wrong—Thornhaugh's five bells have never been deemed unringable since.

These are but a few of the occasions Ron and I met.

It seems unbelievable to hear that the name Ronald Russell has been lost to ringing.

NOTE.—The above picture was taken on the roof of the Parish Church at Rothley, Leics, after a peal in 1935. Seen standing (left to right): Ronald Russell, Percy Amos, George T. H. Walker, A. Norman Geary, Ernest Morris, J. Geoffrey Geary.

WHITCHURCH, DEVON.—On Nov. 10th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): D. R. Bould 1, J. C. Mitchelmore 2, S. G. Peirce 3, A. Frost 4, G. E. Mudge (cond.) 5, E. J. Cann 6.

Another Appreciation

The "R.W." recently announced the death at the beginning of October of Ron Russell, aged 65, a very well known and respected ringer, who latterly lived in Corby, Northants, but started ringing at Hallaton, Leics.

Most of his ringing was in Northants, Rutland, Leics and Lincs, and I learn from his records that he rang 478 peals, the first at Hallaton in August, 1926, and the last at Cranford on September 26th, 1968. On December 6th, 1952, he rang a peal of 7,008 Plain Bob Major at Loughborough Bell Foundry.

In his latter years Ron was most remembered for his interest in and the pleasant manner in which he helped young ringers just breaking through into changes and peals. He is already being very much missed in the practices, peals and quarters by all his friends of all ages in the area round Corby where he lived.

A. C. S.

MR. GODFREY G. WALPOLE**An Appreciation**

The death of Mr. Godfrey G. Walpole on November 29th came as a great shock to his many friends throughout Norfolk and Suffolk. "Smoker" as he was always affectionately known, was a man who endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact. Equally at home whether on the bowling green, supporting Norwich City, in the belfry, or the Queen's Head, his innate sense of humour, combined with that subtle degree of dignity and reserve which characterises the true East Anglian, earned him the popularity he so richly deserved.

Like his father before him, he was for many years Ringing Master at Norton Subcourse, and many a young ringer, particularly the writer, can testify to his seemingly infinite patience and encouragement while attempting to master the rudiments of ringing. The complete restoration of Norton Subcourse bells was brought about, in the face of virtually insurmountable odds, chiefly by "Smoker's" drive and determination, and when this project came to fruition the day of the dedication was, in his own words, "the proudest moment of my life".

To those of us who knew and loved him the memory of "Smoker" and his never-failing cheerfulness will always remain, and our deepest sympathy goes to his wife and family. May he rest in peace.

T. N. J. B.

MONTACUTE, SOM.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Mrs. M. M. Leggett 1, G. W. Parkin 2, I. J. Read 3, D. L. Irwin 4, G. W. Rendell (cond.) 5, A. G. Woodhouse 6. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Robert A. Starling, sidesman, on the day of his funeral.

Letters to the Editor

METRIC SYSTEM AND RINGING

Dear Sir,—I read with some concern the letter from Mr. Threlfall ("R.W.", Dec. 6th) and his attempt to publish the weight of a tenor in Kg. instead of British units.

May I put in a plea for sanity? In recent years this country has shown almost indecent haste to adopt standards from overseas, e.g., road signs, decimal currency and metric engineering standards. In some of these cases the changeover is very costly and inconvenient and is done with scant apparent regard for the pay-off or even to the demands of logic.

In the case of tenor weights we have a long tradition of ringing and British engineering where there is certainly no pay-off for changing lbs. of bell metal into Kg. of bell metal.

Please, Mr. Threlfall, leave our towers (and Dove) to easily understood and perfectly adequate hundredweights. Otherwise I have a fear of the "R.W." following the lead of the Met. Office and publishing peals showing the weight of a tenor as 1,000 Kg. (19 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.).—Yours faithfully,

M. H. SINDEN.

Nettleham, Lincoln.

Dear Sir,—The supposed advantage of the metric system is that it is easier to calculate with. (I say "supposed" because this is not always the case.) But who, except a bell-founder, wants to calculate with the weight of a tenor? It is a purely descriptive piece of information, like the note, or the date of casting, and there is no point whatsoever in departing from the traditional usage with which we are familiar. One might as well give the note in terms of its frequency. Besides, which, the hundredweight is a very convenient unit for the purpose—the kilogram is much too small. "Logical" and "scientific" units are all right in their place, but they are not always the best for every purpose. The 24-hour clock may eliminate ambiguity from timetables, but I've yet to hear a friend say to me: "Come and have tea with me at half-past-sixteen". So let us stick to our umpteenth cwt. tenors, and be blown to metrication.—Yours sincerely,

A. R. PARGETER.

Sampford Peverell, Devon.

METRICATION

Dear Sir,—I suppose that it is inevitable that our tenor bells will fall victims to the innovators; but, whatever you print, sir, Grandison will always be 72½ cwt. to me.—Yours sincerely,

VERNON BOTTOMLEY.

Northwram, Halifax.

HARROGATE RINGERS ACCEPT

Dear Sir,—We thank Margaret Warford for her belated explanation, which was all we ever wanted from Chapel Allerton. We realise perfectly well that lateness is sometimes unavoidable. At the same time we would have liked some recognition on their part that no one can reasonably be expected to wait around indefinitely, and that it is usual, if late, to offer an explanation.

Since their only reference to the affair was in "The Ringing World," it was proper and appropriate for our protest to be made there.—Yours faithfully,

C. I. P. ROBERTS.

Harrogate.

KING CHARLES DELIGHT AT WONSTON

Dear Sir,—To put the mind of Mr. Smith, of Sutton Scotney, at rest, the account of Wonston bells sent in by me along with a quarter peal of King Charles Delight Minor was correct in every detail. Ringers from Winchester College and Southampton University can vouch for the accuracy, as both bands had had difficulty with peals due to bells drying up, and this was the reason for our attempt coming to grief.

The Rector must have been aware of this as he met me leaving the tower with the empty oil can. Mr. Smith can now rest easy in his bed as with lubrication the bells go as well as ever and are a joy to ring. We hope that the treble stay is now repaired so that no unwary visitors can come to grief, and that the local band may flourish again.—Yours sincerely,

GEOFFREY K. DODD.

Woolton Hill.

IN HANDBELL BOOK

Dear Sir,—The 12-part composition of Plain Bob Major published on page 960 of "The Ringing World" (Dec. 6th, 1968) is the same as the peal on page 60 of "Change Ringing on Handbells", by C. W. Woolley.

As the Central Council only publishes one book on handbell ringing it seems almost inconceivable that Mr. Rowson did not check this work for possible duplication.

Mr. Woolley has informed me that the arrangement should be attributed to John Carter or himself.—Yours faithfully,

A. G. CRADDOCK.

Newcastle upon Tyne.

INVESTIGATING TWERTON RINGING

Dear Sir,—As I originated the discussion on local and resident bands, may I answer John Brain's letter (page 906) relating to the quarter of Duffield recently rung at Twerton-on-Avon? We now know that the footnote should have read "First in the method by all the band" and apologise for not investigating thoroughly any previous ringing of the method within the Association. The band, however, was neither local nor resident as it consisted of only two Twerton ringers, the remainder being from other towers in North Somerset plus one Leicestershire ringer at present attending Bath University.

In reply to Mr. G. H. Harding's letter (page 926), in which he insists all in the band which rang the peal of Superlative in 1930 at Twerton were members of the Twerton band, I can only point out that the Bath and Wells Association report for that year lists W. Crocker and Miss N. G. Williams as members of Weston, Bath, and T. Grant as a member of Bath Abbey. After discussing the matter with Miss Williams and confirming the facts, I still maintain that there is a difference between the Twerton Surprise band of 1930, which included ringers attached to other towers, and the one of today, the ringers of which are all attached to Twerton and incidentally all learnt to handle a bell there.—Yours faithfully,

G. J. HAWKINS.

Oldfield Park, Bath.

COAT CAUGHT IN A CRACK

Dear Sir,—With reference to the query in Belfry Gossip on page 950, "Swaying Towers". I am no authority on this but would like to make this comment. My father as a lad was a ringer at Northwood, Norfolk, about 1880, and used to tell us of an experience in a cracked tower. An onlooker was leaning against the crack; when ringing ceased his coat was caught in it and they had to start ringing again to release him!

By the way, the ringers there were a closed shop and it was only when they were one short my father was accepted. He begged to fill the gap: there was much demur, but one of the old hands said: "Let the boy have a go."

I gather he sucked them in and surpassed them. An experience of mine was just after the war at a ringing meeting at Marham, Norfolk. Some American airmen with myself went to the top of the tower while ringing was in progress. The door at the top opened and shut! Their remarks at once were: "Buddy, we're baling out of here."

We had to wait till the ringing ceased, and were they not glad to get outside! I must confess the sway alarmed me.—Yours sincerely,

GERALD MILLER.

Lakenheath, Suffolk.

UPSET THE CALENDAR

Dear Sir,—I happened to be looking through some 1950 "Ringing Worlds" when I noticed that the issue dated October 27th was No. 2064 and the following week's copy was 2066.

This means, of course, that on pages 804 and 805 of this year the heading should read "They took Issue No. 1—Now they take Issue 2,999." I am sorry, sir—you are one out.—Yours faithfully,

N. G. T. STEERE.

Sutton, Surrey.

ADVERTISING 1969

A firm of distillers are tying up their product with the year 1969 by the offer of awards to sportsmen linked with 69, i.e., 69 winners.

The list of sports includes cricket, golf, tennis, show jumping, rugby league, horse, motor and speedway racing.

A correspondent suggests that the campanological fraternity should somehow get in on this offer. Say, the first person to ring 69 peals in 1969.

OBITUARY

MR. CHARLES AYLWARD

Charlie Aylward, who died on November 9th, a few weeks before his 84th birthday, was the last active survivor of the band who kept ringing going in Chiddingstone, Kent, between the wars. He was brought up in the local tradition of Grandire Triples, ringing peals of it with the local band at Chiddingstone in 1920, 1924 and 1932, and was never really happy in any other method. A quarter peal of Grandire was rung to his memory by some of his friends on November 13th.

Although his ringing repertoire was limited, Charlie Aylward was never happier than when ringing or listening to or discussing ringing. On the revival of the band some five years ago he took up ringing where he had left off and continued to ring until well over 80.

We shall miss his cheerful presence after practice and the long technical discussions. The whole village, too, will miss one of its oldest and most natural and straightforward members.

R. W. H. H.

BELL ROPES

JOHN NICOLL

SEE BACK PAGE

Gloucester & Bristol Ringing Competition

"Most Worthwhile Event"

IT was appropriate that the Gloucester and Bristol Association should hold the first competition for the Croome Trophy at North Cerney, the church which W. I. Croome had loved and worshipped in for so many years.

Preliminary competitions for Sunday Service bands had taken place in nine of the Association's twelve branches, the trophy had been presented to the Association by the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finance, and, during the week preceding November 9th, the whole of Cirencester seemed to be ringing conscious, for not only had bell-ringing received a place on the agenda of the Deanery Conference and one of the town's leading jewellers given the trophy a place in his window for a week, but the local newspaper had devoted a whole column to the forthcoming event—on the Sports Page!

November 9th dawned frosty and foggy, not the best weather for those travelling from distant parts of the Association territory. However, by early afternoon the sun had broken through and the scene upon which the judge, the Rev. Roger O. Fry, gazed from a bedroom in the Rectory was nothing short of idyllic—a peaceful village with the delightful Cotswold stone church bathed in autumnal sunshine and the first of the many ringers beginning to arrive.

THE TEAMS

At half-past two the first draw was made on the table tomb outside the south door. Cirencester, the home team, were the first to ring, and their Grandsire Doubles, though not as good as we expected from Cirencester, enabled those listening to hear the bells properly for the first time. They were followed into the tower by Haresfield, representing the Stroud Branch, a young band who have striven magnificently over the past two years to achieve a worthwhile standard. Cheltenham Parish Church "B" (for Bill Farmer) team were next, and it was obvious from the outset that here were strong contenders for the trophy. Their Kent Treble Bob Minor was a joy to listen to, though the really critical found a fault or two. Thornbury's ringing concluded the first half, a good effort, but not up to the standard which had gained them first place in the Bristol Rural Branch competition.

Stone, representing the Wotton-under-Edge Branch, opened the second half. Here was a band of young people, all but one under fifteen years of age, ringing call changes, and it was very apparent that they had really practised since their branch competition. St. Mary de Crypt (Gloucester Branch) rang next, followed by Lydney (Forest Branch), whose St. Martin's had the judge puzzled for a moment. Both were good attempts, but the Plain Bob Minor rung by Bristol Cathedral made the Cheltenham Branch wonder whether, in fact, the trophy was really theirs, for this ringing

was excellent. Malmesbury (Chippenham Branch), ringing last, surprised a great many listeners with the standard of their Grandsire Doubles.

The competition ringing was over, an excellent buffet tea had been served in the Village Hall throughout the afternoon by the North Cerney Women's Institute, and the fog had again closed in. "Who has won?" was the question on all lips, although most of us felt sure that it must be either Bristol Cathedral or Cheltenham.

TROPHY DEDICATED

The church was packed for the service at which the Croome Trophy, which had been placed in the chancel early in the afternoon to be admired by all, was to be dedicated. The service was conducted by Canon A. J. C. Turner, Rector of North Cerney, and the lesson was read by Miss E. M. Bliss, Association Chairman. Before the actual dedication, Canon Turner spoke of the life of W. I. Croome, his great love of churches, especially North Cerney, his work as Chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Central Council for the Care of Churches, and Chairman of the Cathedrals' Advisory Committee, but above all of his humility and faithfulness in little things which could provide an example for all of us. (See page 988.)

The company then proceeded to the Village Hall to hear the results. Miss Bliss presented the apologies of Mr. F. Sharpe, who but for his recent illness would have been judging. Major P. D. Birchall of Gloucestershire County Council, and Mr. W. H. Warmington, who had designed and made the trophy. The Association Ringing Master, Mr. W. F. Scudamore, spoke of the preliminary stages of the competition, and then there was a tense hush as the Rev. Roger O. Fry rose to announce the results. He began at the bottom of the list and one by one the Branches knew their places—Stone, Haresfield, Cirencester, Lydney, Thornbury, St. Mary de Crypt. Malmesbury had been placed third and the only two teams as yet unmentioned were Bristol Cathedral and Cheltenham. Which was it to be? The judge paused—eventually Cheltenham second and Bristol the winners. The presentation was made by the Ringing Master and it was difficult to say which man was the more proud at that moment—Pat Bird who was receiving the valuable miniature silver bell hung for ringing on behalf of his team, or Fred Scudamore who was seeing the realisation of a bright idea he had had just over a year ago.

