

March 6, 1970

THE RINGING WORLD

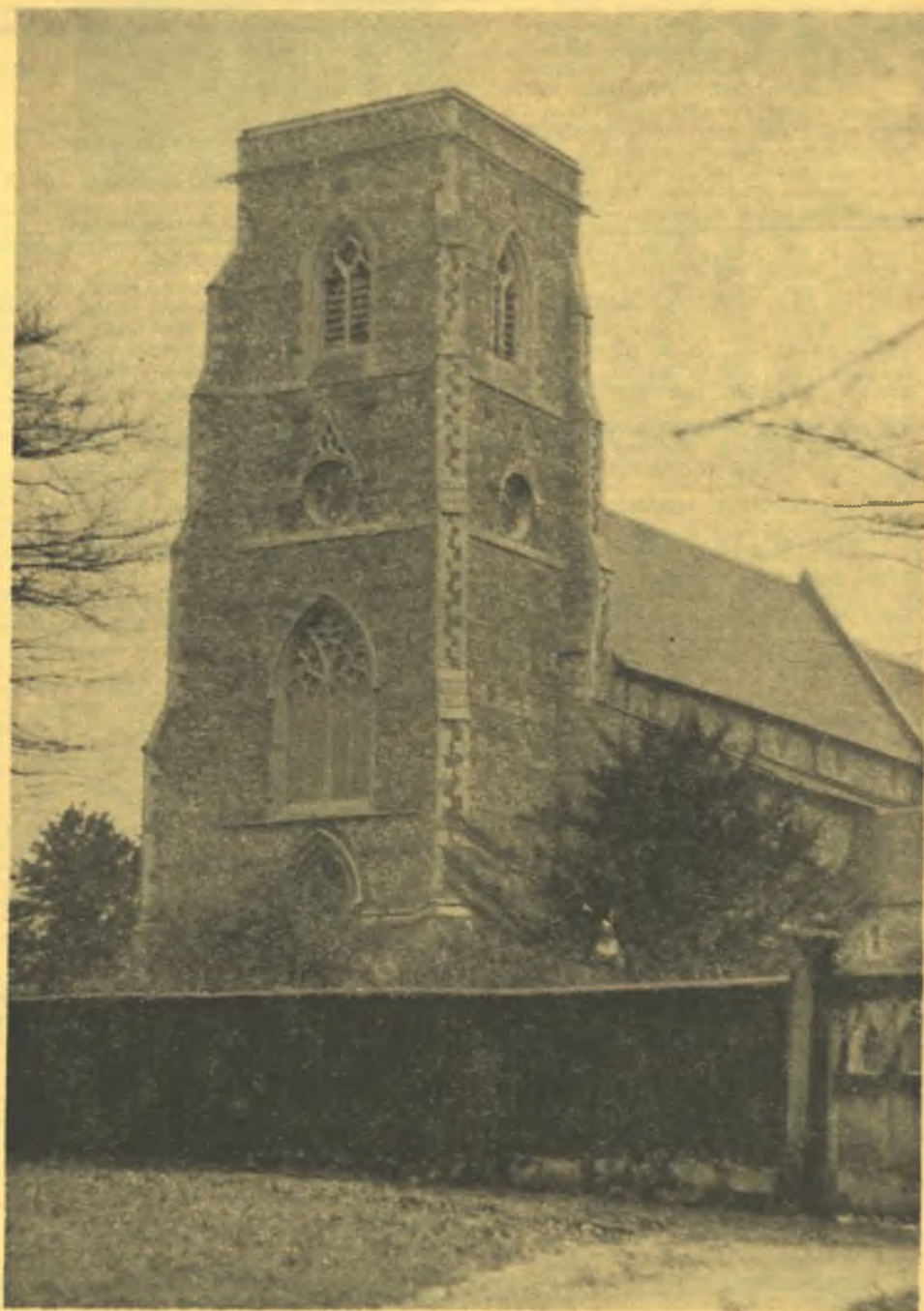
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE CENTRAL COUNCIL
OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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One Shilling (weekly)

**All Saints,
Benhilton,
Sutton, Surrey**



Cover Picture

All Saints, Benhilton, Surrey

IN THE YEAR 1863 the parish of St. Nicholas, Sutton, was divided into two parishes, the new parish being designated Benhilton. The church was endowed by the once Lord of the Manor of Sutton, Thomas Alcock, and the architect was J. S. Teulon, a well known church designer of the period. Today, All Saints' is considered a very good example of Victorian architecture, and is now on the list of scheduled buildings.

All Saints was consecrated in 1866, and in that year Thomas Alcock presented the church with the tenor bell. A period of 11 years elapsed before anything further was done to increase the number of bells. In 1877 the framework to take a ring of eight was erected in the tower and in the same year the seventh bell was installed. In the succeeding three years the sixth, fifth and fourth bells were added and the third was cast and hung in 1882, but a further 11 years elapsed before the ringers of that time decided to try to raise the money for another bell. A fund was started by the local band and other ringers from the Surrey area. They were very successful and raised enough for the second (which is known as the ringers' bell) and most of the money for the treble. The whole ring was completed in 1893 and is as follows:—

Tenor: 19 cwt. 3 qr., cast by Warner, in E.
Seventh: 16 cwt., cast by Warner.
Sixth: 12 cwt., cast by Warner.
Fifth: 10 cwt. 1 qr., cast by Gillet & Bland.
Fourth: 8 cwt. 1 qr., cast by Gillet & Bland.
Third: 7 cwt. 2 qr., cast by Gillet & Bland.
Second: 7 cwt., cast by Warner.
Treble: 6 cwt. 1 qr., cast by Warner.

The first peal on the bells was rung in 1895, and the most recent in 1966, but this, unfortunately, not by the local company.

EXTENSIVE SURVEYS

During the last war a number of bombs fell in a complete circle round the church, causing considerable damage. The tower itself (built of brick with flint facing) developed several cracks and was considerable weakened, and the movement of the tower during ringing became quite pronounced. In 1948 there were two extensive surveys of the tower, one being by the late Edwin H. Lewis. Various methods of reducing the movement of the tower were suggested, the cost of which, for a permanent job, was between three and five thousand pounds, so, as a temporary measure, and because of the lack of funds, tie-bars were fixed across the tower. The cracks were then kept under observation, and were found to be opening, though slowly.

Three years ago, at their annual meeting, the ringers formed a fund-raising committee, in view of the fact that the "go" of the bells was becoming increasingly difficult. From then on a much greater effort was made to increase the bell restoration fund, which had been started in a small way some years before. By the beginning of 1969 the sum required for the restoration was still insufficient, and then a member of the band suggested that a part "do-it-yourself" restoration of the bells might be possible. This would save a considerable sum of money, the ringers doing some of the work, and the amount needed might then be within reach.

Reports and estimates were obtained from both bellfounders, and the movement of the tower measured. The reports obtained gave the following points which were carefully considered:—

1. Use the existing oak frame, or replace with a new steel frame.
2. Lower the bells 7 or 16 feet, the latter requiring the erection of a ringing gallery.
3. Have a concrete or steel foundation.
4. Retune the present ring, or recast into a lighter ring.
5. The effect of 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the movement of the tower, which was found to be almost to the limits for safety.

After much discussion between the Vicar and the ringers, it was decided that the following work be carried out:—

Recast into eight, tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

Install a new steel frame, which will rest on a reinforced concrete foundation.

Lower the bells seven feet.

The ringers to undertake the lowering of the old bells and deliver to the foundries; make the concrete foundation; collect and erect the new steel frame; collect the recast bells and assist the foundries with rehanging; replace two timber floors; refit the chiming apparatus.

APPROVED BY P.C.C.

All this was fully approved by the P.C.C. and the ringers went ahead with their plans for the "tower" work. The structural engineering member of the band has designed the concrete foundation, and a full work schedule is planned.

A committee has been formed, and an appeal for £3,000 has been launched. The bells will ring for the last time in their present form on Easter Sunday, and it is hoped they will only be out of action for four months, for the ringers are all set to give their spare time to the work necessary in the tower during the summer.

Donations, please, to Rev. P. Penwarden, Benhilton Vicarage, All Saints' Road, Sutton, Surrey, will be most gratefully received.

[We commend this appeal to all ringers and congratulate the organisers on their enthusiasm.—Editor.]

IN THE ARMS OF THE LAW

Mr. John Fidler, of Bow, Devon, phoned us to report that St. Edmund's Church, Exeter, derelict for 20 years, had a ring of eight bells—until February 26, when the four trebles were stolen. They had apparently been carefully removed and lowered by ropes into the crypt and later taken away.

The Rev. John Scott, Mr. Fidler and the police immediately started an investigation and on Saturday last four men were in the arms of the law for theft and a scrap merchant charged with receiving. Some of the bell metal has been recovered.

"The Year of the Peal" was the comment of the master of the Guildford Guild at the annual dinner on Friday last. A report, with pictures, will appear next week.

A "loving cup" was circulated at the London County Association dinner at the George, London, on Saturday and will be reported in our next issue.

THE RINGING WORLD

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(Founded by J. S. Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.)

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THE VICAR'S TWENTY FIRST

When the Vicar of Hillingdon (Preb. F. C. Tyler) rose to propose the toast to his ringers, the St. John's Guild of Church Bellringers, he stated that this was the 21st occasion he had had the great pleasure of doing so, and he hoped that he would be able to join them on many future gatherings. The occasion was the annual Hillingdon supper, which has been a happy event for many years, each year growing more and more popular.

This year's supper was held at the Masonic Hall at Uxbridge, a company of over 80 sitting down to a four-course meal, well served and much enjoyed. Following the loyal toast the Vicar, who was accompanied by Mrs. Tyler, spoke appreciatively and enthusiastically about the work of his ringers and punctuated his remarks with several well-chosen stories, to the amusement of his audience.

The captain of the guild, a very popular ringer, Mr. Fred Goodfellow, responded to the toast and gave details of the past year's work, which was of a high standard, and he thanked everyone for the support and encouragement extended to him in his leadership.

GUESTS WELCOMED

That cheery and well-loved ringer, Bill Coles (Uncle Bill), in a witty and happy manner welcomed the guests to the Hillingdon supper, and reminisced on similar functions in the past. Some of the amusing stories he told were, he assured the company, absolutely true—although the majority of those present were sceptical.

Replying for visiting ringers present, the editor of *The Ringing World* (Mr. C. W. Denyer) expressed suitable thanks and told of the pitfalls into which anyone connected with newspaper work could fall—and he had had well over 40 years' experience in this line.

The curate at Hillingdon (the Rev. Michael Gabriel) responded for the non-ringing guests, and this was followed by a social "get-together" which all enjoyed. During an interval in the speeches handbells were rung, and later a tape-recording of Treble Bob Sixteen was heard.

The man who has not anything to boast of but his illustrious ancestors is like a potato—the only good belonging to him is underground.—OVERBURY.

About the Central Council

3.—BIOGRAPHIES COMMITTEE

(Messrs. T. J. Lock, D. A. R. May and W. H. Viggers. Mrs. J. Dodds, writer) THIS COMMITTEE is one of the non-technical committees of the Council. It was formed in 1935 when the Council wished that a record be prepared of past members, giving a short account of their work and, where possible, a photograph. The original committee was Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith, W. A. Cave and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, and in 1939 Mr. A. C. Hazeldine was added. In 1944 the committee was revived, and in developing the work to include present members of Council much compilation of information has been done by those already mentioned and by Messrs. L. Stilwell, J. Willis and W. H. Viggers in addition, all being at some period members of the committee. So the work of the committee at present is to provide, on specially designed and printed sheets, all known biographical details of all members of Council since its formation in the year 1891. There are some 420 completed biography sheets contained in three ledgers, and from time to time one or other of these ledgers is taken for display at a Council meeting.

TRUE AND FACTUAL

Each elected member of Council receives a sheet requesting full name and information as to date of birth, when and where ringing was commenced, any Association offices held, date and place of first peal, number of peals rung to date, etc. (They have not yet been asked their means of central heating!) This sheet forms the basis of the biographical record and from this point the committee adds such relevant information as becomes available. Some such information is not always easy to come by, and certain items are definitely withheld, but the committee is always reluctant to include in records any unsubstantiated or hearsay matter until confirmation is forthcoming. This is mentioned to indicate the desire of the committee that all entries in the records are true and factual.



Mr. T. J. Lock (convenor)

The committee work is divided into four sections, and it is being done by three elected members of Council and one non-member who has been co-opted because of her special talents in handwriting. One member retains the ledgers, all the biography sheets, photographs, a Council attendance book, etc., and receives and files press cuttings and other papers pertaining to the work of the committee. The second member's main task is to collect these press cuttings—chiefly from the pages of *The Ringing World*—and the other cuttings and pass them on. The third member has the duty of preparing the draft of the final biography sheets after a member of the Coun-

cil has died. At this point it is, of course, hoped that all the biographical details of the deceased member have been recorded, but in practice this is not always so and the collection of such missing information is all too often a painstaking and time-consuming effort, let alone sometimes fruitless. As the committee is given no financial allocation, a visit to Somerset House, for example, is out of the question. The reader could be reminded here of merely one instance—a representative has been a member of Council for one or two triennial sessions and after some unspecified period resigns or retires from ringing, moves his place of residence or otherwise breaks his contact with the ringing Exercise and so becomes "lost." In the years following, when death is eventually presumed although no record may have been published, the committee starts making some further enquiries, and sifts out whatever information has been gathered.

When all available information is entered on the draft biography sheet it is forwarded to the calligrapher to prepare the final sheet, which is then placed alphabetically in one of the ledgers.

The work of the committee is continuous, even day to day, because a casual conversation can lead to finding out directly or indirectly some missing information. The committee, of course, cannot carry all this desired information in their heads, but a mental or written retainer and then reference to the biography sheets is the obvious method of procedure. Much care has to be taken with nomenclatures as Mr. A. C. X. could be, for example, either Alfred Cecil or Arthur Charles—two quite different persons. Even the letter "e" at the end of a surname needs to be scrutinised. So it might now be appreciated that to assist the committee in its work an unlimited number of agents in all quarters would be most useful, but the information supplied must be reliable and factual. The committee would certainly appreciate news, of any Council member, which normally would go no further than the parish magazine or the local paper.

OUR LETTER COLUMNS

confirmed and, as reported in the R.W. of August 29, 1969 (page 667), the Editor was requested to *continue* to refer *doubtful* letters to the Committee before publication. The Editor is the first judge of what is doubtful, so this in no way detracts from his position as Editor, but it protects him from any readers who object to non-publication. I believe that our new Editor has been and is glad to have this support and help.

THE BLUE PENCIL

The following facts about readers' letters have become more apparent to me during the last few months, when I have been more closely concerned and incidentally have made me more aware of the debt the Exercise owes to my predecessors. I hope that mention of them will help our correspondents and save them disappointment.

Many readers complain about the Editor's blue pencil. They accept this, willingly or not, for articles and reports, but feel that letters must be published as written, or not at all. At the moment of going to press, however, the Editor has, and must have, full say in what is printed and what is omitted. He will not wittingly alter the sense of a letter, but if a paragraph or sentence is, in his opinion, better left unsaid, then he must have the authority to delete it. If you are

not prepared to accept this will you please tell the Editor "All or None" and then leave it to his judgment.

Many readers complain that the Editor is fettered by the Committee and it has even been suggested that he has been the subject of disciplinary action by the Committee. This of course is completely untrue—good editors who might be willing to do the job we want for the return we can give them are too precious to discipline like that. And the whole success of our paper depends on the close and friendly collaboration of Editor and Committee. The only instruction to the Editor has been as indicated above. A clause in the contract which has recently been signed by me on behalf of the Committee and by the Editor himself, each advised by our legal representatives, gives the Editor "full power to invite, accept or reject any contribution on any subject relating to bells, bellringing or ringers or otherwise suitable for publication." This is the standard form of clause usual in such contracts and is binding on both parties. In case of doubt the Editor naturally consults the Committee or their convenor. Whatever the Editor prints, the Committee will support him, even though, on subsequent reflection, they may decide as a matter of policy that certain things shall not be printed in future.

(Continued overleaf)

Except perhaps for one's own special personal interests—be it sport, or finance, or politics, etc.—it is generally agreed that the most appreciated section of a newspaper is that which prints readers' letters. In local papers we read the views of people we know, about matters of which we have personal knowledge. In the national press we read the views of well-known people about matters of national concern. In *The Ringing World* we can have the best of both worlds. The Exercise is by its special interest such a closely-knit community that the events and opinions of ringers everywhere are followed with close interest by almost all of us.

It is, therefore, evident that the Editor, fully supported by the R.W. Committee, will encourage the use of these columns to the greatest possible extent. But there are certain conventions which our correspondents must please bear in mind when writing to us, if they wish to be reasonably sure that their letters will be published. We know that letter writers have made an effort, usually for the intended good of the Exercise and, therefore, of *The Ringing World*, and the last thing the Editor or the Committee would wish is that they should then be disappointed.

Some 12 months ago, before I became convenor, the Committee decided that scurrilous letters were not to be published. At our meeting last August this decision was

By another clause in the contract the Editor must "take all reasonable precautions to prevent the insertion in any issue of the newspaper of any libellous . . . matter . . ." Both the writer and the publisher of a libel are equally liable in law. The R.W. is of course insured against damages for libel, but it is most unlikely that the letter writer is. So this precaution is clearly for your protection as well as for the good name of the R.W. I can imagine the average reader saying that such a clause must be quite unnecessary and that surely in a body like the Exercise people do not write libellous letters for publication. I can assure you that they do and that in the last few weeks the Editor has had several letters which, if published, would most certainly have been libellous. I personally regret to think that any member of our Exercise would allow himself to write them.

READ BY NON-RINGERS

We must always remember that the prime reason for the ringing Exercise is in the service of the Church, and that our newspaper should contain nothing that will detract from that service. The R.W. is read by many people, clergy as well as laity, who will judge us by what they read. Does not Lord Arran say it is his favourite paper—or something like that? Such readers will not know enough about the person or subject written about to be able to make allowances. So we should remember that however critical our comments may be about a performance, or an event, or a technical subject, or even another ringer or band, there must be no doubt in the reader's mind that the letter is written without malice, or jealousy, or intention to be hurtful. We have all read letters which left a nasty taste behind them. Sometimes they are followed by an apology—a welcome sign. Unfortunately a correction never catches up—the damage is done.

Please try to make your letters brief: readable as well as legible: to the point yet polite; avoid unpleasant personalities; and when you write in anger don't post your letter until you have read it through some 24 hours later. You will often, I am sure, not then post it, saving yourself postage

and disappointment and the Editor much worry. I know that he does not like rejecting contributions from our readers.

A while back the Exercise was plagued with reports of hoax peals. Now it seems to be the turn of the correspondence columns. Letters sent to stir things up; letters perhaps to take advantage of the new Editor before he gets to know all the ropes; letters sometimes with names or addresses which do not bear full investigation, or making unsupported implications. They all add to our burdens and difficulties, reducing the service we are able to give to you all. And if they get through unsuspected they will cause distress to the people concerned and harm to the R.W. and the Exercise.

