

### A dispute over a peal at Canterbury

On Saturday last was rung at the Cathedral Church in this City, by a Company of Ringers from Wye, 5040 Gransire [*sic*] Tripples, upon those Bells, counted the finest and largest Ring of Bells in the County, in three Hours and thirty Minutes, being the first Time 'twas ever Rung in that Steeple. (*Kentish Post*, Sat. 9 Feb./Wed. 13 Feb. 1739/40)

To all true Lovers of that ingenious Art call'd *Campanaloga* in the County of Kent, that desires not the Applause of a Peal they did not perform.

To prevent being impos'd upon, so as to believe any Truth in what was publish'd by those ignorant Assertors of a Peal of 5040 rung by them on Saturday February 9, the Author of this Advertisement (without Partiality) assures it to be a Falsity; and he prov'd so that very Night, before all their Faces, and appeal'd to one of them in particular, when he gave the three following Reasons. 1. By the Compass of Time they rung they could not compleat 5040 at least under three Hours and three quarters. 2. It was unworthy of a Name among Ringers from beginning to ending, by Reason of its Badness. 3. It was impossible to be 5040 exactly, seeing they came round the false Way.

Their Peal at Battel formerly published by them, was then own'd to be the same of this. And as to their Peal rung at Wye, as also before publish'd, you may justly not believe it, because there was not competent Judge to disprove them.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 17 Feb./Wed. 20 Feb. 1739/40 – advert)

To all impartial Ringers.

Whereas on Wednesday last was published a scandalous Libel, without a Name, concerning a Peal Rung at Canterbury by a Company of Ringers from Wye the 9th of this Instant, this is to assure all People that the same was done through Envy and Malice, because they themselves could never do it, altho' they have try'd these ten Years past, Times out of Number. In Answer therefore to the anonymous Author's first article; He plainly shews his Ignorance, in not knowing the Compass of a Peal of Bells. To his second, we appeal to the unprejudic'd Gentlemen of the City that heard it. And to the third, all Kent knows that they could not have stuck at Fifty such, if they could have got so high.

In Vindication therefore of the said Peal, and all others by us rung, we hereby challenge the ignorant Author, and the rest of his Crew, to ring with them at Maidstone for Ten Shillings a Man, any Day they please to appoint.

Wye, Feb. 21. 1730

Thomas Jarman.

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 20 Feb./Sat. 23 Feb. 1739/40 – advert)

To all you Polite and None such *Campanialogians* at Wye, particularly *Thomas Jarman*.

In your last Publication you observe my scandalous Libel without a Name, concerning your Peal at Canterbury, and to assure all People that the same was done by me and the Company in Canterbury through Envy and Malice, for those reasons therein inserted; I do hereby declare, that the Ringers at Canterbury (they being no more to me than your own Company) knew nothing of the same 'till it came out of the Press; for it was done by me alone, without the Advice

or Consent of any Person whatsoever, to fulfil my Promise made to all your Faces at the Rose in Canterbury, and to satisfy the Ingenious of that Art in this County of your gaining Honour in such your most shameful and false Performances. I thought you would have prov'd the Truth of your Peals to convince my Ignorance, rather than to appeal of the Gentlemen of the City of Canterbury and County of Kent, and also to challenge me and my Crew for Money, knowing for several Years I have been out of Practice: However, I shall make no Wagers for them, but they may answer for themselves as they please; although they can ring to my Knowledge what you call 5040, every Time they go into the Steeple, better than yours, if they will stand three Hours and a half. If what I have prov'd about your Peal be not sufficient to convince you it is to those that are Judges of Ringing; but for my own Part, I challenge you all my self, to ring with you, one by one, for a Guinea each Man, or as much more as you please, at Maidstone, Gravesend, or London, at any Time you please to appoint.

Boughton under the Blean,                      HENRY BAKER.  
Feb. 26, 1739-40.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 23 Feb./Wed. 27 Feb. 1739/40 – advert)

To all those *Famous* Campanalogians that rung at Canterbury last Tuesday Evening, particularly that magniloquent Person Mr. Henry Baker.

SIR,    Wye, March 13, 1739.

I Hope you will not take amiss my not answering you sooner: I assure you I delayed it not through Fear. We always yielded you and Mr. Pembrock the Pre-eminence 'til now. For as you pretend to say you belong to no Company. (though I find you are the *Speaker of Canterbury and Dover*) your Proposition of Ringing with us one by one cannot be decided in a Steeple. If you can get seven more in the Part of the County, we will be ready at Maidstone the 7th of April, (if alive and well) and ring, if you please, for twenty Guineas. If you cannot, I will ring with you alone on Hand-Bells, from *Gransire to Sinqes*, for what you please. As to your ringing at Canterbury last Tuesday, we heard the *mournful Ditty*, and tell you plainly, if your Friend *Annable* had been there, he would have been asham'd of you, for such *famous* Men to try for *Five Thousand*, and ring in both the Times you try'd not above *Eighteen Hundred*. It's to no Purpose to say any more; for till you have been Abroad and outdone us, we shall esteem you as *Dunghill-Cocks*. We are inform'd Mr. Underdown resents it; if he does, we will Meet his Company at Canterbury at any Time.

THO. JARMAN.

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 12 March/Sat. 15 March 1739/40; no further adverts in this series have so far been traced.)

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*Shrewsbury, Feb. 4.* On Saturday last the famous Robert Cadman (who so narrowly escap'd Death at a Place in Wiltshire) in attempting to fly from a Steeple in this Town, was kill'd by the cutting off of the Rope where came through the Steeple, it being fasten'd to the Frames of the Bells. He was a very extraordinary Fellow in his Way, but was grown too daring; for notwithstanding he was frequently caution'd by People here, he would not be prevail'd on so much as to see any thing between the Rope and the Stone to prevent it cutting off.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 14 Feb. 1740)

On Monday the 7th of April (being Easter-Monday) was rung at Swaffham in Norfolk, by the Society of Ringers there, a Peal of 5040 Bob Major; being the first compleat Peal of that Nature ever performed in that Town, as likewise the first Attempt the aforesaid Company ever made for it, and is computed to be by Judges in the Exercise a Compleat Piece of Work: Performed by Ringers whose Names are as follow, viz.

Richard Chapman,	Treble. }	{Rowland Taylor,	Fifth.
James Peck,	Second. }	{Robert Moore,	Sixth.
Robert Goodrick,	Third. }	{Duncan Duer,	Seventh.
John Daniell,	Fourth. }	{William Garwood,	Tenor.

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 12 April 1740)

On Wednesday last, soon after Seven o'Clock in the Evening, the Upper Church at Guildford in Surrey fell down. It was an ancient Building, and not long ago 750£. was expended in Repairs; there was a Preaching in it on Sunday last, and Workmen were employ'd in taking down the Bells, who providentially had quitted the Spot about a Quarter of an Hour before the Accident happen'd, so that not one Person receiv'd any Hurt, tho' great Numbers were Spectators: Three Bells had been taken down, and the other Three fell with the Steeple, which broke the Body of the Church to Pieces, tho' the Steeple has receiv'd little Damage by the Fall. - As an Election is near they must make their new Members build it up again.

(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 26 April 1740; also *Kentish Post*, Dat. 26 April – Wed. 30 April 1740) [The 'Upper Church' is Holy Trinity - cf Collins *Guide to Parish Churches*, 4th edn., p. 393.]

On Thursday last (being May-Day) was Rung in St. Giles's Parish in Norwich that most ingenious Peal called GARTHAN'S TREBLES, of 5040 Changes, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes, it being the first Peal of Trebles ever found out of that length to Truth with Two Doubles, and the first Time it was ever performed in the said Parish. Done by Us whose Names are under-written, and the Youngest Company now in Practice, viz.

William Ling,	Treble.	John Burrell	5th.
Joseph Skinner,	2d.	John Watts	6th.
Tho. Spurgeon,	3d.	John Forster 7th, who called	
Charles Jarves,	4th.	the Bobs.	
		Thomas Abbott	Tenor.

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 3 May 1740)

A few days ago two Trebles cast by Mr. Sellar, Bel[1]-founder of York, were rung at Wakefield, which with the Six they had before make as compleat a Peal of eight Bells as most in this County.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 20 May 1740 - quoted in Hargrave, Emily, 'A Change-Ringing Controversy', *Thoresby Society*, Vol. 2 (Miscellanea), 1928.)

Wakefield, Oct. 14. last Week our new Chimes were compleated, by James Harrison of Barrow in Lincolnshire, which plays [*sic*] seven different Tunes very elegantly, viz. every Day of the Week one, and changes of it's [*sic*] own Accord. The whole is look'd upon as an Excellent Piece of Work.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 14 Oct. 1740)

Dublin, Nov 4. Saturday last being the Anniversary of the Birth Day of the brave Admiral Vernon, the same was observed here with great Demonstrations of Joy: In the Morning the Bells of St Patrick's Church rang (by Order of the Dean) Britons sinke Home &c, with great Variety of Changes

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs 20 Nov 1740 – per C Ridley)

This week Two new Trebles were cast by Mr. Newman of this City, and on Thursday last were carried to Diss in Norfolk, to make a Peal of Eight in that Town.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 20 Dec. 1740 – per David Cubitt)

**T**HIS is to give Notice, that on *Wednesday*  
the 31st Instant, the New Peal of Bells at *Coddenham*,  
will be fit for Ringing for the first Time: And therefore  
all Lovers of that Science are desir'd to meet at the *Crown*  
*Inn* in *Coddenham* to hear them.

Our Subscribers desire the Society of Ipswich will give  
us the pleasure of their Company early to make a Beginning.

