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THE RINGING WORLD

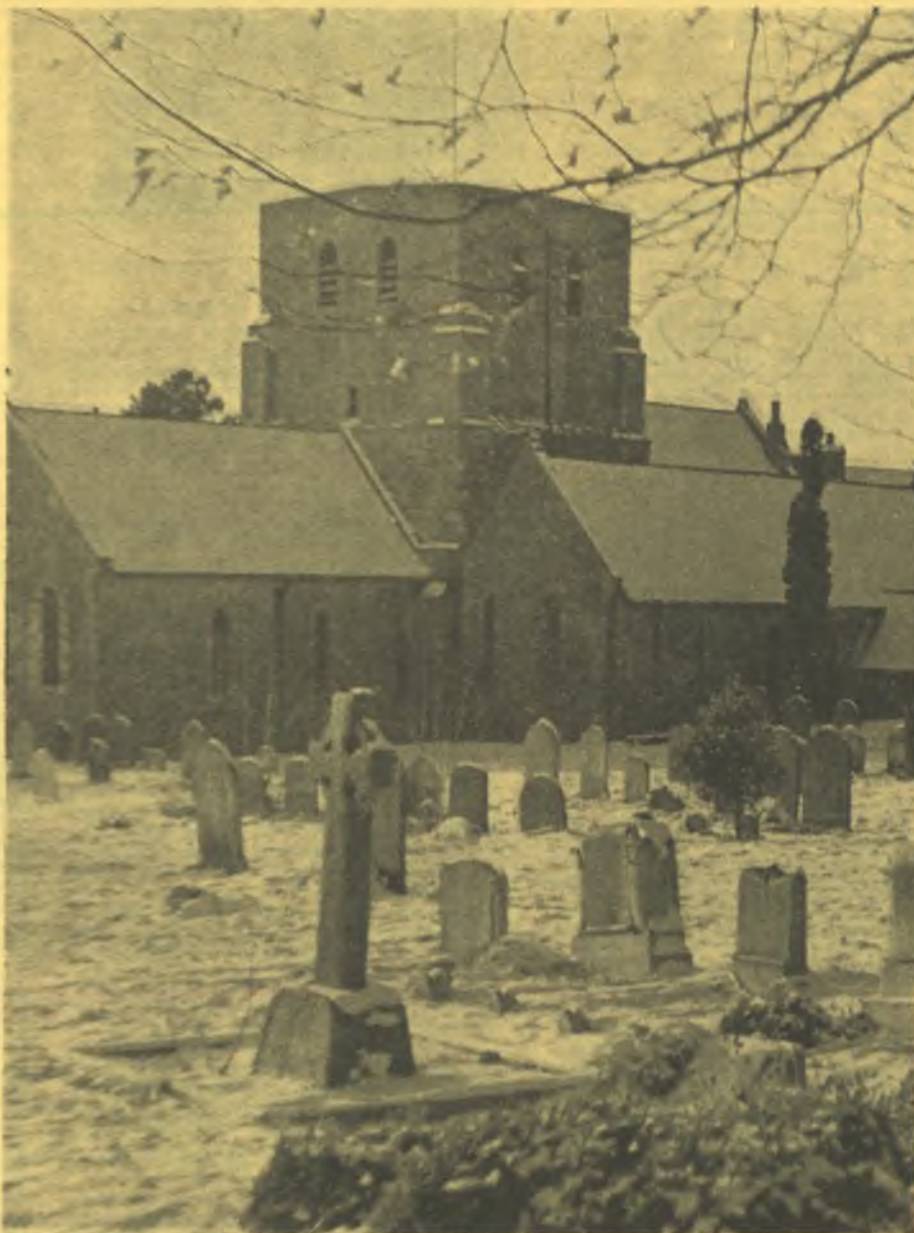
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**St. Stephen's,
Lympne, Kent**



Cover Picture

St. Stephen's, Lympe, Kent

A £1,800 SAVE-THE-BELLS APPEAL launched on January 1, 1969, the money raised, the bells removed from the belfry, turned, rehung in a new frame and rededicated a year and three days later.

This is the story of Lympe, a Kentish village which helped itself and proudly saved something of its past for future generations. Lympe is a mile away from the busy A20 trunk road, midway between Ashford and Folkestone. Its "main street" is the Romans' ancient Stone Street. To walk beyond the new houses and bungalows at the end of Stone Street is to step back into the past of centuries.

Church, castle, inn, manor house, school, farm and cottages stand, mellow in their years, amid trees and pastures.

Not even the activity of the nearby airport—known world-wide to pioneers of aviation as the starting point of many historic route-blazing expeditions—reduces the air of serenity of the "old village."

The Church of St. Stephen stands next to the castle, on the banks of a grassy "cliff" which commands one of the finest views in southern England—the great expanse of Romney Marsh, the shoreline sweeping from Fairlight in the west to the white cliffs of Dover in the east, and a vast seascape to the coast of France.

Down the ages, the steep escarpment of the "cliff" has been one of the defence lines of England.

The Romans built their harbour of Portus Lemanus at the foot of it, long before the sea receded by many miles to the present shoreline.

Saxons, Jutes, Normans, Danes, Frenchmen, Spaniards, Dutchmen, Germans—invaders and would-be invaders—knew this land. So did pirates and smugglers. Kings held court here and for more recent royalty Lympe was a leisure retreat. For statesmen, after World War I, it was a venue to deliberate the peace. Here the Fair Maid of Kent saw her visions and (so the story goes) it was down Lympe Hill that Jack and Jill came to grief.

PLACE IN HISTORY

So Lympe has its place in part of the story of England. And for 900 years its church has seen the comings and goings of Kentish history. St. Stephen's was built by Lanfranc, from stones from the Roman remains of Stutfall Castle, below the cliff. The earliest record of its bells is in an "inventory of church goods" of 1552 and refers to the "first iiij bells in the stepell." In 1580 the churchwardens of Lympe made application in the court of the Archdeacon of Canterbury "... to take from the Parish Church of Westhythe ... now desolate and decayed ... two little bells." They promised that the same weight of metal would be cast again "in like bells ... and redelivered ... when they shall be lawfully required." It is probable that some, if not all, of the bells were recast in the same year.

In 1742-43 the bells were recast into a ring of five by Robert Catlin at a cost of £50. The frame was also partly rebuilt. Regular ringing continued at Lympe until at least 1808. From this date onwards there are a few mentions of bell ropes or ringers in churchwardens' accounts. In the middle of the last century the church fell into a "very damp and bad condition," in which it appeared to remain for some years. Not until December, 1879, is it recorded that "the 5 bells rang out" for the reopening services.

Again, in the early years of this century, the church became in need of considerable restoration. In 1921 the Archdeacon of Maidstone reported that "the belfry's condition does not allow of the bells being pealed, and the birds have been allowed to get into the belfry." In 1928 under the direction of Mr. Rowland Harman, who has done much in the last 40 years to restore and maintain the church, the bell frame was lowered and strengthened and the bells and fittings repaired and rehung. In 1951 the bells were rehung on ball bearings and a treble bell was added by Mears and Stainbank.

The inscriptions on the six bells read:—
Treble: 1959 M & S. 2: Tho I am but small I will be heard amongst you all. R. Catlin. Fecit. 1742. 3: Robert Catlin cast us all. 1742. 4: John Bridger — John Firminger — Robert Catlin. Fecit. 1742. 5: R.C. Fecit. 1744. Tenor: Henry Bagnal Vicar — Thomas Greenland — Richard Howard Churchwardens. R.C. Fecit. 1742. The weight of the tenor bell is 11½ cwt.

In recent years considerable work has been done to the exterior and interior fabric of St. Stephen's and today it is one of the best preserved churches of its period in South-East England. Despite dedicated maintenance by the bellringing team however it became clear in 1968 that the bells and frame were in need of major and urgent repair. The cost was estimated at £1,800, the sum reducible by several hundred pounds by the undertaking of the ringers to carry out some of the work themselves. The Parochial Church Council set up a small committee to raise money. From many meetings during the latter half of the year emerged a master plan of fund-raising ventures—ranging from an appeal letter delivered to every household in the village on New Year's Day, 1969, to coffee mornings and jumble sales to the most ambitious single event ever staged in Lympe—a three-day Festival of Flowers, Music and Bells in April. In this almost the entire village community was involved. St. Stephen's, Lympe Castle and the whole area of the "old village" became the venue of events, which included floral art displays, a procession of children carrying garlands, displays of mediaeval dancing, exhibitions and demonstrations, handbell ringing, organ and other music.

PROCEEDS EXCEED TARGET

Thousands of people from all over England attended the festival. For visiting ringers the centre of interest was the Whitechapel Expo Belfry, making its first appearance of 1969, and erected on a prepared site in a farmyard opposite the church. Proceeds from the festival and other events, together with donations resulting from the general appeal, exceeded the target. And so, in early summer, work began on a carefully prepared schedule which aimed at the completion of the project before the end of the year. The bellringing team undertook a programme considerably bigger than their original one, some members giving up their holidays and mortgaging future ones so that progress could be maintained to schedule.

The bells were removed in September and returned from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in December, the ringers carrying out the manual work of removal and rehanging under the guidance of Mr. Harry Parkes. Flooring was constructed under the bells to enable ringing to be carried out from a belfry instead of from the floor of the church. The bells were rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Dover (Rt. Rev. Antony Tremlett) at a special service on Sunday, January 4, one year to the day after a service to mark the launching of the appeal.

"The bells of St. Stephen's are part of our village life and heritage; surely it is our wish that they may be part of the inheritance we pass on to future generations."

Thus, on January 1, 1969, the Rev. J. W. Neilson, Vicar of Lympe, appealed to his parishioners to be generous in answering his appeal for funds.

They answered not only by donating money and gifts and by organising events to raise revenue, giving pleasure to visitors to their village, but also by back-breaking work in the belfry.

This is the story of a village which helped itself ...

Perhaps somewhere in the belfry of St. Stephen's and in the documents which record the life and times of its bells might be added this dedication:—

1969: To the people of Lympe who showed that they cared for the future as well as the past ...

THE RINGING WORLD

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Vernon Bottomley,
45, Westercroft Lane, Northwram, Halifax, Yorks.

Hon. Librarian: Frederick Sharpe, Derwen, Launton,
Bicester, Oxon.

"THE RINGING WORLD" COMMITTEE:

W. G. Wilson (convener), 42, Willow Grove,
Ruislip Manor, Middlesex.

R. S. Anderson. R. F. B. Speed.
D. Bayles. Mrs. Jill Staniforth.

Editor: C. W. DENYER.

Guildford Guild.

A BELFRY REPAIR FUND

A well represented gathering of members attended the A.G.M. of the Guildford Guild on March 14 at the new Congregational Hall, when all the officers were re-elected.

The most notable feature of the annual report was the large increase in the number of peals rung during 1969. The master, Mr. D. A. R. May, in his comments said that the Guild had been productive both in the field of peal and quarter peal ringing and he expressed the hope that this trend would continue, since he believed that to some extent it represented the health of the Guild.

In presenting the accounts the treasurer (Mr. G. K. Williamson) explained the reason for increasing the subscription and the way in which more money was to be channelled into the Guild General Fund. The master had previously explained that the Executive Committee had set up a Belfry Repair Fund into which the tower affiliation fees were to be paid.

Four new members were elected: Christopher Caryer, Nicholas Mudge and Grant Pyner, of Ewell, and Alan Ure, of Dunsfold. The master welcomed them to the guild and expressed the hope that they would have a long and enjoyable ringing career.

Answering an enquiry about the bells at Ranmore Common, the master explained that a home had not yet been found for them, mainly because they had to be kept as a ring of eight, but he had hopes of successful redeployment of the ring. Regarding the recent Press reports of complaints from the University about ringing at Guildford Cathedral, Mrs. C. Tubbs informed the meeting that no official complaint had been made to the Dean and Chapter and that only one person had complained to the University authorities.

The meeting concluded when Mr. E. Warner thanked the ladies for the tea, the organist, and the Rev. W. Sellars for taking the service. A.E.

About the Central Council

4.—LITERATURE AND PRESS COMMITTEE

By E. C. SHEPHERD (convener)

AT THE MEETING of the Central Council at Westminster in 1903 the Rev. (later Canon) Papillon raised the question of the possibility of doing more to educate the public in the matter of change-ringing. Everyone agreed that this ought to be done, although no one had any clear idea of how it might be done. Nevertheless, after much discussion a committee was appointed to look into the question, and Mr. Papillon, Mr. R. A. Daniell and Mr. Maitland Kelly constituted what was called the Press Committee. A number of useful articles were written by Mr. Papillon and others, but the difficulties of educating the public soon became apparent, and the main job of the committee resolved itself into the preparation of a catalogue of all the known works on ringing, a task undertaken by Mr. Daniell. Seven years later Mr. Daniell reported that the work was in hand; in 1913 it was stated that the catalogue was still unfinished. Meanwhile the name of the committee had been changed to Church Press Committee and then to Literature Committee, and it was doing useful work in encouraging the writing of articles for the Press, in watching what was written and in keeping the ringing Exercise in touch with what was done. The present title of the committee came in 1919, but with the development of radio the word "Broadcasting" was added.

FIRST TO BROADCAST

The committee thus dealt with ringing literature and with what bell and bellringing matter was put out on the air. Among the first to broadcast was the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards, of Kington Magna, Dorset. This remarkable man was convener of the committee for more than 30 years and his reports were masterpieces of construction. He was a man solid, quiet and convincing, and he commanded great respect. His energy and determination were astonishing; when he was over 80 he travelled 300 miles from Dorset to Newcastle-on-Tyne, where we saw him, after his long day's journey, sitting in the smoke room at the Turk's Head calmly sipping his ale.

The difficulties that faced the committee of 1903 have not disappeared with the passing of 67 years. There is no way of educating the public to a correct appreciation of change-ringing except by persuading it to study text books; and this is hardly likely to be done. As was pointed out in 1903, editors have the job of making their papers pay and are not willing to print technical expositions. On the other hand, they are not at all unwilling to publish readable matter concerning bells, their history and legends, and even some comprehensible references to how changes are rung; for there can be little doubt that, apart from a small minority, English people have a love of bells and a desire to hear them.

The present Literature and Press Committee was elected in 1954, and it is a committee of two—myself and Mr. F. E. Dukes. It may at sight appear a small body to be called a committee, but actually it is quite large enough. Throughout the year news cuttings of many kinds are sent in to us from near and far, and it is convenient to have the "gathering points" for all this



Edgar C. Shepherd.

material limited to two spots. In practice it emerges that Mr. Dukes collects matter from outside England while I assemble most of the remainder.

All references to ringing are read, annotated and then filed under headings—news items, feature articles, technical articles, and so on. At the end of the year these are reviewed and some attempt is made to indicate any special feature of the year's publicity. It is not possible, of course, to mention in our report every item we have received, but each piece, great or small, helps to build up the picture of the ringing literature of the 12 months. Notice is always taken of new publications of works by ringers themselves, and of the very interesting and useful local journals and news sheets produced by enterprising and hard-working enthusiasts.

TIME LAG

In theory the committee stands ready to refute any false, absurd or unfairly derogatory statements on bells and bellringers that may appear in the Press. In practice it is not always easy to be of use in this capacity. This is due partly to the time lag between the appearance of the objectionable article or letter and our awareness of its publication and partly to the actions of editors who ignore our protests or distort them by incomplete presentation. The less reputable journals often resort to the latter device; the better class papers will either ignore us or print us in full; and this, if not satisfactory, is at least honourable.

The report that Mr. Dukes and I present to the Central Council may be said to have three main aims. First, it tries to provide the Exercise with a review of what has been written and said about us during the year; in other words, to help us "to see ourselves as others see us." There can be no question of the value of this to those of us who think at all deeply about our

St. David's Guild

A COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET

A quarterly meeting of the St. David's Diocesan Guild was held at Llanelli on March 14th, with members present from Burry Port, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Llanelli, Pembroke and Tenby. The service was conducted by Canon Howard Williams, the organist was Mr. Alan Morris and the lesson was read by Rev. R. W. Thomas.

Mr. Percy Griffiths expressed thanks for the excellent tea, prepared and served by the ladies of the parish, and at the meeting it was decided to nominate the secretary as C.C. representative, the present representative being unable to attend.

It was proposed that a booklet to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Guild be compiled and that a dinner be held in Carmarthen in October. It was agreed that a peal be attempted in the Cathedral to mark the golden jubilee of the Province.

The Rev. R. W. Thomas (master), who had left the diocese to be Vicar of St. Julian's, Newport, was welcomed.

The meeting was held jointly with the Swansea and Brecon Guild, both joining for some good ringing and for tea, but the business meetings being held separately.

Nottingham University Society

VISITED TWELVE TOWERS

The Nottingham University Society spent a weekend based in Worcester as last term's outing. Travelling by minibus, 12 towers were visited, including Pershore Abbey (quite an experience!) and Worcester Cathedral. Other churches included Elmley Castle, where some of the local inhabitants remarked how pleasant it was to hear the bells rung! On Sunday morning three members rang in a quarter at Stoulton.

Thanks to Paul Cattermole for making the arrangements and to Chris for his navigation.

On March 4 the Society held its A.G.M., when the following officers were elected: chairman and ringing master, Hilary K. Derham (13 Orchard Road, Backwell, Bristol, BS19 3HP); secretary, Margaret H. Mees (Willoughby Hall, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2QR). and treasurer, John Wright.

art and the work to which it is dedicated. Secondly, we should wish this report to act as an incentive to ringers to write and speak boldly about bellringing, and to educate the public in what we do and, most important of all, why we do it. Thirdly, we all need constant reminders of the tremendous amount that is written for us by our fellow ringers—the articles technical and historical, pamphlets, books, periodicals, all of them for our instruction and entertainment. Year by year we have evidence of deeply devoted work, and the report tries in some small way to express the gratitude of us all for this constant enlargement of our ringing literature.

Sometimes, on gazing at the report and on the pile of material from which it emerged, one is tempted to think that the mountain (like that of Horace) has with great labour brought forth a mouse. But then one is comforted by the thought that even the mouse has its uses, as the lion in the fable of Aesop found to his great benefit.

Devon Association.

COMPETITION PLANS

The Devon Association of Ringers has now published its 1970 programme, with details of the six-bell and eight-bell competitions.

People who like to combine a visit to a competition with a day in picturesque countryside can make a note of the eight-bell and the final of the six-bell; the former is on April 18th at Revelstoke, overlooking the lovely Yealm estuary near Plymouth, with the South Devon coastline just the other side of the hill; the latter is one of Devon's most dramatically-placed towers, St. Petrox, Dartmouth, the church in the castle at the mouth of the Dart, perched above the rocks at the entrance of one of Britain's loveliest harbours. Both rings are mainly 19th century, but across the water they should sound delightful. The Dartmouth competition is on June 13.

The two towers selected for the area six-bell competitions are Ide for the South and Black Torrington for the North. Ide (pronounced "Eed") is only a mile or two outside the edge of Exeter (turn left at the top of the first hill out of Exeter on the Okehampton road) and has a Warner six with an 8½ cwt. tenor in a delightful village. The Ide competition is on May 9, and a fortnight later, on the 23rd, comes Black Torrington. Don't be misled by the name; this is quite a long way from Great Torrington and in a rather unexpected direction, because the Torridge makes three-quarters of a circle. Black Torrington is a little way north of the Exeter-Bude road, in a little-known part of the county which is well worth a visit; the bells are a Pennington ring with an 8½ cwt. tenor in F sharp; they sound much heavier than their true weight, and very much better inside the church than out, but they are a nice six to ring and there should be some excellent ringing on them with West Down, Down St. Mary and Swymbridge among the entries.

