

1770

We hear that on Sunday evening, to end the old year, was rung by the ringers at Wakefield church, in two hours and 46 minutes, a new peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, called Oxford Single Bob; and yesterday morning, to begin the new year, was rung at the same church, in two hours and 45½ minutes, a new peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 changes in six courses complete, called Nonpareil Bob. The above peals never were rung by any other ringers in this part of England, being both composed by one of the Wakefield Youths.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1770)

On Sunday night last, was rung at Wakefield church by their own ringers, a new peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 complete changes, in two hours and 46 minutes; and to begin the new year yesterday morning, they rung another new peal of tripples, consisting of the same number of changes, in two hours and 45 minutes; both tripples were composed by one of the said ringers.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1770)

Wakefield, Jan. 1. Last Night, to end the old Year, was rung, in two Hours and 46 Minutes, a new Peal of Tripples, call'd the *Oxford Bob*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in eight Courses compleat; and this Morning, to begin the new Year, was rung, in two Hours and 45 Minutes, another new Peal of Tripples, call'd the *Imperial Bob*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in six Courses compleat. Both the above Peals were composed by one of our Ringers, and never rung before.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1770; cf *Leeds Mercury*, 2 January 1770, in which the second peal was said to be of Nonpareil Bob)

The Undertaker and Managers of the Derwent Navigation have subscribed 20 Guineas towards the new Peal of eight Bells at Malton, and are now distributing their annual Benefaction of 80 Mets of Coals amongst the poor Inhabitants of that Town.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1770)

And from Keighley we are told that, on the same day [Thursday 4 January], to compliment the above young Nobleman [the Duke of Devonshire, on his coming of age], were rung, in four hours and five minutes, by the ringers at the church there, the following six-bell peals, viz. *Oxford Treble*, *College Treble*, *College Pleasure*, *Morning Star*, *Evening Star*, *London New Delight*, *Morning Pleasure*, *Primrose*, *Tulip*, *Violet* and *Cheapside*, half a peal, consisting, in the whole, of seven thousand five hundred and sixty changes.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1770)

On Saturday last, was rang at the parish church of St. Leonard's Shoreditch, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, A true and compleat Peal of 5040 Cumberland Catons, New Double, the time 3 hours 45 minutes. The above are [*sic*] the only society that ever compleated a peal in this method; and it is allowed by all friendly proficients, to be the finest performance ever exhibited on ten bells.

Goliath the Great, boasted his strength and his pride,
By Little David's art was laid aside;
His fall will be the fate of your resistance,
Though Gog and Magog come to your assistance.
The head, that lately has made an oration,
Can no way dissipate your destination;
Should you to Southwark go, and run your length,
Art must diminish what you have gained by strength.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Wed. 31 Jan. 1770)

On Monday the 29th past a Peal of Grandsire Tripples, call'd the *Malton Laurel*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in ten Courses compleat, was rung at Malton, by the Society of Ringers there, in two Hours and 53 Minutes; which is looked upon as an extraordinary Performance, as the Art of ringing Changes has not been practised by the Society above nine Months. - The Peal was composed by one of the Ringers, and never rung before.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 6 Feb. 1770)

On Tuesday last, being the anniversary of King Charles's martyrdom, was rung by Otley ringers at their parish church, a compleat set of changes called Oxford Tripple, College Pleasure, College Single, and Crown Bob, with a new tripple peal, called Johnny's Whim, all consisting of 3600 [sic] changes, in fifty-six minutes nine seconds. They were allowed to be rung in less time by eight minutes than any set of ringers in the West-Riding of this county ever performed them in upon six bells.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 6 Feb. 1770)

Tuesday was rung at St. James's Church, in this City, by the Society of the Abbey Ringers, in three hours and thirty-five minutes, a true and complete peal of Bob-major, consisting of 5040 changes, being the first ever rung in these parts, and is reckoned an extraordinary performance.

(*Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 1 March 1770)

Friday, Feb. 23, 1770, was rung at St. Margaret's Steeple, Lynn, a compleat peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major, which has been attempted by the London and Norwich ringers, who never could get thro' with it, but has now been performed with great ease in three hours and twenty-eight minutes by the Lynn Company, whose names are under-mentioned.

Treble	Robert Field
2d.	J. Parkinson, who call' d the peal
3d.	Thomas Killingbank
4th.	John Bell
5th.	Joseph Raven
6th.	Nath. Williamson
7th.	Thomas Crane

The Tenor John Squires, Linen Weaver.

N.B. The Tenor weighs 30 cwt. and it is allow'd by all who have any knowledge of the art of ringing to be a very extraordinary performance.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 3 March 1770; similar report in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 3 March 1770, but with 'Parkerson' vice 'Parkinson' and no trade after the name of the tenor ringer)

Hartlebury, March 2, 1770.

Whereas George Farr, heretofore of Aston, near Birmingham in the County of Warwick, but late of Alveley in the County of Salop, Linen Weaver, in the Month of August last absconded, and left his Wife and Child in the Parish of Hartlebury in the County of Worcester, who are become chargeable to the said Parish of Hartlebury: This is therefore to give Notice, that if the said George Farr will surrender himself to the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of Hartlebury, and take to his Wife and Child in one Month form the Date hereof, he shall be quit of the said Offence; otherwise whoever will apprehend the said G. Farr, and deliver him to the Ocerseers aforesaid, so that he may be brought to Justice, shall receive One Guinea Reward, and all reasonable Charges, by JOHN DUTTON, jun. }

JAMES PALMER, } Overseers

N. B. The said George Farr is about 40 Years of Age, five Feet seven Inches high, of a black Complexion, and wore his own black short Hair, and is particularly noted as a Ringer, which he has practised many Miles round.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 5 March 1770 - advert)

A Bell Foundry lately erected by Aaron Hobart, of Abington (by an air furnace), where bells are cast of any size suitable for Churches. Enquire of Joseph Webb, of Boston, or the said Hobart.

(*Boston Gazette*, (America) 12 March 1770; quoted in the *Ringing World*, 3 March 1944, p. 91, for which see further details of Hobart's foundry)

A new tenor bell for the church of Great St. Mary's in this town was brought here on Tuesday. It weighs 29 cwt. 26 lb. was cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman of London, and is now hung by Mr. Turner, their bell hanger. - Two trebles, cast by the same gentlemen, are expected this day; and it is imagined, when completed, they will be the finest peal of twelve bells in the kingdom.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 24 March 1770)

To all Gentlemen RINGERS.

NOTICE is hereby given, that on Wednesday in the Easter Week next, Mr. Daniel Vick-eray, at the Five Bells in Binfield, Berks, proposes giving Six very good Hats to be Rung for, by any Five Ringers, from any Place. The Set that rings the best Round Peal (which is to continue Fifteen Minutes, and to be adjudged by the Majority of the Umpires) to have the Hats. Every Company to bring an Umpire with them, and the Umpire that is for the Side that wins, to have the Sixth Hat. An Ordinary will be provided, and be on the Table precisely at One o'Clock, and to begin Ringing at Three. No Person to ring, or be an Umpire but those that dine at the Ordinary.

N.B. If it can be plainly proved that any Signal be given by any Company, then their Peal shall be cast.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 26 March 1770; this advertisement was repeated in the issue of Mon. 9 April 1770, with the following added at the end:

'No Binfield Ringers to be allowed to Ring for the Prize, nor any Person belonging to or dwelling in Binfield to ring with any other Company.'

Celebrations on the release of John Wilkes from prison

[The story of John Wilkes can be found in the *Ringing World* for 14 October 2005, pages 985/6]

We hear from Bingley, that To-morrow, (being the day of Mr. Wilkes's enlargement) a new peal, called *Wilkes and Liberty*, consisting of 720 changes, with 45 treble leadings, composed for the occasion, will be rung by the ringers of that place.

... Yesterday was rung at Bradford church, by the ringers from this town, a new peal of Bob Major, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and thirty minutes, and is the first peal of the kind ever rung in this county.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 17 April 1770; the report of the peal at Bradford in *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

Yesterday Mr. Wilkes's Discharge from the King's Bench Prison was celebrated here with much Eclat and Joyity. In the Morning with Bells ringing; at Noon a fine Sheep that had been roasted whole...

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thur. 19 April 1770)

April 19th. Yesterday being the 18th Instant, it was observed here as a Day of Rejoicing, for the Expiration of the Term of John Wilkes Esq's Imprisonment; The Morning (which was extremely fine) was saluted by a Peal of Bells in the Parish Church of St. Alkmund...

From Ashborne we hear, that the Ringers on the above Occasion began about 12 o'Clock on Tuesday Night, and continued ringing, by Intervals, all Yesterday.

(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 20 April 1770)

By Letters from Birmingham we have Advice, that Mr. Wilkes's Enlargement was celebrated there on Wednesday last, with great Jollity, and that the strictest Decency was every where observed; yet what is rather remarkable, there was no Bell-ringing upon this Occasion, though the Place has long been celebrated for it, upon all publick Rejoicings.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 21 April 1770)

A letter from Beeson in Nottinghamshire informs us, that on Wednesday the 18th instant, being the expected Day of the Enlargement of John Wilkes Esq; our suffering Patriot, for the Liberties of the British Constitution, the same was celebrated in the following Manner in that Place:- The

Morning was ushered in with ringing of Bells; exactly at 45 minutes past four in the Morning, after they had rung 45 round Peals ... [45 Bonfires were lit, etc]

From Sheffield we learn, that on Tuesday Night last, the Ringers of that Town, met at the Old Church, and rung a true Peal called Wilkes' March, containing 5045 Changes, which they performed in three Hours and 22 Minutes, and finishing at 45 minutes past twelve; this Peal was composed in February last (on purpose to be rung on the Release from Prison of John Wilkes, Esq;) by one of this Society who is 45 Years of Age.

From Ashbourne we also hear, that the Ringers on the above Occasion began about 12 o'Clock on Tuesday Night, and continued ringing, by Intervals, all Wednesday.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 21 April 1770)

At Evesham, Yesterday se'nnight, the Deliverance of Mr. Wilkes from Prison was celebrated in a very joyous Manner. In the Morning 45 Peals were rung, each Peal consisting of 45 Rounds;...
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thur. 26 April 1770)

A correspondent from Wirksworth, sends us the following Particulars relative to the Rejoicings there on the Enlargement of Mr. Wilkes. Viz The Bells began to ring the Moment the Clock had struck Twelve on Tuesday Night, and continued by Intervals till they had rung 45 Peals ...
(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 27 April 1770) (cf *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 28 April 1770)

From Wirksworth in Derbyshire we have the following Account of the extraordinary Rejoicings at that Place on the above Occasion. "The Bells began to ring the Moment the Clock struck 12 on the preceding Night, and continued by Intervals till they had rung 45 Peals."
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 28 April 1770)

We hear from Liskeard in Cornwall, that on the day of Mr. Wilkes's enlargement, about 45 minutes after four in the morning, small arms were fired in different places of that town; 45 minutes after five the bells began to ring; ...
(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 30 April 1770)

We hear from the Village of Breedon, in this County, that the Day of Mr. Wilkes's Releasement was observed there in a very joyous Manner. The Morning was ushered in by Bells ringing, when 45 compleat Peals were performed.....
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 17 May 1770)

On the 16th past was rung at Bradford, by a Set of Ringers from Leeds, a new Peal of Bob Minor, commonly call'd Bob Major, containing 5040 Changes, in three Courses, composed by one of the said Ringers. It was performed with great Accuracy in three Hours and 30 Minutes and is allowed to be the compleatest and first Peal of the Kind ever rung in this County.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 1 May 1770)

Malton, May 25. Yesterday, being the Anniversary of the Birth of the Marquis of Rockingham, the Morning was ushered in with an entire new Peal of Grandsire Tripples, composed on the Occasion, and call'd the *Rockingham Delight*, consisting of 2520 Changes in five Courses complete, (commonly called the Half Peal) which was rung with great Accuracy in one Hour and 24 Minutes, and is esteem'd to be as musical a Peal as any ever yet rung.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 29 May 1770)

Saturday se'nnight in the evening whilst the ringers at St. Mary's in Nottingham, were amusing themselves in Change-ringing, at that church, on a sudden one of the gudgeons of the tenor broke short off, and the bell, which is 32 Ct. Wt. fell with great violence into the bottom of the frame; which so alarmed the Ringers that they instantly quitted their bells, and ran out of the belfry, by this sudden retreat, one of them was near perishing, by a rope's catching hold of his neck, but he happily disentangled himself and escaped.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 2 June 1770)

On Monday evening (the King's birth day) the Gentlemen Ringers, with several of the most respectable inhabitants of the parish of Lyminge, met at the Coach and Horses, to drink the King's health, which was conducted with the greatest harmony; where some very grand Fireworks were displayed, and the Bells ringing (hardly ceasing) till near two o'clock in the morning: and everything appearing so joyous, they would have rung longer had it not been for fear of disturbing the Parson, his House being so near the Church.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 12 June 1770)

The Sherwood Company of Change-Ringers in Nottingham (who generally go to spend two or three Holidays in the Country at Whitsuntide) went this Year to amuse themselves upon the melodious Peal of eight Bells at Burton-upon-Trent, in Staffordshire, but were greatly disappointed in finding the Bells in very bad Order; however, they made two Attempts on Whitsun-Tuesday to ring a long Peal upon them, and rang 8000 Changes there that Day; but some of the Wheels casting the Ropes, they were obliged to leave Burton without compleating the Peal they intended to have rang, had the Bells been in proper Ringing Order. On their Return they performed upon the Sett of ten Bells at All-Saints Church in Derby.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 18 June 1770)

BELLS.

AS it is probable that many People who have Business to be done in the Church Bell Way, are at a Loss to know where to apply, this is to inform them, that THOMAS JANAWAY, BELL-FOUNDER, at the THREE BELLS, in Chelsea, near London, who was a Relation, and several Years Foreman, to Mr. Lester, deceased, casts Church Bells in the compleatest and most approved Manner, where those Gentlemen who please to favour him with their Commands, may be assured of having their Business executed with the greatest Fidelity and Dispatch, and upon such Terms as he flatters himself will recommend him to their future Favour. He likewise casts Miil, [*sic*] Brasses, and Engine-Work of all Sorts.

He returns his grateful Thanks to all those Gentlemen he has had the Honour to serve.

Letters, Post paid, duly answered.

(Advert in *Owen's Weekly Chronicle and Westminster Journal*, Sat. 23 June - Sat. 30 June 1770; a very similar advert appeared in the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* of Mon. 10 April 1775, for which see below.)

We hear from Ewelme in this County, that on Monday last a new Church Clock, the Gift of the late Mr. John Jacob of that Place, deceased, was compleated by Mr. Joseph Stockford, Clock and Church-Bell-Hanger, of Thame in this County.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 30 June 1770)

[Death and funeral of William Beckford, Esq.]

It ought to be recorded, to the honour of the College youths, that they, in grateful respect to the late worthy Lord Mayor, William Beckford, unsolicited, and at their own expence, caused a minute-bell to be tolled at the Mother Church at Bow, on Thursday last, at the time the corpse was removed from town; and on Saturday night, when they supposed it was arrived at Font-hill, they ordered the minute-bell to be tolled again until ten o'clock, at which time they apprehended the remains of that great man were interred; and then they concluded, with ringing a dead peal till twelve o'clock testifying, by every means in their power, the deep sense they entertained of the loss of one of the greatest ornaments, not only of the city of London, but of his country in general.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 30 June - Tues. 3 July 1770)

On Saturday next, will be opened a new peal of six bells, at Rudgwick, near Horsham in Sussex, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, and hung by Robert Turner of London; And on the 14th of next month will be compleatly finished, a peal of six bells, new hung at Readbourn in Hertfordshire, by the aforesaid Robert Turner.

(*Reading Mercury*, Mon. 23 July 1770)

THIS is to give Notice to all Gentlemen RINGERS, that there will be rung for on Monday the 20th of August, at Upper Shottisham in the County of Norfolk, six good Hats, on five Bells, each Company three different Peals, (one of the Hats for the Judge) no less than three Companies to be engaged Norwich excepted. A Dinner will be provided at the Sign of the Crown, at the House of Mr. John Mann, for all Gentlemen Ringers, who chuse to Honour the Town with their Company.

N.B. - The Hats will be given by the said Mr. John Mann, for the Encouragement of the Science of Ringing.

(Advert in both the *Norfolk Chronicle* and the *Norwich Mercury*, 11 Aug. 1770; quoted in the *Ringing World*, 5th June 1970)

Tuesday last, in the evening, Mr. Wilkes and his daughter arrived at Lenham, where they lay. Many of the inhabitants exerted themselves in shewing the high respect they bore them, and in the morning, on their setting out, Mr. Wilkes made a polite speech. ... On their way to Tunbridge, they stopt at Maidstone, where they were visited by several gentlemen. On this occasion the bells were rung, and the ringers were afterwards entertained to a genteel supper by three gentlemen of the town.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 21 Aug. 1770; John Wilkes was on his way back to London after having met his daughter in Dover, on her return from France.)

A Letter from Pontefract, dated Aug. 18, says, "Last Thursday J- W- , Esq; lately chosen an Alderman of this Corporation, arrived here in as private a Manner as possible. As soon as his Arrival was whisper'd abroad, some of his Friends sent to the Ringers, desiring them to salute him with a Peal of Bells, which they refused; but towards Evening a Set of young Gentlemen got into the Steeple, muffled the Bells, and complimented him with a dumb Peal, while the Populace join'd their vocal Musick with the Bells, some shouting, others groaning, hissing, &c. at the same Time another Set was employed in burning him in Effigy."

Lately was open'd at Helmsley, by a Society of Ringers from Malton, a Peal of eight new Bells, cast by Mess. PACK and CHAPMAN, White Chapel, London. They rung several Changes, and the Bells were allowed by Judges to be a fine Peal. - Since Mr. Lester's Death the Business has been carried on by Mess. Pack and Chapman, and those who want single Bells, or Peals of Bells, casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or F. Hudson on the Pavement, York.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 21 Aug. 1770)

On Monday next will be opened, by the society of College Youths from London, a new peal of eight bells at Carisbrooke church in the Isle of Wight, cast by Pack and Chapman of White-chapel, London, and hung by Samuel Turner.

(*Reading Mercury*, and *Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 24 Sept. 1770; at the opening on Monday 1 Oct. 1770 a band of College Youths rang a peal of Plain Bob Major.)

On Friday last a new peal of bells, cast by Mr. Henry Harrison, of Barrow, was opened at Sibsey in Lincolnshire, on which changes were immediately rung by five ladies.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 29 Sept. 1770)

ON SUNDAY, Oct. 28, 1770, was rung at GREAT YARMOUTH, in the County of Norfolk, a compleat peal of 5040 changes of Bob-major, by eight of the UNION SOCIETY of the Norwich Ringers, in the space of 3 hours and 20 minutes. - This performance of ours would not have been inserted had it not been for some unfriendly and ill meant expressions which have been breathed out by a company of Suffolk Ringers about 18 miles from Norwich, who declared that Norwich Ringers could not compleat a peal in any steeple where there is any considerable weight of metal.

We have, to the above Performance, subscribed our Names,

JOHN CHAMBERLIN	-	Treble and called the Peal
JOHN DIXON	-	2
JOHN HAVERS	-	3
JOHN KEENUS	-	4
WILLIAM WARNER	-	5
JOHN PEAK	-	6
JAMES WATLING	-	7
SIMON WATLING	-	Tenor

Certified { Robert Church, }
 by { William Browne, } of Yarmouth
 { Philip Scott, }

N.B. - The Tenor weighs 25 Hundred 1 Quarter.

P.S. - The above Company challenge to ring with any Company whatever, and for any Sum.

(Advert in both *Norwich Mercury* and *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1770) (The reference is possibly to Beccles)

The following circumstance happened last Monday, the anniversary of Mr. Wilke's nativity. Most part of the day the church bells of St. Martin's in the Fields rung a dumb peal, which several people observing, and imagining it was done with a particular intention, because of the day, many warm friends of the patriot collected together, and proceeding to the church, demanded the reason of their ringing a dumb peal; to which the person to whom they applied said, "Alas! gentlemen, one of our best ringers died this morning, and we ring this peal to his memory."

(*General Evening Post*, Sat. 3 Nov. - Tues. 6 Nov. 1770; also *Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 5 Nov. 1770.)

Norwich, Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1770.

This Day (being the Annual Feast of the Independent Company of Ringers held at the CURRIERS ARMS, in the Parish of St. Peter's Mancroft) was performed in St. Giles's Steeple, by eight men of the said Company, 5040 Changes of Bob Major, in three Hours and 8 02 10 minutes [*sic*], by us whose Names are hereto subscribed:-

THOMAS HART	1
ROBERT NOCKNOLDS	2
JOSEPH MALTBY	3
ROBERT LEARNER	4
JAMES VINES	5 and called the Peal
SAMUEL FLEMING	6
JOHN TROWSE	7
JOHN SQUIRES	8

ROBERT FIELDING / RALPH BUCK } Churchwardens

N.B. - This Peal has been attempted various Times in the above Steeple, by the best and ablest Ringers that Norwich ever produced, but was never performed till now.

Fools may brave and vainly boast,
 To Independents give the Toast.

(Advert in both *Norfolk Chronicle* and *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 10 Nov. 1770)

This Day was published, Price 1s. 6d.

A NEW EDITION, being the FIFTH.

CAMPANALOGIA Improved; or, The ART of RINGING Made Easy, by plain and methodical Rules and Directions: Whereby the ingenious Practitioner may, with a little Practice and Care, attain to the Knowledge of Ringing all Manner of Double, Tripple, and Quadruple Changes. With Variety of new Peals upon Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, and Ten.

Corrected by J. MONK.

Printed for L. Hawes, W. Clarke and R. Collins, and S. Crowder, in Paternoster-Row; and sold by G. Knapp, in Peterborough; T. Smith and Son, and W. Flackton, in Canterbury; the Booksellers mentioned at the End of this Paper, and of our Newsmen.
(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 20 Nov. 1770 - advert. Monk's edition was actually published in 1766.)

On Monday last was rung for on Launceston bells, a large *Silver Bell*, by six ringers of each parish, which was won by

the ringers of Lewannick,	Faults, 16 quarters.
beating Milton ringers,	Do, 29 do.
St. Stephen's ringers,	Do, 53 do.

Northill ringers disqualified by giving a signal.

N.B. Lezant, Lifton, St. Clear [*sic*], St. Neot, Bridgrule, and North Petherwin ringers were expected, but 'tis supposed they were prevented by the great rains which fell on Sunday.
(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 3 Dec. 1770)

Prize Ringing in Manchester

December 18, 1770.

St. John's Church, Manchester.
On *Monday* the 7th of *January* next.

Will be RUNG, at this CHURCH,

A COMPLEAT

Round Peal of EIGHT BELLS,

BY

Any SET of RINGERS,

Who have been used to SIX BELLS only;

For the following PRIZES, viz.

L. S. D.

The best Peal - - - - 3 3 0

The Second best - - - - 2 2 0

And on Wednesday the 16th,

By any Set of EIGHT BELL Ringers

The best Peal - - - - 4 4 0

CONDITIONS.

Each Peal shall not be under 28, or more than 30 Minutes.

The Ringers of each Peal shall have the Bells SET at the End of 14 Minutes, and not exceed 15; to stand one Minute and not exceed two.

If any Rope shall break, or Accident happen to a Bell, not occasioned by the Ringer, the Peal shall be rung over again.

N. B. A proper Person or Persons will be appointed to attend in the Bell-Chamber for that Purpose, and 15 Minutes only will be allowed, from the End of one Peal to the Beginning of another.

Censors will be appointed by the Church-Wardens, whose Determination are to be decisive.

Some one Ringer of each Set, who intend to offer for any of the above Prizes, are to attend at St. JOHN'S CHURCH, half an Hour before the Time appointed for Ringing, to Ballot for their Turn.

The first Peal to begin at nine o'clock in the Morning of each Day—And no Persons whatever, who intend to Ring for the Prizes, will allowed to Ring there before the Time fixed.

The present Ringers at the said Church, will not be allowed to Ring for any of the above Prizes.

Any Set intending to offer for the above Prizes, must give Notice to *J. Harrop*, Printer, in *Manchester*, on or before the first Day of *January* next, and pay 2s. 6d. Entrance, otherwise they will be excluded.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Sats. 4, 18 & 25 Dec. 1770)

On Wednesday last two Peal[s] of Bells were rung at St. John's Church, for the Prize lately advertised in this Paper, when the Premium was adjudged to the Ringers of the Collegiate Church in this Town.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 22 Jan. 1771)

Last week died at Norwich, aged 77, Mr William Porter, many years an eminent trunk-maker of that City; a man well known for his skill in the art of ringing and inventor of that much admired peal called Court upon Ten. He was one of the persons who at St Peter's Mancroft on 8th March 1737 completed a peal of 12,600 changes in eight hours and fifteen minutes.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 8 Dec. 1770 – per Gareth Davies)

Last week was rung at St. Magnus the Martyr, London, a true and complete peal of 5165 Cumberland cators, real double, with the bobs, called one behind and one before throughout the whole peal, being the first ever rung in that method, which was performed in three hours and thirty-five minutes by a society of Cumberland youths.

(Newcastle Chronicle, Sat. 22 Dec. 1770, as the first item of Newcastle news.)

On Monday last, was rung at Great St. Mary's church in this town, on twelve bells, a compleat peal of Grandsire Cinques, consisting of 5610 changes, which was compleated with ease in three hours and fifty minutes by Messrs. Young, Laughton, Saunders, Incarsole, Gee, Robinson, Jones, Hinkin, Graves, Crowther, Day (who called the peal), and Banyard. It is very remarkable, Mr. Incarsole, who rung the 4th bell is quite blind.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 29 Dec. 1770)

1771

Last Tuesday, being New Year's Day, the Society of Ringers at Malton ushered in the Morning with a new Peal of Grandsire Tripples, called the *Malton Delight*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in ten Courses complete, which was rung with great Accuracy in two Hours and 58 Minutes. (*York Courant*, Tues. 8 Jan. 1771)

On Friday night last, as the ringers belonging to the abbey at Bath were giving a peal in honour of the day, the iron-work round the neck of the tenor suddenly gave way, and the bell, weighing above 40 cwt. was thrown out of the frame, very fortunately upon a strong beam under it, by which the lives of many who were in the belfry were saved, and material damage to the church prevented.

(*General Evening Post*, 22 Jan. – 24 Jan. 1771; also *Public Advertiser*, Thurs. 24 Jan. 1771, under the by-line 'Bath, Jan. 21.', and *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 28 Jan. 1771, the latter still beginning 'On Friday night last...')

On the 21st Inst. a Peal of Grandsire Tripples, called *The Malton Evening Pleasure*, consisting of 5040 Changes in ten Courses complete, was rung by the Society of Ringers at Malton, in two Hours and 52 Minutes.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 29 Jan. 1771)

On the 29th past was rung at Wakefield, a Peal, consisting of 5040 Changes in eight Courses compleat, called *Wakefield Royal Double Bob Tripples*, which was performed in two Hours and 49 Minutes, with great Applause. It is the compleatest Peal of the Kind that was ever rung in this Part of the Kingdom, and was composed by one of their own Set.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 5 Feb. 1771)

The Minister, Church-Wardens, and principal Inhabitants of the Parish of Peniston, in this County, desirous of paying a due Regard to Merit, take this Method of acquainting the Public, that the Bells in their Parish Church have lately been new-hung and tuned by Thomas Hilton, of Wath, near Barnsley, much to the Satisfaction of themselves and all others that have heard them, and therefore they recommend him as a Person well qualified for such Undertakings, and have given him a Certificate under their Hands accordingly.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 5 Feb. 1771)

Last Thursday was opened at St. Mary's Church Bishophill the Elder in this City, by the Society of Ringers belonging to our Cathedral, a Peal of six new Bells, cast by Mess. PACK and CHAPMAN, White-Chapel, London, and hung by Mr. SAMUEL TURNER, their own Bell-Hanger. They are hung in a small Tower, and Judges esteem the Work to be as masterly a Piece as any in the Kingdom. Several Peals of 700 were rung and the Bells are allowed to be very fine and tuneable. - Those who want single Bells or Peals of Bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or to F. Hudson on the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost dispatch and Care.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 12 Feb. 1771)

Norwich, Feb. 12, 1771

THis Day was rung in St. Giles's Steeple a compleat 6848 Changes of Bob Major in three Hours and Thirty seven minutes, by us whose Name are hereunder written:

James Watling	Treble and call'd the Peal
John Peck	2
John Heavers	3
Joseph Maltby	4
John Dixon	5
William Warner	6
Simon Watling	7
John Trowse	Tenor.

Robert Fielding, Churchwarden.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1771 – advert, per D. Cubitt)

This is to acquaint the Public that on Easter Tuesday next, at New Shoreham, two half-guinea Hats will be rung for, a round Peal on six Bells, to raise and fall. To meet at John Jarman's, at the Sign of the Red Lion, at New Shoreham aforesaid.

(Sussex Weekly Advertiser, Mon. 4 March 1771)

On Friday last, the ringers from our Parish Church rung in honour of the opening of the General Infirmary, a new peal of double Tripples, called Crown-Bob-Royal, or the Double Union, consisting of 5,040 changes in three hours exactly.

(Leeds Mercury, Tues. 5 March 1771 - per D. Cubitt)

On Friday last, the ringers of our Parish-Church, rung, in honour of the opening of the General Infirmary, a new peal of Double Tripples, called Crown - Bob - Royal or the Double Union, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours exactly: this peal may with propriety be termed a nonpareil, being a composition of the three peals London, Colledge, and Oxford double bob Tripples, in six complete courses, and was never rang before, being compos'd by one of the said ringers; who has also composed several complet[e] peals of Treble-bob-Tripples, on seven bells, in 6 courses each; likewise the whole peal of Grandsire-bob-cators on nine bells, consisting of 362850 change, in 6 courses.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Tues. 5 March 1771)

On Friday last was rung at Leeds, on opening the General Infirmary, a new peal of Double Triples, called Crown-Bob-Royal or the Double Union, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours exactly; this peal may with propriety be termed a nonpareil, being a composition of the three peals, London, Colledge, and Oxford Double-bob-Tripples, in six compleat courses, and was never rung before, being composed by one of the said ringers; who has also composed several compleat peals of Treble-bob-Tripples, on seven bells, in six courses each; likewise the whole peal of Grandsire-bob-Cators on nine bells, consisting of 362880 changes, in six courses.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 9 March 1771)

On Monday last the ancient society of College Youths, rang at St. Martin's in the Fields, a true and compleat peal of 5280 double twelve in, in four hours and 16 minutes, with the bobs equal behind and as before, being the finest peal ever performed in the above method on 12 bells.

(Bingley's Journal Or Universal Gazette, Sat. 2 March - Sat. 9 March 1771)

AT the BELL-FOUNDRY at Aldbourne, Wilts, CHURCH BELLS are cast in a more elegant, and as musical a Manner as in any Part of the Kingdom, the Founder having made the Theory of Sounds, as well as the Nature of Metal, his chief Study; also hangs the same, finding all Materials, in the most complete and concise Manner. And also Hand Bells for Ringers, Musical Clocks, and Sheep Bells, strictly in Tune in any Key: Likewise Horse and Room Bells, the neatest of their Kind. Mill Brasses cast and sold at the lowest Prices. All Orders will be punctually observed by ROBERT WELLS, Founder.

** The said Robert Wells has taken to and continues Mr. Strong's FUSTIAN and COTTON MANUFACTORY at Albourne.

(Jackson's Oxford Journal, Sat. 9 March & Sat. 23 March 1771 - advert; cf similar adverts in 1767, 1768 and 1772)

The two Treble Bells that are come from Mr. Pack's Foundry in London, as an Addition to the Musical Ten at St. Martin's Church in this Town, is thought will be as compleat a Ring of Bells as any in England; and will be rung for the first Time on Easter Tuesday.

(Aris's Birmingham Gazette, Mon. 25 March 1771)

GIVEN gratis, by Martin Lewinton, at the Plow at Shiplack [*sic*], Oxfordshire, to be RUNG for, on Wednesday the 22d of May next, FIVE GOOD HATS for any Set of Ringers that shall ring the best Round Peal; each Set of Ringers to bring their Umpire with them; each Peal to continue fifteen Minutes, and every one that rings to pay One Shilling for his Dinner, which will be on the Table at One o'Clock; and to begin ringing at Three o'Clock precisely.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 1 April 1771 - advert)

On the 21st Inst. was rung at Helmsley Blackmoor, by their Society of Ringers, a Peal of Grandsire Tripples, call'd the *Yorkshire Surprise*, consisting of 5040 Changes, and was completed in three Hours, which is thought by Judges to be a great Performance, as the Society have only practised Ringing nine Months.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 30 April 1771)

On Thursday last arrived at Holm-Lacy, in this county, the honourable Charles Howard, Esq. with his newly-married lady, the heiress of the ancient family of Scudamore, a name long and deservedly respected in the land of cyder. The inhabitants of this county and neighbourhood welcomed the arrival of the amicable pair with ringing of bells and every demonstration of joy. And on Tuesday last an entertainment was provided, at the family mansion-house, for their numerous tenants of this county, in the true stile of English hospitality.

(*British Chronicle, or, Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 2 May 1771)

We hear from Leeds in this county, that the company of ringers belonging to that place, rung on Sunday the 28th April, 5376 of that entire new peal called PLACE BOB; which is allowed by judges, to be the hardest eight-bell peal ever yet rung in England. Any ringers, or set of ringers, may be supplied with this peal, by sending to any of the above society.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 30 April - Sat. 4 May 1771)

Stockland, May 9. This being the day appointed for the releasement of those upright Magistrates the Lord Mayor, and one of the Aldermen of the City of London from their confinement in the Tower, the morning was ushered in here by ringing of bells, which continued almost incessantly the whole day: the ringers, to shew their utmost gratitude for those worthy Patriots of Liberty, continued one peal upwards of four hours without stopping or setting the bells, and would have continued it longer, had not the tenor craz'd at that time. A large quantity of liquor was distributed to the populace by the gentlemen, and the whole day was spent in mirth and jollity.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 20 May 1771)

A Peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Tenterden

On Monday was rung at Tenterden by the Gentlemen of Leeds, five thousand and forty of TREBLE BOB, completed in three hours and twenty seven minutes, which is looked upon as a great performance, by reason of the bells being so large.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 25 May 1771)

We are informed, that the peal which was rung at Tenterden, and was inserted in this paper of the 25th ult, was wrong in the number of changes; instead of 5040, it should have been 5184.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 28 June 1771)

Last Sunday was rung by St. James's Ringers, at St. Nicholas, a true and complete Peal of 5040 Grandsire Treble and Double, being the second true Peal of Treble that ever was rung in this City: It was completed in three Hours and twenty Minutes by the following Persons, viz. Mathew Dane 1st, John Bigg 2d, and call'd the Peal, Tho. Wilmott 3d, James Smith 4th, Thomas Francomb 5th, John Thorn 6th, George Evans 7th, Thomas Smith and William Rosseter 8th.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 1 June 1771)

On Tuesday the anniversary of his majesty's birth-day, who then entered into his 34th year of his age, was celebrated here with every demonstration of joy. The bells rang almost incessantly the whole day; and there was a large bonfire in the market-place, opposite which the militia fired three vollies;...

(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 6 June 1771)

DOWNHAM MARKET, June 4. 1771.

ON WEDNESDAY, June the 12th, will be opened at Downham in Norfolk, a Peal of Eight Bells, the Tenor twelve hundred weight, the Treble four hundred, and in the Key: As there is no particular Company proposed to open the Bells, such Ringers as choose to attend, will meet with a kind Reception, by their humble Servant, JOHN HALL, at the Chequer in Downham aforesaid.

N.B. A Dinner will be provided Gratis.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 8 June 1771 – advert, per David Cubitt)

On Monday the 17th Instant will be opened, a new peal of eight bells, at Salehurst in Sussex, cast by Pack and Chapman of London, and hung by Robert Turner of Whitechapel. Also a peal will be completely new hung by the 15th of July, at Mitcham in Surr[e]y, by the above Robert Turner.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 10 June 1771)

Lewes, June 10.

Monday next will be opened, by a set of ringers from London, a new peal of eight bells, at Salehurst in this county, cast by PACK and CHAPMAN, and hung by ROBERT TURNER, of Whitechapel. They were given by JOHN and GEORGE PECKHAM, Esqrs.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 10 June 1771)

Tuesday last being the Anniversary of his Majesty's Birth-Day, when he enter'd into the 34th Year of his Age, ... The same Day was rung at St. Mary's Bishophill the Elder, a Peal call'd *Grandsire*, consisting of 3240 Changes, which was perform'd in one hour and 59 Minutes by the Ringers of the said Church.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 11 June 1771)

BELLS

TO-morrow, Wednesday, June 12, will be opened, at SPROTBOUGH, near Doncaster, A new Peal of Six Bells, by a Set of Ringers equal to any in this County. The Bells were cast by Mess. PACK and CHAPMAN, Bell-Founders in White-Chapel, London, and hung by Mr. SAMUEL TURNER, Bell-Hanger to the above Gentlemen. - Those who want single Bells or Peals of Bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or to Mr. Francis Hudson, on the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost Care and Dispatch.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 11 June 1771 - advert)

Norwich, June 15, 1771.