All Gentlemen will be well entertain'd, and meet with  
a hearty Wellcome [*sic*], from their humble Servant to Command

GEORGE COOPER.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 27 Dec. 1740 - advert)

## 1741

We hear from Leicester, that on New Year's-Day was rung there, by the Ringers of that Town, on St. Margaret's celebrated Peal of ten Bells, a Peal of five thousand and forty Grandsire Cators; the Whole was perform'd to the entire Satisfaction of all who heard it, (at the third time of Trial only) in three Hours and 54 Minutes, by 1. Thomas Drakly, 2. Livewell Orton, 3. William Rennolds, 4. Elias Warburton, 5. William Orton, 6. Robert Bass, 7. John Christian, 8. Jos. Woodhouse, 9. Thomas Flavewell, 10. Moses Bull.  
(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 15 Jan. 1740-41)

The 15th of this instant January was rung at Maidstone by the Company of Ringers there, with the Help of John Freeland, the Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in three Hours and twelve Minutes. The Bells accounted little inferior both in Size and Goodness to Canterbury.  
(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 28 Jan./Sat. 31 Jan. 1740/1; the remark about Canterbury refers to the report in the *Kentish Post* of 13 Feb. 1739/40, *qv.*)

On Monday the 9th of March, at St. Michael's of Coslany, was rung by the Norwich Society, 5040 of Court Bob all 8, which was never done before, and was perform'd in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes.  
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 14 March 1740/1; also reported with slightly different wording in the *Norwich Gazette* of the same date, the latter per David Cubitt.)

We hear from Saffron Walden in Essex, that on Tuesday the 19th of last Month, on receiving the News of Admiral Vernon's Success at Cartagena, the Right Hon. the Earl of Suffolk gave six Hogsheads of Beer to the Populace, and six Guineas to the Ringers to continue Ringing a whole Week; and the Mayor and Aldermen of the same Place gave two Hogsheads of Beer, and two Guineas to the Ringers.  
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 1 June 1741)

On Tuesday last the Rt. Rev. Dr. Gooch, Lord Bishop of this Diocese, arrived at his Palace here from London; on which Occasion, the Bells of the Cathedral were rung.  
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 18 July 1741 – per David Cubitt)

We have an Account here of a most violent and terrible Hurricane that happened last Tuesday at 12 a Clock at Lynn Regis in Norfolk.... Prodigious deal of Damage; particularly as it is said that the Spire of St. Nicholas' Church there, and also the Spire of St. Margaret's Church were both blown down, and greatly damaged the Roofs of those Churches.  
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 12 Sept. 1741 – per David Cubitt)

ON THURSDAY *September* the 10th, 1741,  
was rung on the Eight New Bells at *Coddenham*, by the *Crowfield* Society of Ringers, A compleat Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Gathrines Tripples, being the first true Peal that ever was prick'd with two Doubles only: It was compleated in three Hours and seven Minutes.  
N.B. This is the first time this Peal was ever rung in *Suffolk*.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 12 Sept. 1741 - advert)

WHEREAS Mr. JOHN COLLETT, of DISS in the County of NORFOLK, has for several Years been employ'd in Tuning Peals of Bells, and has given good Satisfaction to the Gentlemen and Inhabitants of the several Parishes where he has wrought, not only in the laying them in Tune, but also very much improving the Tones of bad Bells. This therefore is to inform the Church-wardens or Gentlemen, of any Parish, (within 40 or 50 Miles) who are desirous of improving their Peal of Bells, either by tuning or adding to their Number, that the said JOHN COLLETT humbly offers to undertake one or both, upon as reasonable Terms, and in as Workmanlike a Manner, as any Man whatever: And as to the tuning Part, he will take it as a Favour, if any Gentleman of Judgement and Candor [*sic*], will give himself the Trouble of proving his Work in any Steeple where he has wrought, or shall for the future work. The said JOHN COLLETT thinks himself further obliged in Justice, to inform the Publick, that in all Peals he has hitherto been concern'd, in adding new Bells, or recasting old ones, that Mr. THOMAS NEWMAN of NORWICH has done that work for him, and to such Perfection, as to give entire Satisfaction to all concern'd. Any Gentleman may have a List of the several Peals hitherto tuned, or any other Particulars relating to casting or other Work done by their humble Servants,

JOHN COLLETT.

THOMAS NEWMAN.

(Advert in *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 20 Feb. 1741/2; similar advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 20 February 1742, but with the additional sentence 'The last Bells that were finished were for Fressingfield in Suffolk.' after '...to all concern'd.')

Musberry in Devon, Feb. 27. Our old Bells were sent on Saturday last to Mr. Thomas Wroth, Bell-founder in Wellington, Somerset, to be cast and put in the same Key with that most excellent, merry and harmonious Peale [*sic*] he lately cast for St. George's in the City of Exon, which will ever redound to his Honour so long as the Bells remain in that Steeple.

(*Sherborne Mercury, or Weekly Advertiser*, Tues. 2 March 1742)

On the 8th Instant six Pair of Gloves were rung for on six Bells at Hanbury near Bromsgrove, by the Ringers of Clent, Bromsgrove, and Feckenham; and notwithstanding the Ringers of the two last mentioned Places had often practised on the Bells, the Prize fell to those of Clent, who had never rung the said Bells till the Prize was rung for. The Peal was half an Hour long, and they made but fifteen Mistakes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Monday 14 June 1742)

On Wednesday last (being our latter Fair Day) the Peal of *Grandsire Triples* was rung thro' at St. Peter's Church, by the Society of Ringers call'd the *Leeds Youths*; which they performed with the utmost Accuracy and universal Applause, in three Hours and eight Minutes, after two Months Practice since the Bells were new hung, by that great Artist, Mr. James Harrison, of Barrow in Lincolnshire.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 6 July 1742)

The Society of Ringers call'd the *Leeds Youths*, having had an Invitation from some Gentlemen of Wakefield, to ring their *new Peal* of eight Bells lately hung by Mr. Harrison of Barrow in Lincolnshire, went over accordingly last Sunday where they so dextrously perform'd the Peal of *Grandsire Triples* in 3 hours and 15 minutes, as surpriz'd all that were Judges in that Art.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tuesday 20 July 1742)

### **Prize Ringing at Broomham Wilts.**

THIS is to give Notice to all Gentlemen RINGERS, and Others,  
THAT there will be Rung for (on Six Bells) at Broomham in the County of Wilts, on Monday the 13th Day of September next, Six HATS, of Half a Guinea Price each, given by Robert English at the Shoulder of Mutton in Broomham aforesaid; and whoever wins the said Hats, and refuses them, shall be intituled [*sic*] to receive of the said Robert English the aforesaid Sum in Money. All Ringers, who intend to ring for the said Prize, are desired to be at the aforesaid House by Eleven of the Clock of the said Day, where will be provided a good Dinner, to be ready by Twelve; and to begin Ringing by Two. And any Ringers, who have a Mind to try the Bells, may have the Liberty, as often as they please, before the said Day; and may depend on having fair Play, and good Usage,  
Broomham, From their Humble Servant,  
Aug. 10, 1742. ROBERT ENGLISH

(Advert in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 17 Aug. 1742)

NOTICE is hereby given,  
THAT the Prize, which was advertised in this Paper of the 17th of August last to be Rung for at Broomham in the County of Wilts, on Monday the 13th of September Instant, will not be Rung for till Wednesday the 22d, (it being misapprehended that so many Feasts should happen in the Neighbourhood at the same Time.) All Gentlemen Ringers and others, who are pleased to be there on the said 22d Day, may depend on being well used by

Their humble Servant,  
ROBERT ENGLISH

(Advert in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 7 Sept. 1742)

Curry Rivell in Somersetshire, Sept. 3. Our Peal of Bells are compleated by Mr. Thomas Wroth, Bell-founder in Wellington in this County, in such a curious and Workman-like Manner, that the Performance will ever redound to his Honour whilst the Bells remain in this Steeple. The Art came to him originally from the most famous Mr. Hodson of Whitechappel, London, who did in 1681 cast the Great Tom of Oxford, and from thence came to Wellington and erected a Foundery for the late Mr. Wroth, who with this present Mr. Wroth in 1714 did new-cast the Great Bell of St. Andrews in Wells, commonly called the Harewell Bell, weighing 8300 Gross, which is the largest Peal-Bell in England. N.B. Any Parish sending their craz'd Bells to this Foundery at Wellington, may have them cast and return'd in Tune to any Peal of Bells in the Counties of Somerset, Dorset, Devon, or Cornwall [*sic*] in three Days.

(*Sherborne Mercury, or Weekly Advertiser*, Tues. 7 Sept. 1742)

[Notice by George Dalton, Brazier, that he had

‘.....taken the Shop and bought the stock in Trade  
of Mr. WILLIAM MORETON, coppersmith and Brazier in  
Fossgate, York, deceased, where all Gentlement, Ladies  
and Others may be supplied with Coppersmith’s and  
Brazier’s Goods...’

(Advert in *York Courant*, Tues. 12 Oct. 1742 – quoted in Greenwood, Dennis, *The Post-reformation Bellfounders of York* (n.d. c.1994), p. 24.)

On Monday the 15th Instant, the Society of Reading Youths rang at St. Mary’s Church in this Town, a true Peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles and Doubles, and compleated it in three Hours and six Minutes. This Peal has never been rung before but by one Company.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 22 Nov. 1742)

## 1743

Last Tuesday a society of ringers from Leeds, commonly call'd the Leeds Youths, rung the compleat peal of Grandsire Triples consisting of 5040 changes, at St. Martin's Church in Coney Street in this city in three hours with great applause.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 4 Jan. 1743)

**T**HE Society of College Youths, at their Weekly Meeting, On Wednesday the 12th Instant at the Twelve Bells in Bride-Lane, unanimously resolv'd to change their Night to Thursday; and accordingly take this Method of acquainting their Members, who were then absent, that they shall meet at the said House next Thursday.