In all these competitions, the service starts events at 2 p.m. and tea is served at 4. Having the service at the beginning is an attempt to get teams to be there on time; one hopes it will be successful, for it can be very frustrating for the organisers, judges and punctual teams if people have to wait about for a long time before the draw can be made and ringing can begin.

J. G. M. S.

COINCIDENCE

Roy Threadgold writes:—

"When sending the quarter in which Rosalind Campbell rang her 'first' I came across some interesting coincidences. I discovered that I had rung no quarter of Bob Doubles since her sister, Elizabeth, rang her first in 1966; that was on St. George's Day. Rosalind's was on St. David's Day. With a name like Campbell, we will have to see if their brother, Richard, can ring his on St. Andrew's Day!

"This trio spread their ringing over Yorkshire and Suffolk, but our home tower is Wethersfield, Essex.

"Wethersfield Anglican and Congregational churches have had close ties for many years. We have built up a tradition of ringing for the Congregational Harvest Festival, and the Campbells certainly help this—their father is Congregational organist and their grandfather used to be Congregational minister at Braintree."

MEN WHO STOLE CHURCH BELLS

Appleton Week-End

Three Exeter men who removed bells from the disused St. Edmund's Church and sold them for scrap were given fines totalling £320 and suspended prison sentences.

The men, Colin Michael Bond (30), lorry driver, Ronald William Hannaford (25), unemployed, and his father, William Charles Hannaford (48), lorry driver, pleaded guilty to jointly entering the church as trespassers between January 1 and February 21 and stealing four of the church's eight bells, the property of Rev. Michael J. Morton.

Insp. D. Fowkes said that since the brewery next door became empty the now disused church had virtually no security.

Property still in the building included a ring of eight bells, all irreplaceable and of great historic value.

In February four of the bells were found to be missing, and it was discovered that they must have been dragged into the crypt and broken into pieces before being taken away.

Press publicity resulted in information leading to the recovery, in pieces, of two of the bells from a local scrap metal merchant. But pieces from the other two bells had already gone for smelting. Ronald Hannaford admitted the theft, and after his remand on bail the other two men went to the police and admitted their part.

Statements made by the men revealed that Ronald Hannaford had first noticed the bells in the church and brought the others in to help him steal them. Tackle taken from a building site was used to lower one of the bells into the crypt where it was broken up and sold to a scrap metal merchant. At the beginning of February they stole the second bell in the same manner and on February 21 took the other two.

Visits to the scrap metal merchants were always made at night, and the men profited by £180 from the sale of the metal.

Ronald Hannaford said in his statement that the scrap metal merchant knew the metal was stolen. All three men apologised from the dock.

The chairman of the magistrates told them: "Not only were these bells of great historic value and of value to the church, but you stole them for your own greed and sold them for an enormous amount of money."

Ronald Hannaford was fined £120 and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, suspended for two years; William Hannaford and Colin Bond were each fined £100 and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, suspended for two years. Each of the men was ordered to pay the fine at £2 a week.

INTER-SCHOOL SOCIETY

Writing from King's School, Worcester, Christopher J. Pickford tells us:—

"The Worcester Schools Change-ringing Society has only been in existence since September, and weekly term-time practices are held on the ten at All Saints' Church on Thursday afternoons. As far as I know this is the only inter-school Society in existence.

"The people who attend our practices form the main part of the Sunday service band at St. John's, Worcester, though others hail from Stoulton and Whitbourne and Pershore. We also teach anyone who is interested to handle a bell, and the attendance at these practices has grown considerably since last September."

"THE CUP OF JOY"

"When Friendship, Love and Truth abound

Among a band of brothers,
The cup of joy goes gaily round,
Each shares the bliss of others."

So runs a verse on an old loving cup made in 1820 A.D., about the time that the foundations of the Appleton Society of Ringers were being laid. Without much doubt "the cup of joy" still goes gaily round on the nearest Saturday to March 4 of every year at Appleton, Berkshire. This year's gathering saw about 130 ringers and friends sit down to dinner, and was the absolute limit of the village hall.

The function was supported by a large majority of the younger generation, who seemed to join most enthusiastically in this traditional entertainment. Fred Sharpe proposed "The Appleton Society" and ably gave the history and some details of the worthies of the past. Frank White, who was given an ovation as he rose to reply, spoke of his pleasure at the continued support of ringers from so many societies, and properly added a sad touch in mentioning the loss sustained by the passing of Fred Messenger and Cyril Hibbert. "The Church" was toasted at the call of Frank White's co-churchwarden and replied to in happy vein by the rector, who said he wished all sections of church workers like ringers could find the same pleasure and enthusiasm in their work.

"Young Brian," as he is affectionately known, welcomed the visitors, and this was acknowledged by Rodney Yates (master, Oxford University Society), and Bill Hibbert was well received as he voiced the thanks of all for the party.

Earlier in the day the usual peal attempt got under way at 10.15 a.m. Tony Kench, master of the College Youths, was delayed so Charlie Sangwyn, from Stratton, joined the band and the peal was duly rung. For Bill Hibbert it was a special occasion, for on March 4, 50 years ago, he rang his first peal on the Appleton bells.

The whole week-end was, as usual, made doubly pleasant by the wonderful service and attention to everyone's comfort and refreshment by Mr. and Mrs. Fowler, hosts at the Plough. Mention must be made of the hospitality of Frank's sister, Phyllis, and Fred (her husband) year by year to the delight of the peal band and their friends; also the cosy reception afforded to all who found their way to the Thatched Tavern, where many years ago the dinner was held.

Despite the severe weather on Sunday there were many who were up and ready to ring at Christ Church, Oxford, at 9 a.m. and at All Saints' later on.

And so it seems, to use a verse from Troyte's Change Ringing, March 4 at Appleton is "Ever the same yet ever new." May it long continue to be one of the highlights of our ringing calendar. W. H. C.

INJURED BY FALL

The sexton and verger at Pilton Parish Church, Barnstaple, Mr. A. Griffiths, of Church Cottage, was taken to hospital recently with a broken leg and back injuries after falling down the bell tower of the church.

Mr. Griffiths, himself a former ringer, was in the tower where the ring of eight was rehung early in March.

WHAT A (LEGAL) NUISANCE!

By ALAN PATTERSON

WHEN Fabian Stedman was introducing the concept of change ringing to English bell-ringers there was probably at least one person living within earshot of the tower who found frequent cause to curse the day that either he or Stedman was born. Times have changed immeasurably since those early days but the problem of the conflicting interests of ringers and those who neither love nor understand the cacophony which issues from the tower is still with us.

It seems that whilst both the Exercise and the Church have gone through a considerable change of attitude in many respects, both have been either wilfully blind or asleep when the problem of nuisance to the inhabitants of a parish caused by bells has presented itself. We, as ringers, have no divine right to persecute our neighbours with the clamour of our chosen instruments. Nor do we have any such right at law. Many ringers are unsure about their legal standing in this matter and it is hoped that this article might provoke some thought upon the subject. It must be stressed that the propositions of law in this article are my own interpretation of the cases and should the reader require legal advice he should consult a solicitor.

Let us assume that a Mr. Grouch has recently moved into a house near the church at Anyparish and has instituted proceedings against the Vicar, Rev. Dogood, and the ringers, headed by their tower captain, Mr. Clanger, alleging that the ringing of the bells of the church is a nuisance and claiming an injunction and damages.

TWO KINDS OF NUISANCE

First, it must be established what the nature of a nuisance is at law in this context. There are two kinds of nuisance—public nuisance and private nuisance. Paradoxical though it may seem, the likelihood of proceedings being taken against Dogood and Clanger in public nuisance is a good deal less likely than proceedings in private nuisance. A public nuisance would be perpetrated by Clanger and his band if it could be established that the ringing endangered (amongst other things) the *comfort* of the public or prejudiced the members of the public in the exercise of a common right (e.g. the quiet enjoyment of their property). At least a section of the public must be prejudiced by the act complained of and whilst there is no hard and fast rule as to how many people must be affected, it was held to be sufficient that the inhabitants of quite a small locality would be enough in *Att.-Gen. v. P.Y.A. Quarries Ltd.* [1957] 2 Q.B. 169. However, the prospect of an action being brought in public nuisance is, as I have said, a little remote. This is mainly because Grouch would have to show that he had suffered damage different in kind from that suffered by the public at large.

As to private nuisance, the prospect of some Grouch taking proceedings against some Dogood and Clanger is almost so likely as to be probable. Here, Grouch is much more likely to make out a case than he is even under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, which (for reasons I shall not go into here) is quite likely to be a red herring in many cases. No, Grouch would do well to stick to the old common law of private nuisance.

At common law private nuisance can comprise either injury to property or interference with comfort. Grouch will be complaining of in-

terference with comfort. The question before the court will be whether it was reasonable in such a place as Anyparish for Grouch to have to endure the noise made by Clanger and his band. The standards of the plain man living in such a locality will be taken as the acid test. Who can deny that in most parishes Grouch would have an easy case? Our bells are often hung so that the mouths of the bells swing right up into the louvres and this, together with the total lack of sound-control, has the obvious result that the din of reverberating metal beats down unmercifully on the neighbouring houses.

What could Clanger and his band say in their defence? Could they say that it was not their fault that Grouch recently moved into the house and that, anyway, he should have expected to hear bells if he moved so close to a tower? It is well-settled law that this is no defence at all. Even if Grouch had built the house near the church on a previously vacant plot, no defence of this sort would be available to Clanger. No one but a churl would deliberately take proceedings because of some petty annoyance (and such a churl would lose, at least as to costs). But often the annoyance is more than petty. Not only this, most ringers are aware that the bells are in most cases far too loud to allow the near-neighbours of the church anything remotely resembling peace and quiet whilst ringing is in progress. Is it not then pertinent to ask who but a churl would deliberately persecute his neighbours with a noise which he well knows they cannot abide?

Just in case those self-righteous beings who never ring any peals and take an inordinate pride in ringing their limited repertoire badly on Sundays feel that I am only inviting peal ringers to think long and hard about their position, it must be stated that the case most directly in point concerned service ringing. This is the case of *Soltau v. De Held* (1851) 2 Sim (N.S.) 133. The church in question was the Roman Catholic church on Clapham Common, which at that time had a 9 cwt. ring of six. Much to the plaintiff's annoyance these bells were rung frequently either by chiming one or more of the bells or by the ring being rung for various services and festivals. An injunction was granted restraining the ringing of the bells, which was considered to be unreasonable in the circumstances.

EXTREME NUISANCE

Whilst I do not maintain that the decision in *Soltau v. De Held* is entirely satisfactory in every respect (for example *Kindersley, V.C.* regarded a 9 cwt. six as an exceptionally heavy ring) the whole tenor of the judgment is expressed in this passage: "A peal of bells may be, and no doubt is, an extreme nuisance and, perhaps, an intolerable nuisance to a person who lives within a very few feet or yards of them; but to a person who lives at a distance from them, although he is within distance of their sound, so far from its being a nuisance or an inconvenience, it may be a positive pleasure; for I cannot assent to the proposition of the plaintiff's counsel that in all circumstances and under all conditions the sound of bells must be a nuisance."

The position, then, seems to be that whilst the sound of bells is not of itself necessarily a nuisance, more often than not it is a nuisance because the bells are being used in an unreasonable manner. What are we, as ringers, to do? There are three courses of action

open to us. First, we can carry on as before in the fond hope that no one will take any action beyond telephoning the incumbent (if the telephone is not "off the hook"). If this course is adopted, a rude and amply justified shock must surely await us before the earthly seat of judgment in court.

Secondly, we can stop ringing altogether for fear that someone who knows a little too much of his rights might decide to act accordingly. This seems to be the course most readily adopted by too many incumbents once they find trouble (or the possibility of trouble) on their hands. This, too, must surely be wrong, for change ringing is a valuable subculture of Christianity and well worthy of preservation.

Thirdly, we can do our best to see that our bells are not capable of constituting a nuisance by means of installing effective (and, it need be, adjustable) sound-control. This method of solving the problem is to be preferred because it keeps both ringers and inhabitants happy. I would only add one word of warning—it is no use embarking upon a sound-control plan if it is not to be fully effective. Suppose in my example that Dogood and Clanger have made some half-hearted attempt at controlling the sound (perhaps through lack of funds) and Grouch sues. If it is established that the bells in fact constitute a nuisance, it will be no defence to say that everything possible has been done to avoid the nuisance. If there is a nuisance, Grouch will have his remedy no matter how good the intentions of Dogood and Clanger.

TIMES HAVE CHANGED

Soltau v. De Held was decided in the 19th century. Times have changed since then and the implied deference to the Church of England in *Kindersley V.C.*'s judgment would perhaps not be shown so generously today. Quite apart from this, people are more than ever aware of their rights. The benevolent attitude of the general public towards the Church is in decline and it must only be a matter of time before some real Mr. Grouch decides that enough is enough. The problem may not have been urgent in 1851, but it is urgent now and to ignore it would be to court disaster. If enough publicity were given to a successful plaintiff, a flood of actions might well follow and ringers would be put into a position from which it would be difficult to recover.

If sound-control is to be provided, how is this to be done? The Church is poor and in decline while the expense of work carried out on its buildings rises remorselessly up the spiral of inflation. Surely it is fair that the Exercise should take this burden upon itself at least until the Church is in a better position to afford the cost. The Exercise has benefited for centuries from the presence of the Church and it would be appropriate if the Church could lean a little on the Exercise in this respect.

Is it not ludicrous that the annual subscription of guilds and associations is computed in shillings? There is not one association, guild or society that even asks for one (old) penny a day from its members as an annual subscription. Many associations have bell repair funds and this is indeed commendable. But look at the miserable amounts in them and compare this with the gargantuan task of providing the necessary sound-proofing. Are we to remain in slumber (or wilful blindness) or are we to wake up before it is too late? The Church cannot take the additional burden and unless this is done by the Exercise through the local associations, ringing and therefore we ourselves will be the sufferers.

(Continued overleaf)

Letters

PEAL UMPIRE

Dear Sir,—I confirm that on September 13 I checked all the calls and the coursing orders throughout the peal of 16,128 Superlative at the Bell Foundry.

It was rung in accordance with the Central Council regulations and was up to the standard required for record peals.—Yours faithfully,

BERNARD GROVES (umpire).
Reading, Berks.

TRAINING NEW BANDS

Dear Sir,—I wonder if I may comment on the keenness of those who are struggling to form and train new bands of ringers at churches where the bells have been silent for some years (or, at best, have only been chimed by perhaps one or two faithful members).

There are several churches within the Coventry and Leicester Dioceses where this is the case, but one in particular I would like to mention, namely Croft, near Leicester. Mr. Fred Watson, a devoted ringer of many years' standing, has an infectious enthusiasm which deserves the highest praise. He has gathered together six or seven youngsters (average age about 11 years old) and they are progressing very well indeed.

How grand it would be if more ringers of experience would give these struggling bands a helping hand—even once a month. The resultant gratitude would, I am certain, more than compensate for giving up an evening in this way.—Yours faithfully,

G. EDMANDS.
Chilvers Coton, Warwicks.

COUNCIL MATTERS

Dear Sir,—The Exercise will no doubt take heart from the knowledge that Mr. Mew has assumed the mantle of Ombudsman.

The minority of malcontents should appreciate, however, that there is a limit to the amount of this brand of humbug which will be taken by voluntary officers.—Yours faithfully,

VERNON BOTTOMLEY,
Hon. Secretary.
Northowram, Halifax.

LEGAL NUISANCE (continued)

As to the future, sound-control should be regarded as a necessary part of the fittings of a ring of bells. Who amongst us would expect to find a silencer quoted as an optional extra on a motor-car? If both of the foundries would include effective sound-control in their estimates, I feel that a great step would be taken towards a more tolerant attitude to bells by the general public. Inevitably, this would add to the cost, but what is the sense of paying £10,000 for a ring of bells when they cannot be used for the want of a further £200? (These figures are just "plucked out of the air" but I am sure that the point will be taken.)

I urge every ringer who cares for the future of the Exercise to lobby his association officers so that an effective programme can be worked out now (not at the next A.G.M.). Our names may not be Dogood, or Clanger, or Soltau or De Held, but the principle and precedent established in 1851 is ever more likely to be applied, if not expounded. To continue to ignore the problem even for one week longer is to connive at a great abuse of privilege.

If it is felt to be impossible to set up a scheme on the above lines, perhaps it would be possible to set up a legal defence fund.]

SCRAPYARD BELLS

Dear Sir,—Further to your correspondent Mr. Bassett's news of the bells in a Tunbridge Wells scrapyard, I cannot offer any conclusive evidence of their origin, but think they may be four out of the five chiming bells from the Roman Catholic church there. I read that this was to be demolished some short while ago, and assume that this has now happened. If it is so, the bells would be four out of a fixed chime of five (tenor 6 cwt. 24lb. in B), the others forming the Cambridge Quarters, notes A sharp, G sharp, F sharp and C sharp, which I know were cast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

Anyone would sympathise with Mr. Fortin's wish that the ring of eight bells (quite incorrectly given by Dove as a chime, as they retain their ringing fittings) at Aylesbury, Bucks, should ring again. The late Sir G. Scott, who removed the ringing room floor, did say that he considered the floor unsafe (perhaps this was in order to get his way and to have the glorious Norman lantern stage exposed). Surely well-designed rope guides would be part of the answer there, or even a Merton College type gallery. But before this is done, presumably the question of tower safety would have to be carefully looked at; and, at the same time, it must be accepted that the bells would probably have to have at least new fittings and possibly framework as well. They sound fine chimed; what a grand sound they must have made when swung!

—Yours faithfully,
DAVID L. CAWLEY.
Canterbury, Kent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

Dear Sir,—The suggestion of your correspondent, Mr. Drew, page 190, on "The Official Journal," of asking associations and guilds to support The Ringing World by financial contribution is in my opinion a sound one. Indeed, I had the intention of suggesting this.

However, I would not grade this contribution according to number of membership as this would be tantamount to penalising the more enthusiastically supported guilds and associations.

I feel that we, as ringers, enjoying the pleasure and fellowship of ringing, ought to try all feasible measures to improve the circulation of our paper and thus make it a more lucrative commercial undertaking. It is a good bob's worth. It keeps us abreast of events, helps to further the fellowship of ringers and engenders interest in the Exercise among young and old.

This provides me with the opportunity of suggesting that we might find a page or two devoted to junior ringers to be a means of bringing in new readers. This junior section could be in the middle of The Ringing World and could deal with the achievements of young ringers, their opinions of ringing, and their towers, hobbies, outings and other items of interest. By putting it into the middle pages the rest of the paper, or at least certain pages, might also be read where they are not at present.

It would seem that our numbers are made up of something like a third of young ringers whose enthusiasm for ringing could spread among their school-fellows; potential replacements to the ringing Exercise which in many areas is in need of new recruits.—Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY H. ISGAR.
Holland-on-Sea, Essex.

