

*Hutchins on*

# THE RINGING WORLD

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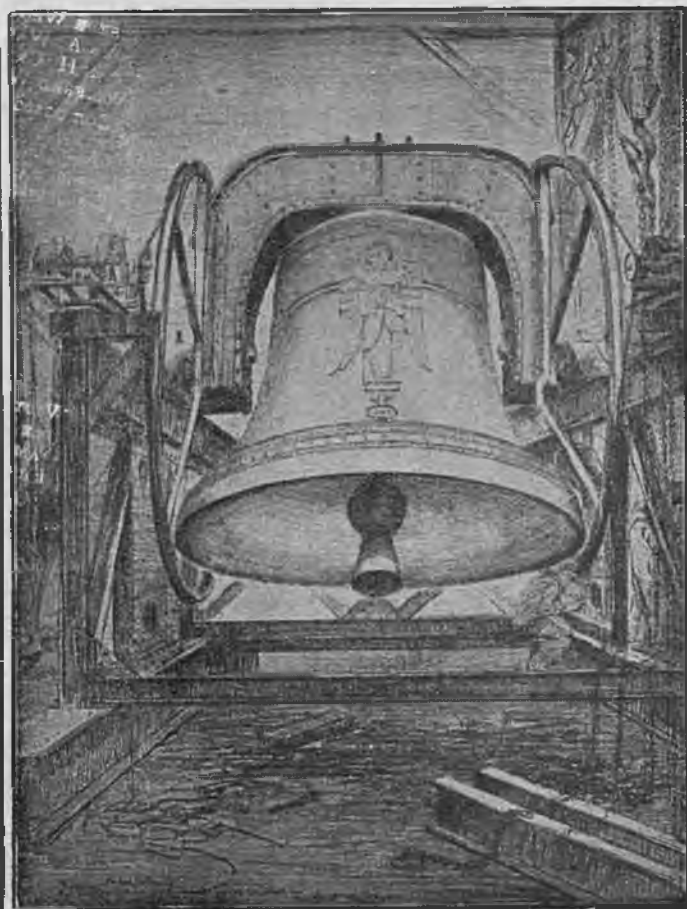
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### RINGING IS NOT A DYING ART.

Is bell ringing a dying hobby? Last week we quoted a headline from a newspaper which, based on purely local inquiries at Gloucester, suggested that the art was in decay. Look at the question from its wider aspect, and, despite the apathy which in some quarters is disheartening, it will be found that bell ringing, far from having reached its decline, was never so flourishing as it is to-day. All around are evidences of progress, and of the maintenance of interest in the face of all discouragement. In spite of the general trade depression, bell founders are keeping up their output—one of the best possible signs that bell ringing is still holding its own, for if there were no interest in bell ringing there would be fewer demands for the restoration of bells.

The amount of ringing that is done is as great, if not greater than at any time in history. Service ringing is more regularly performed in more churches than ever before; peal ringing, which marks a definite stage in the advancement of a ringer's interest and ability, is increasing, and there is a steady flow of ringers into the ranks of those who reach this stage. Most of the associations can report an increase of membership, and where there is any falling off it is, for the most part, accounted for by the stress of circumstances among ringers affected by the present wave of unemployment. Look at such gatherings as that at Birmingham last Saturday, to which ringers came from many distant places and in considerable numbers. There is not much the matter with the spirit behind the art, when men will travel at their own expense from places as distant as York and Bristol, Liverpool and London, Bradford and South Wales, Manchester and Lincolnshire to spend an evening in each other's company at Birmingham. And for every one who was there, a hundred would have liked to join in the gathering, animated by the same motives and impelled by the same enthusiasm for an art which they all share and which is the single bond of unity between them.

We cannot expect the same keenness everywhere, but all these are signs indicating life and encouragement. An art like ringing can never die. It may fluctuate; it may have its periods of advance and decline, but it can never reach the point of extinction. At the present time ringing has more devotees than ever, it has reached the highest standard that it has ever attained, and it is followed by men of better standing than at any time in its history. Bell ringing is certainly not a dying art or hobby. All the indications point the other way and ringers, as a whole, only need to pull out a little more endeavour and apply a little more keenness to give it an impetus in the next few years which it has never known before.

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## TEN BELL PEALS

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;**

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ... ..Trebble	WALTER G. ROWE ... .. 6
WILLIAM T. TUCKER... .. 2	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... .. 7
JOSIAH D. HARRIS ... .. 3	WILFRED ANDREWS ... .. 8
*GEORGE PULLINGER ... .. 4	EDWIN J. HARDING, SEN. ... .. 9
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... .. 5	*JOHN L. DACOMBE ... ..Tenor

Composed by JOHN COX. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

\* First peal on ten bells. First peal on the bells since they were augmented from 8 to 10, and rung half-muffled as a last token of deepest respect to the Rev. Thomas Salmon, Rector of the parish since 1912, who passed away on February 19th, after only a few days' illness, and was interred on Tuesday, February 23rd, at North Stoneham, close by the tower where on December 20th, 1931, he dedicated the two new trebles.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION,

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;**

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb.

EDWARD C. GOBEY ... ..Trebble	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... .. 6
*LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD 2	LEONARD JOHNSON ... .. 7
PERCIVAL PRICE... .. 3	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN... .. 8
ALBERT H. WARD ... .. 4	WILLIAM H. CLARKE ... .. 9
HARRY L. SMITH ... .. 5	†ERNEST F. PAYNE ... ..Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

\* 100th peal on tower bells. † First peal of Caters. First peal of Grandsire Caters on the bells. Rung with half-muffled clappers to the memory of Joseph S. Needham, for over 40 years respected steeplekeeper of St. Saviour's, Leicester.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

**A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART... ..Trebble	ROBERT SWIFT ... .. 6
FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... .. 2	FRANK I. HAIRS ... .. 7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... .. 3	*ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... .. 8
KENNETH SNELLING ... .. 4	JOHN DEARLOVE... .. 9
JACK M. CRIPPS ... .. 5	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... ..Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

\* 100th peal.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EARLS COLNE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1932, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S TRANSCRIPTION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM KERBLE ... ..Trebble	FREDERICK RIDGWELL ... .. 5
EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... .. 2	WALTER ARNOLD... .. 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... .. 3	ARTHUR SAUNDERS ... .. 7
FRANK CLAYDON ... .. 4	ERNEST BOWHILL... ..Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD P. DUFFIELD.

First peal of Stedman on the bells, also by file 5th and tenor ringers.

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**DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM**

BOLNEY, SUSSEX. THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. (BOLNEY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 13, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

THORSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Bolney peal: T. J. LEWRY (Treble), G. LEWRY (5), C. STARLEY (2), T. GASSON (6), W. HARRISON (3), A. ABSOLOM (7), W. WHEELER (4), F. CHAPMAN (Tenor).

Conducted by THOMAS GASSON.

\* First peal.

ORMESBY.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 19, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes. AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

Table listing names and positions for the Ormesby peal: JOHN G. HALL (Treble), JACK REED (5), THEODORE JACKSON (2), ARTHUR SPURDLE (6), HENRY R. JACKSON (3), THOMAS METCALFE (7), ROBERT JACKSON (4), GEORGE KITSON (Tenor).

Composed by REV. C. D. P. DAVIES. Conducted by JACK REED.

\* First peal in any method, and first attempt for a peal. Rung with the clappers half-muffled as a token of respect to the Rev. J. C. C. KERR, who was Vicar of this parish from 1905 to 1929.

CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes. AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 8152 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Chorley peal: BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS (Treble), FRED RIGBY (5), WILLIAM SHARPLES (2), FRED HARWOOD (6), JOHN CHARNOCK (3), JOHN T. MILLAR (7), E. ROGER MARTIN (4), JOHN H. GARTSIDE (Tenor).

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

\* One hundredth peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Rector of Chorley, Dr. P. J. Kirkby, and the Rev. H. Law James, both of whom were members of the association.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Crawley peal: OLIVER SIPPETS (Treble), GEORGE ELLIS (5), ALFRED J. BULL (2), ROBERT SWIFT (6), KEITH HART (3), CECIL NICE (7), KENNETH SNELLING (4), WILFRED WILLIAMS (Tenor).

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS

\* First peal in the method. In this composition, now rung for the first time, the 2nd and tenor never work together either in front or behind throughout the peal.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS. THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Three Hours. AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Sutton-on-Trent peal: JOHN T. SHIPLEY (Treble), LONARD PIERREPONT (5), MISS K. BURCHNALL (2), HAROLD DESMAN (6), Mrs. L. EAST (3), ERNEST A. MIDWINTER (7), MISS G. BURCHNALL (4), ROBERT W. STOCKDALE (Tenor).

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by R. W. STOCKDALE

\* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Major. ‡ First peal in the method. First peal on the bells since the addition of the two new trebles. A birthday compliment to Miss C. B. Eling and Mr. E. Midwinter, both members of the local band.

WRAYSBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes. AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 10 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Wraysbury peal: WILFRED EDWARDS (Treble), WILLIAM H. FUSSELL (5), ROLAND BIGGS (2), FREDERICK BIGGS (6), GEORGE MARTIN (3), WILLIAM HENLEY (7), DOROTHY R. FLETCHER (4), HARRY WINGROVE (Tenor).

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

\* First Surprise peal.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Three Hours and Three Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Gravesend peal: FREDERICK J. COLLUM (Treble), JOHN H. CHEZSMAN (5), Mrs. GEO. H. CROSS (2), EDWARD J. BEER (6), GEORGE H. CROSS (3), HERBERT E. AUSDLEY (7), HARRY HOVERD (4), RONALD H. BULLEN (Tenor).