Miss Bliss said that unfortunately she could not make the second presentation, the Ringing Master's Clapper for "A Good Attempt," which Mr. Scudamore had given to the Association that day, as the young ringers from Stone had already left for home owing to the dense fog.

Mr. Scudamore expressed the thanks of the Association to the Rev. Roger O. Fry, who had readily undertaken to judge at short notice, to Canon Turner, who had so readily agreed for the competition to be held at his church, to North Cerney W.I. for their excellent catering, and to all who had contributed to the success of the event. He was in turn thanked by Miss Bliss who wondered what his next bright idea would be.

And so the day ended and well over a hundred and twenty ringers left North Cerney to go their various ways, some to ring at Cirencester and some at Rendcomb, and all to grope their way home through the fog, feeling that this had been a most worthwhile event in the G. and B. calendar.

E. M. B.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION Southern Branch

The A.G.M. of the Southern Branch was held on November 16th at Quidenham. A dull, cold day was probably the cause of the attendance being lower than usual for the annual meeting, but good use was made of the eight bells.

The Rev. I. Davies conducted the service, which was delayed for a short time while an organist was fetched, the arranged one having failed to turn up. Tea was provided by Mrs. Davies and her helpers, who were warmly thanked for their efforts.

This was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Dr. J. Jonason, the Branch chairman. All the officers were re-elected to serve for another year. A letter was received from Rev. C. Beever thanking the ringers for the presentation made to him on his retirement, and wishing the Branch every success in the future.

Ringings, under the direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. F. C. Arnold, continued till 9 p.m.

Next meeting: February 1st at Pulham Market (provisional).

SHERWOOD YOUTHS AT DERBY

There was a good attendance at the Sherwood Youths' meeting at Derby on November 30th. The light eight at St. Peter's was rung in the afternoon and methods included Grandsire Major. Tea was followed by a business meeting, at which the Rev. David Sansum, from Birmingham, kindly took the chair.

The secretary reported that the Crofts manuscripts were now deposited in the Nottingham records office and a copy had been sent to the Central Council Library. He also reported that Crofts' gravestone had been restored and thanked Messrs. J. and G. Dawson and helpers for their work. Members were asked to consider a change in Society rules which would be discussed at the A.G.M.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the ladies for a splendid tea, to Mr. A. Mould for arranging the ringing at St. Peter's, and to Mr. G. Clift for acting as Ringing Master. Ringing then took place at the Cathedral and methods up to Cambridge Surprise Royal were rung.

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WANT YORKSHIRE RINGING REORGANISED

"The Leeds and District Society recognises with regret the extent of disunity in Yorkshire ringing circles. It believes, nevertheless, that there is great potential for fuller co-operation and pooling of resources. It urges both the Yorkshire Association and the Joint Council of Yorkshire Ringing Societies to give priority to reorganisation for the whole county, aimed at eventually bringing all ringers under the auspices of the Yorkshire Association. As a first positive step towards the achievement of such unity, the Leeds and District Society acknowledges its willingness to disband upon satisfactory terms for reorganisation being reached."

The above resolution was passed by a large majority at the Society's last meeting for 1968, which was held in the crypt of Wakefield Cathedral on November 30th.

Over 45 members and friends partook of the excellent buffet tea liberally provided by the Cathedral ringers, and lengthy discussion of the resolution, which was proposed by the Society's president, Mr. Robin Brown, took up most of the business meeting afterwards.

Earlier in the afternoon ringing had taken place at Wragby, the church being delightfully situated in the grounds of Nostell Priory, Wakefield's local "stately home". This tower holds an easily-going and pleasant-sounding ring of six and, after being silent for many years, has recently been revitalised by ringers from the local congregation, learning under the auspices of Mr. Wilfrid F. Moreton and some of the Wakefield band. Despite a broken rope at one stage and the coldness of the church, numerous methods were rung by the large number of ringers present.

The warmth of Wakefield crypt at tea was particularly welcome, and in the evening ringing on the larger number of bells up to the standard of Stedman Cinques was enjoyed. Numerous sessions of rounds and plain hunting were appreciated by the lesser-experienced ringers present.

Next meeting: January 25th at Birstall (provisional).
R. C.

A SPECIAL REQUEST

Importance of Simple Duties

[Sermon preached by Canon A. J. C. Turner, Rural Dean of Cirencester and Rector of North Cerney, at the Gloucester and Bristol Ringing Competition, 9.11.68.]

IT is fitting that the first contest and service should be held here, for this was William Croome's parish church, a church that he knew and loved all his life. He was born in this parish 77 years ago and he was baptised in the font that you see in this church.

It is a long story, but as he grew up he came in contact here with a distinguished ecclesiastical architect, F. C. Eden, a man who was given a fairly free hand in this church and who, we can say, completely transformed it to make it the beautiful place it is today. A close friendship developed between the two men and over the years William Croome was to acquire from Eden a profound knowledge of the proper care and treatment of a mediaeval church.

This was fortunate, for what he learned here was to be of inestimable value to the Diocese and indeed far beyond. In turn he was to become Chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Central Council for the Care of Churches, Chairman of the Cathedrals' Advisory Committee and a Trustee of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust. But although it is true to say that there is scarcely a church in the country that does not owe something to William Croome, this was the church that he loved best and where he found his inspiration.

He was an extremely able man and over the years his mind became a vast storehouse of knowledge. Those of us who knew him

turned to him with our queries and problems assured of a wise and understanding answer.

But with all his many gifts he was a man of simple faith and his life for a great many years centred round the worship in this parish church. He held a number of parochial offices, but during the last years of his life these were given up and he was content to worship as an ordinary member of the congregation. During this period he made himself responsible for some quite small and simple duties—the changing of the altar frontals, the renewing of candles, serving at week-day services. To him these small jobs were important and they were carried out with as great care as if he were presiding on the Cirencester Bench or chairing a committee at national level. When you got to know him you realised that these small tasks were important to him because they contributed to the beauty and dignity of the worship which he felt was due to Almighty God.

This trophy which we are to dedicate today will help to perpetuate the name of one who strove to worship God in the beauty of holiness.

If there is a message that I would give you this afternoon it is perhaps this—the importance of simple duties, duties that are within the reach of quite ordinary people, duties which if performed faithfully, though they may appear unspectacular, are nevertheless of first rate importance.

In the Old Testament, in the Book of Numbers, we read of a family whose allotted task was to take care of the pegs and cords belonging to the Tabernacle of God. It may have seemed to them a very insignificant job with little glory about it. Yet, of course, without those pegs and cords the Tabernacle could not have stood up for two minutes. Actually the unspectacular service rendered by this family was highly important.

We learn from this the importance of service—of doing our ordinary simple jobs, whatever they might be, as well as we can. Nothing is too small not to take trouble over, and this is particularly so in all that is connected with the worship of our parish churches. I know that I am constantly sustained by the willing help of a band of people, organist, bell-ringers, choirmen and so on.

The people who get the applause and the headlines in the newspapers are the people who have great responsibilities or who hold high office or who do spectacular things. But in the end it is the simple virtues, the smaller forms of service, the faithful performance of humdrum duties, the little acts of unselfishness, and, above all, personal example by which the community's life is enriched.

Sometimes it may seem to you that what you are doing is of no particular importance—of no more importance than looking after the pegs and cords belonging to the Tabernacle. If you are ever tempted to think like that then remember that your simple duties, if performed faithfully, though they may appear unspectacular in the eyes of man are nevertheless of first rate importance in the eyes of God.

GREATER CONTROL IN YOUNGER HANDS

District Master's Plea

In his annual report as Ringing Master of the Stroud Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association Mr. E. Cribley writes:—

This is not so much a report as a speech on retirement, being a firm believer in jobs of this nature being passed around, and having seen so many disasters in ringing circles caused by people holding on to office, not knowing when to give up. This one fact, probably more than any other, accounts for the many hundreds of unmanned towers throughout the country today.

It has been a delight, and I have felt honoured, to have been secretary and then Ringing Master during what I have considered to be a transitional period in Branch history. I remember meetings as very dull affairs and came to believe them to be a Saturday club for good ringers, but with very little point to them.

Mr. Price struggled and struggled to keep enthusiasm alive with very little support. He did a king-sized job and we still owe him a tremendous debt.

Things are much easier for us now; we have the motor car to thank for this and whatever other reasons may also be found for it, the whole approach to a meeting—or practice, as I like to insist—has been seen to change over the last few years. We now have a regular, fast-moving practice directed towards

training, with young enthusiasts who see the wider world of ringing, all prepared to pool their talents "rise to fall" and, what is more, all in good humour.

I want to see this trend continue. I want to see far more trust and responsibility for ringing placed in younger hands. The remnants of the illusion that it is an arduous task and the preserve of ageing males must be dispersed. Teenagers have the agility of mind and body and the time; theirs should be the job of ringing. I for one would like to listen more often!

There is, I think, more vitality in Stroud Branch than in most. I thought to say that we needed more, but this would bring about its own destruction.

When I became Ringing Master I could not call a bob—I still cannot. From this I conclude that a Ringing Master does not necessarily have to be a conductor; and would probably argue that it is better if he is not. However, there is much emerging talent in the Branch and it will be my pleasure to nominate one such ringer who, if elected, will I hope prove to be a rallying point for many more young ringers of the District.

FORTHCOMING PEAL ATTEMPT

York Minster, Saturday, December 28th, start approximately 11.15 a.m., Cambridge S. Maximus, St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD Mansfield District

The most gratifying thing about the Mansfield District meeting, held at Kirkby-in-Ashfield on November 23rd, was the number of very young ringers in attendance. The fact of there being only five bells possibly inspired confidence, but whatever the reason it is hoped that some good came of it.

The service was conducted by the Rev. C. J. Young, assisted by the Rev. H. Pickles at the organ, and later both joined the company for tea.

The business meeting followed, at which Miss J. Smith, of Sutton-in-Ashfield, was elected a Guild member and Miss M. Yarnold, of Chesterfield a non-resident life member. Attention was drawn to the conducting during recent months of quarter peals by Miss Helen Simpson and Miss Barbara Hooks, of Greasley. Being only 15 years old at the time, the girls were congratulated by members at the meeting.

Thanks were then accorded to the Vicar and the local company for all arrangements, and ringing continued until 9 p.m.

Next meeting: District annual, Mansfield, January 25th. 1969. D. J. B.

Bingham District

The last meeting of the Bingham District for 1968 was held at Colston Bassett on November 9th, when over 50 ringers from 11 towers had an enjoyable gathering. The Rev. G. P. Davidson conducted the service and gave an address. Tea was provided in the Village Hall and the collection for the Bell Repair Fund realised £1 14s. 8d.

The following announcements were made at the business meeting: Dinner and social at Whetton on December 13th; annual District meeting at Bingham; February meeting at Cotgrave. The vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Hanson and ringing continued until 8.15. R. B.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The last meeting of the year for the Ashford District was held on November 16th at Willesborough. The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. T. G. Williams, and Mr. W. F. Garner, of the local band, was at the organ. The collection, amounting to £2 2s. 6d., was donated to "The Ringing World".

Over 50 people enjoyed the tea prepared by the local band in the village hall. In the absence (through illness) of the regular chairman, Mr. D. C. Manger was elected to the office for the short business meeting. Ringing continued until 9 p.m., under the guidance of the Ringing Master, and ranged from rounds to Surprise. A. P. S. B.

CORRECTIONS & AMENDMENTS

The method rung in the peal at Chiswick (page 952) was Mortlake Surprise Major. E.C.H. should be F.C.H.

The Editor is now compiling dates of cover issues for 1969. Applications for specific dates should be forwarded without delay.

Mr. Michael J. Fellows, who is only 21, rang his 500th peal on December 7th at Bewdley, Worcestershire.

Highclere, Hants, Sunday service band rang a quarter of London Surprise Minor on December 9th. This was the first rung on the bells and by Andover District members.

On Christmas Eve at 23.30 the bells of the Cathedral Church of St. Andrew, Wells, Somerset, will be heard prior to a programme from the Cathedral on Harlech Television.

Congratulations to David Pope, ringer of the 3rd in the peal of Minor at Bredwardine, Herefords, on November 30th. After losing the use of his right arm he has remastered the art to score his first peal one-handed.

Only the front eight bells of Manchester Town Hall were available when a 12-bell band arrived on November 23rd. Repairs were being carried out to the clock which made it impracticable to ring bells 8, 10 and 11. Those of the band who stood down—Messrs. Jelley, Massey, Moore and Mason—are thanked.

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY GUILD DINNER

The dinner this year took place on November 30th. During the day the Guild's first peal on ten bells, of Grandsire Caters, was rung at North Stoneham, and ringing took place at five local towers, including St. Michael's, Southampton, which had been put back into ringing order, largely by the hard work of several members of the Guild.

The dinner was well cooked and served at the Berkeley House Hotel, Southampton. After the meal Canon K. W. H. Felstead, the president, introduced the toasts. The "Master of Vice", David H. Stone, proposed the toast of "The Church", which was replied to by the Rev. Colin Rudd, who is a good friend of the Guild, being in charge of North Stoneham. The secretary then proposed the toast of "The Visitors", which was replied to by Ron E. Stillwell, immediate past Master of Reading University Guild. He gave a brilliant, unusual speech on the outmoded nature of the speech—apparently interviews are the "in" thing!

In his report the Master, Howard J. Payne, noted with regret the sudden death of a former Master, Michael D. Trigg, in May. Since the last dinner the Guild had rung two peals, three quarters (including one on handbells) and one date touch. They had also lost two peals on two founders days! Perhaps they would have three founders days in the next year to give yet more chances of success!

The remainder of the evening was "interesting socially", and handbells were rung until the bar closed at 11.30 p.m. and we started dispersing to our many beds and floors!

S. E. M. D.

TAUNTON BRANCH QUARTER PEAL TOUR

Thirteen ringers in the Taunton area broke new ground on November 30th when they held a quarter peal tour. Eight quarters were arranged at towers in the Taunton and Dunster Branches. All were successful and a high standard of striking maintained.

This new style tour was much enjoyed by all partaking, and from opinions expressed it shouldn't be long before the organiser, John Cornelius, is pressed into arranging another. Sincere thanks are extended to the tower captains and incumbents who readily made their bells available for the new venture.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

Some 50 ringers met at Bishop's Cleeve on November 23rd for the A.G.M. of the Cheltenham Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

Ringing began shortly after 3 p.m. and a variety of methods was rung, including Yorkshire and Cambridge Major. A shortened form of Evensong was conducted by the Rev. K. C. Edmunds who, in his address, reminded those present of the fact that on that particular day bellringers were being prayed for throughout the Diocese of Gloucester.