THIS Day was rung at St. Michael's Coslany, a compleat 6720 of Court Bob, which was completed in four Hours and 25 Minutes. This is the longest length that was ever rung of this ingenious Peal; and without Changes alike, or Bells out of Course, is allow'd by all Judges of the Art of Ringing to be a very grand Performance.

By reason of the Intricatness of this Peal, with the Length of Time, and Number of Changes, it is the compleatest Length that ever was rung on eight Bells.

Perform'd by

John Chamberlin, Treble, & call'd	William Warner	5
the Peal	John Dye	6
John Peak	James Vines	7
John Havers	John Trowse	Tenor
Simon Watling		4

N.B. On the 1st of July will be rung for at Coltishall SEVEN Gold-laced HATS. The Company that ring the best 720 will be entitled to the Hats. A very good Ordinary will be provided at Mr. Hudson's, the King's Head, at Coltishall.

(Advert in both *Norfolk Chronicle* and *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 22 June 1771)

We read of a ... contest at Coltishall, Norfolk, on Monday, July 1, 1771, to be rung for:-

“Seven Gold laced Hats, the company that ring the best 720 will be entitled to the Hats. A very good Ordinary will be provided at Mr. Hudson's the King's Head at Coltishall.”

A band of ringers who had rung a peal at Halesworth, Suffolk, conclude their remarks on the performance by adding:

"Also the same company went to Coltishall on Monday, July 1st, and rung for the hats which they won from all the Companies present."

(Morris, *History & Art*, &c. p. 558: this should refer to the band from Norwich which rang peals at Downham and Wisbech, and opened the bells at Holbeach. See below, *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 July 1771)

We hear from Leeds in Kent, that on Saturday last the Hon. Robert Fairfax arrived at his seat at Leeds Castle, in good health, from Virginia, and the Leeds Youths, to celebrate his safe arrival, rang a complete peal of 5040 changes of OXFORD TREBLE BOB, ten in, on their musical peal of Bells, and completed the same in three hours and fourteen minutes.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 29 June 1771)

ON SUNDAY June 23, 1771, was rung at Downham in Norfolk, a compleat 5040 of BOB MAJOR, without Changes alike, or bells out of Course, and the first that ever was rung in that Steeple; performed by eight Men from NORWICH, who completed it in three Hours four Minutes.

Likewise on Monday the 24th of June was rung another compleat 5040 ditto at Wisbeach in the Isle of Ely, and the first that ever was rung in that Steeple, which was completed in three Hours and 19 Minutes and and [sic] perform' d by the same eight Men, viz.

John Chamberlin, Treble, and call'd the Peals		Simon Watling	5
		John Dye	6
John Keepus	2	John Trowse	7
John Dixon	3	James Vines	Tenor
James Watling	4		

N.B. On June the 26th was open'd at Holbeach in Lincolnshire, a Peal of Eight by the aforesaid Company, who gave great Satisfaction to all the Gentlemen and Ladies, who came on purpose to hear the Ringing at all the above-mentioned Places. - Also the same Company went to Coltishall on Monday July 1, and rung for the Hats which they won from all the Companies present.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 July 1771 - advert.)

Holbeach, July 1. On Wednesday last a fine new set of eight bells was opened here, by the celebrated ringers from St. Peter's, Norwich, who rung a compleat peal of 5040 changes, in three hours and 20 minutes; which is thought to be the greatest performance of the kind ever known in England. - The bells are exceedingly tuneable, and gave great satisfaction to all the inhabitants and a prodigious number of people assembled on the occasion from the adjacent towns. The bobs were called by T. Chamberlin.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 July 1771)

On Monday the 15th Instant, will be opened at Avington, Hants, a new peal of Six Bells, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, Bell Founders, of White Chapel, London; which are now hanging by Samuel Turner their Bell Hanger.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 8 July 1771)

Brecon, July 7. Immediately after we had received the agreeable news of the election of Messrs. Wilkes and Bull to the shrievalty of London and Middlesex, the bells of the several churches in the town instantly rang, and continued to do so, with very little interruption, for the whole night, and the greatest part of the next day. The ringers were generously treated by the inhabitants in general, but more particularly by the independent freemen of this *once* free and uncorrupted borough.

(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 11 July 1771)

Newcastle, July 6.

The arrival of the news on Thursday of Mr. Alderman Wilkes and Mr. Bull being elected Sherrif[f]s of the City of London and county of Middlesex, gave universal pleasure to all the partizans of liberty in this town. The event was announced to the public by one Peal only of St. Nicholas's bells; for just when the ringers were proceeding to the SECOND, an order was received from the Chief Magistrate to desist, which totally extinguished that SPARK of patriotic enthusiasm. - Gateshead bells, being out of the jurisdiction of the town, continued ringing till late at night.

(Sussex Weekly Advertiser, Mon. 15 July 1771)

Lewes, July 22.

We are inform'd from Ticehurst, that their bells have been new cast and hung, and are now as complete a peal of six bells, under their weight, as ever were hung. The foundering part was performed by Thomas Janaway, Bell-founder of Great Chelsea, well known for his workmanship, both for cleanness and neatness; there is hardly anybody equals him. The hanging part was performed by Robert Gilbert of Rotherfield, as good a bell-hanger as ever was born in Kent, Sussex, Surry [*sic*] or Middlesex, and will not turn his back on anyone in that branch.

(Sussex Weekly Advertiser, Mon. 22 July 1771)

Monday last, being the birth-day of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the bells rang early in the morning, and continued, with very little intermission, the whole day; in the evening there was a bonfire, the Town-Hall was illuminated, and every other mark of respect shewn on that occasion.

(Pugh's Hereford Journal, Thurs. 15 Aug. 1771)

The new ring of bells for St. Peter's, Nottingham

Nottingham, Sept. 5. On Wednesday morning last, a mourning or Farewell Peal of Grandsire Triples was rang upon the old Set of Eight Bells at St. Peter's Church in Nottingham, by the Sherwood Company of Change Ringers in that Town; after which the Bells were begun to be taken down, in order to make the new Frame for a complete new whole Peal of Eight Bells, cast for that Church by Mr. Pack and Co. of White Chapel, London, the most eminent Bell-Founders in Europe.

(Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 7 Sept. 1771)

Wednesday morning, a solemn mourning peal was rung on the bells of St. Peter's Church, in this town, being the last that will be rung on those bells; a new musical peal of the same number, cast at London, being very soon to be put up in their places. The most ancient bell of the old set, was given (in the year 1544) a little before the reformation, by Marget Doubleseay, an ancient maid, who had gained a fortune of at least one hundred pounds, (a great sum in those days) by her industry in washing, and she left or gave this bell, to be rung every working morning at four o'clock, to awaken the good women of her calling to their employments: she also left an annual stipend to the saxton, to make him diligent in ringing the bell, which has on it the following inscription in old characters: Ave Maria of you Charitie for to Pray for the Sole of Mag. Dubbyseay.

(Cresswell's Nottingham and Newark Journal, Sat. 7 Sept. 1771)

The new peal of eight bells cast by Mr. Pack and Co. of Whitechapel London for St. Peter's church in this town, was on Wednesday last shipped for Gainsborough on board the Phoenix, William Reader Master, as that it is hoped that they will arrive safe at Nottingham by such time as the new frames now making for them are ready.

(Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal, Sat. 5 Oct. 1771)

The new peal of eight bells, for St. Peter's church, arrived safe last night at the Trent Bridge, near this town.

(Nottingham Journal, Sat. 26 Oct. 1771)

We are informed, that the complete new peal of eight Bells, at St. Peter's Church in Nottingham, will be open'd on Christmas-Day, early in the morning; and the publick holiday, &c, on the occasion, will be the day after.

(The Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 21 Dec. 1771)

Tuesday night at twelve o'clock the new peal of 8 bells, at St. Peter's church in this town was opened and rung a melodious peal till four o'clock when being Christmas day, they were succeeded by the harmonious peal of ten bells at St. Mary's to the great delight of all lovers of the science of ringing. Inscriptions on the new bells at St. Peter's will be in our next.
(Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal, Sat. 28 Dec. 1771)

On Tuesday night the Sherwood Company of Change Ringers in Nottingham rang (for their Amusement) upon the new peal of eight Bells, at St. Peter's Church in that Town, a Peal of Changes for three hours nineteen minutes, consisting of the true whole Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, - after which the bells were ceased at eleven o'clock, and at one o'clock, the same company raised them again, and ushered in the new year with 2520 Tripples, and then continued to ring-till four in the morning ... they were soon succeeded by the melodious peal of 10 Bells at St. Mary's. - St. Peter's new Peal (which was opened on Christmas Day, but the hanging of them not properly finished till Tuesday last) were cast by those most eminent Founders, Messrs. Pack and Co. of Whitechapel, London, and are allowed to be as complete a Peal of eight both for tone and tune, as any of their weight in the kingdom:

The inscriptions are as follows.

- Treble. -- I was given by the Society of Northern Youths in 1672,
and recast by the Sherwood Youths in 1771
- Second. -- I was given by the Society of Northern Youths in 1672
and recast by the Sherwood Youths in 1771
- Third. --- Our Voices shall with joyful sound,
Make Hills and Valleys echo round.
- Fourth. -- We celebrate th' auspicious morn
on which the Son of God was born.
- Fifth. --- To Honour both of God and King,
Our Voices shall in concert ring.
- Sixth. --- The Bride and Grooms we greet, In Holy Wedlock join'd,
Our Sounds are Emblems sweet, of Hearts in Love combined.
- Seventh. - I was given by Margery Doubleday, about the Year 1544,
and recast with the other Bells in 1771.
- Tenor. --- The fleeting Hours I tell; I summon all to pray;
I toll the funeral knell; I hail the festal day.
S. Martin, Rector --- J. Alleyne, F. Jones, Churchwardens, 1771

N.B. Pack and Chapman, of London, Fecit, 1771 is on each bell.

(Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 4 Jan. 1772; also Northampton Mercury, Mon. 6 Jan. 1772, but without the inscriptions; Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 11 Jan. 1772, again without the inscriptions, plus at end: '-The above 5040 were rung the first time the bells were raised after the hanging of them was finished.')

The hanging etc. of the new peal of eight bells, at St. Peter's church in this town (opened on Christmas day,) not being finished till Tuesday last, the Sherwood company of Change ringers in this town, about seven o'clock that evening, raised them the first time after being finished, and then rang (for their own amusement) a melodious peal of changes, for three hours and nineteen minutes, consisting of the true whole peal of five thousand and forty Grandsire Tripples, after which they ceased the bells at eleven o'clock, and at one the same company raised them again, and ushered in the New Year with 2520 tripples (being the half peal) and also rang another short peal of 504 changes in the tittoms, and ceased again at four in the morning: so that the bells continued ringing by one set, from before seven o'clock in the evening, till four the next morning (except from eleven to one) and the above performances contained upwards of eight thousand changes, which were looked upon as extraordinary, the ropes and everything being new.

[There follow the inscriptions on the new bells]

(Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal, Sat. 4 Jan. 1772; also

Two different dates

On the 15th of August last was rung, at St Peter at Arches in the city of Lincoln, 5040 Bob Majors, in three hours and 20 minutes by the following persons: 1st John Foster, 2d. William Forts, 3d. William Atkinson, 4th. Thomas Taylor, 5th. Richard Bunch, 6th. William Raynor, 7th William Winn, 8th, William Kirk: the Bobs were called by John Foster.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 14 Sept. 1771 – per Gareth Davies)

On the 13th of August last was rung at St. Peter at Arches in the City of Lincoln, 5040 Bob Majors, in three hours and 20 minutes, by the following Persons: 1st John Foster, 2d William Forss, 3d William Atkinson, 4th Thomas Taylor, 5th Richard Bunch, 6th William Rayner, 7th William Winn, 8th William Kirk; the Bobs were called by John Foster.
(*Derby Mercury*, Friday 20 Sept. 1771)

ON Saturday, September 21st, will be opened,
at Great Milton, in Oxfordshire, A new PEAL of
Eight BELLS, hung by Mr. Robert Turner, of White-
chapel, London.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 14 Sept. 1771 - advert)

On Thursday last were rung at the New Chapel, Stourbridge, a true and compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes, being the only true Peal ever rung in that Steeple.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 3 Oct. 1771; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 30 Sept. 1771)

On Monday October the 7th, 1771, was rung at Halesworth, in Suffolk, by Norwich and Redenhall Company of Norfolk Ringers, a compleat 5040 Changes of Bob Major, in three Hours and 20 Minutes, it being the first Peal that ever was rung in that Steeple by those whole Names are undermentioned:

1. Thomas Barton of Norwich, Treble, and called the Peal.
2. Samuel Bryant, Redenhall.
3. James Lake, ditto.
4. William Patrick, ditto.
5. William Warner, Norwich.
6. John Bryant, Redenhall.
7. Edward Buckingham, ditto.
8. John Trowse, of Norwich, Tenor.

Mr. Robert Reeve, Church-Warden.

N.B. This Peal has been attempted many Times by a blundering Beccles Company without Success.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 12 Oct. 1771 – advert, per David Cubitt)

Brecon, Oct. 19. Friday being the anniversary of his Majesty's accession to the Throne, the morning was ushered in here with ringing of bells; at noon the Militia fired three vollies on the Parade, and in the evening a large bonfire was made opposite our Bailiff's house, where the Militia fired three vollies. The Bailiff was pleased to order a pint of strong beer to each man, to drink the King's health.
(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 31 Oct. 1771)

On Friday the 1st of November was rung at St. Michael's in this city, in three hours and thirty-five minutes, Holt's peal of Gransier [*sic*] Triples, containing 5040 changes.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 11 Nov. 1771)

On MONDAY the 2d of December, 1771,
 was rung at Bungay in Suffolk, by the Norwich
 and Redenhall Company of Norfolk Ringers, a compleat
 Peal of 5040 Bob Majors in three Hours and twenty-two
 Minutes, to the Satisfaction of a Number of Spectators.
 We have to this Performance added our Names, which
 are as follow:

1. Thomas Barton, of Norwich, Treble, and call'd
 the Peal
 2. John Bryant, of Redenhall
 3. Samuel Bryant, of do.
 4. Edmund Wright, of do.
 5. James Whiting, of do.
 6. Edmund Chandler, of do.
 7. Edward Buckingham, of do.
 8. John Trowse, of Norwich, Tenor.
- JOSEPH DYBALL, / CHARLES COCKING } Churchwardens.
 Of all the Pleasures that do please Mankind,
 It is this healthful Art delight our Mond;
 In Love for it, from Town to Town we roam, }
 And with Bells ringing when at them we come, }
 Sublimely triumph till at last come home. }

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 7 Dec. 1771 - advert.)

On Thursday was completely finished, the hanging, tuning, &c. of a fine peal of eight bells, at East Hagborn in this county, by Robert Turner, Bell-hanger, from London; and are now allowed (by the best judges of bells) to be a very grand and excellent peal: The weight of the tenor is twenty-four hundred.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 16 Dec. 1771)

Lewes, Dec. 30.

Thursday last was compleated on that good peal of eight bells, at Saleherst [*sic*] in this county, by the Leeds Youths, 5184 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, in three hours and twelve minutes, by the following persons, viz. William Tibby, William Davis, Stephen Bayley, John Freeland, George Tibby, Thomas Austen, James Barham, Thomas Lacy.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 30 Dec. 1771)

On the 25th of December, 1771, was rung
 at HALESWORTH Steeple, a compleat Peal of 5040
 Changes of Bob Major, within two Hours and Fifty Mi-
 nutes, by us

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| James Tillot, Treble. | Sam. Markham, jun. Sixth. |
| Wm. Grow, Second. | Wm. Whincop, Seventh, & |
| Samuel Markham, Third. | called the peal. |
| Simon Stannard, Fourth. | Thomas Ellis, Tenor. |
| James Carter, Fifth. | |

N.B. This Company are all Inhabitants of the said Parish,
 and this is the first 5040 rung by them.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1772)

1772

A compleat new peal of eight bells, at St. Peter's church, in Nottingham, (cast by Mr. Pack and Co. of Whitechapel, London, and esteemed as good a peal for tone and tune as any of their weight in the kingdom) was finished in the hanging on Tuesday last; the same were, at seven o'clock that evening, raised by the Sherwood company of change-ringers at that town, who then rang thereon a true whole peal of 5040 grandsire triples, which took three hours and nineteen minutes in performing. At eleven o'clock they ceosed [*sic*] the bells, and at one the same company raised them again, and ushered in the new year with 2520 new triples (being the half peal) and ceased again at four, when they were succeeded by the melodious peal of ten bells at St. Mary's.
(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 9 Jan. 1772)

Last Saturday was rung at Bishop Stortford, Hertfordshire, the compleat peal of five thousand and forty changes, in three hours and twelve minutes.
(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. Jan. 17, 1772: inf. ex R. Prime)

RINGING

MONDAY, Jan. 13, 1772, was rang at St. Michael's Coslany, Norwich, a compleat 6048 of that incomparable Peal IMPERIAL the Third, which was performed in 3 Hours and 58 Minutes without Changes alike, or Bells out of Course, and is allowed by all the eminent Judges of the Art to be a very great Performance, nor are there any Ringers in the World can do the like, Norwich excepted.

Performed by the undermentioned Persons:—

John Chamberlain,	Treble, and called Peal		
William Warner	2	John Watling	5
John Heavers	3	John Vines	6
John Dixon	4	John Dye	7

Simon Watling, Tenor.

All ye Performers of this Art,
Join Hand in Hand and bear a Part,
Praise of IMPERIAL loudly sing,
And those brave Men who did it ring:
For Norwich Sons most justly fam'd
All other Ringers here hath sham'd.

(Advert in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 18 Jan. 1772; a similar advert appears in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date.)

Hertford, Jan. 28. On Saturday evening last the College Youths of that town rang a complete peal of five thousand and forty changes bob major on the new peal of Bells at All-Saints church, which they performed in three hours and eighteen minutes.
(*General Evening Post*, Tues. 28 Jan. - Thurs. 30 Jan. 1772)

CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE BRETHREN belonging to the above society are desired to take notice, that the society will hold no more meetings at the King's Arms; but are, for the future, to meet at Mr. James Levesque's, at the sign of the Horn and Ten Bells, near Shoreditch Church; where the favour of the brethren belonging to the society is desired on Saturday next, at seven o'clock in the evening precisely.

(Advert in *Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 23 Jan. 1772)

A few Days since was rung at Helmsley-Blackmoor a Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes complete, called Helmsley's Surprize, which was performed in two hours and 40 Minutes.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 11 Feb. 1772)

London, Feb. 10.

The Princess Dowager of Wales died the previous Saturday ... The great bell at St. Paul's was tolled on Saturday morning every minute, from eleven till twelve o'clock, when the clapper fell out; but neither of the four men tolling it received any injury.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 17 Feb. 1772)

We hear from Barnsley, that on Sunday the 9th instant, being the anniversary of the birth-day of the most noble the Marquess of Caermarthen, son to his Grace the Duke of Leeds, who then attained the age of 21 years, was rung at Barnsley by the ringers of that place, several plain and treble bob and six bell peals, to the amount of 8640 changes, in honour of the day.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 18 Feb. 1772)

On Monday the 24th instant will be opened at the Hamlet of Pinnor [*sic*] in Middlesex, by the Society of College Youths, a peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel, London, which said bells are now hanging by Robert Turner, their Bell-hanger; on which day all gentlemen lovers of ringing may have the opportunity of showing their art in that manly exercise.

(*Middlesex Journal*, etc., Sat. 15 Feb. – Tues. 18 Feb. 1772)

READING, FEBRUARY 22.

...

On the 5th instant were compleatly finished at Kingston upon Thames, in Surry, ten bells, new hung by Robert Turner of Whitechapel.—A new peal of eight bells will be opened on Monday next the 24th instant, at Pinner, Middlesex, cast by Mess. Pack of London, and hung by the aforesaid Robert Turner.

...

Wednesday evening was interred at Christ-church, Surry, Mr. John Caldecott, late belonging to the Custom-house. In his Will is the following sentence: "I bequeath to the Ringers one guinea, to ring two round peals; one as my body is conveying from my house to the church, and the other after I am buried; ten dozen two-penny loaves to be given to the poor of the parish the next Sunday; and to every person that attends my funeral, a three-penny plumb-cake, be wrapped up in white paper, and to have cold hams, veal, wine, and strong beer."

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 24 Feb. 1772)

Sunday last as one Joshua Lumbley, a lad about 17 years old, was in the belfry at St. Martin's, Stamford, he imprudently took hold of the rope of a bell which was left on the stay, which catching him round the middle, dashed him against the wall, whereby he was so terribly bruised that he died the next day in the greatest agonies.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 March 1772)

MARRIED.] ... Saturday Mr. Patrick, an eminent Cheesemonger in Whitechapel, to Miss Oliver, grand-daughter of the late Mr. Lester, Bell-Founder, of the same place.

(*Middlesex Journal*, Sat. 7 March - Tues. 10 March 1772; also *Daily Advertiser*, Tues. 10 March 1772.)

On Friday March 27, 1772, was rung at KENNINGHALL, in Norfolk, by Norwich, Kenninghall and Diss Company of Norfolk Ringers, a compleat 6240 Changes Bob Major, in 3 Hours, 35 Minutes, by the Eight following Men. 1, Thomas Barton of Norwich, Treble and called the Peal. 2, John Dove, of Kenninghall. 3, Thomas Hews, of Ditto. 4, Thomas Kemp, of Norwich. 5, Joseph Lubbock, of Ditto. 6, John Trowse, of Ditto. 7, Samuel Harvey, of Ditto. 8, William Ayton, of Diss, Tenor.

Likewise on Saturday, March 28, 1772, was performed in Diss Belfrey, 6240 Changes Bob Major, in 3 Hours, 34 Minutes, to the great Satisfaction of the Town, these being the two greatest Number of Changes ever done by any travelling Company of Ringers, the Names as follows: 1, Thomas Barton, of Norwich, and call'd the Bobs. 2, Joseph Lubbock, of Ditto. 3, John Dove, of Kenninghall. 4, Thomas Kemp, of Norwich. 5, Thomas Hews, of Kenninghall. 6, Samuel Harvey, of Norwich. 7, Francis Dack, of Diss. 8, John Trowse, of Norwich, Tenor.

This is the pleasant Exercise to mend,
When Norwich Youths to Ringing sports do bend.
For two great tasks we say Applause is due,
We won old favours, so we press for new,
That by comparing others, all may see
Who most excell'd, are now excell'd by we.

(Advert in *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 4 April 1772)

On Wednesday morning a peal of five thousand and forty tripples, was rang at St. Peter's in Nottingham, in 3 hours and 7 minutes, by four of the junior society and four of the senior society of change-ringers in that town, being the second 5040 rang upon the new peal of 8 bells at that church. (*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 25 April 1772; also *Burbage's Nottingham Chronicle* of the same date, but without the reference to the make-up of the band)

On Wednesday morning four of the senior society and four of the junior society of Change Ringers in this town rang a peal of 5040 Tripples at St. Peter's church in 3 hours and 7 minutes being the second 5040 performed on the new peal of 8 bells at that church. The juniors have not practiced Tripples above 2 months.

(*Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal*, Sat. 25 April 1772)

The same Day [Tuesday] was rung at Hagbourn, Berks, a compleat Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Bob Major, in three Hours and Twenty Minutes, by Eight of the Oxford Youths; containing all the best Courses that can be comprised in 20,160 (being the Half Peal) and the first Five Thousand ever rung on those harmonious Bells.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 25 April 1772; also *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 27 April 1772, beginning 'On Tuesday last...'.)

The new set of eight bells at St. Peter's in this town lying in part out of tune, that peal was last week compleatly tuned to the tempered system of equal harmony, by a curious monochord (belonging to a person of this town under whose directions the bells were hung) mechanically constructed and set out to that system upon the mathematical principles of the learned Dr. Smith of Cambridge. - The tuning being finished on Saturday night, a peal of five thousand and forty changes was on Monday morning rang upon them, when the alterations in the tune of the bells gave universal satisfaction on to the public in general, and to all real judges of musical tones in particular. The 5040 took three hours and sixteen minutes in ringing and was the third performed by the Nottingham company thereon.

(*Cresswell's Nottingham and Newark Journal*, Sat. 16 May 1772)

TO be RUNG for, at SWALLOWFIELD,
on Friday in the Whitsun Week SIX HATS
Value 7s. 6d. each, by Five Men belonging to a Parish
who are to bring their Umpires with them. The Sixth
Hat for the Umpire of the winning Set. None to ring
but those who dine at the Ordinary, for which each
Person is to pay one Shilling.

The Revel to be held at the George on Whitmonday, as
Farley-Hill Fair will held on Tuesday.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 18 May 1772 - advert)

Saturday last was rung at Elham, by the youths of that place, a complete peal of five thousand and forty grandsire tripples, in three hours and eight minutes.
(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 23 May – Tues. 26 May 1772)

THIS is give notice to all Gentlemen RINGERS, and others, that there is to be rung for, at the sign of the Nag's Head, at Imber, on the 9th day of June, 1772, five HATS, value two guineas. Every Set to ring according to articles to be produced the day of ringing.—Ordinary to be on table at one o'clock.

(*Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, Mon. 1 June 1772 1772 - advert; presumably the match was to take place on handbells.)

CANTERBURY, June 2. [Misprint for June 9]

.....

Yesterday soon after twelve o'clock, the Leeds ringers began a peal on the bells of the Cathedral near this city, which they thought to have finished in three hours and a half, but were at first prevented by one of the bells being overturned, and before they could finish the peal they were obliged to desist on account of the Church service.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 6 June - Tues. 9 June 1772)

William Manly, Esq; from Rochester, with his company of Leeds youths (after having been hindered from ringing a peal at Canterbury on the 8th of this instant, they having rang upwards of 2000 changes,) they rang at Elham the 9th, a compleat peal of 5088, Oxford tripple bob, in three hours sixteen minuets [*sic*].

N.B. This being an exact true peal, consisting of all the course ends of 40320, never rang before in Kent, after which the Elham youths to compliment the Squire gave him a peal of gransire [*sic*] tripples.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues 9 June - Sat. 13 June 1772)

R I N G I N G

NOTICE is hereby given, that on Friday the 31st of this Instant, there will be given Seven very good GOLD LACED HATS be RUNG for at Sonning, near Reading, by any Set of Ringers that ring the best Peal, which shall last fifteen Minutes. Each Set to bring his own Umpire, and a Strapper-Man will be allowed all to help up the Tenor; no less than three Sets will be permitted to ring, and none will be allowed but those that dine. Dinner will be on the Table exactly at One o'Clock, at the House of
Their obedient Servant,

JOHN DEAN, at the White Hart at
Sonning Bridge, Berks.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 6 July 1772 1772 - advert)

Last Monday a company of Ringers belonging to St. Peter's of Mancroft in this City, returned home from a Tour which they had made to the North. In this excursion they visited the Cities of York and Lincoln, and most of the remarkable Towns in those Parts, at which Places they were treated in the politest Manner, and with the greatest Respect, being universally esteemed for their Skill in the much admired Art of Campanalogy. At Holbeach in Lincolnshire, they rang a compleat Length of Eight in; at which Place, their Names, with the Bell each Man rung, were set up in the Belfry of the Church.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 10 July 1772)

Last week a company of Change-ringers in the city of Norwich, arrived at home from a tour into the north of England, after having taken a circuit of upwards of four hundred miles, in which they visited the cities of Lincoln and York, and most of the principal towns in those parts, where they were treated with the greatest respect and in the politest manner, and were much admitted for their skill in the ingenious art of Campanology. Amongst their performances was a 5040, Eight In, rang at Holbeach in Lincolnshire, where their names with the bell that each rang was put up in the bellfry. They intended to have touched at Nottingham and Leicester in their return from York, had they not been detained in that city longer than they expected.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 25 July 1772; shorter report *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 18 July 1772, also beginning 'Last week...')

A few days ago died, at St. Neots in Huntingdonshire, Mr. Eayres, a very ingenious mechanic of that place.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 Aug. 1772)

BELL FOUNDING.

EDMUND ARNOLD, Successor to the late Joseph Eayre, of St. NEOT's in the County of HUNTINGDON, takes this Method to inform the Public, that he continues all the several Branches of Bell Founding, Clock, and Watch-making; also makes Weighing-Engines for Carriages, and performs all Sorts of White-smith's Work, at his Shop at St. NEOT's aforesaid; where all Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others, that are pleased to favour him with their Commands, may depend on being used in the best Manner, by their humble Servant,

EDWARD ARNOLD.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 1 Aug. 1772 – advert; similar adverts in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 Aug. 1772 and *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 12 September 1772, the latter with the addition 'Proposals may be had, and Orders taken in by Mr. Robert Beale, Musical Instrument maker in Southgate, Leicester.')

On October the 6th, was rung at Saylhurst in Sussex, on — Packham's, Esq; new peal of eight bells, a compleat peal of 5040 Bob Major, by the Lenham Company, with the help of Mr. Thomas Wathurst of Wye, in two hours and fifty-six minutes, which is in much less time than was ever performed on those bells. — Manley, Esq; of Rochester, honoured the gentlemen ringers with his company.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 10 Oct. - Tues. 13 Oct. 1772)

Yesterday evening was rang at St. Michael's in this city, by the Society of Coventry Youths, a complete peal of old double tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and thirty-eight minutes.

(*Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 26 Oct. 1772)

On the anniversary of his Majesty's accession, Wakefield ringers rung at their church, with the greatest exactness, a complete Peal of Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in two hours and 45 minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 3 Nov. 1772)

We hear from Maidwell in Northamptonshire, that on Wednesday the 28th of October last, a peal of five Bells was opened at that place, (cast by Mr. Edward Arnold of St. Neots in Huntingdonshire, the successor of the late Mr. Eyre deceased) and thereon was rung several peals of changes to the general satisfaction of the parishioners, and a large concourse of people assembled on that occasion.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 7 Nov. 1772; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 Nov. 1772, but with 'Eayres' vice 'Eyre'.)

On Wednesday Morning, the 28th of last Month, as Richard Bunn, junior, was ringing the Great Bell in the Parish Church of Holy Cross, Pershore, the Stay broke, and the Bell turning Back-stroke, he was drawn up to the Sally-Beam, and received so violent a Blow on the Head, that he was knocked down to the Floor; and, notwithstanding the greatest care was taken of him, he died in the greatest Agonies that Evening. - He had been an expert Ringer near twenty Years, and had left behind him a Wife and three Children.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 12 Nov. 1772)

AT FRAMSDEN in Suffolk, near Debenham, on Wednesday next, the 18th of this instant November, will [be] opened a new PEAL of Six BELLS, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, Bell-Founders, in White-chapel, London, and now hanging by Samuel Turner, Bell-Hanger to the above Pack and Chapman.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 14 Nov. 1772 - advert)

On Friday last was rang at St. Michael's in this city, by the Society of Coventry Youths, a true and complete peal of 5152 changes of Bob Major, in four hours and four minutes, being the first ever rang on those bells.

To Birmingham, Stourbridge, and Leicester Alliance
The Youths of fair Coventry now bid defiance.

(*Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 16 Nov. 1772)

On Thursday morning, being the last day of the old year, was rung at St. Chad's Church a complete peal of grandsire Tripples, consisting of five thousand and forty changes, which was performed in three hours and three minuets [*sic*], and never rung at the said Church before; many wagers were depending on the occasion, on account of the great weight of the mettal, but was done with the greatest of ease, by the Society of the said Church.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 2 Jan. 1773) [N.B. First issue of paper]

The peal of tripples, as rung at St. Chad's (mentioned in our last) was performed in ten minutes less time than by the Birmingham and Kidderminster ringers at Shiffnal last week, notwithstanding the advantage of metal was several tons in their favour.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 9 Jan. 1773; the Shiffnal peal referred to was reported in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette* on Mon. Jan. 4, 1773, for which see below.)

On Wednesday last was rung, on the new Bells at Shiffnall, by some Ringers from this Town and Stourbridge, Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, which was completed in three Hours and thirteen Minutes, to the Pleasure and Satisfaction of the neighbouring Gentry, &c. who voluntarily displayed a Spirit of Generosity to the Ringers for their Performance.—And on Saturday was rung at Stourbridge, a compleat Peal of 6240 Bob Majors, in four Hours and twenty-two Minutes, being the most ever rung on them [*sic*] Bells, or within fifty Miles of that Place.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 4 Jan. 1773)

On Saturday the second instant was rang at the new church in Stourbridge (without the alliance of Leicester or Birmingham) a true and complete peal of 6240 Bob Major, in four hours and 22 minutes, composed and called by Stephen Hill, whose distinguished abilities and profound knowledge must ever shine in the noble art of ringing.

GOLIA[T]HS proud, lie down and groan;
Behold! your glory's wafted;
The Stourbridge David boys alone
Have all your laurels blasted.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 11 Jan. 1773)

Norwich,

Mrs. Keepus, wife of the Sexton of St. Mary, Coslany, in this City, afflicted with the dropsy, has in the course of 15 years been 38 times tapped for that disorder, viz. twenty-three times by the late Mr. Mortineau, once by Mr. Donec, and 14 times by Mr. Robert Scott: The quantity of water discharged by each operation in the whole amount in the whole to nine barrels, nineteen gallons and three pints. This account is attested by the Churchwardens and Overseers of St. Mary Coslany.
(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 25 Jan. 1773)

We hear from Halloughton in this county that on the 18th of January instant a peal of bells cast by Mr. Arnold successor to Mr. Eayre, late of St. Neots in the county of Huntingdon, was opened by the ringers of Medbourne, on which were rung several peals of changes, and were allowed to be as good a peal of five bells as any in the county, and have given great satisfaction to the inhabitants of that town.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 30 Jan. 1773)

Tuesday last died much regretted, that most ingenious Ringer, John Chamberlain [*sic*], one of the company belonging to St. Peter's of Mancroft, an honest and industrious man, who was remarkable for his extensive knowledge both in the theory and practice of the art of Ringing. - 'Tis said his abilities were so great in the art that never was found his equal.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 6 February 1773; similar, but shorter, report in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date)

On Saturday, the 30th of January last, was rung at Ashford, on that musical peal of eight bells, 5040 changes, bob-major, in three hours ten minutes, by eight young men from Leeds—their ages, names, and the order of ringing, were as follow:—

	<i>Bell</i>	<i>Age</i>		<i>Bell</i>	<i>Age</i>
Wm. Sweetlove	Treble	22	Robt. Sweetlove	5th	24
Robt. Bonny	2d	19	Wm. Cook	6th	22
Robt. Tilby	3d	21	Robt. Banks	7th	25
John Tudges	4th	22	George Tilby	Tenor	26

The above is considered as the greatest performance ever known in England, by so young a company.
(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 23 Feb. - Sat. 6 Feb. 1773)

On Friday last was rung at St. Mary's Church in this town, a peal of ten bells, of 5220 changes, in three hours and 39 minutes by the following persons: Richard Widnel, treble. John Hazard, 2nd. John Laughton, 3rd. Joseph Gee, 4th. Thomas Jones, 5th. John Incarsole, 6th. Wm. Greaves, 7th. Wm. Young, 8th. John Saunders, 9th. and Charles Day, the tenor, who called the peal.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, 6 Feb. 1773)

On Monday the 1st instant, was rung at Lenham, by the Lenham youths, 5760 of Bob Major, in three hours and a half. This peal contains all the coursends [*sic*] of the whole peal of Bob Major 40320.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 13 Feb. - Wed. 17 Feb. 1773)

A controversy over a peal at Boston, Lincolnshire

On Monday se'nnight a peal of grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung at Boston in Lincolnshire, in two hours and 44 minutes, which is above 30 changes in a minute, and performed in less time than was ever yet known, by the following persons: 1st, William Razon; 2d, William Patchett; 3d, John Story; 4th, Benj. Morfort; 5th, William Lyson, who called the peal; 6th, John Daff; 7th, John George; 8th, Mark Mathers.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 Feb. 1773)

To the Printers of the CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE.

I beg leave through the channel of your paper, to acquaint the ringers at Boston, that their peal of 5040 changes of grandsire triples, was not a true peal, as inserted in your paper last week, it being impossible on Boston bells, to ring it in less than three hours; and of course it must appear to all ringers, that they made a mistake, and the bells came round before their time. By inserting the above, you'll much oblige your obedient Servant,

Pulsator Campanarum.

O-----, Feb. 23, 1773.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 27 Feb. 1773; the reference is to the report which appeared in the same paper on 20 February 1773, *q.v.*)

To the Printers of the CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE.