A LIMITED BUDGET

Finally, do please remember that the aim of the Editor is to produce the best possible paper for you, its readers. It can never be easy to go on producing, on a limited budget, a full size newspaper every week, year by year, maintaining the quality and the interest, while almost completely dependent on the material sent in by members of the Exercise. If you work out the proportion of reading matter to advertisements you will find that it greatly exceeds the corresponding proportion of many other weeklies, even those which are much larger and much more expensive. The aim of the R.W. Committee is equally to serve the readers of the paper; to ensure by careful management that it can continue to appear in spite of all the difficulties of rising costs: to try to increase its circulation and therefore its viability; and to support the Editor in his difficult task. Thanks to the completely voluntary work of the Committee and its predecessors, and to the unselfish help of many of our readers, the R.W. has almost reached its Diamond Jubilee and has outlived many other weeklies which have had much greater financial backing. This, to me, is proof of the fundamental soundness of heart of the large majority of our readers.

We therefore ask all our correspondents to help the Editor and the Committee in their task—not, please, to make it more difficult. WILFRID G. WILSON.

MEETINGS REARRANGED

The February meeting of Biggleswade District of Bedfordshire Association was held at Potton on Saturday, 14th. The attendance was lower than of late, possibly due to the prevailing weather conditions. Mr. R. V. Webb was ringing master during the afternoon, after which a most welcome tea was partaken of in the nearby hall, which had been prepared by the local ladies.

Mr. S. Ashton was in the chair for the business meeting which followed, during which the new secretary (Mr. A. H. Smith) stated that he had received a letter from the Association president, Mr. A. E. Rush-ton, expressing his thanks for the "get well" wishes which had been conveyed to him after the annual meeting. The towers for the next three monthly meetings were rearranged, resulting from problems which had arisen with regard to tea provision. The chairman reported that Mr. P. Rogers hoped to be able to publish the details of the proposed district outing at the March meeting.

Further ringing continued until the bells were lowered at 8.45 p.m., and Mr. C. D. Mann was ringing master for the evening session. M. L. M.

A WORTHWHILE EFFORT

An organised campaign for fund raising, using our Journal as a medium, is being carried out this coming weekend at Benhilton, Surrey, whose tower is depicted on our front cover. An extra 500 copies of *The Ringing World* have been printed and these, with additional suitable literature inserted, will be distributed in and around the area, appealing for funds to recast and rehang the ring of eight. Details can be read on page 166.

RHODESIAN GUILD

Writing to thank Tom White for his services to the Exercise as Editor of the R.W., Mr. Roger Thomson, of Salisbury, C.S. adds: "We are so far away from the centre of ringing that we are glad to see so much about overseas ringers and ringing in the R.W. Having only two towers in Rhodesia, we feel a little left out, but the promptness with which any article about ringing in Rhodesia is printed shows that we have not been forgotten."

[Why not send us a black and white photo of your ringers and details, Roger. We all would like to see it.—Ed.]

Obituary

YOUNG RINGER'S DEATH

One is always saddened by the news of the death of a fellow ringer, but never more so than when the one concerned is so young. Amanda Bray started ringing at St. Mary-le-Wigford Church, Lincoln, about a year ago, shortly before her 12th birthday. After learning to handle a bell she came regularly to the weekly practices and Sunday service ringing. Some weeks ago she was admitted to Sheffield Royal Infirmary, where she had to undergo an operation on her brain, and she passed away early on Friday morning, February 13. The funeral service was on the following Tuesday at St. Giles Methodist Church, Lincoln, and on the same evening St. Mary's ringers paid their tribute to her memory with a half-muffled quarter peal. In her short ringing career Mandy was not able to reach even her first quarter—time, for her, ran out too soon; but her cheery smile and contribution to our ringing will long be remembered. A. W. F.

BERNICE HYDE

"She was a wonderfully happy girl and her happiness somehow never left her. She lived for only 17½ years, but she lived them to the full. I think we at St. John's have had someone in our midst the like of whom we may never see again."

So wrote Canon D. Oldaker, Vicar of St. John's, Sidcup, about Bernice Hyde, who died recently after a long illness. A Queen's Guide and an assistant Guider, she was a regular ringer at St. John's and could plain hunt, having started ringing a year or so ago. It was last September that she was taken seriously ill whilst on holiday and leukaemia was diagnosed. Bernice spent most of her remaining life in Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup.

An only child, she was to have taken her "A" levels this year and hoped to have joined the W.R.A.F., her father having served in the R.A.F. On the day of the funeral the local ringers rang a half-muffled quarter peal. The sympathy of all will be extended to her parents.

PROGRESS AT ROCHFORD

Philip Bedford has been training a young team at Rochford since 1967, originally on the old three and later on the lively little Taylor eight installed in 1968. His tuition enabled the tower to conquer the basic Doubles methods and the youngsters are venturing towards methods on higher numbers of bells, which are attempted when outside help is available.

Unfortunately for Rochford, Phil's career has taken him to Birmingham, and a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung on his last day in Essex as an au revoir.

It has been his ambition for some years to ring two bells to a quarter, an ambition which was successful in the Rochford quarter at the first attempt, for he rang the second and third bells.

The quarter was conducted by Peter Sloman, late of Prittlewell, who recently moved into the Rochford area, and he has been elected captain in place of Phil, and his enthusiasm will maintain the progress being made at Rochford.

Recent interest among the local Boy Scouts group has provided an unusual number of beginners and two extra weekly practices on silenced bells to cope with the influx are being held. D. A. B.

THE LATE MR. J. S. CARTER



(An Appreciation)

The characters in our society are rarely the products of conformity. They are the colourful, odd-shaped pegs in a dull world of monotonous round holes. Their strength of character is the strength of individuality and seldom are they found drifting along on the currents that carry the masses.

Such a man was Joe Carter, of Wigston Magna. For nearly 40 years this slight, passionate man was the driving force behind Wigston Magna's great reputation for advanced method ringing. Both his physical movements and delicately hatched features possessed a sensitive brittleness that suggested something of the man. So also did the kind and generous eyes.

As a ringer he was a perfectionist, and there were many who found it impossible to attain his standards. Outwardly, his manner was clipped and tense, and the visitor to Wigston was left in no doubt that ringing at All Saints was a serious affair. To those who really knew him, however, his sometimes turbulent façade concealed a deep faith, emotion and compassion, together with a delightful humour.

There was nothing devious about him. His opinions were directly expressed—sometimes devastatingly so. He had no time for humbug, and his unique brand of integrity was known to arouse no little uneasiness among some of the more political members of the Exercise.

As a composer he was a purist with a strong distaste for messy method construction. The God Whose glory he composed and rang for was very real to him, and only the best was good enough. The strong influence of the methods he loved is evident in his own Surprise and Delight compositions which, however complex, are remarkable for their clean construction and great musical virtues.

Joe Carter has passed on, but to those who enjoyed the privilege of his company and teaching he will remain an unforgettable personality. To others his name will live on wherever the music of his methods is heard. The immense contribution he made to the art of change-ringing must assure him of an honoured place in its history.

C. P. W.

THE RECORD AT HARROW WEALD (February 21, 1970)

Mr. C. W. Woolley, of Bushey Heath, writes:—

Being privileged to act as an umpire for this peal, I can testify that it was well and truly rung. Apart from checking lead-ends, I had provided myself with a list of the methods in place-notation, and checked all but a very few leads row by row. I am quite certain that the composition was adhered to and the methods listed were correctly performed.

After a false start of just over two leads, the band went into changes at 1.25 p.m. The striking was excellent. The speed, which quickened slightly during the first two parts, thereafter kept very constant at just over 30 changes to the minute. Trips were few and were corrected within a whole pull or two. Most, I think, would have passed unnoticed had the striking been less perfect. The peal came round just after 7 p.m. in just under 5 hours 36 minutes. Altogether a thoroughly competent performance.

The composition, on the plan first devised by Norman Smith, contained 45 Surprise methods, varying in difficulty from Cambridge up to such methods as Glasgow and Belfast. Each bell performed all the work of each method. Further, the tenors were often parted at the lead-ends, which makes any method rather more tricky. At one point only—and this within three leads of the finish—the tenors came together behind for a single dodge the "wrong" way.

The general air of quiet confidence in the calling, the steadiness of the ringing and lack of any signs of nerves near the end (when there was surely more anxiety outside the tower than in), all made it hard to realise that one had been listening to the greatest performance ever in Surprise Major ringing.

Hearty congratulations to the composer and conductor, Tony Peake; to the other members of the band and, in particular, to John Mayne, who thus crowns his achievements in his old home tower.

A WELDING JOB!

The Leicester Mercury published a report on the damage caused to a 15th century bell when it was dropped outside the Parish Church at Ingoldmells, Lincoln, recently. It says:—

"The village church's bells had cost £3,000 to be restored at the Loughborough Foundry and had just arrived back at the village after travelling on a lorry belonging to haulage contractors

"A spokesman for the foundry, Mr. A. E. Clayton, said: 'Our people were inside the church and the driver was outside.

"The next thing we knew was that this 15th century bell had fallen on to the road and it cracked. No one knew how it happened.

"It is only a small bell, about a foot in diameter in the mouth and is not hung in the same way in the belfry as the other bells. It is only used for small services."

"He added: 'I do not know how much it will cost to repair the bell, but it will be welded.

"There is a research institute at Cambridge which has perfected a technique of welding cracked bells. It is very tricky and takes an expert to do it."

"Will it ever sound the same again? 'It will sound just the same as it did before,' said Mr. Clayton.

"And it will not cost the villagers a penny more? 'The cost of repairing it will just have to be sorted out elsewhere,' said Mr. Clayton."

50 YEARS' SERVICE



IR.W. photo.

MR. H. MITCHELL

"Bert," as he is known, learned to ring at Romsey but moved to Bournemouth in the early '20s. He took over the captaincy of St. John's, Surrey Road, 25 years ago and has cared for the bells and belfry ever since. He has taught innumerable young people and some are well-known personalities in ringing circles today.

Unfortunately several of his present band are leaving for university this year, but no doubt Bert will find others and continue teaching, which he enjoys as much as ringing peals and advanced methods.

In his early days at Romsey he was paid to ring the knell (passing bell) and also the curfew. He also rang for the wedding of Lord and Lady Mountbatten, whose home is at Romsey.

THE BELLS OF PARIS

If you would receive from the old city an impression which the modern one is quite incapable of giving you, ascend, on the morning of some great holiday, at sunrise, on Easter or Whitsunday, to some elevated point from which your eye can command the whole capital, and attend the awakening of the chimes. Behold, at a signal from heaven—for it is the sun that gives it—those thousand churches starting from their sleep. At first you hear only scattered tinklings going from church to church, as when musicians are giving one another notice to begin. Then, all on a sudden, behold—for there are moments when the ear itself seems to see—behold, ascending at the same moment from every steeple a column of sound, as it were, a cloud of harmony. At first the vibration of each bell mounts up direct, clear and, as it were, isolated from the rest into the splendid morning sky. Then by degrees as they expand they mingle, unite, are lost in each other, and confounded in one magnificent concert. Then it is all one mass of sonorous vibrations, incessantly sent forth from the innumerable steeples—floating, undulating, bounding and eddying over the town, and extending far beyond the horizon the deafening circle of its oscillations. . . . Here, certainly, is an opera worth hearing. Ordinarily, the murmur that escapes from Paris in the daytime is the city talking; in the night it is the city breathing; but here it is the city singing.—VICTOR HUGO.

(From translation in Everyman edition.)

Letters

PEALS—AN OBSESSION?

Dear Sir,—I venture to apply pen to paper in the knowledge that reams of newspaper have already been utilised for the use of bolts by those for and against the ringing of peals. Having rung a mere 40-odd peals in the course of 25 years, I have read correspondence with interest and, until now, had no intention of presenting my views.

However, on reading Mr. Freeman's remarks on the occasion of the Royal Cumberland Youths' annual dinner, I feel impelled towards the field of events pertaining to the subject. In his speech it is recorded of Mr. Freeman "... if you care for teaching beginners and if you encourage peal ringing, Sunday service ringing will follow from that."

With respect to the speaker, I cannot help feeling that in this particular remark Mr. Freeman misjudges priority. To imply that Sunday service ringing follows peals indicates that the science of changes—hours of continuous ringing—supersedes all other activities.

I fear that the embryo of the art has waxed into an obsession relevant to a mundane creature of powerful hypnotic influence. Many of its disciples are so wholly and irrecoverably immersed in its mysteries, the original purpose of bells is surely being trodden into unrecognisable forms. In many instances Sunday service ringing becomes another excuse for extending practices.

Let me add that I am not against the ringing of peals, but never have I accepted peals as the be-all and end-all of a bell-ringer's career. Obsession, like over-eating, is a bad master; moderation, like a balanced diet, and occasional fast, clears and extends the inner vision.

From my own experience in ringing peals and from observing others, peal ringing is motivated to a large degree by the amassing of personal records. Accomplishment of a peal is a positive tonic for one's ego. Furthermore, to qualify for the entry of those magic figures of 25, 50, 100, etc., elevates the successful exponent to the upper rungs of the ladder. A good round figure can well place a ringer fairly and squarely in the social standing of campanological spheres.

Peal ringing affords certain fascinations ... Sunday service ringing, to many, is rather less rewarding, but there are those who prefer to "choose that better part." They have their priorities in correct sequence.

On occasions I have seen ringers of considerable expertise join a rural tower—and they have been welcomed by their over-worked brethren of lesser abilities. Sometimes the visitor's knowledge and willingness is a boon, but more often than not he leaves the tower, having had "more than his share" of rounds, call-changes and Plain Bob, and is "quite unaccustomed to the team's standard of ringing."

During the last 23 years I have taught 140 young people the rudiments of bell-ringing. To each aspirant I have explained at the outset that his or her first duty is participation in Sunday service ringing. If they are not willing then out they go! All else, according to the aspirants' degree of enthusiasm, follows that privileged duty. At March we have had ringers who have not been too careful in bell handling. There have also been ringers whose action and effect has been inspiring to behold and hear.

With the exception of the last war, al-

MERIT OR PATRONAGE

Dear Sir,—The committee now engaged in examining the constitution of the Central Council would do well to enquire into the patronage and favouritism which abound in the appointment of honorary members from amongst the Council's friends and relations.

That I have been banned is of little importance either to me personally or to the Exercise in general, and whether or not I deserved honorary membership is not only a matter of opinion but entirely beside the point.

What, however, is of the utmost importance is that a member of the Council put forward my name, and I hasten to add that I only learned of this some years later, but an officer of the Council turned down the suggestion out of hand and forbade my "sponsor" to proceed with his intention.

What happened in my case could well happen again, and there are ringers more deserving of recognition. I was glad to note that, perhaps a little belatedly, the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild has recently honoured one of them whom the Council would be pleased to count amongst its number were it to elect and not select its members.—Yours faithfully,

R. H. DOVE.

[It cannot be said that those elected by the Council as honorary members have no special qualification for election.—Ed.]

though a full team existed during that time. March bells have been continually manned since the time they were installed in 1802. In 168 years approximately 12 ringers from this tower have taken part in peals, and of the 140 people who have learned to ring here since 1947 only six have actually displayed some sort of interest in the local Association. All have taken part in outings by the local team—over 60 excursions in all. Sixty-five quarter peals have been rung on the six bells by the local ringers, 62 prior to morning prayer. Two peals have been rung on the bells by Sunday service teams.

Sunday service ringing is always rated first and practice second. This is usually accepted by our young folk. Association activities are advertised and usually transport is available, but most of the ringers prefer to devote their additional time to other interests. They certainly have no use for peals. This follows the pattern over the last 17 decades. But rarely have we looked back.

Like most towers, we have our problems; but through all those decades special emphasis underlines the importance of Sunday service ringing. As yet it has not failed. This, I think, is creditable. It has been achieved without the incentive of peal ringing, and by this I believe a more worthwhile satisfaction prevails. Personal achievement is set aside in the knowledge that obsession and faith, like grease and water, are opposed. One ought to approach these matters with a clear understanding and allow the important and original conception a free rein.

Personal achievement with particular relationship to Church activities is undesirable. It needs to be played down. It can and does give rise to selfish motives. Peal ringing before Sunday service ringing is to begin at the top. How many are truly able to "descend" to the simple and dutiful task and testify to that act as priority? Science blinds! Must we place self-satisfaction first? I think not. If I did I would certainly have endeavoured in the last decade to ring three or four peals that I might reach my first round figure of 50.—Yours faithfully,

March, Cambs. TREVOR A. BEVIS.

MR. TAYLOR REPLIES

Dear Sir,—It is obvious that the subject of peals has raised so many issues that they cannot be adequately dealt with in the R.W. May I be permitted a little space to reply to those who mentioned my name in these columns?

I am sorry that several of them did not read what I wrote. I expressly said that I was not against all peal ringing. The point I wished to make is that peal ringing is essentially a hobby which serves many useful ends, particularly that of providing a goal to aim at. But it is carried on by courtesy of the church. Ringers seem to forget very often that they are using £4,000-worth of equipment or more, and this is a great privilege. Steeplekeeping, training of learners and Sunday service ringing all must come first. Who will rehang the bells when they are worn out? The job inevitably falls to those who love the church and its bells.

Mr. Hunt: I am very glad that the peal ringers of Bristol are the backbone of Sunday service ringing. I am sorry that you consider me uneducated (uninformed would have done). I am not jealous of peal ringing and have rung several. If I gave up other more important activities I could ring peals most weekends.

Mr. Thoday: I did not say that the majority of peal ringers were of little service to the Exercise. I said there was a minority who rang for purely selfish reasons.

Mr. Fellows: I obviously cannot say in public where I formed my impressions of the selfishness of a small minority of peal collectors. I can only assure him that I met several during the '40s and '50s. It is clear that conditions vary widely over the country. It is good news that those who ring the peals in Derby and the West Midlands are loyal servants of the Church. I found the same when I visited East Anglia recently. I am glad that my letter brought these facts to light.

Finally, may I say that I believe the ringing of peals to be interesting, in fact fascinating, that they improve your ringing like nothing else, and that they are a real challenge in these days of "spectatoritis," but they should not be the chief aim of either individual ringers or the Exercise as a whole.—Yours faithfully,

Cheltenham. ERIC J. TAYLOR.

YAXLEY ALLIANCE

Dear Sir,—If Mr. Pashley invests in a C.C.C.B. Minor Book he will find that in Yaxley Alliance the treble dodges only in 5/6, thereby making up the required extra changes with the treble in 5/6, in a spliced 720 with Little Bob Minor.—Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY R. DREW.

Tewkesbury, Glos.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Dear Sir,—The reference on page 123 of *The Ringing World* to two sets of handbells offered for use to Service personnel in S.H.A.E.F. interested me very much.

If anyone can shed further light on the whereabouts of these bells and can let me know whether either of the sets is available for use in a school run for the children of Servicemen in the British N.A.T.O. forces in Europe I shall be pleased to receive information.—Yours faithfully,

J. R. WORRALL,
Deputy Headmaster.

Windsor Boys' School,
Hamm, B.F.P.O. 103.