*John Trenell, Warner.*

(Advert in *London Evening Post*, Thurs. 13 Jan. – Sat. 15 Jan. 1743; per C. Ridley)

Last Sunday Night Mr. Catlin, a Bell-Founder in Shoe-Lane, was attack'd in the Postern near Whitehall, by three Street-Robbers, who knock'd him down, took his Money, and made off through the Tilt-Yard.

(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 15 Jan. - Tues. 18 Jan. 1743; copied into the *Kentish Post*, Wed. 19 Jan./Sat. 22 Jan. 1742/3.)

The Parish of Donnington, in the Parts of Holland and County of Lincoln, do here by give Notice to all Bell-Founders,

**T**hat they are come to a Resolution to have their four Bells, containing about 45 Hundred Weight of Metal, to be new cast into five Bells; all Bell-Founders that are willing to undertake the same, are hereby desired to send in their Proposals to the Churchwardens of the said Parish on the first Day of March next, to the following Particulars, The Bells to be cast here, and Room casting to be found, viz. The Bell-Founder to take the said four Bells down; to cast them into five new Ones, producing the same Weight of Metal. The Price of new Metal, if any should be added to the Weight. The Price you allow for old Metal, if any be left. To hang the said Bells up again. To find every Thing wanting to one Bell but the frame. To find every Thing wanting to the other four Bells (taking the old Materials) but the Frames. The Money to be paid as soon as the Work is done. Security being given to uphold the Bells, &c. for one Year.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 3 Feb. 1743 – advert; the new ring of five bells was cast by Thomas Hedderly.)

### **A new ring for Harrietsham, Kent**

We hear from Harrietsham, that by the Influence and liberal Contribution of Horsmonden Turner, Esq; the antient Ring of five Bells there have been cast into eight, and are now a hanging, and will be completed by Tuesday the 15th Inst. on which Day we hear that Maidstone and Wye Companies of Ringers do meet here.

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 9 Feb./Sat. 12 Feb. 1742/3) [The new ring was cast by Thomas Lester.]

According to the Advertisement from Harrietsham of February the 12th, the Companies of Ringers therein mentioned met as appointed, and the whole Peal of 5040 plain Tripples was elegantly rung by the Wye Company in three Hours and twenty-two Minutes.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 19 Feb./Wed. 23 Feb. 1742/3)



Canterbury, February 23.

We hear from Harrietsham in Kent, that on Monday the 28th Day of February last, in the Evening, was elegantly Rung by the Lenham Company 5040 Bob Major, in 3 Hours, 31 Minutes. (*Kentish Post*, Wed. 2 March/Sat. 5 March 1742/3)

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**T**O be Rung for on Monday the 21st of March next, at Lenham in Kent, Six Pair of Doe-skin Gloves, of the best Sort and newest Fashion, made by the Lenham Glover, four Shillings a Pair. Any Sett of Ringers that now live and have lived in any one Parish in the said County a full Month before the Day of Ringing, (Lenham Ringers only excepted) that compleats the best Peal of 720 Changes in three Trials, shall be intituled to the Gloves. Given by me

OLIVER WRAY,

At the Dog and Bear in Lenham:

Where will be a very good Twelve-penny Ordinary on the Day of Ringing.

(Advert. in *Kentish Post*, Wed. 16 Feb./Sat. 19 Feb. 1742/3)

From Limpley-Stoke, in the Parish of Bradford, in the County of Wilts, we have the following Story, which, however incredible it may seem, is insisted upon to be really fact, viz. That one of the Bells of the Parish aforesaid, was, in the Night time, between Eleven and Three, convey'd from thence to a Village call'd Winsley, about two Miles distant, and over a River about a Stone's Throw. The Ringers coming in the Morning to ring for a Wedding, to their great Surprize found a Bell more in the Steeple than usual. - By whom or by what Means the said Bell could most probably be remov'd, is Matter of much Debate among the People; Some will have it to have been remov'd and fix'd up by a Body of *Faries* [*sic*]; others say it certainly was carry'd away by a North West Wind; and others, (the more *wise* Part of them) conclude it to have been remov'd by the Spirits of some deceas'd Ringers. - Which of the above conjectures seem to be most eligible, we shall leave to our Readers to determine. (*Cirencester Flying Post*, Mon. 21 March 1742/3)

The Bell which we mention'd in our last to have got from Limpley-Stoke to Winsley, has since been *pass'd* back to its own Parish, to the great Satisfaction of the People, who usher'd it in with great Acclamations of Joy. (*Cirencester Flying Post*, Mon. 28 March 1742/3)

NOTICE is hereby given,

THAT there are to be Rung for at Steeple-Ashton, Six HATS, of Half-a-Guinea Price each, on Tuesday the 24th Day of May next, by any Set of Ringers; and if the Hats are refus'd, they may have six Half-Guineas for 'em. The Ringers are to meet at Daniel Sims's, at the Sign of the Green-Dragon in Ashton aforesaid, and every Set are to bring a Sideman with them; and there shall be fair Play shewn to each Set.

(Advert in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 19 April 1743)

Last Week Mr. James Harrison of Barrow in Lincolnshire, finished the chimes of our Parish Church, they play four tunes upon eight Bells in a very elegant Manner and to the general Satisfaction of the Town.—They are esteemed by the Curious as a complete and finished Performance. (*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 3 May 1743 - per D. Cubitt)

## The opening of Stonham Aspal bells

SAMUEL GRIMWOOD

INN-KEEPER in STONHAM-ASPALL, gives Notice to all  
LOVERS of RINGING, that on MONDAY the Twenty-  
third of MAY next,

**T**HE NEW PEAL of TEN BELLS, lately  
cast by Mr. THOMAS LESTER, of London, and now hanging  
there by Mr. JOHN WILLIAMS, will be RUNG for the First Time  
by any Company that will do themselves the Pleasure of coming.

The NORWICH and AYLSHAM Ringers have hired Lodgings at  
STONHAM PYE and the neighbouring Houses, intending to be in the  
Steeple early on the Day above-mention'd.

N.B. Mr. JOHN WILLIAMS (who has hung most of the Peals in and  
about LONDON) hangs Church or Chapel Bells in the best Manner  
and at the cheapest Rates, and may be spoke with at any time at his  
House in STONHAM ASPALL STREET.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 April, 7, 14 and 21 May 1743 - advert)

JULY the 9th, 1743.

**T**HIS is to inform the GENTLEMEN in the County  
of SUFFOLK, or elsewhere, that are Lovers of the Art of  
Ringing, that the Old Practitioners at St. PETER'S of  
MANCROFT in the City of Norwich, are fully determin'd, God  
willing, to be at ASPAL STONHAM in SUFFOLK, the 28th Instant at  
Night, in order on the 29th to attempt to Ring some curious Peals of  
all QUATRES, and CINQUES and QUATRES, by your humble Servants,  
MELCHIOR WEBSTER CRANE and the Ringers abovesaid.

N.B. We shall begin at Nine o'Clock in the Morning of the same Day.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats. 16 & 23 July 1743 - advert)

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We are assur'd from Harrietsham in Kent, that on Monday the 13th of June last, in the  
Morning, was elegantly rung there, by the Lenham Company, 6720 Bob Major, Quadruples and  
Triples, in four Hours thirty-one Minutes.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 2 July/Wed. 6 July 1743)

**O**N WEDNESDAY the 17th of this Instant AUGUST  
at KENNINGHALL in NORFOLK, will be RUNG, for the  
first Time, a PEAL of EIGHT BELLS.

The Four new Bells were cast by THOMAS NEWMAN of NORWICH  
and the whole Peal laid in Tune by JOHN COLLETT of DISS.

There will be a Dinner provided that Day at the Sign of the GEORGE  
in KENNINGHALL aforesaid, where all Gentlemen and others that are  
Lovers of the Art of Ringing, may depend upon being handsomely  
Entertain' d, and meet with an hearty Welcome, from their humble  
Servant,

ROBERT HIDE.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 13 Aug. 1743; similar advert in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date, with the  
addition 'N.B. The aforesaid Newman and Collett cast and put in Tune, that new erected Peal of Eight  
Bells at Hingham, in this county, which are so much approved of.'; also the *Norwich Gazette* of the  
same date.)

The following Letter being sign'd by four Gentlemen of Hexham, we thought it proper to insert it for the Amusement of our Readers, in Compliance with their Request.

SIR,

Hexham, Sept. 4. 1743.

We think it cannot be amiss to inform you of any Publick Affair that is decent and praise worthy; which we take a Sett of eight Bells, that we have very lately got from London, to be. All Persons of Skill in Musick and Ringing, that have as yet heard them, say they may compare with any in England of their Weight and Goodness; and some Gentlemen of Note from your Town are of this Opinion. We of this Place are all mightily delighted with them, and very merry with a Saying of a certain Shoemaker here, who values himself very much for having acquired a small Matter of Money: I think, says he, that this fine Bell, (meaning the largest, and she that is always rung at Deaths and Burials) ought not to be rung, for every Person that dies; she should, by Right, be used only for such Men as me, Mr. Krisapp, and Mr. Bell. You will very much please a great Number of Persons here, who one Shoemaker thinks below his Rank, by inserting this in your Paper. We know you can polish it well, and desire you will; seeing the Vanity of the Man may, in some Measure, be corrected by it. We are, Sir, Yours, etc.