At the meeting that followed Miss E. M. Bliss (Association chairman) briefly explained the Boundaries Sub-Committee's report and its effect on the Cheltenham Branch. She also congratulated the Branch on coming a very close second in the Association striking competition held at North Cerney a fortnight earlier.

Both Mr. W. A. Farmer and Mr. M. L. Maggs were unanimously re-elected to their respective offices of Branch chairman and secretary, and Mr. P. Baker was elected to the management committee.

Miss Bliss expressed the thanks of the ringers to the Rector, the organist and Mr. and Mrs. P. Baker, who provided the tea. After the meeting ringers returned to the tower, where ringing continued until 8.30 p.m.

MALVERN LINK

The ringers of Malvern Link, Worcestershire, held their annual dinner at the Foley Arms Hotel, Great Malvern, on November 30th. A company of 40 sat down to a filling traditional Christmas dinner. The Link ringers were supported by relatives, neighbouring ringers, regular visitors and friends, as well as by the Vicar (Rev. E. A. H. Cooke) and his wife.

The meal was followed by a short ringing film, a pianoforte duet by a mistress and a pupil from Malvern Girls' College (both ringers) and games. Changes and tunes were rung on handbells. There was also a short demonstration of a small ringing machine made by George Morris, assisted by helpers from the Royal Radar Establishment and others.

The evening was enjoyed by all, and no doubt a similar event will be held next year.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Memories of her six years as a ringer at Reigate were recalled by Miss Ruth Foreman when she took part in a peal of Reigate Surprise Major at Willesden recently.

The peal at Halstead, Essex, on November 30th, is believed to be the first name peal rung on the patronal festival of a church dedicated to a saint of the same name.

In three quarters submitted from Newark-on-Trent each was called by a "first as conductor". They were Paul Raithby, Peter Wakefield and Margaret E. Chilton.

Doubles ringers in Somerset are advancing with a peal in 32 regular individual plain course methods, conducted by John Walton, at Berrow.

In explanation, why a Yorkshire Association peal was rung in the "capital" of the Guildford Diocese—there were no Guildford Guild members and the Yorkshire Association had four members, three resident and one out-county.

The ringers in the peal at Clapton-in-Gordano on December 4th would like to associate it with the name of Cecil Mogford, who was prevented from ringing owing to car trouble. J. Hebden is thanked for standing in at a moment's notice.

The new Rector at St. Giles', Camberwell, is Canon Douglas Rhymes, who was well-known for his friendship at Southwark. A welcome awaits any ringers attending his church on Sunday evening, and they are asked to contact Mr. J. Oakley, churchwarden and vergier.

A new handbell record is 30 Spliced Surprise Major methods. This was rung at St. Albans on December 2nd, conducted by John R. Mayne.

Another village tower has blossomed out into change-ringing. This is at Kibworth Beauchamp, Leics, on December 1st, when five first quarters were rung in two methods and G. Salter was calling his first as conductor.

The band for the peal at Aylestone on November 30th wishes to record thanks to Mrs. Pat Morris for standing in at short notice. Mrs. Morris, who has not rung a peal for almost three years, rang very well and, we hope, will be ringing peals more regularly.

The new Lord Mayor of London (Sir Charles Trinder), who lives just outside Kimpington, Herts, was honoured with bells on November 9th. A peal was attempted by the local band, but this was unsuccessful, and a quarter of Doubles substituted. The Lord Mayor has sponsored a competition among groups of young people who are doing anything "out of the ordinary" to the benefit of the community.

Ringers at St. Margaret's, Westminster, are accustomed to impressive services, but it is doubtful if their quarter of Stedman Caters had ever had a more appreciative audience than those who attended the thanksgiving for the centenary of the Royal National Institute for the Blind. H.R.H. Princess Margaret, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Mayor of Westminster were present, but the congregation was almost entirely composed of blind people.

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ST. LUKE'S, BRISTOL, BELLS RING FOR THE LAST TIME

Between 1951-1965 the six bells of St. Luke's, Bedminster, Bristol, were out of action. However, voluntary labour patched up wheels and did some general tightening up and made the bells "ringable" again, though the "go" was not good. The bells have been rung on a few occasions in the last three years, including a peal in September, 1966, the first on the bells for 63 years. All six bells were cast and hung by Llewellyn and James, of Bristol, originally as a five, with a treble added later. The church stands within about 200 yards of Llewellyn and James' workshops.

Due to road widening plans the church is to be demolished early next year, and the last service was held on Sunday, November 17th. After the service the bells were rung for what will certainly be the last occasion in this tower. The Vicar was delighted at having his bells rung and thought it a most fitting climax. Ringers from St. Ambrose's, Bristol, and Bridgewater took advantage of this last opportunity to "grab" the tower.

There are no definite plans at present for rehousing the bells but Bristol ringers are fairly optimistic that a new home will be found for them. The chaplain of the Bristol City Branch is the Archdeacon of Bristol, Canon L. A. Williams, who is himself a ringer. In fact he learned to ring in 1933 on the bells of St. Luke's, Bedminster!

A CO-OPERATIVE VICAR

The peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major rung recently at Old Cleve was the first of Major on the bells and the first peal for 38 years. In view of this the Vicar was a little worried about what reactions there might be from nearby residents. Many other vicars would have adopted a defeatist attitude and simply said "No" to the application: however, he announced that a peal was to be rung one Sunday evening at Evensong, and if anyone objected would they let him know (this amused the Bishop of Bath and Wells, who was present at the service).

The forthcoming peal was published in the church magazine and the Vicar also called personally on local inhabitants. If all vicars had the same fair-minded outlook there would be very few "unpealable" towers. When the peal was completed the Vicar entertained the band to tea, to the accompaniment of a tape-recording he had taken of the peal. The Vicar is not a ringer and knows nothing about ringing, but he certainly is prepared to give ringers every encouragement.

FIRST PEAL ON THE NEW TEN AT EDINGTON

Within a month of the dedication the first peal has been rung on the splendid new ring of ten at Edington, Wilts. This was not accomplished without difficulty, for the noise in the ringing chamber is very great, so that it is not easy either to make the calls distinct or to correct a trip. For this reason Stedman was chosen in preference to Grandsire, less calls being needed in each course. The peal was conducted by Mr. Charles F. Andrews, and he is to be congratulated on the achievement of an exhausting feat of bob calling.

This is a noble ring of ten and, heard from the outside, beautifully mellow. One could imagine that a listener on Edington Hill or Bratton Castle or any of the neighbouring Downs would find the effect very lovely.

GROTON VISITOR AT ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER

Whilst ringing was taking place at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Friday, November 29th, before the wedding of Lord Strathnaver, heir to the Countess of Sutherland, and Miss Eileen Baker, from U.S.A., a "most elegant young man" came up to "see the ringers". He joined in and rang the eighth and then informed the veterans present that he was the bride's brother and learned to ring at Groton School, Mass.

"I think," writes Mr. John Euston, "this was a unique and pleasant experience for us all. During all my 35 years at St. Margaret's the only other noted guest from a wedding party to join us was Major Satow, whom we knew. John Baker was not in the party when Russell Young and some of his pupils last visited us. I trust this brotherhood of ringers will always prevail."

The noted people with whom John rang were J. F. Smallwood (84), Charlie Hughes (81), Bill Rawlings (73), Ben Baker (70), Joe Marks (74), Bert Audsley (68) and Fred Cullum (69). Also in attendance were Mrs. E. Bagworth, Tom Hawkins and John Euston. A well-struck three courses of Stedman Caters was rung after the service.

CHIMING BELLS AT SITTINGBOURNE

A ring of eight bells, tenor approximately 3 cwt. in E with a mouth diameter of 1ft. 11in., has been brought to light at the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart in Sittingbourne, Kent.

The eight bells are hung "dead" in two levels, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th above and the treble, 6th, 7th and tenor below.

The bells have outside chiming hammers, with the tenor having an unusual feature of a spring on the outside of the bell, similar to those to be found in handbells.

The crowns have considerable decoration in the form of intertwined leaves and the canons have an eccentric mushroom-like shape. The only inscription on the bells we believe to be that of the founder, viz.:

HE FUNUIT LUVANIT FELIX VAN
 ASRSCHOFF

From the inscription, which could hardly be read, and the decoration it would seem to suggest that the bells are of foreign origin.

If any ringer has any information regarding either the founder or the bells, could they please write to G. Wood at 161, High Street, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent.

FAMILY FIRST QUARTER PEAL

It was a very happy occasion in Hurstpierpoint belfry on Sunday evening, December 1st, when a mother, father and their two sons all rang their first quarter peal together. All regular worshippers at their parish church and very loyal members of the local band, they have also been helped in their ringing progress at the monthly meetings of the Sussex County Association.

Both the conductor (Mr. H. W. Brown) and his twin brother had eagerly awaited this moment of success, and they wish to congratulate the Kirkcaldy family and regret there aren't more of them! They look forward to many quarters together in the future.

SWANSEA'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SOCIETY

At a meeting of the ringers in University College, Swansea, on November 6th, it was decided that there should be a College Society, named "The University College, Swansea, Bell Ringers' Society", membership being open to anyone in the College who is interested.

The aims of the Society are:—

(1) To encourage and assist ringers in the College, and others that come in contact with the Society.

(2) To hold a regular practice on tower- and handbells.

(3) To have at least one College outing each year.

(4) To ring the occasional quarter peal or peal.

(5) To ring for Sunday services, especially those bells that are seldom heard on Sundays, if possible.

(6) To foster good relations between the College and the local ringers.

The annual general meeting is to be held early in the New Year so, at a meeting on November 19th, the temporary Ringing Master, Miss S. Harber, and the secretary/treasurer, W. Nash, were elected. This meeting was followed by ringing at Sketty.

There was a combined Neath and College practice at Neath on November 25th, and there have been College/Sketty handbell practices at the College on Wednesdays.

It is hoped that the present encouraging support from all local ringers will long continue.

W. NASH.

MEETING AT HERTFORD

The Herts Eastern District's meeting, on the last Saturday in November, at Hertford was reasonably well attended. St. Andrew's bells (8) were available in the afternoon and All Saints' (10) in the evening, under the guidance of Mr. E. Newman, the District Ringing Master. Methods ranged from Plain Bob Royal to Cambridge Royal and in the afternoon from rounds to Stedman Triples.

EXETER COLLEGES GUILD

The new term has brought new faces to the Exeter Colleges Guild. Kevin Hughes is now Master of the University Society and John Anderson Master of St. Luke's Society. "Ringing has been a little incoherent" (reports the Guild secretary, Angela C. Hughes) "especially as the leading light of the College's Guild, John Langridge, has been indisposed with dysentery. Fortunately he has now recovered and our programme for next term should prove more worthwhile."

REAL REVERSE BOB

Mr. Cyril Wratten thinks that the peal of Real Reverse Bob Major rung at Cheltenham was probably the first time it has been rung on handbells to a 5,000. The band would be very interested to discover the last peal of Real Reverse (i.e., with all the calls made while the treble lies behind): it has been suggested it may have been some two centuries ago.

TOWER BELL PEALS

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

CITY OF LONDON.—At the Church of St. Michael, Cornhill.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDINIUM SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 42 cwt. 6 lb. in B.

Tudor P. Edwards Treble	Frank E. Darby 7
G. William Critchley 2	Noel J. Diserens 8
Wilfred Williams 3	Clifford A. Barron 9
John H. Fielden 4	J. Alan Ainsworth 10
David E. Parsons 5	John A. Anderson 11
Frank C. Price 6	Peter Border Tenor

Composed by Peter Border.

Conducted by Wilfred Williams.

First peal of Londinium on the bells.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARROW GURNEY, Som.—At the Church of SS. Mary the Virgin and Edward, K. and M.

On Sat., Nov. 16, 1968, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 144 cwt. in F sharp.

John C. Sheppard Treble	† Geoffrey Hebden 5
* Brenda H. Boyce 2	‡ Roy W. Rice 6
Michael G. Bartlett 3	Edgar T. Skipsey 7
† Walter S. Rice 4	Peter J. England Tenor

Composed by G. Lewis.

Conducted by Peter J. England.

* First peal on eight bells. † 50th peal. ‡ First in the method.

YATTON, Somerset.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5280 GLASGOW SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. in D.

Geoffrey Hebden Treble	Roy W. Rice 5
Michael G. Bartlett 2	Peter J. England 6
Walter S. Rice 3	Edgar T. Skipsey 7
John C. Sheppard 4	Robert C. Kippin Tenor

Composed by N. J. Pitstow.

Conducted by Robert C. Kippin.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor.

WICK ST. LAWRENCE, Somerset.—At the Church of St. Lawrence.
On Sat., Nov. 9, 1968, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being four six-scores each of Stedman, Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas, Rev. Canterbury, New Doubles, Huntspill, St. Simon, St. Martin, Plain Bob, Union and two of Grandshire.	Tenor 15 cwt.
* Harold Hooper Treble	Marjorie Legg 3
George Prescott 2	John Coombes 4

John Walton Tenor

Conducted by George Prescott.

* 25th peal. Branch quarterly peal.

Rung for the first birthday of Joy Marie, daughter of the Vicar, the Rev. C. R. Vincent.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE, Bedfordshire.—At the Church of St. Botolph.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents.	Tenor 10 cwt. 11 lb. in G sharp.
Charlotte M. Harris Treble	* Albert E. Daniels 4
Malcolm C. C. Melville 2	C. Michael Orme 5
Anthony H. Smith 3	Roger Cadamy Tenor

Conducted by Anthony H. Smith.

* First peal in the method.

THE DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

OCKBROOK, Derbyshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Thurs., Nov. 21, 1968, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Tenor 9 cwt.

David W. Camm Treble	F. Gordon Faulks 4
Frederick Ward 2	Alec Humphrey 5
* Dudley Coulson 3	David J. Marshall Tenor

Conducted by David J. Marshall.

* First peal "inside."

BRASSINGTON, Derbyshire.—At the Church of St. James.

On Thurs., Nov. 28, 1968, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.	Tenor 8½ cwt.
Howard C. Palmer Treble	* Peter Blight 4
Timothy Wylie 2	Rev. R. D. St. John Smith 5
John S. Harrison 3	Michael J. Fellows Tenor

Conducted by the Rev. R. D. St. John Smith.