LONG PEAL

Dear Sir,—I would like to thank Mr. Sibson for clarifying the situation with regard to the long peal of Superlative. I note that he has the common sense to appreciate that it is a peal, even though the rule passed at the last Central Council meeting says "Any such performance not rung in full compliance with these conditions shall not be recognised as a peal and shall not be published in the Ringing World." Mr. Sibson states that Mr. Edwards did not reply to his letter enquiring about the peal. I am not saying that I agree with Mr. Edwards on this point, but on a previous occasion he gave evidence that a long peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major had been well rung, by Stephen Ivin's band, only to have the Records Committee turn down the request that it be accepted as a record peal, so why bother now?

The intentions of the band who rang the recent peal of Superlative were obviously good and it was not their fault that the umpire did not turn up. Do the Records Committee expect that having travelled hundreds of miles the band should not attempt to ring the peal because the umpire does not appear? The notice to the Exercise at large in the columns of the Ringing World is there as a precaution for this reason. The conductor of the peal had previously called round an attempt for this peal earlier in the year, even though the umpire had not at that point complained about the standard of striking. Are we to expect that he then lets the peal run its full length with poorer ringing? Who is to decide whether an umpire is competent to check the ringing in a record peal anyway? If the band appoint an umpire he may be just as biased as if he were a member of the band, and they wished to be fraudulent! The rules do not state that the umpire cannot be a member of the band! Had the band wished to pull the wool over the eyes of the Exercise at large they could have sent in the peal with Ronald Edwards as umpire and no more would have been said about it!

I believe that the peal should be published in the Ringing World so that the next generation of ringers will know that that length of peal of Superlative had been rung. The strict letter of the law says that it should not be, but then "the law is an ass."—Yours faithfully,

ROBERT B. SMITH.
Marple, Cheshire.

KIDDERMINSTER S. MAXIMUS

Dear Sir,—Your issue of March 13 (page 196) contains the report of a peal of Kidderminster Surprise Maximus rung at Aston. The length is 5042, and in view of the places occurring in the first section of this method, such a peal must be quite individual. On behalf of those who keep records, could I ask for the figures, please?

—Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. MAYNE.
St. Albans, Herts.

SPRING?

Dear Sir,—Was there something in the Sussex air the other week, as we read in The Ringing World that the tenor clapper broke at Battle?

The following day the 7th clapper at Wadhurst broke and on the following Wednesday the 7th clapper at East Grinstead also.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES A. BASSETT.
Wadhurst, Sussex.

LEADING PEAL RINGERS, 1969

By JANET AND DAVID HOUSE

A total of 297 people rang 25 peals or more last year, leaving out of consideration any peals not published by March 6. This is 60 more than the average number over the last five years (252, 232, 252, 205 and 250), so 1969 must be reckoned a year of progress in that respect. Clearly a simple numerical list does not make any assessment of quality in peal ringing, but most would agree that 1969 has had its highlights. Spliced Surprise Royal and Maximus from Cheshire and Hertfordshire have aroused more interest in handbell ringing on the part of the average ringer than has been felt for a good many years, not to mention fourteen and sixteen-in. Fine achievements in the field of Spliced Surprise Maximus have come from the Lancashire/Cheshire band, where they even manage to find people to stand in peals of 60-Spliced at 48 hours' notice! The Treble Bob Minor record was broken several times over by the Nottinghamshire band, who finally managed to squeeze 210 methods into a peal.

Leading the list for the second year running is C. Barrie Dove, of Leeds Parish Church, who received a great deal of support from other members of the band at Leeds. Besides Barrie, with his 123 peals, six of the Leeds ringers appear in the list with totals ranging from 35 to 88. There was strong competition throughout the year between Barrie Dove and R. Kingsley Mason, of Leicester; so strong, in fact, that on Boxing Day Kingsley was still ahead. Having been fed false information by Yorkshire "friends," however, he believed himself to be behind and cancelled a number of attempts in the last few days of the year, finishing with 119.

Thirty-one ladies rang more than 25 peals, led by Mary Elmes, of Wareham, with 86 and Christine L. J. Mills, of East Bridgford, with 78. Of particular note, we feel, is the achievement of Katherine M. Thorley, who took part in 35 peals whilst still only 13 years old. Leading conductor was C. Barrie Dove, who called 118 of his 123 peals, including 12 in a peal week which he arranged and on which he called every peal. Kingsley Mason and Tim Collins, who are second and third in the list, were equally happy to ring with others call-

ing, and were both fortunate enough to have other good conductors around them; nevertheless they called 54 and 56 respectively. Michael J. Church, who conducted 46 peals last year, had only called one peal of Major previously (and that on December 30, 1968!); included in his 46 were 17 peals of Spliced Surprise Major.

The handbell scene was dominated, in number as well as quality, by two bands. Bob Smith and Bernard Groves lead the field, with both of them ringing over 40 each on both tower- and handbells, a balance which was also achieved by Roger and Kath Baldwin and John Mayne.

We have received a large number of interesting letters over the past few weeks in connection with the records. Pat Cannon once again managed to ring all his peals in different towers and has now rung peals in over 920 towers. Over the border in Cornwall things are stirring; last year Tony Davidson was thought to be the first Cornishman to ring 25 peals in a year, while this year four of the resident members are to be found in the list.

Finally, our apologies to any whose names appear against their will—we know of two—and to those whose totals appear incorrectly. Judging from the large number of totals sent in for checking, for which we are most grateful, there will be a considerable number of minor inaccuracies.

LADIES

1. Mary E. Elmes	86	—
2. Christine L. J. Mills	78	—
3. Katherine J. Maundrell	69	1
4. Beryl R. Simpson	67	1
5. S. Kathleen M. Baldwin	67	—

CONDUCTORS

1. C. Barrie Dove	118
2. Timothy F. Collins	56
3. R. Kingsley Mason	54
4. Kevin M. Price	53
5. Michael J. Church	46

HANDBELLS

1. Robert B. Smith	41	23
2. Bernard F. L. Groves	40	16
3. Gerald Moorhouse	38	1
4. Julia A. Fellows	38	—
5. S. Kathleen M. Baldwin	33	—

C. BARRIE DOVE

Details of Barrie Dove's ringing career appeared in this position last year. In 1969 he added 123 peals to his total, bringing him close to his 500th peal, almost half of which have been rung in the last two years. Most of his peals (101) were of Surprise Major, including 34 single methods. Nineteen of these peals were of Spliced, from four to 24 methods, all of which he conducted. Eight peals of Royal, two of Cambridge Maximus and 12 6-bell peals were also amongst the 123.

Peals which gave him particular pleasure in 1969 included one at Sherborne, in which he turned in the 46 cwt. tenor to Bristol Surprise Major, one of Cambridge Maximus at Leeds, which included ten members of the local band, and that of 24-Spliced Surprise Major, which was rung at the first attempt. Disappointments there were, too: two peals were lost which had passed the 5,000 change mark—one with a broken clapper and the other with a broken rope.

Only two of his peals were not rung for his local Association, the Yorkshire, these being one each for the Salisbury Guild and the Lancashire Association.

MARY E. ELMES

Mary Elmes, this year's leading lady, learnt to ring at the Parish Church of Lady St. Mary, Wareham, Dorset, in 1963. A three-year stay at Exmouth, whilst training as a teacher, enabled her to continue her ringing at Withycombe Raleigh during term time, with the help of Frank Mack. After two years' teaching in Southampton she returned to Dorset to teach at Dorchester County Primary School.

Mary rang her first peal in 1965 and her interest grew rapidly that same year when she and her brother, Graham, joined a peal tour arranged by George E. Bonham through an advert in the R.W. At that time peal ringing was the only way to progress as opportunities for ringing advanced methods were otherwise limited. By the end of 1969 her peal total was 153, and included in this number are four peals with an entirely local band.

Mary's peals in 1969 ranged from Doubles to Maximus, 41 of them being of Surprise Major. Many of them were rung with two other members of the Wareham band—her brother, Graham, and Timothy F. Collins—who both rang over a hundred peals last year. She has recently become interested in handbell ringing and hopes to ring a peal in hand before too long.

Peal List—continued from page 227

	Total		Tower		Hand	
	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.
31 James W. Belshaw	66	8	66	8	—	—
32 Tudor P. Edwards	65	22	65	22	—	—
32 Clifford A. Barron	65	17	65	17	—	—
34 Roland H. Cook	64	20	64	20	—	—
34 Ronald R. Warford	64	4	64	4	—	—
34 Arthur E. Rowley	64	3	64	3	—	—
37 Frank R. Morton	63	33	54	28	9	5
37 Peter C. Randall	63	25	63	25	—	—
37 Maureen J. Carruthers	63	1	44	—	19	1
40 Christopher I. Rowson	62	30	40	13	22	17
40 Andrew W. R. Wilby	62	8	54	8	8	—
40 K. Paul Gilliver	62	5	61	5	1	—
43 Barry R. Care	61	13	61	13	—	—
44 Kevin M. Price	60	53	37	30	23	23
44 John R. Mayne	60	45	29	16	31	29
44 Maurice F. Edwards	60	—	60	—	—	—
47 James L. Towler	59	8	59	8	—	—

	Total		Tower		Hand	
	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.
48 J. Alan Ainsworth	58	12	58	12	—	—
48 Cecil W. Pipe	58	4	58	4	—	—
48 Richard S. Starkie	58	1	58	1	—	—
48 Paul A. Williams	58	—	58	—	—	—
52 Graham C. Paul	57	35	57	35	—	—
52 Geoffrey K. Dodd	57	29	57	29	—	—
52 Alan D. Flood	57	2	57	2	—	—
52 Alan A. Paul	57	—	57	—	—	—
56 Alan F. Scholfield	54	3	44	2	10	1
56 George E. Fearn	54	1	54	1	—	—
58 Jack L. Millhouse	53	35	44	28	10	7
58 Gerald Moorhouse	53	2	15	1	38	1
58 David E. Rothera	53	1	53	1	—	—
61 George E. Thoday	52	17	52	17	—	—
61 Timothy Wylie	52	5	51	5	1	—
61 Rowan S. Bradley	52	—	51	—	1	—
64 Peter Border	51	29	51	29	—	—

(Continued on page 260)

Quarter Peals

HALF PEAL

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On March 15, 2520 Pl. Bob Minor: 1-2 P. A. Slight, 3-4 D. A. Frith (cond.). 5-6 B. Buttery.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH

LLANDYSSUL, CARDS.—On March 14, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Hilary Glazebrook 1, Elizabeth I. Salem 2, Susan E. Davis (cond.) 3, D. E. P. Watkins 4, R. T. Falder 5. Also 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: D. J. Morgan 1, A. Biggs 2, Rosalie Watkins 3, Margaret Twigg 4, K. Morgan (cond.) 5. Birthday compliment to the ringer of 2.

MACHYNLLETH, MONTS.—On March 11, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: A. Watson (first on a working bell) 1, Elizabeth I. Salem 2, Susan E. Davis 3, Margaret Twigg (cond.) 4, K. Morgan 5, R. T. Falder 6. For Confirmation service.

BADGEWORTH, GLOS.—On March 14, 1260 Doubles (five methods): W. Oakley 1, Clare Taylor 2, Helen Taylor 3, Hilda Taylor 4, E. J. Taylor (cond.) 5, A. J. Newman 6. For the consecration of the new organ.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 14, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: S. J. Osborne 1, Rosemary Lelliot 2, Gillian S. M. Laming Macadam 3, E. M. Laming Macadam 4, R. Towler (first as cond.) 5, W. G. Merritt 6. First Minor 1, 2, 4, 5. A wedding compliment to Christine B. Pike and Jonathan W. Wells, married this day at West Clandon, Surrey. Also on March 6, 1260 Doubles (ten meth./var.): Hilary J. Osborne 1, R. R. Kennard 2, E. M. Laming Macadam 3, Gillian S. M. Laming Macadam 4, A. Turner (cond.) 5, S. J. Osborne 6.

BARTON STACEY, HANTS.—On March 7, 1260 Doubles (six methods): N. J. W. Parsons (first quarter) 1, R. R. Crook (most methods to a quarter) 2, R. J. Latham 3, A. McDonaldson 4, R. J. M. Bavin (first as cond.) 5, P. L. Bunn (first quarter) 6.

BATTERSEA, LONDON.—On March 7, 1260 Doubles (P.B., Grandsire): Susan D. A. Trousdale 1, Margaret A. Robinson 2, Mary Sutcliffe 3, D. R. Tipler 4, R. J. Cooles 5, P. Whalley 6. Conducted by 4 and 5. For Evensong.

BENHALL, SUFFOLK.—On March 13, 1320 Plain Bob Doubles: R. Peck 1, R. Peters 2, M. Peters 3, M. Baldry 4, T. Hughes (cond.) 5, H. Archer 6. A silver wedding compliment to Chloe and Peter Bedford.

BEVERLEY, E. YORKS.—On March 4, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Wendy Atkinson 1, A. Trebble 2, P. Church 3, J. Atkinson 4, L. Daggit (cond.) 5, A. Taylor 6, J. Chaddock 7, J. Brook 8. First: by the present band

BIGGIN HILL, KENT.—On March 15, 1260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Hooper 1, Doreen Williamson 2, Julia Collinge 3, D. J. Stocker 4, P. R. Butler (cond.) 5, A. H. Long 6. For Evensong.

BILTON, WARKS.—On March 11, 1260 Plain Bob Minor: W. J. Vann 1, W. E. Burnell 2, L. A. Whewall 3, D. G. Welch 4, V. B. Bedford 5, M. Fiander (cond.) 6. For Confirmation.

BRAY, CO. WICKLOW.—On March 10, 1260 Doubles (four methods): P. W. Rooke 1, C. A. Lewis (cond.) 2, C. E. S. Hall 3, J. Shields 4, A. R. MacKenzie 5, D. F. Lane 6.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—On March 8, at St. Alphege's Church, 1260 Doubles (Grandsire, P.B.): L. Hewson (first quarter) 1, M. L. Haigh 2, P. S. Philpott 3, T. Skilton 4, J. B. Keeler (cond., 50th quarter) 5. For Evensong.

CHILHAM, KENT.—On March 15, 1280 Pl. Bob Major: P. S. Philpott 1, J. Hedgcock 2, T. Skilton (cond.) 3, C. M. Godfrey 4, P. M. Hills 5, M. L. Haigh 6, J. B. Keeler 7, D. J. Carr 8. For Evensong.

CHURCH GRESLEY, DERBYS.—On March 6, 1260 Doubles (six meth./var.): L. Haywood 1, J. W. Cotton 2, K. Minham (first inside) 3, N. W. Cotton 4, D. P. Jones (cond.) 5. For 11th anniversary of dedication of bells.

COLLANT ST. MARY, DEVON.—On March 11, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Tucker (first Doubles) 1, A. S. Carter 2, R. F. Shepperd (cond.) 3, R. E. Bell 4, R. J. Edden 5.

DOWNTON, WILTS.—On March 9, 1380 Doubles (three methods): G. Mackman (first: quarter) 1, B. J. Woodruffe (cond.) 2, E. T. Collins 3, J. Mussell 4, R. N. Marlow 5, C. Churchill 6.

ECCLESFIELD, YORKS.—On March 6, 1344 Grandsire Triples: Elizabeth Scourfield 1, A. Dunn-Birch 2, Frances Garfield 3, R. Cater 4, P. Carbutt (first Triples as cond.) 5, G. Scourfield 6, P. Charlesworth 7, H. Mann 8. First Triples 1, 3 and 7.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On March 8, 1260 Pl. Bob Triples: D. Rankin 1, P. W. Dickinson 2, T. H. O. Lewis 3, M. Ann Castle (first quarter) 4, R. A. Bradley 5, B. Dye 6, J. S. Hopwood (first as cond.) 7, Gwineth M. James 8. By B.U.S.C.R. for festival.

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On March 1, 1440 Pl. Bob Minor: 1-2 P. A. Slight, 3-4 D. A. Frith (cond.), 5-6 B. Buttery. First quarter for 1-2, 5-6.

GREAT GIDDING, HUNTS.—On March 16, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: J. David 1, R. J. Yeomans 2, D. P. Murduck (cond.) 3, J. Riley 4, T. Austin 5. A birthday compliment to the ringer of 2.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.—On Jan. 20, 1264 Pl. Bob Major: F. Whitby 1, Janice Flight 2, L. Cordell 3, R. Hayden 4, L. Whitby 5, J. Ale 6, W. Ale (cond.) 7, E. Rochester 8. Half-muffled in memorial Rev. John Oliver White, Vicar of Harlow Common 1936-1956, late Rector of Gidleigh, Devon, buried here this day.

KINGSTON SEYMOUR, SOM.—On March 3, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. Norton 1, E. Baker 2, J. Pople 3, R. Luxton 4, W. Neath (cond.) 5, T. Baker 6. Half-muffled for the funeral of Mr. H. Knight, past ringing master, Chew Deanery.

LAMBERHURST, KENT.—On March 7, 1260 Plain Bob Minor: Jacqueline F. Collins (first quarter) 1, P. P. Sherlock 2, S. P. Piper 3, S. G. Waters 4, L. T. Pope (cond.) 5, W. H. Dobbie 6.

LECKHAMPTON, GLOS.—On March 9, 1344 Grandsire Triples: Helen Taylor 1, Hilda Taylor 2, A. Ewins 3, Clare Taylor 4, B. H. Taylor 5, H. Read (cond.) 6, E. J. Taylor 7, R. Webb 8. For the first Mass of Rev. Christopher Hewitson, ordained in this church on March 8.

LINCOLN.—At St. Giles' Church, on March 15, 1280 Kent T.B. Major: J. L. Millhouse 1, Vivienne West 2, Susan A. Faulk 3, W. Booth 4, A. Sinden 5, M. I. Minns 6, J. Parkin 7, D. Phillipson (cond.) 8. First in method 2, 3, 4 and 5.

LITTLE HOUGHTON, NORTHANTS.—On Feb. 22, 1260 Doubles (three methods): T. Brightwell (first quarter) 1, E. Hastings 2, C. E. Stanton 3, R. Henman (cond.) 4, D. J. Morgan 5. For morning service; also a birthday compliment to D. J. Morgan.

THREE QUARTER PEALS

LLANDAFF, GLAM.—On Feb. 1, 1280 Bristol Surprise Major: Anne Cooke 1, J. Clatworthy 2, J. W. Bull 3, J. M. Lakin 4, P. A. Williams 5, D. Llewellyn 6, N. Simon (cond.) 7, S. Fenwick 8. Also on March 1, 1260 Stedman Triples: N. Simon (cond.) 1, Anne Cooke 2, N. A. James 3, S. Fenwick 4, W. H. Harford 5, J. W. Bull 6, P. A. Williams 7, F. W. Corney 8. Also on March 8, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor (tenor covering): Zoe MacMillan 1, Shelagh Plumb (first inside) 2, Anne Cooke 3, N. A. James 4, N. Simon (cond.) 5, S. Fenwick 6, J. W. Bull 7. For Evensong.

MARKSBURY, SOM.—On March 3, 1260 Doubles (three methods): Susan Coombs 1, P. Blacker 2, A. Coombs (cond.) 3, Susan Willis 4, R. Perry 5, H. Coombs 6. A birthday compliment to Susan and Alan Coombs.