(*Newcastle Journal*, Sat. 17 Sept. 1743)

### **The opening of Mattishall bells**

On Monday the 10th of October will be rung for the first Time, at Mattishall near Market Dearham in Norfolk, a Peal of Six Bells: The Two Trebles cast by Mr. Tho. Newman of Norwich, ad the whole Peal laid in Tune by Mr. John Collett of Diss. All Gentlemen who are Lovers of Ringing, and Judges in Musick, are heartily invited to hear the said Peal; and at the George in the said Town they will be accommodated with a good Dinner, and a Glass of good Liquor, by their Humble Servant,

R. Kendall.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 1 Oct. 1743 – advert, per David Cubitt)

ON Monday the 10th of October will be rung for the first Time, at MATTISHALL near Market-Dearham [*sic*] in Norfolk, a PEAL of SIX BELLS: The Two Trebles cast by Mr. THO. NEWMAN of Norwich, and the whole Peal laid in Tune by Mr. JOHN COLLETT of Diss. All Gentlemen who are Lovers of Ringing, and Judges in Musick, are hereby invited to hear the said Peal; and at the George in the said Town they will be accommodated with a good Dinner, and a Glass of good Liquor, by their Humble Servant, R. KENDALL.

N.B. The new erected Peal of Six Bells at Halvergate near Yarmouth, was put in Tune by the said John Collett, and the Treble cast by Thomas Newman of Norwich, is now fit to be rung by any good Ringers, that have a mind to give their Opinions.

(Advert in *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 8 Oct. 1743)

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WHEREAS we are informed by several eminent Tradesmen in this City, that some envious Persons now here, do industriously endeavour to deceive who they can, by telling them, that EDWARD and JOHN SELLER, Bell-Founders, Copper-Smiths, and Brasiers, cannot make Copper-Stills, &c. for the Distilling of Simple Waters, or Spirits; and least [*sic*] some that may have occasion for such Stills, &c. should be imposed on, and by such scandalous and false Reports, By[p]assed from employing the said EDWARD and JOHN SELLER, that have made many Stills.

They hereby Advertise, that those that shall employ them, may depend of being accommodated with Stills, &c. both as to Shape and Workmanship, according to the best Methods Practised, and as Cheap as any other Sells; and as many judicious Persons, that have viewed a Still now made by Order of a Gentleman in this City, can evidence.

EDWARD and JOHN SELLER.

N.B. Suppose the Still be bigger or lesser, they perform compleatly the whole Work in their own Shop, and are not beholden to London, for Cocks and Swan-necks, as others are, that talk more, but know little thereof.

E. and J.S.

(Advert in *York Courant*, Tues. 25 Oct. 1743)

The 30th of October last being the Anniversary of his Majesty's Birth-Day, was elegantly perform'd at Maidstone a Compleat Peal of 5040 Union Bob Tripples, in 3 Hours 13 Minutes, by a Company of Ringers of that Town *only*.

Note, *The above Performance had not been published, if it was not the first of its kind ever rung in the Country, and being performed without the Assistance of any of their neighbouring Heroick Campanalogians, the Companies who lately published Peals in this Paper having been necessitated to make use of.*

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 2 Nov./Sat. 5 Nov. 1743)

On Monday last on receiving the joyful News of his Majesty being safely landed and arrived at London, the Bells were rang at all the principal Churches in this city; (particularly at St. Giles's, where the Church-Wardens had been pleased to silence them for near 2 Years before)...

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 19 Nov. 1743 – per David Cubitt) [George II had returned from his German dominions]

Last Tuesday the new Peal of eight Bells of St. John at Hackney, cast by Mr. Catlin, Bell-Founder, in Shoe-Lane, were open'd, and a Peal of 5040 Bob Major were rung on them by the College Youths. They are allow'd by the best Judges to be as good a Peal of Eight as any in England.

(*Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 29 Dec. 1743)

## 1744

*Leeds, Feb. 21.* On Tuesday the 7th Instant, being *Shrove Tuesday*, was rung at *St. Peter's Church* by the *Leeds Youths*, the Peal of *Bob Triples*, in six Courses, consisting of 5040 Changes, being one of the completest of this Kind, in two Hours and 54 Minutes, with great Applause.  
(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 21 Feb. 1744 [N.S.] )

*March the 12th, 1743-4.*

STOLEN out of East-Beckham Church-yard, in the County of Norfolk, a BELL: This is therefore to desire, if any Person should offer such, or Part of such thing to Sale, that it may be stopt, and Notice thereof given to Mr. THOMAS HARMER and Mr. WILLIAM THOMPSON, of Beckham aforesaid, or to Mr. JOHN SADLER, at the Elephant in Magdalen-street in Norwich, and upon Conviction of the Offender or Offenders, the Person so stopping it shall be intitled to the Reward of Three Guineas; as shall also anyone of those concern'd in taking it away (besides a Pardon for his Fault) that will discover his Accomplice or Accomplices, so that they be brought to Justice.

THOMAS HARMER.  
Wm. THOMPSON.

(Advert in *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 7, 14, 21 and 28 April 1744)

Last Tuesday a terrible Fire happen'd at Cherriton [*sic*], near Alresford, in the County of Hants, which consum'd the Church, and melted a Peel [*sic*] of five Bells; also six Houses, five Barns, two Stables, a Hay Rick, five Load [*sic*] of Wheat in Sacks, Eighty Quarters of Oats, one Horse and a Calf. The whole Damage amounts to about Six Thousand Pounds. It was occasion'd, 'tis said, by an old Woman's throwing Wood-Ashes against an Outhouse.  
(*Reading Mercury: or, Weekly Post*, Mon. 4 June 1744) [In 1746 a new ring of five bells was cast for the church by John Stares of Aldbourne, Wilts.]

Whereas the ingenious Edward Hemins, Clockmaker in Bicester, Oxon, is lately deceas'd, and has left several very curious Pieces of Work, some of which are unfinished. This is to therefore acquaint any Person that is a very good Hand, and can come well recommended, that he may meet with good Encouragement by applying to his Executors, John Walker, Richard Walls, and Joseph Hemmins, who live in the same town. N. B. They will be secure from being pres'd during their being employed by the above Persons.

(*Reading Mercury: or, Weekly Post*, Mon. 4 June 1744 – advert; quoted in Butler, William, *Musical Handbells. A Comprehensive History of the Bells and their Founders*. (2000), p.40. Edward Hemins was also a bellfounder, for which see *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 23 Dec. 1728.)

This is to give NOTICE to all Gentlemen RINGERS, THAT there is to be Rung for, on the 3d of September next, at Brimhill, near Calne, in the County of Wilts, Seven Holland Shirts, Value 12s. each; a Peal of half an Hour; that the Bells shall be high enough to set; to be determined by three skilful Men of that Profession.

N.B. Any Set is welcome to try the Bells on any Day, except Sundays.

The Umpires unknown.

DAVID RUMING

(Advert in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 3 July 1744)

THIS is to give Notice to all Lovers of RINGING, that on Friday the 17th of this Instant August, the Norwich Society of Ringers will be at Hingham; where all well Wishers to that noble Art, may hear good Ringing, on a peal of Eight Bells, completely finish'd [by] John Collett, of Diss.

The Meeting will be at the Sign of the Angel, where all Persons shall meet with good Entertainment, and a hearty Welcome, from their humble Servant,

Thomas Rich.

N.B. Mr. Collett will be at the Meeting of the said Society.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 11 Aug. 1744 – advert)

## A Ringing Competition

This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen RINGERS,  
THAT there are to be Rung for, on the Eighth of October next, at Melksham in the County of Wilts, Six HATS, with Silver Buttons and Loops, Value 10s. 6d. each Hat: Every Sett to ring a Peal of half an Hour. The Bells shall be high enough to set; and the Preference in Performance determin'd by three skillful Men of that Profession, their Names unknown. Any Sett is welcome to try the Bells on any Day they think proper; and all the Sets that ring, are to dine at the White-Hart in Melksham aforesaid.

JOHN BOX

(Advert in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 7 Aug. 1744)

NOTICE is hereby given,

THAT the Ringing for the Hats, at Melksham in the County of Wilts, which was to have been performed on the 8th of October Instant, is deferr'd to the 21st of December next; the Minister's Wife being so dangerously ill, that he will not permit any Ringing on the Day first advertised.

(Advert in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 2 Oct. 1744)

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THIS is to give Notice to all Lovers of Ringing, that on Friday the 28th of this instant September there will be a compleat Sett of Ringers at North-Elmham; where all Well-Wishers of that Noble Art may hear good Ringing, at the new Peal of Six Bells completely finished by Mr. John Collett of Diss. The Meeting will be at the Sign of the Great A: Where all Persons shall find good entertainment, and a hearty Welcome from their Humble Servant

James Davyson

N.B. Mr. Collett will be at the Meeting of the Society.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 1 Sept. 1744 – advert, per David Cubitt)

Aylsham in Norfolk, Aug. 28, 1744

THIS is to give publick Notice to all Gentlemen who are Lovers of the Art of Ringing, that there is a PEAL of TEN BELLS, compleatly laid in Tune by the famous Mr. John Collet, of Diss, being the first Peal of Ten that ever was compleated in the said County; and although there were various Opinions about the abovesaid Peal before he took them in Hand, they have been allow'd since, by all Judges that ever heard them, to be as good a Peal of their Weight as any in the Kingdom.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 8 Sept. 1744 - advert)

THIS is to give Notice to all Lovers of Ringing, that on Tuesday the 9th of this Instant October, the Stonham Society of Ringers will be at Bradwell near the Sea in Essex, where all well Wishers to that Noble Art, may hear good Ringing on the new Peal of Eight Bells, lately cast by Mr. Robert Catling, of London, and hung by Mr. John Williams, of Stonham in Suffolk.