* First peal on six bells.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

On Tues., Nov. 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

John S. Rank Treble	Donald F. Murfet 5
Allen Twyman 2	Richard L. Underwood 6
Kenneth J. Hesketh 3	Alan Scholfield 7
Geoffrey Pearson 4	David E. Rothera Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton.

Conducted by Geoffrey Pearson.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BARRINGTON, Gloucestershire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Mon., Nov. 18, 1968, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 NORWICH SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

Terence J. Hester Treble	Peter J. Heritage 4
Peter Pearce 2	Brian W. Hall 5
* G. John Collett 3	D. Kay Adkins Tenor

Conducted by D. Kay Adkins.

* First peal of Surprise "inside." First in the method by all the band except the conductor.

CHALFORD, Gloucestershire.—At Christ Church.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

Bruce Martin Treble	Dennis A. Powney 4
William E. Gearing 2	Robert J. Purnell 5
* Patricia Buckland 3	Gordon W. Land Tenor

Conducted by Gordon W. Land.

* First peal. First on the bells for 34 years. First of Minor for 54 years.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. K. Rogers and Miss Jackie Bruton (both local ringers); also to welcome Clare Siobhan, newly-arrived daughter of Jackie and Ted Cribley (tower captain).

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

YORKTOWN, Surrey.—At the Church of St. Michael.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKTOWN SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

Rowan S. Bradley Treble	Christopher C. Clarke 5
Beryl R. Simpson 2	Michael J. Church 6
Alan R. Pink 3	Wilfrid G. Wilson 7
Ronald K. Russ 4	Tom Page Tenor

Composed by Harry Poyner.

Conducted by Alan R. Pink.

First peal in the method (Tipler's B84/3).

FARNHAM, Surrey.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 3 Hours.

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr.

Roy Collins Treble	Peter G. Smart 5
David J. Tubbs 2	Alan D. Elsmore 6
E. John Wells 3	* Dudley P. Elsmore 7
* John A. Collier 4	Geoffrey K. Dodd Tenor

Composed by J. W. Washbrook.

Conducted by Geoffrey K. Dodd.

* First peal of D.N.C.B. The ringer of the seventh has "circled the tower."

Rung for St. Andrew's Day.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTHCHURCH, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 24 lb.

Brian M. Barker Treble	Augustin V. Good 5
Francis M. Byrne 2	Peter W. Harper 6
C. Valerie Mills 3	Keith Sheppard 7
Walter Ayre 4	Reginald E. J. Sheppard Tenor

Composed by W. E. Critchley.

Conducted by Walter Ayre.

First peal in the method on the bells and by all the band.

Rung for St. Andrew's-tide

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ASH-NEXT-SANDWICH, Kent.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1968, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in E flat.

Martin L. Howe Treble	Simon A. B. Wigg 5
Olive D. Tester 2	Michael H. O'Callaghan 6
Trevor A. Cross 3	D. Paul Smith 7
Peter S. Muchlinski 4	Colin A. Tester Tenor

Composed by N. J. Pitstow.

Conducted by Colin A. Tester.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in F sharp.

Margaret M. Jones Treble	Colin J. E. Wyld 5
Rachel J. Sinden 2	Robin J. Collis 6
James Hedgcock 3	Donald H. Niblett 7
Anthony J. Leeves 4	*Alastair D. Macfadyen .. Tenor

Composed by A. Craven. Conducted by Donald H. Niblett.

* First peal of Surprise "inside."

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

On Sat., Nov. 16, 1968, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 11 methods, as follows: (1) Plain and Double Bob. (2) Single Oxford, (3) Double Oxford and St. Clement's, (4) Childwall and Thelwall, (5) Beverley and Surfleet Surprise, (6) Oxford Treble Bob, (7) Kent Treble Bob.

Peter S. Muchinski .. Treble	D. Paul Smith 4
John A. Howard 2	Tony Lewis 5
*Keith J. Tripp 3	Richard Hayes Tenor

* 50th peal. Conducted by Richard Hayes.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Donald G. Lawson Treble	John Bagnall 5
Alan Capstick 2	Cyril Crossthwaite 6
James E. Burles 3	*Richard Palmer 7
Lawrence Walmsley 4	Stanley Walmsley Tenor

Composed by D. G. Lawson. Conducted by Cyril Crossthwaite.

* First peal in the method. Tenor 10 cwt. 19 lb. in G.

Rung as a 79th birthday compliment to James E. Burles.

RADCLIFFE, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sun., Nov. 24, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 HEYTHROP SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

David Makin-Taylor .. Treble	R. Keith Lister 5
Neil T. E. Burnett 2	John Illingworth 6
James Cunliffe 3	Geoffrey Fothergill 7
Albert Greenhalgh 4	John Ashcroft Tenor

Composed by J. W. Washbrook. Conducted by Geoffrey Fothergill.

First peal in the method by all the band and for the Association.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ATTENBOROUGH, Notts.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Nov. 16, 1968, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 QUEDELEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 21 lb.

Rosamund M. Rawlings .. Treble	Tony Natt 5
Brian L. Burrows 2	Paul J. Bagshaw 6
Andrew S. Hayden 3	Robin A. Gilliver 7
Peter N. Mackley 4	K. Paul Gilliver Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by Brian L. Burrows.

First peal in the method by all the band.

GREAT GLEN, Leicestershire.—At the Church of St. Cuthbert.

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents Kent T.B., two Plain Bob and two St. Clement's.

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

Hazel J. Nicols Treble	John Hunt 4
Michael Tunneycliffe .. 2	Guy Slater 5
Raymond H. Martin 3	Edward W. Martin Tenor

Conducted by Edward W. Martin.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

BALDERTON, Notts.—At the Church of St. Giles.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 1,280 each of London, Cambridge and Superlative and 1,312 Bristol, with 113 changes of method and all the work of each method.

Tenor 8 cwt. 24 lb.

Geoffrey Paul Treble	John Freeman 5
Beryn N. Reed 2	Geoffrey R. Parker 6
Jack L. Millhouse 3	Colin W. Reed 7
Walter Tomlinson 4	*Peter A. Sharp Tenor

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by John Freeman.

* 300th peal.

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

On Sat., Nov. 16, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each differently called.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb. in G.

*Paul Smith Treble	Brian Buttery 4
Thomas A. Relf 2	Owen Homewood 5
Edgar A. Cole 3	Peter A. Slight Tenor

Conducted by Peter A. Slight.

* First peal. First of Minor as conductor.

SEMPRINGHAM, Lincs.—At the Abbey Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, called differently. Tenor 7 cwt. 23 lb. in G sharp.

*John E. Coleman Treble	†Bryan Ward 4
Denis A. Frith 2	Vaughan P. Evans 5
*Ann S. Woodhouse 3	Peter A. Slight Tenor

Conducted by Peter A. Slight.

* First peal. † First of Minor.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Christine M. Bright, of Grantham, and Mr. Christopher J. Rolf, of Weymouth, who were married at Grantham previous to the peal.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NASH, Monmouthshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Fri., Nov. 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 12 methods: (1) London S., (2) Cambridge, (3) Kent and Oxford T.B., (4) Double Oxford, Thelwall, St. Clement's and Childwall, (5) Single Oxford, Double and Plain Bob, (6) Grandsire, (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt.

Gillian J. Collepriest .. Treble	John W. Bull 4
*Stephen Fenwick 2	Paul A. Williams 5
Charles P. Quartley 3	*Nicholas W. H. Simon .. Tenor

Conducted by Nicholas W. H. Simon.

* 25th peal together.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOUTHGATE, Middlesex.—At Christ Church.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in D.

John Weaver Treble	†Walter C. G. Wainwright .. 5
*Dennis F. Willcocks .. 2	Roger J. Amos 6
†Joan Hooton 3	Leonard G. Gates 7
John R. Whitham 4	Thomas J. Lock Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by Thomas J. Lock.

* First peal "inside." † 25th peal. ‡ First of Major.

Arranged for the anniversary of 8,064 Bob Major, the longest peal on the bells, rung on November 23rd, 1901

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WYMONDHAM, Norfolk.—At the Church of SS. Mary and Thomas of Canterbury

On Sun., Nov. 24, 1968, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 26 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

David E. Rothera Treble	John G. Gipson 6
Donald F. Murfet 2	Martin Cubitt 7
Geoffrey Pearson 3	David E. House 8
Janet House 4	Kenneth J. Hesketh 9
Geoffrey H. Pullin 5	Philip J. Rothera Tenor

Composed by C. W. Roberts. Conducted by David E. House.

First peal of Yorkshire Royal on the bells.

Rung on Thanksgiving Sunday

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ALTON, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in E flat.

Roy Worrall Treble	Phillip Jones 5
Felicity Ashford 2	David J. Midgley 6
Christopher Morey 3	Raymond J. Ballard 7
John Hall 4	David J. Danby Tenor

Composed by Michael S. Bruce. Conducted by Raymond J. Ballard.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HOOK NORTON, Oxfordshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Wed., Nov. 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in E.

*Peter R. Coveney Treble	G. John Collett 5
Terence J. Hester 2	Brian W. Hall 6
William J. Dixon 3	D. Kay Adkins 7
Rev. Eric Wood 4	Thomas W. Timms Tenor

Composed by C. W. Woolley. Conducted by D. Kay Adkins.

* First peal on eight bells.

Rung to mark the institution and induction of Canon C. E. Wigg, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, to the parish.

GREAT BARRINGTON, Gloucestershire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Mon., Oct. 21, 1968, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MORPETH SURPRISE MINOR

Being two 2,160's and one extent. Tenor 8 cwt.

G. John Collett Treble	Brian W. Hall 4
Terence J. Hester 2	Bertram J. Coggins 5
Michael R. Rose 3	D. Kay Adkins Tenor

Conducted by D. Kay Adkins.

First peal in the method by all the band.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ENSTONE, Oxfordshire.—At the Church of St. Kenelm.

On Mon., Nov. 25, 1968, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 NORFOLK SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. in G.

G. John Collett Treble

*Peter Pearce 4

Brian W. Hall 2

Peter J. Heritage 5

Terence J. Hester 3

D. Kay Adkins Tenor

Conducted by D. Kay Adkins

* 100th peal. First in the method by all the band.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

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

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E flat.

Stephen K. Thompson .. Treble

Richard H. Johnston .. 6

Shirley E. Jones 2

J. Paul Coad 7

Rodney A. Yeates 3

Stephen F. Royal 8

Peter H. Mackie 4

Jeremy R. Pratt 9

Lawrence J. Haines 5

Philip J. Daniel Tenor

Composed by Edgar Shepherd.

Conducted by Stephen F. Royal.

NORTHLEIGH, Oxon.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Tues., Nov. 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in G.

*Nigel R. D. Orchard .. Treble

Richard J. Wilsher 4

*Judith H. Harvey 2

Peter H. Mackie 5

Nicholas C. V. Pollock .. 3

Jeremy R. Pratt Tenor

Conducted by Jeremy R. Pratt.

* First peal.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURTON LATIMER, Northants.—At the Church of St. Mary

the Virgin.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 13 lb. in F sharp.

John G. Mitchell Treble

Susan E. Thompson 5

Stephen J. Franklin 2

Arthur Gibbs 6

Richard J. Cowley 3

A. Colin Banton 7

*Cynthia E. Barnett 4

Christopher J. Groome .. Tenor

Composed by Frank Bennett.

Conducted by Christopher J. Groome.

* First peal on eight bells. First of Major as conductor.

FINEDON, Northants.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Pitman's 12-part.

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in D.

*Murray A. Coleman .. Treble

Richard J. Cowley 5

†Brenda M. Dixon 2

Edward C. Buckby 6

Noel F. Pearson 3

†Stephen B. Bell 7

Eric J. Chapman 4

Terry G. Smith Tenor

Conducted by Murray A. Coleman.

* Has "circled the tower." † First peal of Triples.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Doris Chapman.

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

On Thurs., Nov. 28, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In nine methods: (1) Beverley, (2) Surfleet, (3) Cambridge, (4) Oxford T.B., (5) Kent T.B., (6) Single and Double Oxford, (7) St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

Iestyn Morgan Treble

Stephen B. Bell 4

Raymond Henman 2

J. Malcolm Tyler 5

Barry R. Care 3

Murray A. Coleman Tenor

Conducted by Murray A. Coleman.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Lionel M. Pink Treble

Philip R. Keough 5

*Frances J. N. Brown 2

Ross G. W. Robertson .. 6

†Claire E. N. Brown 3

Graham W. Elmes 7

Mary E. Elmes 4

Christopher T. Brown .. Tenor

Arranged by R. D. Bailey.

Conducted by Graham W. Elmes.

* First peal in the method "inside." † First peal. First of Major as conductor. First of Major by an all-local band.

Rung as a tribute to D. W. C. Chant, of Sturminster Newton, who died on November 7th, 1968.

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in E.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

BRADLEY, Bilston, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Martin.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in G.

Eric E. Speake Treble

Anthony W. T. Cleaver .. 5

*Christopher Lees 2

Roderick J. Lees 6

Harry Griffiths 3

*Derek K. Knowles 7

J. Dennis Holden 4

Arthur Pritchard Tenor

Composed by Sir A. P. Heywood.

Conducted by Arthur Pritchard.

* First peal in the method.

Arranged as part of the celebration of the centenary year of the church and rung on the 11th anniversary of the dedication of the present ring.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

NOTTINGHAM.—At the Church of St. Peter-with-St. James.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb. in E flat.

Jane Foster Treble

Peter M. Wilkinson 7

Joan Beresford 2

Norman Summerhayes .. 8

*Simon Humphrey 3

John R. Pratchett 9

Ronald F. Diserens 4

Edmund Malin 10

David Phillipson 5

Dennis Beresford 11

†Christopher P. Starbuck .. 6

George A. Dawson Tenor

Composed by Charles W. Roberts.

Conducted by Dennis Beresford.

* 150th peal. † First on 12 bells.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, Notts.—At the Church of St. John the

Baptist

On Sat., Nov. 9, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in F.

Edward Willows Treble

Neil Handley 5

*David Osbourne 2

David Oliver 6

*Andrew L. B. King 3

Reginald J. Stretton 7

Arthur Newell 4

Graham Fisher Tenor

Composed by J. A. Trollope.

Conducted by Reginald J. Stretton.

* First peal in the method.

CODDINGTON, Nottinghamshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of: (1) Norwich, (2) Cambridge, (3) Oxford T.B., (4) Kent T.B., (5) St. Clement's, (6) Single Oxford, (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt. 12 lb. in B flat.