Mr. Printer,

Boston, March 1, 1773

There is no fact more certain than that the compleat peal of grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung here on the 8th of last month in two hours and 44 minutes; so that the argument of your correspondent *Pulsator Campanarum* (grounded on the supposed impossibility of the thing) if it proves anything, proves only that it was performed in the most perfect manner. It is in vain to alledge that a thing is impossible to be done, when it may so easily be proved that it actually has been done; for that the aforesaid peal was, indeed, compleatly rung here, within the time before-mentioned, many persons are ready to testify who attended to the whole process of it, and some who are great proficient in the art of ringing.

Pray inform Mr. Pul. Camp. that twice before the said day, the same company rung the half peal within one hour and twenty-two minutes, without the variation of a single minute.

TURRIS BOSTONIENSIS.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 March 1773)

To the Printers of the CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE.

YOUR correspondent, Turris Bostoniensis, is not to be credited, as two courses certainly were lost, which makes 1008 changes difference. --- I was sorry I was not there to hear the peal, then I might have pointed out the mistake in particular; but if they will make a wager worth coming for, or sending proper judges to hear and determine the same, that they will ring it in the same time again, I will answer them. Likewise your correspondent says, my argument only proves that it was performed in the most perfect manner: I say, it proves to the contrary; and further, the proof is to be made by ringing it over again, proper judges being set to hear it.

Also inform Mr. Turris Bostoniensis, that in the two half peals, which he says were rung the same day, they lost a course in each, by some mistake.

Pulsator Campanrum.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 March 1773)

Mr. Printer,

The Boston Company of Ringers present their Compliments to your incredulous Correspondent PULSATOR CAMPANARUM, and as nothing but his own hearing can convince him that the entire Peal of Grandsire Triples could possibly be rung within the time already mentioned in your Paper, they will undertake, for a Wager of a Guinea each Man, to ring a FOURTH, a FIFTH, and EIGHTH, or any smaller Portion of the same Peal, within a proportionable Part of the Time specified, on any Day when he or his Judges shall chuse to be present at Boston. The entire Peal, which is of such great Length, and liable to be disconcerted by so many Accidents, no Company can undertake to ring on a fixed Day, and no Man can be absurd enough to require it.

If he is inclined to accept the Challenge, let him publish it in your Paper of the 24th of April, together with his Name and Address. The Names of the Ringers he already knows.

TURRIS BOSTONIENSIS.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 3 April 1773)

Augmentation at Barnsley

We hear from Barnsley that they have got two more bells to their late new peal of six at that place, and it is expected the whole peal of Eight Bells will be opened today, being Shrove Tuesday. (*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 23 Feb. 1773 - per D. Cubitt; Thomas Pack had cast a ring of six bells in 1769 at a net cost of £120 0s. 8d., transport from London cost £5 2s. 10d., and they were hung by Samuel and Robert Turner of Whitechapel at a cost of £36. An order for two trebles to complete the octave was given on 11 November 1772, the bells were cast on 23 December and shipped on 18 January 1773. The hanging cost £9 but payment was deferred as it did not give satisfaction. E. Hoyle, *The History of Barnsley Old Church; its Organ and Bells*, 1891.)

On Tuesday morning the new Peal of eight bells at Barnsley church was opened by the Wakefield ringers, who also in the afternoon rang on them a complete peal of Tripples (called Barnsley Evening Pleasure) consisting of 5040 changes, in two hours and 47 minutes. They are allowed, by all that understand bells, to be a very musical peal, and the performance of the ringers gave satisfaction to every body that heard them.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 2 March 1773)

Last Tuesday Morning was open'd at Barnsley Church, by Wakefield old Ringers, a Peal of eight Bells; and in the Afternoon they rung, in two Hours 47 Minutes, a Peal of Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, call'd *Barnsley's Evening Pleasure*. Altho' it was very bad Weather there were Ringers from many Parts, who all allowed them to be a very musical Peal.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 2 March 1773)

CULLOMPTON, February 20, 1773

WHEREAS on the night of the 13th instant, the dwelling-house of Thoms Bilbie, of Cullompton, in the county of Devon, was broken open, and the following goods stolen, (viz.) On SILVER WATCH, maker's name Francis Iplee, Honiton, No. 902, with a silver seal hanging thereto. Two silver TABLE SPOONS, one marked W W./T B. the other marked W W./M B. two others marked S W./M C. one other old-fashioned SPOON with a gilt head, six TEA SPOONS marked T B. one Silver PEPPER BOX, marked with the crest of a coat of arms, being a man in armour, holding a flag, two Silver SALT SHOVELS, not marked, and one CHILD'S FENDER, marked M B.—Whoever shall offer any of the above goods to sale, the person to whom it is offered is desired to stop the seller, and give immediate notice to the said Thomas Bilbie.—And whoever shall discover the offender or offenders, so as he or they shall be convicted, shall be paid the sum of FIVE GUINEAS, and all reasonable expences.

By me, THOMAS BILBIE.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 1 March 1773 1772 - advert)

On Shrove-Tuesday was rang at Kidderminster, by the Ringers of that Borough and Stourbridge, Holt's Peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 Changes, in three Hours and eleven Minutes; the Tenor 24 Hundred, blocked by Benjamin Stone
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 4 March 1773)

Monday last a Company of young Ringers rang a peal, at St. Mary Redcliff Church, of 5040 Changes in three Hours and forty Minutes.
(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 13 March 1773; also *Bristol Journal*, Sat. 13 March 1773)

On Shrove Tuesday last was rung at Holbeach in Lincolnshire (by their own company) the compleat peal of 5040 Bob Majors; treble William Major, who called the bobs; 2d John Ash, sen.; 3d Henry Naylor; 4th John Clark; 5th John Stuart; 6th John Johnson; 7th John Rhodes; tenor, Thomas Johnson. They were only one minute longer than the Norwich ringers, who are esteemed the best in England.

On Saturday last was rung, at St. John the Baptist, in Peterborough, a compleat peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which was completed in three hours and ten minutes, by the following persons, viz., 1st John Loving, sexton; 2d John Cross; 3d John Loving; 4th Yarwell Palmer; 5th John Loving; 6th John Jamblin, who called the peal; 7th John Smith; 8th George Bursnall, jun.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 13 March 1773)

The opening of Uppingham bells

To the PUBLIC.

At Uppingham in the County of Rutland, on Thursday the 25th of this instant March, will be opened, A new Peal of Eight Bells, cast by the eminent Messrs. Pack and Chapman, White Chapel, London; and thought to be the finest Bells in that Part of the Country; will be rung, for the first Time, by Gentlemen capable of performing the grand Peal of 5040 Changes.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 March 1773 – advert; similar advert in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 22 March 1773)

On Thursday last a compleat new Peal of eight Bells (cast by the eminent Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of White Chappel, London) was opened at Uppingham, in the county of Rutland; when Mr. Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples was rang by a company of Change Ringers from Nottingham, which was compleated in their first attempt, and took three Hours and seventeen Minutes in performing: being rang in a proper compass for distinct striking, according to the size of the Bells, that the great concourse of People assembled on the occasion, might have the advantage of distinctly hearing the harmony of the finest Peal of Bells in those parts, and not rang in a low jingling pitch according to an absurd and mistaken notion of ringing against time, that has prevailed in some parts of the Kingdom.
(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 1 April 1773)

On Thurfday last a compleat new Peal of eight Bells (cast by the eminent Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel London) was opened at Uppingham, in the County of Rutland, when Mr. Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Tripples was rang upon them by the Nottingham Company of Change Ringers, which was compleated in their first Attempt, and took three Hours and seventeen Minutes in performing, being rang in a proper Compass for clear striking, (according to the Size of the Bells) that the great Concourse of People assembled on the Occasion might have the Advantage of distinctly hearing the Harmony of the first Peal of Eight in those Parts.—The above Society in their return home performed upon the two Peals at Norton and Galby (the Seat of William Fortrey, Esq.) and also upon the much-admired Peal of ten, at St. Margarets in Leicester.
(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 2 April 1773)

On Thursday the 25th of March, a compleat new peal of 8 bells (cast by the eminent Mr. Pack and Co. of White Chappel London, and hung by Mr. Turner of the same place) was opened at Uppingham in the county of Rutland, when Mr. Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 tripples was rang by a company of change-ringers from Nottingham, which was compleated in their first attempt and took 3 hours and 17 minutes in performing, being rung in a proper compass for clear striking (according to the size of the bells) that the great concourse of people assembled on the occasion might have the advantage of distinctly hearing the harmony of one of the finest sets of bells in those parts, and not rang with broken leads and in a low jangling pitch, according to an absurd and mistaken notion of ringing against time, that has prevailed in some parts of the kingdom.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 3 April 1773)

On Thursday the 25th of March a new Peal of eight Bells, (cast by the eminent Mess. Pack and Co. of White-Chappel, London, and hung by Mr. Turner of the same place) was opened at Uppingham in the county of Rutland, when Mr. Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 tripples was rang there by the Sherwood Company of Change Ringers from Nottingham, which was compleated in their first attempt, and took three Hours and 17 minutes in performing, being rang in proper compass for clear striking (agreeable to the size of the bells) that the great concourse of people assembled on the occasion might have the advantage of hearing distinctly the harmony of the finest Sets of Bells in those parts, and not rang in a low jangling pitch (and with leads) according to an absurd and mistaken notion of ringing against time, that has prevailed in some parts of the kingdom.
(*Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal*, Sat. 3 April 1773; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 5 April 1773 and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 3 April 1773, the latter omitting '(and with leads)').

On Sunday evening was rung, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, a 5040 bob major plain, in three hours twenty-four minutes, being the first peal ever rung on a new peal of bells at St. Mary Abbott, at Kensington.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 24 March 1773)

On Tuesday the following accident happened at Baschurch: the ringers of the said parish having been ringing for a wedding, the clerk, in resting his bell, put the rope round his right thumb, when the bell over-drawed him and unfortunately tore it off.
(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 17 April 1773; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 19 April 1773.)

ON Wednesday the 14th of April 1773 was rung at EYE STEEPLE, by a select company of the Debenham and Stonham Society in three hours and seven minutes, a compleat peal of five thousand & forty Changes, Bob Major by the people whose Names are here-under-written, viz.

Richard Moyse, - 1st.	John Wade - - 5th.
John Jessup, - - 2d.	John Pettet, - - 6th.
Wm. Wright, - - 3d.	Edward Wythe, - 7th.
Jonathan Pettet, - 4th.	Daniel Wade, - - 8th,

And call'd the Peal.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 24 April 1773 - advert)

Last Monday was rung at Great Milton in this county, by the youths of that place, a complete Bob Major Peal of five thousand and forty Changes; which was performed in three hours and twelve minutes.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 8 May 1773)

On Saturday evening was rung, a true and compleat peal of 5039 grandsire cators, being the first that ever was rang of that number, and was compleated in three hours and forty-five minutes, by the Society of Cumberland Youths.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Thurs. 29 April 1773; no place is given, but the Cumberland Youths' peal book records the place as being St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.)

On Monday last was rung at St. Margaret's in this town a compleat peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, in three hours and eighteen minutes. - The company went off for this peal in the morning, and had got near half through, when one of the ropes failed. Those who would compare this performance, with others of the same nature, should observe, that the bells are very heavy ones, and much longer hung than is the modern practise; not to mention the fatigue attending the unsuccessful attempt in the morning. - We hear the company intend shortly to try at a long peal of Caters. (*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 8 May 1773)

To all Lovers of MUSIC.
Tavistock Eight Bells.

On Thursday the 17th day of June next, will be given Gratis to be rung for, at Tavistock, in the county of Devon, A SILVER BELL, value Five Guineas. Each parish to bring a pricker; and if it happens that an even number of parishes ring, there will be an umpire fixed upon by the subscribers. Each set not to exceed eleven ringers, and to be of the same parish. To begin to ring exactly at Ten o'Clock in the forenoon.

N. B. No set of ringers will be permitted to try the bells on a Sunday.

Tavistock, May 4, 1773.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mons 10 & 17 May 1773 - advert)

DOWNHAM MARKET

On Wednesday June the 2d will be rung for in this Steeple, SIX HATS, which will be given Gratis (by Mr. John Hall at the Chequer) to that Company that shall ring the best 720 Changes on six Bells only
From their Humble Servant,

JOHN HALL.

** Dinner at One o'clock.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 15 May 1773 – advert, per David Cubitt)

On Thursday last was rung at New College, a compleat Peal of six thousand one hundred and two, Grandsire Caters, in three hours and fifty-five minutes, by ten of the Society of Oxford Change-Ringers; being the greatest length of changes that has been rung in Oxford, or in the county for forty years.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 22 May 1773)

THIS is give Notice, that there will be given by John Day at the George in Swallowfield, Five very good HATS and one for the Umpire, to be RUNG for, on Monday the 21st Day of June next. The Set that rings the best Round Peal, which shall continue 15 Minutes, be entitled to the Hat. Each Set to bring an Umpire, by whose Majority the Prize will be decided. None will be permitted to ring but those that dine at the Ordinary, which will be provided at One o'clock and to begin Ringing at Half past two.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 31 May 1773 1772 - advert)

Weighing Machines for Turnpike-Roads.

EDWARD ARNOLD (Successor to the late Mr. Joseph Eayre, of St. Neots in the County of Huntingdon, the sole Inventor of the Bridge Weighing Machine) begs leave to acquaint the Gentlemen Trustees of the Turnpike Roads, that he makes Machines for weighing Carriages upon the same Principle and Construction as those made by Mr. Eayre, and doubts not of giving equal Satisfaction.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sats. 29 May, 5 and 12 June 1773 - advert.)

Sir James Lowther, Bart, has ordered a ring of eight bells to be cast for St. James's church in Whitehaven.

(*Newcastle Chronicle*, Sat 5 June 1773)

Thursday was rung, in Three Hours and 30 Minutes, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths in this Town, a compleat Peal of 5324 Cinques; the Weight of the Bells are eight Tons 22 lb and where [*sic*] all rang singlehanded, except the Tenor: They are allowed by the best Judges, to be the finest Peal of Twelve in England; and this the greatest Performance ever done by any Persons except the London Ringers.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 June 1773)

On Whitsun-monday was rang at St. Michael's in this city, the most celebratedst peal of Real Grandsire Tripples ever rang in this kingdom, composed and called by the incomparable Stephen Hill, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and sixteen minutes, without derogating from the method, with a proper Single in the middle and another at the end.

All you that in this art do take delight
Observe the method here's the first that's right;
None e'er can say it might to be despis'd
By reason it was never paraliz'd

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 7 June 1773)

Southampton, June 12

On Tuesday a boy was pulled up by a bell rope at Ampton church, Sussex, and letting go his hold as soon as he came up to the top of the bellfry, he fell with such force that he broke both his legs.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 14 June 1773)

On Tuesday were compleatly tuned, by the celebrated Mr. Wyatt, of Kensington, that matchless Peal of 12 Bells, at the Parish Church of St. Martin in the Fields. The same Evening they were opened by a select Band, from the most Antient Society of College Youths, who think it their Duty to return Thanks, in this publick Manner to that ingenious Gentleman, for his great Care and Assiduity in so noble an Undertaking.

(*Daily Advertiser*, Fri. 25 June 1773)

The Brotherly Society of Ringers

ARE desired to meet at Mr. RICE RICHARD'S, at the GOAT and STAR in D [*sic*], on MONDAY the 28th of this Instant June, on Business of Importance.

STEPHEN HOLMAN, Steward,

☞ Dinner to be on Table at One o'Clock.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 23 June - Sat. 26 June 1773 - advert)

On Monday the 12th of July next will be opened

A new Peal of Eight Bells

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, bell-founders, Whitechapel, London, and are hanging by Samuel Turner, bell-hanger to the above Pack and Chapman.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 28 June 1773 – advert; there had previously been a ring of eight bells here, hung by Samuel Turner in 1768, for which see *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 11 July 1768.)

On the 17th instant, a complete Peal of Tripples in eight courses, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung at Bradford by the Parish Ringers, in two hours and 45 minutes with great ease. (*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 29 June 1773; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

On Monday, the 12th of this instant, will be opened, at Aylesbury, Bucks, a new Peal of eight Bells, cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman, of White-Chapel, London; and hung by Mr. Robert Turner, their Bell-hanger.—And the same day another Peal of eight Bells will be opened at St. Sidwall's [*sic*] church in Exeter; cast and hung by the above Gentlemen. (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 3 July 1773)

R I N G I N G.

NOTICE is hereby given, that on Thursday the 29th Instant, will be given Six very good HATS, to any Set of Ringers, that shall ring the best Round Peal, (Mortimer Ringers excepted): To begin ringing precisely at Ten in the Forenoon: No Company will be allowed to ring unless each Man pays One Shilling for his dinner before they begin Ringing. The Ordinary to be on the Table at Two o'Clock and each Company to bring their Umpire, and the Umpire belonging to the best Peal will be entitled to a Hat, Likewise Seven Pair of GLOVES for the Second best Peal and their Umpire.

N.B. No one to touch a Bell on the Day of Ringing before the Prizes are rung for, and each Peal to continue fifteen Minutes.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 5 July 1773 - advert)

Yesterday was rung at Barnsley church, by the Ringers from this town, a complete Peal of 5040 changes, in six courses, called College Tripples, which they completed in three hours and six minutes. It is allowed to be the greatest performance of the kind ever rung on those bells. (*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 13 July 1773)

Saturday was completed at St. Giles's, by the ringers of that church, the 1st part from the 8th of the Revolution on 8 bells, which length is intended to be rung at Dedham and Colchester the 6th or 7th of next month, and part of each company to ring with the Norwich ringers at their steeple the abovementioned length.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 17 July 1773)

BEIGHTON, Derbyshire, July 14, 1773.

THOMAS HILTON, of Wath, near Doncaster,
Yorkshire, hath Open'd here a Peal of SIX BELLS,
founded, hung, and tuned by him, and rung by a Set
of Ringers from Wath aforesaid, to the entire Satisfac-
tion of a numerous Concourse of People.

P. S. The further favours of the Publick will be
gratefully received, and their Orders executed with the
Utmost care and Expedition, by

Their most humble Servant,

THOMAS HILTON,

Bell-Founder.

(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 13 Aug. 1773 - advert; also two successive issues.)

On Monday last was rang by the Nottingham Company of Change Ringers, upon the much admired peal of 8 bells, in the lofty steeple of Newark upon Trent, Mr. Holt's peal of five thousand and fourty tripples, which took 3 hours and nineteen minutes in performing, and was the first 5040 ever rang there. Newark bells are esteemed one of the best peals of 8 in the county; they were cast in the year 1713 by the late Mr. Ruddall of Gloucester, and the melodious tenor weighs upwards of 29 hundredweight.

(*Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal*, Sat. 14 Aug. 1773; also *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 12 Aug. 1773 and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 14 Aug. 1773, in both of which the peal was said to have been rung 'On Monday morning last', and both of which lack the sentence about the 'late Mr. Rudhall'; also reported in various forms in *Burbage's Nottingham Chronicle*, Sat. 14 Aug. 1773; *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 14 Aug. 1773; *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 16 Aug. 1773; and *Derby Mercury*, Fri. 20 Aug. 1773)

On Tuesday last was rung at St. Philip's-Church, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths in this Town, a complete Peal of 5040 Grandsire Cators, in three Hours and seven Minutes. It is allowed to be as musical a Peal as any ever composed, and the first ever rung on these Bells, which weigh 9 Ton, 10 C. 22 lb.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 23 Aug. 1773)

GOLD WEIGHTS and SCALES made
and sold by JOHN MYLNE and SON, Founders and
Ironmongers, high street, Edinburgh, who now have made
up and ready a quantity of GOLD WEIGHTS and SCALES
of different qualities, adjusted by a standard from the Tower
of London, which they are selling off at reasonable prices.
They also continue to make and sell, at their foundery, all
sorts of Brass-work, Mill Brasses, cast Clock-work, Piles of
Brass Weights and Case ditto, Church and Dinner Bells of all
sizes, and every other article in the brass foundery and iron-
mongery way. They have at present on hand a neat assort-
ment of Tea Kitchens, Coffee Pots, Tea Trays, Waiters,
Bread and Sugar Baskets, Hand and Table Candlesticks, Plate
Warmers, Dry Toast Plates, Table Crosses, Bottle Sliders and
Labels, Enamelled Tea and Table Candlesticks ; and many
other articles in the japanned way, too tedious to mention.

N. B. Neat small Chests of Wright's Tools for Gentlemen's
use.

(Advert in *Caledonian Mercury*, Saturday 11 September 1773 – per Chris Pickford)

This is to give Notice,
 To all Gentlemen RINGERS and others,
THAT there will be a Day of Ringing at
 FELSHAM on Thursday the 23d of September, on
 Account af [*sic*] the Bells being new hung.
 N. B. A Dinner will be provided at the SIX BELLS
 at One o’Clock; where all Gentlemen Ringers shall be
 kindly entertained, by their humble Servant,
 THO. FRANKLEN.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 18 Sept. 1773 - advert)

Saturday evening the society of Cumberland Youths rang at St. Peter and St. Paul’s, at Bromley in Kent, on a new peal of bells, cast by Mr. Janeway [*sic*] of Chelsea, a true and compleat peal of 5184 Triple Bob Eight In, with the Six at Home Twelve Times Right, being the first that was ever completed on those bells, in 3 hours 33 minutes, by the desire of Wm: Manley, Esq; of Chatham, and Master of the said Society.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Tues. 28 Sept. 1773)

Extract of a letter from Chatham, Oct. 18.

"Mr. John Matthews is appointed Clerk of his Majesty's Victualling-office here, in the room of William Manley, Esq; who has retired on his fortune. He was Clerk in the said office between thirty and forty years.

..."On Monday the 11th instant the Society of Cumberland Youths rung at St. George's, Southwark, a true and complete peal of 5071 *Cumberland Grandsire*, eight in, with the six at home, twelve times right and eleven times wrong, being the first that ever was performed in that method, in three hours and twenty minutes, by desire of William Manley, Esq; of Rochester, master of the said Society, who was present at the same.

The ringers were,

George Telure	treble	Sam. Wood
George Gross		Francis Wood
John Lamery		Abraham Smith
Thomas Harrison		S. Mugeridge [<i>sic</i>] tenor

The peal was composed and called by Mr. George Gross."

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 20 Oct. 1773)

On Friday last was rung at Stourbridge, by a united Set of Stourbridge and Worcester Ringers, a true and compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, in three Hours and four Minutes, and what is extraordinary remarkable [*sic*], one of the Performers is not sixteen.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 21 Oct. 1773; also *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 23 Oct. 1773.)

On Monday Morning was rung at St. Philip's Church, in three Hours and fifty Minutes, a compleat Peal of 6426 Grandsire Catons, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths of this Town. The Weight of the Tenor is thirty Hundred; it is allowed to be as musical [*sic*] a Peal as ever was composed, and the most Changes ever rung in this Town before, or within 60 Miles of this Place.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 1 Nov. 1773; similar report in *Derby Mercury*, Fri. 5 Nov. 1773)

Yesterday the College Youths marched in procession, preceded by a band of music, from Bow church to the Globe tavern Fleet-street, where they were met by more of their society, who dined together, and spent the evening cheerfully.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Sat. 6 Nov. 1773)

Friday last being the Anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, the Morning was ushered in with Ringing of Bells, particularly a fine Peal was rung at St. Martin's Church of 5040 Bob Royal, in three Hours and twenty Minutes, by the St. Martin's Youths of this Town: This Peal was rung singlehanded, which was the first Attempt every [*sic*] made in that Manner, and was allowed for Grandeur and Harmony to exceed all the Performances of Ringing in this Part of the Country.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 8 Nov. 1773; repeated in *Derby Mercury*, Fri. 12 Nov. 1773, starting 'We hear from Birmingham, that the same Day a fine Peal was rung...')

On Monday last was rung a remarkably fine Peal of 10,080 Bob Majors, in 6 Hours and 20 Minutes. This Peal which has baffled the Attempts of all the Societies within a 100 Miles of the Place, was rung by 8 young Men of the Stourbridge Society, at their Chapel.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 15 Nov. 1773)

On Monday the 8th Instant was rung at Stourbridge, in this County, in six Hours and twenty Minutes, a compleat Quarter Peal of Bob Majors, being 10,080 Changes, by eight young men of that Town, upon eight of the most musical and best hung Bells within a Hundred Miles of that Place, and being by some Thousands more than ever was rung within the same Distance. - So great was the Pleasure and Astonishment, that many were induced to express their Approbation, who before had a Dislike to Music of that Kind.

Let Stourbridge Youths with ev'ry Honour live,
The Palm so justly their's we freely give;
If you the Peal had heard, you would then own
That Merit which deserves our Praise, their own.
Tho' not their Due, some wear the Laurel Crown,
Now let them go and lay the Chaplet down.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 25 Nov. 1773)

On Saturday last the Society of Cumberland Youths rung at St. Leonard, Shoreditch, a true and compleat sixty courses of Gransire [*sic*] Catours with sixty times eight, nine, and sixty times nine, seven, eight, Consisting of 7001 changes, being the first that ever was rung in that method, and performed in four hours, fifty-two minutes.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Tues. 16 Nov. 1773)

Last week died, in advanced years, Mr Samuel Booth, many years an eminent whitesmith but had become reduced and one of the society of ringers in this town, in which art he was very ingenious, and also an extreme good judge of bells. On Monday evening a solemn peal to his memory was rung at St Mary's Church.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 Nov. 1773 – per Gareth Davies)

On Saturday last the Society of Cumberland youths rung at St. Leonard, Shoreditch, a true and compleat sixty courses grandsire caters, with sixty times eight, nine, and sixty times nine, seven, eight; consisting of 7001 changes, being the first that was ever rung in that method, and performed in four hours fifty-two minutes. After the above peal a present was made to William Manley, Esq; of Rochester in Kent, Master of the said Society, of a silver medal; in the centre is a bell, gilt with gold; the motto, *Health and strength to support the noble Art.*

The Ringers Names were as under:

George Fleure	treble	Sam. Wood	8
Sam. Norwood	2	Sam. Muggeridge	9
John Lavney	3	Robert Mann }	
W. Leister	4	Jos. Lovegrove }	tenor
George Gross	5	George Gross called	
Francis Wood	6	the bob [<i>sic</i>] and com-	
Is. Bray	7	posed the peal	

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 20 Nov. - Wed. 24 Nov. 1773)

On Tuesday was rung at Saffron Walden, by a mixed company from Oxford, Cambridge and that place, a compleat peal, consisting of 5040 changes in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

The above was attempted the preceding day, but was lost at the end of 2000 by the breaking of a rope; a second attempt miscarried at the end of 3000 by a like accident; and what is singular, at the coming round of the bells when the peal was completed the same rope broke again.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 4 Dec. 1773)

Wednesday last was rung at St. Martin's Church, in this Town, in two Hours and 58 Minutes, Mr. Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths of this Town.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 27 Dec. 1773)

On Monday last, being the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, a peal was rung at St. Lawrence, in the Isle of Thanet, by seven young men of that parish. After they had done ringing Mr. John Slooper, brewer, gave them a crown to drink, agreeable to his usual custom.
(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 29 Dec. 1773)

On Monday last St. Giles's company of ringers, famous for the long peals they have rung in this city, Bungay, Beccles, Halesworth and other towers, rang at Hingham the longest peal ever known to be rung in that belfry.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Jan. 1774 – per David Cubitt)

On Tuesday last died, in the 73d year of his age, Mr. Edward Crane, a famous and ingenious ringer, and one of St. Peter's of Mancroft company: his abilities in the art of ringing was very extensive, both in the theory and practical part: he was clerk of St. Gregory's parish 46 years, and had a universal good character; and one of those who rung the long peal at St. Peter's, which took eight hours and fourteen minutes to perform it.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 22 Jan. 1774; also *Norwich Mercury* of same date, but without final reference to the long peal. See *Ringing World*, 8 March 1974, p.199, for a gloss.)

Lewes, Jan. 24

Tuesday last, being the anniversary of her Majesty's birth-day, the morning was ushered in at Horsham in this county, by the ringing of bells, when eight men there rung a true and complete peal of grandsire trebles of 5040 in three hours and seven minutes, which is deemed a capital performance in the country.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 24 Jan. 1774)

On Monday last was rung at St. Chad's Church in this town, Mr. Holt's celebrated Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes; which was performed by the society belonging to the said church, in three hours and two minutes. The performing it in the above time is extraordinary, considering the great weight of metal, and every bell being rung single-handed through the whole.

We hear it is intended to re-cast St. Mary's bells, as it is supposed there is metal enough in them without any addition, to make a musical peal of eight. As several gentlemen have offered to subscribe handsomely, it is hoped it will be carried into execution, the bells in their present state, being far from agreeable to the town or neighbourhood.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 29 Jan. 1774)

On Friday last was rang at St. Michael's in this city, a true and complete peal of 5040 new Union Tripples in three hours and 29 minutes, being the first of the kind ever rang on these bells, and conducted through the whole with the greatest harmony and without the assistance of any of the Broughtonians or Shaveronians.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 14 Feb. 1774)

On Shrove Tuesday morning, a peal of seven thousand and forty Oxford treble bob (eight in) which took five hours and one minute in performing was rang at St. Peter's Church in this town, by Messrs.

Thomas Robinson	1 5	John Mason
John Fettiplace	2 6	William Bradley
Richard Metheringham	3 7	Francis Draper
Richard Peat	4 8	Wm. D. Crofts, who called the Bobs.

In the merit due to the above, the grand and intricate method in which the peal was rung, is as much to be considered as the number of changes, treble bob for beauty of composition harmony and difficulty of performance, being allowed to exceed all other even-bell peals whatsoever. And it may be observed that neither a peal of the above length, nor in that method was ever rung before by any other company within one hundred miles of this place. St. Peter's bells were lately cast by Messrs. Pack and Co. of White Chapel London, and were hung by Mr. John Wright of Nottingham: the musical tones of the bells do honour to the founders, and the above performance to the person that hung them.

(*Cresswell's Nottingham & Newark Journal*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1774; shorter report, without the names of the ringers, in *Leicester and Nottingham Journal* of the same date; even shorter reports in *Northampton Mercury* and *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, both Mon. 21 Feb. 1774, stating that the peal was rung by the Nottingham Company; also *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 1 March 1774 which named the band as the 'Sherwood Company of Change-Ringers in Nottingham'. Short reports also in *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 17 Feb. 1774, where it stated to be an 'Extract of a Letter from Nottingham, February 17.', *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1774 – per Gareth Davies, and *Newcastle Chronicle*, Sat. 5 March 1774.)

On Friday last was opened at Bingley, in the West-Riding of this County, a PEAL of NEW BELLS, cast by Mess. PACK and CHAPMAN, in White-Chapel, and hung by Mr. SAMUEL TURNER, their own Bell-Hanger, from London. Several Peals of 700 were rung; the Bells were allowed to be very fine and tunable, and gave general Satisfaction. – Those who want single Bells or Peals of Bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or Mr. Francis Hudson, in the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost Care and Dispatch. (*York Courant*, Tues. 22 Feb. 1774; short report *Leeds Intelligencer* and *Leeds Mercury*, both of the same date)

As there lately appear'd in one of the London Papers an incredible account from Nottingham, that the Society of that Place had rung a Peal of Eleven Thousand and Forty Oxford Treble Bobs, (eight in) in five Hours and one Minute, which every Person who knows what Treble Bob Peals are, must acknowledge is impossible. - But the following is a real Fact. - The Society of St. Chad's in this Town on Monday the 28th ult. did go through a Peal of Six Thousand Two Hundred and Ten GRANDSIRE CATORS in three Hours and 58 Minutes. - what adds to the mirror [*sic*] of this Performance is the young Man that rung the ninth Bell, which is upwards of 2400 wt. weighs no more than nine Stone, and the young Man that rang the Tenor which is upwards of 2800 wt. did without the least Assistance ring it the whole Time, though he has the real use of but one Hand. - It may be said with the greatest Truth there never was a better Performance any where, upon which account the Gentlemen in the Neighbourhood have order'd their Names to be perpetuated in Letters of Gold. - Considering the weight we don't find that this Number of Cators has ever been rung through in so short a Time. This was the second Time it ever was attempted by this Society, and the first Time was last Shrove Tuesday when they went through upwards of 5400 Changes without the least interruption, till the Rope by accident caught round the Wrist of the Person who rang the 6th Bell, which was the means of throwing it all into confusion. -Two of the Bob Bells were rung by two Persons whose ages put together make near one Hundred and Twenty.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 5 March 1774)

Shrewsbury, March 5

The Society of St. Chad's, in this Town, on Monday last, went through a Peal of 6210 Gra[n]dsire, Cators, in 3 Hours and 58 Minutes.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 10 March 1774; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 March 1774)

We are informed, that the musical and celebrated peal of Grandsire Cators, rung at St. Chad's (as mentioned in our last) was perform'd in 29 minutes less time than it was by the Birmingham Society, notwithstanding they made 14 different attempts before they compleated it, and the ninth and tenor bells were rung double handed the whole time.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 12 March 1774; the Birmingham peal alluded to was rung at St. Martin's on 29 August 1768 in 4h. 27m., and reported in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette* on 5 and 12 September that year.)

An eminent bell-founder of this city has received a commission from Corsica for above fifty church bells, of large size, and the best metal.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Wed. 23 March 1774)

TO be RUNG for, on Wednesday the 18th of May next, at Thomas Bristow's, at the Booth near Burghfield Bridge, Four very good HATS, upon eight Hand Bells. Four Men to raise, ring up, and sink them; each Peal to continue 15 Minutes. Every Company to bring their Umpire, and the Umpire belonging to the winning Company will be entitled to a Hat. The Bells are ready at the House for any Company to practise, and no Company will be permitted to ring for the Hats that do not come to practise before the Time, and also dine at the Ordinary which will be provided at one Shilling each on the 18th of May. To dine at Twelve and begin Ringing at One o'Clock.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 28 March 1774 - advert)

We hear the above respectable Company [the Worshipful Company of Drapers] have subscribed Fifty Pounds towards the relief of the unhappy Sufferers by the late Fire [in Shrewsbury], and Thirty Pounds towards re-casting St. Mary's Bells.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 9 April 1774)

Southampton, April 9

Easter Tuesday as some men were ringing at the parish-church of Brede (Sussex) a boy at the same time crossing the belfry, one of the ropes entangled and held him up to the ceiling [*sic*], and in his fall had one of his arms broke. A second accident had very nearly happened at the same instant, by one of the ringers letting go of his rope in order to go to the boy's assistance, which caught him, and pulled him up several yards, but fortunately without his receiving very much hurt.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 11 April 1774)

THIS is to acquaint all Gentlemen Ringers,
That there is half a Dozen Hats, given (gratis)
by F. Taylor, at the 'Queen's Head,' at Sawston in the
County of Cambridge, on Monday the 16th day of May,
1774, to any Pitch or Set of Ringers, that shall be allowed
to ring these three extreme Peals: the best St. Dunstan's
Doubles, the Dream, and Fortune, to be determined by
one substantial Ringer, as Judge, which shall be chose
before the time, and to be entitled to the sixth Hat;
which said person shall fairly and clearly determine, and
without any Dispute. Whoever are the winners shall
have them; and it will not be allowed for any more than
two of the Ringers belonging to the said Parish to be in
any one Pitch.

N.B. - The Bells and Wheels are in good repair.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, 30 April 1774 1772 - advert; quoted in Morris, *History & Art, &c.* pp. 558-9 and in *Bell News* 20 April 1912, p.66. Transcript checked and corrected, 26 Aug. 2023.)

On Wednesday last Lord Viscount Townsend, Sir Jeffrey Amherst, Sir Charles Frederick, Sir Charles Cox, and others of his Majesty's Board of Ordnance, accompanied by several General Officers, went to Woolwich, to see a grand proof of new artillery. The brass guns, consisting of twelve and six pounders, cast by the famous Messrs. John and Peter Verbruggen, made a most elegant appearance, not only for the curious workmanship, but by their judicious choice and scientific mixture of several kinds of metal. They were highly polished both within and without. They not only stood the usual proof, but were afterwards found to be completely perfect in every respect.

(*London Chronicle or Universal Evening Post*, Thurs. 21 April - Sat. 23 April 1774; also *Middlesex Journal and Evening Advertiser*, Thurs. 21 April - Sat. 23 April 1774, *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Sat. 23 April 1774, and a slightly shorter account in *Public Ledger*, Sat. 23 April 1774. Jan and Pieter Verbruggen had taken over the running of the Royal Brass Foundry at Woolwich in 1770, which had been in the hands of Andrew Schalch since it was established in 1716 after the explosion at Moorfields. The Verbruggens had previously been gunfounders to States of Holland, during which time they also cast bells. In England they introduced the Maritz system of casting brass cannon solid, and then boring them out. However, the moulds for larger mortars were still formed around a core in the manner of casting church bells. For a full account of the work of Jan and Pieter Verbruggen see Melvin H. Jackson and Charles de Beer, *Eighteenth Century Gunfounding*, 1973.)

