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FRIDAY, JANUARY 29th, 1937.

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## GOOD METHODS NEED POPULARISING

There are just a few bands up and down the country who make a hobby of ringing peals in new methods and some of them, notably the Helmingham men and some of the Berkshire ringers, have recently done quite a lot in this direction. It is the result of a commendable spirit of enterprise, and one which might add to the interest of other companies if they would apply themselves to the subject and do likewise. The scope is wide for the 'Surprise' ringers, and there is an almost equally open door for those who consider 'Surprise' methods too far advanced. Most of the methods in the Central Council's Collection of Plain Major Methods are still unringed, and these should commend themselves to ringers who imagine that Double Norwich is their limit. It is a great pity that more of the musical methods in both categories are not generally practised, and that is the point to which we want to direct attention in this article.

In the great majority of cases, when fresh methods are once rung, one never hears of them again. Among them are methods good, bad and indifferent from the ringing point of view. The bad and indifferent can, of course, well be discarded, but we could wish that the 'good' methods would come into more general use. Ringers, for the most part, are very conservative in their practice. It was, for example, years before Bristol Surprise, musical though the method is, began to be treated as anything more than the freak which an earlier generation thought London, Cambridge or Superlative to be. Other Surprise methods equally as interesting as or more musical than the three historic ones have now been rung; but, from lack of knowledge on the part of ringers, or through the conservatism to which we have referred, have been cast aside and left untouched by the general body of the Exercise, when they are well worthy of general practice.

The same thing applies to the Plain methods. There are many as 'good' from the ringing point of view—that is interest and 'music'—as Double Norwich that deserve to be widely rung, but they remain unpractised. Along with the 'exploitation' of new methods, we would much like to see a movement to save the best from the limbo of forgotten things and an effort made to bring these best into general use. Hundreds of ringers in these days are able to ring Cambridge Surprise, yet great are the limitations of the method! Other methods there are, on the same principle, equally interesting to ring and lending themselves to far more musical compositions, which on their merits ought to oust Cambridge from its pride of place—and would do so if it were not that Cam-

(Continued on page 66.)

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bridge has become just a 'habit' with the majority of Surprise ringers. Cambridge served its purpose well when there was nothing else, but there are better, if less hoary, methods to-day. We would like to see leading ringers turning their attention to some few of these very excellent methods, both Plain and Surprise, and popularising them among their fellows. It would be a sign of real progress.

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK, S.E.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6007 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

|                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| GEORGE R. PYE ... .. Treble | ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 7     |
| HARRY HOSKINS ... .. 2      | GEORGE W. STREER ... .. 8     |
| WILLIAM H. HEWETT... .. 3   | LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... .. 9  |
| CHARLES T. COLES ... .. 4   | REUBEN SANDERS... .. 10       |
| HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 5   | JAMES H. RIDING... .. 11      |
| JAMES BENNETT ... .. 6      | JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.  
Composition No. 110 on broadsheet.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, January 17, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6018 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

|                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FRED HAYES ... .. Treble | REGINALD BLABY... .. 6        |
| *DOUGLAS TURNER ... .. 2 | P. S. CREIL A. SMITH ... .. 7 |
| †MARIE R. CROSS... .. 3  | RALPH COLES ... .. 8          |
| ROLAND BIGGS ... .. 4    | F. DONALD BOREHAM ... .. 9    |
| R. GORDON CROSS ... .. 5 | EDWARD R. CROXFORD ... Tenor  |

Composed and Conducted by FRED HAYES.

\* First peal on ten bells and in the method. † 50th peal. Rung with bells fully muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Frank Boreham (father of the ringer of the 9th), who passed peacefully away after a brief illness on January 11th. For upwards of 40 years he had been associated with the Oxford Diocesan Guild, for many years as a member of the Hughenden Society and later with High Wycombe company.