MILBORNE PORT, DORSET.—On Feb. 27, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Harvey 1, Jill Lock 2, R. Field (cond.) 3, R. Lock 4, M. Lamb 5, N. Wood Lock 6.

NETTLEHAM, Lincs.—On March 8, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: Mrs. S. Sinden 1, A. Sinden 2, Mrs. M. Parker 3, C. Nicoll (first inside) 4, W. Booth 5, M. Sinden (cond.) 6. For Mothering Sunday.

NORRURY, CHESHIRE.—On March 14, 1344 Pl. Bob Major: B. S. Schofield 1, M. Foulds 2, Elizabeth Hibbert (first quarter) 3, B. S. B. Kear 4, W. Birmingham, jun. 5, S. I. Bamforth 6, P. Broadbent 7, R. F. Andrew (first as cond.) 8.

NOTTINGHAM.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 8, 1263 Stedman Caters: Rosamund M. Rawlings 1, P. N. Mackley 2, R. M. Day 3, Sheila Anthony 4, J. M. Rice 5, S. Humphrey (first Stedman as cond.) 6, P. E. Jones 7, D. Stainsby 8, D. Marshall 9, W. Nichols 10. For Evensong.

OVERBURY, WORCS.—On Feb. 22, 1260 Pl. Bob: J. Attwood (cond.) 1, R. Perks 2, A. Berry 3, R. Hickmott 4, H. Plumb 5, J. Attwood, jun. 6. For the Southern Branch.

OVERSEALE, DERBYS.—On Feb. 28, 1260 Grandsire Triples: K. Minham (first: on eight) 1, D. P. Jones 2, A. E. Rowley 3, G. W. Hair 4, P. Bailey 5, A. R. Jones 6, P. W. Grice (cond.) 7, H. Shaw 8. Half-muffled at the funeral of Leslie Freeman, a former ringer.

POLESWORTH, WARKS.—On March 15, 1260 Doubles (six methods): Jane Myatt (first quarter) 1, R. Knight 2, M. Quimby (first as cond.) 3, M. Allsopp 4, D. Hiorns 5, A. Allsopp 6. For Evensong.

QUEEN CHARLTON, SOM.—On March 2, Grandsire and Plain Bob: H. Coombs 1, B. Sarll 2, R. Perry (cond.) 3, H. A. Coombs 4, P. Devrell 5.

RATTERY, DEVON.—On March 11, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss G. French (first Doubles): 1. Rev. P. Dowling 2, W. Wayman 3, Rev. P. Angold 4, J. L. Read (cond.) 5. Believed first quarter on the bells.

RAYNE, ESSEX.—On Feb. 22, 1260 Minor (Cambridge, Plain Bob): Mrs. J. Brown 1, A. R. Syder 2, J. Green 3, R. Threadgold 4, C. H. Gillingham 5, P. G. Brown (cond.) 6. Also on March 1, 1260 Pl. Bob Doubles: Miss R. Campbell (first quarter) 1, J. Connell 2, J. Green 3, C. H. Gillingham 4, S. Sudbury 5, R. Threadgold (cond.) 6. Both for Evensong.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.—On March 4, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: A. L. Truscott (first quarter) 1, Mrs. O. Collins 2, J. O. Coleman 3, F. E. Collins 4, W. E. Cheater (cond.) 5, L. T. Perrins 6.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—On March 1, 1260 Plain Bob Major: S. Brooks 1, K. Westwood 2, C. Moore 3, L. Luck 4, T. Willett 5, R. Walker 6, E. Rochester 7, W. Hunt (cond.) 8. For Confirmation service by the Bishop of Hertford.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.—At Holy Trinity Church, Meole Brace, on Feb. 21, 1260 Minor (720 St. Clement's, 540 Pl. Bob): F. H. Bennett (cond.) 1, Elizabeth Stevens 2, R. C. Stevens 3, R. H. Newton 4, M. J. A. Orman 5, E. F. Wilcox 6.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.—At St. Chad's Church, on Feb. 22, 1280 Pl. Bob Major: A. E. G. Owen 1, Elizabeth Stevens 2, Patricia Stocken 3, R. H. Newton 4, L. D. K. Roberts 5, M. J. A. Orman 6, F. H. Bennett 7, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 8. For Girl Guides service. Also on Feb. 22, 1344 Grandsire Triples: F. Leach 1, Patricia Stocken 2, Jennifer Beech 3, R. H. Newton 4, M. J. A. Orman 5, F. Beech 6, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 7, E. F. Wilcox 8. For Evensong.

SOUTH CADBURY, SOM.—On Feb. 28, 1296 Cambridge Minor: Helen Haines 1, Angela Quick 2, I. Calvert (first Surprise) 3, D. B. Ellery 4, M. J. Hiller 5, R. Haines (cond.) 6. Birthday compliment to Preb. O. H. Skipworth.

SYSTON, LEICS.—On Feb. 22, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Patricia J. Sikes 1, Elaine Smith 2, Isabel E. Tomlinson 3, J. A. Howard 4, J. Anne Rickaby (first as cond.) 5, H. M. Payne 6. Also on March 1, 1260 Bob Minor: N. A. Westman (first quarter) 1, J. A. Howard (first inside) 2, Isabel E. Tomlinson (first inside) 3, H. M. Payne 4, J. Anne Rickaby 5, C. J. Holland (cond.) 6.

BELL ROPES
JOHN NICOLL
SEE BACK PAGE

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On March 8, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss L. Sherwood (first T.B.) 1, Miss A. Butterfield 2, R. W. Smith 3, L. Watkins 4, J. Watkins 5, M. E. Brown (cond.) 6. For Matins. Also 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Mrs. M. E. Brown 1, D. M. Brown 2, Miss R. M. Stratford 3, N. W. Harvey 4, B. P. Morris 5, B. L. Burrows (cond.) 6. For afternoon service. All are Sunday service ringers. Also on Ash Wednesday, 1440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss L. Starkey (first quarter) 1, Miss A. Butterfield 2, Mrs. M. E. Brown 3, B. P. Morris 4, R. W. Smith 5, M. E. Brown (cond.) 6.

TAMWORTH, STAFFS.—On Feb. 25, 1264 Pl. Bob Major: P. Christenson (first quarter) 1, Lin Cooper 2, Sheila Parsons 3, D. A. Hiorns 4, Margaret Boam 5, R. J. Knight 6, F. D. A. Boam 7, N. W. Attaway (cond.) 8. First Major for 2, 4 and 6.

TEWKESBURY, GLOS.—On Jan. 31, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: A. C. Berry 1, Elizabeth Pouncey 2, Iris Milton 3, J. Attwood, jun. 4, R. Hunt 5, J. Attwood, sen. (cond.) 6. A silver wedding compliment to Rev. and Mrs. C. G. R. Pouncey, of Tewkesbury Abbey.

THAMES DITTON, SURREY.—On March 1, 1260 St. Simon's Bob Doubles: C. Dingle 1, Ann Donaldson 2, D. Wilkins 3, Anne Anthony 4, J. J. Bailey (cond.) 5, J. Riley 6.

TIMSBURY, SOM.—On Feb. 28, 1260 Doubles (three methods): Janet Parker 1, Susan Willis 2, M. Horseman 3, Helen Kirkpatrick 4, B. Goodliffe (cond.) 5, J. Riley 6.

WASHINGTON, D.C., U.S.A.—At 9929 Hillbrook Lane, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: Cecily Rock (first quarter) 1-2, Marjorie Barchelor (cond.) 3-4, Kate Matthew 5-6.

WELLAND, WORCS.—On March 1, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. Judith Davies 1, D. Price (first quarter) 2, Janet Price 3, Susan Price 4, D. Price (cond.) 5, A. F. Davies 6. For Family Service, and a compliment to Susan on her engagement.

WELLOW, SOM.—On Feb. 28, 1152 Plain Bob Minor: Susan Riley 1, Helen Kirkpatrick 2, M. Horseman 3, B. Goodliffe 4, R. Smith 5, J. Riley (cond.) 6.

WOODSTON, HUNTS.—On March 1, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: Mary Brighton 1, R. Brighton 2, T. Lickerish (first quarter) 3, L. Brighton 4, J. Roffe 5, A. J. Davey (cond.) 6.

WRAXALL, SOM.—On March 3, 1260 Grandsire Triples: P. J. Gardiner 1, Mrs. Bishop 2, Miss H. Kirkpatrick 3, I. Newell 4, M. Clark 5, T. Dando 6, C. Bishop (cond.) 7, J. Evered 8. Half-nuffed in memoriam Herbert W. Knight, chairman and ringing master of Chew Deanery for many years.

YARDLEY, BIRMINGHAM.—On March 1, 1260 Pl. Bob Triples: Carole McKee (first Triples) 1, D. Main 2, Beryl Park 3, Ann Bailey (first quarter) 4, Ken Park (first inside) 5, Kevin Park 6, H. Fitter (cond.) 7, R. Hawkes (first quarter) 8. For Evensong.

YEOVIL, SOM.—On March 8, 1260 Grandsire Triples: C. Worth 1, P. A. Reeves 2, H. C. Sangwin 3, F. J. Reeves 4, T. E. Marks 5, F. G. Sandy 6, H. J. Gaylard (cond.) 7, R. J. Fox 8. For Evensong.

STAMFORD, Lincs.—At St. Martin's Church, on March 8, 1260 Minor (three methods): E. Cox 1, G. Davis 2, J. H. Bluff (cond.) 3, F. Mitchell 4, A. Waller 5, F. Simey 6. For morning service.

STANTON LACY, SALOP.—On Feb. 15, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: P. Thompson 1, Miss D. Jaine 2, G. Fletcher 3, N. Cullum 4, P. Keene 5, D. Ferguson (cond.) 6.

STOULTON, WORCS.—On March 15, 1440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. K. Derham (first T.B.) 1, P. J. Bagshaw 2, A. Jopp 3, P. Jopp (cond.) 4, P. Catermole 5, B. L. Burrows 6. For morning service.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—At St. Thomas' Church, on March 15, 1259 Grandsire Caters: C. W. Cooper 1, M. D. Fellows (cond.) 2, Mrs. F. L. Smith 3, Mrs. M. L. Brown 4, R. Smith 5, J. Warr 6, M. P. Tobin 7, P. J. Brown 8, G. Westwood 9, A. D. Fellows 10. By the local band for Evensong on Passion Sunday.

SUTTON-IN-HOLDERNESSE, YORKS.—On March 15, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Linda Sherwood 1, Laura Higginson (first quarter) 2, Maris C. Stephenson 3, T. W. Thirkell 4, C. R. Robinson 5, R. Ducker (cond.) 6. For Confirmation service.

TITCHFIELD, HANTS.—On March 15, 1440 York Surprise Minor: Mrs. D. Hatfield 1, H. L. Hatfield 2, Mrs. B. M. Hunt 3, W. F. J. Cope 4, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 5, G. Dickens 6. First in method by all.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.—On March 7, 1264 Pl. Bob Major: S. Jenner 1, R. Myhill (first Major) 2, P. Townsend (first Major) 3, R. L. Lee 4, D. C. Brookes 5, D. Featherstone 6, H. W. Evans 7, W. H. Dobbie (cond.) 8.

WELCOMBE, DEVON.—On March 11, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Sangwin 1, H. Stacey 2, W. H. Trewin 3, R. Collins (cond.) 4, B. G. D. Vince 5, R. G. Collins 6. For Confirmation by the Bishop of Plymouth.

WEST QUANTOXHEAD, SOM.—On March 12, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: F. C. Arnold 1, Dr. Winifred N. Kingsbury 2, B. Denrett 3, L. Lyddon 4, B. Somerfield (cond.) 5. To celebrate the birth of a son to Margaret and Desmond House.

WHITTLESFORD, CAMBS.—On March 13, 1260 Pl. Bob Minor: J. H. Negus 1, Mrs. S. Hinton (first Minor inside) 2, P. Hurworth 3, J. Sanderson 4, B. J. Couzens 5, P. Mehew (cond.) 6.

WOODBURY, DEVON.—On Jan. 25, 1260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire; 4, 6, 8 covering): A. Gooding 1, F. W. Williams 2, D. A. Wills (cond.) 3, A. E. Knight 4, H. L. Crisp 5, J. Gooding 6, G. T. West 7, L. E. Foster 8. For Evensong.

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH, DEVON.—On Feb. 22, 1260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. Mary I. Mack 1, C. L. Barr 2, F. W. Williams 3, H. L. Crisp 4, D. A. Wills 5, G. T. West 6, F. D. Mack (cond.) 7, A. E. Knight 8. First in method 2, 3, 6. Also on March 8, 1260 Pl. Bob Triples: L. E. Foster (first on working bell) 1, Mrs. Mary I. Mack 2, F. W. Williams 3, D. A. Wills 4, H. L. Crisp 5, G. T. West 6, F. D. Mack (cond.) 7, A. E. Knight 8. Also on March 15, 1260 Grandsire Triples: F. W. Williams 1, Mrs. Mary I. Mack 2, C. L. Barr 3, F. D. Mack 4, G. T. West 5, W. J. Harvey 6, D. A. Wills (cond.) 7, A. E. Knight 8. All for Evensong.

OLD TOM

The Guardian Country Diary gave the following, by W. D. Campbell, and sent to us by a correspondent in Copmanthorpe, Yorks:—

"Berkshire.—The measured tolling of the death-knell or passing-bell is a custom long fallen into disuse in this parish; but, moved by some sense of occasion which seems to be quite arbitrary, from time to time the bell-ringers decide that the tribute of a muffled peal is called for. A few nights ago this poignant but soothing requiem was rung for my neighbour and friend for the last 21 years, Old Tom. The grounds for the honour this time were pretty clear-cut—for Tom was not only the oldest inhabitant, but, more to the point, he was a former bell-ringer. The loud clear peal through the darkness, followed at the appropriate interval by what seemed to be a muted echo from the Downs, I heard from the brook-bridge which used to be our half-way rendezvous. Tom was over 70 when we first met, and then, and for the next 14 years, was gardener, keeper, and general handyman around the farmhouse, sometimes, on social evening gatherings, re-appearing transformed into an efficient butler. My happiest recollections, apart from the almost daily gossips, are of the hard winter of 1962-3, when for many weeks, morning and night, I carried a ration of five gallons of water to the cottages. What began as an altruistic neighbourly duty soon became an enjoyable form of barter—water swapped for a wealth of rural reminiscence, to say nothing of the hot elderberry wine which enlivened some evening sessions. I picture him, on one such occasion, decorating one of 'the Missus's' old hats, and de-claiming the lines of King George, The Doctor. Beelzebub, and other worthies in preparation for a revival of The Mummies, which alas, came to naught."

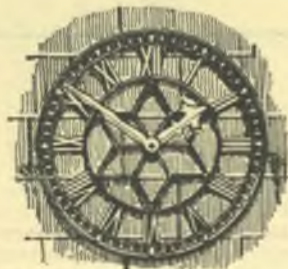
Lancashire Association

SOCIAL EVENING

The venue for this year's Preston Branch social "get together" was the magnificently-appointed St. Mary's Parish Hall, Penwortham. About 70 branch members and their friends assembled on February 27, looking forward to a full evening's entertainment. We were pleased to welcome the Lancashire Association general secretary (Frank Reynolds) and Mrs. Reynolds. John Nixon did a first-class job as M.C. and by popular demand we commenced with a short whist drive, under the aegis of Frank Stead (winners, Cyril Crossthwaite and Elizabeth Gardner, of Preston). There was dancing to suit all tastes, to the accompaniment of Rev. "disc jockey" Kingsley Jones, team games and a very interesting picture quiz using Ringing World covers.

The inner needs of those present were amply satisfied by a really tasty hot-pot and apple pie supper, after which we were entertained to a number of folk songs by our resident group, Roger and Dennis. The other member of this trio has reluctantly decided that perhaps it is better for him to ring badly than to sing badly! We are indeed indebted to the hard-working committee and to everyone present for helping to ensure such a successful evening. Here's to the next time! J.D.

An armchair critic runs the risk of being sat on.



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Peals

1969

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire,
The Bell Foundry.

Sat., Sept. 13, 1969, 7hrs. 10mins. (6½ cwt.)
16128 SUPERLATIVE S. MAJOR

Composed by M. J. Platt.

- 1 David F. Moore
- 2 Brian J. Woodruffe (Conductor)
- 3 Bernard F. L. Groves
- 4 Michael J. Platt
- 5 Timothy G. Pett
- 6 Andrew W. R. Wilby
- 7 Alan F. Scholfield
- 8 Brian Harris

Umpire: Bernard F. L. Groves.

The greatest number of changes of Superlative yet rung. The umpire checked every call and the coursing order throughout.

From Brian J. Woodruffe, Whiteparish, Salisbury:

"The above length conforms to the C.C. 'rules' and therefore will be published. Section D part D (b) is complied with."

1970

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

WALTHAM ABBEY, Essex, The Holy Cross and St. Laurence.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3 hrs. 53mins. (39 cwt.)
5280 NEWGATE S. MAXIMUS

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

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD

BEDFORD, St. Paul.

Mon., Mar. 9, 1970, 3hrs. 8mins. (29 cwt.)

5076 ERIN CATERS

Composed by D. Barton.

- 1 W. T. Perrins (Selwyn, Conductor)
- 2 Jenny Field (Newnham)
- 3 A. T. Winter (Christ's)
- 4 J. L. Humphreys (Jesus)
- 5 B. R. M. Johnson (Jesus)
- 6 J. R. N. Lebon (Selwyn)
- 7 R. L. Underwood (Peterhouse)
- 8 D. Barton (Selwyn)
- 9 R. A. G. Inglis (Selwyn)
- 10 M. J. Pickup (Churchill)

MELDRETH, Cambs, Holy Trinity.

Sat., Feb. 28, 1970, 2hr. 38min. (10½ cwt.)

5056 CAMBRIDGE S. MAJOR

Composed by T. Worsley.

- 1 A. R. Heppenstall (Selwyn)
- 2 B. D. Threlfall (Trinity)
- 3 C. H. Rogers (Emmanuel)
- 4 D. Barton (Selwyn, Conductor)
- 5 A. F. Scholfield (Clare)
- 6 J. B. Cooke (Queens')
- 7 R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel)
- 8 P. A. F. Chalk (Selwyn)

First as conductor.

EATON SOCON, Hunts, St. Mary.

Sat., Feb. 28, 1970, 2hrs. 49mins. (13 cwt.)

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

(Holt's 10-part.)

- *1 Janice Faithfull (Newnham)
- 2 Jenny Field (Newnham)
- 3 B. R. M. Johnson (Jesus)
- 4 D. S. Bishop (Caius)
- 5 M. J. Pickup (Churchill)
- 6 J. R. N. Lebon (Selwyn)
- 7 R. L. Underwood (P'house, Cond.)
- 8 V. Nutton (Selwyn)

*First on 8 bells.

BRISTOL SOCIETY

BRISTOL, St. George.

Sat., Feb. 28, 1970, 3hr. 53min. (39 cwt.)

5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by C. Forster.

- 1 Heather A. Kippin
- 2 Gillian M. Hunt
- 3 Bruce Martin
- 4 John W. Collard
- 5 Gordon W. Iand
- 6 Paul A. Williams
- 7 D. John Hunt (Conductor)
- 8 Robert C. Kippin

In memoriam Victor Griffin, of Oxford, a close friend of the band.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

MARPLE, Cheshire, All Saints.