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HANDBELLS AND REPAIRS

Mr. Michael King, of Wentworth Vicarage, Rotherham, Yorks, has written re handbells and their repair:—

Are we witnessing some new heavy handbell ringing peal efforts or a printer's error, repeated quite frequently? Recently I have noticed the tenor handbell as 27 in A in some peal reports. This surely should read as 17 in A. The heaviest handbell size (Mears/Stainbank and Taylor numbering) is 29 C/C sharp (or have they now resorted to an even heavier bell, 30 B?). No 27 is the E note: 17 in A is an octave above the 25 A size.

If, however, it is the 25 A size that these ringers are using as their tenor bell then they must be near to setting up a record for the heaviest "ring" of handbells rung to a full peal. Incidentally, has a full peal ever been rung on the octave, in C, from 22 C (as treble) to 29 C (tenor)?

To another matter—that of cracked handbells. The school at where I teach has a very skilled metalwork master who has very successfully restored two of the school's set of 61 handbells (28 D and 26 F sharp bells, these two being large bass bells, costing over £25 to have recast). Both bells are now once more back in the set. I thought it might be of use to let all handbell ringers know of our way in restoring these bells.

First, locate the full extent of the crack.

Secondly, clean the area around the crack either with metal polish or on the buffer.

Thirdly, drill a small hole (not to exceed $\frac{3}{16}$ ", if that) through the side of the bell about $\frac{1}{4}$ " up from the crack (this will have the effect of preventing the crack from spreading, a likely problem during the next two stages). Clean away all the chippings from the drilling.

Fourthly, using a fine metal saw, cut down the crack. This is the hardest and longest part of the "operation" and requires skill, care and patience. Cut until the drilled-out hole has been reached. The bell should be fixed in the vice for this job.

Fifthly, taking care not to apply excessive heat, apply a silver solder to the crack (that is, after making sure it is clean after the fourth stage). A soft solder, although of a lower melting point, is not suitable for this job. During the soldering the leather handle may become a casualty.

Sixthly, after soldering allow the bell to cool and then proceed to clean the bell, preferably on the buffer (we have found that using the buffing machine is not detrimental to the bells). If the handle has become a casualty either obtain fresh leather or, as we have done, fix a wooden handle to the bell. Finally, reinsert the clapper which, naturally, had been removed in the first place.

Result: your bell should still be in tune and ringable again. If the crack was in line with the clapper try to align the clapper to hit away from the former crack, especially at the initial try-outs.

It is obvious, I hope, that the above can only be undertaken by someone skilled in silver soldering and general metalwork as

Cathedral Master Retires



The Provost of Derby (Very Rev. R. A. Beddoes) on left with Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and Mr. John Stennit (right).

If Harold Taylor, ringing master at Derby Cathedral for 21 years, had had any notion of what was in store when he decided to retire at the end of 1969 he would have changed his mind and continued in office, for the Cathedral ringers decided that this event could not go unmarked. Together with the Cathedral authorities plans were made to pay tribute to Harold and to make a presentation at a reception in the Chapter House. This took place on Sunday, February 1st, about 50 friends and members of the Cathedral staff being gathered together.

MAYOR WAS GUEST

The annual meeting of the Bridgnorth Branch of the Hereford Guild took place at Bridgnorth on February 7. Ringing during the afternoon and evening was at St. Leonard's and St. Mary's, with the service at St. Leonard's, which was taken by the rector (Rev. D. Philpott), who gave an address. Tea, provided by the wives of St. Leonard's ringers, was served in the Old Grammar School. A guest at tea was the Mayor of Bridgnorth, Cdr. Michael Ridley, who expressed pleasure at being present. At the meeting which followed the officers elected were: ringing master, Mr. Harold Thomas; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Joan Bennett; committee representative for the Hereford Guild, Mr. Alec Osbaldiston, who was also elected deputy ringing master; auditor, Mr. Alan Elsmore. The retiring ringing master, Mr. Alan Jones, was thanked for his past services. Thanks were also expressed to the rector, Dr. David Davies (organist), the ladies for providing tea, and Rev. G. Abel, Vicar of St. Mary's, for use of his bells. J. B.

well; at my school, I will admit, we do have the facilities for such a repair job and also the skilled craftsman to execute the money-saving repair. To have had the two bass bells recast would have cost us over £50. Now, for nothing, Ecclesfield Comprehensive School has a full, complete 61-bell set from 29 C up to 01 C.

I'll be interested to hear if any other handbell ringers have been able to repair their cracked bells in the manner described above, rather than having to go through the expense of recasting.

The Provost of Derby, in making the presentation of a beautiful silver salver, paid tribute to Mr. Taylor's loyalty and devotion. Thanking everyone for the gift, Harold was more brief in his reply than he had intended, being overcome by the occasion.

On behalf of Cathedral ringers, past and present, Mr. Gordon Halls told of Harold's achievements as ringing master. He learned to ring at St. Alkmund's, Derby, 40 years ago, but soon afterwards moved to the Cathedral where, with three brothers, he formed the nucleus of the band. After the wartime ban was lifted he resumed bell-ringing, under the leadership of Mr. James Paget, but the band had become depleted and it was only on rare occasions that all ten bells were rung.

In 1948 Harold became ringing master, and since that time the band has increased in both numbers and capabilities. Nor has this improvement been confined to the Cathedral: other ringers outside Derby have advanced their capabilities and the diocese has benefited.

Mr. Taylor, in his early sixties, is employed by Bemrose and Son Ltd., printers, of Derby, and is married and has two sons and three grandchildren. He has rung about 300 peals—about 230 for the Derby Diocesan Association—and has held many offices in the Association. He led the Cathedral team in the diocesan bellringing competition—the Horsley Cup—which they have won three times since 1961.

The retirement of a popular ringing master is a sad occasion but the band is thriving and has many enthusiasts. He is handing over to one of the young enthusiasts, Mr. David Friend, and we hope that for many years to come Harold will continue to be one of the band. Later in the same week Mr. Taylor was interviewed by "Radio Nottingham" for the programme "All People." G. H.

Quarter Peals

LONG LENGTH

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.—At Christ Church, on Feb. 14, 2520 Plain Bob Royal: G. Cooper (first on ten) 1, B. Schofield 2, S. I. Bamforth 3, J. Moore 4, R. F. Andrew 5, P. Broadbent 6, A. E. Whiting 7, B. S. B. Kear (first on ten as cond.) 8, G. Moorhouse 9, M. Foulds 10. A peal attempt called round.

ABBOT'S LEIGH, SOM.—On Feb. 9, 1440 Alnwick Surprise Minor: Helen Kirkpatrick 1, J. Maggs 2, P. England 3, E. Lee 4, J. Brain 5, M. Horseman (cond.) 6.

ALDBOURNE, WILTS.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Doubles (three methods, 1 and 3 leading): S. Hale 1, Frances Craig 2, Peta Lloyd 3, T. R. Jones 4, T. A. Palmer 5, G. A. Newman 6, A. G. Keen (cond.) 7, C. Barnes 8. For Evensong, and visit of Bishop of Taunton.

ALDERMASTON, BERKS.—On Jan. 29, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Ann Stead (first quarter) 1, J. J. Hill 2, W. Butler (cond.) 3, P. Corderoy 4, M. Till 5, D. Livingstone 6. Also on Feb. 5, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: P. Corderoy 1, D. Livingstone 2, M. Till 3, J. J. Hill 4, W. Butler (cond.) 5.

APPLEDORE, KENT.—On Jan. 31, 1260 Doubles (five methods): R. Offen 1, P. S. Philpott (most methods) 2, J. B. Keeler (cond.) 3, T. Skilton 4, D. L. Cawley 5. Also 1260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Offen 1, D. L. Cawley 2, P. S. Philpott (first in method) 3, J. B. Keeler 4, T. Skilton (cond.) 5. After meeting short for peal.

AUGHTON, LANCS.—At St. Michael's Church, on Feb. 8, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: A. Parr (first quarter) 1, R. Larkey 2, A. Draper 3, M. Nicholson 4, J. Lunham 5, D. Jones (cond.) 6.

BABBACOMBE, DEVON.—On Jan. 25, 1260 Grandsire Triples: J. Murray (first quarter) 1, A. J. Garbett 2, Valerie Stephens 3, K. Fursdon 4, W. Simmonds 5, W. Wayman 6, D. J. Roberts (cond.) 7, R. J. Edden 8. For Evensong. Also on Feb. 16, 1280 Pl. Bob Major: A. J. Garbett (50th quarter) 1, K. Fursdon 2, Valerie Stephens 3, J. Read (first of Major) 4, W. Wayman 5, R. J. Edden 6, D. J. Roberts (cond.) 7, W. Simmonds 8. On the 80th birthday of the treble ringer.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 16, 1260 Grandsire Doubles (1, 2 leading): Angela A. Street 1, Caroline M. Maude 2, Ann Smith 3, J. M. Swift 4, B. R. Forster 5, D. J. Winchester 6, I. V. J. Smith (cond.) 7, I. S. Holland 8. A 100th birthday compliment to Mrs. E. Blundell, still a regular member of the congregation.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—On Feb. 15, 1264 Pl. Bob Major: Angela A. Cornish (first on eight) 1, S. H. Gay 2, Jackie Allen 3, Freda Cannon 4, S. A. Nicholls 5, I. Wiltshire 6, M. A. Gay 7, P. R. Butler (first on eight as cond.) 8.

BEXHILL, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Grandsire and Pl. Bob Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): Audrey D. Eldridge 1, Daphne J. Verdon 2, Susan M. Harrison (cond.) 3, J. M. Swift (50th quarter) 4, C. E. Verdon 5, L. Cooksey 6, J. Edwards 7, A. Cluer 8. First by an all-local band in two methods. For Evensong; a welcome home to the rector, Canon M. D. Townroe, after three months in the diocese of Nakuru, Africa.

BISHOPSTOKE, HANTS.—On Jan. 17, 1440 Plain Bob Minor: Anna Tobias 1, R. Le Marechal 2, J. P. Colliss 3, I. M. McCallion 4, M. J. Thomas (cond.) 5, J. C. Hallett 6. Also on Jan. 18, 1260 Doubles (six m/v): Anna Tobias 1, J. P. Colliss (cond.) 2, I. M. McCallion 3, T. J. Frodsham 4, R. Le Marechal 5, J. Howell 6. For Evensong.

BRAMPFORD SPEKE, DEVON.—On Jan. 31, 1320 Little Bob Minor: Christine Tibby 1, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 2, C. L. Barr 3, R. J. Wilsher 4, K. A. Hughes 5, J. Foster 6. By Exeter Colleges Guild.

BRISTOL.—At St. Ambrose's Church, on Feb. 15, 1260 Grandsire Triples: H. Goss 1, F. J. Sampson 2, J. W. Collard 3, Mrs. G. M. Hunt 4, T. Newlands 5, B. Martin 6, D. J. Hunt (cond.) 7, F. R. Hussey 8. A 21st birthday compliment to T. Newlands.

BRIXHAM, DEVON.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: A. G. Thompson (aged 12, first attempt) 1, R. J. Edden 2, R. F. Shepperd (cond.) 3, J. L. Bell 4, R. E. Bell (first inside) 5, S. Wills 6.

BUCKFAST, DEVON.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Pl. Bob Triples: Rev. P. Dowling 1, W. Simmonds 2, Valerie Stephens 3, G. J. Roberts 4, W. Wayman 5, Rev. P. Angold 6, D. J. Roberts (cond.) 7, S. French 8. A compliment to Mr. A. L. Bennett, 50 years a member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

BURTON HASTINGS, WARKS.—On Feb. 9, 1279 Grandsire Doubles (2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th observation): Ann Rigby 1, Carol Eveleigh 2, A. G. Eveleigh 3, N. Orchard 4, C. M. Povey (cond.) 5.

CHATTERIS, CAMBS.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor and Single Oxford: F. Jackson (first quarter) 1, Susan Yates (first quarter) 2, W. Young 3, D. Edgley 4, R. Edgley 5, W. Seekings (cond.) 6. For Evensong. Birthday compliment to R. Edgley.

CHIGWELL, ESSEX.—On Feb. 8, 1269 Plain Bob Doubles: D. G. Harman (first quarter) 1, A. S. Baker 2, Marion A. Cass (cond.) 3, P. D. Austin 4, O. A. Tovell 5, P. J. Harman (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

CHILHAM, KENT.—On Feb. 1, 1296 Little Bob Major: Anne Dawson 1, P. S. Philpott 2, D. J. Carr 3, Jacqueline Cullwick 4, M. L. Haigh 5, J. Hedgcock 6, J. B. Keeler 7, T. Skilton (50th as cond.) 8. First in method 1, 2, 4, 5, 7. For Evensong. Also on Feb. 8, 1260 Doubles (Grandsire, Plain): C. M. Godfrey 1, W. J. Bidnell 2, P. S. Philpott 3, M. L. Haigh 4, T. Skilton (cond.) 5, J. Hedgcock 6. For Evensong.

CHILTON CANTELO, SOM.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. R. Parker 1, E. Rice 2, J. Cornelius (cond.) 3, C. Gratton 4, R. Parker 5.

CODDINGTON, NOTTS.—On Feb. 13, 1440 Plain Bob Minor: J. Draycott 1, Jennifer A. Curtis (first Minor) 2, Elaine M. Rolfe 3, D. J. Tysoe 4, F. Derry 5, D. E. Kirtan (first Minor as cond.) 6.

COTTINGHAM, YORKS.—1296 Little Bob Major: Jane Morris 1, Maxine Johnson 2, Mrs. G. W. Pybus 3, G. W. Pybus 4, C. C. Brown 5, A. Spivey 6, J. I. Booth 7, F. N. Pailing (cond.) 8.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—On Feb. 11, 1260 Stedman Triples: Catherine Barrett (first in method) 1, Janet Pullen 2, Valerie Copleston 3, Renee Armstrong 4, P. J. Bloomfield 5, R. Copleston 6, J. Armstrong (cond.) 7, W. Inch 8. For Ash Wednesday Holy Communion service.

DARTINGTON, DEVON.—On Feb. 11, 1260 Plain Bob Minor: R. J. Edden 1, W. Wayman 2, A. S. Carter 3, Rev. D. P. Angold 4, R. F. Shepperd (first as cond. in method) 5, G. J. L. Read 6.

DEAL, KENT.—On Feb. 7, 1440 Surprise Minor (Carlisle, Beighton): P. S. Philpott (first T.B.) 1, J. B. Keeler (first Surprise) 2, J. Hedgcock 3, G. Davies 4, D. J. Carr (cond.) 5, T. Skilton 6.

DONERAILE, CO. CORK.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: W. W. Cox (cond.) 1, T. T. Marsden 2, V. R. McCormack 3, P. M. Talbot 4, G. H. Ellis 5, F. G. Bingham 6. A compliment to F. G. Bingham, 50 years a ringer at Limerick Cathedral.

DURWESTON, DORSET.—On Jan. 3, 1260 P.B. Minor: Julia A. Fellows 1-2, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 3-4, M. J. Corry 5-6. Also on Feb. 6, 1260 P.B. Minor: C. J. Corry 1, Kate Andrews 2, A. J. Pauley 3, Susan M. Corry (50th quarter) 4, T. G. Bleathman (cond.) 5, C. F. Longridge 6. Birthday compliment to Susan M. Corry. Also on Feb. 13, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: Diana Davies (first quarter) 1, Kate Andrews 2, C. F. Longridge 3, B. R. Jeans 4, M. J. Corry (cond.) 5, C. J. Corry 6. A birthday compliment to Kate Andrews.

EAST ILSLEY, BERKS.—On Feb. 9, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Patricia E. Hibbert 1, S. Jane Wells (first inside) 2, Marjorie C. Hibbert 3, D. A. Vince 4, Mary Wells 5, L. F. Cox 6, B. M. Wheeler 7, J. W. T. Hibbert (cond.) 8.

ECCLESTON (St. Helens), LANCS.—On Feb. 8, 1260 Grandsire Triples: M. J. Corry 1, Gillian Sims 2, Patricia A. Jenkins 3, Susan D. Cowan 4, G. C. Sparling 5, B. Wakefield 6, A. J. Macefield (first as cond.) 7, G. H. Hurst 8. For Evensong.

ENFIELD, MIDDX.—On Feb. 1, 1260 P.B. Minor: N. Holtam 1, D. J. Duggan 2, Margaret Pack 3, R. Wood 4, H. Howson 5, P. Twigg (cond.) 6. By the Sunday service band.

EXETER, DEVON.—At St. Mark's Church, on Jan. 25, 1264 Pl. Bob Major: Joan M. Kingdom 1, J. L. Anderson 2, Linda V. Cull 3, M. T. L. Griffith-Jones 4, J. Foster 5, C. L. Barr 6, J. N. Longridge 7, K. A. Hughes (cond.) 8. By Exeter Colleges Guild. Also on Feb. 5, 1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major: M. T. L. Griffith-Jones 1, K. A. Hughes 2, D. J. Atkins 3, R. J. Wilsher 4, G. P. Smerdon 5, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 6, C. Rickits 7, F. D. Mack 8.

GEDLING, NOTTS.—On Jan. 25, 1320 Doubles (four methods): J. Dawson 1, S. M. O'Neill 2, P. R. Wild 3, J. R. Rigby (cond.) 4, J. R. Anthony 5, R. Adey 6.

GLASTON, RUTLAND.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: Cynthia E. Barnett 1, L. Atton 2, Peggy E. Jennings 3, W. A. Taylor (first inside) 4, C. J. Groome (cond.) 5. For family service.

HEAVITREE, DEVON.—On Feb. 1, 1260 Stedman Triples: Linda V. Cull 1, K. A. Hughes 2, C. Rickits 3, R. J. Wilsher 4, D. J. Atkins 5, F. Wreford 6, J. N. Longridge (cond.) 7, P. Colton 8. By Exeter Colleges Guild.

HENSTRIDGE, SOM.—On Feb. 14, 1260 P.B. Minor: Susan M. Corry 1, Kate Andrews 2, C. J. Corry 3, M. J. Corry 4, T. G. Bleathman (cond.) 5, C. F. Longridge (cond.) 6.

HOAR CROSS, STAFFS.—On Jan. 31, 1260 Stedman Doubles: N. R. Holland 1, P. J. Evans 2, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 3, F. Beech 4, E. F. Willcox 5, R. H. Newton 6. First in method by all.

HONILEY, WARKS.—On Feb. 8, 1260 Doubles (Grandsire, Pl. Bob): R. D. Baker 1, Diana Meredith 2, Penny Coomber 3, G. S. Hall 4, S. C. Walters (cond.) 5. By Coventry Colleges Guild for Evensong.

ILTON, SOM.—On Feb. 7, 1440 Pl. Bob Minor: E. Rice 1, R. Beale 2, F. Welch 3, R. C. Beale (first Minor inside) 4, R. Welch 5, J. Cornelius (cond.) 6. First Minor 1 and 5.

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.—On Feb. 5, 1320 Pl. Bob Minor (6, 8 covering). Mrs. A. Foreman 1, T. Boast 2, A. Foreman 3, W. Gibbons 4, W. Saunders 5, S. Holman 6, F. Arnold (cond.) 7, S. Flatman 8. A diamond wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Lake.

KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD, NOTTS.—On Feb. 16, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: Angela Barratt 1, Helen Dzuiba 2, S. Marshall 3, D. Jackson (first inside) 4, E. Sollis (cond.) 5. To welcome the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. S. Marshall.

LANGPORT, SOM.—On Feb. 10, 1320 Daffodil Doubles: Miss C. Hassell 1, Mrs. R. Parker 2, J. Cornelius (cond.) 3, R. Parker 4, K. Prime 5, R. Lambert 6. First in the variation by all. Birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

LECKHAMPTON, GLOS.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Grandsire Triples: A. C. Newman 1, H. Read 2, B. H. Taylor 3, Helen R. Taylor 4, Hilda C. Taylor 5, T. Stephens 6, E. J. Taylor (cond.) 7, R. Webb 8. Half-muffled in memoriam to the parish priest, Rev. Geoffrey C. Ford, who died suddenly on Ash Wednesday.

LEYTONSTONE, E.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Stedman Triples: C. Willmington 1, Marion Cass 2, H. Weedon 3, M. Waring 4, R. Brown 5, A. Baker 6, W. Theobald (cond.) 7, M. Balkwill 8. For Evensong. First in method for 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8.

LINCOLN.—At St. Mary-le-Wigford Church, on Feb. 17, 1296 Minimus (Court, Rev. Court, Double Court, Rev. Bob, Double Bob, Plain Bob): Vivienne West 1, A. W. Froggatt 2, Susan A. Faulk 3, E. J. Parkin (cond.) 4. Half-muffled in memory of Amanda Bray (aged 12), ringer at this church, who died on February 13.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Stedman Triples: Elisabeth M. Ottaway 1, Glynis E. Perry 2, Christine Neville 3, R. E. Burbury 4, D. Riley 5, F. W. Tomlin 6, C. W. Ottaway (cond.) 7, E. J. Cross (first quarter) 8.

BELL ROPES
JOHN NICOLL
SEE BACK PAGE

LUTON, BEDS.—On Feb. 8, 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major: G. Hawkins 1, Brenda Redfearn 2, Sheila Foster 3, M. Foster 4, N. Garrard 5, H. Wood 6, D. Redfearn 7, A. E. Rushton (cond.) 8. A welcome to Margaret Aslett on her return from "Down Under."

LYMPNE, KENT.—On Feb. 1, 1260 Doubles (two methods): R. P. Brotherston 1, M. J. Taylor 2, Elizabeth A. Todd (cond.) 3, G. J. Neilson 4, B. G. Butcher 5. For Family Communion. Also on Feb. 8, 1256 Little Bob Minor: Elizabeth A. Todd 1, R. P. Brotherston 2, M. J. Taylor 3, H. P. Yates 4, G. J. Neilson (cond.) 5, B. G. Butcher 6. For Evensong. Also on Feb. 15, 1320 Doubles (four methods): A. R. Day (first quarter) 1, B. G. Butcher 2, Elizabeth A. Todd (cond.) 3, H. P. Yates 4, G. J. Neilson 5, M. J. Taylor 6. For Evensong.

MALINS LEE, SALOP.—On Jan. 8, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: Margaret J. Gwilt (first Minor) 1, Jennifer M. Beech 2, Elizabeth Stevens 3, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 4, I. Friend 5, P. Beech 6. For Evensong. Best wishes to Mrs. D. Cooper (local ringing captain) after a recent accident.

MANCHESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Feb. 11, 1264 Bob Major: P. Dyson 1, Mrs. Mary Tonge 2, D. Manby 3, W. Birmingham 4, P. Boucher 5, P. Bellamy Knights 6, R. F. Eccles (cond.) 7, A. Ward 8. For Ash Wednesday Holy Communion.

MARSTON, OXON.—On Dec. 21, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Buck 1, A. Gammon 2, S. Buck 3, M. R. Bolton 4, L. R. Porter (cond.) 5. Prior to the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.—At St. Paul's Cathedral, on Jan. 1 (12.25 a.m.), 1259 Grandsire Caters: G. Stewart 1, Miss M. Aslett 2, Miss H. Henderson 3, Miss J. Murphy 4, C. Herbert 5, R. Turner 6, H. Russell (cond.) 7, R. Bampton 8, M. Scowen 9, K. Hendry 10. A farewell to Helen Henderson, leaving for England. Believed to be the first tower bell quarter peal of the decade. Ringers of 5, 8 and tenor are members of St. Paul's, Burwood, N.S.W. Also on Jan. 1 (1.40 a.m.), 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: Miss J. Murphy 1, R. Bampton 2, R. Turner (cond.) 3, K. Hendry 4, M. Scowen 5, C. Herbert 6. Ringers of 2, 4 and tenor are members of St. Paul's, Burwood, N.S.W. Also on Jan. 28, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: F. English 1, D. Heyes 2, Miss J. Murphy 3, R. Turner 4, J. Roper 5, M. Scowen (cond.) 6.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICS.—On Feb. 14, 1296 Pl. Bob Caters: J. Ward (first on ten) 1, Karen French (first inside on ten) 2, Mrs. D. Day 3, W. Clapp 4, H. Clayton 5, O. Homewood 6, R. Looker 7, J. Day 8, R. Manton 9, W. Holmes 10. By members of the Sunday service band.

NORTHAMPTON.—At St. Giles' Church, on Jan. 24, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. A. Downing 1, Mrs. D. J. Kirby 2, T. Jennings 3, Miss V. W. Leleux 4, G. F. Roome (cond.) 5, I. Buckley 6. 90th birthday compliment to ringer of 3. Also on Feb. 7, 1260 Doubles (five methods): Mrs. R. E. Roome 1, Miss J. A. Downing 2, Miss V. A. Leleux 3, R. A. Eldridge 4, G. F. Roome (cond.) 5, I. Buckley 6. A welcome to Kathryn Jane Eldridge, born Feb. 1, 1970.

MUDFORD, SOM.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Rev. Canterbury Doubles: E. Rice 1, Mrs. R. Parker 2, J. Cornelius (100th as cond.) 3, C. Gratton 4, R. Parker 5. First in method by all except the conductor.

NORTH CADBURY, SOM.—On Dec. 27, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: C. J. Corry 1, Kate Andrews 2, Susan M. Corry 3, T. G. Bleathman 4, M. J. Corry (cond.) 5, C. F. Longridge 6.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.—On Jan. 25, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Elizabeth Thompson (first quarter) 1, Glenda Crane 2, R. J. Thompson 3, T. Lewis 4, R. M. Thompson (cond.) 5, D. Wilkinson 6. First by a local band for many years.

NORTHMOOR, OXON.—On Jan. 19, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: V. Clifton 1, F. A. White 2, B. Miles 3, N. Leslie 4, D. Leslie (cond.) 5, D. Osman 6. A birthday compliment for F. Trinder.

OXFORD.—At St. Ebbe's Church, on Feb. 15, 1312 Yorkshire Surprise Major: A. J. Adams 1, P. J. Heritage (cond.) 2, A. R. Pink 3, Pamela E. Powell (first in method) 4, P. Pearce 5, W. C. Porter 6, C. Coles 7, E. R. Venn 8.

PORTSMOUTH, HANTS.—At the Cathedral, on Feb. 15, 1260 Norfolk Bob Triples: Penny Jackson 1, W. Willans (arr. and cond.) 2, Edna Jones 3, B. J. Fry 4, Jean Berriman 5, A. A. J. Buswell 6, M. S. Bruce 7, F. G. Edwards 8. For Evensong. Believed to be the first quarter of Triples in the method.

PUTNEY, LONDON.—On Feb. 8, 1262 Stedman Triples: L. Ann Mew (first Stedman) 1, Ruby Myllys 2, M. J. Bangham 3, Elizabeth Bangham 4, A. R. Patterson 5, C. R. Harris 6, C. F. Mew (cond.) 7, M. J. Uphill 8. For Patronal Evensong.

RATBY, LEICS.—On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 11, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Helen Blackman (first quarter) 1, T. Gardner 2, Jean Blackman 3, G. Hurd 4, A. Winkless (first Triples) 5, R. Hughes 6, P. R. Blackman (cond.) 7, P. Mutton (first quarter) 8.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—On Feb. 2, 1344 Glasgow S. Major: N. Turner 1, Iris M. E. Lemare 2, Patricia North 3, R. E. Price 4, I. North 5, N. Donovan 6, D. Nichols 7, S. Armeson (cond.) 8. Also on Feb. 15, 1250 Yorkshire S. Major: A. Holroyd 1, Marianne Baker 2, Marie Hatswell 3, M. Turner 4, A. Beaumont 5, N. Donovan 6, D. Nichols 7, S. Armeson (cond.) 8. First in method 2, 3 and 4.

SAWLEY, DERBYS.—On Feb. 8, 1260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. N. Marshall 1, Mrs. S. Marshall 2, Mrs. C. Charter 3, D. J. Marshall 4, W. Barwell (first in method) 5, J. Harvey 6, A. Humphrey (cond.) 7, R. G. Newsom 8.

SHAW, BERKS.—On Dec. 22, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: C. Tilling 1, R. Butler (first inside) 2, Mary Lawrenson 3, R. Rex 4, W. Butler (cond.) 5.

SHEDFIELD, HANTS.—On Jan. 23, 1440 P. Bob Minor: R. Sherwood (first Minor) 1, Angela M. Edwards 2, Betty Daysh 3, R. Le Marechal 4, J. P. Colliss 5, E. Colley (cond.) 6. To welcome the new vicar.

SHEPTON MALLET, SOM.—On Feb. 5, 1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: D. Targett 1, J. E. Beck (first quarter) 2, M. Jones 3, J. E. Tarrent (first in method) 4, R. G. Beck 5, A. P. Beck 6, R. E. Beck 7, E. J. Chivers (cond.) 8.

SHIFNAL, SALOP.—On Feb. 7, 1280 Kent T.B. Major: E. F. Willcox 1, Patricia C. Stocken (first T.B.) 2, Jennifer M. Beech 3, F. Beech 4, M. J. A. Orman 5, R. H. Newton 6, N. R. Holland 7, P. J. Evans (cond.) 8.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.—At St. Chad's Church, on Feb. 10, 1288 Pl. Bob Triples: D. Smith 1, R. H. Newton 2, Patricia C. Stocken 3, F. H. Bennett 4, L. Roberts 5, M. J. A. Orman 6, E. F. Willcox (cond.) 7, J. Crum 8. For Shrove Tuesday.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.—At St. Mary's Church, on Feb. 1, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: D. Smith 1, E. F. Willcox (cond.) 2, Vivienne Bennett 3, R. H. Newton 4, A. E. G. Owen 5, J. Crum 6. For Evensong.

SOUTH CADBURY, SOM.—On Dec. 27, 1260 P.B. Doubles: C. J. Corry 1, Kate Andrews 2, A. J. Paulley 3, Susan M. Corry 4, T. G. Bleathman (cond.) 5, B. R. Jeans 6.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDY.—On Feb. 12, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: R. O'Connell 1, C. Martin 2, R. Amos 3, W. Wainwright 4, D. Willcocks (cond.) 5. For St. Ethelwold's Day.

SOUTHSEA, HANTS.—At 77 Gains Road, on Feb. 15, 1296 Bob Minimus: B. J. Fry 1-2, W. Willans (cond.) 3-4.

STAFFORD.—On Jan. 18, 1296 Little Bob Royal: A. Wiggin 1, F. R. Wiggin 2, C. S. Hone 3, Jennifer M. Beech 4, F. Beech (cond.) 5, Margaret A. Swain 6, R. J. Warrilow 7, A. E. Garbett 8, G. Stevens 9, E. R. Fairbrother 10. Also on Feb. 1, 1280 Yorkshire S. Major: K. Daniels 1, F. R. Wiggin 2, Ruth A. E. Fairbrother 3, Jennifer M. Beech 4, N. R. Holland 5, R. J. Warrilow 6, F. Beech 7, E. R. Fairbrother (cond.) 8.

STOKE BISHOP, BRISTOL.—On Feb. 15, 1296 Surprise Minor (720 Ipswich, 576 Cambridge): Mary Crofts 1, Alison Brown 2, Rosemary Myers 3, Rosemary Snawdon 4, Hily Muirhead (cond.) 5, P. Gray 6. For Evensong; also as a wedding compliment to Prof. R. J. Brocklehurst (former captain), a churchwarden.

STOULTON, WORCS.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: P. Cattermole 1, Judith Rhodes (first inside) 2, P. Jopp 3, C. J. Pickford (cond.) 4, A. Jopp 5, M. R. C. Hughes (first quarter) 6.

SWINDON, WILTS.—At Christ Church, on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 11, 1259 Grandsire Caters: M. J. Hayward 1, Mrs. P. Wilton 2, Violet L. Ballard 3, W. W. T. Daniell 4, Mrs. E. Jaques 5, L. F. Cobb (first in method as cond.) 6, P. Minchin 7, M. J. Stanley 8, E. Sutton 9, M. A. Sutton 10. By local band for Evensong.

TEWIN, HERTS.—On Jan. 31, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: A. Walters (first away from tenor) 1, A. Sears 2, H. Shire 3, S. Marshall (first inside) 4, D. Harris (cond.) 5, P. Walters (first quarter) 6. Also on Feb. 16, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: Miss A. Walters 1, D. Digby 2, H. Shire 3, A. Sears 4, D. Harris (cond.) 5, A. Walters 6. Half-muffled on day of funeral of Rev. G. C. Ford, Rector of Leckhampton, Glos, formerly Rector of Digswell, Herts, who died on Ash Wednesday.

THATCHAM, BERKS.—On Jan. 17, 1260 Grandsire Triples: R. Butler 1, R. Rex 2, Jennifer Barker 3, W. Butler 4, A. Edens 5, C. Tilling 6, R. Christopher (cond.) 7, A. Christopher 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Graeme Turner, unable to ring through illness.

WEST CAMEL, SOM.—On Feb. 14, 1320 St. Valentine's Doubles: E. Rice 1, Mrs. R. Parker 2, C. Gratton 3, R. Parker 4, J. Cornelius (cond.) 5. For St. Valentine.

WICKHAMBREUX, KENT.—On Jan. 31, 1260 Minor (St. Clement's, Plain): L. A. Huckstep 1, P. S. Philpott 2, T. Skilton (100th on tower bells) 3, M. L. Haigh 4, J. Hedgcock 5, J. B. Keeler (cond.) 6.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICS.—On Feb. 13, 1260 Stedman Triples: Miss J. M. Whit 1, Mrs. N. Haines 2, J. Hough 3, A. L. Chamberlain 4, R. F. Roe 5, T. E. Harrold (cond.) 6, J. E. Harrold 7, C. H. F. Knight 8. Half-muffled in memoriam Joseph S. Carter, interred this day.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: J. P. Loveless 1, B. W. Fairhead 2, N. V. Avis 3, B. A. Lord 4, R. Alan Knight 5, Richard A. Knight (first as cond., aged 14) 6.

WORTLEY, YORKS.—On Feb. 10, 1260 Doubles (three methods, with 7, 6, 8 covering): Mrs. N. Huson (first in Yorkshire) 1, R. R. Nalliah 2, D. Hunton 3, D. Lyon 4, M. King (cond.) 5, P. Allen (first quarter) 6, R. Grundy 7, P. Wood 8. First quarter peal for two local ringers (1 and 6) since 1950. For Shrove Tuesday.

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Peals

1969

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**MARPLE, Cheshire, All Saints.**

Wed., Dec. 17, 1969, 2hrs. 47mins. (13½ cwt.).

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

(Bruerton's 12-part.)

- 1 Robert B. Smith
- 2 Peter Broadbent
- 3 Michael Foulds
- 4 Ronald F. Andrew
- 5 Alan McFall (Conductor)
- 6 Ian M. Holland
- 7 Brian S. B. Kear
- 8 Brian S. Schofield

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD**SHILLINGSTONE, Dorset, Holy Rood.**

Wed., Dec. 24, 1969, 3hrs. 4mins. (15½ cwt.).

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- 1 John N. Longridge (Conductor)
- 2 Alan J. Poulley
- 3 Susan M. Corry
- 4 Timothy G. Bleathman
- 5 Martin J. Corry
- 6 Christopher F. Longridge

1970

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS**WALSALL, Staffordshire, St. Matthew.**

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 3hrs. 25mins. (26 cwt.).

5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS (6 methods: 1152 Londonium, Lyddington; 720 Cambridge, Prittlewell, Yorkshire; 576 Lincolnshire; with 90 changes of method).

Composed by J. H. Fielden.

- 1 Alan J. Frost
- 2 David P. Hilling (Conductor)
- 3 Brian Bladon
- 4 Robert C. Kippin
- 5 James R. Taylor
- 6 Andrew N. Stubbs
- 7 John N. Diserens
- 8 David J. Purnell
- 9 Michael P. Moreton
- 10 Wilfrid F. Moreton
- 11 David E. House
- 12 D. John Hunt

TEWKESBURY, Glos, St. Mary's Abbey.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 3hrs. 31mins. (21½ cwt.).

5152 GLASGOW SURPRISE MAJOR

- 1 Tudor P. Edwards
- 2 Roderick W. Pipe (Arr. and Conductor)
- 3 Robert E. J. Dennis
- 4 Christopher H. Rogers
- 5 David E. Rothera
- 6 John H. Fielden
- 7 John A. Anderson
- 8 Peter Border

After meeting short for Maximus.

BRISTOL SOCIETY**BRISTOL, Christ Church with St. Ewen.**

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. 4mins. (23 cwt.).

5002 RUTLAND SURPRISE ROYAL

- 1 Paul A. Treble
- 2 Elisabeth A. G. Bowden
- 3 Jennifer M. Taylor
- 4 Peter Randall
- 5 Michael J. Hobbs
- 6 Brynley A. Shackleton
- 7 Peter J. England
- 8 James R. Taylor
- 9 D. John Hunt (Composer & Conductor)
- 10 Bernard G. North

To celebrate the birth of Leon Antony, son of the ringer of the 6th.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
(University of Bath Society)**BATHFORD, Somerset, St. Swithun.**

Wed., Jan. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 29mins. (10 cwt.).

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- 1 Alan Tubb
- 2 Alan S. Comer*
- 3 D. Paul Treble
- 4 Peter J. W. Hardwick
- 5 Peter J. England
- 6 Bernard G. North (Conductor)

*First peal. First by the Society.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD**LEICESTER, St. Martin's Cathedral.**

Sun., Feb. 1, 1970, 3hrs. 28mins. (25 cwt.).

5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

- 1 Jenny Field (Newnham)
- 2 A. T. Winter (Christ's)
- 3 R. A. G. Inglis (Selwyn, Comp. & Cond.)
- 4 R. S. Bradley (Clare)
- 5 V. Nutton (Selwyn)
- 6 D. Barton (Selwyn)
- 7 R. L. Underwood (Peterhouse)
- 8 E. N. Thomas (St. John's)
- 9 R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel)
- 10 S. C. Walters (Pembroke)
- 11 W. T. Perrins (Selwyn)
- 12 M. J. Pickup (Churchill)

STAPLEFORD, Cambs, St. Andrew.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 2hrs. 30mins. (7 cwt.).