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 21, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS. 6003 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *ROBERT E. COLES ... .. Treble | ERNEST COOMES ... .. 6      |
| FREDERICK HANNINGTON ... 2     | †GEORGE TALBOT... .. 7      |
| EVAN COLES ... .. 3            | ERNEST STITCH ... .. 8      |
| JOHN W. JONES ... .. 4         | JOHN PHILLIPS ... .. 9      |
| CHARLES H. PERRY ... .. 5      | SEYMOUR R. BARKER ... Tenor |

Composed by H. G. MILES. Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.  
\* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. A birthday compliment to the sister of the ringer of the 8th.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS. 6079 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

|                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GEORGE WILLIAMS ... .. Treble | *HAROLD P. REED ... .. 6    |
| FREDRICK S. BAYLEY ... .. 2   | REGINALD BROWN ... .. 7     |
| *D. CREIL WILLIAMS ... .. 3   | GEORGE ROBINSON ... .. 8    |
| ERNEST J. TRIMMER ... .. 4    | WILLIAM T. TUCKER ... .. 9  |
| ANDREW J. CORRIGAN ... .. 5   | *REGINALD A. REED ... Tenor |

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.  
\* First peal of Stedman Caters. Mr. G. Robinson hails from Leeds, Yorkshire. Rung in honour of the appointment of the Rev. F. H. Chambers (senior curate at this church) to the living of Billington, near Leighton Buzzard, in the Diocese of St. Albans.

**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

HURST, BERKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, January 19, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 14½ cwt.

|                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| MISS MARIE R. CROSS ... Treble | ↑ WILLIAM H. J. PARKER ... 5  |
| * BERNARD C. CASTLE ... 2      | REV. A. G. G. THURLOW ... 6   |
| R. GORDON CROSS ... 3          | WILLIAM J. PAICE ... 7        |
| JOHN RANCE ... 4               | REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... Tenor |

Composed by H. HOWLETT. Conducted by R. GORDON CROSS.  
\* First peal on eight bells 'inside.' † First peal on eight bells.  
First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar of this parish, the Rev. L. Whitmill.

DARTFORD, KENT.  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.  
On Tuesday, January 19, 1937, in Three Hours,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 13½ cwt.

|                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| * JAMES R. LAMBKIN ... Treble | JOHN WHEADON ... 5        |
| JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 2        | HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 6  |
| MRS. GEORGE H. CROSS ... 3    | GEORGE J. BUTCHER ... 7   |
| NORMAN SUMMERHAYES ... 4      | JAMES E. BAILEY ... Tenor |

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by JAMES E. BAILEY.  
\* First peal of Major and first attempt. First peal of Major as conductor and first attempt.

BUCKFASTLEIGH, DEVON.  
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 20, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 16 cwt.

|                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| * G. HARRY MYERS ... Treble | * THOMAS G. MYERS ... 5     |
| † AUBREY L. BENNETT ... 2   | ERNEST J. TAYLOR ... 6      |
| JAMES E. LILLEY ... 3       | CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ... 7 |
| HENRY C. COLLYER ... 4      | CHARLES R. LILLEY ... Tenor |

Composed by G. WILLIAMS. Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.  
\* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.'  
First peal in the method for the Guild by a band of members residing in the county of Devon. A birthday peal for the ringer of the 3rd.

RAMSGATE, KENT.  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.  
On Thursday, January 21, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**  
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18 cwt.

|                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| * MISS LILY L. WICKENS ... Treble | † STANLEY J. GEE ... 5            |
| JOSEPH WAGBORN ... 2              | * HILDRED S. WICKENS ... 6        |
| † THOMAS W. SCOTT ... 3           | ALBERT E. JARMAN ... 7            |
| LESLIE A. PORRITT ... 4           | † FREDERICK H. PHILPOTT ... Tenor |

Conducted by A. E. JARMAN.  
\* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Grandsire.  
First peal as conductor and first attempt. First peal on the bells by an entirely local band. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Wickens.

NEWCASTLE, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.  
On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 18 cwt.

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ALAN D. STEEL ... Treble | THOMAS HURD ... 5        |
| WILLIAM CARNWELL ... 2   | JAMES A. MILNER ... 6    |
| JOHN E. WHEELDON ... 3   | GEORGE W. BIDDULPH ... 7 |
| KENNETH LEWIS ... 4      | JOHN WORTH ... Tenor     |

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by KENNETH LEWIS.  
Rung as a compliment to Alderman Sydney Myott, now serving his third term as Mayor of Newcastle, his previous years of office being 1908-9 and 1935-6. He is an honorary member of the association. First peal of Surprise as conductor.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 21, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**  
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| THOMAS LAW ... Treble  | * GEORGE TANNER ... 5           |
| * GEORGE FREEMAN ... 2 | * ROBERT EADY ... 6             |
| † JACK DAVEY ... 3     | TOM TEBBUTT ... 7               |
| † PHILIP JONES ... 4   | † EDGAR A. BILLINGTON ... Tenor |

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.  
\* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman, also first peal on eight bells. ‡ First peal.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, January 22, 1937, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF CODDENHAM SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 18½ cwt.