William L. Exton Treble

*Paul Rathby 4

*Derick E. Kirtan 2

Peter Humphrey 5

*Derek J. Tysoe 3

R. Brian Mills Tenor

Conducted by R. Brian Mills.

* First peal in seven Minor methods.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

BECCLES, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Michael.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D flat.

Edwin R. Goate Treble

Thomas J. Brock 6

*Anne Corney 2

Frederick C. Gunton 7

†Sharon Page 3

*Andrew E. Crowe 8

Michael Parker 4

Ian Margetts 9

*Christine M. Clarke 5

J. Barry Pickup Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by Edwin R. Goate.

* First peal on ten bells. † First "inside."

STONHAM ASPAL, Suffolk.—At the Church of SS. Mary and

Lambert.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. in E flat.

Donald F. Murfet Treble

Geoffrey Pearson 6

Janet House 2

Geoffrey H. Pullin 7

Ann E. Fellows 3

David E. Rothera 8

Kenneth J. Hesketh 4

Martin Cubitt 9

John G. Gipson 5

David E. House Tenor

Composed by W. Eric Critchley.

Conducted by Kenneth J. Hesketh.

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THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

FRAMSDEN, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Fri., Nov. 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Pitstow's	Tenor 16 cwt.
Walter W. Miller Treble	Cecil W. Pipe 5
Leslie G. Brett 2	*Vernon Bedford 6
Muriel R. Page 3	†Stephen Bedford 7
Michael J. Howes 4	J. Martin Thorley Tenor

Conducted by Leslie G. Brett.

* First peal of Superlative. † First attempt to ring Superlative.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

On Sun., Dec. 1, 1967, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

*Peter R. Butler Treble	Ernest J. Ladd 5
Tony Lewis 2	Philip J. Simmonds 6
Judith M. Corby 3	Philip A. Corby 7
*Philip A. Butler 4	Richard Hayes Tenor

Composed by Thomas B. Worsley.

Conducted by Philip A. Corby.

* First peal on eight bells.

Rung as a belated birthday compliment to Mrs. F. I. Hairs.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

CARBIS BAY, Cornwall.—At the Church of St. Anta and All Saints.

On Sat., Nov. 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 methods/variations/spliced compositions in 42 extents; Four methods—Rev. Canterbury, Plain Bob, Antelope and Grandsire; 30 variations—Harbury, Jacobstowe, St. Tydfil, Gresford, St. Cross, Northleigh, St. Swithun, Stanton, Ray, Beckley, Isis, Freeland, St. Valentine, Oxford, St. Margaret, Pink's, Keysoe, Zennor, Ladbroke, St. Frideswide, Allestree, St. Lucy, St. Quintin, Middleton, Stoney, St. Anne, Bluebell, Daffodil, Longparish, St. Helen and Newborough; eight spliced compositions—Royston, St. David, Little Aston, Clifford's Pleasure, May Day, Litchurch, Seighford and April Day.

Tenor 4 cwt. 7 lb. in D sharp.

*Canon A. S. Roberts Treble	Timothy J. Bell 4
*Anthony Locke 2	F. Malcolm Bowers 5
Anthony J. Davidson 3	Robert Peel Pearce Tenor

Conducted by Anthony J. Davidson.

* First peal in 42 methods/variations/spliced compositions.

Rung as a compliment to Angela Langley and Hugh Hubbard, married at Tuckingmill Church earlier in the day.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER, Hants.—At the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity,

St. Peter, St. Paul and St. Swithun.

On Sat., Nov. 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

Mrs. T. H. Francis Treble	R. Roger Savory 7
Philip N. Tubbs 2	Richard H. Youdale 8
Thomas H. Francis 3	Maurice J. Butler 9
Katherine J. Maundrell 4	Ivor H. Trueman 10
Frank L. Harris 5	David J. Forder 11
Michael J. Thomas 6	Edward W. Colley Tenor

Composed by J. M. H. Hunter.

Conducted by Thomas H. Francis.

ANDOVER, Hampshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Thurs., Nov. 21, 1968 in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Groves' variation of Parker's 12-part	Tenor 16 cwt.
*Jack C. Wimlet Treble	*Philip G. Taylor 5
*Terry Tarrant 2	Reginald F. Crook 6
Reginald W. Rex 3	Geoffrey K. Dodd 7
*Peter Furness 4	†Walter C. Mulford Tenor

Conducted by Geoffrey K. Dodd.

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

Rung to the memory of Norman V. Andrews, who died on August 12th, 1968, and also Canon Dunlop, former Rector and donor of two trebles, who was interred the same day.

HIGHCLERE, Hants.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sun., Nov. 24, 1968, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Reginald F. Crook Treble	Peter Furness 5
*David Goss 2	Philip Murdock 6
Peter Watts 3	Geoffrey K. Dodd 7
Bradley Murdock 4	Philip G. Taylor Tenor

Composed by John Pritchard.

Conducted by Philip G. Taylor.

* First peal on eight bells. First on eight as conductor.

Rung for the annual Highclere Choir and Bellringing Festival, held this day.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DORE, Derbyshire.—At Christ Church.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, being 1,280 Bristol, 1,216 London, 1,664 Cambridge and 894 Superlative, with 99 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

David Nichols Treble	John N. D. Chaddock 5
Iris M. E. Lemare 2	Ian G. Campbell 6
*Maris C. Stephenson 3	Stuart Armeson 7
Neil Donovan 4	Ron Ducker Tenor

Composed by Albert J. Pitman.

Conducted by Stuart Armeson.

* First peal of Surprise.

CAMPSALL, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Oct. 26, 1968, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5184 EALING SURPRISE MAJOR

Ron Ducker Treble	Neil Donovan 5
Pat Lockwood 2	Andrew G. Slade 6
Ian G. Campbell 3	Stuart Armeson 7
Ian North 4	John N. D. Chaddock Tenor

Composed by Stanley Jenner.

Conducted by Stuart Armeson.

HANDBELL PEALS

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRESTBURY, Cheshire.—At West Pines, Dale Brow.

On Thurs., Nov. 21, 1968, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Bernard F. L. Groves 1-2	Gerald Moorhouse 5-6
Robert B. Smith 3-4	J. David Atkinson 7-8

*John W. Gander 9-10

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

* First peal in the method "in hand."

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS, Hertfordshire.—At 114, Park Street Lane.

On Mon., Nov. 25, 1968, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5016 LITTLE BOB MAXIMUS

S. Kathleen M. Baldwin 1-2	Martyn L. J. Jordan 7-8
Julia A. Fellows 3-4	Roger Baldwin 9-10
Gerald Penney 5-6	John R. Mayne 11-12

Arranged and Conducted by John R. Mayne.

First peal of Little Bob Maximus on handbells by all the band and for the Association. Tenor size 15 in C.

HARPENDEN, Hertfordshire.—At 81, Overstone Road.

On Wed., Nov. 20, 1968, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Kenneth J. Darvill 1-2	Roger D. R. Brown 5-6
Julia A. Fellows 3-4	*Andrew W. R. Wilby 7-8

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

Conducted by Julia A. Fellows.

* First peal "in hand."

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HINKLEY, Leicestershire.—At 128, Leicester Road.

On Sun., Nov. 24, 1968, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

*Robin A. Gilliver 1-2	Alfred Ballard 5-6
*Brian L. Burrows 3-4	*K. Paul Gilliver 7-8

Composed by E. M. Atkins.

Conducted by Alfred Ballard.

* First peal "in hand."

LEICESTER.—At The Wayside, 150, Narborough Road South.

On Wed., Nov. 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5077 STEDMAN CATERS

Mrs. P. J. Staniforth 1-2	Alfred Ballard 5-6
Peter J. Staniforth 3-4	*David F. Moore 7-8

Terence A. Thornber 9-10

Composed by Frederick H. Dexter. Conducted by Peter J. Staniforth.

* First peal of Stedman Caters "in hand."

HINKLEY, Leicestershire.—At 12A, Westray Drive.

On Fri., Nov. 8, 1968, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents.	Tenor size 15 in G.
*Eileen J. Goodall 1-2	Alfred Ballard 3-4

*Geoffrey N. Goodall (cond.) 5-6

* First peal in the method on handbells.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

LONDON.—At 16B, Sutherland Place.

On Wed., Nov. 20, 1968, in 1 Hour and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

*Richard A. J. Bower (cond.) 1-2	†Maureen J. Carruthers 3-4
†Peter Holden 5-6	

* 75th peal. † First of Minor "in hand." ‡ First "in hand."

HALF PEAL

FARNWORTH with KEARSLEY, LANCs.—On Nov. 27th, 2,520 Grandsire Doubles: N. Tompkins 1, A. Critchley 2, J. Ashcroft (cond.) 3, R. K. Lister 4, J. E. Andrews 5, T. Hobson 6. Rung after meeting short for Major.

EXETER COLLEGES GUILD

EXETER, DEVON.—At Rowancroft, Heavitree, on Oct. 12th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor ("in hand"): J. L. Anderson 1-2, R. J. Talbot 3-4, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 5-6.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Mark, on Oct. 13th, 1,256 Little Bob Major: Linda V. Cull 1, G. H. Baldam 2, Angela C. Hughes 3, M. S. Turner 4, P. K. Goodhew 5, J. L. Anderson 6, F. K. Wreford 7, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

BRAMFORD SPEKE, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Peter, on Nov. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. N. Longridge 1, Angela C. Hughes 2, G. H. Baldam 3, P. K. Goodhew 4, K. A. Hughes 5, M. S. Turner 6. Conducting shared by all the band.

CADELEIGH, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Bartholomew, on Nov. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: R. F. P. Cleaver (first quarter) 1, Linda V. Cull 2, M. S. Turner 3, D. J. Atkins 4, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 5, G. H. Baldam 6. Rung for Evensong and as a birthday compliment to Philip and Gillian Cleaver.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Cathedral of St. Peter, on Nov. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Linda V. Cull 1, D. J. Atkins 2, Angela C. Hughes 3, G. P. Smerdon 4, J. L. Anderson 5, G. H. Baldam 6, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 7, M. S. Turner 8. Rung for St. Luke's College Service.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Mark, on Nov. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Colin L. Barr (first Minor) 1, Linda V. Cull 2, J. L. Anderson 3, J. N. Longridge 4, R. J. Talbot 5, M. S. Turner (first as cond.) 6. For morning service.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels (Heavitree), on Nov. 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Angela C. Hughes 1, J. N. Longridge 2, D. J. Atkins 3, P. K. Goodhew 4, K. A. Hughes (first Stedman) 5, F. Wreford 6, R. J. Talbot (cond.) 7, M. S. Turner 8. For Evensong.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Petrock, on Nov. 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: P. K. Goodhew 1, Linda V. Cull 2, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 3, M. S. Turner 4, K. A. Hughes 5, D. Thorne (first quarter) 6.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—At St. Helen's Church, on Dec. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: C. A. Richards 1, Joan Fairlie (first quarter) 2, L. P. Halling 3, T. R. Garrett 4, J. W. Berry 5, J. G. Philbrick 6, W. A. Smith (cond.) 7, A. K. P. Poole 8. For Confirmation service.

ADDINGTON, SURREY.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Minor (three methods): Louise Powell 1, Penny Cocks 2, N. Bennett 3, Wendy Wallace 4, I. Wiltshire (cond.) 5, E. G. H. Godfrey 6. For Evensong. Also on Dec. 1st, 1,320 Single Oxford and Plain Bob: Diane Head 1, Penny Cocks 2, N. Bennett 3, Carol Rodgers 4, I. Wiltshire (cond.) 5, E. G. H. Godfrey 6. For Evensong.

APPLETON, BERKS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: C. P. Turner (first Caters) 1, E. Drewitt 2, M. J. Turner 3, R. Mitty 4, W. F. Judge 5, F. White 6, B. R. White 7, F. C. White 8, F. A. White (cond.) 9, H. White 10.

ASHTAD, SURREY.—On Oct. 27th, 1,260 Minor (Plain and Little): J. V. A. Stedman 1, Elizabeth Gibbs (first in two methods "inside") 2, Gillian Laver 3, Felicity Hamilton 4, J. A. Laver 5, T. Skilton (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

BABBACOMBE, DEVON.—On Oct. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Pam Stephens 1, A. J. Garbett 2, R. Edden 3, W. Simmonds 4, O. J. Roberts 5, J. Read 6, D. J. Roberts (cond.) 7, B. Tuckett 8. Also on Nov. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mavis Hawkins 1, A. J. Garbett 2, Valerie Stephens 3, K. Fursdon 4, D. J. Roberts (cond.) 5, W. Wayman 6, W. Simmonds 7, G. J. Roberts 8.

BALDERTON, NOTTS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Beryl N. Reed 1, D. Kirtin 2, B. Hough 3, K. C. Vernon 4, J. W. Raithby 5, C. W. Reed 6, P. Raithby (cond.) 7, C. H. Pritchett 8. For Confirmation service.

BATH, SOM.—At the Abbey Church, on Dec. 1st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: D. J. Orledge 1, P. J. England 2, G. J. Hawkins (cond.) 3, S. A. Read 4, P. J. W. Hardwick (first on ten) 5, J. E. Newman (first on ten) 6, R. W. Rice 7, W. S. Rice 8, A. F. Lee 9, R. I. Kendrick 10. For Evensong on Advent Sunday.

QUARTER PEALS

BEVERLEY, YORKS.—On Nov. 6th, 1,344 Yorkshire Surprise Major: A. Shingles 1, Linda Sherwood 2, J. Birdsall 3, R. Jordan 4, J. Brook 5, I. G. Campbell (cond.) 6, A. Slade 7, J. N. D. Chaddock 8. First Surprise 1, 3. Also on Nov. 20th, 1,152 Cambridge Surprise Major: A. Shingles 1, Linda Sherwood 2, N. Chaddock 3, J. Birdsall 4, R. Jordan 5, J. Brook 6, R. Horton 7, J. N. D. Chaddock (cond.) 8. A farewell to Robert Jordan.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on Dec. 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Jean Dale 1, Mrs. F. J. Marshall 2, D. T. Matkin (cond.) 3, R. Philpott 4, R. Pike 5, E. Boothe 6, D. Grimwood 7, F. Price 8. First Stedman Triples 1, 4, 7. For Advent Sunday.

BRIDGNORTH, SALOP.—On Nov. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Gill Moule (first quarter) 1, T. Broome 2, Valerie Edge 3, A. Jones 4, V. Parion 5, F. Bennett 6, H. Thomas (cond.) 7, R. Winwood 8. In memoriam Bertram H. Head, a ringer at St. Leonard's for 46 years, died November 22nd.