Monday last was rung at All-Saints Church by the Ringers of St. James's, a true and compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, which was accomplished in three Hours and 22 Minutes, being the first ever rung at that Church.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 30 April 1774; also *Bristol Journal*, Sat. 30 April 1774)

On Wednesday last was rung, at St. Mary Magdalen College, by eight of the Oxford Youths, assisted by two from Cambridge, a compleat Peal of Five Thousand and Fifty-eight Grandsire Cators, in three hours and twenty-one minutes. It was allowed by many competent judges to be a very good performance.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 21 May 1774; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 May 1774, starting 'Wednesday se'nnight...')

Salisbury, May 23. / ... / Tuesday as one of the Ringers at Chippenham church was endeavouring to pull the rope of a bell, which was then put up, into its place, by some accident the bell came suddenly down, and killed him on the spot.

(*London Chronicle or Universal Evening Post*, Sat. 21 May – Tues. 24 May 1774; also *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 19 May 1774; *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 21 May 1774; *Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 23 May 1774; *Middlesex Journal and Evening Advertiser*, Sat. 21 May – Tues. 24 May 1774, and *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, and *Public Advertiser*, both Tues. 24 May 1774.)

It having been resolved at a Vestry Meeting to re-cast the Eight Bells at St. Michael's in this city into Ten, on Tuesday the Workmen began taking them down for that purpose. - The Founder has engaged to complete them in four months.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 6 June 1774)

Lewes, June 6

On Monday se'nnight was rung at Bolney in this county, by the Bolney and Horsham Society, a compleat Peal of 5040 Gransire Triples; it was compleated in three hours and one minute. - And afterwards was performed by one of the above Society, the whole course of Bob Major, on the hand-bells, which being rung by placing them by thirds and fifths, or any way at pleasure, was deemed by competent Judges, a capital Performance,

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 6 June 1774)

From Derby we learn that his majesty's birth day was observed there with the utmost demonstrations of joy. The morning was saluted by Peals of Bells in all the churches

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Saturday 11 June 1774)

Lewes, June 13

Saturday the 4th instant, being the Anniversary of his Majesty's Birth-day, a Grandsire Bob of 720, was rung at Chiddingly, by the society of Ringers there, which they compleated exactly in 24 minutes; and the same day they rung the above peal at Southover, near this Town, which they compleated in 28 minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 13 June 1774)

We hear from Barnsley, that on his Majesty's birthday, the ringers at that place, rang a compleat peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty two minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 June 1774)

On Saturday last was rung at Stourbridge a compleat musical Peal of 6608 Bob Majors, in three Hours and 58 Minutes, by the Society of that Place.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 16 June 1774; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 13 June 1774, which however says 'On Sunday last was rung...'; the peal book of the Chapel Youths of Stourbridge gives the date as 5 June i.e. Sunday.)

R I N G I N G.

TO be RUNG for, on Wednesday the 20th of July next, at HURST in the County of Berks, given by John Smith, at the Bowling Green House, SIX very good HATS, for any Company that rings the best round Peal, to continue fifteen Minutes, and SIX PAIR of GLOVES for the second best Peal, and SIX handsome RIBBANDS for the third best Peal. Each Company to bring their Umpire. The Umpires of the winning Companies will be entitled to the same Prices [*sic*] as the Ringers. To be decided by a majority of the Umpires. Each Person to pay One Shilling for his Dinner, which will be on the Table at One o'Clock, and to begin ringing at Three. No Person to ring or be an Umpire except he dines or pays for his Dinner.— No Hurst Man will be permitted to ring or be an Umpire.

N.B. The Bells are new hung and in excellent Order.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 20 June 1774 - advert)

On Sunday last was rung, at Kidderminster, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, by the Society from Stourbridge, in three Hours and nine Minutes.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 23 June 1774)

On Thursday last a dreadful Fire broke out at Sandy-Acre in this County, which greatly alarmed the Inhabitants of that Village. ... The Bells at the Church were rung backwards, which presently summoned the Stocking-Weavers from Stapleford. ...

(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 24 June 1774)

The new ring of bells for Knaresborough church

Last Tuesday the old Peal of four Bells at Knaresbrough were taken down, in order to make Room for the Frame of a new Peal, consisting of eight fine musical Bells, which are shipp'd from London for that Town.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 7 June 1774)

The Thirsk, Robert Jefferson, arrived here on Thursday last from London, after a Passage of eight Days only. She has brought a Peal of eight fine Bells for Knaresbro', the Tenor of which is 19 Cwt. 1 Qr. 19 lb.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 28 June 1774)

On Monday next will be opened at Knaresbrough, a Peal of eight new Bells, cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman, Whitechapel, and hung by Samuel Turner, Bell-Hanger from London. - Those who want single Bells or Peals of Bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or Mr. Francis Hudson, in the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost Care and Dispatch.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 5 July 1774; a report to the same effect, but without a reference to Francis Hudson, in *Leeds Mercury* of the same date)

Last Week was opened at Knaresbrough by the Society of Ringers from York and Leeds, the Peal of Eight New Bells, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, White Chapel, and hung by Samuel Turner, Bellhanger from London. Several Peals were rung with the greatest Exactness; a Number of People assembled on the Occasion, and was allowed by Judges to be a fine tunable [*sic*] Peal, and gave general Satisfaction. - Those who want single Bells or Peals of Bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or to F. Hudson in [*sic*] the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost Dispatch and Care.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 19 July 1774; a report to the same effect in *Leeds Mercury* of the same date, but without the last sentence.)

On Monday the 11th inst. was opened at Knaresbro', a peal of eight fine new musical bells, cast by Pack and Chapman of London; they were rung alternately by the York and Leeds ringers during the whole day; the latter rung the half peal of the Royal Union, consisting of 2520 changes, in an hour and about 32 minutes, with the greatest nicety, and gave general satisfaction to all who heard them.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 19 July 1774)

Two peals at Saffron Walden, on successive days

On Sunday last was rung at Saffron Walden, a complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles, in 3 hours and 24 minutes; and on Monday was rung at the same place by 4 of the Walden youths assisted by 4 from Cambridge, a complete peal of 5040 Bob-Major, in 3 hours and 22 minutes.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 2 July 1774; repeated in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 9 July 1774 under the by-line 'Cambridge, July 2.', with the time in the latter peal said to have been 'three hours and twenty minutes'.)

Saffron Walden, July 6. On the 26th of June was rung here, that well known peal, Gransire Triples, 5040 changes, by the society of this town; perform'd in 3 hours 22 minutes.

And on the 27th, was rung here, by the Cambridge and Walden gentlemen, 5040 Bobmajor; perform'd in 3 hours 24 minutes. This grand ringing was occasioned by a gift left by Mr. Thomas Turner, in the year 1623; the gift is 20£. a year forever, 2£ to the ringers, 1£ for a sermon, and the remainder to the poor of the parish.
(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 8 July 1774)

On Saturday se'nnight was opened at Waddington, in this county, a peal of six new bells, by the Bingley ringers, who rung 5040 changes in an hour [*sic*] and forty minutes.
(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 5 July 1774)

In the paragraph in our last, relating to a peal of bells being opened at Waddington, instead of one hour and forty minutes, read two hours and forty-five minutes.
(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 12 July 1774)

This week was opened (with a compleat Peal of Plain Bob by the gentlemen of Pangbourn) a new peal of six bells at Englefield in this county; cast by Mr. Thomas Swaine of Longford in Middlesex. [Monday, at the ringing match on Wokingham church bells the hats were won by the Hurst Youths in their usual style. Reading 2d. Mortimer 3d. Binfield 4th.]
(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 15 August 1774) [MS note that bracketed portion was not in this issue of the *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*. This is given in Sharpe, *Church Bells of Berkshire*, 1970 reprint, p.151.]

DOWNHAM, NORFOLK.

ON Monday August 22d, was rung here on that Musical Peal of Eight Bells (cast by Messrs. Arnold and Osborn, Bellfounders and Hangers) by the undermentioned Company of St. Peter's Mancroft Ringers from Norwich; that ingenious Peal of COURT BOB, consisting of 5040 Changes in three Hours and twelve Minutes, without Changes alike, or Bells out of Course, being the only true Peal of that Kind ever performed in England (Norwich excepted).

WILLIAM WORNOR, Treble, who call'd the Peal.

JOHN HAVERS, Second.

JOHN DYE, Sixth.

JOHN DIXON, Third.

JOS. LUBBOCK, 7th.

SIMON WATLIN, Fourth.

JAM. VINES, Tenor.

JAMES WATLIN, Fifth.

On the 23d was opened at Watlington, a Peal of five Bells, cast and hung by the same Persons.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 27 Aug. 1774 - advert)

A controversy at Birmingham

Birmingham, September 5, 1774.

WHEREAS the Church-Wardens of St. Martin's Parish in this Town, have declared their Intention of taking away the two Treble Bells for the Use of St. Mary's Chapel; and have already locked them up from the Ringers for that Purpose. The Subscribers to those Bells, and other Parishioners, are desired to meet TO-MORROW Evening, at Seven o'Clock, at the House of Mr. Thomas Bellamy, known by the Sign of the Bell, in Edgbaston-Street, to consult on what is necessary to be done, to prevent so ridiculous a Scheme being carried into Execution.

(Aris's Birmingham Gazette, Mon. 5 Sept. 1774 – advert.)

The Printer of this Paper begs Leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that he is assured there was no Foundation for publishing the Advertisement (in Monday's Gazette) reflecting upon the Church-Wardens of St. Martin's in this Town, which was inserted without his Knowledge, and escaped his Notice until it was too late to prevent its Appearance; and considering the ill Effects which such Publications too frequently occasion, he has given strict Orders that in future no anonymous Advertisement reflecting on the Character of any Person be inserted in his Paper.

(Aris's Birmingham Gazette, Mon. 12 Sept. 1774 – per Chris Pickford)

IN Consequence of an Advertisement inserted in Swinney's Birmingham Chronicle of the 1st, and this Paper of the 5th Instant, a Meeting of several of the Parishioners of the Parish of Birmingham aforesaid, and of the subscribers to the two Treble Bells in Saint Martin's Church there, was held at the House of Thomas Bellamy, in Edgbaston-Street, the 6th of this Inst. in Order to consult on Measures proper to be taken against the Church-Wardens of the said Parish, who (it evidently appeared) intended to remove the said Treble Bells from the said Church to Saint Mary's Chapel, in Birmingham aforesaid, when it was unanimously agreed to commence an Action against the said Church-Wardens, if their Design should be carried into Execution. By Order of the Meeting, THOMAS GEM.

N.B. The Incorrectness of the Advertisement in the Thursday's Paper, which was inserted therein in Mr. GEM'S Absence from Birmingham, occasioned the above to be put in this.

WHereas a Paragraph in last Week's Paper has contradicted an Advertisement respecting the above, I hereby declare to the Public, that Mr. Wallin told me in the Market, that he intended taking the Treble Bells to St. Mary's Chapel; soon after that, I saw the Ropes taken off those Bells, and Orders were given that they should no more be rung; and I have further Evidence to prove that the Church-Wardens were in the Steeple consulting together about removing them, but were of Opinion that it would be necessary first to call a Town's Meeting. T. HADLEY.

(Aris's Birmingham Gazette, Mon. 19 Sept. 1774 – two adverts, one below the other.)

COUNTRY NEWS.

On Thursday Sept. 22, 1774, being his Majesty's Coronation Day, was rung at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, a true and complete Peal of 5040 Grandsire Bob triples, in three Hours and two Minutes, by the Kensington Youths [being] the first Peal ever rung on those Bells in that Method.

(St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post, Sat. 24 Sept. - Tues. 27 Sept. 1774; also Kentish Gazette, Wed. 28 Sept. – Sat. 1 Oct. 1774.)

On Monday Morning last, eight of the Nottingham Ringers rang Five Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Oxford-Treble-Bob 8 in, at Mansfield, which took three Hours and 35 Minutes. (*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 30 September 1774; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 1 Oct. 1774; *Cresswell's Nottingham, Newark, Retford & Worksop Journal*, Sat. 1 October 1774, where the band was stated to be 'eight of our Nottingham Change Ringers'; other reports in *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 29 Sept. 1774, *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 October 1774 and *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 October 1774)

[Following an election at which the Hon. Constan. John Phipps and Thomas Delaval, Esq, were soundly defeated by Sir Walter Blackett, Bart, and Sir Mat. White Ridley, Bart.:]

The ringers of St. Nicholas, being all voters for Phipps & Delaval, were hard pushed to announce the event with three peals - for which conduct they received only half pay -- *a light guinea!* (*Newcastle Chronicle*, Sat. 22 Oct. 1774)

The new ring of bells for St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich

To the Gentlemen of the City of Norwich,
and County of Norfolk.

THE SECOND BELL belonging to the Parish of St. Peter's Mancroft in Norwich, being crack'd and useless, and some of the others almost worn out, a new Peal of TWELVE BELLS is proposed, which will amount, by Estimation, to the sum of Six Hundred Pounds, exclusive of the old Materials, and including every other Charge, provided the above Sum can be raised by voluntary Subscription.

As these Bells are always rung on all Public Occasions, both for the County and City, 'tis hoped that on Consideration, the Gentlemen of both County and City will be pleased to contribute. Subscriptions will be received by CHARLES WESTON Esq; Messrs. ALLDAY and KERRISON, and at Johnson's Coffee-House.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 October 1774 – advert; also *Norwich Mercury*, same date. At this time there were two banks in Norwich, one opened in 1756 by Charles Weston and Allday and Kerrison's opened in 1768 by Thomas Allday)

To the PRINTER of the NORWICH MERCURY,

Sir,

YARMOUTH, Oct. 17, 1774.

I am extremely glad to find a Public Subscription is set on foot for a new Peal of Twelve Bells in St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, which I as a lover of the Art of Ringing much wish to see accomplished. This matter could not have been proposed at a more seasonable juncture than the present time of election, and I hope it will receive the approbation and encouragement of the Members for the city and county, whose sanction to it will insure success. In the circle of my acquaintance I know many Gentlemen who are desirous of promoting this subscription, and who will proportion their subscriptions by those of the honourable Gentlemen abovementioned. The Shopkeepers and Innholders cannot be ignorant of the benefit they will derive from the great number of people resorting to your city on account of the novelty of the proposed new peal, and the harmony and agreeable entertainment they will afford. Your Ringers are justly reputed to be the best in England, which is a material circumstance to recommend this affair to the public. My business often calls me to Norwich, and if the subscription proves successful, you may depend upon that of

Sir, Your very humble Servant,

CLERICUS

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 22 Oct. 1774 – per David Cubitt)

It is with Pleasure we can inform the Public, that a very handsome Sum is already subscribed towards the proposed New Peal of twelve Bells for St. Peter's Mancroft in this City; and as fresh Subscriptions are daily coming in, it is hoped the Scheme will be carried into execution.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 29 Oct. 1774)

We are informed that Sir Edward Astley, Bart. and Wenman Coke, Esq; have subscribed very generously towards the proposed new Peal of Twelve Bells in St. Peter's Mancroft: And that the Musical Society at the Rampant Horse in St. Stephen's have this Week paid into the hands of Charles Weston, Esq; five Guineas and a half on the same Account.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 5 Nov. 1774; Astley and Coke were the two MPs for Norfolk.)

For the NORWICH MERCURY

It gave me great pleasure to hear that Sir Harbord Harbord, Bart. Had generously subscribed 50£. Towards the proposed new Peal of twelve bells for St. Peter's of Mancroft, in Norwich: And I have since been informed, Sir Edward Astley, Bart. And Wenman Coke, Esq; have with the like public spirit subscribed thirty guineas each: Also that the parishioners have collected amongst themselves about 200£.

As there never was a peal of twelve bells cast all at the same time, and as St. Peter's Ringers are very justly esteemed the best in England, and as those bells are always rung on every publick occasion, I make not doubt but the subscription will soon be filled.

I really think the parishioners themselves have contributed very generously, when we consider the great expence they are annually at in paying the ringers on all publick days, and in keeping the bells and ropes in good repair.

I would beg leave to recommend to the parishioners not to have the bells too heavy, as the lighter the weight, the more musical the bells will be of course.-Hoping to have the pleasure of hearing the new peal next assize week.

Nov. 23, 1774.

AZ.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 26 Nov. 1774 – per David Cubitt)

We can assure the Publick, that upwards of four hundred and fifty pounds is already subscribed towards the New Peal of Twelve Bells, for St. Peter's Mancroft in this City.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 10 Dec. 1774 – per David Cubitt)

December 23d, 1774.

The Parishioners of St. Peter's of Mancroft having unanimously agreed to take down the present inharmonious and ruinous Set of Bells, and to replace them with a melodious and complete Peal of Twelve, subscribed about 200£. for that Purpose, and by the generous Contributions of Sir Harbord Harbord and the County Members, with the Assistance of others their fellow Citizens, have raised such a Sum as to give them great Expectation of being shortly able to accomplish their original Plan, which was to have the Tenor 35 Cwt. the Key of which will be C Sharp; but several musical Gentlemen having earnestly urged and intreated that such further Subscription might be solicited as shall enable them to have the tenor 40 Cwt. the Key of which will be C. natural, and the Peal in consequence (in the Situation of St. Peter's Tower) be the most harmonious and delightful of any in the Kingdom; the additional Expense of which will be 200£.

With a View therefore of extending the Renown of the City of Norwich, with the Desire of gratifying the most sublime Organ of Sense, and of adding to that Joy which public and domestic Occurrences frequently call upon them to celebrate, the Parishioners respectfully request the Encouragement of the Nobility and Gentry in the County of Norfolk to this Scheme for liberal, diffusive and perennial pleasure. To sympathize with and relieve the afflicted is certainly the most important Object; yet there are Seasons to be Merry as well as to mourn, and it is no inconsiderable Means of preserving the Health and animating the Mind of Man to perform the great Duties of Life to afford them an innocent and exhilarating Recreation in the Intervals of Labour, and as in this Instance in the Pursuit of it.

To obviate an Objection that has been made by some Persons (who seemed otherwise disposed to countenance the Undertaking) the Tower has been surveyed by two able and experienced Workmen from London as well as by others in Town, who concur in opinion that it is of, if not the strongest in the Kingdom.

Subscriptions received by C. WESTON, Esq; and Messrs. ALLDAY and KERRISON, Bankers.

N.B. The Surplus of Money raised, if any, will be given to the County Hospital.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 24 Dec. 1774 - advert; a similar advert appeared in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date) (*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 31 December 1774, repeated its advertisement of 24 December, with the addition of a list of over 200 subscriptions of a guinea or more: see *Ringling World*, 8 March 1974, p. 199, where the major subscriptions are listed.)

To the PRINTER of the NORFOLK CHRONICLE.

SIR,

YOUR Paper of the 31st of December last, gave its Readers a List of the Subscribers to a new Peal of twelve Bells, intended to be placed in the tower of that elegant fabrick St. Peter's of Mancroft. I think you will oblige many curious persons by inserting the following inscriptions, which are upon the present bells belonging to the church; and posterity will probably thank you for communicating them, as in a short time they will cease to remain, except your paper preserves them. S.M.

- 1 bell. Edmund Tooke, Ao. Dni 1675
- 2 - E.T. made me, AoDni 1676
- 3 - Anno Domini, 1602
- 4 - Nos Thome meritis merea mur gaudia lucis
- 5 - Petrus ad eterne ducat nos pascua vite
- 6 - Ave Maria Gracia plena Dominus tecum
- 7 - Sum rosa pulsata mundi Maria vocata
- 8 - Ego sum Campana Gulielmi Ellys, Baronis de Exchequer,
que fracta refecta est, 1618.

The inscriptions upon the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th bells are in the black letter.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 14 Jan. 1775)

For the NORFOLK CHRONICLE.

SONG. Tune WILKES'S WRIGGLE.

Ye Bucks and Wits and square-toe'd Cits
Of Norwich, gallant City,
Ye Country Squires and Knights of Shires
Come harken to our Ditty.
What furious Zeal and Storms assail
Us BELLES of Great Saint Peter's;
Like ragged Whores, turn'd out of Doors;
Alas; unhappy Creatures!

II

Ah! what avails our willing Tails
Which wag'd Harmonious Measure;
Our Metal such that none cou'd touch
But found extatic Pleasure:
Right staunch our Mold no weight of Gold
Cou'd on our Measures op'rate, .
But while we've Power to work one Hour,
We'll serve the Body corp'rate.

III

In public Time when call'd to Chime
To hail the Standing Members,
By Day and Night we gave Delight,
Tho' much we shook our Timbers;
And when to Death one yields his Breath
And to the Grave is tumbled,
At once to prove both Grief and Love
Our Clappers have been bumbled.

IV

Church Wardens tell, that Sister NELL
Has crack'd her Constitution;
But we declare they Bunglers are,
Unfit for Execution;
Full of the Great in Church and State,
Have quarrelled to ingage Her,
If conqu'ring Wight advance'd in fight,
She tipt him the Bob Major.

V

Then why should we, insulted be
 With language coarse and scurvy,
 For pleasing those, who oft have chose
 To turn us topsy-turvy;
 Or how they dare presume to say
 We much of Merit lack Sirs,
 For having what most BELLES have got
 An inoffensive CRACK Sirs.

V [*sic*]

Then hear our Pray'r and kindly spare
 Such BELLES from tribulation,
 What shame 'twou' d be such stuff to see
 Dissolv'd by Salivation;
 But should ill will pursue us still
 And Malice know no bound'ry,
 Then in the lurch, we'll leave the Church
 To sorrow in the Found'ry. [*sic*]

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 25 Feb. 1775)

For the NORFOLK CHRONICLE.

Spoken Extempore on reading the Verses in your last Paper.

'Tis thought you never wrote before,
 Nay 'faith your Verses shew it;
 Then be advis'd and write no more,
 You'll never be a Poet.

Perhaps you read with Rapture o'er
 The Nonsense that you writ;
 But pray forbear and write no more
 You'll never be a Wit.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 4 March 1775 – per David Cubitt)

St. Peter's new peal of twelve bells is in great forwardness. The tenor weighs very near 40 cwt. and is esteemed by those who have seen it, and heard its tone, to be one of the finest bells in the Kingdom, and 'tis expected that this noble peal when completed, will be opened with a piece of sacred Music in the church suitable to the occasion.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 22 April 1775 – per David Cubitt)

At Norwich a new peal of 12 bells, cast for St. Peter's in that City, have been christened, "The Royal Peal," and dedicated to their Majesties and their ten Royal Children, whose names are engraved on the bells in progression from the trebel [*sic*] to the tenor, which is called the Royal George, weighs 40 c. wt. and will cost upwards of 200£.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 9 May - Thurs. 11 May 1775; similar report in *Public Advertiser*, Thurs. 11 May 1775. Apparently a hoax.)

We hear the new peal of twelve bells cast for St. Peter's of Mancroft Parish in this city, have been named The Royal Peal and the following inscription is put on the tenor "To the King and Queen, and their ten Children, this harmonious peal of twelve is dedicated." The tenor, which is called the Royal George, weighs 40c.w.t. and will cost upward of 200£.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 13 May 1775 – per David Cubitt)

On Wednesday the bells cast for the tower of St. Peter Mancroft, arrived in the river from London, and were safely conveyed up the Campanarium on Thursday morning; it is said to be the only peal of twelve ever cast at one time, and is deemed as melodious as any in the Kingdom, being tuned to the same key as St. Michael's Cornhill: We hear it is intended to have the peal opened with a grand performance of music in the church on Thursday the 29th inst. being St. Peter's day.

The following is the Weight of each Bell

	<i>cwt qrs lbs</i>		<i>cwt qrs lbs</i>
Treble	6 3 5	Seventh	11 2 7
Second	6 2 15	Eighth	14 0 18
Third	6 3 20	Ninth	19 1 27
Fourth	7 3 8	Tenth	21 3 6
Fifth	9 0 5	Eleventh	28 2 2
Sixth	9 3 19	TENOR	41 1 4

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 3 June 1775; also *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date)

The Bells were cast by Messr. Pack and Chapman, Whitechapel, London, and hung by Samuel Turner, who has constructed, and fixed the frame and stocks in a most ingenious and compact manner, which have been much admired by all who have seen them.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 10 June 1775; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, same date.)

Norwich, June 8, 1775.

St. PETER'S BELLS.

THE PEAL of TWELVE will be first opened on WEDNESDAY the 21st of this Instant: preceding which will be performed

A GRAND TE DEUM AND JUBILATE,
A CHORUS FROM THE MESSIAH,

And to Conclude with

THE CORONATION ANTHEM.

THE WHOLE TO BE ACCOMPANIED
WITH A BAND OF MUSIC.

The performance to begin at

Eleven o'Clock

Admittance Three Shillings

Tickets to be had at Alderman WESTON'S and ALLDAY and KERRISON'S Banks; at Messrs. COLE and BELOE'S, Churchwardens; at the Coffee-House, King's Head in the Market, White Swan, Maid's Head, New Inn, Rose Tavern, Rampant Horse, and King's Head in Magdalen Street.

N.B. There will be a PRIVATE REHEARSAL on MONDAY the 19th at Twelve o'Clock precisely: Such Gentlemen as will oblige the Parish with their Assistance are requested to attend at that time.

* The Words of the Music, neatly printed, may be had at CROUSE'S Printing Office, in the Market-Place, Norwich.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 10 June 1775 - advert)

Norwich, June 16, 1775.

FRANCIS KERRISON

At the KING'S HEAD Inn, in the Market-place, Begs Leave to acquaint the Public, that an Ordinary will be provided at his House on Wednesday the 21st Instant at 2s. 6d. each, being the Day of opening the PEAL of TWELVE BELLS in St. Peter's Mancroft.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 17 June 1775 - advert)

A great resort of company is expected in town next Wednesday, being the day of opening St. Peter's bells, and a numerous and genteel audience in the Church at the performance of Sacred Music preceeding it, many Gentlemen having promised their assistance in the band; and the committee appointed by the parish having bestowed the utmost attention, and spared no expense that the peal might be completed in a manner which is likely to give general satisfaction.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 17 June 1775; similar report in the *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date.)

On Wednesday was performed at St. Peter's of Mancroft church, a grand Te Deum and Jubilate, with the Chorus from the Messiah, and the Coronation Anthem, by a band consisting of about thirty gentlemen, accompanied with the voices of the cathedral choir, to a genteel and numerous audience, who expressed much satisfaction at the performance.

After this music, the Peal of Twelve was opened by the ringers of the steeple, which for sweetness of tone, and melody in concert, has answered the expectation of the warmest promoters of the subscription, and given the highest delight and entertainment to all judges and admirers of ringing, and other musical execution. It was at first apprehended that the note of the Tenor was not deep enough to cover the peal, but on giving more opening at the air windows, her majestic and complasence giving sound soon proclaimed her supremacy, and the execution of the whole has reflected honour on the founders and on the gentleman who tuned these harmonious and silver-tongued Bells.

(Concluded on the following page)

A correspondent has furnished us with the following calculation of the changes on 12 bells.

Numbers to be varied	The manner of their several variations, how produced.	The different changes of variations every one of the propos'd numbers can admit.
1	1x1	1
2	1x2	2
3	2x3	6
4	6x4	24
5	24x5	120
6	120x6	720
7	720x7	5040
8	5040x8	40320
9	40320x9	362880
10	362880x10	3628800
11	3628800x11	39916800
12	39916800x12	479001600

If ten changes are rung in one minute, which is two strokes in a second of time, or 120 strokes in one minute, according to that rate there must be allow'd 47900160 minutes to ring them once over in all their different changes, viz. 10) 479001600 (47900160. In one year there is 365 days 4 hours and 49 minutes, which being reduced into minutes is 525949; then 525949) 47900160 (91 years and 26 days.

If two bells more were added, it would require at the same rate of ringing 16575 years, and 24 bells would require more than 117,000,000,000,000,000 years to ring them but once over in all their different changes.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 24 June 1775; almost identical report in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date, but without the 'calculation'.)

On the 26th of August last a new peal of eight bells was opened at Tunbridge in Kent.—On the 11th of November next will be opened a new peal of ten bells at St. Michael's church in the city of Coventry.—And on the 26th of December will be opened a new peal of eight bells at Wye in Kent.—These peals were cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman, and hung by Robert Turner, bell-hanger to the city of London.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 31 Oct. 1774)

The new ring of bells at St. Michael's, Coventry

Friday next, the 11th instant, the new Peal of Ten Bells will be opened at St. Michael's in this city: The weight of each bell is as follows

	C.	Q.	Lb.
1st Bell ---	6	3	2
2d Bell ---	7	0	8
3d Bell ---	8	1	13
4th Bell ---	9	0	0
5th Bell ---	9	2	21
6th Bell ---	11	2	16
7th Bell ---	14	0	6
8th Bell ---	17	1	21
9th Bell ---	23	0	20
10th Bell ---	31	1	14

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 7 Nov. 1774; a preliminary notice was in the issue of 24 October 1774, where the bells were said to have been cast by Pack and Chapman of London, and hung by Robert Turner.)

We hear from Coventry, that on Friday next a Peal will be rung at St. Michael's Church in that City, on the ten new Bells cast by Pack and Chapman, when a Number of capital Ringers are expected from different Parts of the Country.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 Nov. 1774)

Yesterday morning was rung at St. Mary's Church in this town, a complete peal of Grandsire Caters, which was performed with ease in three hours and five minutes.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, 12 Nov. 1774)

The ringers of Calverly Church, rung, on the 23d ult. (on account of their worthy countryman Sir Walter Blackett's being elected Member of Parliament for Newcastle) a peal of 5040 changes, in two hours and 22 minutes.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 19 Nov. 1774; there were six bells at Calverley at that time.)

On Thursday the 21st of October was open'd at Kilmars, in Northamptonshire, a new Peal of six Bells, cast and hung by that ingenious Artist, Mr. Edward Arnold, of St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire, and the Gift of William Hanbury, Esq; which met with the intire Approbation of the worthy Donor, and gave general Satisfaction, for their Music and Harmony, to several good Judges, and a numerous and respectable Meeting from the Neighbourhood assembled on the Occasion.

(*Public Advertiser*, Tues. 22 Nov. 1774)

A long peal at All Saints', Worcester

Last Monday was rung, at All Saints Church in this City, by the Society of All Saints Youths, a compleat Peal of 7326 Grandsire Caters, in four Hours and thirty-six Minutes, supposed to be one of the most musical Peals ever rung, of so great a Length. - A Person concerned in this Peal dreamed the preceding Night that the Tenor Clapper fell out, as the Bells came round, which really happened, to the great Surprize of the Company, the Person having declared it before they went into the Tower.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 1 Dec. 1774)

On Monday last was rung at All Saints, in Worcester, by the Society of All Saints Youths, a compleat Peal of 7326 Grandsire Caters, in four Hours and 36 Minutes. It was supposed to be one of the most musical Peals ever rung of so great a Length. The Bells were rung single handed, which is the greatest Performance ever known upon ten Bells within a hundred Miles of the Place. - A remarkable Circumstance happened: One of the Ringers concerned in the Peal dreamt the over [*sic*] Night that the Tenor Clapper fell out as the Bells came round, which really happened to the great Astonishment of the Company, he having declared this before they went up into the Tower.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 5 Dec. 1774; also *Derby Mercury*, Fri. 9 Dec. 1774.)

A SONG on the Famous Peal of
7308 Grandsire Catons
Rung by the Society of All Saints Ringers, in Worcester,
On the 28th of NOVEMBER, 1774.

Ye lovers of ringing now give your attention
Unto these few words which my song it will mention:
It is of Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Eight,
By the Youths of All Saints that was rang quite compleat:
In the year Seventy-four, now remark what I say,
In the month of November, the twenty-eighth day,
This peal was compleated, which was to the fame
Of the Youths of All Saints, who shall still bear the name.

RICHARD PAINE to the Treble, I speak in his praise,
That I ne'er heard a bell better rang in my days;
For over the large bells he struck her quite clear,
And his compass at lead kept as true as a hair:
THOMAS HILL he the Second did steadily ring,
And in the Tittoms she sweetly did ring;
Though some seem to sneer at his prophetic dream*,
Yet the Youths of All Saints they shall still bear the name.

JOSEPH STONE to the Third, he kept her stiff in hand,
And just at his own pleasure he did her command;
He cut her in compass, and tuck'd her so tight,
Through the whole Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Eight:
THOMAS SPINNER the Fourth, for a solid hand's he,
And in ringing at length he rings quite steadily;
He marks his course bell, and sticks close to the same,
And the Youths of All Saints they shall still bear the name.

GEORGE ROE to the Fifth he did cheerfully stand,
And he struck her right well, both at back stroke and hand;
"There's Beauty!" they cry'd, and so smooth did he pull,
And smiled when the large bells at home they did roll:
At the Sixth RICHARD HERBERT, he look'd quite sharp,
And ne'er was observ'd in his course once to warp;
For to finish the peal, Sir, it was his whole aim,
And the Youths of All Saints they shall still bear the name.

WILLIAM KENDAL the Seventh, so smart a young lad,
Did call the peal true, and he made each heart glad;
The Changes he placid in the Tittoms so tight,
And he told out just Fifty Times Nine, Seven, Eight:
JOHN BRISTOW, the Eighth, rang so solid and clear,
That no fault was discern'd by the most curious ear;
All his thoughts at that time to ringing he did frame,
And the Youths of All Saints they shall still bear the name.

To the Ninth THOMAS BARKER stood sturdy and stout,
And with hearty good will he did swing her about;
Right boldly and bravely he stuck to her tough,
And he ne'er once falter'd, or said he had enough:
To the Tenor GEORGE WAINWRIGHT stood like heart of oak,
And to this famous peal gave the finishing stroke;
When the clapper came out, which just answer'd the dream,
And the Youths of All Saints they shall still bear the name.

Four Hours and a Half and Six Minutes they were,
The people with watches in hand did declare;
And said the performers were worthy of praise,
For they ne'er heard a peal better rung in their days:
So here's a good health to those that wish us well,
And those that do envy us they cannot us excell;
Those that wish us well, boys, we wish them the same,
And the Youths of All Saints they shall still bear the name.

* Thomas Hill dreamed three times, in one night, that he was ringing at All-Saints and each time awaked with the thought of the Tenor's Clapper falling out at the end of the peal; which was verified this day, for as soon as George Wainwright gave the finishing stroke, the clapper broke through the middle.

(Madden Collection, Cambridge University Library - per Gareth Davies, June 1990)

NOTICE.

ON WEDNESDAY the 14th of this
Instant will be opened
A New Peal of EIGHT BELLS at Wye in Kent,
Cast by PACK and CHAPMAN,
and Hung by ROBERT TURNER, of LONDON.

Likewise there will be a good Dinner provided at the
FLYING HORSE, to be on the Table at One o'Clock.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 7 Dec. – Sat. 10 Dec. 1774 1772 - advert)

On Thursday last, at Great Milton in this County, was rung a compleat peal of Five Thousand and Forty Bob Major in three-hours and ten minutes, by six persons of that place, assisted by two from Oxford.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 24 Dec. 1774; also *Reading Mercury*, and *Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 26 Dec. 1774)

On Thursday se'nnight was rung at Swavesey in this county, six in, a compleat 720 of Grandsire Principals, by Joseph Sneesby, 1st; Wm. Stocker, 2d; Robert Mitham, 3d; John Sutton, 4th; John Wilkinson, 5th; Wm. Mitham, 6th, who called the peal: The whole was completed in 29 minutes, with 138 bobs.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 Jan. 1775)

On Friday last the peal of eight bells at Chesterfield was opened by the Sheffield Society of Ringers, who on that occasion, as well as on all others, merited the greatest applause. The sixth bell which has been recast, is an exceedingly good one and very well answers the rest of the peal, which has been hung, tuned and put in order, by Thomas Hilton of Wath in Yorkshire.

(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 6 Jan. 1775; also, under the by-line 'Chesterfield, January 3.' *Creswell's Nottingham, Newark, Retford & Worksop Journal*, Sat. 7 Jan. 1775, with the additional sentence 'So that now the Honour of the Founder this may be justly said to be one of the first peals of Bells in the Kingdom.')

WE hear from Chesterfield, that a peal of eight bells was open'd there on Friday the 30th ult. by a society of change ringers from Sheffield, who on that occasion merited the greatest applause. The 6th bell is esteemed an exceeding fine one, being lately re-cast, and the whole peal hung, tuned and put in order, by Mr Thomas Hilton of Wath in this county, to his great honour and credit as they are now deemed to be one of the first rate peals of 8 bells in the kingdom.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 24 Jan. 1775)

1775

St. Peter's ringers return thanks to those Gentlemen and Ladies who favoured them with Christmas donations, which liberal encouragement they shall endeavour to express a grateful sense of by continuing to ring such concerto's [sic] weekly (Composed by Signor Melchior and others) as have hitherto given universal satisfaction.