5040 MINOR (7 extents, 8 methods: Double Oxford, London S., Cambridge S., Oxford T.B., Kent T.B., St. Clement's, Childwall, Plain Bob).

- 1 Janice M. Faithfull (Newnham)*
- 2 V. Nutton (Selwyn)
- 3 J. L. Humphreys (Jesus)
- 4 D. Barton (Selwyn)
- 5 R. L. Underwood (Peterhouse)
- 6 A. T. Winter (Christ's, Conductor)

*First peal.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**GRANTHAM, Lincolnshire, St. Wulfram.**

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 3hrs. 19mins. (32½ cwt.).

5000 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by R. F. B. Speed.

- 1 Peter A. Slight
- 2 Mandi McCallion
- 3 Derek F. Yates
- 4 Roland Morant*
- 5 Harold Dowler
- 6 Frank R. Morton*
- 7 Raymond J. Ballard†
- 8 Roy Worrall
- 9 Ian M. Holland
- 10 Ivor R. Nichols (Conductor)*

*First of Yorkshire Royal. †200th peal. ‡150th peal.

BOWDON, Cheshire, St. Mary the Virgin.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. (18 cwt.).

5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR (1280 London. Cambridge, Superlative, 1312 Bristol. with all the work, 113 changes of method).

Composed by Albert J. Pitman.

- 1 Peter Broadbent
- 2 Giles B. Thompson
- 3 Alan J. Brown
- 4 Robert B. Smith
- 5 C. Kenneth Lewis (Conductor)
- 6 Frank Osbaldison
- 7 Basil Jones
- 8 Alan F. Scholfield

EXETER COLLEGES GUILD

(Southampton University Guild)

EXMINSTER, Devon, St. Martin.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 58mins. (17½ cwt.).

5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1 Kevin A. Hughes
- 2 Geoffrey M. Soul*
- 3 Linda V. Cull
- 4 Phillip A. Butler
- 5 Jeremy D. Cheesman
- 6 Richard J. Wilsher
- 7 John L. Anderson
- 8 Christopher Rickitts (Conductor)

*First peal.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD**PACKWOOD, Warwickshire, St. Giles.**

Mon., Feb. 9, 1970, 2hrs. 35mins. (6½ cwt.).

5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by S. J. Ivin.

- 1 Pamela M. Turner
- 2 R. David Baker
- 3 Hazel A. Mackenzie
- 4 Frederick Shallcross (Conductor)
- 5 John F. Thorne*
- 6 Derek H. Walters*
- 7 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 8 Geoffrey W. Randall

*First in the method.

ALLESLEY, Coventry, Warks, All Saints.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 53mins. (12 cwt.).

5088 CASSIOBURY SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by G. Lindoff.

- 1 Clare F. Dolphin
- 2 Ian F. Garvie
- 3 Hazel A. Mackenzie
- 4 Ian D. Thompson
- 5 L. Michael Callow
- 6 Ernest J. Gower
- 7 Ian C. Maycock
- 8 Geoffrey W. Randall (Conductor)

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION**DARLEY DALE, Derbyshire, St. Helen.**

Tues., Feb. 10, 1970, 3hrs. 1min. (15½ cwt.).

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

(Variation of Parker's 12-part.)

- 1 Pauline Hopkinson*
- 2 George H. Paulson
- 3 Ann M. Smith
- 4 Andrew Queen
- 5 Susan E. Davis
- 6 Peter D. Taylor
- 7 Rev. R. D. St. John Smith (Conductor)
- 8 J. Edward Dakin†

*First attempt. †First on 8.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION**ST. ALBANS, Hertfordshire, St. Stephen.**

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 42mins. (8 cwt.).

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

(7 extents, no 6-5s.)

- 1 Valerie Urban
- 2 Rosemary Urban*
- 3 Peter T. Dale
- 4 Steven D. Chandler*
- 5 Peter J. Fells
- 6 John R. Mayne (Conductor)

*First peal. Rung by the Sunday service band.

KNEBWORTH, Herts, St. Mary and Thomas-a-Becket.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 42mins. (12 cwt.).

5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by S. Humphrey.

- 1 John R. Ketteringham
- 2 Elizabeth Forster*
- 3 Christine M. Carter
- 4 Joyce M. Clarke†
- 5 James E. Andrews
- 6 Anthony R. Carter
- 7 Keith J. Walpole (Conductor)
- 8 Andrew W. R. Wilby

*First of Yorkshire. †First of Yorkshire inside.

ASPENDEN, Hertfordshire, St. Mary.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 41mins. (10 cwt.).

5056 WESTMILL DELIGHT MAJOR

Composed by A. J. Pitman.

- 1 Helen Dodds*
- 2 George E. Bonham
- 3 James E. Andrew†
- 4 Anthony R. Carter
- 5 John R. Ketteringham
- 6 Andrew W. R. Wilby
- 7 Keith J. Walpole (Conductor)
- 8 George E. Thoday†

*First of Treble Bob. †100th peal, ‡700th peal. First in the method.

WESTHILL DELIGHT MAJOR

—38—18—12—16—14—38—14—78.

1.h. 2nds. Group B. f.c.h. b.d.o.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

TERLING, Essex, All Saints

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (11 cwt.).
5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by S. J. Ivin.

- 1 Philip J. Rothera
- 2 Kenneth J. Hesketh (Conductor)
- 3 Josephine A. Brown
- 4 Richard J. Harrison
- 5 Susan Rothera
- 6 Joe E. G. Roast
- 7 Keith W. Brown
- 8 Peter G. Brown

THORINGTON, Essex, St. Mary Magdalene.

Sat., Jan. 31, 1970, 2hrs. 52mins. (9½ cwt.).
5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

- 1 Janet L. Wright*
- 2 Margery D. Tawn*
- 3 Alan R. Andrews
- 4 Daisy M. Andrews
- 5 George N. Orman (Conductor)
- 6 Rachel J. R. Orman

*First peal.

RAYNE, Essex, All Saints.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 49mins. (6½ cwt.).
5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

- 1 Michael J. Hunter*
- 2 John Connell†
- 3 Stephen Sudbury†
- 4 James Green†
- 5 Peter Perkins
- 6 Roy Threadgold (Conductor)

*First away from cover. †First inside. ‡ First peal. For St. Valentine.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

PETHAM, Kent, All Saints.

Sat., Jan. 24, 1970, 2hrs. 21mins. (6 cwt.).
5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- 1 Martin L. Haigh
- 2 Jacqueline M. Cullwick*
- 3 James Hedgecock
- 4 Peter S. Philpott
- 5 Tony Skilton (Conductor)
- 6 John B. Keeler

*First on 6.

CHERITON, Kent, St. Martin.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. 1min. (7 cwt.).
5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by E. W. Tipler.

- 1 Elizabeth A. Todd*
- 2 Peter Richardson
- 3 John A. Hemsley†
- 4 Philip R. Staples
- 5 Crawford T. Hillis
- 6 Richard A. Birch
- 7 Mark S. Lancefield (Conductor)
- 8 Raymond Lucas‡

*First of Surprise †First in method. ‡First of Major.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

TADCASTER, Yorkshire, St. Mary.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 3hrs. 8mins. (20½ cwt.).
5184 EASINGWOLD SURPRISE MAJOR

- 1 Alan M. Glover
- 2 Rosamund M. Brown
- 3 A. Pattie Clapham
- 4 Jonathan G. Rose
- 5 Robert A. Beresford
- 6 John J. Durham
- 7 John P. Ottaway
- 8 Christopher Forster (Comp. and Cond.)

Believed to be the first true peal in the method. To mark the Feast of St. Valentine.

EASINGWOLD SURPRISE MAJOR

—38—14—1258—16—12—1258—16.34.78.
 1.h. 12. 5738264. f.c.h.'s b.d.g.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

STONEY STANTON, Leics, St. Michael.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 2hrs. 38mins. (14 cwt.).
5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by G. Lindoff.

- 1 J. Edward Cawser (Conductor)
- 2 Christine L. J. Mills
- 3 Martin Green
- 4 Beryl E. Cawser
- 5 Alfred Ballard
- 6 Burley P. Morris
- 7 Roland H. Cook
- 8 R. Kingsley Mason

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leics, Bell Foundry.

Thurs., Feb. 5, 1970, 2hrs. 19mins. (6½ cwt.).
5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by N. J. Pitstow.

- 1 Christine L. J. Mills
- 2 David F. Moore
- 3 Rev. M. C. C. Melville
- 4 R. Brian Mills
- 5 Martin Green
- 6 Rupert A. Clarke
- 7 G. Ronald Edwards
- 8 R. Kingsley Mason (Conductor)

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

ELSHAM, Lincolnshire, All Saints.

Wed., Feb. 4, 1970, 2hrs. 37mins. (7½ cwt.).
5040 SURPRISE MINOR (7 methods: London, Wells, Beverley, Surfleet, York, Bourne, Cambridge).

- 1 Harry Baldwin
- 2 Ronald Chafer*
- 3 William Bains†
- 4 John G. Hall
- 5 Harold Judd
- 6 Jack Bray (Conductor)

*200th peal. First in 7-Surprise. An 84th birthday compliment for Harry Tomlinson, a former ringer at this church.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

PUTNEY, London. S.W., St. Mary.

Sun., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 43mins. (15½ cwt.).
5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
 (Middleton's.)

- 1 Rev. Michael Hart*
- 2 Robin J. Collis†
- 3 Robert J. Crocker‡
- 4 Keith G. Game
- 5 Christopher F. Mew
- 6 Christopher R. Harris§
- 7 Philip Taylor †
- 8 Michael J. Uphill (Conductor)

*Circled the tower. †25th peal. ‡First of Surprise Major. §First of Surprise Major inside.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

HARROW WEALD, Middlesex, All Saints.

Thurs., Feb. 5, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (7½ cwt.).
5024 TILEHURST SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by J. R. Mayne.

- 1 John Smith
- 2 Elsie K. Hart
- 3 G. William Critchley (Conductor)
- 4 Claudia A. Critchley
- 5 H. George Hart
- 6 Alick Cutler
- 7 Frank Reed
- 8 John Hill

First in the method by all.

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leics, Bell Foundry.

Tues., Feb. 17, 1970, 2hrs. 27mins. (6½ cwt.).
5024 WHITWICK SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by R. F. B. Speed.

- 1 Joseph W. Cotton
- 2 Richard J. Clifton
- 3 Arthur E. Rowley
- 4 Ronald D. Hughes*
- 5 Frank Chambers
- 6 Alec R. Jones*
- 7 G. Ronald Edwards
- 8 Roland Beniston (Conductor)

*First in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leics, Bell Foundry.

Tues., Feb. 10, 1970, 2hrs. 36mins. (6½ cwt.).
5152 YORK SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by A. J. Pitman.

- 1 G. Ronald Edwards*
- 2 Richard J. Clifton*
- 3 Rev. M. C. C. Melville†
- 4 Joseph W. Cotton†
- 5 Frank Chambers*
- 6 Arthur E. Rowley*
- 7 B. Stedman Payne†
- 8 Roland Beniston (Conductor)*

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

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

DAVENTRY, Northants, Holy Cross.

Sun., Jan. 25, 1970, 3hrs. 7mins. (19 cwt.).
5120 ELFORD SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by Richard F. B. Speed.

- 1 Eric Billings
- 2 Patrick I. Chapman
- 3 Graham C. Paul (Conductor)
- 4 Stanley M. Ruddlesden
- 5 Vernon B. Bedford
- 6 Malcolm J. V. Chown
- 7 Barry E. Saunders
- 8 Alan A. Paul

First in the method by all and for the Guild.

ROTHWELL, Northants, Holy Trinity.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. 8mins. (21 cwt.).
5056 AYNHO SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by R. F. B. Speed.

- 1 Murray A. Coleman (Conductor)
- 2 Mary R. Coleman
- 3 Edward C. Buckby
- 4 Barry R. Care
- 5 J. Malcolm Tyler
- 6 Alan J. Marks
- 7 Stephen B. Bell
- 8 Richard J. Cowley

AYNHO SURPRISE MAJOR

—38—14—1258—16—14—3458—1236—78.
 Group B. f.c.h. b.d.o.
 (Comp. CWC No. 30.)

EASTON NESTON, Northants, St. Mary.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 38mins. (10 cwt.).
5056 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by W. Eric Critchley.

- 1 Graham C. Paul (Conductor)
- 2 Christopher C. Stokes
- 3 Julian C. Parker*
- 4 Vernon B. Bedford
- 5 Stanley M. Ruddlesden
- 6 Raymond A. Vickers
- 7 Barry E. Saunders
- 8 Alan A. Paul

*First on 8 bells.

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WEEKLEY, Northants, St. Mary the Virgin.

Tues., Feb. 3, 1970, 2hrs. 37mins. (8 cwt.).
5040 MINOR (Berwick, Hexham S., Primrose, Old Oxford, College Bob IV, Willesden, Newdigate, Cambridge, Beverley, Surfleet, Thelwall, Double Oxford, Childwall and St. Clement's).

- 1 Michael J. Buckby
- 2 Murray A. Coleman*
- 3 Stephen B. Bell
- 4 J. Malcolm Tyler
- 5 Richard J. Cowley
- 6 Barry R. Care (Conductor)†

*Circled tower. †100th for the Guild. For Patronal Festival.

ISHAM, Northants, St. Peter.

Tues., Feb. 10, 1970, 2hrs. 35mins. (9 cwt.).
5040 MINOR (Cambridge, Beverley, Surfleet, Primrose, Berwick, Hexham; Old Oxford, College IV, Willesden, Newdigate; Oswald, Edinburgh, Kentish; Walsingham, Lammas, Olney, Fulmer, Little; Double Oxford, Pinehurst, Thelwall; St. Clement's, Buxton, Childwall; Single Oxford, Plain Bob).

- 1 Alan J. Marks
- 2 Barry R. Care
- 3 J. Malcolm Tyler
- 4 Stephen B. Bell
- 5 Richard J. Cowley
- 6 Murray A. Coleman (Conductor)

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Thurs., Jan. 29, 1970, 3hrs. 26mins. (31 cwt.).
5088 CLIFTON SURPRISE MAXIMUS

- 1 Roderick W. Pipe
- 2 James Insley
- 3 Norman J. Goodman
- 4 J. Edward Cawser
- 5 Richard J. Tibbetts
- 6 Vernon Green
- 7 David J. Purnell*
- 8 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 9 Maurice F. Edwards
- 10 George E. Fearn
- 11 John A. Anderson*
- 12 Peter Border (Arr. and Conductor)

*First in the method.

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Thurs., Feb. 5, 1970, 3hrs. 27mins. (31 cwt.).
5056 LITTLEPORT LITTLE S. MAXIMUS

- 1 Stephen W. Barton
- 2 Roderick W. Pipe (Arr. and Conductor)
- 3 Iris M. E. Lemare
- 4 J. Edward Cawser
- 5 Norman J. Goodman
- 6 James Insley
- 7 Vernon Green
- 8 Terry R. Hampton
- 9 Maurice F. Edwards
- 10 George E. Fearn
- 11 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 12 Peter Border

First in the method by all and for the Guild.

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. 19mins. (31 cwt.).
5088 CLIFTON SURPRISE MAXIMUS

- 1 James Insley
- 2 Richard J. Tibbetts
- 3 Norman J. Goodman
- 4 Stephen W. Barton*
- 5 Bryan D. A. Woolley*
- 6 Roderick W. Pipe (Arr. and Conductor)
- 7 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 8 Terry R. Hampton
- 9 Maurice F. Edwards
- 10 George E. Fearn
- 11 John McDonald*
- 12 John A. Anderson

*First in the method.

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Thurs., Feb. 12, 1970, 3hrs. 11mins. (31 cwt.).

5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL
 Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- 1 Muriel Reay
- 2 J. Edward Cawser
- 3 Stephen W. Barton
- 4 Norman J. Goodman
- 5 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 6 Roderick W. Pipe
- 7 Maurice F. Edwards
- 8 George E. Fearn
- 9 John A. Anderson
- 10 Peter Border (Conductor)

BIRMINGHAM, St. Martin.

Tues., Feb. 3, 1970, 2hrs. 52mins. (15 cwt.).

5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by S. Ivin.

- 1 Roderick W. Pipe (Conductor)
- 2 Richard J. Tibbetts
- 3 John S. Hopwood*
- 4 Vernon Green
- 5 Paul W. Webb
- 6 George E. Fearn
- 7 Terry R. Hampton†
- 8 Norman J. Goodman

*First of London. †400th peal.

YARDLEY, Birmingham, St. Edburgha.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 55mins. (12½ cwt.).

5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1 James W. Belshaw (Arr. and Conductor)
- 2 Enid Lawson
- 3 John G. Perry
- 4 Rev. David Sansum
- 5 Richard J. W. Tibbetts
- 6 A. Harold Fitter
- 7 Donald T. Finnemore
- 8 Maurice F. Edwards

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD
 (Andover District)

SOUTHAMPTON, Hampshire, St. Mary.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. 20mins. (21 cwt.).

5040 PLAIN BOB CATERS

Composed by Geoffrey R. Drew.

- 1 Michael J. Goss*
- 2 David Goss*
- 3 Peter Watts*
- 4 Robert J. Crocker*
- 5 Peter L. Furness*
- 6 Geoffrey K. Dodd (Conductor)
- 7 Bradley Murduck†
- 8 Philip G. Taylor*
- 9 Philip Murduck†
- 10 Charles Taylor*

*First on 10. †First of Plain Bob Caters. First of Bob Caters as conductor and has now conducted Plain Bob from Doubles to Maximus on all numbers. First 10-bell peal by the Andover District.

(Andover District)

WOOLTON HILL, Hampshire, St. Thomas.

Thurs., Feb. 12, 1970, 2hrs. 40mins. (7 cwt.).

5040 SURPRISE MINOR (7 methods: London, Wells, York, Durham, Beverley, Surfleet and Cambridge).

- 1 Michael J. Goss
- 2 David Goss
- 3 Peter L. Furness
- 4 Robert J. Crocker
- 5 Philip G. Taylor
- 6 Geoffrey K. Dodd (Conductor)

First of 7-Surprise Minor by all except conductor. By Highclere Sunday service band.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

SHOREDITCH, London, E., St. Leonard.

Sat., Jan. 3, 1970, 3hrs. 21mins. (28½ cwt.).
5040 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

- 1 John R. Pratchett
- 2 Janet House
- 3 Joan Beresford
- 4 Angela M. Wright
- 5 Michael H. D. O'Callaghan
- 6 Christopher P. Starbuck
- 7 Norman Summerhayes
- 8 Derek E. Sibson (Conductor)
- 9 John S. Barnes
- 10 James A. D. Woolford

First in the method by all and for the Society.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, Essex, St. Margaret of Antioch.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 3hrs. 5mins. (11 cwt.).
5152 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (15 methods: 224 Cassiobury, Cornwall, Cray, Lindum, London, Pudsey, Superlative. 448 Ashtead, Bristol, Cambridge, Ipswich, Lincolnshire, Rutland, Uxbridge, Yorkshire, 146 changes of method and all the work).