BRISTOL.—On Nov. 24th, at St. Michael's Church, 1,320 Plain Bob Minor: Katie Weare 1, Katharina Newman 2, A. N. Brock 3, Mandi McCallion 4, C. C. Monson 5, M. G. R. Zobel (cond.) 6. By the U.B.S.C.R. for Evensong.

CHERTON, KENT.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: K. Butler (cond.) 1, Dilys Eastmead 2, J. Thorne (first "inside") 3, A. C. Eastmead 4, Pamela Court 5, A. Binstead 6.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.—At All Saints' Church, Shrub End, on Dec. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Lamb (first Minor) 1, N. Whitell 2, D. Whent 3, D. Cobb 4, Jennifer Andrews (cond.) 5, P. Schaffe (first Minor "inside") 6. For Evensong.

DEPTFORD, LONDON.—On Dec. 1st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: A. Taylor 1, Bryony P. H. Moorthy (25th quarter) 2, R. A. Grant 3, Anthea S. Bruce 4, C. D. Collin 5, S. H. Gay 6, M. A. Gay 7, R. B. Dorrington (cond.) 8. For Advent Sunday.

EPPIING UPLAND, ESSEX.—On Nov. 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Litten (first on treble) 1, M. Hollis (first "inside") 2, D. Gower (first "inside") 3, Valerie Jones 4, Mary Wilkinson 5, D. Ellison (cond.) 6. A 21st birthday compliment to J. Litten.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Wood (first quarter) 1, S. Meadows 2, Miss R. A. Collins 3, E. Fletcher 4, Miss J. M. Collins 5, J. A. Collier 6, E. J. Wells (cond.) 7, E. Oliver 8. For Advent Carol Service.

Gratefully Acknowledged

We acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing "The Ringing World":—

Personal.—P. M. Evans 5s., College Youths £2 2s., H. W. Knight 5s., Bath University Guild 5s., Ashford District £2 2s. 6d., Oxford Diocesan Guild £50, R. Hough 5s., Anon. 2s. 6d., W.A.J.K. 2s. 6d..

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Date Touch.—Higher Walton 5s.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On Nov. 10th, 1,260 Pl. Bob and Grandsire Doubles: G. L. Webb 1, Miss A. Barber 2, Miss R. J. Sinden 3, L. Mantering 4, A. P. S. Berry (cond.) 5, J. F. Wellard 6. Half-muffled for Remembrance Sunday.

GLOUCESTER.—On Nov. 24th, at the Church of St. Mary-de-Crypt, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Barry 1, R. Daie 2, P. Roe 3, P. Clarkson 4, I. Goulter 5, L. Edwards (cond.) 6, P. Gould 7, R. Hazell 8. Rung to celebrate the appointment of the Rev. W. R. Houghton as Canon-in-Residence at Gloucester Cathedral.

HATHERN, LEICS.—On Nov. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss C. Lester 1, Mrs. C. Harris 2, C. Woods 3, F. Chambers 4, D. Swift 5, J. Tickle (cond.) 6, B. Smith 7, H. Harris 8. Half-muffled.

HENDON, MIDDx.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Dianne Gazeley 1, Dorothea Robotham 2, Wendy Ferguson 3, Ruth Foreman 4, A. Warren 5, B. Watson (cond.) 6. For Parish Communion, at which the preacher and celebrant was the Bishop of Willesden.

HILLINGDON, MIDDx.—On Nov. 3rd, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: C. J. Venn 1, R. K. Russ 2, M. J. Palmer (cond.) 3, J. Walters 4, Patricia A. Copas 5, W. H. Coles 6, A. R. G. Twinn 7, J. Hill 8. For Evensong. Also on Nov. 24th, 1,280 Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major: M. W. Seymour 1, A. R. G. Twinn 2, Ruby M. Myllys 3, Claudia A. Critchley 4, F. W. Goodfellow 5, R. K. Russ 6, G. W. Critchley 7, J. Hill (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

HORRINGER, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 27th, 1,440 Pl. Bob Minor: Theresa R. Orriss (first Minor) 1, A. F. Ballam 2, B. R. Wells 3, C. R. Nunn 4, B. E. Whiting (cond.) 5, A. G. Feaver 6. Also on Nov. 28th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Doubles: R. G. Bumstead 1, B. E. Whiting (cond.) 2, Sally E. V. Potter (first "inside" and of Doubles) 3, C. R. Nunn 4, A. F. Ballam 5, F. J. Potter (first as cover) 6.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' Church, on Nov. 23rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. T. Howes 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, Miss J. K. A. Cook 3, R. Redwood 4, J. R. Hough 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6. Rung to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of the Church Centre of St. Barnabas', Oxmoor, Huntingdon.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.—On Nov. 17th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Sheila A. Harfield 1, H. W. Brown 2, P. D. Hepburn 3, B. J. Harfield 4, S. W. Brown 5, J. R. Norris (first Kent as cond.) 6. For Evensong. Also on Dec. 1st, 1,260 Pl. Bob Doubles: D. Kirkcaldy 1, Maureen E. Kirkcaldy 2, J. Kirkcaldy 3, S. W. Brown 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, R. Kirkcaldy 6. First quarter 1, 2, 3, 6. Ringers of 2 and 6 are parents of 1 and 3. For Advent Sunday.

ILKLEY, YORKS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Bessie Titchmarsh 1, A. Titchmarsh 2, R. Crabtree 3, D. M. Cramshaw 4, M. Hillary 5, D. Featherstone 6, G. Featherstone (cond.) 7, G. Wilkinson 8. Rung for Matins, and a 21st wedding anniversary compliment to ringers 1 and 2. First quarter 1, 3 and 5.

KEA, CORNWALL.—On Nov. 24th, 1,440 Kent T.B. Minor: D. Curry (first Treble Bob) 1, R. P. Pearce (first Treble Bob) 2, A. Carveth (cond.) 3, A. Locke 4, T. J. Bell 5, A. J. Davidson 6.

KENNINGTON, LONDON.—At 331, Kennington Lane, on Nov. 22nd, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Jennifer A. Dunning 1-2, D. A. Town 3-4, P. G. Holden (first "in hand" as cond.) 5-6. First "in hand" 1-2, 3-4.

KIBWORTH BEAUCHAMP, LEICS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire, Plain): S. Iliffe 1, T. Iliffe 2, Beverley Burrows 3, Pat Welton 4, G. Slater (first as cond.) 5, G. Brodie 6. First quarter 1, 2, 3, 4, 6. Rung by an all-local band for Evensong.

LLANDAFF, GLAM.—At the Cathedral, on Nov. 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Ann Cooke 1, P. Williams 2, P. S. Reading 3, F. W. Corney 4, N. W. H. Simon 5, C. P. Quartley 6, J. W. Bull 7, M. Pilgrim 8, G. J. B. Stickland 9, S. Fenwick (first quarter as cond.) 10. For Evensong. Also on Nov. 24th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: N. A. James 1, P. S. Reading 2, F. W. Corney 3, N. W. H. Simon (cond.) 4, J. W. Bull 5, C. P. Quartley 6, S. Fenwick 7, P. A. Williams 8. For Evensong.

LOCKING, SOM.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (four methods): Mrs. G. Hooper 1, Marjorie Legg (cond.) 2, June Legg 3, P. Kelby (first in four methods) 4, J. Coombs 5, H. Hooper 6. For Evensong.

LYMPNE, KENT.—On Nov. 24th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Elizabeth A. Todd 1, R. P. Brotherton 2, G. J. Neilson 3, H. P. Yates 4, B. Butcher (first as cond.) 5, M. Taylor 6. For Evensong.

DATE TOUCH

DEREHAM, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 1st, 1968 Pl. Bob Major: S. Marshall 1, Hilary Adcock 2, D. G. Adams (cond.) 3, P. C. Palmer 4, J. A. Adams 5, K. S. Hobl 6, G. P. Adams 7, P. Adcock 8. For Evensong.

TAUNTON BRANCH. QUARTER PEAL TOUR
(November 30th)

HILLFARRANCE.—1,260 Doubles (10 meth./var.): Miss M. Beale 1, A. F. Arscott 2, J. Cornelius 3, L. H. Arscott 4, M. A. Arscott (cond.) 5, K. E. Beale 6.

OAKE.—1,320 Rev. St. Bartholomew Doubles: F. C. Arscott 1, M. A. Arscott 2, A. F. Arscott 3, L. H. Arscott 4, J. Cornelius (cond.) 5. First in method by all.

CHIPSTABLE.—1,260 Plain Bob Minor: H. V. Young 1, F. C. Arscott 2, J. Cornelius 3, L. H. Arscott 4, K. E. Beale 5, R. F. Arscott (cond.) 6.

HUISH CHAMPFLOWER.—1,320 Doubles (57 meth./var.): Brenda Binden 1, M. A. Arscott 2, J. Cornelius 3, R. F. Arscott 4, K. E. Beale (cond.) 5, L. H. Arscott 6. Most meth./var. to a quarter by all.

MONKSILVER.—1,260 Doubles (two methods): Miss S. Arscott 1, F. C. Arscott 2, L. H. Arscott (cond.) 3, A. F. Arscott 4, R. F. Arscott 5. A family quarter.

ST. DECUMAN'S.—1,260 Rev. Canterbury Pleasure Bob Minor: K. E. Beale (cond.) 1, Brenda Binden 2, J. Cornelius 3, M. A. Arscott 4, L. H. Arscott 5, R. F. Arscott 6. First in method by all except conductor.

STOGUMBER.—1,440 Grandsire Minor: F. C. Arscott 1, H. V. Young 2, J. Cornelius 3, L. H. Arscott 4, R. F. Arscott 5, K. E. Beale (cond.) 6. First in method by all.

ASH PRIORS.—1,260 Doubles (four meth./var.): M. A. Arscott 1, F. C. Arscott 2, J. Cornelius (cond.) 3, L. H. Arscott 4, R. A. C. Cross 5, A. Cross 6. 25th quarter together 1 and 3.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Nov. 24th, 1,280 Double Norwich C.B. Major: Miss S. R. Collins (50th quarter as cond.) 1, W. W. Cousins 2, W. J. Houghton 3, D. Gagen 4, R. Newson 5, L. W. Houghton 6, C. Cousins 7, N. V. Harding 8. For Evensong.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. Turner (first quarter) 1, Margaret Durrington 2, H. B. Whitney 3, P. G. Williams 4, E. Conquest 5, K. E. Jackson 6, R. S. Gaylor 7, A. J. Frost (cond.) 8. Rung for Confirmation service.

LEYTONSTONE, E.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. Hughes 1, L. Fox 2, G. Walker (first in method) 3, C. Willmington 4, F. Mills 5, H. Weedon 6, W. Theobald (cond.) 7, R. Brown 8.

LONDON, E.C.—At St. Vedast's Church, on Dec. 1st, 1,250 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. P. Hill 1, Maureen J. Carruthers 2, Jennifer A. Dunning 3, D. A. Town 4, R. C. Woodward 5, P. G. Holden (first Surprise as cond.) 6. By U.L.S.C.R.

QUARTER PEALS

LONDON, S.E.—At St. Giles' Church, Camberwell, on Oct. 18th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: J. F. Smallwood 1, Maureen Carruthers 2, W. Rawlings 3, Freda Cannon 4, R. Cootes 5, G. Parsons 6, J. Euston (cond.) 7, B. Baker 8, J. Pladdys 9, E. Peet 10. For the collation and induction of Canon Douglas Rhymes as rector.

LUTON, BEDS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,280 Bedfordshire Surprise Major: G. Hawkins 1, J. A. Booth 2, Mrs. M. P. Booth 3, N. Garrard 4, A. W. R. Wilby 5, A. E. Rushton 6, J. R. Mayne 7, D. Redfearn (cond.) 8. First in the method by all except ringer of 7th. Rung as a farewell to John and Margaret Booth who are returning to Cheshire.

LYMPNE, KENT.—On Dec. 1st, 1,320 Doubles (four methods): P. Bailey 1, Elizabeth A. Todd (cond.) 2, G. Neilson 3, H. P. Yates 4, M. Taylor 5, J. Chittenden 6. For Family Communion. Also 1,260 Doubles (six methods): M. Taylor 1, R. P. Brotherton 2, Elizabeth A. Todd (cond.) 3, B. Butcher 4, G. Neilson 5, R. Baldock 6. For Evensong.

MELBOURN, CAMBS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Jean Sanderson 1, F. Harper 2, Marion Kemp (first Cambridge) 3, W. Newman 4, W. E. Pye 5, J. G. Gipson (cond.) 6. Rung to celebrate the birthdays of the ringers of 2nd and 3rd.

MIDDLESBROUGH, TEESSIDE.—At 29, Farley Drive, Acklam, on Nov. 28th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: G. D. Flonda (first quarter) 1-2. Mrs. K. Lawson 3-4, K. Lawson (cond.) 5-6.

NEWTON HALL, NORTHUMBERLAND.—On Nov. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. G. Craddock 1, J. Yates (first quarter) 2, J. Crowther 3, P. D. Thomas 4, J. H. Taylor 5, C. D. Davis (cond.) 6.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.—At St. George's Church, Colegate, on Nov. 29th, 1,259 Doubles (Grandsire and Plain Bob): Eileen Chatterley (first quarter) 1, D. E. House (cond.) 2, D. P. Mortlock 3, Carole A. H. Percy 4, G. H. Pullin 5, M. Cubitt 6. For evening Eucharist.

ORSETT, ESSEX.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Doubles (P. Bob, Grandsire): S. C. Wood (first quarter) 1, Miss J. E. M. Hills 2, T. G. Hull 3, J. H. Stith 4, D. G. Mayell (cond.) 5, F. W. Blatch 6.

PYLYE, SOM.—On Sept. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. A. S. Kinsella 1, Brenda H. Boyce 2, R. C. Taylor 3, J. C. Sheppard 4, M. O. Bartlett 5, E. T. Skipsey (cond.) 6. Also on Oct. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. A. S. Kinsella 1, Brenda H. Boyce 2, Jean E. Skipsey 3, R. G. Edwards 4, J. C. Sheppard 5, E. T. Skipsey (cond.) 6.

ROCHESTER, KENT.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 1st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss P. R. Childwick 1, B. R. Trill 2, G. K. Terris 3, M. J. Hitchcock 4, C. D. Linington 5, G. Philpott 6, C. T. Osenton (cond.) 7, L. Crouch 8. For morning service.