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

\* First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell and first attempt. R. H. Bullen's 100th peal.

NORTHWRAM, YORKS. THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Three Hours and Two Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb.

Table listing names and positions for the Northwram peal: Miss M. JAGGER (Treble), W. NOBLE (5), W. MOUNSEY (2), H. CHEW (6), R. NOBLE (3), J. GREENWOOD (7), A. HANCOCK (4), A. JAGGER (Tenor).

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL. Conducted by A. JAGGER.

\* First peal. † First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 22, 1932, in Three Hours and One Minute. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON. BRISTOL. CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the London peal: ERNEST BRETT (Treble), EDWIN F. PIKE (5), CHARLES W. ROBERTS (2), WILLIAM R. MADGWICK (6), WILLIAM H. HEWETT (3), JAMES E. DAVIS (7), FREDERICK DIGBY (4), REUBEN SANDERS (Tenor).

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS

This peal contains 2,944 London, 608 Bristol, and 736 each of Cambridge and Superlative, the two latter methods being rung in alternate courses. This is the first peal in four methods by all the band except the ringer of the 2nd.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

DAVIES' VARIATION OF THORSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Edgbaston peal: WILLIAM DOWLER (Treble), GEORGE PIGOTT (5), JOHN F. ATKINS (2), ERNEST BOYLIN (6), ERNEST T. ALLAWAY (3), WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT (7), WILFRED MUMFORD (4), THEODORE RUSSELL (Tenor).

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

\* First peal of Stedman. First peal on the bells since they were recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Rung on the occasion of the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner in Birmingham. The band take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Sidney Freemantle, the vergier, for having everything in readiness.

ESCRICK, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION  
On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT C. FEARNLEY... .. 2	WALTER SWALLOW ... .. 5
HARRY BROWN ... .. 2	EDWARD RICKITT... .. 6
JOHN FRYER ... .. 3	HARRY C. WALTERS ... .. 7
JOHN K. DOUGLAS ... .. 4	ALBERT T. STRANGWARD ...Tenor

Composed by HARRY C. WALTERS.

DARLINGTON.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 22, 1932, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

A. COATES ... .. 2	J. W. DAWSON ... .. 5
*W. OLIVER ... .. 2	*J. T. TITT ... .. 6
†S. WOODHOUSE ... .. 3	†J. FARRY ... .. 7
*W. A. COATES ... .. 4	H. TAYLOR ... .. Tenor

Composed by D. PRENTICE.

Conducted by H. TAYLOR.

\* First peal in method. † First peal.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

FRED W. TURNER ... .. 2	CHARLES GEARY ... .. 5
ALBERT COPPOCK ... .. 2	HERBERT TURNER ... .. 6
WILLIAM THORNLEY ... .. 3	JOSEPH BAILEY ... .. 7
R. ALLEN HICKTON ... .. 4	W. RICHARD DRAGE ...Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by ALBERT COPPOCK.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

FREDERICK BORRETT... .. 2	†WILLIAM FLATT... .. 5
*SALEM GOODSWEN ... .. 2	WALTER MOBBS... .. 6
GEORGE HOWLETT ... .. 3	GEORGE GOWER... .. 7
STANLEY COPLING ... .. 4	TOWNSON ADCOCK ... .. Tenor

Composed by S. MARSH.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

\* First peal. † First in method.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN WHEADON... .. 2	HARRY HOVERD ... .. 5
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 2	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 6
JOHN H. CHEEEMAN ... .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 7
*JOHN S. MORTON ... .. 4	HERBERT E. AGDSLEY ...Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

\* First attempt for Cambridge.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER ... .. 2	JOHN T. KENTISH... .. 5
JOSEPH WAGBORN, JUN. 2	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 6
EDWIN F. PIKE ... .. 3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... .. 7
FREDERICK DIGBY ... .. 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ...Tenor

Composed by J. PIGOTT.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

ALSAGER, CHESHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY... .. 5	ALBERT CRAWLEY ... .. 5
*JOHN BRASSINGTON ... .. 2	CHARLES SMITH ... .. 6
THOMAS HURD ... .. 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN... .. 7
GEORGE W. BIDDULPH ... 4	CHARLES H. PAGE ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. NICHOLL.

Conducted by CHARLES H. PAGE.

\* 70th peal and first peal in the method on an 'inside' bell. The ringers of 2nd and 7th were elected members of the association prior to starting for the peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Thomas Hurd.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, BLAKENHALL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR J. MARTIN ... .. 2	HARRY BOSWELL ... .. 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER... 2	HAROLD F. MARTIN ... .. 6
ALBERT D. COLLINS ... .. 3	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 7
*HERBERT T. PIPER ... .. 4	*JAMES SHAW ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ABRAHAM GREENFIELD.

\* First peal of Stedman Triples. 75th peal as conductor, and his 50th peal of Stedman Triples. Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the later Alderman John Lewis, Mayor of Wolverhampton.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5162 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

*MISS MILDRED HIGGINS Treble	MISS L. NOEL CAWTHORNE 5
*MISS LUCY M. KELLY ... 2	FREDERICK CARDWELL ... 6
*JAMES KNOWLES... .. 3	ARTHUR PASHLEY ... .. 7
JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... .. 4	FRED WATKINSON ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by FRED WATKINSON.

\* First peal in the method.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

*WILLIAM M. STONE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM STANFORD ... .. 5
WALTER CHARMAN ... .. 2	WILLIAM T. BEZSON ... .. 6
THOMAS ADAMS ... .. 3	*C. ERNEST SMITH ... .. 7
JOHN COOK ... .. 4	ALFRED H. PULLING... .. Tenor

Composed by W. CHARMAN. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

\* First peal in the method. Rung on the 43rd anniversary of the record length (13,440) of the method in the same tower, in which peal, also, W. Charman rang the 2nd.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAGLINUS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	MRS. EDITH K. FLETCHER... 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... .. 2	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 6
EDWARD J. BRER ... .. 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 7
FRANK BENNETT ... .. 4	FREDERICK WHITE ... .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

\* 50th peal of Cambridge Major. E. A. Barnett's first Surprise peal. He is only 13 years of age, and received hearty congratulations from all the band on the perfect manner in which he rang the method and struck his bell.



LONDON.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OLAVE, HART STREET,  
**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**  
 Tenor 11 cwt. in F sharp.

RONALD H. DOVE ... .. 5	FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... 5
FRANK E. DARBY... .. 2	*THOMAS G. BANNISTER ... 6
H. STANLEY ROBINSON ... 3	ROYDON DAVIES ... .. 7
TONY PRICE ... .. 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.  
 \* 50th peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Sidney Howard Cotton, late churchwarden and trustee of the Advowson of St. Olave's, Hart Street, who was buried this day.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.  
**A PEAL OF SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**  
 Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM SEELEY ... .. Treble	*MADRICE F. R. HIBBERT... 5
GEORGE M. KILBY ... .. 2	GEORGE R. PYE ... .. 6
JOHN G. NASH ... .. 3	JAMES BENNETT... .. 7
*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 4	WILLIAM PYE ... .. Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.  
 \* First peal of Spiced Surprise. Rung as a birthday compliment to M. F. R. Hibbert. This peal contains 2,944 London, 736 each of Superlative and Cambridge, and 608 of Bristol; Superlative and Cambridge were rung in alternate courses.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,  
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
 Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*GEORGE LIMMER ... .. Treble	JAMES W. WILKINS ... .. 5
WILLIAM E. TAYLOR ... .. 2	J. HOWARD FREEBORN ... 6
FREDERICK BIGGS ... .. 3	PERCY J. DYKE ... .. 7
CHARLES SMITH ... .. 4	GEORGE GILBERT... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.  
 \* First peal of Major and first attempt.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BARLEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,  
**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being three 720's of Cambridge Surprise, and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, each called differently. Tenor 8 cwt.

FRANK HAYES ... .. Treble	WILLIAM A. TACK ... .. 4
WALTER MANSFIELD ... .. 2	HARRY HOWARD ... .. 5
CHARLES W. COOK ... .. 3	HAROLD J. HAZELL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. HAZELL.  
 Rung as a compliment to Oliver Barnard on the anniversary of his wedding day. Owing to illness he was unable to take part.

LITTLEBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, February 13, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT,  
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 Being two 720's Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's Kent Treble Bob, and three 720's Plain Bob, each called differently.

*HERBERT STRINGER ... .. Treble	WILLIAM SAVAGE... .. 4
JAMES P. COBOLD ... .. 2	HARRY BRAMBLE ... .. 5
PERCY W. SMITH ... .. 3	ALBERT JOHNSON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT JOHNSON.  
 \* First peal. First peal in the tower by a local band. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, parents of the ringers of 3rd, on the celebration of their golden wedding.

EAST ILSLEY, BERKS.—On Saturday, January 23rd, after meeting short for a peal, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins.: G. Caudwell 1, H. J. Balcombe 2, K. Burt 3, Mrs A. E. Lock 4, C. J. Hibbert (conductor) 5, J. Nobes 6, R. G. Rice 7, H. Brown 8.

ELMDON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1932, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,  
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being two 720 changes each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble, and 720 changes of Plain Bob, each called differently.  
 Tenor 10 cwt. 5 qr.

*WILLIAM NEGUS ... .. Treble	ALEC WHITMORE ... .. 4
ROBERT HOWARD ... .. 2	*JOHN NEGUS ... .. 5
GRAHAM PRATT ... .. 3	*FRANK FOX ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.  
 \* First peal.