Wed., Feb. 18, 1970, 2hrs. 50mins. (13½ cwt.)

5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by H. G. Cashmore.

- 1 Ronald F. Andrew
- 2 Brian S. B. Kear
- 3 Lynda M. Deebank
- 4 Paul Reading
- 5 Hamish M. McNaughton
- 6 William M. Taylor
- 7 Robert B. Smith (Conductor)
- 8 Richard S. Starkie

MARPLE, Cheshire, All Saints.

Wed., Mar. 11, 1970, 2hr. 44min. (13½ c.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1 William H. Dowse
- 2 Paul Reading
- 3 Peter Broadbent
- 4 Michael Foulds
- 5 Brian S. B. Kear
- *6 S. Nicholas Harrop
- 7 Ronald F. Andrew
- 8 Alan F. Scholfield (Arr. & Cond.)

*First peal.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

BREWOOD, Staffs, St. Mary the Virgin and St. Chad.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hrs. 25mins. (21½ cwt.)

5088 CORNWALL SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by P. G. K. Davies.

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

*50th peal.

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

PINXTON, Derbyshire, St. Helen.

Thur., Mar. 12, 1970, 2hr. 34min. (5½ c.)
5280 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (6 methods: 960 London, 928 Watford, 896 Bristol, 832 Cambridge, Pudsey, Superlative, with 127 changes of method and all the work).

Composed by A. J. Pitman.

- 1 David Parkin
- 2 Gordon A. Halls
- 3 Brian A. Tomlinson
- 4 Michael J. Fellows (Conductor)
- 5 Timothy Wylie
- 6 Geoffrey Bridges
- 7 Rev. Frederick Ross
- 8 Dennis R. Carlisle

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

CAMBRIDGE, St. Andrew the Great.

Thurs., Mar. 12, 1970, 2hrs. 50mins. (11 cwt.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by C. K. Lews.

- 1 Andrew S. Marland
- 2 Allen Twyman
- 3 Chris H. Northeast
- 4 Alan T. Winter (Conductor)
- *5 Michael R. Ling
- *6 Michael W. Carter
- 7 Barry J. Couzens
- 8 Michael J. Pickup

*First of Major.

TRUMPINGTON, Cambs, SS. Mary and Michael.

Tues., Mar. 10, 1970, 2hrs. 47mins. (10½ cwt.)
5280 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (6 methods: 960 London, 928 Watford, 896 Bristol, 832 Cambridge, Pudsey and Superlative, with 127 changes of method and all the work).

Composed by A. J. Pitman.

- 1 Kitty Willers
- 2 Donald F. Murfet
- 3 Derek E. Sibson (Conductor)
- 4 Hilary Muirhead
- 5 Alan M. Barber
- 6 John G. Gipson
- 7 Frank E. Haynes
- 8 Kenneth J. Hesketh

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

TOLLESBURY, Essex, St. Mary.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 42mins. (7 cwt.)
5056 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (14 methods: 448 Bristol, 384 Ashted, Cambridge, Cassiobury, Lincolnshire, Lindum, London, Pudsey, Rutland, Superlative, Uxbridge and Yorkshire, 192 Cray and Cornwall, 130 changes of method).

Composed by N. Smith.

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

Most Major methods to a peal by all and for the Association.

GREAT DUNMOW, Essex, St. Mary.
5088 OSPRINGE SURPRISE MAJOR
 Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 9min. (21½ cwt.)
 Composed by D. Knox.

- *1 Joe E. G. Roast
 - 2 Josephine A. Brown
 - 3 Yvonne A. Towler
 - 4 Richard J. Harrison
 - 5 Keith W. Brown
 - 6 Peter S. Bennett
 - 7 James L. Towler
 - 8 Peter G. Brown (Conductor)
- *500th peal. First in the method by all and for the Association.

WORMINGFORD, Essex, St. Andrew.
 Sat., Jan. 31, 1970, 2hr. 26min. (8 cwt.)
5040 MINOR (Cambridge Surprise, Norwich Surprise, Double Oxford Bob, Kent T.B., St. Clements' Bob, Oxford T.B. and Plain Bob).

- 1 Richard A. Knight
 - 2 Stephen D. Pettman
 - 3 Neil V. Avis
 - 4 Peter S. Abbott
 - 5 Michael J. Howes
 - 6 John P. Loveless (Conductor)
- First as conductor (aged 14). Wedding compliment to Adrian G. Semken and Heather M. McArthur, married this day at Kirby-le-Soken.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

BRISTOL, Christ Church with St. Ewen

Sat., March 7, 1970, 3hrs. (23 cwt.)

5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Composed by A. M. Tyler.

- 1 Hilary Muirhead (Conductor)
- *2 J. Jane Murrell
- 3 Anthony J. Cox
- 4 Bruce Martin
- 5 John W. Collard
- 6 Philip M. J. Gray
- 7 Edward G. Mould
- 8 Bernard G. North
- 9 Peter J. England
- 10 D. John Hunt

*First of Grandsire and of Caters.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

READING, Berkshire, St. Laurence.

Sun., Mar. 15, 1970, 3hrs 23mins. (23½ cwt.)

5042 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Composed by R. W. Pipe.

- 1 Roger M. Heyworth
- *2 Joyce A. Parsons
- *3 Beryl R. Simpson
- *4 W. John Couperthwaite
- *5 Alan D. Flood
- *6 Alan D. Elsmore
- 7 Norman Summerhayes
- *8 Rowan S. Bradley
- *9 Peter J. Munday
- †10 Tom Page
- *11 Michael J. Church (Conductor)
- 12 David E. Parsons

*First of Yorkshire S. Maximus. †First of Surprise Maximus. First of Yorkshire S. Maximus for the Guild. Rung by a resident band in memory of Tom and Margaret Francis. Also in memoriam Mrs. D. Catherall, for many years tower secretary.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

NORTON, Herts, St. Nicholas.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 2hrs. 57mins. (9 cwt.)

5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Composed by H. Davis.

- 1 Keith Webb
- 2 Jack S. Dear
- *3 Elizabeth J. Cranfield
- 4 Geoffrey Horritt
- *5 Cecile Forgan
- 6 David L. Gullick
- *7 Peter J. Cranfield (Conductor)
- †8 Alan J. Boyd

*First peal. †First in method.
 A wedding compliment to W. F. Todd.

ARDELEY, Herts, St. Laurence

Fri., Mar. 13, 1970, 2hrs. 34mins. (9½ cwt.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

(2 2160s and 1 720.)

- 1 Keith R. Webb
- *2 Christine M. Carter
- *3 Geoffrey T. Horritt
- †4 Joyce M. Clarke
- 5 Anthony R. Carter (Conductor)
- 6 David R. Saunderson

*First of Cambridge S. Minor. †First of Cambridge S. Minor inside. First of Surprise as conductor. To mark the enthronement of Robert Runcie as Lord Bishop of St. Albans (March 14, 1970).

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

GRAVESEND, Kent, St. George.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. (18 cwt.)

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

(Parker's 12-part.)

- *1 Jennifer E. Jarvis
- 2 Christopher T. Osenton
- *3 Glenda Crane
- *4 Edward C. Stuart
- *5 Richard M. Thompson
- 6 Frank J. Matthews (Conductor)
- *7 Terence V. Barnard
- 8 Stuart Sandford

*First peal. First as conductor. Half-muffled in memoriam Margaret and Tom Francis.

MINSTER-IN-THANET, Kent, St. Mary.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 2hr. 52min. (17 cwt.)

5040 DOUBLES

(1 Plain, 41 Grandsire, 5 callings.)

- *1 Tony Skilton (Conductor)
- †2 Peter S. Philpott
- 3 James Hedgcock
- 4 Brian G. Butcher
- 5 John B. Keeler

*First of Doubles. †First in 2 methods.
 For the birth of a son, Russell, to Geoff and Elizabeth Davies.

Ever the same, yet ever new,
 Changed and yet true,
 Which varies on from hour to hour,
 Yet of the same high love and power,
 The echoing bells.

Clough: "Ambarvalia."

LADIES' GUILD

POLSTEAD, Suffolk, St. Mary.

Sat., Mar. 7, 1970, 2hr. 45min. (9 cwt.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

- 1 Muriel R. Page
 - 2 Katherine M. Thorley
 - 3 Emily I. Mills
 - 4 F. Joan Muxlow
 - 5 Evelyn R. M. Reeve
 - 6 Winifred Lockwood (Conductor)
- For Mothering Sunday, also a wedding anniversary compliment to the conductor.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

WHITWICK, Leics, St. John the Baptist.

Sat., Mar. 7, 1970, 2hr. 44min. (11 cwt.)

5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by S. Ivin.

- 1 Hazel J. Nichols
- 2 Joseph W. Cotton
- *3 Mary Barrass
- *4 E. Guy Slater
- 5 John W. Rawson
- 6 Arthur E. Rowley
- 7 Frank Chambers
- 8 Roland Beniston (Conductor)

*First in the method. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 6th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD

**LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire,
 The Bell Foundry.**

Sat., Mar. 7, 1970, 2hr. 26min. (6½ cwt.)

5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by C. Middleton.

- 1 H. George Hart
- 2 Elsie K. Hart
- 3 Dorothea M. Robotham
- 4 Joseph W. Cotton
- 5 Arthur E. Rowley
- 6 John W. H. Smith
- 7 G. Ronald Edwards
- 8 Frank Reed (Conductor)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

**PORTSMOUTH, Hants, St. Thomas of
 Canterbury Cathedral Church.**

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 12min. (28½ cwt.)

5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- 1 Rodney A. Yeates
- 2 Roger M. Heyworth
- 3 Anthony P. Foster
- 4 G. Robert Mordaunt
- 5 Laurence J. Haines
- 6 Peter H. Mackie
- 7 Colin J. E. Wyld
- 8 John E. Camp
- 9 Jeremy R. Pratt
- 10 Peter Border (Conductor)

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD**MARSTON, Oxford, St. Nicholas.**

Sat., Feb. 14, 1970, 2hr. 32min. (5 cwt.)
5040 DOUBLES (3 methods, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Rev. Canterbury, and 16 var.).

- 1 Howard Page
- 2 Richard D. Bing
- 3 Roy H. Jones (Conductor)
- 4 Leonard R. Porter
- 5 Alec Gammon

In memoriam Miss P. Warburton and Mrs. E. H. Bolton.

SWANBOURNE, Bucks, St. Swithin.

Sat., Mar. 7, 1970, 2hr. 55min. (14 cwt.)
5040 SPICED SURPRISE MINOR (7 extents, 14 methods: Carlisle and Chester; Rossendale and Stamford; London and Wells; York and Durham; Beverley and Surfleet; Westminster and Allendale; Cambridge and Ipswich).

- 1 John R. Southey
- 2 S. Kathleen M. Baldwin
- *3 David Redfearn
- 4 Robert E. Hardy
- 5 Roger Baldwin
- 6 John R. Mayne (Conductor)

*Most methods to a peal.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD**LONG CRENDON, Bucks, St. Mary.**

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 8min. (19 cwt.)
5152 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Arranged by R. W. Pipe.

- 1 Graham C. Paul (Conductor)
- 2 Shirley E. Ruddlesden
- 3 Patrick I. Chapman
- 4 Raymond A. Vickers
- 5 Stanley M. Ruddlesden
- 6 Barrv E. Saunders
- 7 George W. Holland
- 8 Alan A. Paul

The conductor's 400th peal.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION**WEM, Salop, SS. Peter and Paul.**

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 12min. (12½ cwt.)
5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
(Parker's 12-part, 7th obs.)

- 1 Frederick Leech
- 2 Keith Daniels
- 3 Elizabeth Stevens
- 4 Reginald H. Newton
- 5 Edward V. Rodenhurst
- 6 Richard C. Stevens (Conductor)
- 7 Ernest F. Willcox
- *8 Alec R. Turner

*First peal. First on the bells since re-hanging in 1967.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS**SHOREDITCH, London E., St. Leonard.**

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 37min. (28½ cwt.)
5009 STEDMAN CINQUES
Composed by John Carter.

- 1 M. Louise Slater
- 2 Sheila M. Dobbie
- 3 Joan Beresford
- 4 Stanley Jenner
- 5 Michael H. D. O'Callaghan
- 6 Walter H. Dobbie
- 7 Christopher P. Starbuck
- 8 David J. Forder
- 9 Frank J. Matthews
- 10 Derek E. Sibson (Conductor)
- 11 Dennis Beresford
- 12 Peter Beresford

Half-muffled in memoriam Tom and Margaret Francis.

LOWER BEEDING, Sussex, Holy Trinity.

Tues., Feb. 17, 1970, 2hr. 44min. (10½ cwt.)

5120 WEMBLEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by H. G. Cashmore.

- 1 James M. Hills
- 2 M. Louise Slater
- 3 R. Jean Henderson
- 4 Janet House
- 5 Graham A. Duke
- 6 Stanley G. Ponting
- 7 David D. Smith
- 8 Derek E. Sibson (Conductor)

First in the method by all except the conductor.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM**BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.**

Thurs., Mar. 5, 1970, 3hr. 19min. (31 cwt.)

5042 CAMBRIDGE S. MAXIMUS

- 1 Maurice F. Edwards
- 2 Muriel Reay
- 3 Richard J. Tibbetts
- 4 J. Edward Cawser
- 5 Stephen W. Barton
- 6 Vernon Green
- 7 James Insley
- 8 Terry R. Hampton
- 9 Norman J. Goodman
- 10 George E. Fearn
- 11 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 12 Peter Border (Comp. and Conductor)

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Thurs., Mar. 12, 1970, 3hr. 38min. (31 cwt.)

5280 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAXIMUS

(10ths place bobs.)
(Traditional)

- 1 Muriel Reay
- 2 Roderick W. Pipe (Conductor)
- 3 Norman J. Goodman
- 4 J. Edward Cawser
- 5 Richard J. Tibbetts
- 6 Vernon Green
- 7 David J. Purnell
- 8 Terry R. Hampton
- 9 James Insley
- 10 George E. Fearn
- 11 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 12 Peter Border

First in the method by the band and for the Guild.

LEICESTER, St. Margaret.

Sat., March 14, 1970, 3hr. 14min. (33 cwt.)

5042 CAMBRIDGE S. MAXIMUS

- 1 Roderick W. Pipe (Arr. and Cond.)
- 2 Muriel Reay
- 3 Norman J. Goodman
- *4 Robert E. J. Dennis
- 5 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 6 James Insley
- 7 John G. Gipson
- 8 Terry R. Hampton
- 9 Roland H. Cook
- 10 David J. Purnell
- 11 R. Kingsley Mason
- 12 John A. Anderson

*250th peal.

LEICESTER, St. John the Divine.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 6min. (21 cwt.)

5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by S. Ivin.

- 1 Muriel Reay
- 2 Robert Edwards
- 3 Stephen W. Barton
- 4 Norman J. Goodman
- 5 James Insley
- 6 Roderick W. Pipe (Conductor)
- 7 Brian D. A. Woolley
- 8 Kenneth J. Hesketh

After meeting short for Royal.

SOLIHULL, Warwickshire, St. Alphege.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 34min. (21 cwt.)

5037 GRANDSIRE CINQUES

Composed by M. J. Morris.

- 1 Pamela M. Turner
- 2 George E. Fearn
- 3 J. Edward Cawser
- 4 Richard C. Ingram
- 5 Jack L. Millhouse (Conductor)
- *6 Vernon Green
- *7 Derek H. Walters
- *8 Eric J. Cole
- *9 Thomas J. Warner
- *10 Geoffrey R. Parker
- *11 Richard J. Cann
- †12 Alan Crabtree

*First of Grandsire Cinques †First peal. First on the augmented 12.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD**EDWINSTOWE, Notts, St. Mary.**

Wed., Mar. 11, 1970, 2hr. 34min. (6 cwt.)

5040 MINOR (1 each St. Clement's, Kent T.B. and Oxford T.B., 2 Plain Bob and 2 Single Oxford Bob).

- 1 Herbert T. Rooke
- *2 Sandra Ettles
- 3 Frank Cooke
- *4 Bryan Birkett
- 5 David Chambers
- 6 Brynley A. Richards (Conductor)

*First in 5 methods. A compliment to Herbert T. Rooke on the birth of a granddaughter.

SUFFOLK GUILD**EYE, Suffolk, SS. Peter and Paul.**

Sat., Feb. 28, 1970, 2hr. 55min. (19½ cwt.)

5024 GAINSBOROUGH S. MAJOR

Composed by P. G. K. Davies.

- 1 Georgina C. M. Carter
- 2 Jennifer M. Whittell
- 3 Brian B. Hullah
- 4 Alan M. Barber (Conductor)
- 5 Neville F. Whittell
- 6 Donald F. Murfet
- 7 Geoffrey A. Lucas
- 8 George E. Thoday

ELVEDEN, Suffolk, Memorial Tower of SS. Patrick and Andrew.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 2hr. 56min. (17½ cwt.)

5024 XERXES SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by D. Knox.

- 1 David J. H. Barber
- *2 Georgina C. M. Carter
- 3 Jennifer M. Whittell
- 4 Neville F. Whittell
- 5 Donald F. Murfet
- 6 Alan M. Barber (Conductor)
- 7 Geoffrey A. Lucas
- 8 George E. Thoday

*First of Surprise Major inside. First in the method by all and for the Guild. An engagement compliment to Roger Whittell and Mary Christian.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION**PULBOROUGH, Sussex, St. Mary.**

Fri., Feb. 20, 1970, 2hr. 48min. (13½ cwt.)

5024 PULBOROUGH S. MAJOR

Composed by A. M. Barber.

- 1 Leonard Stilwell
- 2 Edgar R. Rapley
- 3 Derek E. Sibson (Conductor)
- 4 Tom Page
- 5 Stanley G. Ponting
- 6 George Francis
- 7 W. Leslie Weller
- 8 David E. House

Arranged and rung on the 80th birthday of the treble ringer.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY

CHURCHILL, Oxon, All Saints.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 2 hr. 39mins. (10½ cwt.)
5088 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (4 methods: 1344 Rutland; 1248 Cambridge, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, with 90 changes of method and all the work).

Composed by P. G. K. Davies.

- 1 Graham C. Firman
- 2 Jennifer A. Dunning
- 3 Philip Bosworth
- 4 Peter G. Holden
- 5 Roger D. Bailey
- 6 A. Keith P. Poole
- 7 D. Kay Adkins (Conductor)
- 8 James E. Andrews

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 3hr. 22min. (31 cwt.)

5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by S. Armeson.

- 1 Christopher F. Easton
- 2 Peter H. Gardner
- 3 Laura M. Grindrod
- 4 Paul A. Williams
- 5 Robert A. Beresford
- 6 John J. Durham
- 7 James Clatworthy
- 8 Stephen Fenwick
- 9 Ronald R. Warford
- 10 C. Barrie Dove (Conductor)

COLLINGHAM, Yorkshire, St. Oswald.

Mon., Mar. 16, 1970, 2hr. 27min. (7 cwt.)

5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by N. Smith.

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

*100th peal. †First in method inside.

MACCLESFIELD, Cheshire, 10 Eden Dr.

Thur., Feb. 26, 1970, 2hr. 33min. (15½ in C.)