(*Norwich Mercury*, 6 Jan. 1775)

Last Sunday Morning our Society of Change Ringers ushered in the new Year with ringing a complete Peal of SIX THOUSAND AND TWELVE GRANDSIRE CATORS (which continued 4 Hours and 20 Minutes), upon the melodious Set of 10 Bells at St. Mary's Church, the Tenor of which weighs upwards of 34 Ct. ½. - And on Monday Evening they rung the whole 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES upon the Peal of 8 Bells, at St. Peter's which took in performing, 3 Hours and 25 Minutes.

(*Creswell's Nottingham, Newark, Retford & Worksop Journal*, Sat. 7 Jan. 1775; similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 Jan. 1775, but stating 'the Society' vice 'our Society'; *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 9 Jan. 1775, where the weight is given as '34 C. 2 Q. 8 lb. '; and *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 9 Jan. 1775, starting 'Sunday Se'nnight... ', and giving the weight as '34 C. 2 qrs. 1lb.')

On Tuesday last were rung, at St. Mary's, Islington, by the College Youths, on the new peal of bells, which are allowed by the connoisseurs to be extremely musical, several changes and bob-majors. The ringers were afterwards elegantly entertained at Cannonbury-House by the bell-founder and some of the principal inhabitants.

(*London Evening Post*, Thurs. 5 Jan. – Sat. 7 Jan. 1775)

On Saturday last the Society of Cumberland Youths rang at St. Mary, Islington, a true and compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Major, in three Hours and 18 Minutes, being the first Peal that was rang on those new Bells.

(*Daily Advertiser*, Wed. 11 Jan. 1775)

On Sunday Jan. the first, the Sherwood Society in Nottingham, ushered in the new year with ringing a compleat Peal of six thousand and twelve Grandsire Cators (which lasted 4 hours and 20 minutes) upon the Peal of 10 Bells at St. Mary's in that Town, the Tenor of which weighs upwards of 34 hundred and an half. - And on Monday evening they rung the whole peal of 5040 tripples upon the set of 8 bells at St. Peter's, which took in performing 3 hours and 25 minutes.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 14 Jan. 1775; similar report, *Newcastle Chronicle*, same date.)

On Tuesday last was rung at New College, by eight of the Oxford Youths, the compleat peal of five thousand and forty Grandsire Triples (Holt's method) in three hours and twelve minutes.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 4 Feb. 1775; also *Reading Mercury*, and *Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 6 Feb. 1775, under the by-line 'Oxford, February 4.')

Wednesday died in the 80th. year of her age, near St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, Mrs. Waterhill, widow... Seven bells agreeable to the 7 days in the week, rang as she expressed it, a merry peal...

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 11 Feb. 1775)

To ARCHITECTS and BUILDERS.

THE Trustees appointed to compleat the Chapel of St. John, in the Town of Wolverhampton, give this Notice, That they intend erecting a Steeple of Freestone to the said Chapel; those who chuse to offer Plans and Estimates for the said Building, are desired to deliver them on or before the first of March next, to Messrs. Jones and Taylor in Wolverhampton aforesaid. —The said Trustees have agreed to meet at the Red-Lion Inn, in Wolverhampton aforesaid, on Tuesday the 14th of March next, in order to fix upon some one Plan for the said Purpose, for which they propose paying the Designer Two Guineas, and at that Meeting to appoint a future Day for contracting with a proper Person for building the same.

N. B. Stone within three Miles of the laid Chapel.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 13 Feb. 1775 – advert, per Chris Pickford)

At Kendal in Westmoreland on Friday the 10th of March will be opened a new peal of eight bells, cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman of Whitechapel, London, and hung by Samuel Turner; also a new peal of six are casting for Workington and six for Riswick in Cumberland; likewise eight for Houdin [*sic*] in Yorkshire, six for Hurstpierpoint in Sussex, and twelve for St. Peter's in the city of Norwich.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 13 Feb. 1775)

At Bromley, in this county, on Thursday last, was rung, on that musical peal of eight bells, a compleat peal of ten thousand and eighty changes of Bob Major, in six hours and thirteen minutes; performed by eight youths of that town; whose names, with their ages, are as follow:

Ages.		
John Cowderoy,	Treble	24
John Chapman,	2	18
John Day,	3	25
John Heath,	4	25
Henry Sale,	5	18
Thomas Kelly,	6	20
W. Chapman,	7	22
William Cooke,	tenor	25

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 22 Feb. - Sat. 25 Feb. 1775)

Yesterday the society of Cumberland Youths rang, at Christ Church, Spitalfields, a complete peal of 5122 [*sic*] Tripple Bob, in three hours fifty minutes. Another party of the same society rang at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, a complete peal of 5040 Bob Major, in three hours and ten minutes. It is allowed by the connoisseurs in general to be the greatest performance of its kind that ever was done in England.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 1 March 1775)

Sunday sev'night was rang at Whapload, near Spalding, upon five Bells, 84 different Peals, the compleat quarter Peal of Bob Major, of 10,080 Changes. It was performed in 7 Hours and 24 Minutes; and is thought to be the first time it ever was compleated upon five Bells, in England.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 2 March 1775; the date of performance can be deduced to be 19 Feb. 1775. This disagrees with a peal tablet erected to record the performance, which states that it was rung on 'Feby 27th 1775'.)

Monday last being the Marquis of Granby's birthday, when he came of age, it was observed at Grantham in the following manner, viz. The morning was ushered in by a peal on a new set of ten bells; an ox was roasted whole on the occasion; the Granby's Head in the Market-place was decorated with a gilded olive bough, and several hogsheads of ale were given to the populace. ...

(*Etherington's York Chronicle*, Fri. 3 March 1775)

Two reports of a peal, and an invitation

Monday last was rung at St. Mary's church, Carisbrook, in the Isle of Wight, the whole and complete peal of 5040 grandsire tripples, in 3 hours and 25 minutes, by a society Club of the said Island. If three or four gentlemen ringers think fit to make a tour to the said Island, the above Society will accommodate them with either tripples or bob major.
(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 20 March 1775)

NEWPORT, *Isle of Wight, March 16.* On Monday last was rung at St. Mary's church, Carisbrooke, the whole and complete peal of 5040 grandsire tripples, in three hours and 25 minutes, by a society of this island, who will oblige any gentlemen ringers that please to visit them, with either tripples or bob majors.
(*Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, Mon. 20 March 1775)

On Monday last, at All Saints Church, was rung, single-handed, by a Society of Ringers resident in this City, a true and complete Peal of 5039 Grandsire Catons, in three Hours and twenty nine Minutes, being the first Peal brought round at Hand in any Part of this Kingdom, the Metropolis excepted.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 23 March 1775)

We are informed that, in order to perfect the entertainment of a Stratford Jubilee (to be performed for the first time at Covent Garden Theatre, on Tuesday next) Messrs. Lester. Pack, and Chapman, have furnished a set of Church Bells of a remarkably fine tone, and a size larger than those they cast for the Drury-lane Jubilee; which must have a prodigious fine effect, from which the great length of Covent Garden stage.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Sat. 1 April 1775)

BELLS

As it is probable many People who have business to be done in the CHURCH BELL WAY, are at a loss to know where to apply; this is to inform them, that THOMAS JANNAWAY, Bell Founder, at the THREE BELLS, CHELSEA, near London, who was a Relation, and several Years Foreman to Mr. Lester, deceased, casts CHURCH BELLS in the neatest and most approved Manner, where those Gentlemen who please to favour him with their Commands, may be assured on having their Business executed with the greatest Fidelity and Dispatch, and upon such Terms as, he flatters himself, will recommend him to their future Favours.

He likewise casts MILL BRASSES and ENGINE WORK of all Sorts.

Letters (Post paid) duly answered.

(Advert in *Sussex Weekly Journal*, Mon. 10 April 1775)

THIS is to give notice to all Gentlemen RINGERS,
That F. Taylor at the Queen's Head at Sawston, intends giving half a dozen HATS to be rung for on Monday the first day of May next, and the same to be continued yearly on the same day, to any set or pitch of ringers that shall be adjudged to ring these three extream peals the best, St. Dunstan's Doubles, The Dream, and Fortune, and that no dispute shall arise, the whole shall be set down by one substantial ringer as Judge, whom he will appoint long before the time, who shall be intituled to the sixth hat.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sats. 15 and 22 April 1775 - advert)

Bolney, May 2

This day the Horsham Society of Ringers came to this place, and rung a compleat peal of 5040 changes, union triples; the first peal of this kind ever rung in Sussex. It was performed in three hours and eight minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser: Or, Lewes Journal*, Mon. 8 May 1775)

Ringing, Backsword Playing, and Wrestling.

TO be Rung for, on Wednesday the 19th of July, at HURST, in the County of Berks, given by John Smith, at the Bowling-Green House, SIX very good HATS, for any company that rings the best round peal, to continue fifteen minutes; and six pair of GLOVES for the second-best peal; and six handsome RIBBANDS for the third-best peal. Each company to bring their umpire. The umpire of the winning company will be entitled to the same prizes as the ringers. To be decided by the majority of umpires. Each person that rings, or is an umpire, to pay one shilling for his dinner, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three.

No Hurst Man to ring or be an umpire.

Likewise will be given at the same place, on Tuesday in the Whitsun Week, a very handsome HAT, to be played at Single-stick for; the man that breaks most heads to have the Hat: The blood to run one inch, or be deemed no head. To begin playing at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Also six pair of GLOVES to be wrestled for, by sides, the winning side to have the gloves.

The Bowling-Green is in good order.

Coffee, tea, cheesecakes, &c. and the best accommodation, by the public's most obedient humble servant,

JOHN SMITH.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 15 May 1775 - advert)

Yesterday morning was rang, in three hours and 33 minutes, at St. Michael's in this city (by the Coventry Youths) a complete peal of Grandsire Catons, consisting of 5220 Changes, being the first ever rang on these bells. - This peal was performed single handed, the tenor 32 hundred. *(Jopson's Coventry Mercury, Mon. 22 May 1775)*

Monday being the anniversary of the restoration of King Charles II. it was observed here by ringing of bells.

The same day the bells at Sedgefield were ordered to be rung on the above occasion, by John Burdon, Esq; of Hardwick; but that demonstration of joy not meeting the approbation of a neighbouring gentleman, he took the key of the bell-room from the parish clerk, and would not suffer them to give one peal *for the restoration!* *(Newcastle Chronicle, Sat. 3 June 1775)*

The refurbishment of the bells of Aylsham, Norfolk

AYLSHAM, June 17, 1775.

THIS is to acquaint all Lovers of the Art of Ringing, that the AYLSHAM PEAL OF TEN BELLS, having been inspected by Messrs. Osborn and Arnold, Bell Founders in St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire, who found it necessary to have the first 4 Bells recast, which are compleated by the Parties above-mentioned, and for sweetness of Tone, and perfectness in Tune, are allowed (by Judges) to be as compleat a Peal of Ten as any in the Kingdom, the Tenor weighing only 19 cwt. 3 qrs. Key'd in E, which is a Third sharper than St. Peter's new Tenor. It is thought to be as ingenious a Piece of Work, as ever was executed by any Founders.

(Norfolk Chronicle, Sat. 17 June 1775 – advert; also Norwich Mercury, same date.)

We hear from Aylsham in Norfolk, that their Peal of Ten Bells have been inspected by Mr. Arnold, Bell-Founder, in St. Neots Hunts; when it was found necessary to have the first four Bells Recast, which are compleated by him, and for sweetness of Tone and perfectness in Tune are allowed by Judges, to be as compleat a Peal of Ten, as any in the Kingdom; the Tenor weighing only 16c. *[sic]* 3 qrs. key'd in F, is thought to be as ingenious a Piece of Work as ever was executed by any Founder. - The Peal was opened on the 19th of June, and gave General Satisfaction. *(Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 15 July 1775)*

Aylsham, Norfolk, June [sic] 13, 1775.

THIS is to acquaint the Public, That the Aylsham PEAL of TEN BELLS has been completed by Mr. ARNOLD, Bell-Founder, in St. Neots, Huntingdonshire.--- This Peal, as well for the Sweetness of Tone as its strict Conformity to Musical Proportion, may be pronounced equal, if not superior, to any Peal of the same Number in the Kingdom. The Key Note is F. Before this Attempt, there never was a Peal of ten Bells whose fundamental Note was F. The Tenor weighs only 19 Cwt. 3 qrs.

P.S. The Peal was opened the 19th of June, and met with general approbation.

(Northampton Mercury, Mon. 7, 14 & 21 August 1775 – advert; also Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 22 July 1775.)

On Thursday last was rung at St. Peter's in this Town, by seven of the Nottingham Change Ringers and one from the City of Lincoln, a peal of Five Thousand and Forty Bob Major (Eight in,) which took in performing three hours and thirty one minutes.

(Creswell's Nottingham, Newark, Retford & Worksop Journal, Sat. 8 July 1775; also Leicester and Nottingham Journal, of the same date, with 'Saint Peters in Nottingham' vice 'St. Peter's in this Town')

A peal of five thousand and forty Bob-major, (Eight in) was rung at St. Peter's in Nottingham on Thursday [in the] race week (the 6th inst.) by seven of the Nottingham Society of Change ringers, and one from the city of Lincoln. The time which the same took in performing was 3 hours and 31 minutes, being rung in a compass agreeable to the [size] of those bells.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 15 July 1775; the words in brackets, which were illegible, have been filled in from a report in the Stamford Mercury, Thurs. 13 July 1775.)

On Monday the 24th instant was rung at Howden, by the society of ringers from York-Minster, several peals of changes, on the light, new, silver ton'd bells, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, White-Chapel, London, which for the pitch and exactness in note were allowed by judges to be a very fine peal.

Those who want single bells, or peals of bells casting, may apply to the above Messrs. Pack and Chapman, or to Mr. Francis Hudson, on the Pavement, York, and may depend on having their orders faithfully and Speedily executed.

(York Chronicle, Fri. 28 July 1775)

METHWOLD, Norfolk.

ON TUESDAY, August 8, will be open'd here, a PEAL of SIX BELLS, the Tenor being new cast, and a new Treble added, by Messrs. OSBORN and ARNOLD, Bell-Founders, at Downham, Norfolk. All persons who are inclined to try their Skill in the Art of Ringing, will likewise meet with a kind Reception by their humble Servant,

JAMES KING.

At the King's Arms, where a good Ordinary will be provided.

(Norfolk Chronicle, Sat. 5 Aug. 1775 - advert)

On Saturday afternoon, soon after Miss Butterfield's acquittal, the bells at Croydon were set a ringing, and continued till nine o'clock, after which, the ringers adjourned to regale themselves at a public house, for which purpose the injured lady had sent them five guineas before she left the town.

(Morning Post and Daily Advertiser, Tues. 22 Aug. 1775)

Last Tuesday Morning a Peal of Five Thousand One Hundred and Thirty Grandsire Cators, (which lasted 3 hours and 40 minutes,) was compleatly Rung by the Nottingham Change Ringers upon the 10 Bells at Grantham, Lincolnshire, which are the only Peal of 10 in the County and allowed to be as compleat in all respects as any in the Kingdom; the 1st, 2d, 3d, 9th, and Tenor, are all new Bells, cast by Mr. Pack and Co. of White Chapel, London; the other 5 are part of the old set of 8, the new Tenor weighs 30 C. 26 lb. and her Pitch is in D – the Peal was Tuned and hung by Mr. John Wright of Nottingham.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 23 Sept. 1775; somewhat similar report in *Creswell's Nottingham, Newark, Retford & Worksop Journal*, Sat. 23 Sept. 1775, which states that the peal was 'in the Tittoms'; reported also in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 23 Sept. 1775 and *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 25 Sept. 1775; shorter reports in *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 21 Sept. 1775, *York Courant*, Tues. 26 Sept. 1775 and *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 26 Sept. 1775)

[Editorial note. This ring of bells was commented on by the Hon. John Byng (later 5th Viscount Torrington) in his diary of a tour in 1789, where he stated: 'The Bells are ten in number, and reckon'd very tuneable.']

On Wednesday last was opened at Boughton under the Blean, a new musical peal of six bells, by six men from Chilham, who rung a compleat peal of 720 changes, in twenty-four minutes.

John Cozens,	Treble.	Hugh Parker,	4th
Edward Cozens,	2d	James Hawker,	5th
Simon Ruck,	3d	John Faulkner,	Tenor.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 23 Sept. 1775)

We hear that the Inhabitants of Deritend and Bordesley are encouraged by many of their Friends in Birmingham, to solicit their Assistance in order to enable them to purchase a Clock and a Ring of Bells to compleat the Chapel in Deritend. - We doubt not but the Subscription will meet with that Success due to so laudable an Undertaking.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 25 Sept. 1775)

Friday last being the Anniversary of their Majesties Coronation, it was observed here with the usual Rejoicings.

On the above Occasion the Society of Ringers at Malton rung a compleat Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in three Hours and eight Minutes, called *Malton Delight*, which was allowed to be performed with great Accuracy.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 26 Sept. 1775)

We hear from Boughton, that on Sunday evening last was rung a compleat peal of 720 Changes, in 23 minutes 15 seconds, by six Gentlemen from Faversham; which for striking, and every other respect, far exceeded any thing ever performed on those musical bells.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 7 Oct. 1775)

We hear that last Week the new Peal of eight Bells, at Walsall, which was cast by Mr. Redall [*sic*], of Gloucester, was opened by several Societies of Ringers from Birmingham and other Parts; but on the 2d. Inst. the Society of Chapel Youths, from Stourbridge, rung single handed, the first true Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, in three Hours and ten Minutes, to the general Satisfaction of the Inhabitants, (*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 12 Oct. 1775)

Last Saturday towards evening, a young Man who had been up in the Tower of Christ Church, to see the Bell usually called Great Tom, had the misfortune, by some accident to fall from the top of the frame, in taking its dimensions, and the floor being extremely old and decayed, broke through, by which accident he fell to the next floor, upwards of 30 feet perpendicular, and expired in about ten minutes.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 21 Oct. 1775)

Tuesday last the New White Cloth Hall in this town was opened for the sale of broad-white cloths, duffils and coatings; upon which occasion the ringers at our parish church rung a compleat peal of Grandsire Tripples, which was never rung before, consisting of Five Thousand and Forty different Changes, without extremes, and was performed with great nicety and distinction in three hours and six minutes. It was allowed to be the first true peal that has hitherto been rung in ten courses (at least in this Country) as it was composed by one of the said ringers upon an entire new plan, and reserv'd for ringing for the first time till the above occasion.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 24 Oct. 1775 - per D. Cubitt; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

Norwich, Nov. 9, 1775

WHEREAS an absurd, uncivilised, bachanal Custom, of playing upon Instruments after Midnight, from Holymas to Christmas with Discord and harsh Sounds, is this Year disused, with mock Serenading (the Remains of Gothic Barbarism) has from calm Slumbers roused many an enraged Musician, occasioned several pregnant Women to call out before their Time, and kept Nurse Lullaby, with her many hundred Boys and Girls, from sweet Repose: ST. PETER'S RINGERS take this Opportunity of presenting their grateful Respects to the Parishioners, and other Gentlemen and Ladies, who have furnished this City with the most musical Peal of Bells in the Kingdom, and of acquainting them that they intend to entertain the Public with a Peal two Evenings in every Week; and hope from that Approbation, which has hitherto been expressed of their Ringing, that it will not be deemed an impertinent Application, waiting upon their Friends at Christmas with the Compliments of the Season. (*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 11 Nov. 1775 - advert; similarly in *Norwich Mercury*, same date.)

Lewes, November 13

On the 30th ult. was rung at Bolney, in this County, by Sussex men, a compleat peal of 5040 changes bob major, in three hours and ten minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 13 Nov. 1775)

On Wednesday was rung at St. Peter's Mancroft, a compleat Peal of Grandsire Cinques, containing 5170 changes, and not one bell out of its proper course in the space of four hours and one minute; to the surprise of all judges of the difficulty of the performance, especially as it was done at the first attempt: The truth of ringing preserved through the variety of these harmonic changes, gave a general satisfaction to the public, especially to those Gentlemen who were afraid to be so liberal as to subscribe to the Bells, out of a generous apprehension for the safety of the Steeple. This great peal thus accomplished, has shewn that the present ringers maintain the character which ST. PETER'S COMPANY has long supported, of being equal, if not superior, to any in the kingdom.

James Watling, treble, and called the peal.

John Peak - - - - -	2	John Dixon - - - - -	7
John Heaves - - - - -	3	John Read - - - - -	8
William Warner - - -	4	Simon Watling - - -	9
Thomas Barton - - -	5	John Dye - - - - -	10
Christopher Lindsey -	6	James Vines - - - - -	11

John and James Trowse, tenor. weight 41Cwt.

THOMAS COLE/ WILLIAM BELOE } Churchwardens

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 25 November 1775; similar report, but without the names of the ringers, in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date; similar report, with the names of the ringers, in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 25 Nov. 1775, under the by-line 'NORWICH, NOV. 23.')

[Trial in the court of King's Bench]

... Immediately after the defendants in the Corporation Cause were found guilty by the Jury in Westminster Hall, one of the Burgesses who was present, dispatched an Express to Nottingham with the News which arrived about two o'clock on Sunday when a general Joy diffused itself in the countenance of every Burgess in the Town; (The Members of the Corporation excepted) the bells at St. Peter's Church began ringing immediately, and after divine service in the afternoon, the bells at St. Mary's began ringing also, and continued all that night and a great part of the next day... This general joy was not confined to the town of Nottingham alone, for at Derby, Newark, and many of the adjacent villages the bells were rung upon the occasion.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 25 Nov. 1775)

On Thursday last the first Inst. the Society of Change Ringers, known by the Name of Robin Hood's Boys, performed at Mansfield the whole Peal of Grandsire Triples; containing 5040 Changes, in three Hours and ten Minutes.

(Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 9 Dec. 1775)

On Christmas day was rung, by the youths of Bradford church, a compleat peal of College, London, and Oxford tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, with great ease, in three hours and five minutes.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Tues. 2 Jan. 1776)

We hear from Leeds that the ringers of that place rung 5184 changes of new morning exercise, a treble bob peal, in 3 hours 16 minutes. The peal exceeds most peals for musick for 7th and 8th dodge behind the right way in every treble lead, through the whole peal, 'and every six treble lead [*sic*] makes [*sic*] a tripple dodge behind.

(Kentish Gazette, Wed. 3 Jan. 1776; James Barham's peal-book records the peal was rung on 23 December 1775)

1776

On Monday morning last, a Peal of eight thousand and forty-six Grandsire Cators (which lasted five hours and forty-eight minutes) was completely rung by a set of the Nottingham Change Ringers (for their own diversion) upon the ten bells at St. Mary's in that Town, the tenor of which weighs upwards of 34 hundred and a half, and was cast by Mr. Pack of London — — The above performance contain'd two thousand and thirty four more changes than the Peal of Cators, rung by the same Company on those Bells, on New years Day 1775.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 4 Jan. 1776; reports containing the same information in *Derby Mercury*, Fri. 5 Jan. 1776; *Creswell's [Nottingham] Journal*; *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*; *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, all Sat. 6 Jan. 1776; and *York Courant*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1776; shorter reports in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 8 Jan. 1776; and *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1776.)

ST. PETER'S RINGERS return Thanks to those Gentlemen and Ladies, who favoured them with Christmas Donations; which liberal Encouragement they shall endeavour to express a grateful Sense of, by continuing to ring such Concerto's weekly (composed by Signor MELCHIORANO and others) as have hitherto given universal Satisfaction.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 Jan. 1776; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, same date.)

Lewes, January 8

On Monday last, being New-Year's Day, 1776, was rung at Horsham Steeple, in this County, a compleat peal of the present date, 1776 Changes Bob Major. It was completed in one hour and ten minutes by the following persons:

* Henry Murrill, Treble	Thomas Lintott, of Horsham, 5th
Joseph Willard, of Chiddingly, 2d	* Mills Soper, 6th
* John Hurst, 3d	James Wilson, of Cuckfield, 7th
* Samuel Beacham, 4th	* Mich. Harmes, Tenor

N.B. Those marked thus * are Bolney Men

The Date of the Year Bob Major on Eight Bells cannot be rung again till 1792.—The sixth was brought home twelve times regularly with a double. - Wilson called the bobs

These are the Sussex Men who rung the 5040 Bob Major at Bolney, on the 30th of October last, as hinted in this Paper the 13th of November.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 8 Jan. 1776; shorter report, without the names of the band and with by-line 'Lewes, Jan. 8', in *Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 13 Jan. 1776. Short report also *Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 15 Jan. 1776.)

On Monday the 1st of January, was rung at Spalding in the county of Lincoln, forty two different peals, on five bells, being the compleat quantity of changes on seven bells, that is five thousand and forty changes in three hours and six minutes, by the following persons of that place, viz. treble, by Telford Burngate, second by John Hill, third by John Wing, fourth by William Sawer, and tenor by Wm. Cunnington, who called the peals.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 13 Jan. 1776)

Thursday last ... her Majesty's Birth-day... during the course of the day, several fine concerto's [*sic*] were rung by St. Peter's Mancroft ringers on their melodious peal, called the Royal Twelve.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 20 Jan. 1776)

On Monday last was rang at St. Margaret's Church in this Town, Mr. Holt's compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 20 minutes, by the following Persons, being a Part of the Society of Change Ringers, viz.

1 Joseph Staples	6 Joseph Smith
2 Ben Warburton	7 William Bull (who
3 William Thacker	called the Bobs)
4 William Ryder	8 Samuel Nichols and
5 Mark Grimes	James Slack

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 27 Jan. 1776)

On Shrove Tuesday was rung at Haddenham in the Isle of Ely, on six bells, a peal of 2000 Old Grandsire, in one hour and forty minutes, by the following persons: Richard Robinson, treble; Robert Porter, 2d; John Pake, 3d; Thomas Porter, 4th; Nath. Robinson, 5th; Matthew Porter, tenor. The tenor bell weighs 19 cwt. and 3-4ths.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 24 Feb. 1776)

The opening of St. Mary's bells, Shrewsbury, Salop

On Thursday last the new peal of eight bells, at St. Mary's, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel, London, were opened by the society of change ringers in the Town, and in the afternoon a peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES was rung on them by the same Society. They are universally allowed to be as melodious a peal for their weight as any in the kingdom, and appear to give general satisfaction. We hear the said society intend meeting there one night in a week; and the churchwardens have ordered the sexton not to permit people to have the keys of the steeple to jangle them, as a means to prevent that disturbance the neighbourhood have been apprehensive of.

The mottos on the bells are as follows:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Treble, | We are all fix'd here, by voluntary subscription,
in the year 1775. |
| 2d. | Happiness to all the worthy contributors. |
| 3d. | Success to the worshipful company of drapers. |
| 4th. | Unanimity and welfare to the inhabitants of Salop. |
| 5th. | Peace and prosperity to this church and nation. |
| 6th. | Prosperity to St. Mary's parish. |
| 7th. | E. Blakeway; M.A. Minister. Messrs. Watkys, Warren,
Ellesmere and Kent, Church-Wardens. |
| Tenor. | May all whom I summon to their graves, enjoy
everlasting bliss. |

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 16 March 1776; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 March 1776)

On Thursday last, was rung at St. Mary's, by the society in this town, the compleat Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES, composed by Mr. Holt, of the London College Youths, containing five thousand and forty changes, in two hours, fifty-eight minutes, and thirty seconds; which we are informed, is less time by some minutes than ever this peal was rung in; and it may justly be said, there never was a better performance.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 30 March 1776)

AT SIBSEY near Boston, Lincolnshire, on the 10th day of this inst. March, were rung on six bells, the tenor note F Sharp, seven Peals, which make five thousand and forty Changes, in two hours, twenty-five minutes and twenty seconds, by six Change-ringers residing in the said Parish; this performance was given strict attention to, and minutes by several principal inhabitants, who allow it to be performed very true and distinct, so have thought their duty due to the Performers, to publish it, by inserting it in this Paper.

N.B. These bells were recast and hung about four years ago, by Mr. Henry Harrison, of Barrow in the said county, and allowed by all judges who have heard them, to be remarkably tuneable and compleat.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 30 March 1776 - advert)

Collapse at Buckingham

We hear from Buckingham, that on Tuesday Evening last, about eight o'Clock, the Tower of the Church fell down. It is remarkable, that no Part of the Walls fell outwards, but that the upper Part, together with the Bells, and the Frame on which they hung, all fell nearly within the Square of the lower Part of the Tower.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 30 March 1776)

The Steeple of the Church at Buckingham, (which has been some Time in a tottering Condition) suddenly fell in the Night of last Tuesday. The Church is rendered entirely useless, and the whole, or at least a great part, of the Fabric, is so much damaged, that it is thought all of it must be rebuilt.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 1 April 1776)

On Monday the 18th of March was rung at Goudhurst, in this county, five thousand and forty of Bob Major, by the Maidstone youths, in three hours and fifteen minutes, by the following persons, viz.

James Brislee,	Treble	Robert Taffell,	5
William Sanders,	2	George Highland,	6
Thomas Cutbush,	3	Thomas Swinock,	7
James Swinock,	4	Dan. Whetstone,	Tenor

being the first ever performed on those bells.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 27 March - Sat. 30 March 1776)

A Ringing Match at Odiham

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give Notice to all Gentlemen Ringers, that there will be rung for at Odiham in Hampshire, on Tuesday in the Whitsun Week, Six exceeding good Hats for any Company that rings the best Round Peal to continue twenty minutes. Also Six very good Pair of Gloves for the second best and Six very handsome Ribbands for the third best Peal. Each Company to bring an Umpire, and the umpire of each winning Company to be entitled to the same Prize as the Ringers. To be decided by the Majority of Umpires. Each Company that rings to subscribe six Shillings towards the Prizes before ringing.—A good Dinner will be provided at the Bell Inn where the Prizes will be given. Each Person that rings to pay a Shilling for his Dinner and the Umpire's. To dine at One o'Clock and begin ringing at Three. Fifteen Minutes allowed between each Peal. No Odiham Man will be permitted to ring or be an Umpire.

The Bells are free for Trials any Day before the Time.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 22 April 1776 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

IN pursuance of an advertisement lately inserted in this paper, concerning Ringing at Odiham on Tuesday in the Whitsun week, mentioning that the several companies that ring were to subscribe towards the prizes, I beg leave to inform all ringers that please to favour me with their company on the above day, that the prizes will be given GRATIS, and equally as good as at first proposed.

By their most obedient servant,

J. WALTERS, BELL INN, ODIHAM.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 6 May 1776 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

TO be RUNG for, on Friday the 7th of June next, at John Day's, the George at Swallowfield, Berks, Five very good Hats, for any company that rings the best round Peal, and five Pair of Gloves for the second best; the Peal to continue fifteen Minutes; each Company to bring an Umpire, by a Majority of whom the Prizes will be decided; and the Umpires of the winning Companies to be entitled to the same Prizes as the Ringers. A good ordinary will be provided at One o'Clock, and to begin ringing at Three.

The Bells are free for Trials any Day before the Time.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 29 April 1776 - advert)

We have the Pleasure to inform the Publick, that the new Peal of eight Bells, (cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman, Bell-founders of White Chapel, London) for the Parish Church of Aston, near Birmingham (the Tenor whereof is near 21 cwt.) were delivered on Saturday last, to the Satisfaction of the Subscribers, as also to those who are conversant, and take Pleasure in that harmonious and melodious Musick.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 6 May 1776)

R I N G I N G

TO be RUNG for, on Tuesday the 4th of June next, (being his Majesty's Birth-Day) at Wallingford, in the County of Berks,—A large handsome SILVER CUP, value Five Guineas, by any Society of Change Ringers, that shall ring the best and compleatest Peal of Bob-Majors, or Grandsire-Tribbles; consisting of at least a Thousand Changes, or upwards; Any Company will have the Liberty to practise, or try the Bells, which go well, either before or in the Morning of the said 4th of June, till One o'Clock; when Dinner will be on the Table at the Plume of Feathers, in Wallingford aforesaid; where all Gentlemen who ring are desired to dine.—The Time of beginning to ring, leaving off, and other Regulations, will be settled by three Persons, to be chosen by the Company then present; whose Determinations are to be final and conclusive.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sats. 11 & 18 May 1776 – advert; also *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mons. 13 & 20 May 1776, where the prize is also called 'A large handsome SILVER CUP...')

SOCIETY of COLLEGE YOUTHS.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Churchwardens and Gentlemen of the Vestry of St. Bride, Fleet-Street, having obligingly ordered their Bells to be completely repaired at your Request, Notice is hereby given, that the Society will remove from the King's Head, Cripplegate, to Mr. Thomas's, the Barley Mow, Salisbury-Court, Fleet-Street, next Wednesday, at Seven in the Evening precisely.

J. COXON, Beadle.

(Advert in *Daily Advertiser*, Sat. 11 May 1776 – advert)

R I N G I N G.

TO be RUNG for, at Compton, Berks, on six new bells, six very good hats, and one for the umpire, on Tuesday the 4th of June next. Any company may ring, but no less than three companies (each of which must bring their own umpire) will be permitted to ring for the hats, and to be subject to such rules as shall be prescribed on the day of ringing. None to ring but what dine at the ordinary which will be on the table at one and to begin ringing at two o'clock. To ring round peals and no trials will be allowed on the morning of ringing. The prizes given by Mr. Mosdell.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mons. 13 & 20 May 1776 - advert)

Last Monday Evening the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at St. Sepulchre's a true and complete peal of 5[0]75 Gransire [*sic*] Catons, in three Hours and thirty-nine Minutes, being the greatest Number of Changes ever rung there in that Method.

(Public Advertiser, Thurs. 16 May 1776)

The opening of the new ring at Fulbourn

R I N G I N G.

NOTICE is hereby given, That the new Peal of SIX BELLS, at Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire, (cast by Mr. EDWARD ARNALD [*sic*] of St. Neots) will be opened on Friday the 24th inst. at ten o'clock in the morning, by the Society of CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.

Dinners will be provided for all Gentlemen Ringers who are pleased to favour them with their company, to be ready at Two o'clock, by

Their humble servants,

RICHARD FURBANK, at the Harrow,

JOHN WEBB, at the Coach and Horses,

ED. BEAUMONT, at the Plough & Crown

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 18 May 1776 - advert)

A few days ago a new peal of six bells, cast and hung by Mr. Arnold, of St. Neots, was opened at Fulbourn in this county, by the Cambridge ringers, who rung thereon 720 plain Bob, 720 double Bob, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob, to the general satisfaction of the parishioners and a great concourse of people, assembled on that occasion.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 8 June 1776)

Tuesday se'nnight was rung, at Saint Mary Redcliff church, Bristol, in honour of William Bromley Chester, Esq. by the company of Bristol scholars, a compleat peal of 5040 grandsire tripples: it was performed in three hours and thirty nine minutes.

(Felix Farley's Bristol Journal, Sat. 25 May 1776; also Pugh's Hereford Journal, Thurs. 30 May 1776.)

We are assured that on Monday last, was rung at Goudherst [*sic*], in this county, by the Leeds youths 5088 changes of New Oxford Tripple Bob, in 3 hours 14 minutes.

(Kentish Gazette, Sat. 1 June 1776)

Lewes, June 3

Yesterday Se'nnight the Society of Cumberland Youths, rung at Horsham, in this county, a true and compleat peal of 5152 bob majors in three hours and seventeen minutes, the greatest number ever rung in that Steeple. The same day as one William Hood, of Warbleton and his daughter were returning home from church, he dropped down suddenly in a fit, and expired without uttering a word.

(Sussex Weekly Advertiser, Mon. 3 June 1776)

A widely reported peal at King's Norton, Leicestershire

On Whitsun Tuesday morning, Mr. Holt's whole Peal of five thousand and forty Grandsire Tripples (which lasted three hours and thirty two minutes) was rung by eight of the Nottingham Change Ringers, upon the noble peal of eight bells at Norton, near Leicester, a seat of William Fortrey, Esq; at whose expence the beautiful edifice of Norton church hath been erected, and the new bells, clock, chimes, and organ, put up therein; as was also the new church and a set of 6 bells therein at Gaulby (near Norton), another seat of Mr. Fortrey.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 6 June 1776; reported also, with various differences in *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, and *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, all Sat. 8 June 1776; *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, *Northampton Mercury*, and *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, all Mon. 10 June 1776; also *Derby Mercury*, Fri. 7 June 1776, with the addition 'The above Company rang upon the Peal of 8 Bells at Church-Langton, in Leicestershire, and upon the 8 Bells at Uppingham, in Rutland, in their return from Norton.'; also *Creswell's [Nottingham] Journal*, Sat. 8 June 1776; and *York Courant*, Tues. 11 June 1776, with the addition, referring to Gaulby, 'who has in his house at that place, two large organs, one of which contains more than 30 stops.')