HORTON, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 15, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,  
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Woodbine Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. in F.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL... .. Treble	GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... 4
EDWARD S. T. FARR ... .. 2	WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. 5
LEONARD STILWELL ... .. 3	GEORGE GILBERT... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 15, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being three extents of Oxford Treble Bob and four of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

*JOSEPH LAWRENCE ... .. Treble	FRED HAWKES ... .. 4
*WILLIAM HALFORD ... .. 2	FRANK LAWRENCE ... .. 5
*ALBERT HARTLAND ... .. 3	CHARLES CANN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES CANN.  
 \* First peal of Treble Bob. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

TUNSTALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

ERNEST HAMMOND ... .. Treble	CHARLES E. FISHER ... .. 4
WILLIAM SMITH ... .. 2	ARTHUR E. SMITH ... .. 5
FRANK L. FISHER ... .. 3	ALDERMAN LING ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALDERMAN LING.  
 First peal on the bells since they were overhauled by Mr. A. Bowell, of Ipswich, the 'go' being excellent.

CRANFORD, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being three 720's of Single Oxford and four of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

GEORGE W. CLARKE ... .. Treble	ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 4
STANLEY G. ROBINSON ... 2	BURLEY P. MORRIS ... .. 5
*WALTER COPPERWHEAT ... 3	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WHITMORE.  
 \* First peal of Minor.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven extents each called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE W. MOSS ... .. Treble	*ALLAN ANDREWS ... .. 4
CHARLES HONEYWOOD ... 2	WALTER HONEYWOOD ... 5
WILLIAM STIFF ... .. 3	STANLEY G. MOSS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by G. W. MOSS.  
 \* First peal of Treble Bob Minor, and is from Thorington.

OCKLEY, SURREY.  
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1932, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure Reverse, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, all called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALBERT HILLS ... .. 1 rebbs	GEORGE MARRINER ... .. 4
*W. CYRIL SMITH ... .. 2	ARTHUR H. SMITH ... .. 5
*WILLIAM J. WEITING ... 3	*ALAN R. PINK ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

\* First peal in five methods. † First peal in five methods 'inside.'

HITCHAM, BUCKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 23, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Single Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob (Treble Bob and Plain rung alternately). Tenor 6 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lb.

*GEORGE LIMMER ... .. Treble	LEONARD STILWELL ... .. 4
†WILLIAM E. TAYLOR... .. 2	WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. 5
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE... 3	GEORGE GILBERT... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

\* First peal of Minor and first blow in Treble Bob. † First peal in more than three methods away from the treble.

BUSHBURY, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, February 25, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR E. PURGALL ... .. Treble	HARRY BOSWELL ... .. 4
RAYMOND F. BLACKWELL ... 2	JAMES SHAW ... .. 5
F. ALFRED BERRY ... .. 3	HERBERT E. BOOTH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. ALFRED BERRY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. E. J. Watson (Vicar's warden at this church), who was interred at Bushbury on Tuesday, February 23rd; to the late Mrs. Smith (mother of Mr. A. Smith, who is a Sunday service ringer at this church), who was interred at Bushbury on this date; and to Mrs. Bert Horton, of Darlaston.

COGENHOE, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ERNEST A. MARSH ... .. Treble	ARTHUR H. TAYLOR ... .. 4
*FRED BENFIELD... .. 2	JOSHUA J. PARTRIDGE ... .. 5
ROGER D. St. J. SMITH ... 3	HENRY STAPLETON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. STAPLETON.

\* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEAL.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 25, 1932, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT 23, GREEK STREET.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

FREDERICK PAGE ... .. 1-2	ALFRED BARNES ... .. 7-8
ALLEN F. BAILEY... .. 3-4	ERNEST BENNETT... .. 9-10
HAROLD JACKSON ... .. 5-6	PETER LAFLIN ... .. 11-12

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

STEDMAN TERCENTENARY SOUVENIRS.

There are still a few oak ash trays available for those who wish to have a useful souvenir of the Stedman Tercentenary. They can be obtained, post free, from the hon. secretary of the Central Council, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

The souvenir booklets, containing illustrated details of the commemoration scheme, a specially written article on Fabian Stedman, the history of St. Benedict's Church and its bells, and a list of the subscribers to the tercentenary fund, can be obtained (8d. post free) from 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent, 'C. G.' (why does he not sign his name?) expresses in a comparatively short way the views of, I feel certain, a large number of practical ringers.

The letter from our friend George Gilbert is a most excellent one. I have written in the margin at the side of it, 'This might have been written of the last Bristol Branch meeting at St. Ambrose,' and this on the evidence of the chairman of the branch. But it is not the same everywhere. I have the most pleasant recollections of a meeting of one of the branches of the Middlesex Association, at which men whose names are famous were to be seen coaching young ringers after the tea and meeting.

The concluding part of your leader this week is sincerely received by me. An attempt was made a year ago, but a reply was received to the effect that I should save my alive branches, and, perhaps, I should, in time, have enough for a harvest festival. So you see the result of the first step to bring about harmony.

The next step will be taken at the annual meeting on Easter Monday, when, I hope, the reply will not be so flippant. I do most seriously consider that it would be greatly to the advantage of the Gloucester and Bristol Association to remove, for a time at any rate, the headquarters of its chief executive offices from Bristol to some other part or parts.

In writing thus I am not seeking any personal advantage, but purely the advantage of the association as a whole. I have, since early in 1929, kept out of the way of those who engineered the secession from the Central Council, but that has not in the slightest degree interfered with my ringing for the services of the church, practices or peals. But I do suggest with all seriousness that it is not to the advantage of the association that I should (as I do for the sake of peace) continue to stand aloof.

I have been informed from a reliable source that the Master is not seeking re-election, so I intend to put forward the name of one who should do much to restore some of the former prestige of the association; one who has promised to throw himself heart and soul into the work. I sincerely trust that all branches will be strongly represented at that meeting, and not leave the decision of vital matters to one.

In order that threats of resignation may not influence members as they did in 1929, it is hoped that candidates may be ready for the other offices of the association.—Yours truly,

W. A. CAVE.

AND THAT'S THAT!

Dear Sir,—With your kind permission I should like to acknowledge Mr. W. A. Cave's letter in your issue of the 26th ult. The 'insult' mentioned by me in your issue of the 19th ult. cannot in any way be retrieved, so there is no good to be got by continuing the correspondence.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK SKIDMORE

(Late Bristol Branch Chairman,  
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association)

ST. BENEDICT'S, CAMBRIDGE.

YOUNG BAND PROGRESSING.

The young band at St. Benedict's Church, Cambridge, is making steady progress. There is one lady and seven boys. Some of the boys go to Trumpington for practice, and seem very keen.

It is hoped that three or four of them will be able to ring rounds for service on Easter Day, with some experienced help on the heavy end.

The Cambridge University Guild have given valuable assistance and have lent their handbells, thereby giving the youngsters a chance to 'hunt.'

Tuesday is practice night at St. Benedict's, the clappers, of course, being lashed. The instruction is being given by Miss Willers, district secretary of the Ely Association, and Mr. Hibbins, and they receive valued help from Mr. Cook.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20th, the Western Branch held their spring meeting at Ripple by the kind invitation of the Vicar, Rev. S. Wallis Frost. About thirty-five members were present, including visitors from Cradley, Kemerton and Tewkesbury.

The Vicar officiated at the service, assisted by the Rev. E. G. Benson, and gave a very interesting address.

An excellent tea, kindly given by the Vicar, was partaken of at the Railway Hotel.

At the business meeting, 11 new members were elected, and Shelsley Beauchamp was proposed as the place for the summer meeting.

At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar, who suitably replied, adding that he was greatly indebted to the association, as it was responsible for the great strides his local company had taken in the art during the last few years.

The bells were utilised during both the afternoon and evening. Rounds were rung for the beginners, and methods rung ranged from Grandsire to London Surprise, including 'Double Court.'

**KENT DISTRICT SECRETARY'S LONG SERVICE.**

**MR. W. LATTER ELECTED FOR THE 38TH TIME.**

For the thirty-eighth successive year Mr. W. Latter has been elected secretary of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association, and at the meeting, which was held at Tunbridge Wells, high tribute was paid to his services by several speakers. Ringers were present from Chiddingstone, Chislehurst, Edenbridge, East Peckham, East Grinstead, Horamonden, Lamberhurst, Leigh, Penshurst, Plaxtol, Sevenoaks, Shipbourne, Staplehurst, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. Service was held at St. Peter's Church, conducted by the Rev. F. L. Taylor, who gave an inspiring address.

After tea at the Parish Hall, the business meeting was presided over by Mr. F. M. Mitchell, general hon. secretary of the association.

The secretary's report for the year showed that there were 19 towers in union in the district, with 184 practising members; 22 practising members and four life members were added during the year. A new treble bell, the gift of Sir Robert Gower, of Tunbridge Wells, had been added to the tower at Leigh, making a useful peal of six bells. The death of Mr. R. B. Lambert, of Frait, was recorded.

The balance sheet showed a very satisfactory state of affairs, receipts having amounted to £25 7s. 6d. and the expenditure to £6 13s. 6d.; the balance of £18 14s. was remitted to the general secretary.—The report was adopted.

Mr. Edwards (Penshurst) presented a report on the meeting of the Central Committee, and the general secretary spoke on the work of the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Latter was unanimously re-elected district secretary.

Mr. Edwards (Penshurst) and Mr. Markwell (Tunbridge Wells) were reappointed representatives on the Central Committee.