SOLIHULL, WARKS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: W. H. Leeson 1, Muriel Reay 2, Verona C. Naylor 3, Pamela M. Turner 4, V. Green 5, E. J. Cole 6, G. E. Fearn 7, T. J. Warner (cond.) 8, R. J. Cann 9, A. Crabtree 10. For Evensong.

STOKE POGES, BUCKS.—On Nov. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Knight (Chenles, first quarter) 1, Mrs. A. D. Barker 2, A. D. Barker (cond.) 3, R. Lister 4, F. H. Walters (Chenles first "inside") 5, B. J. Matthews 6.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. E. Lester 1, Muriel M. Page 2, F. Joan Muxlow (first Major) 3, H. D. Lister 4, D. Barber (first quarter) 5, Rev. A. A. Muxlow 6, R. F. Taylor 7, L. G. Brett (cond.) 8. Rung as a wedding day compliment to Oliver E. G. Barnard (tower captain) and Dorothy K. Short.

SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDX.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (four methods): A. J. Hampton 1, Lesley Warwick 2, D. Brock 3, C. H. Rogers (cond.) 4, D. Boniface 5, V. L. P. Davis 6. For Evensong, and a 50th birthday compliment to ringer of 3.

TAMERTON FOLIOT, DEVON.—On Oct. 14th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: J. F. Steere 1, J. C. Mitchellmore 2, P. L. Bill 3, S. G. Peirce 4, G. E. Mudge 5, D. R. Bould (cond.) 6.

THROWLEY, KENT.—On Nov. 28th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Violet Ring 1, Elizabeth Stewart 2, Sylvia Lucas (first Major) 3, W. W. Ring (cond.) 4, R. Lucas 5, E. Clifton 6, G. Stewart 7, M. W. Marshall 8.

THRUMPTON, NOTTS.—On Oct. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. Harrison 1, D. Oliver 2, H. Harrison 3, G. Fisher 4, S. Adams (cond.) 5. For Harvest Festival.

TOWEDNACK, CORNWALL.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Spliced Triples (St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Grandsire): Jane Dennis 1, F. M. Bowers 2, C. G. Bryant 3, A. Locke 4, A. Carveth 5, T. J. Bell (comp. and cond.) 6, A. J. Davidson 7, D. Stephens 8. First of Spliced Triples by all except 3.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, Bath, SOM.—On Nov. 16th, 1,260 Hawkstut Bob Triples: I. W. Harris 1, P. J. W. Hardwick 2, Kay Whitaker 3, D. A. Burt 4, R. L. Coles 5, T. E. Newman 6, A. F. Lee (cond.) 7, H. J. Coombs 8. First in the method by all the band, and on the bells.

UPPER BODDINGTON, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,272 Minimus (tenor following): T. Branson 1, M. Bingham 2, M. Eyles 3, R. Goody 4, E. Thornton 5. First for 3, 4, 5. Rung half-muffled in memoriam G. Paxton for many years a ringer in this tower, buried this day; also for R. Johnson, for 60 years a circuit preacher in the Methodist Church.

WALKHAMPTON, DEVON.—On Nov. 11th, 1,920 Plain Bob Minor: J. F. Steere 1, N. Mallett 2, D. R. Bould 3, S. G. Peirce 4, P. L. Bill 5, G. E. Mudge (cond.) 6.

WEST MEON, HANTS.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 P.B. Triples: Janet Yeates 1, Margaret Chennell-White 2, Mary White 3, R. A. Stone 4, K. G. Waller 5, C. Chennell-White 6, C. E. Bassett (cond.) 7, J. D. Flook 8. First Triples 1, 8. First P. Bob Triples 2, 4, 6. A birthday compliment to Mary White.

WESTMINSTER, S.W.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Oct. 17th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: F. Smallwood 1, F. Cullum 2, Mrs. E. Bagworth 3, W. Rawlings 4, J. Pladdys 5, M. Bagworth 6, J. Euston (cond.) 7, B. Baker 8, H. Audsley 9, E. Pettit 10. Rung after the service of thanksgiving for the centenary of the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Dec. 1st, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. Fry 1, Jacqueline Allen (first in method) 2, S. H. Gay 3, A. Catherine Rooke 4, A. S. Richards (cond.) 5, M. A. Gay 6. A birthday compliment to H. T. Rooke and J. T. Rooke, of Warsop, Notts, father and brother respectively of the ringer of 4.

WIMBLEDON, S.W.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Anita Budd (first quarter) 1, Caroline Madge 2, Elizabeth Bingham 3, Julie Armstrong 4, M. J. Bingham (cond.) 5, A. E. Bagworth 6.

WITHAM, ESSEX.—On Dec. 1st, 1,280 Double Norwich C.B. Major: Mrs. P. Chapman (first of D.N.C.B.) 1, E. Bright 2, R. Dorking 3, P. Chapman (first D.N.C.B.) 4, W. Butler 5, J. Warner 6, A. Piggott (cond.) 7, H. Dorking 8. For Evensong.



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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

TREBILCOCK.—Robin and Pam Trebilcock have now moved from Sheffield and their new address is 3, Willow Close, Broomfield, Chelmsford, Essex. 6201

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PERSONAL

ELSIE and FRANK PERRENS thank many friends for their "bon voyage" wishes and extend to all friends sincere wishes for a very happy Christmas and New Year. 6199

"And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace by your faith in him, until by the power of the Holy Spirit you overflow with hope."—Romans xiv, 13. N.E.B.

CARILLON RECITAL

BIRMINGHAM.—A recital of Christmas carols can be heard on the 23 bells of Our Lady's R.C. Church, Parkfield Road, Saltley, on Sunday, December 22nd, at approximately 5 p.m. until 6 p.m., played by Clive M. Smith. 6194

PUBLICATIONS

"METHOD SPLICING—MAJOR." Plain and Little methods, Treble Bob, Surprise (various plans); Falseness; extraction, tables for three lead courses to eight methods; CSY in full courses. History, Miscellany, 25 Compositions. 8/- posted.—Giles B. Thompson, 32, Egerton Road North, Manchester, M211SF. 6197

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JUBILEE ISSUES NOW AVAILABLE

Another package of Jubilee Issues of "The Ringing World" (March 24th, 1961) has been found. This number, which gives an historical survey of the journal, is obtainable, price 1s. 6d., from "The Ringing World" Office, c/o Seven Corners Press, Onslow Street, Guildford.

Christmas Greetings

GILBERT THURLOW.—Best wishes to all ringing friends everywhere, for Christmas and for 1969. May the officers and members of the new Council to be elected have prosperity and success in all they undertake. 6212

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all ringers friends from the RINGERS OF ST. JAMES', SOUTHBROOM, DEVIZES. 6192

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. HARDING, Catherington, Portsmouth.—A very happy Christmas to all ringers and good health and success in the New Year, with a special thought for all our friends. 6205

REG JOHNSON.—Christmas greetings and all good wishes to members of the Sussex County Association far and near, remembering especially those no longer able to ring. 6193

Mr. HERBERT and E. MINGAY, of Grimsby, send their best greetings and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all ringing friends old and new. 6196

OKEFORD FITZPAINE RINGERS send Christmas greetings and best wishes for the coming year to all ringing friends (especially North Dorset). 6198

THE ROUGHAM BAND OF RINGERS. Suffolk, sends Christmas greetings to all its ringing friends, with wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.—L. Wright, Sec. 6200

THE RINGERS' NOTEBOOK and DIARY, 1969

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MISCELLANEOUS

ONE DAY BELLRINGING COURSE

On SATURDAY, MAY 10th, 1969

At Market Weighton County Secondary School

Organised by the Institute of Further Education, Market Weighton, and the Beverley and District Society of Change Ringers.

Experienced and inexperienced ringers and tutors will be catered for. Handbells and local 6-, 8- and 10-bell towers will be available.

Further details will be announced later and are available shortly from: The Principal, Institute of Further Education, Market Weighton, or N. Chad-dock, Blencathra, Spring Road, Market Weighton, near York. 6203

"RINGING WORLDS". 1958-1965, for sale. Any offer to collect from London, S.E.6, considered. Ring 01-690 3516 between 6-7 p.m. 6155

HOLIDAY DELAYS DISTRIBUTION

Regarding the issue of December 27th, because of the Christmas post and holidays it is unlikely that postal subscribers will receive their copies until after the holiday. An endeavour is being made to get newsagents' copies to London on Christmas Eve for distribution on the following Friday or Saturday.

MEETINGS

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, Dec. 21st, Stephen's, St. Albans, 3 p.m. Names for tea essential to Miss A. Macfarlane, 15, Folly Avenue, St. Albans (Tel. 52111).—R. E. Hardy, Dis. Sec. 6101

STAFFORD ARCHDEACONRY SOCIETY.—Evening practice meeting, Trysull, near Wolverhampton, Saturday, Dec. 21st, Bells (6) 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. latest. (Visitors are requested to park cars at The Bell.) All welcome.—C. M. S., Hon. Sec. 6180

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Christmas Social at Victory Hall, Bramford, on Saturday, December 21st, at 7.30 p.m. Refreshments, entertainments and lots of fun, all for 5s. (school-children 2s. 6d.) Come and meet your friends.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Seaford (8), Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Evenson 5.30, Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Peter D. Hepburn, 33a, Hassocks Road, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, please. 6179

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting, Luton, Saturday, Dec. 28th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Short service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. 6202

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Meeting, Burbage, Saturday, Dec. 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, as soon as possible to Mr. F. K. Measures, 58, Lychgate Lane, Burbage. Tel.: Burbage 516.—C. M. Wells, Dis. Sec. 6188

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Annual general meeting, St. Mary's, Nottingham, Saturday, Dec. 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and meeting at the Church Hall. Names for tea to D. Stainsby, 376, Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham (Tel.: 233506). by Saturday, Dec. 21st. 6176

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, Jan. 4th, 1969, at Ely. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by meeting and further ringing until 3.30 p.m. All District members please make a special effort to come. 6208

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—N.E. Branch.—Annual meeting, Tiverton, 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 4th. Service 4.15. Tea and business after. Names for tea, please, to G. Hollis, 26, The Avenue, Tiverton. 6204

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Quarterly meeting, Lamberhurst, Jan. 4th. Ringing 2.30, followed by service, tea, meeting. Names for tea to me, Richard Hayes, Forest Cottage, Chiddingstone Heath, Edenbridge, by December 30th. 6211

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 4th, St. John's (8), Devizes. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. St. Mary's (6) and Southbroom (6) 3-4 p.m. and after meeting. Names for tea, please, to Mr. F. R. Cannings, 29, Broadleas Road, Devizes, Wilts. 6206

SOCIETY of ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday, February 1st, 1969

At Church House, Westminster.

Tickets (price 30s.) are now available from D. E. Sibson, 15, Garden Royal, Kersfield Road, London, S.W.15. 6144

WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY Ringers' Outing

The Bell Foundry ringers broke tradition this year by having a second outing to the provinces in October. Our first appointment was at Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk, where we were heartily welcomed by Mr. Harry Tooke and Mr. Tom Spight. The ringing was commenced in fine style with a touch of Stedman Triples, followed by a variety of touches on the ten, bringing out the unrivalled musical qualities of this fine modern ring. Since no visit to Wymondham would be complete without an opportunity of hearing some of those famous local yarns over a jug of beer, we were very soon suitably established.

Lunchtime arrived and we moved along the road to the Abbey Hotel, where an excellent lunch was enjoyed. The company, now refreshed and fed, boarded the cars and the procession nosed its way along the narrow country lanes to Drayton, where we were welcomed to the exceptionally well-cared-for church by the Rector. The tower captain, Mr. Michael Frost, although unable to meet us in person also expressed his welcome in the form of specially-made cards for us, which were sincerely appreciated. The ringing ranged over a wide variety of 6-bell methods, including a good brisk touch of Cambridge.

Our next call was at St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, where our best ringing was to the tune of Grandsire Caters, although we did make a valiant attempt at some Grandsire Cinques. After a slight delay, we wasted no time in travelling to Beccles, our final tower. Here we put this grand old ten to good use with the usual variety of methods, including a good half course of Yorkshire, and afterwards retired to the "Commons" for refreshment and sandwiches, generously provided by Messrs. William and Douglas Hughes.

Our thanks are extended to Mr. Trevor N. J. Bailey for organising the towers, and to Mr. Harry Weedon, our Ringing Master, for organising the ringing. R. A. H.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD West Dorset Branch A.G.M.

Although the weather was not very kind there was a fairly good attendance at the A.G.M. of the West Dorset Branch at Beaminster on November 30th. The excellent ring of eight was rehung just 12 months ago and attracted representatives from nine towers and visitors from North Dorset Branch and the Bath and Wells Association. Ringing was supervised by Mr. H. D. W. Bishop (Ringing Master).

The Vicar (Rev. D. V. Galloway) conducted the service, singing being led by the choir, with Mr. Roy Gunning as organist. A thoughtful address was given by the Rev. J. S. Arthurs, a former Branch chairman, and Mr. T. T. Barrett read the lesson.

Local lady ringers had prepared an excellent tea in the Tindall Hall, enjoyed by 35 members and friends, and they and the Vicar and preacher were thanked by Mr. C. W. Powell, Branch chairman. The business meeting followed, and after the hon. secretary had presented his report and the accounts Mr. Powell thanked him and all who had contributed to the year's work.

Officers elected were: Chairman, Mr. C. W. Powell; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. Jesse Davis; vice-chairman, Rev. O. L. Willmott; Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. D. Bishop; with Messrs. H. Keeley, F. Knight, D. Ellery as deputies; committee: Messrs. T. T. Barrett and D. Ellery. Ten new members were elected.

Meetings for 1969 were arranged as follows: Bradpole, February 22nd; monthly practice evening meetings, Symondsburys, January 18th; Bridport, February 12th, and Loders, March 22nd (all subject to confirmation). These new arrangements were made in the hope of attracting more members to the practices.

After the business meeting closed Messrs. Jesse Davis and J. T. Barrett were asked to serve as area representatives on the committee for the proposed striking competition for the Dorset Ringers' Festival. J. D.

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HELPING BEGINNERS

Dear Sir,—I have found this principle very useful for beginners, especially on those occasions when the instructor only has a knowledge of change-ringing.

The basic six changes are quickly mastered and provide excellent practice in leading, place making and dodging. They should be practised until perfection is reached.

1 2 3 4 5
2 1 3 5 4
2 3 1 4 5
3 2 1 5 4
3 1 2 4 5
1 3 2 5 4
1 2 3 4 5

By putting in seconds place 24 changes are produced.