N.B. Mrs. Tinsley, of the Three Rabbits, is desir'd to prepare Beds for the above Society.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 6 Oct. 1744 - advert)

THE annual Feast of the Antient Society  
of COLLEGE YOUTHS, which has for many Years been kept  
at Mr. Overbury's, will this Year be kept on Monday the 5th of November,  
at the Globe Tavern in Fleet-street.

Capt. Francis Geary, / Vincent Underdown, Esq; } *Stewards.*

(Advert in *Daily Advertiser*, Wed. 24 Oct. 1744 - per C. Ridley)

On Friday last was rung by the Pangborn Youths, at Pangborn, near this Place, a compleat Five Thousand and Forty Changes, containing Seven Seven Hundred and Twenties, viz. College Single, Oxford Single, Court Single, College Little, Grandsire Bob, Court Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob, which was performed in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

(*Reading Mercury, or Weekly Post*, Mon. 19 Nov. 1744)

## 1745

**T**HIS is to acquaint the Publick, That on **MONDAY** the 7th of **JANUARY**, Six Pair of **BUCKSKIN GLOVES** will be given by Mr. **BENJAMIN LAMBERT**, at the **WHITE HART** and **FAULCON**, near the Church in **BECCLES**, to any Company that shall ring on the Five largest Bells in the Steeple in **BECCLES** aforesaid, the Two best Peals of **GRANDSIRE** and **OLD DOUBLES**, according to the Judgement of Persons appointed. Those that design to ring are desir'd to enter their Names between the Hours of Eleven and One the same Day, at the House above-mention'd, where all Persons shall find good Entertainment, and a hearty Welcome, from their humble

Servant,

**BENJAMIN LAMBERT.**

(Advert in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1744)

*Fakenham Market, December 26, 1744.*

**T**HIS is to give Notice to all Lovers of the Noble Art of Ringing, that there will be given Gratis Six Pair of Gloves, of Two Shillings and Six-Pence each Pair, to be Rung for by 12 Persons on Thursday the 10th Day of January next, at Fakenham in Norfolk. The Gloves for the best Six. A Dinner will be provided at the Red Lion Inn, where all Persons that will favour me with their Companies, shall meet with a Glass of good Wine, and a kind Reception, from their humble Servant,

**THOMAS SUTTON.**

N.B. No less than 12 to Ring, and the Town Ringers exclude themselves from Ringing on that Day.

(Advert in *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1744)

Whereas the Peal of Bells at Long-Stratton in Norfolk, have been lately put in Tune by the famous Mr. **COLLETT** of Diss, and are thought (by those that are very good Judges of Ringing) to be the most musical Peal of Five Bells anywhere near them; notwithstanding they were so very much out of Tune before; Therefore this is to give Notice to all such Gentlemen and Others as are Lovers and Followers of the Society of Ringing, that for their Incouragement there will be Six Pair of Gloves given Gratis by **WILLIAM STURMAN** at the Chequer in Stratton aforesaid, to be Rung for by Three Companies, the best of Three Peals, on Monday the 25th of this Instant February, to enter their Names by Eleven a Clock in the Forenoon at the Chequer aforesaid. And on Shrove-Tuesday the 26th there will be a Pair of Buck-Skin Breeches of a Guinea Value, to be Shot for by Twenty Men, each putting in a Shilling Entrance; to enter by One a Clock in the Afternoon, to Shoot with fair Fowling Pieces, Rifled Pieces to be excluded; the first Best to have the Breeches, the second Best to have a Pair of Gloves of Two Shillings and Sixpence Value, the third Best to have a Pair of Eighteenpence Value, and the fourth Best to have a Pair of One Shilling Value; to enter at the Chequer at Stratton aforesaid. Where all such Gentlemen and Others, as will be so kind as to Favour me with their Company, shall meet with a Glass of good Liquor, civil Usage, and a hearty Welcome, from their very humble Servant,

**WILLIAM STURMAN.**

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 9 Feb. 1745 - advert)

On Thursday the 28th of February, 1744 [*sic*], was Rung in **HADLEIGH** Steeple, by the Hadleigh Society of Ringers, A compleat Peal of 5040 Changes of Bob-Major, being the first that ever was Rung in the said Steeple, which was completed in three Hours and 35 Minutes, by the Men whose Names are under-mentioned,

Edmund Mills, Treble.	William Newton, Fifth.
Richard Beardwell, Second.	Thomas Windle, Sixth.
John Bunn, Third	Eustace Watts, Seventh.
John Corder, Fourth.	Samuel Cullum, Tenor.

N.B. Eustace Watts call'd the Bobs

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 2 March 1744-45)

We hear from Milton, near this Town, that on Monday last as one William Harrop, in Company with several others, was ringing the Bells in Milton Church, he overturn'd the Bell he was ringing, and went up in order to set it right again, when he was suddenly taken with a Swimming in his Head (as 'tis suppos'd) fell down, and was so bruised by the Fall, that he died in few Hours after.

(*Cambridge Journal and Weekly Flying Post*, Sat. 30 March 1745 – per Gareth Davies)

We hear from Hertford, that on Wednesday last was rung there 6048 Changes of Bob-Major, in four Hours and two Minutes, by the Hertford Youths, after an infinite Number of fatiguing Tryals, for 7 years successively.

*(Penny London Post or The Morning Advertiser, Mon. 15 April – Wed. 17 April 1745)*

We hear from Bedford, that on the 23d, 24th, and 25th Instant will be opened there a Peal of eight new Bells, by the Ringers of St. Michael, Cornhill, London.

*(Northampton Mercury, Mon. 22 April 1745)*

Yesterday died, after a short Illness, Mr. Johnson, a Bell Founder in Carter-lane.

*(Daily Gazetteer, Wed. 5 June 1745)*

### **Thomas Gardiner takes a foundry in Norwich**

THIS is to give Notice to all Gentlemen, Ringers, and others, that THOMAS GARDINER, Bell-founder, of Sudbury in Suffolk, has hired the Foundry-Office late Mr. NEWMAN's deceased, in the City of Norwich, and casts all Sorts of Bells and Bell-brasses, Mill-Brasses, and other Small and Large Work, at Reasonable Prices.

*(Advert in Norwich Mercury, Sats. 29 June and 6 July 1745)*

*(Bell)* This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen, Ringers and others, That Mr. THO. GARDINER, Bell-Founder, of Sudbury, Suffolk, has hired the Foundry-Office late Mr. NEWMAN's, deceased, in the City of Norwich; and casts all Sorts of Bells and Bell-Brasses, and Mill-Brasses, and other small and large Work, at reasonable Rates; and is now at work in the said Office.

*(Norwich Gazette, Sat. 21 Sept. 1745 – advert, per David Cubitt)*

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We hear, that on Wednesday the 7th Inst. was Rung, at Ledbury in Herefordshire, the Whole Peal of Grandsire TRIPPLES, by their own Parishioners, (without the Help of any Stranger) being 5040, in three Hours and seven Minutes, which is sooner than any Performance of that Kind ever heard off [*sic*].

*(Gloucester Journal, Tues. 27 August 1745)*

*This is to give NOTICE to all Gentlemen-Ringers,*

THAT on Thursday the 3d of October next, will be Rung for at Basingstoke six very good Hats, by any six Men from one Parish, and every Sett of Men to have an Umpire, but no Townsman to stand as Umpire, and the Treble Man and Umpire are to draw Tickets every Peal, that no Fraud may be in the Case. Every Sett are [*sic*] to be at Mr. Henry Grace's (the Proprietor of the Hats) at the Rose near the Town-Brook in Basingstoke, in order to be ready to begin to Ring at One o'Clock. Every Set [*sic*] or Setts of Ringers are desir'd not to go to any other Publick-House, because they will not be permitted to ring for the Hats if they do. Any Setts that come within ten Faults of each other, shall Ring again any other Day, except Sundays.

Any Sett or Setts of Ringers that intend to have any thing dress'd for Dinner, are desir'd to give a Day's Notice to the said Mr. Grace, and it shall be done agreeable to their Order.

*(Reading Mercury: or, Weekly Post, Mon. 9 September 1745 - advert)*

*Extract of a Letter from a Merchant at Boston in New-England, to his Friend at Bristol, date July 8, 1745.*

.....

The Peal of Eight Bells cast by Mr. Abel Rudhall of Gloucester, is arrived to the great Joy of the Town of Boston.

*(General Advertiser, Thurs. 26 Sept. 1745)*



## 1746

We hear from Snareston in the County of Leicester, that on Monday last on receiving News there, of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland's Defeating the Rebels at Stirling, Mrs. Charnel of that Town, made a general Day of Rejoicing, by ordering the Bells to be rung, which was done, from Ten in the Morning, till Ten at Night; she also ordered a Bonfire to be made ...  
(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 7-14 Feb. 1745) [i.e. 1745/6]

Boston (in Lincolnshire) Jan 9. This Day, by the Society, was rung the whole Peal of Grancier Tripples, Five Thousand and Forty Changes in two Hours fifty-three Minutes, the Tenor weighing Twenty-three Hundred three Quarters—These Ringgers challenge all England for Tripples.  
(*Cambridge Journal and Weekly Flying Post*, Sat. 15 Feb. 1746 – per Gareth Davies)

On Tuesday last the Reading Youths went for a Peal of Ten Thousand and Eighty Bob Major at the Parish Church of St. Mary's in this Town, and after ringing Eight Thousand One Hundred and Seventy six Changes in Five Hours Fifty-five Minutes, had the Misfortune to break a Rope, which disappointed them of compleating their Peal.  
(*Oxford Gazette & Reading Mercury*, Mon. 3 March 1745/6)

### Celebrations for the victory at Culloden

LONDON, April 26.