The peal of changes rung at Norton in this county on Whitsun-tuesday, by the Nottingham Change-ringers, consisted of the compleat peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, and not 5000 only, as was mentioned in our paper of last week by mistake.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 15 June 1776)

R I N G I N G

THIS is to give notice, that there will be given,
by John Smith at the Bowling Green House at Hurst
in the County of Berks, to be rung for on Hurst bells, on
Wednesday the 7th of July next, by companies, each com-
pany to bring their umpire, six very good hats and one for
the umpire to the set that rings the best round peal to con-
tinue fifteen minutes. Likewise the same quantity of good
gloves to the second best, and the same quantity of good
ribbons to the third best peal. No Hurst man to ring or be
an umpire. No person to ring, or be an umpire, but what
dines or pays for his dinner, which will be on the table at
one o'clock and to begin ringing at three.—.

(*Reading Mercury*, and *Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 10 June 1776; the advert continues with a notice about the next meeting of the Justices; the date of the contest was corrected to 17 July in the following Monday's issue.)

The ringers at Barnsley rung on his Majesty's birth-day, a compleat peal, consisting of 5040 changes, call'd *Taylor's Delight*, in three hours and six minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 11 June 1776)

ON his Majesty's Birth-Day the Ringers of Barnsley rung a compleat Peal of Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, exactly in three Hours and six Minutes.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 25 June 1776)

IN pursuance of the unanimous resolution of the inhabitants of the parish of Aveton-Gifford assembled in the vestry room the 21st day of June last, a Survey will be held on Friday the 12th day of July next, at the sign of the Anchor, in the village of Aveton-Gifford, in order to treat with any BELL-FOUNDERS who shall then and there attend, about new casting the BELLS of the aforesaid parish, which are now five, into a peal of six, on the most reasonable terms.

Dated Aveton-Gifford,

GILBERT TAYLOR.

June 21 1776.

Churchwarden.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 15 July 1776 – advert; in 1779 a ring of six bells was cast by the Penningtons out of the metal of the former five bells, two of which were cracked.)

On Monday last a fine set of six bells, with the addition of a treble, cast by Mr. Arnold of St. Neots, were fixed and finished at Sawston in this county, which will be opened with a fine peal on Tuesday next the 9th inst.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 July 1776)

On Tuesday last, Sir William Gordon and lady arrived at their seat at Garrenton near Loughborough, Leicestershire; the Bells at Loughborough, Shepshed and other villages near Garrenton rang on this joyful occasion and the ringers were very handsomely rewarded for their trouble.

(*Cresswell's [Nottingham] Journal*, Sat. 13 July 1776)

To all GENTLEMEN RINGERS.

On Monday, the 5th of August, will be Rung for at
Bishop's Lydeard, seven miles from Bridgwater, in the county of
Somerset, on their New Peal of EIGHT BELLS,

A Large Silver Bowl,

A Free Gift, by any eight men. Each sett to be obliged to raise the Bells in five minutes, ring twenty minutes up the pitch, and five minutes falling. The sett that makes the fewest faults in ringing the peal shall be intituled to the prize; to be adjudged by two sufficient umpires, chosen for that purpose; to be regulated and managed according to the usual custom of ringing for prizes.

There will be also a handsome SILVER SPOON awarded to the second best.

Trials at any time, (Sundays excepted) and each sett to have a sidesman. A good ordinary will be on table at One o'clock precisely, at the Bell Inn, in Bishop's-Lydeard aforesaid; and each sett to go to dinner on that day at the above Inn before they ring, or not be entitled to ring for the prize.

☞ The above peal of eight Bells was opened on Sunday last in a peal of three hours by the Bishop's-Lydeard ringers; and are thought by the best judges to be as fine a peal as any in Europe, both for their sweetness of tone and excellent workmanship.

Dated Bishop's-Lydeard, July 1, 1776.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mons 15 & 29 July 1776 – advert; a ring of eight bells had just been cast by Thomas Pyke of Bridgwater. The 'peal of three hours' is unlikely to have been of change ringing.)

On Monday last the new Peal of eight Bells at Aston were opened with Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles in three Hours and four Minutes by the St. Martin's Youths of this Town. The above Bells were cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman and hung by Mr. Samuel Turner, all of London, and gave universal satisfaction to the Company assembled on that Occasion.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 22 July 1776 - per E.E. Speake; similar report in *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 5 Aug. 1776, starting 'On Monday the 15th of July last...')

On Monday last at Deritend Chapel, near this Town, was opened a new Peal of eight Bells; and on Tuesday was rung by the St. Martin's Youths in three Hours and five Minutes, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Major.—The above Bells were cast by Mr. Robert Wells of Aldbourne, in Wiltshire, and are pronounced by Judges (for their Weight of Metal) to be as musical a Peal as any in the Kingdom. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 5 Aug. 1776)

On Tuesday last, at the opening of the new peal of eight bells at Deritend chapel, a compleat peal of 5040 Bob majors was rung by the St. Martin's Youths of Birmingham, in three hours and five minutes. The above bells were cast by Mr. Wells in Wiltshire, and hung by Mr. Samuel Turner in London, which afforded the highest satisfaction to a very great concourse of people assembled on the occasion. (*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 5 Aug. 1776)

New bells for Dunstable

On Monday the 19th instant, will be opened at the parish church of Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, a new peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs Pack and Chapman of London; hung by Samuel Turner, bell-hanger, in White Chapel. (*Morning Post*, Thurs. 8 Aug. – Sat. 10 Aug. 1776)

We hear from Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, that on Monday the 19th instant, a new Peal of eight Bells will be opened in the Parish-Church there, cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman, of London; and hung by Samuel Turner, Bell-hanger, in White-Chapel. (*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 12 Aug. 1776)

On Monday a new peal of eight bells will be opened in the parish church of Dunstable in Bedfordshire. (*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 17 Aug. 1776)

We hear from Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, that on Tuesday the 20th instant, was rung, on the new Peal of eight Bells there, by Members of the College Youths Society from London, a Bob-Major Peal of 5040 Changes, in three Hours and 27 Minutes. (*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 26 Aug. 1776; the College Youths' peal book gives the time of the peal as 3h. 18m.)

August ye 12th, 1776. On Monday Being his Royal highness the Prince of Wales Birth Day it was observed By the Leicester Ringers who Rang this peal of 6,012 Grandsire Caters in the Tittoms, which took in performing Four Hours and Twenty Minutes, which we can safely say that a peal of such a Length Never was performed so Compleat By Never a Society in this Kingdom, it Being the first Attempt ever made for the same, and was Rung on those Much Esteemed peal of ten Bells of St. Margaret's, Leicester, the Tenor of which weighs 29 hundred 3 qrs. The Names of the Ringers:

Wm. Ryder	Treble	Mark Graham	7th
Benjm. Warburton	2nd	John Martin	8th
Thos. Armstrong	3rd	Wm. Bull	9th and calld
Thos. Scott	4th	Samuel Nichols	} Tennor
Wm. Thaker	5th	and	
Thos. Michell	6th	James Slack	

(John Martin MS; cf *Ringing World*, 19 February 1915)

DIED. ... On Saturday, Mrs. Chapman, wife of Mr. Chapman, of Whitechapel, bell-founder. (*General Evening Post*, Sat. 17 Aug. - Tues. 20 Aug. 1776)

On Monday last, being the birth-day of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was rung on those melodious and deep-toned bells, at St. Margaret's, Leicester, a peal of 6012 grandsire caters, in 4 hours and 20 minutes. - The peal was composed by that eminent proficient in the very curious and difficult art of pricking changes for bells, W.D. CROFTS, of NOTTINGHAM. (*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 17 Aug. 1776)

The Antient Society of College Youths on Monday rang at St. John's, Mortlake, in Surrey, a true and compleat Peal of 10,640 Bob Majors in six Hours and thirty-one Minutes; i[t] being the greatest Number of Changes ever rung on those Bells.

(*Public Advertiser*, Wed. 28 Aug. 1776)

Yesterday Morning was rung (in three Hours and four Minutes) on the new Bells at Deritend, Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths of this Town.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 9 Sept. 1776)

John Moss, who has been Sexton of the Parish Church of Ashton under-Lyne, 36 years, came here on Sunday last, accompanied by his seven Sons, who rung the eight Bells, for Divine Service, at St. John's Church in a skilful Manner.

(*Manchester Mercury, and Harrop's General Advertiser*, Tues. 17 Sept. 1776)

On Sunday last was rung, in three Hours and 13 Minutes, at the Parish Church of Bromsgrove, by the Ringers of that Place, a compleat Peal of 5040 Plain Bob Tripples, being the first Peal ever rung on those Bells, and the first Time that Peal hath been rung in England. - Mr. Bishop, Bob-Caller (*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 19 Sept. 1776; *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 23 Sept. 1776, starting 'On Sunday the 15th Instant was rung ...'; similar reports in *Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 26 Sept. 1776; and *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 28 Sept. 1776, and *Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 2 Oct. 1776.)

ADVERTIZEMENT.

To the Clothiers and Woollen Manufacturers.

The new Invented SPINING MACHINES or JENNY'S, FOUND upon Experience to be so great an Acquisition, and of so much Importance to the Woollen Manufacturer, are made in the compleatest Manner, at T. Pykes, Wholesale Manufactory, in Bridgwater, Somerset. -- He has made a great Improvement on the above Machine, by constructing a Barrel, nearly one half the Weight Less than those made in Yorkshire, consequently must run much lighter.

The said T. Pyke, has lately Erected, one of the largest and most commodious Bell-Foundry in England; where Tower Bell Work, in all its various Branches, Bells and Peals of Bells, are undertaken, cast and hung in the most improved Manner; Church Clocks, Chimes, Church Branches or Chandiliers, from Ten to One Hundred Guineas each. -- Parishes may have Security lodged in their Hands, not only for the Value, but for the speedy return of Bells; and for their being compleated in the most masterly Manner. He will engage, if required, to compleat a Peal of Bells, of Ten Thousand Weight in one Month after the old Bells are delivered.

(*Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, Fri. 4 Oct. 1776 – advert; also *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 3 Oct., Thurs. 21 Nov. and Thurs. 19 Dec. 1776, and 16 Jan. 1777.)

Birmingham, Oct. 14. Last Thursday Evening was rung on the new and truly harmonious Bells at Aston, near this Town, a most excellent Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, in three Hours and 18 Minutes, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths of this Place.

(*Public Advertiser*, Wed. 16 Oct. 1776)

On Monday was rung in the Parish Church of All Saints, in Worcester, a compleat and harmonious Peal of 5040 Gransire [*sic*] Tripples, in three Hours and six Minutes, by the Youths of All Saints in that City.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 21 Oct. 1776)

We hear that St. Peter's bells will be rung three evenings in every week the ensuing season by the old Steeple Band, who will entertain the Town with several compleat Circumsonos, particularly the much-admired Oxford Campanatum and the last new peal of Norwich Harmonies, as composed by Messieurs Dye, Lindsey, Vines, &c., &c.
(*Norwich Mercury*, 26 Oct. 1776; similarly *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date)

SOCIETY of COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE Gentlemen of the this Society are desired to take Notice, that their annual Feast will be held on Tuesday next, the 5th Day of November, at the Globe Tavern, in Fleet-street, as usual. The Master and Stewards earnestly request the Attendance of the Society in general, at the Parish Church of St. Mary le Bow, Cheapside, at Twelve o'Clock precisely, when a Sermon will be preached on the Occasion.

Dinner on Table exactly at Three o'Clock.

(Advert in *Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 31 Oct. 1776)

On Monday last was rung, at the Holy Trinity in this city, in 3 hours and 1 minute, a complete peal of 5040 Bob-Major, which gave general satisfaction.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 4 Nov. 1776)

On Wednesday the 30th of October was rung at Maidstone 5040 of Bob Major, in three hours and fifteen minutes, being the first of that kind ever performed on those bells by all Maidstone ringers.
(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 2 Nov. - Wed. 6 Nov. 1776)

On Tuesday last was rung at Hales Owen, Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in two Hours and 48 Minutes, by the Society of that Place.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 11 Nov. 1776)

On Saturday last the Society of London Youths meeting in Cripplegate, did ring at the Parish Church of St. Saviour's, Southwark, a compleat Peal of 5236 Grandsire Cinques in four Hours one Minute, being the most Changes in the least Time ever performed on twelve Bells.
(*Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 11 Nov. 1776)

At New-Malton, on the arrival of the News of the Taking of New-York, the Bells were immediately set a-ringing, and in the Forenoon a Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 Changes, called *Howe's Delight*, was rung in one Hour and 29 Minutes, with great Accuracy. The Bells continued ringing by Intervals the whole Day; and the Evening concluded with Illuminations, Bonfires, and other Demonstrations of Joy.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 19 Nov. 1776)

ON the 15th of October, 1776, was fixed in the Church Steeple of Holbeach, in Lincolnshire, A new set of CHIMES, which play nine different tunes on eight bells. These chimes are allowed by competent judges to be as complete as any in England.

St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire. EDW. ARNOLD, fecit.

N.B. Churchwardens of Parishes where bells, church clocks, and chimes are wanted, may, by sending their orders as above, be supplied upon the most reasonable terms: as to the manner in which orders of this kind are executed, the advertiser refers them to any of those places at which he has been employed.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sats. 23 & 30 Nov. and 7 Dec. 1776 - advert.)

Tuesday se'nnight, was rung at St. Mary's in this town, Mr. Holt's celebrated peal of grandsire tripples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hours, and 58 minutes.
(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 30 Nov. 1776)

E P W O R T H

November 27, 1776.

ONE PEAL of SIX BELLS, new hung, and three of them cast by Mr. Harrison, of Barrow, are to be opened on Thursday the 12th of December.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 Dec. 1776 - advert)

A few Days ago 5040 Changes were rung upon the six Bells at Hemingford-Grey in Huntingdonshire, being seven different Peals, which lasted three Hours and 13 minutes.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 9 Dec. 1776 - advert)

On Monday last was rung at the Parish Church of Bromsgrove, in three Hours and one Minute, by the Ringers of that Place, Holt's celebrated Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Grandsire Tripples, being the first that ever was rung on those Bells.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 12 Dec. 1776; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 16 Dec. 1776; similar report in *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 16 Dec. 1776)

RINGING at BOLNEY, in SUSSEX.

NOTICE is hereby given,

To all LOVERS of that ART,

THAT on Monday, the 30th of this Instant December, will be pulled down for, at the EIGHT BELLS in that Steeple, a PEAL of 6048 CHANGES BOB MAJOR, it being the longest length ever attempted in this County, and to be performed by the following Persons:

* Henry Murrell, Treble	Thomas Lintott, of Horsham, 5
Joseph Willard, of Chiddingly, 2	* Mills Soper, 6
* John Hurst, 3	James Wilson, of Cuckfield, 7
* Samuel Beeching, 4	* Michael Harmes, Tenor.

The five Men with this Mark * are BOLNEY Men.

☞ The Peal to begin at Nine in the Morning, and Dinner will be on Table at Two o'Clock.

N.B. The above Eight Men are all Members of the Society of CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, in LONDON.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 23 Dec. 1776; apparently unsuccessful.)

A dispute in Cambridge

Cambridge, Great St. Mary's Parish, Dec. 26, 1776

WHEREAS some disputes have arisen between the Steeple-keeper, or parish Bell-ringer, and a set of people who call themselves The University Ringers; and whereas the said persons (who make a considerable advantage from the use of the bells, without paying anything to the parish, towards the large annual expence for bell-ropes, and maintaining the tackle of the bells in repair) have withdrawn themselves from making any further use of the bells, unless the Church-wardens will invest them with such a power in the steeple, as hath never been before allowed, and which it is deemed improper for them to grant. This is to give notice, that if any society of ringers are [*sic*] willing to ring in the said steeple, they shall be welcome at all convenient times, and the said steeple keeper shall attend them when desired: or any set of young men, desirous of learning to ring, shall have access to the bells on proper application.

N.B. Very few of the present persons (who have assumed to themselves so honourable a title, without any just pretensions to it,) will be admitted in future.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 Dec. 1776 - advert.)

* * *The disputes alluded to in the advertisement in the third column, are now adjusted, the Society of Ringers having appointed a steeple-keeper solely to attend on their business.*
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1777 – editorial note, referring to the advert below, on page 3.)

To the Gentlemen of the UNIVERSITY and TOWN
of CAMBRIDGE.

Since misrepresentations are odious, and invectives illiberal, truth alone should govern the man; but the composer of the ingenious Advertisement, dated December 26, has paid so little regard to it, that no sooner had he obtained a very imperfect idea of the matter, than he dispersed his judgment thereon in the newspaper, but very prudently concealed his name, to avoid the censure of the public. - He thus begins; "WHEREAS SOME DISPUTES," but what the disputes are he leaves the reader to determine, or otherwise take those erroneous reports for a fact, which he himself has so indiscreetly imbibed. - But to cite record, and that with candour; these disputes were occasioned by the Steeple-keeper, who, from time to time, has been guilty of many irregularities, and fined for them, notwithstanding which, we have frequently returned him the money, on his promising to take better care for the future: many instances of his vulgar behaviour to the society might be attested, yet we do not in any measure mean to set forth any thing that may tend to deprive him of the places which he holds from the university and parish.

He is compelled by virtue of articles, which to preserve good order in the society have been many years appointed, to open the doors, and attend at the steeple three nights in a month, for which he receives 1s. 8d. although there are not six months in a year that he attends as he ought to do.

One of those articles requires the Steeple-keeper to give the signal, which we call TOLLING OUT, by which the society is to assemble at St. Mary's, on promotions, the admittance of noblemen, and marriages; but this he performs with the greatest irregularity, notwithstanding he receives 2s. 4d. out of every guinea, which is almost as much again as a member receives for his share. One of the last instances of this kind, was on the 4th of November, when the present Vice-Chancellor was chosen, at which time, instead of giving the usual notice to the society, that they might congratulate his worship when going out of the Senate-House, he, nor any of his appointing, did appear till some of the society had completed the business, which the Steeple-keeper is bound to perform, or be subject to a fine

He proceeded in the like manner on the 7th of November, when Mr. Keene was elected member for the town; in consequence of which, he received notice on the 14th of the same month, being the monthly meeting-night, that he should pay the fine required in the articles; but he refusing, it passed on till the 12th of December, which was the next meeting night, in the course of which month, the Steeple-keeper having received three guineas, not only embezzled the 2s. 4d. out of the Vice-Chancellor's guinea, but, presuming he should be fined for not attending on the day of Mr. Keene's election, embezzled likewise 16s. 4d. out of the said three guineas, on the best supposition that Mr. Keene did intend giving seven guineas, whereas we did not receive the money till some time after he had made that embezzlement, and if we had, it would have been quite contrary to our articles, as no member can be fined till the money is in the steward's hand; however, we leave it to the judgment of the candid public, whether there proceedings are not in every degree improper and unjust.

But to return to our learned advertiser, who thus again proceeded; "A SET OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE ASSUMED TO THEMSELVES SO HONOURABLE A TITLE, AS THAT OF THE UNIVERSITY RINGERS," We indeed could not expect any less, from a person whose abilities are confined to the narrow bounds of pedantry. His ignorance prevented his knowing that it is a title which has been allowed upwards of two centuries by the University, and that the predecessors of this company, as University Ringers, complimented Queen Elizabeth when her Majesty visited Cambridge in 1564, in the vice-chancellorship of Dr. Hawford, matter of Christ's College, at St. Benedict's and St. Edward's churches, St. Mary's not being then finished; as they also did on Queen Anne's visitation, April 16, 1704; and King George's, October 6, 1717.

John Major, student of Christ's College, and afterward professor of St. Andrew's, in Scotland, in the year 1518, tells us in his *Historia Britanniae*, book iii. c. i. that he frequently laid in his bed to hear the melody of the bells, which the University Ringers rung on festivals early in the morning; and, as the University stood near the river, was heightened by the reverberation of the sound from the water. - Besides, if this excellent advertiser could but have a sight of the register of the fees in the university, he would likewise find, that we to this day are not passed unnoticed; and we have been honoured with many ingenious members from that venerable body in cultivating the art of ringing, as evidently appears in the printed register of the society, beginning in the year 1667, and regularly transmitted down to the present time. - He is equally surprized that we do not contribute something towards the repairs of the TACKLE, as he terms it, meaning, we suppose, the ropes and clappers of the bells; but

this is an instance never known in the kingdom: the society indeed, by their elaborate proceedings, raised a subscription when the great bell was broken, to accomplish the peal, which is now justly esteemed one of the finest in England.

To conclude, we did not absent ourselves from the steeple till we had related the case to the Churchwarden, from whom we found no redress, which compelled us to proceed in the manner we have done, and which is still our resolution, not to put up any longer with the ill-treatment and imposition of the Steeple keeper; but we shall ever be willing, according to our ancient custom, to oblige the University and Town, provided we may be allowed to appoint one that will do the business more properly; otherwise very different measures taken, that we may give satisfaction with more propriety.

Cambridge, Jan. 1, 1777.

The CAMBRIDGE RINGERS.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1777 – advert)

On Friday last was rung in the Parish Church of Bromsgrove, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, in three Hours and three Minutes, by the Chapel Youths of Stourbridge: and on Saturday at the same Place, a compleat Peal of 5152 Bob Majors was rung by the St. Martin's Youths of Birmingham. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 30 Dec. 1776)

On Christmas-day in the evening one of the sets of change ringers at Knaresbrough, rung a complete peal of 5040 tripples, called *Knaresborough's Evening Pleasure*, which was performed with the greatest distinction in three hours and twelve minutes.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 31 Dec. 1776; similar report in *York Courant*, Tues. 31 Dec. 1776; see also *York Courant*, 7 Jan. 1777, for a peal by the other Knaresborough society.)

Monday was rung at St. Michael's, Bath, by the Union Society, a compleat peal of 1776 bob major, being the date of the year, which performance is thought to be very extraordinary by every gentleman conversant in ringing.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1777)

We hear from Wye, that the Leeds youths rung on those bells, the day after Christmas day last, a compleat peal of 5088 changes of New Oxford, Tripple Bob or Leeds Delight, in three hours and fifteen minutes. And on New Year's Day, the said youths rung on their bells 1777 compleat changes of the same peal, answering to the date of the year, which they intend to ring annually, and may be continued on eight bells until the year 40320, although a certain paragraph from Sussex said, the number of changes answering the date of the year, could not be rung before the year 1792.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 4 Jan. - Wed. 8 Jan. 1777; also *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 14 Jan. 1777)

1777

To the Clothiers and Woollen-Manufacturers.
The Newly-Invented SPINNING-MACHINES,
or JENNIES,

Found, upon Experiment, to be so great an Acquisition, and
of so much Importance to the Woollen Manufacturer,

ARE Made, in the completest Manner, at
T. PYKE's Wholesale Manufactory, in Bridgwater,
Somerset. He has made a great improvement on the above
machine, byconstructing [*sic*] a barrel nearly one half the weight
less than those made in Yorkshire, consequently must run
much lighter.

The said T. Pyke has lately erected one of the largest
and most commodious Bell-Founderies in England; where
Tower-Bell Work, in all its various branches, Bells, and
Peals of Bells, are undertaken, cast, and hung in the most
improved manner; Church-Clocks, Chimes, Church-
Branches or Chandeliers, from Ten to One Hundred Gui-
neas each. Parishes may have security lodged in their
Bells, and for their being completed in the most masterly
manner. He will engage, if required, to complete a Peal
of Bells, of Ten Thousand Weight, in One Month after
the Old Bells are delivered.

(Advert in *Morning Post and Daily Advertiser*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1777; a very similar advert appeared in
Trewman's Exeter Flying Post, Fri. 4 Oct. 1776.)

On New-Year's Day, in the Morning, was rung at Knaresbro' by the other Set of Change
Ringers there, a compleat Peal of Triples, call'd *Knaresborough's Morning Delight*, consisting of 5040
Changes, very distinctly, in three Hours and six Minutes.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 7 January 1777; also *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 14 Jan. 1777, but '...rung at
Knaresbrough'; see also *York Courant*, 31 Dec. 1776 - under 1776 - for the 'other' set of Knaresbrough
ringers)

Last Monday was rung at St. Michael's, Bath, by the Union Society, a compleat Peal of 1777
Bob-Majors, being the Date of the present Year: which is thought, by those versed in Ringing, to be an
extraordinary Performance.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 13 Jan. 1777)

Competition at Shoreditch and the long peals of Oxford Treble Bob Royal

On Monday was rung, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, by the society of Cumberland Youths, a
true and compleat peal of triple bob royal, consisting of 6240 changes, with the six, twelve times wrong
and twelve times right, in four hours and twelve minutes, being the first true six thousand ever rung on
ten bells.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 22 Jan. 1777)

On the 19th [*sic* - all other reports, including the College Youths' peal book give the 18th]
Instant, a Peal of Ten Thousand Changes, of Oxford Treble-Bob, Ten in, (which continued Eight
Hours) was Rung on the Peal of Ten Bells, at the Parish-Church of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, London,
by Ten of the Society of London College Youths, in the first Attempt they ever made for the same.
Although the above Society have rung longer Peals, both in Catons and Bob Major; yet as the above
10,000 was rung single-handed, and in that superior and very intricate method of TREBLE-BOB,
(which is more to be considered than the number of changes) it is justly allowed to be the greatest
performance ever done. The weight of the Tenor is 29 hundred and 3 quarters, and the whole Peal of
Bells was cast by the eminent Founders, Messrs. Lester, Pack and Chapman, of White-Chappel,
London. - On Sunday the 9th instant, the above Society rung a Peal of 5232, Oxford Treble Bob, 12 in,
at St. Brides, Fleet-street, which was the greatest performance ever done on 12 bells.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 1 March 1777 - immediately below the report of the long peal
of Grandsire Caters at St. Margaret's, Leicester.)

On Tuesday the 18th of February last, was rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, in 7 Hours and 28 Minutes, a compleat Peal of 10,000 Oxford Treble Bob, by the Society of College Youths, London. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 10 March 1777)

To the PRINTER of the LEICESTER and NOTTINGHAM JOURNAL

Sir,

Having been informed that your authority for inserting the 10,000 Treble Bobs rung at Shoreditch London, is much doubted in Leicester. I beg leave through the channel of your Paper to observe, that the information was given by Mr. Fryer of London, (a Gentleman of veracity) who was at Nottingham a few days after the peal was rung, and expressed his desire of having it appear in the Nottingham Journal, the article of his intelligence was settled according to his directions, and by me copied and sent to you. I desiring to know how many course ends were contained in the composition, he promised to give me a line in that respect as soon as he got to Town, and I accordingly received a letter from him, dated the 2d instant, wherein he says, "The Peal that the College Youths rang at Shoreditch was exactly 10,000 to a change of Treble Bob, 10 in, it run in twenty courses and comprehended the sixty course ends and a very fine Peal, the Cumberlands are in high spirits, and think of beating the College Youths Peal, but I think they will find a very hard task of it." - Now Mr. Fryar is a Member of the Cumberlands in opposition to whom the College Youths rung the above Peal on the very bells whereon the Cumberlands weekly practice, and the intelligence coming from the opposite party, and not from the Performers, is a stronger proof of the performance being compleated, and well too, than if it had come from the College Youths themselves. - There were no more encomiums passed upon it, than it justly merited, for though the College Youths have rung 10,098 Caters at Fulham, and Westham in Essex, as well as 15,120 Major at Westham, whose tenor weighs 27 hundred wt. and all single handed, yet the above 10,000 on account of its method is far superior; Peals rung with changing the Performers during the time of ringing are little noticed for their merit, not even the 40,320 rung by 17 performers at Leeds, in Kent, in the year 1760, which continued near 28 hours being the whole complement upon 8 bells.

I am, Sir
Your Humble Servant,
W.D.C.

Nottingham, March 20, 1777.

P.S. I have fully explained your imposition on the performance said to be done at York in the former letter. [see below]

The letter from Mr. Fryer is in the hands of the printer to be inspected by anyone for their satisfaction.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 22 March 1777)

To the Printer of the Leicester and Nottingham Journal.

In confirmation of what has been already said in your paper on the late performance at Shoreditch Church, I send you a letter (dated the 24th. instant) which I received from Mr. Joseph Monk, of Sherborn Lane, London, a Member of the Society of College Youths.

I am, Sir, Your Humble Servant
W.D.C.

Nottingham March 26 1777.

Mr. Monk in his letter (which anyone for their satisfaction may inspect at the Printer's,) says, "it is a fact that the Society of College Youths, rung at Shoreditch, London, a true and compleat Peal of 10,000 Oxford Treble Bob, 10 in, and (disclaiming partiality) the curious Composition, length of time, and above all the masterly manner in which it was rung may justly entitle it, the most excellent performance ever achieved, from the first invention of the ingenious art of ringing to the present time.

The Performers were.

Mess.	Richardson,	Treble. Monk	6th.
	Darquitt	2d. Lyford	7th.
	Hatt	3d. Holdsworth	8th.
	Purser (who call'd)	4th. E. Silverster [<i>sic</i>]	9th.
	Povey	5th. Muggeridge, junr.	Tenor.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 29 March 1777)

On Saturday last the society of Cumberland Youths rang, at St. Leonard Shoreditch, a true and compleat peal, consisting of ten thousand two hundred changes of treble bob royal, ten in, and was completed in seven hours and forty minutes, being the greatest performance that ever was rang on ten bells.

(Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser, Wed. 14 May 1777)

On Monday last the Society of College Youths celebrated her Majesty's Birth Day at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, with ringing a true and compleat Peal of 11,045 [*sic*] Oxford Treble Bob Royal, which was completed in eight Hours and two Minutes, and esteemed the most capital Performance from the first Invention of the Art.

(Daily Advertiser, Wed. 21 May 1777)

[*Editorial Note:* The peal of 10,000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal on 18 February 1777 sparked a competition between the College Youths the Cumberland Youths, with longer and longer peals in the method rung on the same bells. On 5 April 1777 the Cumberland Youths rang one of 8,120 changes, and then followed it with one of 10,200 changes on 10 May 1777. The peal book claims that this was 'the first true Ten Thousand ever Rang in that Method.' Not to be outdone, the College Youths rang a peal of 11,080 changes on 19 May 1777, reported above. There the matter rested, until the Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 12,000 changes on 27 March 1784, the peal book claiming it as 'the first Peal of that length ever Rung.' This must refer to this method, as longer peals had been rung in other methods. Bearing in mind the weight of the bells and the standard of bell-hanging in those days, this long length must be considered to be one of the greatest achievements of all time. This latter peal was reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 24 April 1784, for which see below.]

Monday was married at Little Waltham, Roger Beetton, of Hatfield Peverel, bachelor, to Lettice Poole, Little Waltham, spinster; their ages amounts [*sic*] to 140; there were upwards of an hundred persons present at the ceremony, after which a peal was rung by five brothers, sons of Mr. John Hardwell, farmer, in the aforesaid parish.

(Chelmsford Chronicle, Fri. 7 Feb. 1777)

Last Week was compleatly rung out, at Goudhurst, in this county, by eight young men born within one mile of the said parish church, the quarter peal of Bob Majors, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty-eight minutes. The Tenor weighs 2700 weight. - What makes this performance the more to be admired is, they have not had the advantage of eight bells in the steeple not full eleven months, whereby they might have gained experience; their ages put together, makes [*sic*] no more than 180 years, which is a great addition to the honour of these promising youths.

William Apps	Treble	Thomas Apps	5
Wil. Manwaring	2	Edward Wickham	6
Tho. Manwaring	3	Richard Standen	7
John Apps	4	G. Hammond	Tenor

On Tuesday last the 4th instant was rung at Faversham, 5040 changes of Bob Major, in three hours sixteen minutes by the following persons, all inhabitants, who never attempted to ring this peal before (one man only excepted) being the first time it was ever performed by Faversham men, viz.

Thomas Epps	Treble	William Sutton	5
Robert White	2	John Fox	6
Thomas Barnes	3	John Jancock [<i>sic</i>]	7
William Jekin [<i>sic</i>]	4	William Carter	Tenor

(Kentish Gazette, Wed. 5 Feb. - Sat. 8 Feb. 1777)

The Ringers Challenge is an advertisement and must be paid for if inserted.

(Kentish Gazette, Wed. 5 March - Sat. 8 March 1777)

Lewes, Feb. 10

On Monday the 3d instant was rung at Bolney Steeple, by the eight Sussex men (whose names were mentioned in this paper on the 23d of December) belonging to the Cumberland Youths in London, a peal of 5680 changes of bob major; it was performed in three hours and thirty-five minutes. This is the longest length ever rung in this county.

(Sussex Weekly Advertiser: Or, Lewes Journal, Mon. 10 Feb. 1777; see above for relevant advert.)

Oxford, February 22.

On Tuesday last was rung at Abingdon, upon ten hand-bells, a compleat peal of 5040, plain bob method, in three hours and ten minutes, by the five following persons, viz.

Thomas Taylor,	-	1 2
Henry Parker,	-	3 4
Jeremiah Wright,	-	5 6
Benjamin Glanville,	-	7 8
Edward Brooks.	-	9 10

It is the first peal of the kind that ever was rung in this kingdom.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 24 Feb. 1777; also *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 22 Feb. 1777; reported also in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 March 1777 and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 8 March 1777, but without details of the band)

The long peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters at Leicester

February 25th, 1777. It was Agreed By the Leicester Change Ringers to go for a peal of Ten Thousand and Eighty Caters in ye Tittoms, which They Did Every Monday Morning and after a Tryal of Several, They Compleated Their Desires. Four Times They Rung Eight Thousand and Once they Rung Nine Thousand, and then ye man that Rung the Third Miss'd his salley, and ye peal was Lost. - Another Tryal took place on the 25th Day of February 1777, and 5000 Changes was Rung in the Morning and In ye afternoone of ye same Day they Compleated the Great peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters in ye Tittoms, in Seven hours and Twelve Minutes; the Next Day the Society met and chear'd Three of the Oldest Members Through the principle Streets of the Town, and the Inhabitants of ye town made a Subscription and it Ris to the Eight of Thirty Three pounds and upwards which Names are hear wrote under.

Begin from St. Margrets Church (Then follows 22 columns of names of subscribers).
(John Martin MS; cf *Ringing World*, 19 February 1915)

Tuesday last was rung by the Leicester Scholars on those musical Bells at St. Margaret's, Leicester, a Peal of Ten Thousand and Eighty Grandsire Caters, (of that Sort called Tittoms,) in Seven Hours and Twelve Minutes. - The Company attempted the Peal in the Morning, but after ringing about 5000 Changes, by an Accident the Peal was lost; However in less than Half an Hour, each man resolutely took his Bell again, and went through the intire Peal to the Satisfaction of a very great Number of Hearers. - To those who are unacquainted with the Art of ringing Changes, such a Performance may seem to have nothing extraordinary in it besides bodily Labour; But we beg Leave to say, that to ring such a Peal through; requires a more severe and incessant Attention of Mind, than any the most difficult Mathematical Calculation, and more Art in the Execution, than any Performance (however neat) upon a Musical Instrument. - We will not say this Peal has never been rung before; but it has been so seldom, that we cannot now recollect another Instance of it.

After the Peal was over, the Ringers were entertained at one of the principal Inns; and the next Day three of the Elders of the Society were chaired through the principal Streets of the Town, attended by the Militia Band of Music; - And Joy seemed to shew it-self in every Countenance.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 1 March 1777; much shorter report in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 March 1777; another (different) short report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 8 March 1777 which states that 'the bobs for carrying the peal were composed by W.D. Crofts of Nottingham.')

Tuesday se'night was rung, by a single set of the Leicester scholars, for their amusement, a peal of 10,080 grandsire caters, which lasted seven hours and seven minutes, upon the ten bells of St. Margaret's church in Leicester, the tenor of which weighs thirty hundred. The following are the persons who rang:

William Rider	Treble	John Martin	6th
Benj. Warburton	2d	Mark Graham	7th
Tho. Armstrong	3d	Joseph Smith	8th
Thomas Scott	4th	William Bull	9th
William Thacker	5th	Who called the peal.	

Samuel Nichols and Richard Wright - Tenor.

This is supposed to be the greatest performance ever done by one set of ringers.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 March 1777)

To the Printer of the NORFOLK CHRONICLE.

SIR,

PERUSING your paper of Saturday last, I observ'd the following paragraph, which if you please to insert again, with the following answer to it, you will much oblige your very humble servant, J.R.

'Tuesday se'nnight was rung, by a single set of
'the Leicester *Scholars*, for their amusement, a peal
'of 10,080 grandsire cators, in the space of seven
'hours and seven minutes, supposed to be the great
'-est performance ever done by one set of ringers.'

Now, Sir, on March the 8th, 1737, was rung by St. Peter's of Mancroft Company, a compleat peal of 12,600 Grandsire Cators in the space of eight hours and 15 minutes, which was never rung since by any company whatever; besides many other peals much more intricate than the above, such as Court Bob Royal, Imperial the Third, Oxford Treble Bob, Stedman's Cinques, Cators and Trebles. (*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 15 March 1777; 8 March 1737 is O.S.)