1 3 2 5 4
1 3 5 2 4

With the treble only going to thirds, the beginner quickly gets the idea of finding the one new bell in each lead. The others soon find their way about by a combination of method and numbers, but care should be taken to point out that tracing the method in one's mind whilst it is being rung is most important.

It is much more interesting than the usual "plain hunt" and very much more the means to an end.

The full extent can be produced by putting each bell in the hunt.

1 4 2 5 3
4 1 2 3 5
4 2 1 5 3
2 4 5 1 3
2 5 4 3 1
5 2 4 1 3

Yours sincerely,

Gainsborough. GEO. L. A. LUNN.
P.S.—Will somebody tell me what name this goes under in the Doubles Collection.

—G. L. A. L.

LATE NOTICES ADOPTION

MAY.—To Jill (née Lane) and Douglas, a son. Timothy Paul Roland, born May 17th, 1968. 6219

UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
LONDON UNIVERSITY SOCIETY—Annual dinner, February 15th, 1969, Church House, Westminster. Tickets at 30/- each obtainable from R. C. Woodward, 86, Ferndene Road, London, S.E.24. 6218

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY GUILD—All members and friends are reminded that the annual dinner will be held in Derbyshire on February 8th. Tickets are now available, price 25/-. Ringing arrangements later. 6214

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual District meeting, January 4th, Halstead (8). Service 4 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. R. Martin, Sunshine Cottage, Chapel Hill, Halstead. Note change of venue,

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

At the business meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths on December 3rd Mr. A. N. Stubbs was elected Master. The other officers elected were: Secretary, Mr. J. G. A. Prior; treasurer, Mr. C. G. J. Watts; senior steward, Mr. A. R. Kench; junior steward, Mr. D. E. Rothera; trustees, Messrs. J. F. Smallwood and W. Williams; librarian, Mr. W. T. Cook.

Messrs. W. Williams, W. T. Cook, R. B. Meadows and Air Commodore J. S. Mason were elected as Central Council representatives.

The 1969 out-of-town meeting will be held in Birmingham on a date to be announced, and the 332nd anniversary dinner will be at the Walkbrook Restaurant, Bucklersbury House, London, E.C., on Saturday, November 1st.

The business meeting on December 31st will be the last to be held at the Rising Sun, Carter Lane, which has been the Society's meeting place since 1957. As from January, 1969, the London business meetings will be held at the Lord Raglan, St. Martin-le-Grand, E.C. The change has become necessary because of the large attendance at meetings.

A VISIT TO ESSEX

A party of about 40 ringers who are, or have been, connected with St. Luke's, Chelsea, took part in a most enjoyable coach tour to Essex on December 7th. The arrangements were very capably handled by Frank Udall and Julie Spurgeon. Five towers were visited, the first being St. John's, Havering-atte-Bower, having a pleasant ring of six (tenor 16½ cwt.). Then on to St. Mary's, Broomfield, with its round tower and six bells (11½ cwt.). Another short and pleasant run brought the party to St. Andrew's Halstead, with a very nice ring of eight (14½ cwt. in E). Some of the more experienced ringers tried for Cambridge Major but it did not go, neither did an attempt for Double Norwich. It was concluded that the bells preferred Stedman Triples and a nice touch in that queen of methods rounded off the ringing satisfactorily.

In the ringing room we noted a rather useful-looking ringer's jar, capacity 4½ gallons; but one member of the party innocently asked "What would that be amongst Jack Phillips?" Many in the party missed the homely face of Hilda Snowden and enquiries elicited the information that she was unwell. All expressed the sincere hope that she would soon be restored to her usual robust health. We simply could not do without her lovely broad Essex dialect!

A sumptuous hot meal was taken in Bocking Village Hall, and everyone praised the efficient manner in which Mrs. Spurgeon and some lady friends had prepared and served it. The thanks of the party to all concerned in making the tour so enjoyable were capably expressed by John Lott, leader of the Chelsea company, and he distributed some small tokens of appreciation on behalf of the party to those who had helped.

The party went on to All Saints', Rayne, with its six bells (6½ cwt.), and then on to All Saints', Writtle, which possesses a very good ring of eight (18½ cwt.). Touches in all standard methods were successfully brought round.

At every tower visited rounds and call-changes were rung by the junior members, and it was a tonic to observe these eager, bright-eyed youngsters, full of enthusiasm, doing their very best at the end of a rope.

Great credit is due to Frank and Julie for their attention to every possible detail, and sincere thanks are accorded to the incumbents and everyone else who contributed to the success of the tour. JAFUS.

Six of the band who rang in a Liverpool University peal at Southport on December 5th were ringing their first of Triples and another his first of Triples "inside". H. Lyndon Hatfield, the conductor, was calling his first of Bob Triples. Another example of the teaching value of a university for ringing.

TECHNICAL

Extracting False Course Heads from the Blue Line System

By F. HODGSON

THE first requirement is the ability to determine the nature of the rows, or changes, whether "In course" (i.e., Even, +) or "Out of course" (i.e., Odd, -). Rounds is In course or +, and an In course change is one that requires an even number of pairs of bells to change places to produce rounds from that change, i.e., 21436587 is In course, and an Out of course change is one that requires an odd number of pairs of bells to change places to produce rounds, i.e., 12436587 is Out of course. Out of course changes can not repeat with In course changes.

So long as Bobs only are called the nature of the rows at any particular place in a method remains the same, but if a Single is called the nature of the rows is changed. Say, for instance, that the third row in a lead of a method was In course but a Single is called, then the third row in the next lead will be Out of course.

Take for example Plain Bob Major and consider the nature of the rows when the treble leads full at the end of the first lead. 13254768 is Out or -, and 13527486 is In or +. But supposing a Single had been called, the second row would also have been Out or - 13257486, and so it would have remained until a further Single had been called when the rows would have reverted to their original nature.

In determining the nature of the rows in any method, if you have the figures of the first lead you can go down the rows from the beginning by simply adding the number of pairs of bells that have changed places from the preceding change to the preceding nature, and follow the arithmetical principle that + and + = +, and + and - = -, - and - = +, and so on, e.g.:

12345678+
21436587+ Four pairs of bells changed places.

24163857- Three " " " " " "
42618375- Four " " " " " "
46281735+ Three " " " " " " and so on.

The next step is to write out the Proving Rows. Proving Rows show the position of the treble, and the nature of the rows, whether + or -, and then the position of the rest of the bells, seven in major. The position of these seven bells is shown in a vertical column under the particular bell, but instead of the top row being written 2345678 it is written 7864235.

If, therefore, the method under consideration was Yorkshire Surprise Major, under 7 we should have 8, 8, 7, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 4, 3, 3,

and so on up to the change where the treble leads at handstroke for the full lead. Then fill in the appropriate positions of the other bells in the same manner so that when the whole of the figures are complete we have the Blue Line of every bell in the first lead. The Proving Rows may be written from the Place Notation. This method is shown in the Central Council publication referred to at the end of this article.

The left-hand column 3+, 5-, etc., means that at 3+ the treble is in the Third place at an In course change, and at 5- the treble is in the Fifth place at an Out of course change.

Still considering Yorkshire Surprise Major, the following would be the result.

Proving Rows	
1+ 7864235	7+ 3124685
2+ 8753146	8- 2134576
1- 8643257	7- 1243685
2- 7534168	6+ 2153784
3+ 8624157	5+ 1264873
4+ 7513268	6- 1253784
3- 6524178	5- 2164873
4- 5613287	4+ 3165782
5+ 4612378	3+ 4256871
6+ 3521487	4- 3157862
5- 4621378	3- 4268751
6- 3512487	2+ 4357861
7+ 3421586	1+ 3468752
8+ 4312675	2- 3578641
7- 4213586	1- 4687532
8- 3124675	
8+ 4213576	

N.B.—The rows do not run alternately two + and two - in all methods.

The Proving Rows must then be examined. This is done by comparing together the rows which have the treble in the same place, and are the same nature, + or -. That is, compare 1+ with 1+, 1- with 1-, 7- with 7-, and so on all through.

This is done in order to see if any pair of figures occur in both rows. Take a look at the two 2+ rows, 8753146 and 4357861. The pair 14 occur in both rows, but the 14 in 4357861 is more readily seen when the 4 is carried to the back. This transferring of figures from front to back is called Rotating. This Rotating is done by taking the first figure from the front, putting it behind, and repeating the process until the duplicate pair is at the back. Say for example that in the row 8643257 that 64 was the duplicate pair, then after Rotating the row would read 3257864.

Let us now return to the two 2+ rows above:

	Rotated
2+ 8753146	6875314
2+ 4357861	3578614

Having thus produced the Rotated rows we must then transpose the two rows by the Scale

45362. Ignoring the last pair which we Rotated behind this would produce:

Scale 45362	
68753	75836
35786	78563

This transposition by Scale 45362 is calculated as if the treble was in the No. 1 position.

The next thing is to read off the False Course Head, which is the transposition scale required to transpose the top row to the bottom row, and the bottom row to the top row. So to get the top row 75836 to the bottom row of 78563 the scale would be 24365, and to get the bottom row 78563 to the top row 75836 the scale would again be 24365, so 24365 is the F.C.H. in both cases. If the rows had been 17285 top, and 51728 bottom, then the scales and F.C.H.s would have been 62345 and 34562.

In order to determine in which leads the falseness occurs the following table must be worked to.

The order of leads is—

1234567	for methods	4263857
1526374	"	6482735
1642753	"	8674523
1357246	"	7856342
1473625	"	5738264
1765432	"	3527486

We now return to our Proving Rows and split them into pairs as follows, not forgetting to complete the pairs by bringing the front figure to the rear. Then, as we are considering Yorkshire which is a method with a lead head of 5738264, we put the lead sequence under the pairs.

Instead of

2+ 8753146 read 87 75 53 31 14 46 68

2+ 4357861 " 43 35 57 78 86 61 14

1 4 7 3 6 2 5 Lead sequence.

Because we get the pair 14 over 6 and 5 this means that the falseness at this position will occur in the 5th and 6th leads.

In the example worked out the 2+ position only has been considered, but if a full examination of Yorkshire had been undertaken consideration would have had to be given to other positions. In fact a quick glance at the 1- position shows 32 as occurring in both rows, so this would also have had to be fully examined, as would any other row containing duplicate pairs.

This system of extracting F.C.H.s is the subject of a Central Council publication written by J. Segar, to whom the Exercise is indebted. There are other systems and, like systems on any other subject, there are good points and bad points in any one of them; but this system, like any other, produces results which meet the needs.

CANTERBURY COLLEGE
OUTING

On October 12th, members of Christ Church College Bellingring Society, Canterbury, with many friends, set off to London for the beginning-of-term outing. Towers visited were St. John's, Deptford; All Saints', East India Dock Road; Christ Church, Cubitt Town; St. George-in-the-East, Stepney; Bethnal Green, Dalston, Upper Clapton, and St. Mary's, Lambeth. Ringing ranged from rounds and call changes to Yorkshire, Superlative, London Surprise Major, Erin and Stedman Caters. Best bells of the day were at St. George-in-the-East. Incumbents and people who met us are gratefully thanked.

On November 16th, members of the same Society, with slightly fewer visitors had an outing in Kent. Towers visited were Boughton-under-Blean, Throwley, Teynham, Bobbing, Queenborough, Minster-in-Sheppey, Eastchurch and Lynsted. Once again incumbents and tower secretaries are thanked. Ringing ranged from rounds and call changes to Yorkshire Surprise Major and Spliced Surprise Minor.

BATH RINGERS CROSS THE BRIDGE

On November 23rd a party of ringers from Bath University, in company with friends from the Bath District, Frome and Farmborough, made use of the nearby motorway and Severn Bridge for a day's outing to Monmouthshire and the Forest of Dean.

Their first call was at Tredunnoch, where the ground-floor ring of six was used to good effect in methods ranging from St. Simon's to Cambridge. The party then moved on to Usk, where Double Norwich and Cambridge went well, although Stedman proved more elusive. Most of the party had already rung here but all were agreed that this delightful Taylor eight were well worth revisiting.

Lunch (liquid and otherwise) was taken at Abergavenny, where the rain clouds lifted briefly to expose the sun. The party enjoyed themselves on the majestic ten with Stedman and Erin Caters and Plain Bob Royal. It was remarked that it was a pity that a certain Twerton ringer was not able to join us in appreciation of this glorious Taylor ring.

Then on to Monmouth, where the "back-enders" found the heavier bells needed some work. Nevertheless some fairly good Stedman was achieved and a course of Yorkshire brought round. The party separated for tea, meeting again at Mitcheldean after crossing the wet (and by now dark) forest. They found the eight here very much to their liking, and Double Oxford, Double Norwich, Erin and Little Bob went very well.

The challenge of crossing the Forest in the dark proved too much for some of the navigators so that they arrived at the last tower, at Lydney, by devious routes. Fatigue was beginning to show by now but Cambridge was done justice to. Finally the crocodile descended on a local inn for the traditional outing finale.

Our thanks must go to all incumbents and ringers who made us welcome at their towers and also to Andy Swatton for the very good arrangements. R. I. K.

COMPOSITIONS

5,120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR
(30 methods)

By JOHN R. MAYNE

23456	M	W	H	Methods
52436	—	—	—	Wat. Yorks. Wem.
34625	—	—	—	Shore. Lang. Leath.
23645	—	—	—	Lind. Linc. Bris.
54632	—	—	—	Here. Dub. Hit. East.
65432	—	—	—	Ash. Rad. Berks.
43652	—	—	—	Rut. Camb. Act.
36452	—	2	—	Lon. Puds. Lon. Yead.
53462	—	—	—	East. Ald. Elf.
46532	—	—	—	Ux. Pains. High.
34562	—	—	—	North. Sup. Eal.

4 x repeated.

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Rung at 114, Park Street Lane, St. Albans, on handbells, December 2nd, 1968.

5,184 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

By MICHAEL J. PLATT

1/1½	B	3½	4½/5	6½	H	23456
x						35264
x						56342
x	S		x			63524
x			x	(—)	—	56243
x	S		x			62534
x						23645

Repeat five times calling S for bracketed bob in 3rd and 6th parts.
Contains 96 c.r.u.'s.

5,216 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

By MICHAEL J. PLATT

½ V 1½ M 3½ W 4½ F H 23456

	3	—	42356
(—) — S	S	S — —	25364
	3	—	32564
	(2S)	—	53264
— S	— S S	—	62345
— S	— S —	—	34256
A (with bracketed calls)			25346
2S	—	—	32546
3	—	—	53246
2	—	—	23456

(This composition contains 102 c.r.u.'s.)
* Omitting bracketed calls.

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