Thursday at Noon the Guns were fired in the Park and at the Tower, on account of the defeat of the Rebels; immediately after the Bells began to ring, and at Night there were more Illuminations and greater Rejoicings throughout the Cities of London and Westminster, and Borough of Southwark, than has been known in the Memory of Man.

*Worcester*, May 1. Last Saturday, on receiving the agreeable News of the Success of his Majesty's Arms against the Rebels in Scotland, the Bells began and continued to ring, Loyal Toasts were drank; at Night Bonfires were made, Windows illuminated, and Joy appear'd in almost every Countenance.  
(*Worcester Journal*, Fri. 25 April to Fri. 2 May 1746)

*Bodmin*, April 20. When the News came of the Duke of Cumberland's good success over the Rebels, the Bells rung all Night and the next Day, a great deal of Money and Beer was given to the Ringers; several Bonfires were made, and in the Evening a Serjeant of the Marines drew up the Soldiers, with a great many Fires and Huzza's for his Majesty, and Success to his Arms.  
(*Sherborne Mercury, or Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 5 May 1746) [The battle of Culloden was fought on 16 April 1746.]

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### RICHARD HOYLAND.

*Lately come to this Town,*

*Now at the Sign of the Six Bells, at the Foot of Pilgrim-  
street, Newcastle,*

**M**AKES and Sells all Sorts of Brass-Work, viz,  
Church-Bells, and others of any Size, also Church Branches,  
Engine-Work of all Sorts, Pump-Barrels, Mortars of all Sizes,  
Moulds for Glass-houses, Clock-Work as light and clean as any  
where, Machine-Candlesticks, common Candlesticks of the newest  
and best Patterns, Snuffers and Snuffer-boxes, Plate-Warmers of the  
newest and best Fashion, Frames for Wax Candles, Brass Fenders,  
Pulleys for Sashes, Brass Curtain-Rods and Rings, Copper Nails,  
Brass Nails, Coach-Work, and Stove-Work of all Kinds, and all  
other Brass Soundery-Work [*sic*], as well and as cheap as at London,  
or any where else. N. B. He gives ready Money, or new Work,  
for old Brass.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 23 Aug. 1746; also same newspaper, Sat. 30 Aug. 1746.)

On Saturday last was rung at *St. Michael's of Coslaney* (by Edward Crane and Seven *Norwich* Youths) 5040 of that curious Peal called *Court-Bob*; or, All-Eight-in, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes, without a Bell out of Course; being the second Time that ever it was rung in this Kingdom. (*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 8 Nov. 1746; similar report in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date)

On Monday last a new Peal of Six tunable Bells (at *Wells* next the Sea in Norfolk, made at *Norwich* by Mr. Thomas Gardiner, under the Direction of Mr. Francis Rootley, and Mr. Richard Webber, Churchwardens of the Parish) were rung to the great Satisfaction of the Auditors. (*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 29 Nov. 1746)

On Monday was elegantly rung at Harrietsham in Kent, 10080 of that excellent Peal call'd Bob Major Double; it was perform'd in seven Hours, by the Lenham Company, viz. John Epps 1st, Samuel Grayling 2d, Thomas Barham 3d, James Barham 4th, Abraham Barham 5th, William Hunt 6th, John Freeland 7th, John Hunt 8th. (*Kentish Post*, Wed. 10 Dec./Sat. 13 Dec. 1746)

L YNN-REGIS, April 15, 1747.

THIS is to inform all Lovers of the Noble Exercise of RINGING, that at this Place (being the Anniversary of his Royal Highness WILLIAM Duke of Cumberland) was rung the whole Peal of NEW TREBLES, being Five Thousand and Forty Changes, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes. Performed

Treble,	}		{	John Atkins,
Second,	}		{	John Sweets,
Third,	}		{	Messer Attmore,
Fourth,	}	by	{	John Parkinson, Bob-Caller,
Fifth,	}		{	Jos. Raven,
Sixth,	}		{	Wm. Moore,
Seventh,	}		{	Anthony Berry,
Tenor.	}		{	Charles Hill, Jun.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 25 April 1747 - advert)

*This is to Give Notice to all Gentlemen RINGERS,*

THAT there will be RUNG for at Shinfield six very good HATS, by any Six Men, come from whence they will, except Reading, on the 30th of September, and not on the 10th of July, as was intended.

N.B. Three Men of the Parish of Shinfield are to stand Umpires to all the Peals, and the fair Thing shall be done if possible.

(*Oxford Gazette; and Reading Mercury*, Mon. 6 July 1747 - advert)

### Prize Ringing at Martock

*This gives Notice to all Ringers,*

THAT two large Silver Bowls are to be Rung for at *Martock* the 24th Day of *September* next; the largest is Forty Shillings Price, the other Twenty, which will be given Gratis, by *Lawrence Harding*, at the *George Inn*, in *Martock* aforesaid: The Ringers must begin ringing exactly at Ten o'Clock in the Morning, to have done before Night.

N.B. No ringing at all on Sundays, nor other Days, after Nine at Night.

*Martock*, August 24, 1747.

(*Sherborne Mercury, or Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 24 Aug. 1747 - advert)

*This is to give Notice to all Ringers*

WHEREAS it was advertised in our Paper last Week, That there were to be Rung for at *Martock* two Silver Bowls on the 24th of *September* next, there being some Mistake in the Advertisement, the same will be Rung for on the same Day aforementioned, in the Manner following: One Bowl of Forty Shilling Price, to be put in for, and another Twenty Shilling Bowl gratis. The first best Peal to have the great Bowl, and the second best to have the little Bowl, by *Lawrence Harding*, at the *George* in *Martock*.

☞ The Ringing to begin at Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

*Martock*, August 27, 1747.

(*Sherborne Mercury, or Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 31 Aug. 1747 - advert)

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Last Sunday was rung at the Parish Church of St. Leonard in Shoreditch, by the Society of Eastern Scholars, 5040 Changes complete, of the excellent new Peel [*sic*], call'd Eastern Bob, in three Hours thirty-one Minutes, being the first of that Kind ever rung.

(*Westminster Journal or New Weekly Miscellany*, Sat. 2 Jan. 1748)

London, December 31.

On Sunday last was rung at the Parish Church of St. Leonard in Shoreditch, by the Society of Eastern Scholars, 5040 Changes compleat, of that excellent new Peel [*sic*] call'd Eastern Bob, in three Hours and thirty-one minutes, being the first of that Kind ever rung, and was composed by Mr. Joseph Prior.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 5 Jan. 1747-8; also *Oxford Gazette, and Reading Mercury*, Mon. 4 Jan. 1747-8)

## 1748

Last Monday in the Evening was Rung at St. Peter's Mancroft, 5120 Oxford Triple Bob upon Eight, in three Hours and 26 Minutes, by the youngest Practice Company in Norwich.  
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 Feb. 1747/8)

Last Monday 7-dight [*sic*] was rang at Croydon in Surrey, by the Society of Croydon Youths, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, which was the longest Peal rung in that Town for several Years, and was completed in 3 Hours, and 29 Minutes.  
(*Westminster Journal or New Weekly Miscellany*, Sat. 19 March 1748)

### A ring of bells for Ireland

IRELAND.

Dublin, March 17. ...

There is now casting at Gloucester a very fine Sett of Bells for the Use of St. Warburgh's Church, bequeathed by the late Mr. Southwell.  
(*Penny London Post or The Morning Advertiser*, Fri. 25 March - Mon. 28 March 1748)

IRELAND.

Dublin, Sept. 24. ...

Yesterday several Peals were rung upon the new Set of six Bells, lately put up in St. Warburgh's Church; and the Connoisseurs allow them to be very well toned, and exceedingly musical. (*General Advertiser*, Thurs. 6 Oct. 1748; the bells were dated 1747. A subscription to complete the octave was begun, but the church was damaged by fire in 1754 and this augmentation never happened. The bells were taken down from the tower in 1836, and the tower and spire, because of fears for their safety, were demolished in 1854. Four of the bells were sold to churches in Dublin, one was retained, and the remaining bell was sold to Mr. Hodges, of Abbey Street, the bell-founder. Details from F. Dukes, *Campanology in Ireland*, 1994.)

February 10, 1747-8.

WE the Curate, Church-Wardens and Inhabitants of Cannock, in the County of Stafford, do hereby publicly acknowledge, that MATTHEW BAGLEY, of Wolverhampton in the said County, BELL-FOUNDER, hath lately cast us a PEAL of Six New BELLS, to our entire Satisfaction: And we do believe, for any Thing we have found to the contrary, the said MATTHEW BAGLEY to be a very honest Man. As Witness our Hands,  
William Egginton, Curate;                      John Biddulph, Esq.  
George Blyth,    Edward Wilson, Esq.,  
Richard Nicklis, } Church-Wardens. John Tyrer.  
Thomas Taylor.    Richard Blyth.  
    Edward Salt.  
    Thomas Yaidley.  
    John Cope.

(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 22 April - Fri. 29 April 1748 – advert; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 29 Feb. 1848, an advert dated 20 February 1748.)

CANTERBURY, JUNE 1.