A number of new members were elected, and, following a suggestion from Mr. Mitchell, it was decided to hold future annual meetings in the autumn, and this year's meetings were fixed as follows: Leigh (spring), Hawkhurst (summer), Brenchley (autumn), and Sevenoaks (by-meeting).

Mr. S. Oaten, churchwarden of St. Peter's, on behalf of the Vicar and his fellow-warden, welcomed the company, especially Mr. Mitchell, the county secretary. He was pleased to see so many young members present, which was a guarantee that there would be others to follow on to take the place of those who were no longer young.

Mr. Stafford Green proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks, which included the Vicar and churchwardens, the Rev. F. L. Taylor, Mr. Archer and the choir, and the ladies who superintended the tea. Further names honoured were those of Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Latter.

A collection was taken on behalf of the Association's Benevolent Fund.

Ringings took place during the afternoon and evening.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**

Another very well attended meeting was held on Saturday last, when the society visited Drighlington, where, by the patience and perseverance of Mr. S. Barron, a new band of young ringers are learning in a tower which is large enough to accommodate some 40 ringers who were present from Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford, Bramley, Burley, Holbeck, Headingley, St. Chad's, Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge, Pudsey, Rothwell, Tong, Edinburgh and Rotherham.

The bells were rung up in peal about 3.15 p.m., and except for a break for the business meeting were kept going in a variety of methods from Grandsire to Superlative until 9 o'clock. Two new members were elected—Miss H. Holmes, of Batley, and Mr. M. Brown, of Drighlington.

It was decided to hold the next meeting on March 19th at Armley. This meeting will be the annual nomination meeting. All officers will be eligible for re-election. All towers are requested to be represented at the next two meetings.

A vote of thanks, proposed by the president, was accorded the Vicar and churchwardens of Drighlington for the use of the bells, and to the local company for the arrangements.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

**ARCHDEACONRY OF ELY.**

A quarterly meeting was held at Over on Saturday, when members were present from Cambridge, Chatteris, Dunmow, Exning, Fulbourne, St. Neots, Newton, Sawston, Statchworth, Great Staughton, Trumpington and the local band. Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. G. Weston, who gave an inspiring address, saying that ringers should always remember a church is not an ordinary place, not only a beautiful building but God's House, and His Presence is in the unseen belfry, too.

Tea was served in the Schoolroom, the Vicar taking the chair for the business.

It was a great pleasure to elect Master Eric Hibbins, one of St. Benedict's band, as a member of the association.

It was decided to visit Bottisham on April 9th and Chippenham on April 23rd. It is hoped to hold a joint meeting with the Suffolk Guild in May, at Elvedon, if possible.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the Vicar, organist and to the ladies who had taken so much trouble in preparing and serving tea, and had the washing-up to do afterwards.

Ringings ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Major, and included Double Oxford Bob Major, the method which had been chosen for special practice.

**John Taylor & Co.**

**LOUGHBOROUGH.**

\*\*\*\*\*

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

At Redditch Church, where the bells are to be open for ringing from 3 p.m. to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon, the peal has recently been rebung and the four trebles recast by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

Mr. W. T. Cockerill, the hon. secretary of the College Youths, is, we are glad to say, continuing to make satisfactory recovery, and on the last two Sundays has been able to visit St. Paul's Cathedral.

The youngest ringer at the Johnson dinner on Saturday was Miss Gladys Davies, aged 11, who came with her parents from Liverpool. It is early years for a 'coming out,' but Gladys was quite at ease and perfectly at home in the large company. Indeed, she thoroughly enjoyed herself, but we believe she thought some of the speeches were too long, although, when interviewed afterwards, she was too polite to say so.

An accident to his 'dining room furniture' kept one of the Birmingham veterans from the dinner. Tom Miller broke his false teeth and, much to his regret, could not get them repaired in time for the great event. He was one of the party of 25 that attended the first Johnson dinner, held at the Dog and Partridge after a peal to celebrate Johnson's 73rd birthday on February 28th, 1882. He is nearly the last survivor of that little company, and Saturday's was only the second dinner he had missed in these 49 years. Tom was greatly annoyed.

Mr. Joseph J. Parker, the veteran ringer and composer, of Farnham Royal, will celebrate the 79th anniversary of his birthday on Monday next. There is to be a gathering of ringing friends at the tower in the evening to celebrate the event, and a much wider circle will join in offering him their congratulations and good wishes.

The death took place at Isham, Northants, on Wednesday week, of Mr. Walter Thomas Wilson, honorary treasurer of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. Mr. Wilson was 59 years of age. The funeral took place at Isham on Monday.

Captain J. E. Acland, who was formerly Mr. J. E. Troyte, has died at Dorchester, within a few days of his 84th birthday. Capt. Acland was a member of the Devon family which did so much between fifty and sixty years ago to lay the foundations of the Devon Guild. He was one of the foundation members of the Oxford University Society.

Mr. R. A. Daniell's further contribution on 'The College Youths' is unavoidably held over, with other articles, on account of the pressure on our space.

## ENTHUSIASM IN NEW ZEALAND.

### YOUNG RINGERS TRAVEL 400 MILES FOR 720.

We recently chronicled a highly successful gathering of ringers in Christchurch, New Zealand, when members of the craft, scattered over the two islands, joined in celebrating the jubilee of the Cathedral in that city. The meeting has certainly inspired enthusiasm among some of the ringers in that distant spot, for last month two keen young members of the Christchurch Cathedral band, Messrs. S. Barnett and J. R. de Lambert, made the long journey to Dunedin specially to attempt 720 of Bob Minor on handbells, with the doyen of New Zealand ringers, Mr. J. S. Wilde.

On January 5th, at Mr. Wilde's residence, 9, Balmoral Street, Opoho, Dunedin, 720 Bob Minor was rung on handbells by C. Wilde (conductor) 1-2, J. S. Wilde 3-4, S. Barnett 5-6. On January 8th another 720 was rung by J. R. de Lambert 1-2, J. S. Wilde 3-4, J. Whipp 5-6. They were the first 720's on handbells rung by the visitors from Christchurch, and their keeness in making a journey of over 400 miles for such a purpose promises well for the future of ringing in their own city.

Incidentally, the ringing peal of eight for Hamilton Cathedral, which as announced in our last issue, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are supplying, will add to the present limited facilities for church bellringing in New Zealand. Hamilton is in the North Island about 100 miles south of Auckland, where Mr. Cornelius Charge now lives.

## TEDDY III'S ACHIEVEMENT.

### AND A 13-YEAR-OLD PROMISE REDEEMED.

Edwin A. Barnett, of Crayford, otherwise 'Teddy III,' has achieved another distinction. At the age of 13 he has rung a peal of Cambridge Surprise on an 'inside' bell, and, what is more, he rang it perfectly. We do not think anyone has rung a Surprise peal at an earlier age; at any rate, at not a much earlier age—we had better put this qualification, because the youngsters go so fast in these days that old men cannot keep count of all their doings. But Teddy the Third has certainly done something which no one else has done—rung a peal of Surprise at the age of 13 with his father and grandfather. Teddy II. and Teddy I. are probably even prouder than Teddy III.

The peal was conducted by Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton, and thereby hangs a tale. In the days when Mr. Bennett lived in South-East London he did a great deal for ringing in that district, and was frequently at Crayford. Two hours after Edwin III. was born, Edwin II., proud father that he was, wrote to inform Mr. Bennett of the event, and asked him to reserve himself to go and call Edwin III.'s first peal of Cambridge. In his reply Mr. Bennett said he would be pleased to do so, and on Saturday, after 13 years, he redeemed the promise.



## THE HENRY JOHNSON DINNER.

### ANOTHER GREAT GATHERING AT BIRMINGHAM.

The gathering at Birmingham for the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner—the 44th of the series—on Saturday was once again an interesting and enjoyable reunion. There is little need to search for the reason. This function, organised by St. Martin's Guild, is popular because of the unexcelled welcome and hospitality extended to visitors, and to the complete and highly efficient manner in which their needs are catered for. Ringers from many parts of England converged on the famous church in the Bull Ring in the afternoon, where twelve-bell ringing was indulged in under the able direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. Albert Walker. Those who desired heavier manual labour found it at the rope ends at St. Philip's Cathedral, while the bells at Bishop Ryder's had attractions for many.

The dinner was served at the Imperial Hotel, and was presided over by Canon T. Guy Rogers, M.A., M.C., Rector of Birmingham. The company numbered over 150, and included Mrs. Rogers, Alderman J. S. Pritchett (Master), Messrs. W. G. Robinson and W. R. Cusworth (churchwardens of St. Martin's), Canon S. Blofeld (Vicar of Edgbaston), Rev. H. McGowan (Vicar of Aston), Messrs. W. R. Heaton (Solihull), J. W. Tilley (Harborne), J. J. Kendall (late churchwarden of St. Martin's), A. Langdon Coburn, T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary), A. Walker (Ringing Master) and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. A. Piddon-Smith, Messrs. J. George and J. H. Shepherd (vice-presidents), Mr. A. A. Hughes (London), Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Goldsmith (Woking), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Perrins (Coventry), Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Wisebech), Mr. E. Alex. Young (London), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary, Middlesex Association) and Mrs. Coles (London), Mr. and Mrs. R. Richardson (Surrey), Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Davies and Miss Gladys Davies (Liverpool), Mr. E. W. Elwell (Grappenhall, Cheshire), Mr. W. H. Shaker (hon. secretary, Lancashire Association) and Mrs. Shaker (Manchester), Mr. and Mrs. F. Pervin (Coventry), Messrs. T. Horner and E. Earnshaw (York), Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Palmer, Messrs. J. Holman and M. Wilson (Sheffield), Messrs. E. Guise, hon. secretary, P. C. Williams (hon. treasurer, Gloucester and Bristol Association), Mrs. Guise and Mrs. Williams, Messrs. W. H. Thomas (chairman), and F. Skidmore (hon. secretary of the Bristol Branch) and Mrs. Skidmore, Mr. H. Burt (chairman, Bristol United Guilds), Mr. and Mrs. Bullen, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Leaker, Messrs. U. Braven, W. Knight, J. G. Jeffries, C. Baker, C. Durbin, A. Durbin, W. Durbin, F. Saunders and W. Abraham (Bristol), J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth Association), J. Austin (Gloucester), T. King (Bath), J. H. White (Coventry), Harry Mason (Hagley), W. Short (Clent), T. J. Elton, Mr. and Miss D. E. Griffin (Walsall), Messrs. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), R. A. Post (Oxford), A. J. Hughes and E. Jenkins (Bradford), and ringers in large numbers from the towers in and around Birmingham. Mr. Joseph Johnson, a son of Henry Johnson, and Mrs. Johnson were also present. An excellent dinner was enjoyed.