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOHN H. ARBON ... Treble | GEORGE BENNETT ... 5        |
| GEORGE WHITING ... 2     | JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ... 6   |
| GEORGE PRYKE ... 3       | T. WILLIAM LAST ... 7       |
| LESLIE G. BRETT ... 4    | ALBERT E. WHITING ... Tenor |

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by T. W. LAST.  
This is the first peal to be rung in the method and is No. 68 in Mr. G. Lindoff's collection. It was the 100th peal by the conductor in his own tower, rung in 46 methods. The peal was a birthday compliment to his daughter, Kathleen Last.

NORTH ELMHAM, NORFOLK.  
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 22, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 20 cwt.

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| * JACK R. HINDY ... Treble | † CHARLES E. COPEMAN ... 5 |
| † WILLIAM COPEMAN ... 2    | WILLIAM R. WRST ... 6      |
| BERTIE W. MARSH ... 3      | FREDERICK R. WILBY ... 7   |
| JOHN A. GODFREY ... 4      | ERNEST V. BLAKE ... Tenor  |

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.  
\* First peal. † First peal on eight bells.

CHESWARDINE, SHROPSHIRE.  
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| WILLIAM WEATHERBY ... Treble | * REGINALD KYNASTON ... 5      |
| THOMAS PRICE ... 2           | G. LEONARD HEWITT ... 6        |
| FREDERICK PRICE ... 3        | ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... 7         |
| REGINALD W. CHESTERS ... 4   | EDWARD V. RODENBURST ... Tenor |

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.  
\* First peal in the method.

DENHAM, BUCKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 24 cwt.

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... Treble | WILLIAM HENLEY ... 5          |
| MISS MARIE R. CROSS ... 2     | ROLAND BIGGS ... 6            |
| JESSE HARRISON ... 3          | TONY PRICE ... 7              |
| HARRY WINGROVE ... 4          | REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... Tenor |

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

|                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
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WARNHAM, SUSSEX.  
 THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.  
 On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,  
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
 Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOSEPH CHARMAN ... .. Treble | JOHN COOK ... .. 5        |
| * ERNEST TRRAGUS ... .. 2    | PETER CHARMAN ... .. 6    |
| FRANK BENNETT ... .. 3       | WALTER CHARMAN ... .. 7   |
| THOMAS ADAMS ... .. 4        | RAYMOND WOOD ... .. Tenor |

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.  
 \* First peal of Bob Major.

LLANTRISANT, GLAMORGANSHIRE.  
 THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
 On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

|                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| GEORGE POPNELL ... .. Treble | JOSEPH LOVETT ... .. 5        |
| ERNEST STITCH ... .. 2       | GEORGE TALBOT ... .. 6        |
| FREDERICK LASBURY ... .. 3   | JOHN PHILLIPS ... .. 7        |
| FRANK ROWSELL ... .. 4       | * REGINALD WESTCOTT ... Tenor |

Conducted by J. PHILLIPS.

\* First peal of Stedman. The conductor's 100th peal. The ringer of the 2nd has now 'completed the circle' in this tower.

CHESTER.  
 THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
 AT THE CATHEDRAL.

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

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 33 cwt.

|                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PERCY SWINDLEY ... .. Treble | RICHARD D. LANGFORD ... 5   |
| ROBERT SPERRING ... .. 2     | GEORGE R. NEWTON ... .. 6   |
| RICHARD T. HOLDING ... .. 3  | SAMUEL JONES, JUN. ... .. 7 |
| J. WILLIAM CLARKE ... .. 4   | JOHN GRIFFITHS ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by S. JONES, JUN.

A birthday compliment to the conductor and to Mr. R. D. Langford. The band, in company with the Cathedral ringers, was kindly entertained to tea by the Dean and Mrs. Bennett before the peal.