Last Monday was Rung at Wingham, by the LENHAM-COMPANY, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Major, in three Hours and 32 Minutes.  
(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 28 May/Wed. 1 June 1748)

Tuesday last a fine Peal of Ten Bells was sent to Kingston upon Thames, cast by the voluntary Subscriptions of the Gentlemen round the Country, some of whose Names are engraved on the Bells. (*General Advertiser*, Wed. 10 Aug. 1748; also *Penny Post or Morning Advertiser*, Wed. 10 Aug. - Fri. 12 Aug. 1748; the bells were cast by Robert Catlin, who placed on the treble bell the inscription INTACTUM SILEO PERCUTE DULCE CANO, a Latin tag used by the College Youths on a mace head dated 1762. Catlin was a well-known ringer, and had joined the College Youths as a young man in 1722)

READING, *Oct. 1.*

A Peal of Ten Bells having been lately cast by Mr. Catlin of Shoe Lane, London, for the Parish of St. Laurence in this Town, they were rung for the first Time this Evening, and gave a general Satisfaction to the Connoisseurs in Ringing.

(*Oxford Gazette: and Reading Mercury*, Mon. 3 Oct. 1748)

## LOCAL NEWS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

No. 1.

.....

WELLINGTON.—The following advertisement is dated Wellington, Somerset, Nov 16, 1748:—  
“Our old Heavy Bells are, with an Addition of Metal, cast into a curious new peal of eight. Executed in every Part of Workmanship to the greatest Perfection by Mr. Thomas Wroth, Bell Founder of this Place. They were opened this day by the Gentlemen Ringers of Tiverton, who performed to Admiration. They opened them again the Morning following, and rung many curious Peals, and went through with a Variety of Set Changes to the Truth of Ringing, which gave inexpressible Joy and Satisfaction to all Persons who had the Pleasure to hear such beautiful Musick: the Tone of every single Bell perfectly good, their call to each other so exactly true in Tune, that no Peal of Eight in England (of their weight) is superior to them. They are without any Fault, and will redound to the Honour of Mr. Worth [*sic*], whilst they remain in the Lofty Steeple, from whence their merry and harmonious Tones will loudly and chearfully sound forth his Praise throughout the World, and happy they whom it may concern to employ so Honourable, Just, and Faithful Bell-founder.” We hope we are not wrong in considering the author of this very modest advertisement to be none other than the Honourable Mr. Thomas Worth [*sic*] himself. The last few words smell very strongly of the *shop*. (*Sherborne Mercury*, Tues. 11 May 1858; also *Taunton Courier*, Wed. 12 May 1858. Presumably the advert appeared originally in the *Sherborne Mercury*, but the relevant copy is not available.)

### **The new ring of bells for Romney, Kent, cast by Robert Catlin**

We hear from Romney that they have lately had a new Ring of eight Bells, and that the Gentlemen of Wye will be at Romney on Friday next to ring the said Bells.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 19 Nov./Wed. 23 Nov. 1748)

On Saturday last was rung on the Fine New Bells at Romney, 5040 Tripples in three Hours 23 Minutes: And notwithstanding the Efforts of a great many Ringers that had been there before, the said Peal was elegantly and only rung by eight Men from Wye; and done the first Tryal. (*Kentish Post*, Sat. 26 Nov./Wed. 30 Nov. 1748)

1748: May 18th. Our 6 bells took down and carried away 13 June  
1748 in 3 waggons.

Nov. 14th. Our 8 bells came home from 29th May last.

Nov. 22nd. Being Tuesday was the 1st time our 8 bells was rung by the following men ... John Atwell 1st, Jos. Acton 2nd, Mr. Humph: Wightwick 3rd, Mr. Wm Freebody 4th, Mr. Ed Carpenter 5th, Thos Halks 6th, Mr. John Russell 7th, and Mr. Wm Slodden 8th. I, Thos, Is: and John was up and saw ye first peel rung.

November 23rd. Dover men here ringing.

Nov. 25th. Wye men here ringing, & ye 26th Rung 5040 Gd Triples in 3 hours and 23 minutes by Thos. Jarman 1st, Wm. Drayman 2nd, James Mace 3rd, Jno. French 4th, Danl. Fagg 5th, Robt. Baker 6th, Thos. Tabraham 7th and Francis Hills 8th.

(Diary of Thomas Miller, Schoolmaster of New Romney, Kent, 1732-67; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 12 June 1981, p. 511)

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On Saturday last was rung at St. Leonard Shoreditch, by the Cumberland Youths, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob-Majors, in three Hours and twenty-seven Minutes, it being the first of their Performance.

(*Remembrancer*, Sat. 26 Nov. 1748)

The following letter is (August 1973) preserved in the belfry of North Bradley, Wiltshire:

Sir,

I Desire you will be as well pleased as to pay unto my sun [*sic*] William Bilbie the Remainder of the money for Casting your Bells or the sum of Twenty pounds which I wrote to you upon the Letter which I wrote to you from Plymouth and his receipt shall be your Discharge for the same sum which he shall receive & in so doing you will ablide your

Humbel servant

Thomas Bilbie

I am now at plymouth and cannot come away for I am doing a peale of bells that doth come to two hundred and thirty pound and it doth want as much money as I can get of meade my son wright another leter to you the same as this upon part of this leteris

Thomas Bilbie

On Monday the 2d Instant was elegantly rung on that excellent New Peal at New Romney, by the Lenham Company, 5040 Bob Major in three Hours and twenty Minutes; and in the Afternoon a Peal of Bob-Major-Trebles, to the Satisfaction of the Hearers.  
(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 4 Jan./Sat. 7 Jan. 1748-9)

READING, *Jan. 7*

On Monday last was Rung at the Parish Church of St. Lawrence [*sic*] in this Town, by the Society of Reading Youths on the new Peal of ten Bells lately cast and hung by the ingenious Mr. Catlin of Shoe-Lane, London, a compleat Peal of 5040 Cators in three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes and a half, to the general Satisfaction of the Inhabitants.  
(*Oxford Gazette: and Reading Mercury*, Mon. 9 Jan. 1748[9])

Upon the Tower Guns giving Notice Yesterday of the Peace being proclaim'd, the Church-Wardens and several of the Principal Parishioners of the Parish of Rotherhith assembled at the Sign of the Sun; when the Church-Wardens order'd their New Set of Eight Bells (cast by Mr. Thomas Lester of Whitechapel) to be Rung for the First Time, to the general Satisfaction of the Parishioners; and be several proper Judges present, were declar'd to be as compleat a Musical Peal of the Weight, as any about London. The Healths of his Majesty, the Royal Family, the Peace-makers, that the Peace may be Long and Successful, &c. were drank, and the Evening concluded with that Harmony and Agreeableness usual to the said Parishioners.  
(*General Advertiser*, Fri. 3 Feb. 1749)

On Tuesday last was rung a compleat Peal of Union Tripples of 5040 Changes, at the Steeple of his Majesty's Free Chapel of St. George in Windsor Castle, in three Hours, twelve Minutes and thirty Seconds, being the first ever performed upon those Bells.  
(*Whitehall Evening-Post, or London Intelligencer*, Sat. 25 Feb. 1749)

*There is to be Rung for at Netherbury the 29th of March, on  
the Six Bells there,*

**A** BOWL of two Guineas Price, and half a Dozen of hats, of no less Price than Six Shillings per hat; put out by William Jolley, at the Old Inn. The best Peal is to have the Bowl; the next is to have the Hats, paying five Shillings to the next. If there be more than three Sets of Ringers, and every Parish is to bring their Sidesman with them, the Bells are to be rung upon dead Ropes.

(*Western Flying-Post, or, Sherborne and Yeovil Mercury*, Mon. 6 March 1749 – advert; this newspaper will be subsequently referred to as the *Sherborne Mercury*.)

*Manchester, April 19.* Whereas some ill disposed Persons have from Time to Time abused the good People of Manchester, upon Account of their well-known Loyalty and political Attachments; and whereas the same Persons have now lately been wounding of our Collegiate Church through the Sides of some of its Officers, I mean the Fraternity of Ringers; and charging them with Disaffection, and what not that is bad, for not ringing a Peal or two, either on the 15th or 16th of April, or on both, to welcome the Return of those two auspicious Days; as a Brother of the Bell-Rope, I beg that you'll indulge me with room in your Paper to offer the following Justification of ourselves to the Public.

The Facts then stands thus: On Tuesday the 11th Instant, the News arrived here of Sir W.W.W.'s Lady being brought-to-bed of a Son. Now, you must know, Sir W. has an Estate within forty Miles of this Place, and has himself once, if not twice, visited this Town in Person; and therefore we owe him a very distinguishing Regard, not only as a Patriot, and sincere Lover of his Country, but as a Neighbour, and particular Friend of ours. These Reasons induced us to rejoice on the News of his having an Heir to his Estate, whom, we hope, will likewise inherit his Virtues: The Bells echoed [*sic*] out Joys through the Skies, and rang all Tuesday, and till Two o'Clock on Wednesday Morning, on this important Occasion: But as the strongest Appetite must become languid, if not cloyed, through the Indelicacy of too oft repeated Enjoyment, so, in good Truth, our honest Fraternity of Ringers were so soundly tired with ringing on the Occasion above, that we had no Manner of Appetite for a Peal, either



on the 15th, the Duke's Birth-Day, or on the 16th, the Anniversary of Culloden. And what of this, may not Men be *tried* without Treason? If Fools will be on the Catch, let them.

We have been reflected on too, because the Bells never stirred on the Arrival of the News of the Princess of Wales being brought-to-bed, &c. But let me ask those Gentlemen, Do they not know that Ringers can no more ring without Pay, than a Lawyer can talk without a Fee, or Soldiers fight without Hopes of Plunder? Were these Gentlemen Censors as impartial as they would have thought to be, would they not, instead of blaming Us, admire the Oeconomy [*sic*] and prudent Management of our Church-Wardens and other Parish Officers, who never suffer Parish Money to be expended on such unnecessary, and I hope there is no Treason in adding, WITH US, unpopular Occasions.