After the loyal toast, proposed by the chairman, the Hon. Secretary said apologies had been received from the Bishop of Birmingham, the Lord Mayor, Canon Bridger (Vicar of Bishop Ryders), Canon Dunn (Vicar of King's Norton), Rev. R. Stoev (Vicar of Selly Oak), Canon Roskell (of St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral), Messrs. W. W. Worthington (who was recovering from an illness), F. B. Yates (King's Norton), E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council), Colin Harrison (Loughborough), G. R. Newton (Liverpool), A. E. Parsons (Old Hill), J. S. Hawkins (Master of the College Youths), F. S. Wilson (Wincenton), and F. E. Dawe (London), while a message conveying good wishes was received from Mr. W. T. Cockerill, hon. secretary of the College Youths.

In explaining the absence of the Bishop of Birmingham, the Hon. Secretary mentioned that it was unfortunately due to the fact that he was entertaining the Archbishop of York, and this 'unfortunate' event was frequently referred to in a humorous way during the evening.

### DISESTABLISHMENT AND ITS EFFECTS.

Mr. W. R. Cusworth, who proposed the toast of 'Church and State,' said he was convinced it would be far better for the Church if it were disestablished, but he was by no means of the opinion that it would be better for the State. A State Church had a more sobering effect on the makers of our laws than a disestablished church could have. Among the advantages to the Church of disestablishment was that it would induce a spirit of greater generosity among its members. Coming, as he did, from a family of Wesleyans, he knew this to be a fact. He believed there would also be less discord. Almost the best thing they could say of the Church was that it was a disorganised mob. There was practically no unity, and still less authority. A bishop could do pretty much as he liked (laughter). In a disestablished church the appointment of the Bishop would be made by the clergy and laity. He thought that would be preferable to their own method. It had the drawback that, where there was a difference of opinion, there was usually a compromise, and consequently the best man was not appointed. The same thing could be said with regard to appointments made to livings. With disestablishment would come disendowment, but there was a lot of money in the Church to-day that was not really meant for that purpose. In bygone days, everything that was done by way of improvement was done by the Church, hence if a man wanted to leave anything to help forward a good work, it was left to the

Church. He believed he was correct in saying even the roads were at one time in the care of the Church. He was convinced disestablishment would be better for the Church, but he was afraid the State would be the poorer for the loss of the Church's influence.

The Chairman, in responding, expressed regret that he would have to leave the gathering early, but he had to go to meet the Archbishop of York, who was visiting Birmingham to preach at the Parish Church the next day. Mrs. Rogers and Canon Blofeld would also be leaving with him, but he hoped they would forgive him. With regard to the toast and the remarks of Mr. Cusworth, there were one or two things that might be said in favour of the Established Church. He was not quite certain that Mr. Cusworth was absolutely correct. He seemed to be under the impression that a Rector in the Church of England could do exactly as he liked. The Rector of St. Martin's, at any rate, could not do everything he liked, but, fortunately, they were a tremendously happy family, and they generally tried to find something which would please them all. It was only the very stupid man in any denomination who insisted on always trying to do what he liked (hear, hear). Another point was that if the Church were disestablished it was just possible that great masses of the poorer people of this land would be left without spiritual aid. While he had great admiration and respect for his Nonconformist brethren, and one of the greatest desires of his heart was to seek reunion with them, he felt that in a disestablished church there was a tendency for the Church to live where there was money to support it. They found chapels cropping up in areas where religion was most needed, but when there were insufficient funds to continue, the church was closed. This did not happen in the case of the Established Church. If a neighbourhood became poorer and poorer, it was still possible under their system to provide for the ministry of religion. He quite frankly recognised many of the disadvantages of our present system, and he was prepared to admit that disestablishment might have advantages, if they could have guarantees of greater sympathy in providing for the religion of the masses. It might bring them, too, nearer to their Free Church brethren and provide a national church, not merely in name, but in reality. He was not certain that the appointment of clergy or bishops would be much better under disestablishment, because there might be a tendency, as Mr. Cusworth had said, to appoint some very moderate person who would not offend either side, whereas by the present system outstanding men who might give offence to a certain number of people, yet whose services in the Church were required in high places, were given their opportunity and their chance. In important questions of national policy—questions which concerned the welfare of the poor, housing, peace—a national church could bring to bear a greater influence upon the Government and the community than the other churches. In conclusion, the Rector expressed his thanks for the privilege of presiding over the proceedings, and congratulated the Guild and its secretary upon the successful gathering.

### JOHNSON'S CONTRIBUTION TO RINGING.

Mr. J. Austin proposed the toast of 'The memory of the late Henry Johnson,' and in referring to the exceptional position which the old worthy attained, he reminded the company that in his days change ringing was very little advanced, and Henry Johnson must have had a difficult task. There were very few composers, and those that there were kept their information to themselves; they were jealous of one another. Johnson set himself out to improve compositions by getting more musical productions, and he believed it was the work which Johnson did which eventually led Sir Arthur Heywood to bring out his musical method—Duffield. At the same time they had men like John Carter, Charles Hattersley, Nathan Pitsoy and Henry Dains trying to improve the standard of composition, and they laid the foundation of many of the improvements in peal composition which we enjoyed to-day. Continuing, Mr. Austin said that the first time he met Henry Johnson was after the 'silent' peal at Burton-on-Trent, and he met him on several subsequent occasions. Very few people could realise the amount of time and labour which Mr. Johnson spent in composition, and in proving other people's peals for them. In those days, ringers composed peals but could not prove them, and most of them would 'send the figures to Harry Johnson.' Johnson died on January 7th, 1890, and he (the speaker) had the privilege of taking part two days later in a muffled peal of Superlative in his memory. Afterwards the ringers each received a photograph of the veteran, and his copy remained one of his cherished possessions. He thought sometimes that the spirit of Henry Johnson still hovered over them at St. Martin's Church; there had always been someone to step into his place, and he hoped that state of affairs would long continue.

The toast was drunk in silence, and an excellent bobbed course of Stedman Cinques was then rung on handbells by Messrs. F. Pervin, F. Perrins, G. F. Swann, A. Walker, A. E. Norman and M. J. Morris.

### ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

The Rector, having had by this time to leave, Alderman J. S. Pritchett took the chair and proposed the toast of 'Continued prosperity to St. Martin's Guild.' He first congratulated the officers upon the splendid arrangements made for that gathering, and said that among the changes which he noticed from year to year nothing gave him greater pleasure than the increasing number of ladies who graced the proceedings (hear, hear). They welcomed them and would welcome them in ever-increasing numbers. During the past year the Guild had sustained some losses which he grieved to men-

tion. Death had taken from them Mr. Percy Lavin, a genial and talented ringer, who had left them at an early age. They especially missed Mr. J. E. Groves, who was at one time Deputy Ringing Master of the Guild, and who discharged his functions admirably. With him their thoughts went naturally to Mrs. Groves, who was a constant attendant at their Guild meetings, was a 'mother' to all the young ladies who began to take an interest in change ringing, and was herself heart and soul one with them. They had also to record the loss of Mr. George Walker, an old member of the Guild, who was always ready to assist in anything he was asked to take in hand. Last, but not least, they had lost his dear old friend Harry Argyle, of Nunceaton, who was in every respect a most lovable man, and with whom it was always a pleasure to ring. His kindness of heart and geniality endeared him to everyone who was acquainted with him. He (the speaker) specially missed him because he was a dear friend of his in another direction, having been for many years secretary of the Masonic Lodge at Nunceaton, and he was as greatly loved in that capacity as he was by members of St. Martin's.

Alderman Pritchett went on to speak with pleasure of the presence of a number of old friends that night, and briefly reviewed the work of the Guild during the past year. He was informed by the Ringing Master, he said, that the year had been very satisfactory. Practice nights and Sunday ringing at the various churches had been well attended, and good progress had been made by a number of young ringers, and especially by Miss Olive Sanders. He was pleased to see most of these young ringers present that night, and he congratulated them on their progress. At St. Martin's the practices had been well maintained, and the methods ranged from Grand sire to London Surprise, and, on the twelve, from Stedman to Cambridge. Six peals were rung at St. Martin's, and during the year the Guild had rung altogether 21 peals. These had included Erin Triples, Stedman Triples (2), Caters and Cinques (9), Grand sire Triples (3), Bob Minor and Major, Double Norwich, Cambridge and New Cambridge Surprise Major. They had to thank Mr. G. F. Swann for his work at Erdington and Sulton Coldfield, and his ever-ready assistance at St. Martin's, Mr. C. Webb (King's Norton), Mr. J. Neal (Deritend) and Mr. J. George (Bishop Ryder's). The Guild had made changes in the titles of some of their officers. Mr. Albert Walker was now the Ringing Master. They had bestowed on him (the speaker) the title of Master of the Guild. He felt deeply conscious of the honour, and anything he could do for the benefit of the Guild he would be only too glad to do. In regard to bell restoration, Knowle bells had been rehung and increased to eight, the ten bells of Solihull had been recast on the previous day, and Selly Oak bells were to be recast shortly.