Composed by N. Smith.

- 1 Peter Beresford
- 2 Jane Foster
- 3 Joan Beresford
- 4 Angela M. Wright
- 5 Norman Summerhayes
- 6 Peter M. Wilkinson
- 7 David D. Smith
- 8 Dennis Beresford (Conductor)

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

BROUGHTON, Staffordshire, St. Peter.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 49mins. (15½ cwt.).
5040 DOUBLE NORWICH C.B. MAJOR

Composed by Sir A. P. Heywood.

- 1 Richard J. Warrilow
- 2 Richard C. Stevens
- 3 Elizabeth Stevens
- 4 Jennifer M. Beech
- 5 Neville R. Holland
- 6 Reginald R. Newton
- 7 Frank Beech (Conductor)
- 8 Ernest F. Willcox

SUFFOLK GUILD

FRAMSDEN, Suffolk, St. Mary.

Sun., Feb. 15, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (16 cwt.).
5056 ULLESTHORPE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by C. J. Sedgley.

- 1 Walter W. Miller
- 2 Dorothy M. Durrant
- 3 Muriel R. Page
- 4 J. Barry Pickup
- 5 Alan G. Feaver
- 6 Adrian Knights
- 7 J. Martin Thorley
- 8 Leslie G. Brett (Conductor)

First by all and for the Guild.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

ASHTHEAD, Surrey, St. Giles.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (12½ cwt.).
5088 ASHTHEAD SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by J. R. Mayne.

- 1 Gillian M. Laver
- 2 Felicity Hamilton
- 3 David C. Brown
- 4 Keith P. Poole
- 5 Nigel Thomson
- 6 Peter J. Munday
- 7 Christopher W. Daws
- 8 Roy D. Mills (Conductor)

First in the method by all except 3rd.

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YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

SURFLEET, Lincolnshire, St. Laurence.

Sat., Feb. 7, 1970, 3hrs. 12mins. (12 cwt.).

5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

- 1 Melvyn J. Hiller*
- 2 Paul A. Williams*
- 3 C. Barrie Dove (Comp. and Conductor)
- 4 Peter H. Gardner*
- 5 A. Pattie Clapham*
- 6 Laura M. Grindrod†
- 7 Graham J. Jones*
- 8 Rosamund M. Brown*
- 9 Christopher J. Easton*
- 10 John J. Durham
- 11 James Clatworthy*
- 12 Robert A. Beresford

*First of Plain Bob Maximus. †First on 12.

COLLINGHAM, Yorkshire, St. Oswald.

Mon., Jan. 26, 1970, 2hrs. 29mins. (7 cwt.).

5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by S. Humphrey.

- 1 Graham J. Jones
- 2 Christopher F. Easton
- 3 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)
- 4 Peter H. Gardner
- 5 E. C. Gareth Higgs
- 6 Rosamund M. Brown
- 7 Ronald Crabtree
- 8 Ronald R. Warford

*First on 8 bells.

OTLEY, Yorkshire, All Saints.

Sat., Jan. 31, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (16 cwt.).

5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by N. Smith.

- 1 Christopher J. Easton
- 2 Maris C. Stephenson
- 3 Rosamund M. Brown
- 4 A. Pattie Clapham
- 5 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)
- 6 John J. Durham
- 7 Robert A. Beresford
- 8 Ronald Ducker

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, Yorks, All Saints.

Mon., Feb. 9, 1970, 2hrs. 45mins. (14 cwt.).

5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by C. J. Sedgley.

- 1 David Kealey
- 2 E. C. Gareth Higgs*
- 3 Graham J. Jones
- 4 Christopher J. Easton
- 5 Ronald Crabtree*
- 6 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)
- 7 John Potts
- 8 Peter H. Gardner

*First of Lincolnshire.

DORE, Derbyshire, Christ Church.

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 45mins. (11 cwt.).

5152 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by R. W. Pipe.

- 1 Ian North
- 2 Iris M. E. Lemare
- 3 Margaret White*
- 4 Christopher Newton*
- 5 Pat North
- 6 M. Alec Beaumont
- 7 David Nichols
- 8 Stuart Armeson (Conductor)

*First of Yorkshire.

LEEDS, Yorkshire, St. Peter.

Sat., Jan. 31, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (14 cwt.).

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

- 1 David Kealey
- 2 Christopher J. Easton
- 3 Rosamund M. Brown
- 4 Graham J. Jones
- 5 John J. Durham*
- 6 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)

*Completes the Cambridge family.

BIRSTWITH, Yorkshire, St. James the Apostle.

Mon., Feb. 2, 1970, 2hrs. 35mins. (11 cwt.).

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

- 1 Christopher J. Easton
- 2 T. Felicity Ashford
- 3 Graham J. Jones
- 4 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)*
- 5 Peter H. Gardner†
- 6 Ronald R. Warford

*350th as conductor for the Association.

†Completes the family.

EWERBY, Lincolnshire, St. Andrew.

Sun., Feb. 8, 1970, 2hrs. 56mins. (15 cwt.).

5040 EWERBY SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by S. Armeson.

- 1 Laura M. Grindrod*
- 2 Melvyn J. Hiller†
- 3 Rosamund M. Brown
- 4 A. Pattie Clapham
- 5 Paul A. Williams
- 6 John J. Durham
- 7 Peter H. Gardner
- 8 James Clatworthy
- 9 Robert A. Beresford
- 10 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)

*First of Treble Bob Royal. †First of Surprise Royal inside. First in the method by all and for the Association.

BIRSTWITH, Yorkshire, St. James the Apostle.

Mon., Jan. 5, 1970, 2hrs. 45mins. (11 cwt.).

5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by J. W. Washbrook.

- 1 Ronald Crabtree
- 2 Iris M. E. Lemare
- 3 Graham J. Jones*
- 4 Christopher F. Easton*
- 5 Gerald Parsons
- 6 Peter H. Gardner*
- 7 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)
- 8 Ronald R. Warford

*First in method inside.

LEEDS, Yorkshire, St. Peter.

Sat., Jan. 17, 1970, 2hrs. 59mins. (17 cwt.).

5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by F. Dench.

- 1 Elizabeth J. Campbell*
- 2 Rosamund M. Brown†
- 3 Graham J. Jones
- 4 Christopher F. Easton
- 5 Peter H. Gardner
- 6 John J. Durham
- 7 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)
- 8 Robert A. Beresford

*First of Treble Bob. †First in method inside.

PONTEFRAC, Yorkshire, All Saints.

Sat., Jan. 24, 1970, 2hrs. 37mins. (12 cwt.).

5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by Rev. H. Law James.

- 1 Robert A. Beresford
- 2 Christopher F. Easton
- 3 Rosamund M. Brown
- 4 Graham J. Jones
- 5 Robert H. Jordan
- 6 Peter H. Gardner
- 7 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)
- 8 John J. Durham

Handbells

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

ALTRINCHAM, Cheshire, 52 Wellington Rd.

Thurs., Feb. 5, 1970, 2hrs. 7mins. (14 in D.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1-2 John Gander
- 3-4 John R. Scott
- 5-6 C. Kenneth Lewis (Comp. & Cond.)
- 7-8 Frank R. Morton

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

WATFORD, Herts, 15 Harford Drive.

Thurs., Feb. 12, 1970, 2hrs. 57mins. (15 in C.)

5136 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS (10

methods: 864 Newgate, 720 Londinium, Yorkshire, 480 Clifton, Ealing, Fulham, 384 Leatherhead, Wigston, York, 240 Leicestershire, 88 changes of method).

- 1-2 S. Kathleen M. Baldwin
 - 3-4 John R. Mayne (Comp. and Cond.)
 - 5-5 Roger Baldwin
 - 7-8 Gerald Penney
 - 9-10 Julia A. Fellows
 - 11-12 Martyn L. J. Jordan
- 21st birthday compliment to Sara K. D. Woolley.

WATFORD, Herts, 15 Harford Drive.

Mon., Feb. 16, 1970, 3hrs. 1min. (16½ in B.)

5136 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS (12

methods: 864 Newgate, 720 Londinium, 480 Clifton, Ealing, Fulham, 384 Leatherhead, Wigston, York, 240 Cambridge, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, 88 changes of method).

- 1-2 S. Kathleen M. Baldwin
- 3-4 John R. Mayne (Comp. and Cond.)
- 5-6 Roger Baldwin
- 7-8 Martyn L. J. Jordan
- 9-10 Julia A. Fellows
- 11-12 Christopher W. Woolley*

*First of 12-Spliced Surprise Maximus.

(St. Albans Cathedral Society)

ST. ALBANS, Herts, 23 Culver Road.

Thurs., Feb. 5, 1970, 2hrs. 15mins. (16 in B.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by A. Knights.

- 1-2 Katherine S. Hardy
- 3-4 Gerald Penney (Conductor)
- 5-6 Robert E. Hardy
- 7-8 Anthony R. Carter

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

FRINDSBURY, Kent, 12 Hever House, Cypress Court.

Wed., Feb. 11, 1970, 2hrs. 28mins. (15 in C.)

5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Composed by G. H. Cross.

- 1-2 Trevor A. Cross (Conductor)*
- 3-4 Frank J. Matthews
- 5-6 Christopher T. Osenton
- 7-8 Edward J. Beer
- 9-10 Peter S. Muchlinski

*50th of Royal.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

CROWTHORNE, Berks, Zermatt, Butler Rd.

Fri., Jan. 23, 1970, 3hrs. (24 in D.)

5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

- 1-2 Noel J. Diserens*
- 3-4 Kenneth R. Davenport
- 5-6 Frank C. Price (Arr. and Conductor)
- 7-8 N. David Lane
- 9-10 Bernard F. L. Groves
- 11-12 Jeffrey L. Cloughton*

*First handbell peal on 12 bells.

CROWTHORNE, Berks, Zermatt, Butler Rd.

Fri., Feb. 6, 1970, 2hrs. 48mins. (24 in D.)

5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

- 1-2 Noel J. Diserens
- 3-4 Kenneth R. Davenport
- 5-6 Frank C. Price (Arr. and Conductor)
- 7-8 N. David Lane
- 9-10 Bernard F. L. Groves
- 11-12 Jeffrey L. Cloughton

WARFIELD, Berkshire, The Willows.

Sun., Jan. 25, 1970, 1hr. 45mins. (27 in A.)

5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- 1-2 Susanne Sargeant
- 3-4 Kenneth R. Davenport
- 5-6 Frank C. Price (Conductor)

WARFIELD, Berkshire, The Willows.

Sun., Feb. 8, 1970, 1hr. 41mins. (27 in A.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- 1-2 Susanne Sargeant
- 3-4 Frank C. Price
- 5-6 Kenneth R. Davenport (Conductor)

First as conductor on handbells.

WARFIELD, Berkshire, The Willows.

Fri., Feb. 13, 1970, 1hr. 49mins. (27 in A.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- 1-2 Susanne Sargeant
- 3-4 Kenneth R. Davenport (Conductor)
- 5-6 Stanley G. Scott

ATTENDANCE IMPROVED

The attendance at meetings of Llandaff Branch of Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association continue to improve, and at St. Augustine's, Penarth, on February 14, 57 "signed the book" at the A.G.M. This figure has been beaten on few occasions by the branch since its formation in 1953, but we still have a long haul to better the 78 at a "quarterly" at Cowbridge in September, 1957, or to equal the numbers regularly notched up by the Monmouth Branch. Of our 21 towers, 13 were represented: Bridgend, Cadoxton, Cardiff (St. John's), Coity, Llanbleddian, Llandaff Cathedral, Llantwit Major, Merthyr Tydfil, Neath, Newton Nottage, Penarth, Porthkerry and Whitchurch.

Ringing on the pleasant, light octave (tenor 12-2-9 in F sharp) commenced at 2.15 p.m., with the Association and branch master, Mr. W. T. Petty (Bridgend), in charge. The service was conducted by the rector, Rev. L. Griffiths, and the lessons were read by Mr. D. J. Godfrey (Coity) and the branch hon. secretary. Tea was served by Mrs. Y. Apsitis and other ladies of the tower and congregation, after which the rector presided over the business meeting.

Mr. E. Morris (Neath) reported on progress made towards the initiation of a branch ringing competition, and it was decided to set up a sub-committee from towers which have signified their intention to enter.

The branch hon. secretary, presenting his report, stated that membership showed a pleasing increase on the year, paid-up members numbering 198 as against 155.

Peals rung totalled 44, including seven of Caters and three of Royal. Leading pealers were Mr. S. Fenwick (28) and Mr. N. W. H. Simon (27) (Llandaff Cathedral) and leading conductors were Mr. N. W. H. Simon (10) and Mr. T. P. Edwards (Pentre) (9). Peal "milestones" for the Association included: 200, Mr. T. T. Yeomans (Cardiff); 175, Mr. N. W. H. Simon; 150, Mr. W. T. Petty and Mr. D. Llewellyn (Porthkerry); 100, Mr. T. P. Edwards. Special congratulations were accorded Mr. W. Dare (Whitchurch), ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples at Caerphilly on July 19, the 50th anniversary of his first peal, in the same tower.

This year's first-pealers were: Miss Lynne Parker (Llandaff), Mr. M. J. Clarke (Llantwit Major), Mr. C. F. Cooke (Penmark) and Mr. P. Johnson (Whitchurch), and Mr. S. Fenwick scored his "first as conductor." Peals had been rung for the Investiture of the Prince of Wales, at Bridgend, Cardiff, Llandaff, Radyr and Whitchurch.

The hon. secretary commented with approval on the implementation (with the active co-operation of the Dean, the Very Rev. G. L. Phillips) of the scheme to invite individual towers in the diocese to ring for Cathedral evensong at Llandaff on the first Saturday of each month, and he also thanked the Association's general secretary, Mr. M. J. Pryor (Cardiff), and peal recorder, Mr. D. Llewellyn, for their hard work.

Eight new members were accepted. Mr. Nevil James (Llandaff) was elected branch master, and the branch hon. secretary and the auditor, Mr. T. M. Roderick (Newton Nottage), were re-elected, the latter as C.C. representative for a further three years from 1971.

It was agreed to hold quarterly meetings at Caerphilly, Porthkerry and Radyr and the 1971 A.G.M. at Cowbridge. After the meeting closed ringing continued at St. Augustine's and at Sully. I.D.

45-Year Record

[Photo: The Hinckley Times.]

Forty-five years ago the East Shilton, Leics, Parish Church Handbell Ringers were formed. Now all 65 years of age, the same four — Messrs. E. Chesterton, P. Coe, W. Sturgess and G. Newton (captain for 40 years)—are still ringing together.

They entered the East Shilton belfry in 1922 and were taught to handle bells by the late Mr. C. Belton. Two years later they were introduced at Croft to handbell ringing by the late Mr. Webb. In 1924 the East Shilton Church of England Men's Society was presented with a set of handbells and these have never been used by anyone else but the present quartet.

The object of the band is to help people less fortunate than themselves, and their large repertoire consists of hymns, carols and old time favourites. They give their services to play for hospital patients, old people's groups, bazaars and fêtes. According to Mr. Newton, if the organisation which invites them provides transport they never charge for their services. On two occasions they have given programmes in Leicester Prison. It is the music of this band that introduces the Sunday morning programme on Radio Leicester.

Only two of the men read music and in consequence the number system of notation is employed. For many years Mr. Sturgess has been partly deaf and cannot properly hear what he is playing, but by constant practice this difficulty has been overcome.

For 45 years they have been shedding happiness around the district, and a special service of tape-recordings of their playing has been provided by Mr. Newton for the entertainment of the sick and infirm in their village.

IN THE FIELD

A well-illustrated article on bellringing appeared in the Christmas number of *The Field* and had been well prepared before publication. Explaining to the layman the preliminaries to ringing, the writer continues: "We are about to pour out over the countryside the loudest man-made sound which goes in praise of God. . . . all over Britain ringers have gathered week by week and the purpose is the same whether from ancient rural towers, from silvery steeples as in the cities, from red raw-brick belfries in new towns or from sooty spires above crowded streets in northern valleys."

The writer goes on to tell the story known so well to ringers — of the mixed team of young and old, of ringing up the bells and the methods that are rung. It endeavours to explain change-ringing, "the coloured sallies leaping and falling like a chorus of rhythmic snakes."

It mentions the swaying towers and solid ones and of Chewton Mendip as a "grand, steady old tower as solid as any in the west . . ." The dangers which beset the

uninitiated are explained and such Societies as the Ancient Society of College Youths and its library in St. Paul's Cathedral are given special place. The Clerical Guild and the mixture of persons and personalities, the variety of civil and military callings, are all spoken of, and the Central Council as the authoritative body. The article was probably written some time ago as Canon Thurlow is given as president, although Mr. John Freeman now holds that exalted office.

The illustrations are excellent, depicting Mr. Harry Preece, aged 90, of Stoke Lacy, Hereford—a ringer for 77 years—and the ringers' gallery of Maids Moreton, Bucks. Another picture shows four ringers performing in the belfry at Shoreditch. A most delightful and attractive illustration of 9-years-old Catherine Davis, of Christchurch Priory, shows her handling a rope whilst her father, Arthur Davis, stands nearby ready to help if required—and with a proud expression on his face!

Altogether these 2½ pages make interesting and informative reading.



AGE AND YOUTH

Mr. George (Tom) Wigmore, of All Saints, Wokingham, who is 80 and has been ringing for 70 years, photographed by the R.W. at the Sonning Deanery meeting recently, together with 10-years-old Judith Burkey, who was elected a member at the meeting. Mr. Wigmore joined the Oxford Guild in 1905, having taught himself to ring at Thatcham in 1899 by pulling the bell up and letting it down again. He rang for the victory of the Boer War and Ted Wills was then foreman. Later he and George went to Bucklebury and helped there. After World War I Mr. Wigmore moved around a lot and finally settled in 1925 at Wokingham. He has had an interesting life, he says, and ringing has been a real enjoyment at all times.

Judith Burkey is one of a family of ringers, both mother, father and sister belonging to All Saints, Wokingham.

A PROMISING YOUNGSTER

Five years ago, at the age of 10, Peter Furness, of Highclere, rang his first peal. Plain Bob Minor, on an inside bell at East Woodhay, Hants; on Feb. 17, aged 15, he returned to the same tower and conducted his first peal. Plain Bob Minor, without fault.

During Peter's five years he has rung many peals up to Double Norwich on eight bells and seven Surprise Minor on six, and also includes the first peals of Reading Surprise Minor and King Charles and London Delight Minor. He also regards one with great pride—Plain Bob Caters by an Andover District band.

A member of the choir and regular Sunday service ringer, we trust the next five years of peal ringing in more advanced methods will be as fruitful as the first.

G. K. D.

When all the world is young, lad,
And all the trees are green;
And every goose a swan, lad,
And every lass a queen;
Then hey for boot and horse, lad,
And round the world away;
Young blood must have its course, lad,
And every dog his day.

—KINGSLEY

Belfry Gossip

The St. John's Guild, Hillingdon, hon. secretary is now Mr. J. Walters, 16 Iverdale Close, Iver, Bucks.

The new secretary for the Beverley and District Society is Mr. Robert Sherriff, Sicey Cottage, Thearne, Beverley.