5040 SPICED SURPRISE ROYAL (2 methods: 3360 Rutland and 1680 Cambridge, with 84 changes of method).

- 1-2 J. David Atkinson
- *3-4 Robert B. Smith (Comp. & Cond.)
- †5-6 Alan F. Scholfield
- 7-8 C. Kenneth Lewis
- 9-10 Gerald Moorhouse

*200th of Royal. †First of Surprise on a working pair. In memory of John Worth (February 25, 1967).

MARPLE, Cheshire, 6 Ashwood Crescent.

Thur., Mar. 5, 1970, 2hr. 32min. (15 in C.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by W. E. Critchley.

- *1-2 Alan F. Scholfield
- 3-4 Neil Bennett
- 5-6 Robert B. Smith (Conductor)
- 7-8 J. David Atkinson
- 9-10 Gerald Moorhouse

*First of Cambridge Royal on handbells.

PRESTBURY, Cheshire, West Pines, Dale Brow.

Sat., Feb. 28, 1970, 2hr. 12min. (15 in C.)

5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Composed by E. Timbrell.

- 1-2 Gerald Moorhouse
- 3-4 C. Kenneth Lewis
- 5-6 Robert B. Smith (Conductor)
- 7-8 Giles B. Thompson

MARPLE, Cheshire, 6 Ashwood Crescent.

Sun., Mar. 15, 1970, 2hr. 17min. (15 in C.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- 1-2 Alan F. Scholfield (Conductor)
- 3-4 Gerald Moorhouse
- *5-6 Robert B. Smith
- 7-8 Peter Broadbent

*300th handbell peal.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

ST. ALBANS, Herts, 114 Park St. Lane.

Sat., Mar. 14, 1970, 2hr. 2min. (13 in E.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

(7 extents.)

- *1-2 Katherine S. Hardy
- 3-4 John R. Mayne (Conductor)
- *5-6 Robert E. Hardy

*First of Surprise on handbells.

GRAVESEND, Kent, 13 Meadow Road.

Mon., Mar. 16, 1970, 1hr. 31min. (10 in A)

5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

- 1-2 Christopher T. Osenton (Cond.)
- 3-4 Trevor A. Cross

*5-6 Stuart Sandford
 *First of Doubles. Ringers of 3-4 and 5-6 have now completed the Grandsire family from Doubles to Cinques in hand.

GILLINGHAM, Kent, 31 South Avenue.

Wed., Feb. 25, 1970, 2hr. 10min. (10 in A.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1-2 Frank J. Matthews
- 3-4 Peter S. Muchlinski
- 5-6 Trevor A. Cross
- 7-8 Chris. T. Osenton (Arr. & Cond.)

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

LONDON, W.2. 16B Sutherland Place.

Sun., Mar. 15, 1970, 1hr. 34min. (32 in G.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

(7 extents, 5 callings.)

- 1-2 John R. Ketteringham
- 3-4 Geoffrey Bridges (Conductor)
- 5-6 David A. Town

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD

MANCHESTER, Room 87, Hartley Victoria College, Alexandra Road South.

Sun., Mar. 8, 1970, 2hr. 27min. (18 in G.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1-2 Margaret L. Ellwood
- 3-4 William M. Taylor
- *5-6 Christopher L. D. Munday
- †7-8 Marcus C. W. Sherwood (Cond.)

*First on handbells. †25th for the Guild. Rung for Manchester University Guild's Dinner.

CHORLTON, Manchester, 170 Oswald Rd.

Mon., Mar. 16, 1970, 1hr. 49min. (15 in C.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

(7 identical extents.)

- 1-2 Hamish McNaughton
- *3-4 William M. Taylor
- 5-6 Christopher L. D. Munday (Cond.)

*25th peal. An engagement compliment to Margaret Ellwood and Marcus Sherwood.

Handbells

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

MARPLE, Cheshire, 6 Ashwood Crescent.

Thur., Mar. 12, 1970, 2hr. 42min. (15 in C.)

5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

- 1-2 J. David Atkinson
- 3-4 C. Kenneth Lewis
- *5-6 Robert B. Smith (Comp. & Cond.)
- 7-8 Alan F. Scholfield
- 9-10 Gerald Moorhouse
- 11-12 John W. Gander

*50th peal on 12 handbells.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

FRINDSBURY, Kent, 12 Hever House, Cypress Court.

Wed., Mar. 11, 1970, 1hr. 56min. (10 in A.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

- 1-2 Trevor A. Cross (Conductor)
- 3-4 Frank J. Matthews
- 5-6 Christopher T. Osenton
- 7-8 Stuart Sandford

Composed by J. R. Pritchard.
 In memoriam Margaret and Tom Francis.

NORTH AMERICAN GUILD

TORONTO, Ontario, 50 Ravensbourne Crescent.

Thur., Mar. 5, 1970, 2hr. 16min. (12 in F.)

5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

- Composed by C. H. Hattersley.
- 1-2 William H. Jackson (Conductor)
- 3-4 David R. Ingram
- 5-6 Derek M. Sawyer
- 7-8 John Owen

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THE REPAIR WELDING OF CRACKED BELLS

It was at the invitation of the East Midlands Branch of The Welding Institute that the ringers were invited to a lecture on the Repair Welding of Cracked Bells, which was given at Loughborough University, on Wednesday, November 19, 1969, by Mr. K. J. Clews, F.Weld.I., the senior training officer from the Welding Institute, Abington Hall, Abington, Cambridgeshire.

Mr. Clews began by describing for the benefit of the members of the Welding Institute the history of bells and bellfounding. He described in some detail, making frequent use of the blackboard, the process of casting bells from mediæval times to the present day. He then described the various ways in which bells can be cracked, from cast-in staples to clocking: these he illustrated with coloured slides.

With regard to cracks in the crown, he said a number of cases had been found where the crack followed a severe frost; such cracks in old bells were usually associated with the presence of cast-in wrought iron staples. The contraction ratio of bell metal to iron is in the order of 3 to 2, and it is easy to see how these stresses are set up. A slide showing a section through the crown of a bell illustrated only too well the cracks radiating from the corners of the cast-in staple.

A further cause of cracking in the crown is caused by corrosion at the interface between the cast-in iron and the surrounding bell metal in the reaction layer which was produced when the bell was originally cast.

Crown cracks are not always obvious, especially in dark towers, and many such cracks may go undiscovered for many years, whereas cracks in the soundbow usually caused by clocking are immediately obvious as they affect the tone of the bell.

Investigation into the possibility of repairing bells by welding was undertaken by the British Welding Research Association, thanks to a grant from the Worshipful Company of Founders, as up to a few years ago all such repairs were sent to the Continent for welding. Research into the possibility of welding cracked bells had been undertaken in Denmark following the return from Germany of many of their bells in a cracked condition after the last war.

The main factors involved in repairing a cracked bell are:—

- To determine the exact extent of the crack or cracks.
- To match the weld metal as far as possible to the composition of the original bell.
- To preheat the bell before welding and slowly to cool it down again after welding.

The extent of the crack is determined by the use of dye-penetration inspection, which makes use of the fact that if a dye is forced into a crack it will ooze out and stain a coating of chalk which is subsequently applied.

The composition of the bell is then determined by conventional chemical analysis, or if very little material is available, and a very full analysis is required, by electron probe micro-analysis. With the latter technique it has been possible to demonstrate the presence of nickel in a bell metal from Somerset of a date before the identification of nickel as an element. There are good reasons to suppose therefore, that the copper in this bell came from Germany.

A study of the copper-tin equilibrium diagram indicates that at a temperature above 586°C. the brittle "delta" phase which is present at room temperature is replaced by a softer and more plastic phase, "beta," thus

making the alloy amenable to welding. This temperature is about 200°C. below the melting point of the alloy.

For their initial research the British Welding Research Association were supplied through the courtesy of Whitechapel Foundry Ltd. with a 3½ cwt. bell cast by Warners in 1892. The notes of the bell were carefully determined and the bell was deliberately cracked.

The extent of the crack was revealed by a dye-penetrant inspection, and the crack was ground out to a deep "V" shape, using a grinding wheel.

Support at the back of the crack was provided by a steel plate faced with an alumina blanket, and a complete jig was built round the bell, the whole of the bell being enclosed in a slagwool material to preserve the heat. Thermocouples were attached to the bell to record and control the temperature both during the heating and cooling phases, since too fast a heating or cooling rate can promote cracking.

The bell complete in its jig and slagwool blanket was then preheated to the required temperature, and the crack was then welded by the oxy-acetylene process using a matching filler.

The use of the jig enabled the very hot bell to be moved into suitable positions for welding, whilst at the same time holding the bell firmly, thus preventing the crack from opening or closing during the temperature changing process.

The bell was allowed to cool slowly, and after cooling the excess weld metal was ground away, even to the extent of leaving the moulding wires apparently intact.

It was then tested and the result was that the bell's original tone had been successfully restored.

Various slides were shown which adequately illustrated the whole process.

Following this experiment work was undertaken on the treble bell from Groton in Suffolk. This bell was cast by John Darbie in 1676 and was cracked from the lip to the waist. A similar process was undertaken to that described above and the bell has now been restored to its original condition.

The oxy-acetylene welds contain pores of rounded form and are therefore less harmful than the angular shrinkage porosity in the bell itself. It was decided to change from the oxy-acetylene process to the tungsten inert-gas welding process and this resulted in the production of porosity-free weld metal.

Following this, Mr. Clews gave a list of bells which have been welded to date, namely:

- A bell cast by Warner 1892, now the sanctus bell at Isleham, near Ely.
- The 2nd from Isleham, 1516.
- The 3rd from Isleham, c.1486.
- A bell from Pott Shringley, near Macclesfield. Robert Crouch, 1420-1450.
- A bell from Little Hallingbury. William Wodeward, c.1420.
- A bell belonging to the Grocers' Livery Company, c.1400.
- A bell from Little Saxham, near Bury St. Edmunds.

Crown cracks are much more difficult to deal with and in certain cases the whole of the crown has been removed and a new flat crown welded in. This of course enables the antique canons to be preserved.

As far as can be ascertained no bells which have been repaired by the new technique have shown any sign of further cracking.

A general discussion followed on the technique of welding and the thanks of the meeting

were proposed by the hon. secretary of the East Midlands Welding Institute, Mr. E. A. Garside, and carried unanimously.

COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS FROM A RINGER'S POINT OF VIEW

It would appear that cracked bells can now be repaired by welding and restored to their original condition, but certain points must be borne in mind.

So far only small bells up to 12 cwt. have been repaired in this way, but there is no reason to suppose that larger bells could not be subjected to the same process.

The work is not simple and cannot be performed without a large amount of specialised equipment. It is no use expecting the local blacksmith turned agricultural equipment repair engineer to undertake such work, he has neither the equipment nor the "know-how."

The work is costly, taking into account the building of a special jig to the exact size of the bell, the amount of fuel used to preheat the bell to around 600°C., the fuel used in maintaining this temperature during the welding process, and finally the fuel used in maintaining a steady cooling temperature back down to room temperature, the whole operation taking several days, the cost is necessarily high, although not as high as the cost of recasting.

The restored bell will be no better tonally than was the original bell, and if the original bell was poor the cost may not justify the end product. Whether the repaired bell could be tuned after welding was not discussed at the lecture.

An agreement has been reached between the Council for the Care of Churches, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers and the leading bellfounders that pre-Reformation, historic or unique bells should not be recast. Any tower with such a bell in a cracked condition has in theory two options:—

- Replace the cracked bell with a new bell and put the cracked one back in the tower as a priest's bell, or place it in the church or local museum, or
- Have the cracked bell weld repaired.

In many cases option (b) would be the first consideration but it must be borne in mind that after repair the bell will be no better tonally than was the original bell, and if that bell had been cracked for some years who can tell what the finished product will be? If it is a single bell it might not matter so much, but if it is one of a ring of bells then difficulties can occur. Considerable thought must be given to each individual case.

The recommendation to repair weld a bell which was later found to be unsuitable to blend with the remainder of the ring and its eventual replacement by a new bell would not be viewed very favourably by the recipient parish.

Perhaps further investigation into the pre-determination of the anticipated tonal qualities of a cracked bell under consideration for repair welding is called for, and possibly a discussion between the Welding Institute and the Towers and Belfries Committee would prove fruitful.

It is of course a technical point as to where the line is drawn between the heating of a bell to 600°C. to repair weld it, and to heat it another 200-300°C. to recast it.

In conclusion, the writer would like to acknowledge the help and assistance he has received from Mr. K. J. Clews in compiling the notes on his lectures.

W. L. EXTON.

Letter

UNIVERSAL COMPOSITIONS

Dear Sir,—While experimenting recently with composition 1 produced the following which, after consultation with Roger Baldwin, I believe to be original. Each composition is based on the 24 available courses with the 2nd at home and contains 12 combination courses. The FCH to which each is true include a number of the less commonly encountered groups. Every call is a single made in 5-6 at the lead end, the calls being when the tenor is at Home (H), making 2nd's (II) or in 3-4 up (III).

5152 Surprise or T.B. Major			
II	III	H	23456
—	—	23564	—
2*	—	23546	—
—	—	(—)	26435

Repeat 5x, omitting (—) in 3rd and 6th parts and omitting 2* in the 1st OR 4th part.

True to all: g h i k n o p r s u C D E F

Another composition which may be of interest, although not original, is based on the 24 available courses with the 6th at home. This also contains 12 combination courses and is true to the following FCH groups: c e g h i l m n o r s B E F. As a point of interest the 24 courses with the 5th at home are also true to the same groups, but with detriment to the music compared with the 6th at home. Conventional bobs and singles are used.

5152		
W	H	23456
—	*2	24536
*2S	*—	52436
S	S	34256
—	3	53246
S	S	42356
—	3	54326
S	—	32456

Repeat once, omitting the courses marked *.

Yours faithfully,

ROBERT E. HARDY

St. Albans, Herts.

HOME AGAIN!

We have received the following letter from Mr. Charles Rouse, of Brookfield Road, Churchdown, Bristol, who is now home, following his accident some weeks ago.

"Thank you and the staff of the Ringing World and all those who found time to write to me while I was in hospital, also those who came to see me.

"I was brought home on March 9 after six weeks and two days. It will still be a long time before I shall be able to resume work, but I am now able to do the secretary's job for the G. and B. once again.

"My first outside job was to attend a branch officers' get-together at Dursley on March 14—a very successful meeting—when there was a free interchange of views between those present, and the sort of meeting which other kindred bodies might well copy, if they do not already have such meetings.

"My thanks include the other officers of the G. and B., who met several times at my bedside to make sure that they did my job as I would have done it had it been possible."

Belfry Gossip

Ian Earl rang his first peal at 13—and has only been ringing for one year.

The popular ring at Kibworth, Leics, is being rehung—in time for Easter!!

New conductors for peals: D. Barton (Cambridge S. Major), John P. Loveless, aged 14 (7 Minor methods), Frank J. Matthews (Grandsire Triples), Peter J. Cranfield (Kent T.B. Major).

There were three first-pealers in the Kent T.B. Major at Norton, Herts, and one was the conductor!

The Grappenhall Branch of the Chester Guild have had to change the date of their meeting at Daresbury to April 11. (See advertisement.)

Next year's peals analysis is to be compiled by Messrs. A. Keith Poole and James E. Andrews. Mr. and Mrs. David House have done this service for some time and we are grateful for their work.

The local band at St. Margaret's Church, Drayton, Norfolk, scored their first quarter recently. Prior to 1967, when the new Whitechapel six were dedicated, Drayton had three bells and no ringers.

The Easter Message last week was written by the Rev. S. M. Evans, of Bredgar, Sittingbourne, Kent, and the article on Folkestone Parish Church by Nicholas J. Davies.

Mr. Alfred H. Winch, of Leatherhead, Surrey, attained his 90th birthday last Saturday and received the congratulations of many ringing friends.

Andover District band are progressing with their peal ringing and have, at their third attempt, rung London S. Minor at Burghclere, Hants. For four of the band it was their first in the method.

Because of pressure of space, a number of items have had to be held over this week; also, a number of meeting advertisements arrived too late for inclusion, as we had to go to press early because of the short working week.

The three bells of All Saints' Church, Graveney, Kent, are now being regularly rung. Recast by Mears in 1925, they hang on a six-bell frame foundation and are to be overhauled by the Whitechapel Foundry.

Personal achievements for Ian Thompson (50 peals), Joe E. G. Roast (500), Robert E. J. Dennis (250), Graham C. Paul (400), Christopher F. Easton (100), Robert B. Smith (300 on handbells and 200th of Royal)

First peal congratulations to Elizabeth J. Cranfield, Peter J. Cranfield (who also conducted), Cecile Forgan, Terence V. Barnard, Jennifer E. Jarvis, Glenda Crane, Edward C. Esuart, Richard M. Thompson, S. Nicholas Harrop, Alec R. Turner, Alan Crabtree.

Mr. J. H. Bluff, master of the Peterborough Guild, has informed his guild committee that he will not be seeking re-election at the guild's forthcoming annual meeting. Mr. Bluff retires after serving five years in office.

At Frampton, Dorset, the first peal on the bells was rung on March 21. The long draught of rope, no guides, and the ringing chamber on the ground floor all make the bells difficult to handle and may have deterred other bands in the past.

Peals have now been rung on all the ringable rings of four in Worcestershire, but the team are still looking for a bell (about 20 inches in diameter and strike note F natural) to make a ring of five at Spetchley.

The Gravesend peal of Grandsire Triples on March 14 is noteworthy as there were five first-pealers, whilst it was also the first as conductor. Well done!

When the tenor of the pre-Reformation ring of three at St. Mary-in-the-Marsh in Kent was recast in 1956, its crown, inscription and canons were preserved in the church. An attempt to steal this late in February was fortunately foiled and the police have had some men "helping them in their enquiries."

Our attention has been drawn to the new laws regarding transport and the difficulties which are likely to be encountered by organisers of ringing outings and tours. We have endeavoured to get a ruling on the situation but even the bus companies do not yet understand the position. We recommend our readers to make the fullest enquiries well in advance, as their trip may have to be curtailed because of the restricted hours a coach driver may work.

Our subscription manager (Mr. Lucas) wears, at times, a very harassed expression, particularly when subscriptions do not arrive after a couple of reminders. Generally it is because the matter has been overlooked, and we ask all who come under this category please to help him by sending promptly the amount required. On two occasions last week we had additional amounts added to the subscription—as a "penance" or "fine" for having forgotten to pay!

The senior steward of a well-known ancient society is now able to recommend a popular brand of adhesive, otherwise used for affixing soles to shoes, to those who feel in danger of letting their rope slip from their hands at backstroke. Having managed this in the eighth course of a peal attempt for London Royal recently, and delighted the band with his antics in chasing the tail-end all round the belfry, he now claims to speak with authority on the subject. "Whatever you do," he says, "do not grasp the sally, as this will result in the lowering of your bell and the abandonment of the ringing." Let us hope that one learns by experience!

TRIUMPH IN DUPLICATE

On Sunday, March 22, at Ashton-under-Lyne Parish Church, a peal of Plain Bob Maximus was conducted by M. Jack Pryor, and two of his former pupils each rang their 1,000th peal! Robert B. Smith and Bernard L. Groves are to be heartily congratulated on their fine achievement and in joining the few who have gained the summit of the "thousand."