#### TOWER AND BELLS FOR BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL

Proceeding, Alderman Pritchett remarked that he was now chairman of the governors of King Edward School. It was proposed to remove the school from New Street to Edgbaston, and they were told that the four acres of land which they possessed in the centre of Birmingham was worth at least £500,000, and might fetch more. The total cost of the new school was estimated at £250,000, leaving them with £250,000. Out of that sum he thought they could well spare about £10,000 to erect a tower at the school and furnish it with eight bells (applause). He thought it would be a splendid thing for the school to give the boys the opportunity of improving their physical and mental powers which a ring of bells would provide. They would have ample opportunity and excuse for ringing. There were 24 governors, and they might possibly like to ring a peal for the birthday of each governor (laughter), and whenever one of them died they would be able to ring a muffled peal. Alderman Pritchett concluded by coupling with the toast the name of the hon. secretary, Mr. Thomas Reeves, and congratulated him and the officers on the magnificent success of the arrangements they had made for that gathering.

Mr. Reeves, in responding, said it was not only a pleasure but an honour to be the secretary of such a Guild as St. Martin's, and as long as he had the support of the members it would give him pleasure to do what he could to help forward the work of the Guild. They had practically every officer of the Guild present that evening, except their president, the Bishop, who was kept away by that 'unfortunate' visit of the Archbishop. He invited the Bishop to come and bring the Archbishop with him, but the meeting with the senior clergy of Birmingham, to which the Rector had been called, made that impossible. Mr. Reeves thanked the members of St. Martin's Quartette and the other artists who contributed to the programme, and went on to say that, while he did not wish to introduce any controversial matter into his speech, he felt that they, as a Guild particularly interested in 12-bell ringing, were entitled to say something with regard to the record which had been erected in Painswick tower. He understood they were attempting the peal again on Easter Monday, and in all sincerity he wished them success on that occasion (hear, hear). If that peal eventuated, he hoped there would be no question that the other record would be wiped out (hear, hear). He felt sure that in time to come the ringers who took part in that performance would regret it if the peal board was left in the tower, and he hoped they would either remove it entirely or make it perfectly clear that the peal was not true (hear, hear). He certainly thought the Central Council ought to take some action in the matter (hear, hear).

(To be continued.)

## THE 'ALL ENGLAND' MEETING.

### DETAILS OF THE CROYDON PROGRAMME.

The latest news concerning the All-England meeting at Croydon on Saturday, April 2nd, shows that Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are leaving no stone unturned to ensure the successful conclusion of their vast project for that day.

In addition to the extraordinarily exhaustive programme which is being organised for the entertainment of their visitors, details of which are given below, specially attractive arrangements have been concluded with the railway companies, whereby it will be possible to obtain, on presentation of a voucher from Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, a return fare from any station in the United Kingdom at the price of a single rate for 24 hours. This facility will operate from midnight on April 1st to midnight on April 2nd. The ordinary weekend tickets will, of course, be available for all those who do not wish to avail themselves of the special terms.

Luncheon at reduced rates will be obtainable from the Cafe Royal, the Greyhound Hotel, Messrs. Grant's Restaurant and Messrs. Kennard's Restaurant. These restaurants are all within easy reach of the Foundry.

The illustration on the next page shows the towers where ringing is available during the day. The organisers have secured the use of two halls and several sets of bells for handbell ringing in the afternoon and evening, thus affording ringers every opportunity of exercising their art.

Visitors are invited to attend the Foundry at 2 p.m., when they will be given an opportunity of inspecting the works and several ringing peals—complete in their frames—and to hear a demonstration on the great carillon of 72 bells for the University of Chicago, the Bourdon of which weighs 17 tons and the total bell metal 90 tons. Five of the bass bells are hung for ringing and will be swung, and recitals will be given on one full carillon by famous carillonneurs.

At 5 p.m. an invitation tea will be served at the Baths Hall, Scarborough Road, and adjacent halls.

For the convenience of visitors a special service of buses will ply—free of charge—between the Foundry and the local towers and tea halls from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. After tea, there will be a mass meeting at the Baths Hall, to be followed by a concert and dance.

The forms for distribution to towers by the general and district secretaries will be forwarded to them this week.

The towers open for ringing are as follows:—

Church.	No. of bells.	Weight of Tenor.	Times of ringing.
St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square.	12	36	11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
St. James', Clerkenwell Green.	8	24	" "
St. Leonard's, Streatham.	8	14	" "
St. Stephen's, Clapham Park.	8	17	" "
St. Mary's, Beddington.	10	18	" "
Banstead Parish Church.	8	22	" "
Croydon Parish Church.	8	30	12 noon to 1 p.m.
St. Peter's, South Croydon	10	30	3.30 p.m. to 4.45 p.m. 6.45 p.m. to 7.45 p.m.

### THE RESTORATION OF HARWELL BELLS.

#### COST TO BE MET BY BARRON TRUST.

The whole of the cost of rehanging the six bells at St. Matnew's Parish Church, Harwell, Berks (the oldest six in England), and augmenting the peal to eight, is to be defrayed by the 'Barron Trust.'

These bells have not been rung for nearly three years, and when the news of the promised restoration became known there was great thankfulness expressed throughout the village, the inhabitants having greatly missed their music during the last three winters. A special service of thanksgiving was held on Sunday week, when the Vicar, the Rev. J. Cecil Cohen, M.A., preached a most impressive sermon to a large congregation.

The work is to be put in hand at once, and one of the best rings of eight in the Oxford Diocese should be the result. The fund, which has been in the process of being raised during the last two years, amounts to about £225, and this is to be utilised in the thorough restoration of the tower inside, including a completely new staircase, the present one being in a sad state of disrepair. A well-known architect has been consulted, and his opinion is that the above-mentioned sum will be practically all required for this work. Any subscribers who are unwilling that their subscription should be so utilised are asked to notify the hon. secretary, R. G. Rice, Harwell, Didcot, Berkshire.

### MUFFLED BELLS.

On Sunday evening, February 21st, at St. Mary's, Sprotbrough, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: P. Gledstone 1, O. Greathead 2, E. Short 3, W. Athron 4, W. Dent 5, E. C. Stacey (conductor) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Henry Michael Harding, who was for over 30 years a regular ringer at Sprotbrough, and who passed away on February 17th.

# 'ALL ENGLAND' RINGERS' MEETING.

CHURCHES WHERE VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO RING.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

(1) St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

(4) St. Stephen's, Clapham Park.

(6) Banstead Parish Church.

(2) St. James', Clerkenwell.

(7) Croydon Parish Church.

(3) St. Leonard's, Streatlam.

(5) St. Mary's, Beddington.

(8) St. Peter's, Croydon.



**STEVENTON BELLS REOPENED.****RESTORATION OF A BERKSHIRE PEAL.**

The bells of the Parish Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Steventon, Berkshire, were rededicated on Saturday afternoon, February 20th, by Bishop Sheddin, Vicar of Wantage, in the absence, through indisposition, of the Bishop of Oxford. Illness also prevented the attendance of the Archdeacon of Berkshire and the Rural Dean.

The six bells have been tuned and rehung in a new metal frame with new fittings. Their weights and inscriptions are as follow:—

Note.	Inscription.	wt.	gr.	lb.
Treble.—D sharp.	Ellis and Henry Knight made mee.	4	0	12
2.—C sharp.	Henry Knight made this bell Ano 1617.	5	0	25
3. B.	Rev. W. Vincent, Vicar; R. Greenaway, J. Tyrrell, Churchwardens; W. Taylor, fecit 1849.	5	1	8
4. A sharp.	This bell was made 1615.	6	3	12
5. C sharp.	Rev. W. Vincent, Vicar; R. Greenaway, J. Tyrrell, Churchwardens; W. Taylor, fecit 1849.	8	3	12
Tenor.—F sharp.	This bell was made 1613.	11	2	7

The total weight is thus 41 cwt. 3 gr. 20 lb.

The Vicar, the Rev. A. Robinson, conducted the service, and other clergy present included the Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), the Rev. J. Shotton (Milton, Berks), the Rev. J. C. Cohen (Vicar of Harwell), and the Rev. B. J. Littlewood (Vicar of Drayton). After the dedication, the Bishop preached an impressive sermon, and at the close of the service a touch of Treble Bob Minor was rung by members of the Oxford Guild.

There were numerous ringers among the large congregation, the towers represented including Abingdon, Bucklebury, Brightwell, Caversham, Cholsey, Cumnor, Croydon, East Hendred, Harwell, High Wycombe, Milton, Newbury, Oxford, Reading, etc.

The ringers were entertained to tea at the Railway House Hotel. Numerous touches were rung upon the bells, including Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

The general opinion expressed was that Messrs. Gillett and Johnson, who carried out the restoration, are to be heartily congratulated on the excellence of their work.

**EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD'S PROGRESS.**

The annual general meeting of the East Grinstead Guild was held at Withyham on Saturday, February 20th, 30 members being present from Balcombe, Sevenoaks, Penhurst, Saleshurst, Rotherfield, Mayfield, Uckfield, Buxted, Turner's Hill, Withyham, Lamberhurst, and East Grinstead. Ringing was followed by a short service in the church, conducted by the Rev. H. W. Layng, president of the Guild, the organ being played by Miss Hawtin. A splendid tea was provided at the Rectory by the kindness of the Rev. and Mrs. Layng, whose hospitality was very much appreciated.

Mr. E. J. Oliver, chairman of the Guild, presided over the business meeting that followed, supported by the president.

Messrs. K. R. Butcher (Crowborough), C. Brazier (Rotherfield), A. Reife (Lamberhurst), G. Stevenson, E. Eade, A. Layfield and S. Loughurst (Buxted) were elected members.

The balance sheet and report were adopted, the balance sheet showing an increase in members' subscriptions and vice-presidents. The report stated 'that the twelve monthly meetings had been held, the attendance being exceptionally good, and, surveying the past early days of the formation of the Guild, Grandsire Triples being the only method rung, and compare them with the meetings of today, when Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise Major being brought round, it is most gratifying to the original members who set out to improve the standard of change ringing in this district by forming this Guild.'

The president kindly consented to carry on once again, and the vice-presidents are again to be asked to stand.

The officers were unanimously re-elected, namely: Chairman, Mr. E. J. Oliver; treasurer, Mr. E. J. Ladd; and secretary, Mr. G. Lambert. The committee were elected as follows: Messrs. A. L. Ryman, R. D. Divall, J. D. Manloy, B. Saunders, A. Laker and A. E. Edwards. The officers were thanked for their services during the past year, and the chairman, in responding, said it was the members who made the Guild so successful. No officers could carry on without their support, and he hoped the year 1932 would see still further improvement.

It was decided to extend the Guild radius from 10 to 15 miles of East Grinstead.

The next monthly meeting was arranged for Crawley on March 19th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. and Mrs. Layng for their kindness in entertaining the Guild to tea, and also to the Rev. Layng and the organist for the beautiful service.

During the afternoon and evening the ringing reached an exceptionally good standard, methods from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise being brought round.

A collection was made during the service, amounting to £1, in aid of rope guides to be fixed at Withyham.

**DEATH OF AN ISLAND RINGER.****FIRST BREACH IN NEWPORT BAND.**

Mr. William James Johnson, of St. Thomas' band, Newport, Isle of Wight, passed to his rest on Tuesday, February 16th, at the age of 60, after a long period of declining health, borne with his characteristic cheerfulness.

His passing makes the first gap in the band which revived change ringing in Newport nearly twenty years ago. It was a chance remark of Messrs. Warner's bellhanger (Mr. Frank Smith) which brought Wm. Johnson back to ringing in 1917, for he had, as a lad at Brading, his birthplace, been taught to handle a bell by the veteran, William Hewett, of Gosport.

His opportunities for peal ringing were very limited. A shoemaker by trade, Saturday was not his half-holiday. He had about a dozen peals to his credit, two or three of which were of particular interest. His first—Grandsire—was on the occasion of Princess Mary's wedding. He took part in the first peal on the restored ring of Carisbrooke, the first of Treble Bob at Carisbrooke and the only Cumberland peal rung in the Island (Stedman Triples), May 17th, 1924. He was proud of the invitation to take part in the peal at St. Mary's, Southampton, to celebrate the 60th birthday of Mr. E. Alex. Young, when he and the writer had the privilege of ringing with such worthies as Messrs. F. E. Duwe, Geo. Williams, Chellis E. Winney, and T. H. Taffender, and probably he was equally proud of the fact that he was in the first peal of Stedman rung in the Island by Island ringers.

A splendid striker of a light bell, a regular attendant on Sundays and practices as long as health permitted, a genial companion, wise counsellor and friend, he will be remembered by many in distant towers, as well as by those whose privilege it was to be associated regularly with him. His wife predeceased him by three years.

He was laid to rest on Friday, February 19th, in Carisbrooke Cemetery. A course of Grandsire Triples at the graveside and 742 from Holt's Original, fully muffled after the ceremony at Newport, was the last service his sorrowing brother ringers rendered to his memory: A. Flower (Sandown) 1, A. R. Ward (Ryde) 2, W. Chambers (Newport) 3, W. Scott, jun., 4, A. D. Callaway 5, S. Moody 6, H. Barton 7, W. Upton 8.

Beautiful floral tributes were sent by the Newport company, the Carisbrooke company, and the Island District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild. W. U.

**FUNERAL OF MR. F. EDWARDS, OF CIRENCESTER.**

The funeral of the late Mr. Fred Edwards took place at Tenterden on Monday, February 22nd. The body was brought from Cirencester the previous evening, and rested in the church which he loved so well, and whose bells he made his especial care during his life previous to moving to Cirencester. The service was fully choral, and was conducted by the Vicar, Rev. M. L. Man, assisted by Rev. H. Lummis. The Vicar paid a glowing tribute to the deceased's many activities in this his native borough, as Mayor, captain of fire brigade, Volunteer, Freemason, charity trustee and a keen church-worker, and especially as a bellringer. He never failed to visit the belfry when at Tenterden.

The large number of wreaths and the large congregation bore testimony to the love and esteem in which he was held. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by C. Ballard, K. Pattenden, C. W. Player, and A. J. Balfin. An attempt for a muffled peal of Stedman Triples unfortunately came to grief after 1 hour 25 minutes' good ringing by the following: W. Fright (Hythe), H. Humphrey (New Romney), A. J. Balfin (Tenterden), W. Bidwell (Hythe), W. Tickner (Tenterden), C. W. Player (Stone), K. Pattenden (Stone) (conductor), and C. Ballard. C. Trihe very kindly gave up his rope at the last minute to H. Humphrey.

Among the wreaths was one from the Gloucester and Bristol Association, members of Cirencester Church bellringers, and Tenterden Church bellringers.

**BICESTER RINGER'S DEATH.**

The death occurred on Sunday, February 14th, in the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, of Mr. Ernest Albert Clifton, one of the Bicester ringers.

The deceased, who was 52 years of age, was a member of the Bicester Urban District Council from 1922 till 1925, and of the Bicester Fire Brigade from 1897 till 1899, and again from 1920 for ten years.

He was also secretary of the Bicester Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild for over ten years.

The funeral took place at Bicester on Thursday, February 18th, and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. O'Reilly). Representatives of the fire brigade attended, members of which acted as bearers. Representatives of the bellringers also attended, and muffled peals were rung on the bells in the afternoon and evening. Wreaths and other floral tokens were sent by the Council, Fire Brigade, British Legion, Bicester Branch of the Oxford Guild, and also from the local band.

The deceased was a regular Sunday service ringer until his illness, and he had rung four peals. His death will be a sad loss to Bicester ringing.



**SUFFOLK GUILD.**

A meeting was held at Ufford on Saturday, the Rector of Saxmundham (the Rev. A. R. MacDougall) being in the chair. Twenty-nine sat down to tea, provided by Mrs. Drake. It is interesting to note that this is considered a good meeting. There are over a thousand members of the Suffolk Guild, which is thus one of the largest in the country. Meetings here are always so good that it is difficult to arrange for everyone to have a fair share of ringing, but this is a record number for Ufford.

It was decided to hold a meeting at Halesworth on Whit Monday, and a meeting at Sproughton and Bramford on April 9th, in connection with the ringers' whist drive that night. It was also decided to alter the date of the annual meeting at Sudbury to April 16th, as a number of members would be at the ringers gathering at Croydon on April 2nd.

The question of the instruction that was needed at Wattisfield and at Hadleigh was further discussed, and arrangements were made for the technical adviser (Mr. Haggan) to visit the towers at Saxmundham and Kelsale.

Before and after ringing on the tower bells, there was six and eight-bell ringing on handbells, and during the ringing in the tower there was twelve-bell ringing on another ring of handbells in St. Mary's Hall. Just as the ringers were about to begin ringing, news was brought that Mrs. Copeland, the widow of a former curate of Ufford, had died in a house near by. The rule that was made by the Central Council of Ringers, at its last meeting, for such cases, was thereupon brought into operation, and the bells were immediately half-muffled, and so rung all day. In the evening most members moved on to Woodbridge and rang at the tower there.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

A meeting of the Western Division, held at Northchurch on Saturday, was well attended, ringers being present from Apsley, Berkhamsted, Bronham, Hemel Hempstead, Watford, Tring, Totterhoe, etc. A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. L. Sunderland). The singing of the hymns was remarked upon by the organist, who wished he had such a choir always. The ringers were entertained to tea by the Rector at the Rectory. At the business meeting which followed, three new members were elected from Hemel Hempstead, where it is proposed to hold the next meeting in May. Mr. F. Reeves proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. L. Sunderland for his hospitality, to which the Rector responded.—Ringing on the tower bells took place during the afternoon and evening.

**SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.**

**BASINGSTOKE.**—At St. Michael's Church, on Sunday, February 21st, for evening service, 1,280 Bob Major: C. Munday (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Balaam (conductor) 2, Miss M. R. Cross 3, E. Austin (first quarter-peal) 4, F. Wilson 5, J. Ballard 6, H. Wooding 7, J. Chesterman 8.

**NEWHALL, DERBYSHIRE.**—For evening service, at St. John's, on Feb. 7th, 720 Bob Minor: S. Bailey (first 720) 1, T. N. Bailey (first 720 'inside') 2, H. Hurdman 3, J. Hough 4, H. S. Brealey 5, H. L. Dawson (first 720 as conductor) 6.