Harry Tomlinson's 84th birthday was marked by a peal in seven Surprise Minor at Elsham, Lincs.

Work of reinstalling the bells at Castor, Northants, has commenced, well in advance of the time anticipated.

New Methods: Westhill Delight Major, Easingwold Surprise Major and Aynho Surprise Major recorded this week.

Easthampstead ringers have scored their first quarter of Royal, which is also the first in the Sonning Deanery by a branch band.

Overhaul of the bells at St. Matthew's Church, Blackmoor, Hants, will necessitate cessation of ringing for two months or so. Work starts on March 6.

Mrs. Gratton and her helpers ran a successful bring and buy stall at a recent social evening of the Ilchester Branch and which was very well attended.

Rector of Leckhampton from 1966-70, and previously from 1959-66 of Digswell, Herts (Rev. G. C. Ford), died recently, and a quarter was rung in memoriam.

An eminent ringer, asked what he thought of the new-look R.W., replied: "It's not bad: it's a cross between a parish magazine and Exchange and Mart."

Progress by the local band at Northfleet, Kent, is being made for they have rung a quarter—the first for many years by the local company.

Personal Records by George E. Thoday (700), Terry R. Hampton (400), Raymond J. Ballard and Ronald Chafer (200), Ivor R. Nicholls (150) and James E. Andrews (100).

Susan Yates, of Chatteris, Cambs, has been presented with her bellringer's badge and no doubt wears it proudly, as well she may, for she is a regular Sunday service ringer and quarter peal ringer as well as being a Guide.

To mark 50 years' membership of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers a quarter was rung for Mr. A. L. Bennett, and Mr. F. G. Bingham's 50 years' service to Limerick Cathedral was similarly honoured.

First peal congratulations to Janet L. Wright, Margery D. Tawn, Stephen Sudbury, Alan S. Comer, Janice M. Faithfull, Geoffrey M. Soul, Pauline Hopkinson, Rosemary Urban, Stephen D. Chandler.

St. Paul's, Wokingham, expect to have work carried out on the bells in the near future. Access to the bells is difficult (if not dangerous) and in view of this the proper attention may not have been given to the bells since the rehanging 21 years ago. (From an annual district report.)

The Index.—Again we are indebted to Mr. R. L. Roper for the 1969 Ringing World Index. Unfortunately we are not able to add another six pages to our issue owing to the high cost of setting. The Index is available at our office, price 1s. plus postage.

Eighty-three years a ringer, Mr. George E. Symonds (Ipswich) ("No need to put my photo in again!") tells us that he has been 73 years a peal ringer, having rung his first peal (of Kent T.B. Royal) at St. Giles, Camberwell, in February, 1897. It was conducted by Harold N. Davis, and the second bell had no slider!

Leading Peal Ringers for 1969.—Details of those who have rung 25 or more peals should be sent without delay to Mr. D. E. House, Flat 5, 43 The Chase, Clapham Common, S.W.4.

An amusing cartoon appeared in the South Wales Echo on February 19 and sent to us by Mr. M. J. Pryor. It showed the Concord with all its windows broken and the pilot shouting: "It was those darned Cathedral bells over St. David's!"

Mr. H. T. Miller, hon. secretary at Buxton, Norfolk, writes: "An hour's ringing of Doubles by Buxton and Lammars ringers on February 16 was in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. C. Duffield. Mr. Duffield, who has rung 145 peals, was bell master at Buxton for about 30 years."

Mr. Harold Denman, of Gamston, Notts, has taken part in two peals at Brant Broughton, Lincs. In 1963 he got his peal but on the way home lost his cap—in Feb., 1970, he rang another peal and lost his gloves! What he will lose next?—we hope that it will not be his next peal!

A tower captain who is blind is Mr. George Hurst, of Eccleston, and who rang the tenor to a quarter of Grandsire Triples on February 8. Six of the ringers were Liverpool University Society members. Mr. Hurst has rung one other quarter and some years ago a peal. His timing is perfect, we are told.

We are revising our Address Book of Secretaries of Societies and Associations and would appreciate co-operation from these very worthy people. Please send amendments to us, if different from that in the Diary. Also, would secretaries please forward for reference purposes the most up-to-date issue of annual report. Thank you!

The peal of Westmill Delight Major rung at Aspenden on February 14 was so named after the nearby village of Westmill, near Buntingford, Herts. This village, one of the most attractive villages in Hertfordshire, once boasted one of the earliest, if not the earliest, ring of eight in the county. However, the back three bells were removed some years ago and the remaining five are reputed to be unringable.

At St. Helen's, Wheathampstead, Herts, work will be starting shortly on the strengthening of the tower. Ringing has been severely restricted during the past year because of a crack in the central tower. It is also hoped that two trebles may soon be added to this excellent Taylor six. The bells are well-known for having a long draught of unguided rope, making them difficult to handle for the not-so-experienced ringers.

Appreciation of the little quotations and "fillers" we put at the foot of columns is expressed by John H. Gilbert, of Long Ashton, who says: "These encourage me to read every corner of the R.W. in case I find a snippet tucked away there." [We would welcome any such quotations and snippets for possible use.—Ed.]

Mr. Gilbert also expressed pleasure at the picture of Lyndhurst ringers—his old tower (page 140).

The ancient custom of ringing the pancake bell was observed at Newark, Notts, on Shrove Tuesday, when the youngest member of the Parish Church band, Robert W. Midwinter (13), rang the 2nd bell for five minutes at 11 a.m. This was a warning to local housewives to start preparing pancakes and the signal for certain charity money to be paid to the poor in Newark Parish Church. Robert received the traditional shilling from the ringing master, Mr. J. W. Raithby.

A CROYDON CENTENARY

During 1970 Croydon Parish Church is celebrating the centenary of the rededication following the rebuilding after the disastrous fire of 1867. Details of the fire and a background to the history of the church were portrayed in a Ringing World edition of July 14, 1967.

The various bodies connected with the church and its activities are contributing to the celebrations to ensure that 1970 will be an historic and memorable year. The bell-ringers, whose Society was established in 1730, have decided to play their part by holding a ringing festival on September 12. Arrangements have been made with the nearby 10-bell towers of St. Peter's, South Croydon, and St. Mary's, Beddington, for them to be open at certain times during the day. Also it is hoped to arrange for towers on routes to Croydon to open, and details will be circulated to those who apply for tickets to the festival service. Three or four routes starting from towers bordering the Surrey and nearby county boundaries are envisaged. Provided there is sufficient response a luncheon will be available in the church halls between 12 noon and 2.30 p.m.

Everyone who is interested in supporting the festival should write to K. Taber, 17 Birdhurst Rise, South Croydon, CR2 7EG, Surrey, for tickets as soon as possible so as to have some idea of the possible success of the event. A separate advertisement is published in our Notices columns and further advertisements will appear during the next few months. There is no charge for tickets and the collection at the service will be donated to the centenary fund and will go to help the work of the Croydon Churches Housing Association Ltd.

Peal attempts at the Parish Church during the year are to be made by invited bands on the following dates: April 4, Surrey Association; June 20, College Youths; November 14, Cumberland Youths; ringing to commence at approximately 2.30 p.m.

80th BIRTHDAY—50th QUARTER

Arthur Garbett, who came to Torquay on retirement from Broseley, Staffordshire, joined the change-ringing band at Babbacombe early in 1958. He rang the tenor at Highweek to a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples in memory of J. Lilley on April 24, 1958, and since then he has been a regular and faithful member of the band. At 78 he scored his first quarter of Stedman Triples, which gave him much pleasure. It was fitting that he should ring the treble for his 50th quarter peal on his 80th birthday, having been with the Babbacombe band for 12 years. The 1280 of Bob Major took 50 minutes to ring and Arthur rang faultlessly throughout. After the quarter peal a celebration cake, baked by two lady members, was enjoyed by the band and other friends. D. R.

HISTORICAL RECORD

A little booklet giving the History of Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Guild, compiled by the then secretary (W. J. Paice) and printed 40 years ago gives the names of officers of the branch from its foundation in 1880 and the details of the jubilee celebrations which took place at Wokingham on May 24, 1930. The address at the church service was given by the Archdeacon of Berkshire, Ven. R. Wickham Legg, and the tea for the occasion was by invitation of the rector (Rev. H. M. Walter).

"Do not waste time for that is the stuff life is made of."—FRANKLIN.

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY DINNER

While the Bristol University's dinner was not held until January 24, proceedings started in the traditional manner with ringers from many areas assembling at the Naval Volunteer on the previous evening. "Not very full yet, still room to fall over," commented one on entering, a reference no doubt to leaving! Thirteen towers in the suburbs were available during the morning and three routes were arranged, all meeting at St. John-on-the-Wall just before lunch. In the afternoon ringing ended at St. Michael's, the ringers' own church, where a short service was led by the vicar and president of the Society, Rev. Vyvyan-Jones, and the annual meeting followed.

During the day there were two peal attempts of London Surprise Major. That at the Cathedral was successful, but the attempt at SS. Philip and Jacob's Church was lost after two courses.

At the dinner a company of 160 sat down at the Arms Court Hotel to a very enjoyable meal. A feature was the taking of wine by present officers with past holders.

A bright and witty speech by Mr. Andrew Brock introduced the toast of "The Visitors." The arch-visitor, Mr. Cyril Wratten, was introduced by the president as "Gloucester and Bristol treasurer and C.C. representative—whatever that may mean." Mr. Wratten mentioned the Society's record Minor peal, commenting on the subtleties of the names given to some Delight methods—"Turkish Delight and Turnon" (especially suited for ringing in dark and dingy belfries).

Mr. Anthony Kench, master of the Ancient Society of College Youths and a former member of the Society, entertained with an excellent speech. Being a member of the Society himself he created a precedent by inviting all those present to drink to the future well-being of the Society. Mr. Anthony Cox (the master) rose and acknowledged the cheers of his supporters and spoke with great confidence, outlining the achievements of the Society during the past year. He foresaw further success during 1970, including skittles matches with non-residents and the city branch.

With the added attraction of the filmed highlights of last summer's tour, a convivial evening was enjoyed by all until the bar closed at 1 a.m., the company then dispersing to various beds, floors and railway benches throughout Bristol.

S. F. R. and J. W. O.

A MAGNIFICENT RESULT

Mr. T. Ogden, of Oldham, writes:—

"This morning I have had word from their correspondent that the handbell ringers at the Malabar Home for the Blind, Truro, Cornwall, have collected the magnificent sum of over £1,500 by their ringing over the Christmas period, 1969.

"To do this entailed travelling all over the Duchy, and for a small band of blind ringers who have to memorise all their music, and who also have only a small set of handbells and are therefore very limited in what they can play, I think this is a marvellous achievement, and well worthy of mention.

"Certainly it puts to shame those of our sighted ringers who 'haven't time' or 'can't be bothered' to go round their own parishes and districts, let alone visit their local hospitals, with seasonal music at Christmas-time."

THRESCORE YEARS AND TEN

It was nice to have a drink with my old friend Bert Audsley on his 70th birthday (January 31). We attempted a peal at Dartford but alas, it went the way of the great majority; not that it mattered because we were ringing a touch afterwards and the light went out. The conductor uttered a superfluous "Stand" and no harm was done but it turned out that the vicar was being kind, and in switching on the light on the belfry staircase for a visitor from Cornwall who had heard the bells he turned the wrong switch.

Still, it enabled our young Cornish friend, now living in the district, to be introduced to some ringing history. We could tell him with pride of our old friend's birthday and we could draw his attention to the peal boards in the tower: "The conductor's 1,000th peal"—Herbert E. Audsley; Double Norwich silent and non-conducted; Groombridges, Barnetts, George Cross and — Herbert E. Audsley, Grandsire Triples: 200th anniversary of the first peal on the bells, conductor Herbert E. Audsley.

I wish I could record all that this most modest of men told us in the pub afterwards. How A. G. Driver, who used to write to *The Ringing World* as the "Mad Hatter," was a genius destined in life to be a tram driver, who knew as much if not more than any composer of his day but could not be taught to handle a bell; who came to the tower and said: "Ring Grandsire Triples with the hunt bell coursing in front of the treble instead of behind it." How Bert said to old Harry (his great friend, Harry Hoverd, beloved of North Kent ringers, who died so prematurely): "Call a touch by when you are 'before,'" and after they had started Harry said: "How can I ever be before if the hunt bell is in front of the treble?"

How the College Youths and the Cumberlands rang peals at Northfleet and Swanscombe one year and reversed towers the next year, and how old Jim Bennett, then in the Marines but long since retired to his native Suffolk, finished up in Northfleet Station in the early hours of Sunday morning and never did get back to Chatham Barracks that night!

What did Bert think about Stedman?—wouldn't care if it was the only method there was. The other week he went down to see old Ted Beer at Shorne, heard tapes of some of the handbell peals they are ringing down there—first-class ringing, a credit to them. What about 12-bell ringing these days?—most of it much too fast; can't get the best out of the bells like that. Evening peals the cause of all this rushing the bells along.

In North Kent everyone knows Bert. Most of his ringing has been done there—he rang his 1,300th peal at Erith a month or two ago. Most people can claim vast numbers of towers for their peals. I bet few people have rung 1,300 peals in as few towers—Erith and Crayford over 200 each, Dartford over 100, large numbers at Christ Church, Erith, Gravesend, Swanscombe, Northfleet, etc. Over 100 peals on the 5th at Crayford. Known to succeeding generations of ringers as a candid friend—outspoken and fearless but never offensive.

May his shadow never grow less.

P. A. C.

Ah vanity of vanities!

How wayward the decrees of fate are,

How very weak the very wise,

How very small the very great are!

—THACKERAY

Notices

SCALE OF CHARGES

5/- for 30 words (minimum), each additional word 2d.; Meeting Notices—3 insertions the price of 2.
Display Advertisements: 7/6 per inch single column; 1-page £3; 1-page £5/10; Whole page £10. Reduction for block bookings (on application) 65 screen for half-tones.

BIRTH

Leale.—To Gillian and Robin, on January 5, 1970, a son (Andrew James), a brother for Sarah. 8304

PERSONAL

"The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."—1 Samuel xvi, 7.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Barton.—The address of Stephen and Joyce is now 54 Royal Oak Road, Halesowen, Worcs. 8311

Marsh.—Alec, Molly and family now live at 15 Ashdene Crescent, Pudsey, Yorkshire. Telephone now connected: Pudsey 71944. 8336

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Bed and breakfast. 22s. 6d. per night. Full board, £9 9s. per week. Personal service, separate tables.—(Mrs.) H. Savage, 15 Connaught Road, Folkestone, Kent. 8179

Dorset, near Milton Abbey.—B. and B. 20s. Evening meal 7s. 6d. Mrs. Dunford, Hambleton Cottage, Hilton, Blandford, Dorset. Homely accommodation in heart of lovely countryside. Indoor sanitation. Full terms on application. 8998

Mid-Devon. Good centre for touring. Bed and breakfast, dinner. Mrs. Jean Fidler, Highcroft, Bow, Crediton, EX17 6HN. Bow 379. Also 4-berth caravan at Sandmouth Bay, near Bude. 8994

MISCELLANEOUS

Campingologists.—Reunion in Derby but postponed until May 9; details later. Peal tour, Yorkshire Dales, August 1-8. To simplify arrangements please let me have names and addresses of those interested as soon as possible.—John Robinson, 21 Grove Court, Leeds, LS6 4AE. 8305

Masonic Reunion.—The date has been changed to June 6. Any who wish to attend and have not notified please do so to W. T., c/o R.W. Office, Guildford. 8318

New Style Peal Forms are now available from R.W. office and will be sent on receipt of stamped addressed envelope (4 in. x 9 in.).

Ringing World Index for 1969 is now available, price 1s., plus stamp for postage. Other years from 1958 price 6d. each. Apply Ringing World Office, c/o Seven Corners Press, Ltd., Guildford.

Sussex County Association.—Southern Division.—Please note the new secretary's name and address: Mrs. M. Kirkcaldy, 29 Manor Gardens, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex. 8325

Meetings

EVENING PRACTICES AND MEETINGS

Coventry Diocesan Guild.—Coventry Archdeaconry.—Practice meetings to be held at Bedworth, Mons., March 9 and 23, 7.30–9 p.m. All welcome.—Ian F. Garvie, Dis. Sec. 8338

Essex Association.—S.W. District.—Evening meeting, Woodford, Sat., March 14. Ringing 7.30–9 p.m.—K. W. 8306

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Chippenham Branch.—Evening meeting, Corsham (6), Tues., March 10, 7.30 p.m.—M. E. Stracey, Branch Sec. 8323

Guildford Diocesan Guild.—Farnham District.—Advanced practice, Hawley, Tues., Mar. 17, 7.30–9 p.m. This practice is for anyone wishing to learn Kent, Stedman, Double Norwich or any of the Surprise methods, etc., etc. 8320

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—On Tues., March 10, Witney (8), branch practice.—E. Venn. 8259

Suffolk Guild.—North West District.—Practice meeting, Brandon (6), Wed. evening, Mar. 11. Bells from 7–9 p.h. Please note change of date. 8312

Surrey Association.—Northern District.—Evening practice, Ewell, Sat., March 7, 7–8.30 p.m.—N. Thomson, Dis. Sec. 8287

Sussex County Association.—Southern Division.—Surprise practice meeting, St. Nicolas of Myra, Brighton (10), Wed., March 11, 7.30 to 9 p.m. Visitors welcome. 8326

AFTERNOON MEETINGS

Coventry Diocesan Guild.—Warwick Archdeaconry.—Monthly meeting, Farnborough, on Sat., March 7. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Evening ringing, Burton Dassett. Bells (6) 6 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. E. Boneham, 3 Council Houses, Farnborough, Banbury, Oxon.—H. A. M. 8333

Ely Diocesan Association.—Ely District.—A meeting at Histon on Sat., March 7. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Further ringing after meeting until 8.30 p.m. Special method: Superlative. 8903

Essex Association.—South Eastern and Northern Districts.—Joint meeting, Terling (8), on Sat., March 7. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Special method: Belfast S.M. All welcome.—R. J. H. and C. H. G. 8188

Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—By-meeting, Tunstall, Sat., March 7. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting 4.30. Service 7 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. T. Barton, 100 Park Drive, Sittingbourne, please.—D. P. L. 8275

Middlesex County Association.—S. and W. District.—Meeting, Sunbury, March 7. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea and business 5. Hampton (8), 7–8.30. Surprise Royal practice, Hillingdon, March 9, 8–9.30 p.m.—C. H. Rogers. 8245

Sussex County Association.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Sat., March 7, Hartfield (6), 3–5 p.m. Tea 5.15, Coleman's Hatch. Coleman's Hatch bells 6.15 p.m. Names for tea essential to me, please, Mrs. J. Osborn, 79 Blount Avenue, East Grinstead (Tel.: E.G. 23815). 8296

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.—Christchurch and Southampton District.—Quarterly meeting, Sat., March 7. Milford bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Church Hall 5.15 p.m. Evening ringing at Hordle. Names for tea to Mrs. G. W. Davis, 24 Stourcliffe Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth, BH6 3PT.—Gillian Davis, Dis. Sec. 8289