EDWARD FRED GOBEY

It was with great sorrow that we heard of the sudden death of Fred Gobey (of Ilkeston) on March 9. Although his health had not been good for several months it was thought that he was on the way to recovery.

Fred was taught to ring at an early age by his father, the late Edward C. Gobey, and had taken part in many peals until early 1969 when, owing to ill-health, he had to take a rest, on the advice of his doctor.

He will be sadly missed from the belfry and bell chamber of St. Mary's, Ilkeston, where he and his father before him had maintained the "go" of the bells for 60 years.

The funeral was at St. Mary's on March 13 and the bells, half-muffled, were rung to Stedman Triples as the cortege left the church for cremation at Wilford. About 20 ringers were present from Nottingham and Derby Districts. E. F.

TOM AND MARGARET FRANCIS

An Appreciation

Words cannot convey adequately the deep sense of shock which the news of the tragic deaths of Tom and Margaret Francis brought to their very many friends, and the loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, but particularly among the members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. They were both extremely popular and very highly regarded in their efforts for the wellbeing of the Society.

Tom Francis came to London from his native Cromer in 1938, joining the band at St. Nicholas, Chiswick, and ringing also with the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, which he joined in October the same year. His first peal for the Society in April, 1939, was in the method he was to come to love above all others — Stedman Cinques — at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. Before he was called up for war service at the end of 1939 he had rung six peals for the Society, four of which were Stedman Cinques.

In all, Tom rang 83 peals for the Cumberlands, of which he called 31. Included in this total were 26 peals of Stedman Cinques, of which he conducted 15. He called the first peals for the Society of Erin Triples, Caters and Cinques, and of Yorkshire Royal, and took part in the first of Yorkshire and Loddington Surprise Maximus, 4-Spliced and Pudsey Surprise Royal, and Glasgow, Ealing and 6-Spliced Surprise Major. He also rang in peals for the Society of Bristol Surprise Royal and Maximus.

His versatility was displayed in the variety of the peals in which he took part. In the early '50s he was a regular member of the peal band at Willesden and in the 70 or so peals he rang for the Middlesex Association there are included no fewer than 40 different Surprise methods. It is hoped subsequently to obtain his peal records and to publish a more detailed list of his achievements.

In this appreciation one would like to recognise a little of the enormous debt which the Society owes to both Tom and Margaret. Tom held in turn all the senior offices of the Society save that of secretary: senior steward in '54, master '55, auditor '50-54, Central Council representative '48-56 and finally, from 1957 until his death, the position of trustee, which the Society reserves for its highly-regarded senior members. At St. Martin-in-the-Fields Tom was a member from shortly after his arrival in London and became leader in 1955

— a position which he retained until he left for Southampton in 1963.

Tom was very reserved unless he felt the occasion demanded forceful expression, but when once established he was a very staunch friend and showed obvious enjoyment of the company of those friends. We shall greatly miss the warm greeting, the firm handshake, the sense of humour, the laugh, the twinkling eyes and his delightful Norfolk accent. Those who had the good fortune to participate will remember, too, the enjoyable weekends he arranged for the St. Martin's ringers and their friends, and the happy, social atmosphere which he and Margaret so actively engendered.

He had a passionate regard for the traditions and wellbeing of the Society and it is to be hoped that when its history is written his services will be recognised. He helped to hold the Society together in its lean years and was undoubtedly one of the architects of its present success. During his period as master he tried to give it the type of leadership he knew was required, and many are sorry indeed that his efforts were not better rewarded. It was he who "sounded out" the one who was to be master during the 1960s, and he gave every encouragement to put into effect the changes which were necessary. He delighted in the new-found strength of the Society and attended every possible function he could. After he had moved to Southampton he travelled the 70 miles to practise with the Society in London on weekdays.

It was a great loss to St. Martin's band when Tom and Margaret left, but London's loss was Southampton's gain. More will certainly be written of the seven years spent there, and the large attendance at the funeral reflected the many friends they had made during this time. Tom's interest in the Society never waned. He introduced new members from Southampton area and invited bands from London for peals. And what hospitality he and Margaret provided at their lovely home!

It is in thinking of their happy home life that one's thoughts turn to Margaret—a splendid partner for one whom many had come to think of as a confirmed bachelor. Margaret came to London in 1949 from her home in Thornaby-on-Tees, where she had learned to ring, where her father was also a ringer and where she and Tom were married in 1950. It was not long before she became a full member of the St. Martin's band, although quite a lot of her early ringing in London was at St. Margaret's, Westminster. Margaret was not a

prolific peal ringer. She rang 20 for the Cumberlands, which she joined in 1950, and in all but one of these Tom also participated. She shared his love for Stedman Cinques (almost half her peals for the Society were in this method) and she took part in the peals of Erin Triples, Caters and Cinques already mentioned.

How will one remember Margaret? Firstly as a warm-hearted person who did much to make visitors feel welcome and at home. Secondly to recall her untiring efforts to maintain ringing at Shoreditch by arranging quarter peals on Sunday evenings. Then one will recall how high were her own personal ringing standards and how hard she would strive to keep those standards. Although she had not the wide experience which Tom had, her ringing capabilities in the wide range which she accomplished were of a very high order. One will recall her unselfishness in giving her rope to others and the fact, too, that after a touch arranged for her benefit she invariably expressed her appreciation. Finally one will remember her good humour and good-natured outspokenness.

At the funeral the Society was represented by its master, senior and junior stewards, treasurer, the immediate past master and two former secretaries, by Mrs. A. R. Ling (formerly of the St. Martin's band) and by a large number of members from the Southampton area. At the conclusion of the service a course of Stedman Triples was rung on the St. Martin's handbells by members of the Society. We all met in very great sorrow to thank God for the lives of Tom and Margaret Francis.

On March 9 the bells of St. Martin-in-the-Fields were rung half-muffled to Stedman Cinques, and prior to the ringing the senior curate (Rev. Hugh Maddox) led the ringers in prayer. A peal attempt at St. Martin's the following Saturday by past and present members of the St. Martin's band was most regrettably not successful, but later a half-muffled peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.

It is hard to realise that Tom and Margaret are no longer with us, but we are grateful for the privilege of having known them and of being friends. We thank God for the example they set in their devotion to ringing, particularly in the maintaining of service ringing at St. Martin's and Shoreditch and in sharing their enthusiasm and friendship as members of this Society. We extend our sincere sympathy to all their relatives and especially to their son, David. D.B. and D.S.

LEADING PEAL RINGERS OF 1969 (continued)

	Total		Tower		Hand			Total		Tower		Hand	
	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.		Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.	Rung	Cond.
64 Geoffrey R. Drew ..	51	27	51	27	—	—	96 D. John Hunt ..	44	18	44	18	—	—
64 Richard E. Price ..	51	13	51	13	—	—	96 John Cornelius ..	44	13	44	13	—	—
64 Barry E. Saunders ..	51	1	51	1	—	—	96 Robert E. J. Dennis ..	44	13	44	13	—	—
64 Stanley G. Ponting ..	51	—	51	—	—	—	96 Peter G. Holden ..	44	3	33	2	11	1
69 Murray A. Coleman ..	50	30	50	30	—	—	96 Rupert A. Clarke ..	44	2	35	1	9	1
69 J. Martin Thorley ..	50	30	50	30	—	—	96 Stephen W. Barton ..	44	—	44	—	—	—
69 Melvyn J. Hiller ..	50	1	50	1	—	—	96 Frank Reed ..	44	—	44	—	—	—
69 Donald F. Murfet ..	50	—	50	—	—	—	104 Timothy G. Pett ..	43	27	39	23	4	4
73 Michael J. Fellows ..	49	25	35	24	14	1	104 Roderick W. Pipe ..	43	25	43	25	—	—
73 B. Stedman Payne ..	49	4	49	4	—	—	104 Michael D. Fishwick ..	43	4	42	4	1	—
73 Julia A. Fellows ..	49	—	11	—	38	—	104 Joan Beresford ..	43	1	43	1	—	—
76 Derek E. Sibson ..	48	41	48	41	—	—	104 Iris Lemare ..	43	—	43	—	—	—
76 Gerald Penney ..	48	17	31	15	17	2	104 John N. London ..	43	—	43	—	—	—
76 Mervyn A. Arscott ..	48	3	48	3	—	—	110 Richard W. Hayes ..	42	14	42	14	—	—
76 John G. Gipson ..	48	2	48	2	—	—	110 Philip Mehew ..	42	13	42	13	—	—
76 Peter H. Gardner ..	48	—	48	—	—	—	110 Keith J. Walpole ..	42	12	19	6	23	6
81 Richard A. G. Inglis ..	47	19	41	18	6	1	110 J. Barry Pickup ..	42	11	42	11	—	—
81 Ian G. North ..	47	8	45	7	2	1	110 Peter G. Brown ..	42	6	42	6	—	—
81 Patricia North ..	47	1	45	1	2	—	110 Christopher W. Woolley ..	42	6	19	4	23	2
81 Joseph W. Cotton ..	47	—	47	—	—	—	110 John A. Howard ..	42	3	42	3	—	—
81 Frank Chambers ..	47	—	47	—	—	—	110 Brian Bladon ..	42	1	42	1	—	—
86 C. Kenneth Lewis ..	46	22	22	8	24	14	110 Katherine S. Hardy ..	42	1	32	1	10	—
86 Dennis A. Frith ..	46	9	46	9	—	—	119 Frank C. Price ..	41	19	15	7	26	12
86 J. Malcolm Tyler ..	46	8	46	8	—	—	119 Kenneth J. Darvill ..	41	18	18	7	23	11
86 Philip J. Rothera ..	46	3	46	3	—	—	119 Leslie G. Brett ..	41	14	41	14	—	—
86 Geoffrey A. Edwards ..	46	—	37	—	9	—	119 Timothy G. Bell ..	41	12	41	12	—	—
91 Roland Beniston ..	45	43	45	43	—	—	119 John N. D. Chaddock ..	41	9	41	9	—	—
91 Peter S. Bennett ..	45	20	45	20	—	—	119 Geoffrey Randall ..	41	4	41	4	—	—
91 Peter A. Slight ..	45	18	45	18	—	—	119 Neil Donovan ..	41	—	41	—	—	—
91 Robert E. Hardy ..	45	10	35	8	10	2	119 Norman J. Goodman ..	41	—	41	—	—	—
91 Michael J. Uphill ..	45	10	45	10	—	—	119 W. Ernest Rawson ..	41	—	41	—	—	—
96 Michael Maughan ..	44	34	44	34	—	—							

[To be continued]

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.

BIRTHS

Blackler.—To Jane (née Tuffin) and Royston, on March 17, 1970, a daughter (Frances Jane), a sister for Jeremy. 8485

Jack.—At East Drayton, on Monday, March 16, to Hilary Ross, wife of David William Jack, a daughter, Isabel Jane, a sister for James William. 8516

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE

Ivey—Beeney.—On April 4, in Applecross, West Australia, Rev. Ted Ivey to Laura Mary Beeney, both of Applecross. Laura is a ringer at St. George's Cathedral, Perth, and formerly of Hailsham, Sussex; address c/o P.O. Box 54, Applecross 6153, West Australia. 8492

IN MEMORIAM

Myers.—In ever-loving memory of our dear brother, Thomas George, who passed away on March 27, 1967. Treasured memories, too, of our beloved parents, George Harry, who passed away on March 14, 1960, and Blanche, who passed away on July 24, 1961. Loved and remembered every day. 8477

PERSONAL

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies."—Psalm ciii, 2-5.

CHANGE OF PRACTICE NIGHT

Bredbury, Cheshire.—As from April 1, ringing practices at St. Mark's will be on **Wednesdays** at 7.30 p.m., instead of Fridays. All visitors are most welcome.—Michael Foulds, ringing master. 8498

MISCELLANEOUS

Society of Sherwood Youths.—Outing to Birmingham (via Tamworth), Sat., May 30, Leave Nottingham 8 a.m. Details later. Those interested please contact Mr. D. Stainsby, 376 Loughborough Road, West Bridgford. Tel.: Nottingham 233506. 8484

Doncaster, St. George's.—Weekly practices to be held on Thursday evenings from 7.30 until 9 p.m., commencing April 2, until further notice. Everybody welcome.—Sheila Bruce, Sec. 8504

Meetings

EVENING PRACTICES AND MEETINGS

Ely Diocesan Association.—Cambridge District.—Evening meeting, April 11: Linton, 6-7.15 p.m.; West Watting, 7.30-8.45. Short business meeting 8 p.m.—J. S. 8474

Ely Diocesan Association.—Ely District.—Evening meeting, Sat., April 4. Fordham. Bells (6) from 6 to 8.30 p.m. Special methods: Double Bob and Alnwick Surprise. 8423

Essex Association.—S.W. District.—Evening meeting, Sat., April 11, Barking. Ringing 6.30-8.30 p.m. 8506

Essex Association.—South Eastern District.—District practice, All Saints', Maldon, Mon., April 13, 7.30 p.m. All welcome.—R. J. H. 8479

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Evening 8-bell practice meeting, Wotton-under-Edge (8), Tues., April 7. Bells available 7.30-9 p.m. Methods: Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples. All visitors welcome. 8514

Hertford County Association.—Northern District.—Surprise practice, Benington, Tues., April 7, from 7.30-9 p.m.—G. T. Horritt, Dis. Sec. 8518

Leicester Diocesan Guild.—Leicester District.—Evening meeting, Belgrave, April 11. Ringing 6-8.30 p.m. Everyone welcome.—Ron Hughes. 8365

Middlesex County Association.—S. and W. District.—Evening practices: Chiswick, Wed., April 8, 7.30-9 p.m.; Staines, St. Mary, Fri., April 24, 7.30-9 p.m.—C. H. Rogers. 8430

Middlesex County Association.—Practice meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields (one minute from Tottenham Court Road tube station) on Mon., April 6, 7 p.m. 8519

Southwell Diocesan Guild.—Nottingham District.—A business meeting will be held on Fri., April 3, at 20.00 hours in The Hermitage, Ruddington, to discuss the formation of a South Notts District. 8497

AFTERNOON MEETINGS

Bedfordshire Association.—Bedford District.—Quarterly meeting, Sat., April 4. Carlton (4), 3-4 p.m. Harrod from 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mr. A. J. Collings, 19 Meadway, Harrod (Tel. Harrod 522). Sausage sizzle on Green at 8 p.m. 8462

Coventry Diocesan Guild.—Warwick Archdeaconry.—Monthly meeting, Sat., April 4, at Wellesbourne. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. More ringing after tea. Also Sherborne bells (6), 2.30-3.30 p.m. This is an important meeting at which elections for committee representatives and district secretary take place, so full attendance, please.—H.A.M. 8493

Derby Diocesan Association.—Annual general meeting, Derby, April 4 (and not as published in the Diary) Choral service with ringers' choir in the Cathedral at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting in the Chapter House. Names for tea to Mr. G. A. Halls, 54 Willson Avenue, Littleover, Derby, DE3 7DA. Bells available: St. Peter, 2.15-3.30 p.m.; Cathedral, 3.30-4.25 p.m.; St. Luke 7-8.30 p.m. 8459

Dudley and District Guild.—Meeting, Halesowen (8), Sat., April 4. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea to follow. Names for tea to P. J. Brown, 31 Renfrew Close, Wordsley, Stourbridge, Worcs. 8468

Durham and Newcastle Association.—Northern District.—Ringing meeting, Newburn (6), Sat., April 4. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to A. Taylor, 9 Beverley Terrace, Walbottle, Newcastle, 5. 8486

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.—N.E. Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Bradninch, Sat., April 4. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., with tea and business after. Names for tea to G. Hollis, 26 The Avenue, Tiverton. 8496

Halifax and District Association.—A.G.M. and contest will be held at Saddleworth, April 4. Draw 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. G. Rigby, 95 Carnhill Road, Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs. 8422

Hereford Diocesan Guild.—Bellringers' quarterly meeting, Tenbury Wells, Sat., April 4. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. Meeting after.—J. F. Fox. 8503

Hertford County Association.—Annual general meeting, Bishop's Stortford, Sat., April 4. Service 3.30, followed by tea and meeting in Water Lane Institute. Notice of resolutions—decimalisation of subscriptions; adoption of the Kilmington cup competition. Names for tea must be sent to K. Westwood, 85 Waytemore Road, Bishop's Stortford (Tel. 56043). Ringing programme: Route 1—Hertingfordbury (6), 10.00-11.30; All Saints, Hertford (10), 11.00-12.30; Widford (6), 12.00-1.30; Sawbridge-worth (8), 1.00-2.30; Thorley (6), 2.00-3.00. Route 2—Great Hormead (6), 10.00-11.30; Braughing (8), 11.00-12.30; Standon (6), 12.00-1.30; Lt. Hadham (5), 1.00-2.30; Bishop's Stortford (10), 2.00-3.30. Thorley and Bishop's Stortford after meeting.—A. R. Agg, Gen. Sec. 8440

Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—Quarterly meeting, Cranbrook, on Sat., April 4. Afternoon ringing (primarily for learners) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to A. J. Leves, Hazelwood, Angley Road, Cranbrook. 8470

Leicester Diocesan Guild.—Annual general meeting, Leicester, April 4. Bells: Rothley, 9.30-10.30; Birstall, 10-11; Cossington, 10.30-11.30; Queniborough, 11-12; Barkby, 11.30-12.30; Thurmaston, 12 noon-1 p.m.; Markfield, 9.30-10.15; Ratby, 10-10.45; Groby, 10.30-11.15; Newtown Linford, 11-11.45; Anstey, 12-12.45; Hinckley, 9-10; Burbage, 9.30-10.30; Sharnford, 10-11; Sapcote, 10.30-11.30; Stoney Stanton, 11-12; Croft, 11.30-12.30; Enderby, 12 noon-1 p.m.; Leicester: St. John, 1.30-2.30; All Saints, 2-3; St. Margaret, 2.30-3.30; Cathedral, 3 to service at 4.15 p.m. Tea in Alderman Newton's Boys' School dining annexe 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, 150 Narborough Road South, Leicester (823140).—A. J. Poyner, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8442

Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Woolos Cathedral, Newport, on Sat., April 4. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Ringing: St. Woolos (12), 2.30-4 p.m. and after the meeting; All Saints, Newport (8), 1.30-3.30; Bassaleg (6, steel), 2-3.15 p.m. Names for tea, please, to M. J. Pryor, Hon. Sec., 43 Downton Road, Rumney, Cardiff. 8401

Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—Annual striking competition, Sat., April 4, at Burnley St. Peter's. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea 5. Results and meeting follow. Further ringing to 8.30 p.m. Visitors welcome for the evening ringing.—Maurice Hill, Branch Sec. 8505

Peterborough Diocesan Guild.—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting, Guilborough, Sat., April 4. Names for tea to Mr. P. A. Turner, 26 Greenhill Road, Long Buckby, near Rugby, by Tuesday previous. 8494

Sheffield and District Society.—The A.G.M. will be held on Sat., April 4, at Thrybergh (6), 2-3 p.m. Whiston (8), 3-4; Rotherham (10), 4-5 and after tea till 9 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. N. Donovan, 4 Holmesfield, Roseberry Street, Rotherham. All welcome.—R. Fletcher, Hon. Sec. 8499