Norwich, March 22. On Tuesday the 25th ult. was rung at Leicester by that company, a peal of grandsire cators, consisting of 10,080 changes in the space of 7 hours 7 minutes, supposed to be the greatest performance ever done by one set of ringers. And on the same day was rung at Shrewsbury, by that company, a quarter peal of bob-major containing 10,080 changes in the space of 6 hours 4 minutes; this is presumed to be a capital performance. It appears that on March 8, 1737, was rung at St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, a complete peal of 12,600 grandsire cators in the space of 8 hours 15 min. which never was rung since by any company whatever. And on Nov. 14, 1776 [*sic* - should be 1768], was rung at St. Michael at Coslany, Norwich, a complete peal of 10,192 bob majors, in the space of 6 hours 36 min. by a company of youths, being the first attempt, besides many peals far more intricate than the above, such as Court-bob-royal, Imperial the Third, Oxford treble bob, Stedman cinques, cators and triples.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 29 March 1777; for the peal at St. Mary's Shrewsbury, see below.)

The long peal of 10,080 Bob Major at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury

On Tuesday last was rung, at St. Mary's Church in this town, by the society of change ringers, the quarter peal of *Bob Major*, containing *ten thousand and eighty changes*, in 5 Hours and 56 Minutes.—To those who know the strict attention necessary to be supported by every person engaged in such an undertaking, during so long a period, this performance must appear very extraordinary; and what adds to the merit of the performance is, their completing it the *first* attempt.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 1 March 1777, similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 3 March 1777, but 'St. Mary's Church, in Shrewsbury' vice 'St. Mary's Church in this town')

On Tuesday Feb. 25, a true and compleat peal of ten thousand and eighty changes of Bob-Major, 8 in, (which continued 7 hours and 4 minutes) was rung on the new peal of 8 bells at St. Mary's in Shrewsbury, by 8 of the Society of Change Ringers in that town, and in their first attempt for the same. The order of the Bobs for carrying the above performance were composed by W.D. Crofts of Nottingham - and the above peal of Bells were lately cast by Messrs. Pack and Co. of White-Chappel, London, and are remarkably tunable.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 8 March 1777)

The same day [Tuesday se'nnight] a true and compleat peal of ten thousand and eighty Bob Major, (which continued seven hours and four minutes) was rung by eight of the society of change ringers at St. Mary's in Shrewsbury, upon the new peal of eight bells (lately cast by Mess. Lester, Pack and Chapman, of White Chapel, London) at that church. This performance had the tenor up every seven leads, the seventh and eighth up together every fourteen leads, and twelve times six seven eight up together in the same. It was composed and sent to Shrewsbury, by the said Mr. Crofts.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 8 March 1777)

On Tuesday February 18th, was rung, at the parish church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, London, in 7 hours and 31 minutes, 10,080 Grandsire Cators [*sic*], and on Tuesday February 25th was rung, at the parish church of St. Mary, Shrewsbury, in 5 hours and 56 minutes, 10,080 Bob-Major, and on Wednesday February 26th was rung, at the parish church of St. Margaret, Leicester, in 7 hours and 20 minutes, 10,080 Grandsire Cators.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 3 March 1777)

Perhaps there never was an instance before Tuesday the 25th ult. of three such capital performances (in the art of ringing) being rung on one and the same day as was done on that, for besides the 10,080 Caters at St. Margaret's, Leicester, and the 10,080 Major at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury; there was also rung on that day at Abingdon, in Berkshire, a peal of 5040, (Ten in) on 10 hand bells, by 5 persons, in 3 hours and 10 minutes, which was the first 5040 ever rung on hand bells in the kingdom; and thought to exceed the course of Treble Bob, (Twelve in) rung on 12 hand-bells by 6 of the society of Cumberland Youths, in London.

(Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 15 March 1777)

The hoax peals at York Minster

On the 25th of February was rung at York Minster, by the Society of Change Ringers, who call themselves - *British Youths* or *The True Blues* - a complete peal of eleven thousand and thirty six GRANDSIRE CATORS, in eight hours and fifteen minutes, being their first attempt. The above peal of bells is exceedingly deep and melodious; was cast by Pack & Co. London. The tenor weighs 53 hundred. On the 18th of February the same society rang a peal of OXFORD TREBLE BOBS, of five thousand three hundred and thirty two, ten in. The bells are too heavy to ring any length of Oxford Treble Bobs, which is reckoned in the first class of performances in the art of ringing. The Bobs were composed by Mr. W. D. Crofts of Nottingham.

(Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 15 March 1777 – immediately below the summary report, given above.)

On Sunday last the Printer received a letter from Mr. CROFTS of Nottingham, remarking "that the Author (whoever he was) of the paragraph in our last week's paper respecting the Peals therein said to have been rung at York, had imposed upon us, by reason that no composition of the kind had been sent from Nottingham to any place whatever, (except to Leicester, Oxford, and Shrewsbury) that the thing appeared ridiculous in itself, as Caters cannot be had round at the number 11,036, nor treble Bob, 10 in, at the number 5332, the former running; 8 and the latter 40 changes in a lead"—Mr. CROFTS has also wrote to York, and has sent us the Letter he received in answer, where in the Ringers of that City, say "that no such Peals had been rung there."—*The Printer begs leave to observe, that he finds himself imposed upon by a Person leaving the paragraph at the Office on Thursday evening the 13th instant, who expressed how much inserting it would oblige several Friends; we have since learnt that the Author of this falsehood is resident in Leicester, and a Person who was very near the end of the Tenor bell rope of St. Margaret's in this Town, during the late performance at that Church—'tis supposed he got it inserted by way of what he calls FUN!—therefore to keep up the FUN!—we recommend him to run the Buffeting Gauntlet, or else be taken to the Ducking Stool,—*What has lately been inserted as to the other performances that have been done, we have authority to say they were facts.

For the performance at St. Brides, see the London Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser. (Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 22 March 1777)

A report has prevailed in this town that two capital peals had been rung at York Minster and that they were composed by a person of Nottingham, but we beg leave to say the whole is without foundation: For that person never sending any composition to York, and it being impossible to have the bells round at the number of changes, induced him to write to York on the subject, and by a letter he has received from thence in answer to his enquiry, the York ringers say 'that no such peals have been rung in that city.' - We find that the author of this falsity resides in another quarter, and that he has even imposed on the printer of a public paper, by leaving his spurious production at the office and expressed how much the inserting it would oblige many friends, and vouched it as a fact.

(Nottingham Journal, Sat. 22 March 1777)

On Wednesday morning died, Mr. John Incarsole of this town, whose knowledge in the art of ringing, notwithstanding he was blind, was inferior to few; and yesterday evening, after his interment, a mourning peal was rung by the society of which he was a member.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 22 March 1777)

On Tuesday last was rung at St. Mary Overy's, Southwark, by the Society of College Youths, a true and compleat Peal of 6000 Changes of Oxford Treble Bobs Twelve-in, and was completed in four Hours and 56 Minutes, being the most ever rung in that Method, and the most capital Performance on twelve Bells.

(Daily Advertiser, Thurs. 3 April 1777)

On Wednesday the sixteenth of last February, was wrung [*sic*] at Bromley in Kent, on that musical peal of eight bells, by the youth [*sic*] of that place, 4184 [*sic*] changes of treble bob, completed in three hours and ten minutes.

(Kentish Gazette, Wed. 2 April - Sat. 5 April 1777)

On Tuesday last Mr. Holt's Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples (which continued three Hours and 20 Minutes) was rung by eight of the Society of Leicester Scholars, upon the much-admired Peal of eight Bells at St. Peter's in Nottingham.

(Northampton Mercury, Mon. 7 April 1777; also Leicester and Nottingham Journal, Sat. 5 April 1777)

On Sunday Morning the 13th Inst. was rung at Ripon, by a Society of Ringers from Knaresbrough, a Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 Changes, in one Hour and 32 Minutes. They also rung some shorter Peals of Grandsire and Union Triples in a very distinct Manner.

(York Courant, Tues. 22 April 1777; Leeds Mercury, Tues. 22 April 1777, starting 'On Sunday se'night in the morning was rung at Ripon ...')

RINGING.

This is to give notice to all gentlemen ringers and others, that on Thursday the 5th of June there will be given at John Brent's at Shinfield, six very good hats to be rung for at that church. The company that rings the best peal, continuing 15 minutes, to have the hats; six pair of gloves will be given for the second best, and six ribbons for the third best peal; each company to bring an umpire and the umpire of the winning company to be entitled to the same prize as the ringers, and to be decided by a majority of the umpires. No Shinfield man to ring or be an umpire. There will be a dinner provided at one o'clock at a shilling each. – None to ring but what dine. To begin ringing at three; the bells are free for trial.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 28 April 1777 - advert)

On Monday last were rung on eight hand bells, 5152 changes bob major, compleatly finished, in three hours 25 minutes, by the following persons; William Young, first pair, who called the peal; John Lawson, second; John Hannerbert, third; William Hannerbert, fourth. The above is the first peal of the kind ever attempted in Cambridge.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 24 May 1777)

RINGING.

This is to give notice to all gentlemen ringers and others, that on Wednesday the 18th of June, there will be given at John Smith's, the Bowling-Green House at Hurst Church, six very good gold laced hats to be rung for at that church; the company that rings the best round peal, continuing 15 minutes, to have the hats. Each company to bring an umpire, and the umpire of the winning company to be entitled to a seventh hat; and to be decided by a majority of the umpires. No Hurst man to ring or be an umpire. There will be a good dinner provided at one o'clock. None to ring but what dine and to begin ringing at three.

The bells are in very good order and free for trial.

N.B. The meetings of the gentlemen at the Bowling-Green House begun on Friday the 16th instant, and will continue every other Friday all the summer season.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 26 May 1777 - advert)

Lewes, May 26

On Sunday evening, May 18 1777, was rung at Bolney Steeple, a compleat Peal of 5040 Changes Bob Major Triples, without a Single, being the first Peal ever rung by this method in this county. It was performed in three hours and four minutes by the following persons:

Thomas Jones,	‡	Thomas Lintott,
Joseph Willard,	‡	John Foreman,
John Hurst,	‡	James Wilson,
Samuel Beeching,	‡	Henry Murriell.

The Peal was Call'd by Thomas Lintott

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 26 May, 1777)

On Saturday last the society of Cumberland Youths, rang a true and complete peal, consisting of 5040 bob Majors in three hours and eighteen minutes at St. Michael Coslany's, in the city of Norwich.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Sat. 31 May 1777)

On Sunday the 25th of May the society of Cumberland Youths rang a true and compleat peal of 5040 plain bob trebles, without a single, being the first peal of that method ever rung in that county: it was performed in three hours and four minutes.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Tues 3 June 1777; no place given, and evidently it was thought that the Cumberland Youths rang in Cumberland! Nor is it recorded in the Cumberland Youths' peal book, so the veracity of this report must be questioned.)

On Monday John Taylor clerk to the parish of Sawston was found hanging in the belfry of the church. He was near 80 years of age, clerk for 40.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 June 1777 – per Gareth Davies)

RINGING.

NOTICE is hereby given, to all gentlemen ringers, that on Friday the 10th of October next, will be given gratis by John Eldredge [*sic*] at the sign of the Round Oak in Padworth, Berks, Six very good hats to be rung for at Padworth church; the company that rings the compleatest round peal, to continue one hour, to be entitled to the prize, which shall be decided by a majority of the umpires. To begin ringing at ten o'clock in the morning.

There will be a good ordinary provided at three o'clock for those gentlemen that shall chuse to dine.

N.B. No company that intend ringing for the hats will be allowed to try their hands after the appearance of this advertisement. The Padworth ringers will be permitted to ring, provided they do not practice from this day.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 9 June 1777 - advert)

RINGING.

TO be rung for, at Cookham, near Maidenhead, Berks, on Tuesday, June 24th, 1777, - Seven SILVER-LACED HATS, on a Peal of Six Bells, one Hat for the Umpire, by any six Men, (Cookham excepted); each Set to bring an Umpire. The Peal to be 20 Minutes, and begin at Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 14 June 1777; the relevant page is missing from the digitised set. Similar advert in *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, 16 June 1777)

To all LOVES [*sic*] of RINGING

To be SOLD, A melodious Peal of Eight HAND-BELLS the Springs and Handles in thorough Repair; the Tenor weighs one Pound and a Half, and the Whole are in perfect Unison.

Enquire of the Printer of this Paper.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 23 June 1777 - advert)

Monday last his Grace the Duke of Portland arrived at Brunnage, the seat of Lady Bentinck, near Titchfield, and immediately the bells were set a ringing, as an humble welcome from the village to a nobleman of his distinguished rank and character.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 30 June 1777)

RINGING.

This is to give notice, that on Monday the 28th of July next will be rung for, at Bray near Maidenhead, Berks, Six very good GOLD LACED HATS, by any set of ringers, Bray ringers excepted, and one for the umpire of the set that wins the hats. To be given by James Maslin at the Hind's Head at Bray. Each peal to continue 15 minutes, and trials will be allowed on any day, except on the day that the hats are rung for. A good ordinary will be provided at the Hind's Head aforesaid, and no company will be permitted to ring but what dines at the ordinary which will be ready at one o'clock and to begin ringing at three. Each company to bring their umpire with them. Two men will be allowed to help up with the fifth and tenor if required.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 30 June 1777 - advert)

On Monday, the 23d of June, was rung at Maidstone, in this county, 5376 of Bob Major, in three hours and twenty-five minutes, by the following youths:

James Bridle,	treble	John Harper,	5
James Hawley,	2	George Highland,	6
Thomas Cutbush,	3	Thomas Swinnock,	7
James Swinnock,	4	Dan. Whetstone,	tenor.

This peal was rung for the honour of the Hon. Charles Finch, lately chosen Member of Parliament for the above town and borough.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 5 July 1777)

The new ring of bells at Chelmsford

RINGING.

Chelmsford, July 11, 1777.

A New Peal of EIGHT BELLS, cast by Messrs. MEARS, and Co. of Gold Square, Crutched-Friars, will be opened at Chelmsford Church on Monday next, at ten o'clock, in the forenoon, by the COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 11 July 1777 - advert)

Last Monday a new peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Mears and Co. at their foundery in Gold Square, Crutched Friars, was opened at our church by the College Youths, who with the utmost harmony rang a peal called Bob Major, consisting of 5152 changes, in three hours and sixteen minutes. - The bells are allowed by very competent judges, to be as musical as any in the kingdom, which, with the great propriety they were rung, gave general pleasure and satisfaction.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 18 July 1777; repeated in *Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 23 July 1777 under the heading 'Extract of a letter from Chelmsford, July 18.'; also reported in *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 22 July 1777.)

On Friday last a new peal of six bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of St. Neots, in Huntingdonshire, was opened at Duxford St. Peter's, in this county.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 19 July 1777)

On Monday last was rang, at St. Michael's in Coventry, by the United Society of Coventry Youths, the curious Peal of 7001 Grandsire Cators, supposed by the best Judges, to be the finest Peal for Harmony that can be rung on ten Bells. It was compleated, single handed, in 4 Hours and 45 Minutes.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 21 July 1777)

A new ring for Cockermonth

WHITEHAVEN, *September 16.*

YESTERDAY arrived here the Glory, Capt. Daniel Jackson, from London.---On board of her is a Peal of six Bells for Cockermonth Church, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman; the tenor bell weighs 12cwt. 2qrs.22lb. We are also informed that a suitable Clock (with Chimes) is making by Mr. John Porthouse of Penrith.---These, from the situation of the church, will be a great ornament to the town.---The church-wardens being active, and the inhabitants unanimous, the subscription was filled soon after it was proposed.

(*Cumberland Pacquet*, Tues. 16 Sept. 1777)

Saturday last were held at Cockermouth the Court Leet and View of Frank-pledge of our Sovereign Lord the King, also the Court Baron of the Right Honourable George O'Brien, Earl of Egremont and Baron of Cockermouth. The Burghers had a Venison feast, and the day was celebrated with the usual Festivity attending such occasions:-----but what gave the greatest cheerfulness to the day, was the opening the New Peal of Six Bells. They began ringing about ten o'clock in the forenoon, and continued at intervals till the evening, diffusing harmony all around.----They were cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, are a fine Peal, and were rung to great Advantage by the Keswick Ringers.

The gentlemen of the jury sent the ringers a guinea.

.....

We hear a Subscription is opened for a Peal of Bells for Brigham church, near Cockermouth.
(*Cumberland Pacquet*, Tues. 7 Oct. 1777)

We hear that the new set of bells, six in number, lately purchased by the inhabitants of Cockermouth, were rung last week for the first time; they gave great satisfaction, and are allowed to be the best in that county—the ringers came from Keswick.
(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 11 Oct. 1777)

A set of chimes will shortly be placed to the harmonious peal of bells in Cockermouth church.
(*Cumberland Pacquet*, Tues. 28 July 1778)

Whitehaven, Sept. 8. The Chimes are now fixing to the Peal of Bells in Cockermouth church; the barrel consists of the following pieces, viz. “God save the King;—Britons strike home;—and St David's, a psalm tune for Sundays.”
(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 12 Sept. 1778)

On Monday William Manley, Esq. of Wouldham, near Rochester, was chosen Master of the Society of Cumberland Youths, at the Horns and ten Bells, opposite Shoreditch-church. On this Occasion a very elegant Dinner was prepared at the said House, and many excellent Peals were rung on Shoreditch-Bells. Mr. Manley has twice before been elected Master of the Society.
(*St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, Tues. 16 Sept. - Thurs. 18 Sept. 1777)

To all GENTLEMEN RINGERS.

On Thursday the 6th of Nov. 1777, will be given Gratis

A Large SILVER BOWL,

Of FOUR GUINEAS Value, TO BE RUNG FOR, on the Eight harmonious Bells in Beamister. Not less than three setts to ring: each sett to bring an umpire, and dine at the Bull Inn, in the said town, at Three o'clock in the afternoon. Each ringer to pay 2s. 6d. for his ordinary and extraordinary. ☞ Proposals and articles to be agreed at the said Inn before ringing.

High in air their silver notes

Charm the heart with joy and wonder;

Be??? tun'd their matchless throats,

And they praise their skilful Founder.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 13 Oct. 1777 - advert; a few letters in the last line but one are indistinct. 'Beamister' = 'Beaminster')

Yesterday a new peal of eight bells, cast for the new church at Battersea, were carried in formal procession, with drums, fifes, and colours displayed, from the founder's, in Chelsea, over Battersea-bridge to the church, attended by a great concourse of people.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Tues. 21 Oct. 1777)

On Thursday last, the Corporation went to the Free Grammar School of this city, founded by John Hales, Esq., to pay their annual visit to the Masters and Scholars, and it being usual, on such occasions, to ring the Schoole [*sic*] Bell, a person went to do so, but what is very remarkable, on the person's taking the bell-rope in his hand, to pull it, the wheel belonging to the Bell broke to pieces.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 3 November 1777)

We hear that ST. PETER'S of MANCROFT RINGERS will begin their annual ringing on Sunday next.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 Nov. 1777; also *Norwich Mercury* of the same date)

Wednesday morning last, at the new church at Battersea, Surr[e]y, eight musical bells, cast and hung by Janaway of Chelsea, were opened by a select band of the antient society of College Youths, with a compleat peal of 5040 grandsire trebles, which they performed in two hours and fifty-eight minutes; and in the afternoon was rung, by another band (one of which was in the morning peal) a compleat peal of 5040 treble-bob-majors, in three hours and two minutes; the above being singular performances, and without precedent, shews that the ringers were good, and that the bells went well.
(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 17 Nov. 1777; the peal is not recorded in the College Youths' peal book.)

Lewes, December 1

On Sunday the 16th ult. were rung, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, at Horsham, 5040 Grandsire Triples; they were rung backwards, and performed in three hours and fifteen minutes.
(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 1 Dec. 1777)

On Sunday the Society of College Youths completely rung in the Steeple of All Saint's [*sic*], Fulham, a true Peal of 7002 Changes of Gransire [*sic*] Catons, and was performed in four Hours and 56 Minutes, which is the first Peal that ever contained the 60 Course Ends in this Methods [*sic*].
(*Daily Advertiser*, Tues. 9 Dec. 1777)

On Sunday last was rang, by the society of Cumberland Youths, at Christ Church, Surry [*sic*], a true and compleat peal, consisting of 5200 changes Bob Major, with 55 Bobs only, being the first peal ever rang with that number, which was compleated in three hours and 35 minutes.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Tues. 9 Dec. 1777)

On Monday the 8th inst. was rung at Aylesbury, Bucks, by the Youths of that Place, Holt's compleat Peal of 5040 Changes, Grandsire Tripples, which was performed in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes; being the first whole Peal ever rung upon those Bells.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 22 Dec. 1777; reported also in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 27 Dec. 1777, when it was said to have been rung 'A few Days ago...' and the time was given as 'three Hours and twenty Minutes'.)

Thursday last, being Christmas-day, was observed here in the usual manner.

Our correspondents at Keswick, Workington, and Cockermouth, inform us that the morning of Christmas-day was ushered in with ringing of bells. As all the peals at these places are new, the spirit of emulation is very perceptible in the ringers, and promises something capital in the *campanalogia*.
(*Cumberland Pacquet*, Tues. 30 Dec. 1777; the paper was published in Whitehaven.)

Southampton, Saturday, Jan. 3.

On Friday the 26th ult. was rung at St. Mary's church, Carisbrook, Isle of Wight, Holt's complete peal of 5040 grandsire tripples, in three hours and three minutes, by a society of the said island.
(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 5 Jan. 1778)

Lewes, January 5

Last Wednesday was opened at Brighthelmston, by part of the Horsham Society of Cumberland Youths, a New Peal of Eight Bells, with 5040 Holts Grandsire Triples, It was compleated in three Hours and six Minutes, in order as follows, viz.

Thomas Jones,	Triple	Harry Weller,	5th
Thomas Lintott,	2d	John Foreman,	6th
Benjamin Hall,	3d	Thomas Bristow,	7th
Edward Aldridge,	4th	James Wilson,	Tenor

The Bobs were called by Thomas Lintott.

The above Bells were cast by Mr. Thomas Rudhall, of the City of Gloucester, and brother to Mr. Rudhall, brazier, at Brighthelmston. The Tenor is F. weighing 16 cwt. They are said to be the best and compleatest Peal in this County.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 5 Jan. 1778)

1778

On Thursday last, being New Year's Day, was rung at New College, by the Company of Oxford Youths, a Peal of 1778 Grandsire Tripples.
(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 3 Jan. 1778)

On Friday last as Tho. Judge, a boy, of Thorp, was ringing the Twelve o'Clock Bell there, the Rope caught his Foot, and drew him up, by which he had his thigh broke. He was brought directly to the County Hospital.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 5 Jan. 1778)

On Monday last was rang at St. Giles, Criplegate [*sic*], by the society of Cumberland youths, a true and compleat peal, consisting of 5320 changes of Oxford treble bob, royal ten in [*sic*] with the sixth six times wrong, and twelve times right, being the first peal ever rang on those bells, by ten men only; and was completed in four hours and six minutes.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Fri. 9 Jan. 1778)

The financial troubles of Noah Bloomfield, former handbell founder

To be SOLD AUCTION

by *THOMAS DODSON*,

By a Written Catalogue, by virtue of a Bill of Sale and Execution, on TUESDAY the 13th instant,

ALL the Houshold Furniture of NOAH BLOMFIELD, at the sign of the ARK at Mendlesham in the county of Suffolk, consisting of feather-beds and bedding, pewter, brass, chairs, tables, and sundry other articles in the houshold way, and about 30,000 red bricks, which will be divided into small lots for the conveniency of the buyers. The sale to begin precisely at Ten o'clock. An exceeding good one-horse chaise with harness complete; runs upon the quarter. ☞ For further particulars enquire of the said Tho. Dodson, auctioneer, Stowmarket.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 10 Jan. 1778 - advert)

T o b e L E T T,

And ENTERED upon IMMEDIATELY

ADwelling-House called the NOAH's ARK, lately in the occupation of Noah Blomfield, situated in Mendlesham in Suffolk, together with an exceeding good bake-office, lately in full trade. ☞ Inquire of Mr. John Jacob in Eye, or Mr. Samuel Smith, at the Royal Oak in Mendlesham, both in Suffolk.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 28 Feb. 1778 - advert)

WHEREAS a commission of bankrupt is awarded and issued against NOAH BLOOMFIELD late of Mendlesham in the county of Suffolk, miller, and he being declared bankrupt is hereby required to surrender himself to the commissioners in the said commission named, or the major part them, on the 17th and 18th days of November inst. and on the 15th December next, at Ten o'clock in the forenoon of every of the said days, at the house of Samuel Ribbans, called or known by the name or sign of the GOLDEN LION situate in Ipswich in the said county, and make a full discovery and disclosure of his estate and effects, when and where the creditors are to come prepared to prove their debts, and at the second sitting to chuse assignees, and at the last sitting, the said bankrupt is required to finish his examination, and the creditors are to assent to or dissent from the allowance of his certificate. All persons indebted to the said bankrupt, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to whom the commissioners shall appoint, but give notice to Mr. Thomas Hovell, attorney at Haughley in Suffolk.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats 7 & 14 Nov. 1778 – advert; also same paper Sats 21 Nov., 5 & 12 Nov. 1788, with the addition of the date ‘[NOV. 7, 1778].’)

ALL Persons indebted to the estate and effects of NOAH BLOMFIELD, Mendlesham, a bankrupt, are desired forthwith to pay the same to Mr. Samuel Alexander or Mr. Isaac Paske, of Needham-Market, the assignees of the said bankrupt's estate and effects.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 19 Dec. 1778 - advert)

On Wednesday the thirty-first ult. the society of Cumberland Youths opened, at Brighthelmstone, in Sussex, a new peal of bells, and rang on them a true and compleat peal, consisting of five thousand and forty changes of grandsire trebles, in three hours and six minutes; they are allowed to be the finest peal of bells that ever was heard of their weight, and were cast by Mr. Rudhall. The tenor is in F, and weighs 15cwt. 3q. 8lb.

On Sunday last the above Society rang, at St. Giles's, in the Fields, a true and compleat peal, consisting of five thousand one hundred and twenty changes of Oxford treble bob, eight in, with the tenors apart, and the sixth at home, thirty-seven times, being the first peal that ever was rang in that method, and was performed in three hours and thirty-four minutes.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 14 Jan. 1778; full details of the peal at Brighthelmstone (Brighton) were published in the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* of Mon. 5 Jan. 1778.)

On Monday, January the 5th, 1778, a peal of six bells was opened at St. Dunstan's church near this city, when the Canterbury youth[s] rung a peal of 720 plain bob changes, without a single compleat, in 28 minutes, being the first time it has been rung in this county.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 14 Jan. 1778)

We hear from Leeds, that on New-year's Day, the society called Leeds Youths, rung a compleat peal of 1778 changes, Bob Major, answering to the date of the year, which they intend ringing annually, and a different peal every year.

And on Monday the 5th, (with three young hands that never rung 5000 changes before at one time) they rung a compleat peal of 5040 changes, New Oxford Tripple Bob, or Leeds Delight, in three hours six minutes.

Also, on Saturday the 10th, they rang an entire new peal of Treble-place Bob, 5184 compleat changes, in three hours 12 minutes. In this peal the Tenor's Dodge, the right behind, every Treble lead, and a Tripple Dodge every six leads, and the 6th compleats her work the same as in 40320.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 27 Jan. 1778)

On Tuesday, the 13th of January, was compleatly rung at Sailhurst [*sic*], in Sussex, the half-quarter peal of Bob Major, which contains 5040 changes, in three hours and 12 minutes, by eight young men of the Parish of Goudhurst, in this county, viz. Wm. Apps Treble, Wm. Manwaring 2d, Tho. Manwaring 3d, John Apps 4th, Tho. Apps 5th, Hen. Stephens 6th, Rich. Standen 7th, and Geo. Hammond Tenor.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 3 Feb. 1778)

On Thursday last Simon Adams, Esq; Deputy-Recorder of this Corporation, arrived at his Seat at East-Haddon, in this County, with his new-married Lady; on which Occasion a Peal of 42 Six-Scores was rung on the five Bells at that Place, by the following Persons, viz. Mr. Soden 1st, Mr. Smith 2d, Mr. Simons 3d, Mr. White 4th, and Mr. Chapman 5th: The whole Peal (making 5040 Changes) was completed in three Hours and 21 Minutes.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 9 Feb. 1778)

On Wednesday last was opened at Pontefract a new peal of 8 bells, by the ringers of Wakefield and York, who rung alternately several short peals of tripples during the day; in the evening the York ringers rung upwards of 3000 changes of grandsire triples with great propriety; Thursday morning the Leeds ringers rung the half peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 2520 changes in an hour and 28 minutes, which was succeeded with a short peal of bob majors by the York ringers; and the whole concluded with a fine musical peal of tripples called Tittums consisting of 672 changes, which was performed by the Leeds ringers, with the greatest nicety and distinction, and to the satisfaction of all who heard them.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 17 Feb. 1778; similar but shorter report in *Leeds Mercury* of the same date, finishing after 'one hour and twenty-eight minutes.')

The same Day [last Wednesday] a new Peal of eight Bells was opened at Pontefract, by the Ringers from Wakefield, who rung several Courses of Grandsire Triples; and in the Afternoon a similar Peal was rung by those from Leeds; the same Afternoon 3000 of Grandsire Triples was rung by our Cathedral Society, who, the next Morning, rung several Courses of Bob-Major, all Eight-in, with great Exactness and Applause.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 17 Feb. 1778)

On Sunday the 8th instant was rung, at St. James's, Epsom, by the society of Cumberland Youths, a true and complete peal, consisting of 6048 changes of Bob major, with the sixth twelve time [*sic*] wrong, and nine times right; and the fifth twelve times right and nine times wrong; being the first peal ever rung of eight in, on those bells, and was completed in four hours and twelve minutes.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 18 Feb. 1778)

On Monday last was rung at Maidstone 5760 bob major, in three hours and fifty minutes, by the youth [*sic*] of that place.

...

...—*The belfrey, not a newspaper, seems the proper place for a bell-ringer to show his abilities.*—...

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 18 Feb. - Sat. 21 Feb. 1778; also same paper, Sat. 21 Feb. - Wed. 25 Feb. 1778.)

On Monday the 23d inst. was rung, a compleat peal of 6048 bob major, at St. Michael's Coslany, Norwich, in three hours and 58 minutes.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 Feb. 1778)

The long peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham

On Tuesday morning last a true and compleat peal of Ten thousand Two hundred and Sixty Grandsire Caters, was rung on the deep toned Peal of Bells at St. Mary's church in Nottingham (being the first and only Attempt made there for the same), which performance continued seven hours and twenty two minutes, and was rung by eleven of the Nottingham Society; the Tenor (as customary with Bells of that weight) was rung by two and the other Nine Bells single handed. The above mentioned bells are much the heaviest peal of ten within 100 miles of the place. (York Minster and the last 10 of the peal of 12 at Birmingham excepted, but the tenor of the latter exceeds St. Mary's in weight only 56 pounds.)

(*Creswell & Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 7 March 1778; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 7 March 1778 and *York Courant*, Tues. 10 March 1778)

On Shrove Tuesday a compleat peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters, was rung upon the deep melodious peal of ten bells at St. Mary's Church in Nottingham, being the first and only attempt ever made for the same; the above performance continued seven hours and twenty-two minutes, and was performed by eleven of the Nottingham Society, the tenor (as customary with bells of that weight) being rung by two, and the other nine bells single handed.- St. Mary's bells are the heaviest peal of ten bells within one hundred miles of that place, York Minster only excepted.
(*Cambridge Chronicle*, Sat. 7 March 1778; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 10 March 1778 and *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 5 March 1778)

On Shrove Tuesday, a true and compleat peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters was rung on the deep melodious peal of ten bells, at St. Mary's, in Nottingham, in 7 hours and 22 minutes, by eleven of the Nottingham Society (the tenor as usual with bells of that weight being rung by two). This was the first attempt ever made to accomplish such an extraordinary performance there. St. Mary's tenor is exceeded in weight, 56 pounds, by St. Martin's, in Birmingham, and by no other bell with an hundred mile of the place, York Cathedral excepted.

The same day was rung at Priors-Marston, in the County of Warwick, a compleat peal of 5040, upon the six Bells of that Place, in seven different peals, and was completed in 3 hours and 11 minutes. – An Oxford Treble was rung afterwards.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 9 March 1778; also *Northampton Mercury* Mon. 9 March 1778)

On Shrove Tuesday a true and complete Peal of Ten Thousand two Hundred and sixty Grandsire Caters was rung on the deep melodious Peal of 10 Bells at St. Mary's in Nottingham, (being the first and only Attempt ever made for the same) which performance continued seven Hours and Twenty-two Minutes, and was rung by eleven of the Nottingham Society, The Tenor (as customary with Bells at that Weight) being rung by two, and the other nine Bells single handed. - The above mentioned Bells are much the heaviest Peal of 10 within 100 Miles of the Place, York Minster and the last 10 of the Peal of 12 at Birmingham excepted, but the Tenor of the latter exceeds St. Mary's in weight only 29 Pounds.
(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 13 March 1778; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 7 March 1778 – but final weight difference there given as 56 lbs., a weight difference also given in *York Courant*, Tues. 10 March 1778, and *Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 14 March 1778.)

On Monday last the Society of College Youths rung at St. Dunstan's in Fleet-street a true and complete Peal of double Bob-Majors, containing 5184 Changes, in three Hours and twenty-four Minutes, with two Bobs in a Lead. The above masterly Performance is allowed by the greatest Proficients in the Art to be the only Peal of Double ever compleated since the first Invention of Ringing.
(*Public Advertiser*, Thurs. 12 March 1778)

On Monday last the Society of Cumberland Youths rang at Alhallows, Barking, a true and compleat peal of Double Bob Six in, containing 720 changes, in twenty-five minutes, with one alteration behind, and one before throughout the peal. The above masterly performance is allowed by the greatest proficients in the art, to be the only peal of double ever compleated since the first invention of ringing.
(*General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Wed. 18 March 1778)

On Monday last, the society of Cumberland Youths rang at All Hallows, Barking, a true and compleat peal of double bob six in, containing 720 changes, in twenty-five minutes, with one alteration behind, and one before, throughout the peal. The above masterly performance is allowed, by the greatest proficients in the art, to be the only peal of double completed since the first invention of Ringing.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, 19 March 1778)

On Monday the 16th inst. was rung at St. Peter's Mancroft in this city, 6240 changes compleat, being the most difficult and harmonious peal called "Oxford treble Bob maximus"; which was performed without a bell out of course, or any changes alike in five hours twenty-two minutes: This excels every other attempt hitherto known upon twelve bells in England, and for regular striking and bold dexterous ringing, is allowed to be a masterly performance.
- The persons names, and bells they rang, are as follows.

Thomas Barton, treble, and called the peal,			
John Peak	2	John Dixon	7
John Havers	3	James Watling	8
Wm. Warner	4	Simon Watling	9
John Read	5	John Dye	10
Christoph. Lindsey	6	James Vines	11

John and James Trows, tenor.

Thomas Back / Thomas Colman, } Churchwardens.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 21 March 1778; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 21 March 1778, which called it a 'masterly and unrivalled performance, omitted the churchwardens' names and spelt Hevers 'Heavers'; a slightly different version, also omitting the churchwardens' names, in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 21 March 1778, starting 'On Monday last... ', calling it 'the greatest performance that ever was rung on 12 bells... ', and stating that it was rung by the 'Steeple company'; a short report, omitting the ringers' names, in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 21 March 1778.)

On Saturday the 7th of February last, at Swineshead near Boston, Lincolnshire, was compleated on six bells, these four [*sic*] following peals, viz. Oxford triple Bob, College Pleasure, and College triple Bob.

We rung them very neat;
And then at last we rung Crown Bob,
Which made our work compleat.

Performed by the following society, viz. 1st John Gainsborough, aged 64; 2d Anthony Robinson; 3d Robert Creak; 4th John Woodcock; 5th William Day; 6th Henry Musson. Witness William Favel.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 21 March 1778)

On Tuesday last was compleatly rung, on twelve hand-bells, 5088 Oxford tripple bob, in three hours and forty five minutes, by, W. Wilkins, Tho. Walker, W. Beacon, Rob. Parge, Sam. Grayling, Senior, and Sam. Grayling, Junior, thought to be the first peel [*sic*] of this kind ever rung.
(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 21 March 1778; similar report, starting 'On the 17th instant...' in *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 24 March 1778; another in *Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 28 March 1778, starting 'On Tuesday the 17th of March...', adding the information that it was rung in the Dog and Bear in Lenham.)