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Ombersley, Sat., March 7. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 at the Venture In Café, followed by business meeting in Church Hall. Shrawley bells available from 7 p.m. Tea (approx. 4s.) only for those who notify me, J. J. Stanier, 12 Arrowsmith Avenue, St. John's, Worcester. 8294

Barnsley and District Society.—Hemsworth, Sat., March 14. Bells 3–5 p.m. Cups of tea at Felkirk and ringing in the evening. 9028

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Dunster Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Carhampton (6), Sat., March 14, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., then tea and business. Names for tea to E. R. Tyndale-Biscoe, Burnells Gardens, Dunster 346. 8316

Beverley and District Society.—Monthly meeting, March 14, Sutton (6). Bells 2.45 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Ringing afterwards. Names for tea to Mr. C. R. Robinson, 22 Lime Tree Avenue, Sutton, by previous Wednesday. 8314

Derby Diocesan Association.—Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting, Barlborough, Sat., March 14. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, without fail, please, to Mr. A. Ashby, 72 Boughton Lane, Clowne, Chesterfield, by previous Wednesday.—Malcolm Phipps, Sec. 8327

East Grinstead and District Guild.—Annual general meeting, Sat., March 14, Chiddingstone (8). Bells 3.30–4.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Evening ringing 7.30–8.30 p.m. Towers also open: Penshurst, 2.30–3.30 p.m.; Leigh, 3–4 p.m.; Hever, 7.30–8.30 p.m. 8280

Ely Diocesan Association.—Cambridge District.—Evening meeting, March 14: Great Wilbraham, 6–7.15 p.m.; Cherry Hinton, 7.30–8.45 p.m.—J. S. 8230

Essex Association.—N.E. District.—Meeting March 14, Great Holland (8). Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. S. Leech, 3 Holland Villas, Gt. Holland, Frinton-on-Sea. 8308

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Swindon Branch.—Meeting, Hannington (6), Sat., March 14, 3 p.m. Service at Blunston, 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to P. Tombs, 31 Little Avenue, Swindon, Wilts, by March 11. Evening ringing at Blunston. 8334

Guildford Diocesan Guild.—Annual general meeting, Guildford, March 14. Service at St. Mary's Church 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting in the Congregational Church Hall, Portsmouth Road. Notifications for tea to Mrs. C. W. Munday, 37 Bradford Drive, Ewell, Epsom (Tel.: 01-393 4986), by March 12. Bells available: Stoke-next-Guildford, 2.45–4 p.m.; Holy Trinity, 3–4.15; St. Mary's, 3–4.30 p.m.; St. Nicolas and Shalford after the meeting. 8252

Hertford County Association.—Eastern District.—Meeting, Sat., March 14, Hoddesdon (8), 3–4.30 p.m. Tea at Broxbourne 5.15, followed by business meeting. Evening ringing at Broxbourne (8) to 9 p.m. Names for tea to S. E. James, 4 Fordwick Close, Hertford (Tel.: 5664), by Wed, March 11.—S. E. James, Dis. Sec. 8336

Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting, Harrietsham (8), on Sat., March 14. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. at the Roebuck. Names to C. A. Tester, 18 Maxwell Drive, Allington Park, Maidstone. 8332

Ladies' Guild.—Western District.—Annual general meeting, Sat., March 14, at Chewton Mendip. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea to Miss B. Johnson, 10 Lancashire Road, Bristol, BS7 9DL, by March 11. 8330

It is much regretted that the practice meeting for the Western District of the Ladies' Guild was not held on February 11 at Trowbridge as advertised. At the last minute we had word from Trowbridge that the bells could not be rung that night, although it had been confirmed by them. This made it impossible to contact many people, and we apologise to anyone who went to Trowbridge, but the circumstances were beyond our control.—B. Johnson, Sec., Western District. 8331

London County Association.—March 14: Special business meeting to discuss modifications and changes to the entire rules of the Association. Meeting begins at 2.30 p.m., to be held at St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, in the cloisters of the church. Nearest tube: Aldersgate or Farringdon Street.—M. R. W. 8284

Lancashire Association.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Annual meeting, Sat., March 11, Ambleside. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Meeting in Parish Rooms at 5.30 p.m. Please make own arrangements for tea.—T. F. Metcalfe. 8317

Lancashire Association.—Preston Branch.—Meeting, St. James (6), Leyland, Sat., March 14. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea after service in School Room, followed by business meeting. Names for tea to J. D. Nixon, Esq., 22 Grange Road, Leyland, by Wed., March 11. Special methods: London S. Minor, Hereward Bob Minor.—D. G. Lawson, Branch Sec. 8318

Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting, Moorside (Oldham), Sat., March 14. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5. Business 6 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. D. W. Howarth, 49 Sholver Lane, Moorside, Oldham, by Wed., 11th.—G. Cheetham. 8321

Leicester Diocesan Guild.—Syston District.—The March monthly meeting, will be held at Rothley on Sat., March 14. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. T. A. Yates, 40 Woodfield, Rothley, Leics, by March 11. Cossington bells available for ringing from 2.30–3.30 p.m. 8309

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—An extraordinary general meeting and the annual general committee meeting will be held at Radley C.E. Primary School, Abingdon, at 2.30 p.m. on Sat., March 14. Names for tea to Miss D. J. Pollard, 49 Foxborough Road, Radley, Abingdon, Berks, by previous Tuesday.—M. R. Cross, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8227

St. David's and Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guilds.—Joint meeting, Llanelli, on Sat., March 14. Bells 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. S. Rees, 41 St. Mary's Rise, Burry Port, Carmar, by March 12, please. 8324

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—North Dorset Branch.—Meeting, Okeford Fitzpaine, March 14. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m., followed by business and more ringing. Names to M. M. Godley, St. Francis' Cottage, Yetminster, Sherborne, by March 10, please. 8315

Suffolk Guild.—South East District.—Quarterly meeting will be at Grundisburgh (10) on Sat., March 14. Ringing 3–4.30 p.m., followed by service, tea and meeting. Ringing in evening to 9 p.m. All wishing for tea notify Mrs. Sylvia Pipe, Easta, Grundisburgh, near Woodbridge, Suffolk, by Thurs., March 12.—W. L. Dis. Sec. 8285

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—Southern Branch.—Meeting, Sat., Mar. 14, Bretforton. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., then tea and business. Willersey bells available 6.45 to 8 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. C. G. Tomkins, 80 Main Street, Bretforton. 8286

Essex Association.—N.W. District.—Meeting at Sawbridgeworth (8), Sat., March 21. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.45 p.m.—G. Blake. Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow. 8322

Essex Association.—Southern District.—Meeting, Bentley Common, Sat., March 21. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea with further ringing in the evening. Names for tea to Miss B. Fisher, 49 Hatch Road, Brentwood. All are welcome 8329

Ladies' Guild.—Midland District.—Annual general meeting, joint with the Leicester and Market Harborough Districts of the Leicester Diocesan Guild, at St. Thomas', Sth. Wigston, Sat., March 21. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by meeting at 6.15 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. M. P. Brown, 14 Westmorland Avenue, South Wigston, Leicester, by Wed., 18th.—B. C. Morley, Dis. Sec. 8328

Peterborough Diocesan Guild.—Northampton Branch.—Meeting, Wootton, Sat., March 21. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea (important) to Mr. J. C. Parker, 62 The Warren, Hardingstone, Northampton, by Tuesday previous. 8313

Southwell Diocesan Guild.—Mansfield District.—Warsop, Sat., March 21. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Cuckney bells available afternoon only. Names for tea to Mrs. A. Rooke, 9 York Terrace, Warsop, Mansfield, by previous Wednesday. 8319

Stafford Archdeaconry Society.—Full meeting, Seighford, near Stafford, Sat., March 21. Important committee meeting in nave 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Names for latter, please, to Mr. G. Evans, The Vicarage, Seighford, Stafford, by March 18, latest. Bells (5) available 3–4.25 p.m. and after tea. Also Stafford (10) from 7.15 p.m. onwards.—C. M. S., Hon. Sec. 8152

Sussex County Association.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, March 21, Holy Cross (8), Uckfield. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing after tea. Please send names for tea to Mrs. Q. P. Sandells (the caterer), 8 The Drive, Church Coombe Estate, Uckfield. Names must be sent in by previous Wednesday, otherwise no tea 8266

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

South Eastern District,
SUPPER AND SOCIAL
Saturday, March 21

7.15 p.m. at Little Baddow Memorial Hall
Tickets 7s. 6d. (schoolchildren 6s.) from:
R. J. Harrison, 32 Gilmore Way, Gt. Baddow. 8189

LEICESTER GUILD MELTON DISTRICT

ANNUAL DINNER

Friday, March 20 (7 for 7.30)

The King's Head Hotel, Melton Mowbray.
4-course meal, 21s., plus service charge.

Professional entertainment following the meal.
Names, please, to Mrs. S. N. Hall, 2 Ashby Road, Gaddesby, Leics (phone: Gaddesby 294), by March 15. 8337

St. John of Beverley,
Whatton-in-the-Vale, Notts.

DEDICATION

of the two new treble bells
by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Sherwood.

Saturday, March 14, 1970

Service of Dedication, 3 p.m.

Open Ringing, 4–9 p.m.

Buffet tea. Jubilee Hall, 4.30 onwards.

Numbers for tea, if possible, to
W. L. Exton, St. Ouen's, Whatton, Nottingham. 8291

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY DINNER and NORTHERN UNIVERSITIES MEETING

Saturday, March 7

List of towers.—

9.30–10.15: Marple (8).
10.30–11.15: Hazel Grove (8)*.
11.30–12.15: Stockport (St. George) (10).
1.30–2.15: Hyde (8).
2.30–3.15: Ashton-under-Lyne (St. Michael) (12).
3.30–4.15: Ashton-under-Lyne (St. Peter) (8).
4.30–5.15: Manchester Cathedral (10).

* Subject to confirmation.

Hamish McNaughton, 170 Oswald Road,
Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, 21. 8307

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Folkestone, Easter Monday, March 30.

Service at noon.

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members under 14 years 6s. each, obtainable
for first 200 applicants with cash and stamped,
addressed foolscap envelope, from N. J.
Davies, Winsor Cottage, Kingsford Street,
Mersham, Ashford (Tel.: Ashford 24293). Ap-
plications to be received by first post on Mon.,
March 23. Crèche available during meeting;
please indicate if required.—Alan P. S. Berry,
Hon. Gen. Sec. 8191

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

COUNTRY MEETING

Saturday, April 11

BIRMINGHAM

Ringing details later.

Croydon Parish Church
Centenary Year of the Rebuilding
1870–1970

RINGING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Festival Service, 3 p.m.

Preacher: Canon R. O. Bowlby, M.A.
Vicar of Croydon

Tickets and details of ringing routes from
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OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

Any member wishing to join this year's tour, to be based on Birmingham, and who has not yet contacted the organiser, please do so at once.—**Andrew Stubbs, 29 Sutherland Place, London, W.2.** 8351

BIRTH

Tremeer.—On Feb. 17, 1970, at 9 Perins Close, Alresford, Hants, to Les and Prisca, a son, Sefton Leslie, a brother for Andrew. 8352

DEATH

GRIFFIN.—Victor, aged 37, of 82 Upper Road, Kennington, Oxford, passed away at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford, on Feb. 26, 1970. Cremation was at Oxford Crematorium on Wed., March 3, at 11.30 a.m. 8359

Received too late for Classification

Bedfordshire Association.—Biggleswade District.—Monthly meeting, Biggleswade, March 14. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Please note venue.—**A. H. Smith, Dis. Sec.** 8339

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Yate (6). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m. Sat., March 7. Names for tea to G. Minors, 1 Hesterville Villas, Purton, Berkeley, Glos. 8343

Hereford Diocesan Guild.—Church Stretton District.—Practice meeting, Bromfield, on Sat., March 21. Bells (6) available 5 p.m. 8344

Hertford County Association.—Western District.—Meeting, Great Gaddesden (6), on Sat., March 14. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to R. Sheppard, 19 Great Heart, Hemel Hempstead. 8347

Peterborough Guild.—Davenport Branch.—Meeting, Bugbrooke (5), Sat., Mar. 14. Names for tea to Mr. K. Rogers, Downs Farm, Weedon, by Wednesday previous.—**I. Webb.** 8341

Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—Practice meeting at Lodsworth (6) and Petworth (8), Sat., March 14. Lodsworth bells 3 p.m. Service at Lodsworth 5. Tea 5.45. Petworth bells until 8.30 p.m. Please notify for tea P. M. Wills, 75 Annandale Avenue, Bognor Regis. 8345

Yorkshire Association.—Western District.—Meeting, Denholme, Sat., March 21. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Cups of tea and biscuits only available.—**A. B. Sullivan, Branch Sec.** 8340

Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting and striking competition will be held at All Saints, Birchington, on Sat., March 14, commencing at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be held at 5 p.m., approx. Names for tea to Mr. H. Luck, Lubin, 57 Kent Gardens, Birchington, by previous Wednesday.—**J. B. K.** 8350

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Crewe Branch.—Audlem, March 14. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names by March 11.—**W. Kerr, 107 Moreton Road, Crewe.** 8349

Selby and District Society.—Meeting, Carlton-juxta-Snaith, Sat., March 7. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Please provide own food; cups of tea only available.—**L. M. Woodhead.** 8358

Yorkshire Association.—Southern Branch.—There will be a practice meeting on Fri., Mar. 20, at St. Leonard's, Wortley. The eight bells will be available from 18.30 (6.30 p.m.) until 21.00. Ringing will range from rounds and call-changes to Surprise Major.—**A. C. Banton.** 8360

25 YEARS AGO

Taken from *The Ringing World* for
March 2, 1945

At Guildford William J. Robinson conducted a peal of Grandsire in which Harold A. May rang his first peal at the first attempt.

The first peal on the bells (Grandsire Doubles) was rung at Ludgvan, Cornwall, conducted by Rev. A. S. Roberts from the treble.

Three doctors rang in a peal of Kent Minor at Stoke Mandeville, conducted by Walter Ayre.

Miss Jill Poole received a copy of *Time*, an American publication, which included an article of her ringing in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus

Rev. K. W. H. Felstead (Southampton) performed the marriage ceremony between Miss Joan Wheeler, of Bishopstoke, and Petty Officer Ernest Salmon, of Hereford Cathedral.

"Battle Axes" was the venue for tea when the Ladies' Guild held a meeting at Wraxall.

The Editor apologised for not answering letters as he had been confined to bed for three weeks

50 YEARS AGO

March 5, 1920

The Basingstoke Combined Society appealed for subscriptions towards a memorial for Mr. Henry White.

Five members of the Pitstow family took part in a peal of Stedman Caters at Saffron Walden Parish Church, conducted by H. N. Pitstow. In addition to it being the first peal on the bells, L. E. Pitstow rang his first peal.

At Guildford, A. H. Pulling conducted the first peal of Little St. Lawrence Major, which was composed by Rev. E. Banks James.

At Leiston, Suffolk, the eight Bailey brothers rang a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major as a welcome home to Wilfred Bailey (who rang treble), he being the last of six of the brothers to be demobilised.

At a meeting in the tower of St. Mary's, Taunton, it was hoped to raise sufficient money to rehange the bells and to increase the ring from 10 to 12 bells.

The new ring of eight at Tunbridge Wells was much enjoyed when the Tonbridge District held a meeting there. The recasting and rehanging by Gillett and Johnston had cost nearly £500, all of which had been paid.

At Benhilton a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a 68th birthday compliment to Mr. A. J. Perkins, who conducted.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Derbyshire Dinner 7s., Stafford £1 14s., Anonymous 15s., C. H. F. Knight £1 5s.

Peals.—Rayne 6s., Leeds University 4s., Warfield and others 5s., Cullompton 3s., Brancepeth 6s., Lakenheath and others 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Cottingham 3s. 6d., Bishopstoke 5s., Sheffield 2s. 6d., Aldbourne 4s., Honiley 5s., Portsmouth 5s., Southsea 5s., Manchester 4s., Lympne (3) 5s., Melton Mowbray 5s., Chigwell 3s., Tewin (2) 6s., Devon Ringers (4) 10s., Babbacombe 2s., Swindon 5s., Eccleston 4s., Brixham 3s., Aughton St. Michael's 3s., Ilton and others 14s., Bexhill 4s., Coddington 5s., Leytonstone 3s., Enfield 3s., Wortley 1s., Charteris 8s., Hoar Cross 3s., Malins Lee 3s., Macclesfield 5s., St. Mary-le-Wigford 3s., Kingston 4s., Perry Barr 3s., Glastonbury 3s., Bishop's Stortford 4s., Warfield 5s., Titchfield 2s. 6d., Toddington and others 5s., Lilleshall 3s., Moulton 2s., Waltham Abbey (4) 17s., Chilton Foliat 2s. 6d., Lelant 2s. 6d., Old Cleve 4s., Bilton 3s., Eastnor 3s., Twynning 2s. 6d., Manuden 2s. 6d., Nailsea 3s., Hoddesdon 4s., King's Lynn 4s., Doncaster 4s., Buckingham and others 2s. 6d., St. Clement Danes' 2s. 6d., Fordingbridge 3s.

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J. J. Forder, Hon. Gen. Sec.

8346

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

TOWER CAPTAINS' CONFERENCE

Easter Saturday, March 28

2.30 at the Cavalier Hall, Watford Road
(near St. Stephen's Church)

Open to all tower officers in the Association.

Discussions on:—

Ringers' Relationship with Incumbent.

Recruiting and Training.

Bell Maintenance.

Tickets, including refreshments, 5s.

James to F. W. Ellis, Dis. Sec., by March 14.

8342

COMPOSITIONS

1970 STEDMAN TRIPLES

By PHILIP H. D. JONES

123456	1	S	H	L	V	VI	Q
652341	—						x
516342			x	x	S		
135462		x	x				x
315426			x				
426315	T					S	
234165		x	x				x
531264			x		S		
351246			x				
246351	T					S	
432561		x	x				x
342516			x				
125346	3T						
(231456)	—						

"T" is Thurstans' standard block:—
S H L Q

x x
x x x
x

Start from the last row of a quick six.
Rounds occur at the first backstroke
after the final bob.

1250 YORKSHIRE or LINCOLNSHIRE S.M.

M	W	H	23456
	S	—	53426
S	S	—	42365
—	—	—	53264
—	—	—	25364
—	—	—	62354
—	—	—	(32456)

5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

Arranged by FRANK C. PRICE.

23456	W	M	H
43625	S	—	—
62345	V (BBSBB)	—	—
43265	S	—	V (BBSBB)
24536	—	—	—
35426	V (BBSBB)	S	—
23456	—	—	2 (SS)

First rung on handbells, Crowthorne, Berks.
Feb. 6, 1970, conducted by F. C. Price

1260 PLAIN BOB CATERS

By A. A. J. BUSWELL

23456789	1	4	8
23456879		S	—
54326		2.3.4.5.	—
23456798	S	—	S
342		2	—
23456978		S	—
342		2	—
23456789		—	—

Rung at Portsmouth Cathedral on Jan 26, 1970.

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