Southwell Diocesan Guild.—Annual general meeting, Southwell, Sat., April 4. Ringing: Farnsfield, 2.30-4 p.m.; Lowdham, 2.30-4; Southwell, 3-4.30 and 7-9. Service, Southwell, 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows tea in Trebeck Hall. Names for tea to Mr. F. W. Midwinter, 70 Valley Prospect, Newark, Notts.—W. L. Exton, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8458

Barnsley and District Society.—Meeting at Shelley, Sat., April 11, 3 p.m. Tea, Skelmonthorpe Café (5s.), followed by meeting. Numbers for tea to Philip Charlesworth, Bank House Farm, Silkstone, Barnsley (Tel.: Silkstone 439), by previous Wednesday. 8411

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Frome Branch.—Quarterly meeting at High Littleton (6), Sat., April 11, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business. Good attendance, please. 8513

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Grappenhall Branch.—Meeting, Daresbury (8), Sat., April 11. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. J. Ryder, Windygates, Moss Lane, Moore, Warrington, by Wed., April 8.—J. Moore, Hon. Sec. 8412

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.—South West Branch.—Spring meeting, Lifton, Sat., April 11. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea by April 6, please.—R. Southwood, 11 Sydney Close, Plympton, Plymouth. Phone: 36891. 8471

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—North Nibley (6), Sat., April 11. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea.—G. Minors, 1 Hesterville Villas, Purton, Berkeley, Glos. 8515

Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Ospringe on Sat., April 11. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in the Church Hall. Names for tea to reach Mr. F. C. Farnsworth, 14 Kings Road, Faversham, not later than April 8.—J. B. K. 8453

Lancashire Association.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Meeting, Sat., April 11, at Millom. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. J. Ullock, 135 Albert Street, Millom.—T. F. Metcalfe. 8512

Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—Southern Branch. Meeting, Billingborough, Sat., April 11. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Rev. P. B. Hearn, The Vicarage, Billingborough, near Sleaford, Lincs, by Mon., April 6.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 8481

London County Association.—Meeting, Sat., April 11. Ringing at St. Mary's, Woolwich, 3-4.30 p.m., and St. Alphge's, Greenwich, 7-8.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Woolwich. Names for tea essential to J. H. Lott (01-736 4423).—R. J. C. 8482

Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—Annual meeting will be held at All Hallows', Twickenham, on Sat., April 11, for election of officers, etc. Title of Association and membership badges will be discussed. Service 4.30 p.m. and tea to follow. Ringing arrangements: All Hallows', Twickenham, 3-4.30 p.m.; St. Nicolas' (The Mall), Chiswick, 2.30-4; All Saints', Isleworth, 7.30-9.30 p.m.—T. J. Lock, Gen. Sec. 8520

Shropshire Association.—Quarterly meeting to be held at Wem (8), Sat., April 11. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Ringing in the evening until 8.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. G. Docksey, 69 New Street, Wem, by the Wednesday before. 8509

Suffolk Guild.—N.W. District.—Ringing meeting, Lakenheath (6), Sat., April 11. Bells from 2.30-9 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Names for tea, please, to Mrs. E. M. Peachey, 150 High Street, Lakenheath, Suffolk, by Wed., April 8. 8454

Surrey Association (Southern District) and East Grinstead Guild.—Joint meeting on Sat., April 11. Godstone. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea to A. K. Wood, 45 Warren Lane, Oxted, by previous Wednesday. Lingfield bells (8) available for evening ringing, 7-9 p.m.—K. G. Game, M. A. Large, Secs. 8475

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.—Andover District.—Quarterly meeting, Sat., April 11. Nether and Over Wallop (fives). Bells 2.30-4.30 p.m. Broughton (6) from 6. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Moulard, The Delph, Heathman Street, Nether Wallop, Stockbridge, Hants. 8410

London County Association.—Surprise Major practice, St. Olave's, Hart Street, Mon., April 13, 6-8 p.m. All welcome. Future Surprise Major practices will be held at St. Olave's on the Monday preceding the third Thursday of each month.—R. J. C. 8483

Coventry Diocesan Guild.—The annual general meeting will be held in Warwick on Sat., April 18. St. Nicholas' bells available 2.30-4 p.m.; St. Mary's, 3-4.45. Tea and business meeting in St. Mary's Hall, 4.45. Service in St. Mary's Church 6.30 p.m. Names for tea by April 16, please.—H. M. Windsor, 5 Park Lane, Harbury, near Leamington Spa. Tel.: Harbury 504. 8495

Cumberland and N. Westmorland Association.—Annual general meeting, April 18, at St. John's, Cleator Moor. Bells available 1.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. It is imperative that those requiring tea must inform Mr. G. Tembey, Holmlea, Woodend, Egremont, on or before April 15, as there may be no other means of obtaining refreshment.—J. W. Brownrigg, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8380

National Guild of Police Ringers.—South Eastern District.—Annual district meeting, Sat., April 18. Meet at the Church of St. Mary, Hendon, N.W., at 11.30 a.m. Names for lunch to me, please, before April 13.—P. Shonk, Dis. Sec., 58 Raeburn Road, Sidcup, Kent. Tel.: 01-850 1014. 8451

Sussex County Association.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, April 18, St. Margaret's (8), Ditchling. Bells 3.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing after tea. Please send names for tea to Mrs. Kirkcaldy, 29 Manor Gardens, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, Sussex, by Wed., April 15. 8507

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting on April 18. Ringing at All Saints', Upham, 2.30 till 4.30 p.m. Service at Upham 4.30. Tea in the Church Hall, Bishop's Waltham, 5.30, followed by the business meeting. Evening ringing at St. Peter's, Bishop's Waltham, until 9 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mrs. N. Colley, Lindum, Free Street, Bishop's Waltham (phone B.W. 2821), by Wed., April 15. 8403

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—North Berks Branch.—Annual meeting, Drayton, April 25. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. Notification for tea to Corderoy, West-Wynds, Westbrook Street, Blewbury, Didcot, by April 21. 8508

University of Wales Society.—Annual general meeting and tour will now be held on Sat., April 25. Details from D. J. Morgan, Burgess Hall, Lampeter, Cards. S.a.e., please. 8517

Yorkshire Association.—Annual general meeting, Ormesby, Sat., May 2. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall 5. Names for tea to Mrs. L. Yates, 47 Stainton Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough, Teesside, by Tues., April 28. Tea tickets will be sent to those who enclose a s.a.e. and given (at Ormesby Church between 3.45 and 4 p.m.) to others who book. Subscriptions are due and reports will be available. Towers: Kirby Wiske (6), 10.30-11.30; Northallerton (8), 11-12; Carlton-in-Cleveland (8), 11.45-12.45; Guisborough (6) and Skelton (8), 1-3; Thornaby (8) and Stockton (10), 2-4; Ormesby (8), 2-4.20. Ormesby after the meeting and the other towers if necessary.—W. F. Moreton. 8510

DERBY

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CHELLASTON

DEDICATION

of the two treble bells on

Sunday, April 5, at 2.45 p.m.

Ringing after the service. All welcome. 8397

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Readers whose subscriptions expired in March, 1970, are reminded that these should now be renewed. Prompt attention will be greatly appreciated.

C. W. LUCAS,
Subscription Manager.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING

Saturday, April 4, at Boldmere (8)

Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Bells available afterwards.—R. J. T., Hon. Sec. 8521

SUFFOLK GUILD

A.G.M., 1970—IPSWICH

Saturday, April 4

Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. A.G.M. 6.15.

For details see R.W. for last week.

Names for tea to Mrs. L. Munnings, 42 Beechcroft Road, Ipswich. 8416

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Saturday, April 11

Ringing, St. Mary's, Woolwich, 3-4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting, St. Alphge's, Greenwich, 7-8.30 p.m.

Monday, April 13

Surprise practice, St. Olave's, Hart Street, E.C., 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 11

Summer outing (details later)

Bookings early, please, to assist with coach hire.—Mrs. O. L. Rogers (Master), 53 The Grove, Isleworth. 8487

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at NEWHEY on SATURDAY, APRIL 25th, 1970.

ROUTE 1

Glodwick, St. Mark (Oldham) (8)	11.30-12.30
Oldham, St. Mary (12)	11.30-1.00
Moorside, St. Thomas (Oldham) (8)	1.00-2.30
East Crompton, St. James (8)	2.00-3.30

ROUTE 2

Shore, St. Barnabas (Littleborough) (8)	10.30-11.30
Healey, Christ Church (Rochdale) (6)	11.00-12.00
Hamer, All Saints (Rochdale) (6)	11.30-12.30
Rochdale, St. Chad (8)	1.00-2.30
Milnrow, St. James (8)	2.00-3.30

Newhey, St. Thomas (8) 2.15-3.45

Service, Newhey Church, at 3.45.

Tea at 4.30 in Newhey Church School, 5s. each.

Names for tea (with money and s.a.e) to R. Lawson, 24 Bentgate Street, Newhey, Rochdale, by Wednesday, April 22.

A.G.M. in Newhey School at 5.30 p.m.

Evening ringing:

Newhey, St. Thomas (8), after meeting to 8.00.

Middleton, St. Leonard (8), after meeting to 8.45.

Heywood, St. Luke (8), after meeting to 8.45.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND

YOUTHS

COUNTRY MEETING

BIRMINGHAM, Saturday, April 11

St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral, 11 a.m.—12 noon.

Lunch: Vittoria Restaurant, Frederick Street, 12.30 p.m.

Edgbaston, 2-3 p.m.

St. Philip's Cathedral, 3-4 p.m.

Tea in St. Chad's Cathedral Hall, 4.30 p.m. followed by meeting.

St. Martin's, 6.30-7.30 p.m.

Yardley, 7.45-9 p.m.

Names for lunch and tea to J. S. Barnes, 56 Leamington Avenue, Orpington, Kent, BR6 9QB (Tel.: Farnborough, Kent 53666). 8500

WANTED

Set handbells, complete with F sharp and C sharp if possible. Will consider any set, condition reasonable, whatever available.—J. L. Moore, 3 Fore Street, Totnes 2675, Devon. 8525

Received too late for Classification

Bedfordshire Association.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting, Northill, April 11. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea.—A. H. Smith. 8528

Coventry Diocesan Guild.—Warwick Archdeaconry.—Monthly meeting, Sat., April 4, at Wellesbourne. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. More ringing after tea. Also Sherborne bells (6) 2.30-3.30 p.m. This is an important meeting at which election for committee representatives and district secretary will take place, so full attendance, please.—H. A. M. 8483

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Chippenham Branch.—Meeting, Grittleton (6), on April 11, 4 p.m. Tea 5. Service 6. Yatton Keynell bells (4) available 3-4 p.m. Names for tea to M. Stracey, 51 Cranwell Close, Chippenham, Wilts, by April 8. 8535

Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting and striking competition, Cuxton, Sat., April 18. Competition 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, meeting and general ringing. Names for tea to Mr. A. R. Smith, Clovelly, 8 Station Road, Cuxton, Rochester, by previous Wednesday, please.—D. P. L. 8522

Ladies' Guild.—Sussex District.—Meeting at Burgess Hill (8), Sat., April 11. Ringing 3-6 p.m. Evensong 6. Meeting 6.30 p.m. No evening ringing.—R. Farley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8533

Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting, Oldham Parish Church, Sat., April 11. Bells (12) 3.30 p.m. Please make own tea arrangements.—G. Cheetham. 8531

Peterborough Diocesan Guild.—Peterborough Branch.—Spring meeting. Castor, April 17. Bells (just rehung) from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea to R. Daw, 97 Fane Road, Peterborough, by previous Wednesday. 8527

Southwell Diocesan Guild.—Bingham District.—Meeting, April 11, Granby. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Miss R. Blackshaw, 36 Stratford Road, West Bridgford, by Wednesday previous. 8526

Southwell Diocesan Guild.—N. Notts District.—Meeting, Rampton, April 11. Numbers for tea to H. Poyner (address in Diary). Laneham also available; bring headgear. 8523

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.—Basingstoke District.—Quarterly general meeting, Bramley, Sat., April 18. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, Bramley School, 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea to J. J. Hill, 67 Oakridge Road, Basingstoke, by Tues., April 14, please. 8524

DENIAL

The footnote to the handbell peal of Bob Minor rung on March 16 at Chorlton, Manchester, conducted by C. L. D. Mun-day, has no foundation in fact. No engagement has been announced. (See page 257, this issue.)

Truro Guild

CONDUCTOR CONGRATULATED

The 1970 A.G.M. of the Truro Diocesan Guild was held at Linkinhorne on March 7 and was attended by over 80 ringers. The president (Mr. Alan Carveth) opened the meeting by ringing the Guild bell and prayers were led by the Vicar of Linkinhorne (Rev. M. B. Geach), who welcomed the ringers to Linkinhorne. Silent tribute was paid to the members who had died since the last meeting—Canon W. H. Prior, J. Chapman, A. J. Chubb, J. Roberts, D. M. Stephens and Miss H. M. Wintle.

The treasurer presented the accounts, balances of £111 in the general fund and £72 in the badge account being recorded.

The ringing master (Mr. W. C. Boucher) and his assistant (Mr. A. Locke) reported on the festivals during the year, and congratulations were extended to Miss M. L. Lidgey on conducting a peal of Stedman Triples—her first as conductor. It was a fine achievement, showing faith and determination. Miss Lidgey, the peal secretary, reported a record number of peals for the Guild (51), almost double the previous year's total. Outstanding were six peals: at Stratton the local band rang Grandsire Triples, at Carbis Bay two of Stedman Triples were rung by residents alone (16 years since the last peal so rung), at Phil-lack, Kent and Oxford Major was scored, at Sennen, Doubles were rung by a band (average age 16½) and at Lelant the multi-Doubles band scored 120 m/v in 6240 changes—the longest peal for the Guild. The quarters were slightly down but still included 56 "firsts."

The librarian (Mr. R. P. Pearce) thanked those who had given books and those who had contributed to the R.W. binder fund; Mr. F. M. Bowers gave an account of the St. Albans C.C. meeting. This was followed by the confirmation of non-resident life members elected during 1969: J. A. Ainsworth, G. H. Baldam, M. I. Brown, P. J. Brown, N. J. Davies, A. C. Fairey, M. W. Fairey, S. W. Fossey, M. H. O'Callaghan, M. Powell, J. C. Skidmore, N. Summerhayes and P. Williams.

All the Guild officers were re-elected.

Mr. H. Lander, a vice-president, proposed that membership of the Guild should no longer be by tower affiliation but by individual subscription. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the idea be adopted for an experimental period.

It was decided that the Guild summer festival be held in July (details in the R.W. later, but Bodmin hoped for the venue) and the invitation to hold the 1971 A.G.M. at Constantine on March 6 be accepted. Further items were speedily dealt with under any other business, and the meeting was closed and followed by tea. The bells in the neighbourhood were soon in use.

A. J. D.

Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Pulborough (8), Sat., April 11. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Evening ringing until 8.30 p.m. Please notify for tea P. M. Willis, 75 Annandale Avenue, Bognor Regis (Tel.: Bognor 24952) 8532

25 YEARS AGO

Taken from The Ringing World for March 30, 1945.

"Synthetic Bells" was the subject for the leading article and the pros and cons given in concise terms.

Mrs. F. E. Collins rang her first peal of Caters inside at Beddington, Surrey. Her husband rang the 7th and Charles Kippin conducted.

At Reading a 720 of Bob Minor on handbells was the first for Audrey B. Diserens 1-2 and Noel Diserens 3-4. The conductor was A. Diserens 5-6.

At the annual meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association Mr. W. Claydon (Reigate) was elected master, and Mr. A. Gear hon. secretary.

The largest attendance for many years was recorded at Shaftesbury when the Rev. F. L. Edwards conducted a service and took the chair for the business meeting in the Masonic Hall.

The Lord Bishop of Liverpool will be present and wishes to meet as many Lancashire ringers as possible. — Advt. for Wigan and Liverpool branch meeting.

Only six tower bell and four handbell peals were recorded in this issue.

Charles Wenban and Patricia Holmes rang their first peal (Grandsire Triples) at Stanmore, Middlesex, which was conducted by William Wenban.

At Manchester Cathedral Mr. Charles Fairlie completed 63 years as a Cathedral ringer, and a quarter of Grandsire Caters was rung to honour the occasion, for which Mr. Fairlie rang the second.

50 YEARS AGO

April 2, 1920

Herbert Audsley rang his first peal of Double Norwich at Erith, Kent, composed and conducted by Edwin Barnett sen., Edwin Barnett jun. also taking part.

A seven-method peal by a local band at Sharnbrook, Beds, was rung half-muffled as a tribute to Mr. William Long Fitzpatrick (churchwarden), conducted by E. P. Duffield.

Arranged for Walter Ayre, of St. Mark's College, Chelsea, a handbell peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford.

The bells of Kirkburton, Yorkshire, recast and rehung by Taylors, were rung to a peal of Kent T.B. Major.

"I have been for many years a member of the Literature Committee (of the C.C.), which has of late become a byword for dilatoriness and inefficiency." — T. L. Papillon in a letter about the C.C. and its committees.

A meeting to revive the Northern Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Pickering and attended by 30 members with the Rev. C. C. Marshall (president) in the chair.

The Rev. H. Drake contributed an article which suggested that ringers should be credited only with peals scored for the unit within whose borders they are rung.

Canon Gorse Hodge, the new Rector of Birmingham, presided at the 32nd Anniversary Dinner commemorating Henry Johnson, and Mr. W. H. Godden, one of the few surviving friends of the old Birmingham worthy, proposing the toast to the memory of Henry Johnson, said that although a scientific man in change ringing, Henry was also a very sociable man.

COMPOSITIONS**5200 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL**By ROBERT B. SMITH
234567890 M I/V B W H

326547089	2	x	2
32546	x	1	2
23645	x	1	1
23456	x	1	1
23564	x	1	1
235647890	4/1		
23645	x	1	1
32546	x	1	2
32465	x	1	1
32654	x	1	1
23456	x	1	2

5076 ERIN CATERS

By DALE BARTON

132547698 1 4 5 6 9

123549876 — S —
123546798 S —

542316978	S	—	—	—
31425	A	—	—	—
25143	A	—	—	—
43512	A	—	—	—
15234	A	—	—	—
12354	A	—	—	—

152346798 S A

135246879 — A

243517968	—	—	—	—
51432	—	—	—	—
32145	—	—	—	—
45213	—	—	—	—
12354	—	—	—	—

123547698 S 3A

Repeat. Start with rounds at handstroke first change of six.
First rung at Bedford on March 9, 1970, by C.U.G.C.R.

5072 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

By D. G. LAWSON

23456 W 5/4 B M H

42356	—	—	—
52346	x	—	5
36245	—	—	5
42365	—	—	5
35264	—	—	5
62354	—	—	5
34625	—	—	5
34256	x	—	—
54236	x	—	5
26435	—	—	5
54326	x	—	3
23456	S	—	S

All 5 Homes (— — S — —).
No 82s or 83s. 112 c.r.u.'s.

1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

By WILLIAM WILLANS

1 2 3 23456

—	S	62354
—	S	46253
—	S	34652
—	S (—)	34256

Repeat five times.
S for (—) half-way and end.

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				Grandsire Caters ...	1 0

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