BURY ST. EDMUND'S

THOMAS MURTON, Carpenter, Joiner, and Church-Bell-hanger, in the West-gate-street, takes this opportunity to acquaint his friends and the public in general, that he carries on the above branch of bell-hanging in all its various articles. Those gentlemen that please to favour him with their commands may depend on having their business executed in the best manner, on the most reasonable terms, and their favours gratefully acknowledged,
By their obedient and humble servant, T. MURTON.

☞ Peals of bells kept in repair, by the year, if required.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats. 28 March, 4 & 11 April 1778 - advert)

On Thursday last was rung at Brough, in Herts, a compleat Peal of ten thousand and eighty Changes Bob-Major, which was performed by their own Society in six Hours and thirty-four Minutes.
(*St. James's Chronicle*, Thurs. 30 April - Sat. 2 May 1778; the place referred to was Braughing. Also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 9 May 1778.)

R I N G I N G.

To be rung for, on Wokingham church bells, on Wednesday the 3d of June next, six hats, with silver tassels and loops, given by James Beakhurst, at the Ship, to that set that best performs a round peal; each peal to continue 15 minutes. Each set to bring an umpire, and to be decided by the umpires, and the umpire of the winning set to be intitled to the seventh hat. Dinner to be ready at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three. No person to ring or be an umpire without dining or paying for the same.

N.B. The bells are free for trial and no Wokingham man will be permitted to ring or be an umpire.

(Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 4 May 1778 - advert)

RINGING.

ON MONDAY May 25th, will be opened at OUTWELL a new Peal of Six BELLS, cast and hung by Arnold and Osborn, Bell-Founders and Hangers at Downham, Norfolk. All Persons who chuse to attend or make Trial of the Bells that Day, will meet with a kind Reception from their humble Servants,

WM. ROPER, at the Swan,

JOHN WRIGHT, at the Lion,

WM. LOGAN, at the Chequer.

And on Whitsun Monday June 8th, will be opened at TERRINGTON in Marshland, a Peal of Six Bells, Part of them cast and hung by the above Persons.

(Norfolk Chronicle, Sat. 16 May 1778 - advert)

Forncet St. Peter, May 26, 1778.

R I N G I N G.

ON Whitsun Tuesday, June the 9th, will be opened a PEAL of FIVE BELLS, at Forncet St. Peter's in Norfolk, new re-hung, by Leonard Tillett of Garboldisham, and Thomas Howes of Kenninghall, Bell-Hangers. All Gentlemen Ringers that will please to make Trial of the said Bells, shall meet with a kind Reception by their humble Servant,

THOMAS MASON, at the Tuns.

(Norfolk Chronicle, Sat. 30 May 1778 - advert)

We hear from Barnsley, that on Friday last, the ringers of that place rung a compleat eight-bell peal of Grandsir [*sic*] plain bob trebles, in three hours and sixteen minutes.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Tues. 2 June 1778; similar report in York Courant, Tues. 2 June 1778, but starting 'On Friday was rung on eight Bells at Barnsley,...')

WHEREAS the Peal of Six Bells at Preston St.

Mary's near Lavenham in Suffolk, has been lately rehung by John Smith of Alpheton, late from Bradfield St. George in the county aforesaid, wheelwright, This is therefore to acquaint all gentlemen, lovers of ringing, and others, That the said peal of bells will be opened on MONDAY next June 8, where all gentlemen, who will favour us with their company, shall meet with a hearty welcome, and their favours gratefully acknowledged, by their humble servants, JOHN SMITH and WILLIAM MILLS.

☞ Dinner precisely at One o'clock at the Six Bells at Preston aforesaid.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 6 June 1778 - advert)

On Friday, May 29, being the Anniversary of King Charles the Second's Return, was rung at Darton near Barnsley, upon six Bells, seven compleat Tripple peals, viz. Primrose, Tulip, Violet, Oxford Tripple, College Pleasure, College Tripple, and Cheapside Bob, in the whole amounting to 5040 changes, in two hours and forty five minutes, which gave universal satisfaction.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 9 June 1778 - per D. Cubitt)

On Thursday last, in Honour of his Majesty's Birth-Day, was rung at Wakefield, by the Society of Ringers there, a compleat Peal of Grandsire Double Bob Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes. The whole was perform'd in three Hours and four Minutes with the greatest Exactness and Distinction, and to the Satisfaction of all who had the Pleasure of hearing them.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 9 June 1778; similar report, but omitting the reference to the King's 'Birth-Day', in *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 9 June 1778.)

Wednesday last was rung at Wells Cathedral, a true and compleat peal of grandsire triples, containing twelve hundred and sixty changes, by eleven persons, ringers of St. Mary Redcliff in this city being the first that was ever rung in that city.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 13 June 1778; similar report but with 'Bristol' vice 'in this city', in *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 18 June)

On Wednesday morning last, Mr. Holt's Peal of five thousand and forty Grandsire Tripples, was rung by the Nottingham Society (and covered by one of Newark) upon the musical peal of Eight Bells at Cathorpe on the Cliff in the County of Lincoln, which performance continued three hours and 18 minutes and was the first ever completed at that place.

(*Creswell & Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 13 June 1778; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 22 June 1778, which gives the date of the peal as "On Wednesday Morning the 10th Instant..."; reported also in *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 13 June 1778; *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 15 June 1778; and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 June 1778)

Sunday June 7, was rung at St. Mary le Bolney in Sussex, a true peal of 5264 changes, bob major, in three hours and ten minutes, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, in order as follows, viz.

Thomas Jones,	treble	Thomas Lintot,	5th
George Gross,	2d	James Wilson,	6th
John Wheatly,	3d	Benj. Simmons,	7th
Samuel Beeching,	4th	Edw. Simmons,	tenor

And on Monday June 8, in the morning pulled down for a 6160, at Brighthelmston, but was obstructed at the door, and brought the bells round compleatly at 5264, bob major, in three hours and fifteen minutes.

Thomas Jones,	treble	James Wilson,	5th
Joseph Willard,	2d	George Gross,	6th
John Wheatly,	3d	Benj. Simmons,	7th
Thomas Lintott,	4th	Edw. Simmons,	tenor

And in the afternoon of the same day the above eight men went up again and rung 6160 changes, bob major, in three hours and forty-five minutes, in order as followeth.

Thomas Jones,	treble,	from Horsham, Sussex.
Joseph Willard,	2d	Chiddingly, dit.
John Wheatly,	3d	Epsom, Surry.
Tho. Lintott,	4th	Horsham.
Edw. Simmons,	5th	Islington, Middlesex.
George Gross,	6th	Bethnall Gr. Lon.
James Wilson,	7th	Cuckfield, Sussex.
Benj. Simmons,	te.	Leatherhead, Surry.

The above peals were composed and called by Mr. Gross, (with 80 bobs only in the last peal.)

NB. Two such peals on eight bells were never before rung in the kingdom, by eight men only. (*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 15 June 1778)

On Saturday last was rung at Stourbridge, in this county, by the Chapel Youths of that place, a complete peal of 60 courses of Bob Majors, being 6720 changes, in four hours and 20 minutes. (*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 2 July 1778)

On Friday last, the new Tammy Hall was opened at Wakefield, on account of which there were ringing of bells, and every other demonstration of joy; a great number of Cloth Merchants, &c. attended and upwards of 1000 pieces of Tammy were bought up: besides quantities of white Broad-Cloth, Blankets, etc. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 July 1778 - per D. Cubitt, who points out that the following year there was a dispute between the ringers of Leeds and Wakefield, which the papers did not publish, details of which are given in Hargrave, Emily, 'A Change-Ringing Controversy', Thoresby Society, Vol. 28, (Miscellanea), 1928)

ON FRIDAY the 24th instant will be opened at CRATFIELD STEEPLE, a complete peal of Five Bells, hung by James Tillott, carpenter in Halesworth. On the same day will be given gratis, six pair of gloves, to be rung for by two or more companies. The peals to be rung are, grandsire and old doubles.

☞ Three journeymen carpenters may have work by applying to the above James Tillott.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 18 July 1778 - advert)

On Wednesday last was rung, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, at St. John Baptist's, Southover, a Peal of 5040 Changes, Holt's Gransire [*sic*] Tripples, it was completed in three hours and nine minutes, in order as follows:

Joseph Willard,	Chiddingly,	Treble;
Thomas Lintott,	Horsham,	2d;
Harry Weller,	Horsham,	3d;
Edward Aldridge,	Horsham,	4th;
James Wilson,	Cuckfield,	5th;
John Foreman,	Horsham,	6th;
Thomas Bristow,	Horsham,	7th;
Thomas Aldridge,	Horsham,	Tenor.

Mr. Lintott call'd the Peal.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 20 July 1778)

Last Monday was rung at St. Mary's, Dorking, Surry, by a Society of Cumberland youths, a true and complete peal of 5264 bob major, which is the greatest number of changes ever rung before on the above bells.

The Peal was performed in three hours and twenty-seven minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 24 Aug. 1778)

To be Rung for, (*Given gratis*)

A SILVER CUP, at the Red-Lion, Great Milton, Oxfordshire, on Tuesday the 22d of September, 1778, by Change Ringers. No less than three Sets to ring for the Prize. No Man to ring in two Sets. All Ringers to dine; and after Dinner to chuse three of the Company to settle all Beginning and Ending, and what they agree upon shall be final.—No Person of the above Place to ring.

Dinner at Twelve o'Clock.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 29 Aug. 1778 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice, to all gentlemen ringers and others, that there will be given by John Brant at Shinfield church, six very good hats to be rung for, at that church, on Monday the 5th day of October, the company that rings the best round peal, to continue 15 minutes to be entitled to the hats. Each company to bring an umpire, and the umpire of the winning company to be entitled to a seventh hat. If any dispute arise to be decided by the majority of umpires. A dinner will be provided at one o'clock and to begin ringing at two. None to ring but what dine or pay for the same. No Shinfield man to ring, or be an umpire. The bells are in good order and free for trial.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 7 Sept. 1778 - advert)

Monday last was held the Annual Meeting of the Ringers, at the Horns and Ten Bells near Shoreditch Church, known by the name of the Cumberland Youths. At this Meeting, William Manley, Esq. of Wouldham, near Rochester, Their President, was present, and a very elegant Dinner was provided, at which many loyal Toasts were drunk, as well as to the Health of the Gentleman in the Chair; several excellent Changes also were rung on the Shoreditch Bells, and on Hand Bells; on the Whole, the Day was spent in the greatest Jollity.

(*St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, Thurs. 17 Sept. - Sat. 19 Sept. 1778)

On Saturday last was rung at Stourbridge, in three hours and 25 minutes, a compleat peal of 5088 Oxford treble bobs, by the Society of Chapel Youths of that place, being the first peal of that method ever rung in these parts.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 8 Oct. 1778; similar report, starting 'On Saturday the 3d Inst...' in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 12 Oct. 1778)

To the PRINTER of the EXETER FLYING-POST,

SIR,

I have no doubt of your pardon for this intrusion from a general admirer of music; the pleasing, I may say, rapturous variety of invention by which it is conveyed to the human ear, is no less strange than astonishing, but I think no sounds (those of a good organ excepted) strike the ear with so much dignity, and on some occasions, with so much awful solemnity; as well-tun'd peal of Church Bells, meant, no doubt, by our Divine Psalmist, the latter part of the 5th verse of the last psalm, when calling on the "LOUD CYMBALS" to praise the Great Author of all things: I was led into this train of thought on hearing, very lately, an excellent peal of six Bells, opened at Stratton, in Cornwall, which do undoubted honour to their ingenious founders, the company of Pennington's: [*sic*] and on Friday the 25th ult. a most melodious *Maiden Peal* of six, cast by the same hands, was opened at Parkham, Devon, supposed to be as fine ton'd as any in this or any other nation.

*High in air, ingenious sons of fame,
The sounds you form'd your praises shall proclaim;
And each admiring auditor shall own
The power to charm is fix'd on you alone!*

CANDIDUS.

(*Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, Fri. 9 Oct. 1778)

On Wednesday last was rung at West Haddon, in Northamptonshire, by a Society of Ringers there, 45 Six Scores (which is 5400 Changes) in 3 hours and 36 minutes, Rear and Fall inclusive; The Occasion of this Peal was on Account of one of the Society being married the preceding Day. (*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 12 Oct. 1778; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 12 Oct. 1778.)

R I N G I N G.

On Tuesday December 8, 1778, will be given six very good gold laced hats, value seven guineas, to be rung for on the six largest bells, at St. Mary's, White-chapel, London; that company that raises them best underhand for 20 minutes, and falls them best, shall be entitled to the hats; each company to bring their own umpire, and that umpire who belongs to the winning company shall be entitled to a hat likewise; to be given by Samuel Turner, church bell-hanger, to all parts of Great Britain, at the Bell and Wheel and Windmill, Whitechapel. Each ring-er to pay one shilling for his dinner. To begin ringing at two.—☞ No objection to any person or persons ringing.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 26 Oct. 1778 - advert)

On Monday last Mr. Holt's peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (call'd by the 2d) was rung at St. Peter's in this town by four of the Junior and four of the Senior Society. The time three hours twenty two minutes.

(*Creswell & Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 31 Oct. 1778)

We hear that St. Peter of Mancroft ringers will begin their annual ringing on Sunday next; and, by desire, not to ring at twelve o'clock, as usual, on Christmas eve, but on Christmas morning at six o'clock.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 7 Nov. 1778; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, same date.)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Thaxted, Essex

RINGING at THAXTED, ESSEX.

THIS is to give NOTICE to all Lovers of MUSICAL BELLS, That a complete Set of Eight (inferior to none in tone) will be opened on Wednesday next, the 11th instant.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 6 Nov. 1778 - advert)

On Wednesday last was opened at Thaxted, a peal of eight bells (cast by Messrs. Mears and Co. of London,) by the Walden ringers; after which the Cambridge Youths rung, with the Belchamp St. Paul's; and yesterday morning the Cambridge and Belchamp men rung a peal of 5000 and upwards of bob major; in rather more than three hours, greatly to the satisfaction of every judge of ringing. The bells were much approved of for their musical tones, and gave universal satisfaction. Three whole sheep were roasted whole on the above occasion.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 13 Nov. 1778; also *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 17 Nov. 1778 and *Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 14 Nov. - Wed. 18 Nov. 1778; short report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 14 Nov. 1778) [Despite the implications of the advert, the full ring was not cast by Mears & Co, only bells 1-3 and tenor.]

On Monday Morning last, Mr. Holts Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Grandsire Triples, was rung on the Peal of Eight Bells, at St. Peter's Church in Nottingham, by a set of Performers consisting of one of the Society of Leicester Scholars, and one of the Society of London College Youths, and six of the Nottingham Society of Sherwood Youths. – The Time Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

(*Derby Mercury*, Fri. 20 Nov. 1778; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 23 Nov. 1778; similar reports in *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 19 Nov. 1778; *Leicester and Nottingham Journal* and *Creswell & Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, both Sat. 21 Nov. 1778; *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 21 Nov. 1778; *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 23 Nov. 1778; and *York Courant*, Tues. 24 Nov. 1778)

On Monday last the Society of Cumberland Youths rung at the parish church of St. Mary Walthamstow, Essex, a compleat peal of 5337 Cumberlands Royal Bob Set Changes, in three hours and 35 minutes, it being the greatest performance completed by this Society.—The Bobs were called by Mr. Samuel Wood.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Thurs. 3 Dec. 1778; the peal book of the Cumberland Youths records no peals rung between 9 Nov. 1778 (6160 Plain Bob Major at Horsham) and 29 Dec. 1778 (6608 Plain Bob Major at Croydon) and that, taken with the phraseology, suggests that this is a hoax.)

Last night was rung on our bells by the company of ringers of this town, a peal of 5040 bob major, in three hours and fourteen minutes; the shortest time the like has been performed since the bells were first opened.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 11 Dec. 1778)

On Monday last was rung at Downham in Norfolk, by the Downham and Stow company, 5040 of Bob Major in three hours and one minute, without changes alike or bells out of course, being the only 5040 ever rung in that steeple by any one compan[y], Norwich excepted.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, etc. Sat. 12 Dec. 1778; also *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 12 Dec. 1778, with 'company' spelled correctly.)

On Tuesday night last was rung at St. Mary's Church, by the junior members of the UNION SOCIETY of this town, the complete peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES, composed by Mr. Holt of the society of London College Youths, containing five thousand and forty changes in 3 hours and 29 minutes.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 19 Dec. 1778; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 28 Dec. 1778.)

We hear from Ash, that last Monday was opened at that place, by the gentlemen ringers of Dover, a new musical peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Swain, of Longford, in Middlesex, and hung by Mr. William Jones, of Margate, which gave universal satisfaction.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 23 Dec. - Sat. 26 Dec. 1778; this report refers to Ash next Sandwich, and Swain's ring was evidently unsatisfactory, as it was recast by William Mears in 1790.)

1779

Last week was open'd at Snaith, a peal of new bells; cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, White-Chapel, London, and hung by Samuel Turner, their bell-hanger; when several peals of seven hundred were rung: the bells were allowed to be very fine and tunable, and give general satisfaction.— Timely notice will be given for opening the new peal at Wakefield.

☞ Those who want single bells, or peals of bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or to F. Hudson on the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost Dispatch and Care.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 5 Jan. 1779 – not an advert)

On Tuesday last was rung at St. Mary's Church, by the UNION SOCIETY of this town, five thousand and forty Bob Major, being the first attempt ever made by that Society for the same, and completed in 3 hours and 34 minutes.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 9 Jan. 1779; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 11 Jan. 1779.)

At Rochdale, on the 6th Inst. 1440 Changes were rung on six Bells in four different Peals, without Hang or Clam, by a young Set of Ringers in one Hour and a few Seconds.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 19 Jan. 1779)

TO be rung for at Framlingham on Saturday next the 13th inst. Six pair of Wash-leather GLOVES, by any 3 companies of ringers, to ring 2 eighteen scores playing bobs and trebles; to be at the Blue Boar by Twelve. Dinner to be ready by One. Where all gentlemen ringers shall meet with good entertainment, from their most humble servant,
BRIENT [sic] SMITH.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 6 Feb. 1779 - advert)

Ringling for the acquittal of Admiral Keppel

Monday last was rung at Beccles, in honour of Admiral Keppel, a complete peal of 5040 bob majors royal, in 3 hours 23 minutes, being the greatest performance ever done on those bells, though often attempted by the Norwich ringers.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 20 Feb. 1779)

In consequence of the honourable acquittal of Admiral Keppel, the bells of Southover Church here, were early on Monday morning last set ringing ...

At Horsham a true and compleat peal of 5040 union tripples was rung in honour of Adm. Kepple, and three hogsheads of strong beer were given to the populace there, by order of John Aldridge Esq; and some other gentlemen.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 22 Feb. 1779)

We hear from Ro[th]well, in Northamptonshire, that on Monday last, on receiving the News of the Acquittal of Admiral Keppel, by the Court Martial, a compleat Peal of 5040 Changes was rung, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes, the Tenor of the Peal weighing 2200 lb.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 22 February 1779; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 22 Feb. 1779)

ON Monday, Feb. 15, 1779, was rung on those Musical Peal of Ten Bells at Beccles in Suffolk, in honour of Admiral Keppel, a compleat peal of 5040 bob major royal in 3 hours 23 minutes, being the greatest performance ever done on those bells, tho' attempted by the Norwich ringers. The performers were

Wm. Richardson, treble.		Wm. Kandall, sixth
James Gowing, second		Isaac Barnibay, seventh
Francis Beale, third		John Smith, eighth
John Norman, fourth		Isaac Wetherall, ninth
Wm. Sallows, fifth, called		John Harman, tenor.

the peal. Note. The tenor has lately been rehung by John Cutlove and Wm. Buck.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 27 Feb. 1779 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

TO rung for, at Bray in the county of Berks, On Tuesday the 27th day of April next, six exceeding good Gold-laced Hats, by any company ringers; that company which shall ring the best round peal to the hats; each company to bring an umpire; the majority of umpires to determine the prize, and the umpire of the winning company have an hat. There will be an ordinary at Mr. George White's, the George at Bray at one o'clock, and no person to ring but what shall dine at the ordinary. To begin ringing at three and each peal to continue 15 minutes. Two persons will be allowed to assist the 5th and tenor men.

☞ The bells have all been new hung by Mr Turner, of White Chapel, London, are in excellent order, and will be free for trial till the day of ringing.

* * No Bray man allowed to ring or to assist.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 22 Feb. 1779 - advert)

In consequence of Capt: Fuller, of Brightling (to whom the late Rose Fuller Esq: left the bulk of his fortune) coming of age on Saturday last, a fat ox, weighing upwards of 160 stone, was on Friday given away to the poor of that place. A complete peal of Oxford treble bobs, 720 changes, was rung at Waldron church on the occasion, and performed by six Sussex men, in 25 minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 22 Feb. 1779)

The following are the names of the ringers of the parish of Waldron, who assembled there on the 20th Ult. and spent the day in commemoration of the birth of John Fuller Esq; and performed in the following order, a compleat peal, called Oxford Treble Bob, 720 changes, in 25 minutes as mentioned in our last, viz.

Tho. Slatter,	Treble	Tho. Jones,	4th
Josias Daw,	2d	John Waters,	5th
Edw. Bristow,	3d	John Ranger,	Tenor.

The above peal was never before rung in this county by any six-bell company of Sussex men. The Bobs were called by John Ranger.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 1 March 1779)

Bury, March 10.

On Friday, March 5th was rung at St. Mary's, in this town, by the Bury company, a complete peal of 5040 changes, of Bob Major, in three hours and five minutes, being a shorter time than ever it was known to be done upon eight bells of the weight before. The tenor weighs 23 hundredweight, and was rung by Wm. Digby, who called the peal with great ease and judgement; this is the first performance of the kind ever compleated here, tho' it has been many times attempted.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 12 March 1779)

NOTICE.

On THURSDAY, the 18th Instant, will be opened

A New Peal of Eight Bells,

At FOLKSTONE in KENT,

Cast by PACK and CHAPMAN, of Whitechapel, and
hung by ROBERT TURNER, of London.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 10 March - Sat. 13 March 1779 - advert)

BURY, March 17, 1779.

ON Friday the 5th instant, was rung by the Bury Company in this town, a complete peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major in 3 hours and 5 minutes, and perform'd by the following persons:

Wm. Wright, treble		Thomas Gurney, fifth
James Winn, second		John Simpson, sixth
Robert Martin, third		Winnow Frost, seventh
Christ. Sculpher, fourth		The tenor, which weighs

25 hundred, was rung by Wm. Digby, with great ease and judgement, who likewise called the peal. This is the first performance of the kind ever done here, though it has many times been attempted.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 20 March 1779 – advert. The details of this peal were recorded on a peal board.)

Sunday morning was rung at Great St. Mary's church, a true and complete peal of 5040 bob major, in three hours and 26 minutes, by the following persons: Richard Widnell ; John Cooper 2; Richard Laughton 3; William Bland 4; John Boudell 5; John Swan 6; John Saunders, who called the peal, 7; and John Hazard 8. It was allowed by all judges to be as complete a performance of the kind as ever was attempted.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 March 1779)

RINGING.

TO be RUNG for, at Cookham, near Maidenhead, Berks, on Monday, the 31st of May next, SEVEN SILVER-LACED HATS, on a peal of six bells; six hats for the winning ringers, and one for the umpire. Each peal to be 15 minutes, and each set to provide an umpire. To begin ringing precisely at 10 o'clock. All ringers will be allowed to ring on week days, and on Sundays after divine service; but no say peals on the day of ringing.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mons. 29 March, 5 & 12 April 1779 – advert; similar adverts in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sats. 27 March, 3 & 10 April 1779)

On Monday last was rung at Thaxted, on that musical peal of eight bells, 5600 regular changes of Bob Major, by eight men living in the said town, who rung the bells in the following order, viz. Tho. Moor 1st, David Bateman 2d, Tho. Everitt 3d, Robert Ingham 4th, John Williamson 5th, John Bateman 6th, John Moor 7th, and Ambrose Redhouse the 8th, who called the bobs with great accuracy and precision, and which they performed in three hours and twenty-eight minutes; to be equalled but by few, exceeded by none; considering they never had but six bells at Thaxted (until this new peal of eight which was opened on the 11th of Nov. last, as mentioned in the *Chelmsford Chronicle* at that time) nor only Ambrose Redhouse who had ever been used to ring upon eight bells.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 9 April 1779)

ON WEDNESDAY next, April 28, will be opened at MIDDLETON STEEPLE in Suffolk, a new complete peal of FIVE BELLS, hung by JAMES TILLOTT, of Halesworth in Suffolk. On the same day will be rung for, Six pairs of Wash leather Gloves. The peals to be rung are Grandsires [*sic*] and Old Doubles.

A good ordinary will be provided at Two o'clock, By their humble servant, SAMUEL WILSON.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 24 April 1779 - advert)

On Monday last was rung at Brighthelmston, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, a true and complete peal of 11088 changes, bob major, being the most changes ever rung in this county: or by any society in London. It was performed in six hours and fifty minutes, in order as followeth,

Geo. Gross,	treble,	from	Bethnal-green, London.
Tho. Jones,	2d,		Horsham, Sussex.
Tho. Lintott,	3d,		ditto.
Jos. Willard,	4th,		Chiddingly, Sussex.
Edw. Simmons,	5th,		Islington, Middlesex.
John Wheatly,	6th,		Epsom, Surry.
James Wilson,	7th,		Cuckfield, Sussex.
Benj. Simmons,	tenor,		Leatherhead, Surry.

The above peal was composed and call'd by Mr. Gross.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 31 May 1779)

On Saturday morning last was rung, at Bromsgrove, in three hours and 20 minutes, by the united soci[e]ties of Bromsgrove and Stourbridge, Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 3 June 1779)

A few Days ago was rang, at St. Mary's Church, at Braughing, Herts, a complete Peal of 12,440 Bob-Majors, which was performed, by the Braughing Youths, in seven Hours and 35 Minutes; being the greatest Performance ever completed on those Bells, and the longest ever performed by one Set of Hands.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 7 June 1779; also *Reading Mercury*, and *Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 7 June 1779, beginning 'Monday the 10th of May,...')

On Tuesday last the 8th inst. was opened by the Canterbury ringers, a new peal of eight bells, at St. Peter's church, Sandwich, cast by W. Mears and Co. of London. The bells were remarkable for their good musical tones, was [*sic*] generally approved, and gave great satisfaction. - What is rather extraordinary, the tenor is under sixteen hundred weight, and yet near *E natural*.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 15 June 1779)

Tuesday last being the Birth-Day of the only Son of the Very Rev. Dr. Fountayne, Dean of this Cathedral, when he came of Age, being born in 1758, the same was observed with great Rejoicings. In the Morning and at Noon several Peals were rung at the Minster; after which the Society of Ringers and a numerous Company were elegantly entertained at the Turk's Head Tavern; in the Afternoon Money and Victuals were distributed among the Populace who had assembled upon the Occasion; and the Evening was spent with the greatest Harmony:

(*York Courant*, Tues. 22 June 1779)

RINGING.

On Monday the 19th of July instant, will be given by William Cordery, at the Bell in Odiham, Hants, Seven very good HATS, to be rung for on a peal of six bells; six hats for the men who ring the best peal, and one for the umpire; the peal to continue for 15 minutes, and each set to provide an umpire.—No less than four sets will be allowed to ring; and no person to ring unless he dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table precisely at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at two. All ringers will be allowed trials on week days, and on Sundays after divine service; but no say peals on the day of ringing.—No Odiham man will be permitted to ring, or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 5 July 1779 - advert)

On Wednesday last was opened at Wakefield, by the Society of Ringers belonging [to] that church, a peal of eight new bells, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel, and hung by Samuel Turner, bell-hanger from London; when several Peals of Changes were rung by the ringers from Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, and Pontefract, with the greatest exactness; numbers of people assembled on the occasion; and the bells were allowed, by judges, to be a fine peal.

☞ Those who want single Bells, or Peals of Bells casting, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or to Mr. F. Hudson on the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost care and dispatch.

It is very remarkable, that the Leeds ringers were the first who rung a compleat peal of tripples, containing 5040 changes in three hours and 5 minutes, in the above church on the old bells in 1742, as well as at the above meeting last Wednesday.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 13 July 1779 – not an advert; also - omitting the last paragraph – in *York Courant*, Tues. 13 July 1779; a much shorter version in *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 13 July 1779)

Tuesday died Mr. Callow, who kept the Labour in Vain 43 years; he was the oldest ringer in this city.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 17 July 1779 – per David Cubitt. The latter was James Callow.)

On the 11th inst. was rung on a peal of six bells, at Fulbourn near Cambridge, by Fulbourn and Cambridge ringers, a compleat peal of plain bob with 42 singles; the first, it is presumed, that was ever rung with that number of singles. The peal was called by John Steers, who lately composed it.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 17 July 1779)

Last Monday was rang at St. Martin's, Birmingham, a complete Peal of 8040 Changes, in Oxford Treble, Ten in; which lasted seven Hours and 40 Minutes: It is allowed to be the most masterly Performance of the Kind ever executed in the Country, the Weight of the Tenor being 36 Cwt. and completely finished single-handed.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 26 July 1779; this appears to be a hoax.)

On Sunday last a new and harmonious Peal of five Bells was opened at Bubwith, by the Society of Ringers belonging to St. Mary the Elder, Bishophill, in this City, when several complete Peals were rung to the entire Satisfaction of a numerous Concourse who had assembled upon the Occasion.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 27 July 1779)

DIED.] ... Mr. Robert Romley, clock-maker and bell-founder, in Horseshoe-alley, Moorfields.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Fri. 30 July 1779)

On Sunday last died Mr. John Curtis, many Years University Martial [*sic*], and one of the principal Change Ringers in this and the adjoining Counties.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 31 July 1779; also *Reading Mercury*, Mon. 2 Aug. 1779, and *Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Tues. 3 Aug. 1779, under the by-line 'Oxford, July 31'.)

TO be SOLD, Four BELLS, weighing about
32 CWT. between six and seven TON of old LEAD,
and a large Quantity of STONE and TIMBER, lying at
Lilford, near Oundle.

Apply to Mr. Wilkinson, at Lilford.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 23 Aug. 1779 – advert)

Extract of a Letter from Rochester, Sept. 1.

...

“Saturday Senn’ight [sic] died suddenly, at Wouldham, near this City, William Manley, Esq. many Years chief Clerk of the Victualling Office at Chatham, but resigned his Employment a few Years since. Mr. Manley was well known for his Skill in Ringing; in Consequence of which, he was several Times elected Master of the Society of Cumberland Youths, in London.”

(*St. James’s Chronicle or, the British Evening Post*, Tues. 31 Aug. – 2 Sept. 1779; similar report *Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 8 Sept. - Sat. 11 Sept. 1799, beginning ‘Lately died...’)

On Monday last was rung at Hornchurch, in Essex, by the unanimous Walthamstow Society, a peal of 720 plain bob, which was performed in 28 minutes. This has been frequently attempted by the Society of College Youths, but without effect

(*General Evening Post*, Tues. 7 Sept. – Thurs. 9 Sept. 1779)

RINGING. On WEDNESDAY next, Sept. 29
will be opened in the Parish Church of Cavendish in
this county, An entire NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS,
cast by MEARS and Co. bell-founders in London.

A dinner will be provided at all the public houses in
the town, where all possible attention will be paid to those
whose love of bells may invite them to hear the new peal,
which, it is expected, will prove a very pleasing one.

(Advert in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 25 Sept. 1779; similar advert in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 24 Sept. 1779.)

In the Morning of the 20th Inst. was rung at Pontefract, by their own Society of Ringers, in three Hours and six Minutes, the Peal called Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, being the first Time that Peal was ever rung there.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 28 Sept. 1779; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 28 Sept. 1779)

To all GENTLEMEN RINGERS.

THIS is to give Notice, that there will be a PEAL
of EIGHT BELLS opened at Eye, Suffolk, on WED-
NESDAY next, Nov. 3; the bells were hung by Mr. Turner
of London. The company to meet at the THREE BOTTLES
at Eye. Dinner at One o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 30 Oct. 1779 – advert)

Monday last being the anniversary of the King's inauguration, the morning was ushered in with a most excellent peal, at St. Martin's church in Birmingham, of 5280 *Bob-Maximus*, in 3 hours 56 minutes, by the united Society of St. Martin's Youths, from Worcester, Coventry, Salop and Stourbridge, it being their annual meeting. This was the first and greatest performance of ringing ever exhibited in this kingdom, London and Norwich excepted.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 30 Oct. 1779; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 1 Nov. 1779; and *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 4 Nov. 1779 under the by-line ‘Birmingham, Nov. 1.’)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Hillgay, Norfolk

R I N G I N G.

ON Wednesday October 27th, will be opened at HILLGAY in Norfolk, an entire new PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, cast by Thomas Osborn, Bell-Founder, at his Foundery [*sic*] in Downham-Market. All Persons who are Lovers of the Art of Ringing, and chuse to make Trial of the Bells on that Day, will be kindly accepted by the Inhabitants of the said Parish.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, etc. Sat. 16 Oct. 1779 – advert; similar advert in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal* of the same date)

Hillgay new peal of eight bells, cast by Thomas Osborn, bell-founder at Downham, were opened on the 27th of October by the Norwich ringers, who rung 5040 Bob Majors in three hours and 20 minutes, without a change a like, or bells out of course. They are allowed by many eminent judges to be one of the best peal [*sic*] of eight bells of this weight in the kingdom.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 Nov. 1779; similar reports in *Ipswich Journal* and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, both Sat. 6 Nov. 1779)

On Wednesday se'night was opened at Hilgay in this county, a new peal of eight bells, by the company of ringers belonging to St. Peter's in this city; when they rung a compleat peal of 5040 bob-majors, in three hours and eighteen minutes at the first pulling down. This peal of bells was cast and hung by Mr. Thomas Osborn of Market Downham, and are allowed by many eminent judges, to be one of the best peal [*sic*] of eight bells of their weight in the kingdom.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 6 Nov. 1779)

On Friday the 5th Inst. was rung at Howden, by a Society of Ringers of that Place, a complete new Peal of Grandsire Triples, called PALMER'S DELIGHT, consisting of 5040 Changes in ten Courses, which was performed in 3 Hours 15 Minutes, to the universal Approbation of the Town and Neighbourhood.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 16 Nov. 1779)

Last night St. Peter's bells rang a triumphant peal called WILKESIANO FORTE, in honour of Mr. Wilkes being elected Chamberlain of London.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 27 Nov. 1779)

On Sunday last, Wm. Robinson, clothworker in this town, after returning home from divine service in the afternoon at the parish-church, was suddenly taken ill, and died immediately: he had been 46 years a ringer at the said church, and had attended his duty that day both before and after noon as usual.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 30 Nov. 1779)

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. BERGE,
on the Premises, on Monday the 20th of December,
1779, at Eleven o'Clock, (if not previously disposed of by
private Contract, of which Notice will be given)

A valuable FREEHOLD ESTATE, situate at St. NEOT'S,
(on the navigable River) Huntingdonshire, and well estab-
lished in the Bell-Foundery, White-Smith, Clock and Watch
making Businesses : Consisting of a modern new-built Brick
House, together with a Bell-Foundery, and several large and
convenient Work-Shops and Out-Offices.

And, at the fame Time, and two following Days, will be
fold, All the HOUSEHOLD-FURNITURE and STOCK in
TRADE: Consisting of several valuable Clocks, Watches,
Plate, Fowling-Pieces, a large Quantity of Bell and other
Metals, sundry Smith's Tools, Timber, a Horse, Cow, and
Pig, &c. --- The Goods may be viewed the Week preceding
the Sale.

Catalogues and printed Particulars may be had at the
Cross-Keys, St. Neot's; Rose Inn, Cambridge; George
at Huntingdon; Crown, at St. Ives; Bell, at Bedford;
and of the Auctioneer, Essex-Street, in the Strand, London.

(Advert in *Northampton Mercury*, Monday 6, 13 and 20 Dec. 1779. This refers to Edward Arnold, and fills a gap in the story – explaining the re-advertisement of the premises and assignment to creditors in January 1780. Extract and gloss per Chris Pickford.)

Monday last was rung, at Raunds, in this County, by six Youths, on the same Number of Bells, 5040 Changes, in three Hours and five Minutes, the Tenor 20 Cwt. being seven different Peals, viz. College Treble Bob, College Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Court Bob, Court Single, Grandsire Bob, and Grandsire Bob Revers'd.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 Jan. 1780. A peal tablet to commemorate this peal was placed in the ringing chamber, and an open day was held on the 100th anniversary on 27 December 1879.)

On Friday night last, being the ending of the Old Year, was rung at Wakefield, by the Society of Ringers of that place, a peal of Double Grandsire Bob Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in eight Courses, complete in 3 hours and 31 minutes, with the greatest exactness, to the universal satisfaction of all who had the pleasure of hearing them, being the first TRUE peal rung on these new bells.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 4 Jan. 1780; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, and similar report in *The York Courant*, both of the same date)