I am Yours, &c.

TIMOTHY RINGWELL.

(*Whitehall Evening Post, Or, London Intelligencer*, Thurs. 4 May – Sat. 6 May 1749; 'Sir. W.W.W.' was Sir Watkins Williams Wynn.)

At the Opening of the new and pleasant Ring of eight Bells at Faversham on Monday last, the Peal of 5040 Gransire [*sic*] Tripples was performed by eight Men from Wye, in three Hours and 15 Minutes.

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 17 May/Sat. 20 May 1749; similar report – omitting the phrase 'and pleasant' – in *Whitehall Evening-Post, or London Intelligencer*, Tues. 23 May 1749; *General Advertiser*, starting 'On Monday last Week...')

*Paington* [*sic*], May 18, 1749,

*This is to Certify,*

**T**HAT *Thomas Wroth*, of Wellington, in the County of Somerset, Bellfounder, hath at his Foundry in Paington, lately cast and hung up two Bells (namely) A Third and Fourth to our Peal of Six Bells, and performed the same in every Part of the Workmanship thereof himself. The Bells were taken out of the Pits and hung up quite in Concert with the other, without the least chopping or brimming of either of them, to our entire Satisfactions.

*Jeffrey Goodridge, Thomas Distin*, Churchwardens.

*Note.* The said Mr. Wroth will give a Gold-lac'd Hat to be Rung for upon double-handed Sally on the said Bells, on Tuesday the 13th Day of June next, by the Ringers of any Parish for whom he hath cast any Bells: And the Churchwardens will give another to be rung for under Sally on the Thursday following, by the Ringers of any Parish.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 22 May 1749 - advert)

**W**ILLIAM ELLORY of *Closworth*, near *Yeovil* in the County of *Somerset*, late Servant to Mr. *William Knight*, Bell-Founder deceas'd, for upwards of twenty Years, carries on all the Branches of the said Business, in the House wherein the late Mr. *Knight* liv'd, and casts all Sorts of Bells, Mortars, Brasses for Bells, and Mills as good and as cheap as in *London*, or elsewhere.

N.B. He lately cast the Tenor Bell, at *Winterborn Kingston*, near *Blandford*, in *Dorset*, which is allowed, by all Judges, to be as musical as ever was cast, and came from the Pit without any alteration.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 17 July 1749; the surname is as given.)

PLYMOUTH, *June 20*. This Day was compleated and rung, our new Peal of eight Bells (the Tenor weighing 4032 Pounds) cast by Mr. *Thomas Bilbie*, of *Chew-Stoke*, in *Somerset*; which for their curious Workmanship and harmonious Sound are, by all true Judges, thought to be excell'd by none in the Kingdom. One of the Bells was, by Contribution of some of the Inhabitants of this Town, fill'd with excellent Punch, when the Health of the ingenious Founder was chearfully [*sic*] drank; and as a farther [*sic*] Proof of the Sense we entertain of his Merit, an handsome Present (amounting to several Pounds) was thrown into the mighty Bowl.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 26 June 1749; also *Pue's Occurrences*, Tues. 4 July 1749, with 'Twenty' vice 'several'.)

Last Sunday Evening the Society of Union Scholars, rang at St. Margaret's, Westminster, an exact Peal of 6000 Bob Major to a Change in 4 Hours and 8 Minutes; this is the longest Peal that was ever Rang there, to the great Honour of the said Society. - *Omne coronat opus vigilantia juncta labori*. (*General Advertiser*, Tues. 11 July 1749; also *Whitehall Evening-Post, or London Intelligencer*, same date, and *Kentish Post*, Wed. 12 July/Sat. 15 July 1749, both ending after ‘ .. rang there’ and both with the number of changes given as 8000.)

WHEREAS a BELL weighing upwards of Four Hundred Weight was taken out of Horning Steeple in Norfolk, on Saturday Night the 19th of August last; Whoever will discover to the Church-Wardens of the said Parish his Accomplice or Accomplices in taking away the said Bell, shall receive a Guinea Reward, and his or their Names kept secret.

BENJAMIN WARNES, }  
RICHARD BEELES, } Church-Wardens.

(Advert in *The Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 2 Sept. 1749)

*This is to give NOTICE,*

THAT on Monday, the 16th Day of October next, will be RUNG for, at Christian-Malford, in the County of Wilts, Six HATS, Value Half-a-Guinea each: Every Set, that ring, to dine at the Sign of the Horse and Jockey, where a good Ordinary will be provided for them, (the Ringers of Christian-Malford excepted.) The Bells to be try'd every Day, exclusive of the Day of Trial of Skill: Umpires unknown.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 29 Aug. 1749 - advert.)

Sunday last was rung by the Society of Union Scholars, at Christ Church in Southwark, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, in three Hours and fifteen Minutes.

(*Whitehall Evening-Post, or London Intelligencer*, Tues. 17 Oct. 1749; reported also in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 24 Oct. 1749 and *The Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 21 Oct. 1749, in each under the by-line ‘London, October 17’)

ON Monday the 23d of October, 1749, was rung at Alburgh, near Harleston in Norfolk, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major, in two Hours and fifty-six Minutes, not a Bell out of Course, and never was rung here before; perform'd by us,  
John Clark, Treble, Steph. Bearaway, Fifth,  
Francis Field, Second, Samuel Field, Sixth,  
John Field, Third, Roger Brock, Seventh,  
James Lake, Fourth, William Pattrick, Eighth.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 28 Oct. 1749 - advert; no conductor given.) [A peal board says W. Patrick ‘called the Bobs’.]

On Tuesday last the Society of Eastern Scholars rang at St. Mary Rotherhith [*sic*] 5040 Bob Major complete, in three Hours and twenty Minutes, on the new Peal of eight Bells cast by Mr. Thomas Lester, in Whitechapel. This was the first 5040 ever rung in that Steeple.

(*Whitehall Evening-Post, or London Intelligencer*, Sat. 4 Nov. 1749)

TO be rung for at Mr. Robert Clodes, at  
the Five Bells, in Crewkerne, the 2d Day of January next,

A BOWL of One Guinea and Half Value,

A Free Gift, only paying a Shilling each for his Dinner. The best Peal To have the Bowl, if there be more than three Sets of Ringers; and every Parish to bring their Sides-Man.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 4 Dec. 1749 - advert)

*These are to certify whom it may concern,*  
**T**hat THO. GARDINER, late of Sudbury, now of  
 Norwich, Bell-Founder, did, in September 1746, run an entire  
 new Peal of six Bells for the Parish of Wells next the Sea in Norfolk;  
 which Peal is completed in a workman-like Manner, as to Tune and  
 Tone, according to the Judgement of Persons well experienc'd in both:  
 It is also observable, that there is no Peal of equal Weight to exceed  
 them either in Depth of Key or Force of Sound; which Peal the said  
 Tho. Gardiner did also hang to the entire Satisfaction of all who have  
 rang them. Also the said Tho. Gardiner did, in September 1749, cast  
 two Trebles more to the said Peal, to compleat the whole Scale; which  
 two Trebles are of an entire perfect Tone, and no ways clockish; and  
 has hung them in a workman-like Manner; in witness of which, and  
 likewise in Recommendation of the Art of the said Tho. Gardiner, we  
 have hereunto set our Names.

*Robert Fountain, Rector*  
 (plus 13 other names)

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 9 Dec. 1749 - advert)

READING, *December 23.*

Last Sunday Evening was rung at the Parish Church of St. Laurence in this Town, by the  
 Reading Men, a compleat Peal of Five Thousand and Forty of Bob Minor [*sic*], or all Ten in, which  
 was perform'd in Three Hours, and Thirty-five Minutes.

(*Oxford Gazette: and Reading Mercury*, Mon. 25 Dec. 1749)

*Wednesday, November 22.*

*Stolen or Stray'd from the Estate of Richard Rock, Esq; at  
 Closworth, in the County of Somerset, A Red COW, with  
 upright Horns, printed on the off side with the Letter L.*

*☞ Whoever shall give any Information or News of the  
 Cow abovementioned either to Richard Rock, Esq; or the Prin-  
 ter of the Paper, so that she may be had again, shall be suf-  
 ficiently rewarded for his Trouble.*

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 25 Dec. 1749 – advert; was this the bell-founder of the same name, later  
 working in Closworth, or just a coincidence of name and place?)

We hear from Wellington in Somersetshire, that on Monday the 18th Instant, Richard Bovet,  
 Esq; was married to Miss Joan Thomas, a celebrated Beauty, with a Fortune of 20,000*l*. After the  
 Ceremony was over, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Jesse, the Carcasses of twenty Sheep and  
 one fat Ox were distributed to the Poor, and two hundred Horse-Loads of Wood given them to boil  
 their Pots. One of the six Bells were crack'd with ringing on this joyful Account, Mr. Bovet gave  
 Orders for three more to be cast, to make the Ring eight: He likewise ordered the Organ Pipes to be  
 repaired, and added ten Pounds yearly for Augmentation of Mr. Saleb Norman, the old Organist's  
 Salary.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 28 Dec. 1749; there is an error in this report, as the three bells mentioned  
 were actually cast in 1748.)

Last Tuesday was rung, by the Society of Eastern Scholars, on the Twelve Bells of St. Bride's  
 in Fleet-street, a complete Peal of 6072 Bob-Maximus, being the first Trial, and compleated in four  
 Hours and forty-five Minutes.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1749-50; reported also in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 1 Jan.  
 1750, and the *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1750 [N.S.], the latter under the by-line 'London, Dec. 28',  
 with the additional comment '...being the longest ever rung in that Method...')