**WILLESDEN.**—On Sunday, January 24th, at the Church of St. Mary's, 1,264 Bob Major: C. E. Lankester 1, T. J. Lock 2, G. M. Kilby 3, E. H. Kilby 4, J. T. Botham (first quarter Major) 5, A. Cutler 6, C. V. Ebberson 7, H. Kilby (conductor) 8.

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**NOTICES.**

**ALL ENGLAND RINGERS' MEETING AT CROYDON ON APRIL 2nd.**—Full details of special railway facilities: Ringing (tower and handbell): Local Transport: Restaurants for Lunch: and the Full Programme for the Day will be found on pages 154 and 155.

**ALL ENGLAND RINGERS' MEETING AT CROYDON ON APRIL 2nd.**—Will unattached members apply direct to Cyril F. Johnston, Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., Croydon, for invitations, marking the envelope 'Ringers' in the left hand top corner?

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).**—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on March 31st at 8 p.m.; \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 8th; St. Magnus' on the 10th; Southwark Cathedral on the 17th at 7.30 p.m.; \*the Coffee Pot on the 22nd at 8 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. The Ribble buses on the Preston to Blackburn Old Road route pass the church every half hour each way. Three miles Preston, 8 Blackburn.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Central District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at SS. Peter and Paul's, Milton-next-Gravesend, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea (by kind invitation) at Johnston's Institute. Gentlemen cordially invited. — Mrs. G. H. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Southill on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.** — Burton-on-Trent District.—The next district meeting will be at Ashby on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea at Radford's Café 1s. Those intending to be present kindly inform E. W. Beadsmoore, Packington Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, not later than Friday, March 4th. All welcome. — A. Sharp, 194, Uxbridge Street, Burton-on-Trent.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on March 5th. Bells ready afternoon and evening. Service in church at 5 o'clock. Tea and meeting for business after. All ringing friends will be made welcome. — W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 5th, at the Parish Church, Wye. Tower open 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. All ringers are heartily welcome.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.** — Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Nuttall on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) ready 3 p.m. Ringers are requested to look up London, Cambridge and York for this meeting. All ringers welcome. Please turn up and put your backs into it.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., 23, Shaw Street, Ilkeston.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Glodwick on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. — H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 4, Nall Street, Milnrow.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—Next meeting at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at 5.45, at usual terms. Kindly advise me. All members and friends welcomed. Special meeting at Finchley on Saturday, March 19th, to re-open bells.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—March 5th. Ashwell. This grand peal of 6 ready at 3 p.m. Short service, followed by tea. The Rector has kindly offered to provide tea for all who will just send him a card. This is the last meeting of the ringing year 1931-32, and it would be a great help to me to get a few more subscriptions. All names for tea to the Rev. H. A. Griffiths, The Rectory, Ashwell, Herts. — Don Mears, Hon. Sec.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.** — The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 3. Service in church 4.30. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next half-yearly meeting will be held at Ambleside on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available at 2 p.m. Meeting at 3 p.m.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.** — The annual meeting will take place at Ranmoor Church on March 5th. Bells (8) ready at 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s., followed by business meeting, at 5 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield. A hearty welcome to all.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.** — E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—All ringing friends are invited to Farnham Royal on Monday, March 7th, at 7.30 p.m., to unite in wishing Mr. J. J. Parker a happy 79th anniversary.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer.

**ST. MARY, WHICKHAM, near Gateshead.** — Ring of 6. Dedication of 3 recast trebles by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, Saturday, March 12th, 3.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Canon Stephenson, Rector of Gateshead. Tea, after the service, in the Rectory Hall, for those who notify the Rev. M. H. Huthwaite, Whickham Rectory, Newcastle-on-Tyne, not later than March 9th. Visiting ringers welcome.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Northowram, Halifax, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 1.45 p.m. Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head to all those who send in their names to Mr. R. Noble, 29, Towngate, Northowram, Halifax.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Uxbridge (8 bells) on Saturday, March 12th, by kind permission of Rev. R. Home. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow in Church Hall. — F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 16, Nellgrove Road, Hillingdon Heath, Middlesex.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Helens on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, and meeting to follow. For tea notify Mr. E. Mercer, 13, Spray Street, St. Helens, before Wednesday, March 9th. All welcome. Heaps of room.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Great Horwood on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—E. F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 92, High Street, Winslow, Bucks.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Wirral Branch.—A meeting will be held at Woodchurch (6 bells) on Saturday, March 12th. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 6 p.m. Tower open at 3 o'clock. — H. S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec.

**BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.** — The next meeting will be held at Shelley on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. A. Goldthorpe, Red Hill, Shelley, near Huddersfield, by Tuesday, March 8th.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.** — North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, March 12th, at Hanslope. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m., tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Those requiring tea please notify in good time.—Walter Sear, 19, Albert Street, Bletchley, Bucks.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Colne Parish Church on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

**SALISBURY GUILD.**—North Dorset Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Okeford Fitzpaine on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business. All cordially invited.—E. V. Roe, Hon. Sec., Caundle Marsh Rectory, Sherborne.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Biddenham on Saturday, March 12th. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Everybody welcome. Please come.—Percy C. Bonnett, Dis. Sec., Stagsden, Beds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held on March 12th at Whittington-in-Lonsdale. Tea, 1s. each, to those who notify me by the 9th inst.—E. Jennings, Hon. Sec., Castle Oval, Kendal.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (12) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea, in Church House, at 5 p.m., at 1s. 3d. per head. Please notify Mr. S. F. Palmer, 87, Bradley Street, Crookes, Sheffield, by Wednesday, the 9th, for same. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. The annual report is now available and subscriptions for 1932 due. — F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Morryston on Saturday, March 19th. Bells (6) available

at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., with tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. — E. Stinch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

**OXFORD SOCIETY.**—The annual dinner will be held at the City Restaurant, Cornmarket Street, Oxford, on Saturday, March 19th, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, from the hon. sec., Mr. V. Bennett, 30, Lime Walk, Headington, Oxford, before March 12th.

**EATON SOCON, BEDS.**—Ring of 8, recast and rehung in new frame, after the fire, by Taylor and Co., Loughborough, will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Bedford on Saturday, March 19th. Service at 3. Visiting ringers welcomed. Tea provided for those who write to the Vicar of their wish to be present by Monday, March 14th.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 19th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 and tea at 5 o'clock, at the Pitman Institute, 1s. 3d. per head. Business meeting to follow. The bells of St. Saviour's, South Street, will also be available from 6.45 to 8 p.m.—Geo. W. Stokes, 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District Meeting at Cranleigh, Saturday, March 19th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea to me, please, by March 14th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., Merrow Cottage, East Clandon, near Guildford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next ringing meeting of the above branch will be held at St. James' Church, Birch-in-Rusholme (8 bells), on Saturday, March 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock on Saturday, March 19th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due. — James Wm. Grounds, Hon. Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

**SEELY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.**—The peal of 8 bells, which has been recast and rehung in a new iron frame by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be dedicated by the Very Rev. the Lord Bishop of Birmingham on Saturday, March 19th, at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcome, and tea, by invitation, will be provided for those who send their names not later than Tuesday, March 15th, to Wm. B. Cartwright, 81, Quinton Road, Harborne, Birmingham.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, March 19th. Nominations for general officers to be made in writing by March 5th. Further details later.—Chas H. Kippin, Hon. Gen. Sec.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting (Jubilee) will be at Derby Easter Monday. Bells of Cathedral (10), St. Andrew's (10), St. Luke's (8), St. Peter's (8) open from 10 a.m. to 2.30, 4 to 5.15; committee meet 11 a.m.; general meeting 12 noon; both in St. Andrew's School. Service at Cathedral 3 p.m.;

Preacher, Lord Bishop of Derby. Dinner 6 p.m., followed by social in King's Café, St. Peter's Street. Tickets for dinner 1s. 6d. to members, 3s. 6d. to all others, to be obtained from local hon. secs. No tickets sold after March 21st.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The 52nd annual general meeting will be held at Tenterden on Easter Monday, March 28th. Tower open at 10 a.m. Committee meeting in St. Mildred's Church Vestry at 11 a.m. Association service at 12 noon, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. M. L. Man; Preacher, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Dover. Luncheon in the Drill Hall at 1.15, presided over by the Worshipful the Mayor of Tenterden (Col. W. A. V. Findlater), followed by annual meeting. The following towers will also be available for ringing before the service and after the meeting: Rolvenden (8), Benenden (8), Biddenden (8), Appledore (8), Cranbrook (8). Application for luncheon tickets (free for practising members only, 3s. others) must be made to the undersigned by first post Tuesday, March 22nd, after that date too late. — Fred M. Mitchell, General Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Banstead on Easter Monday, March 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting following at The Victoria. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, March 22nd. All ringers heartily welcome.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Preliminary Notice.—Annual Committee Meeting.—Will members of committee please note that the annual committee meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, April 2nd? Particulars later.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Preliminary Notice.—The JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS of the Worcestershire and Districts Association will be held at Bromsgrove on Saturday, April 9th. Further particulars later.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Preliminary Notice.—The fourth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will take place on Saturday, April 16th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel at 6 p.m. prompt. Definite arrangements later.—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 15, Painswick Road, Gloucester.

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#### DEATH.

**WILSON.**—At Isham, Northants, on Wednesday, Feb. 24th, Walter Thomas Wilson, aged 59. R.I.P.

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