BARNSELY, YORKSHIRE.  
 THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
 (BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| WILLIAM GREEN ... .. Treble | JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... .. 5 |
| ARTHUR FIRTH ... .. 2       | HAROLD CHANT ... .. 6      |
| TOM BROTHWELL ... .. 3      | ARTHUR GILL ... .. 7       |
| REGINALD PAYNE ... .. 4     | ALBERT NASH ... .. Tenor   |

Composed by G. LEWIS.

Conducted by A. NASH.

First peal of Major on the bells since they were rehung by Gillett and Johnston, who have improved them wonderfully. Believed to be the first of Surprise ever rung on the bells. Rung as a farewell peal to Canon Hone, Rector of Barnsley, who has accepted the living of Godalming, Surrey.

**SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.**

LANGPORT, SOMERSET.  
 THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 17 cwt.

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| T. LOCKE ... .. Treble | J. STEVENS ... .. 4     |
| E. DABINETT ... .. 2   | P. LOCKE ... .. 5       |
| S. DABINETT ... .. 3   | E. STEVENS ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by T. LOCKE.

First peal by all except the conductor, and first as conductor.

CHILTON CANTELO, SOMERSET.  
 THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
 On Saturday, January 16, 1937, in 1 wo<sup>o</sup> Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

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

Consisting of 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire, with 14 callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

|                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| * DOUGLAS BRAKE ... .. Treble   | WILLIAM A. OSBORNE ... 3  |
| ARTHUR H.S. RAINEY ... .. 2     | † CLEMENT C. VOWLES ... 4 |
| PERCY N. G. RAINEY ... .. Tenor |                           |

Conducted by PERCY N. G. RAINEY.

\* First attempt for a peal and belongs to local band. † First peal in two methods.

THURNBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.  
 THE MIDLAND COUNTESS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

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

Consisting of 2,400 Plain Bob, 1,440 Canterbury Pleasure and 1,200 Grandsire. Tenor 15 cwt.

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| JOSEPH NORTON ... .. Treble  | HENRY FAULKNER ... .. 3    |
| RONALD RUSSELL ... .. 2      | J. GEOFFREY GEARY ... .. 4 |
| A. NORMAN GEARY ... .. Tenor |                            |

Conducted by J. GEOFFREY GEARY.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Being seven 720's: (1) Capel, Sandal, Oxford, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob; (2) Double and Single Court; (3) Cambridge Surprise; (4) Kent Treble Bob; (5) St. Clement's; (6) Oxford Bob; (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| THOMAS VESSEY ... .. Treble  | JAMES RAITBY ... .. 4        |
| MISS DOROTHY VESSEY ... .. 2 | JACK MILLHOUSE ... .. 5      |
| FRANK VERNON ... .. 3        | CLIFFORD VESSEY ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by CLIFFORD VESSEY.

First peal in twelve methods by all but ringers of fifth and tenor.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.  
 (ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BURNHAM, BUCKS.)

On Tuesday, January 19, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 5 cwt. 11 lb. in G.

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BRYAN O'NEIL ... .. Treble | GORDON W. LIMMER ... .. 4   |
| JAMES D. TAYLOR ... .. 2   | GEORGE H. LIMMER ... .. 5   |
| JOHN E. TAYLOR ... .. 3    | GEORGE GILBERT ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

First peal in six methods by all and by the St. Peter's Society. Rung in lieu of Burnham practice.

BEENHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

|                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| FRED (Oxford) WIGMORE ... Treble | EDWARD RICHARDSON ... 4      |
| * ALFRED CHURCHILL ... .. 2      | * EDWIN WALLACE ... .. 5     |
| * WILLIAM GREETHAM ... .. 3      | GEOFFREY FOWLER ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by G. FOWLER.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung at the request of the treble ringer, who is 73. All are members of the local band and regular service ringers.

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**DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM**

ASHBRITTLÉ, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten varied callings.

Tenor 9 cwt.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| JAMES HUNT ... .. Treble     | WALTER E. PRIDDLE... .. 4    |
| ALFRED J. WYATT ... .. 2     | *FREDERICK ALDERMAN ... .. 5 |
| *GEORGE W. ALDERMAN ... .. 3 | *HAROLD BRISTOW ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by J. HUNT.

\* First peal and belongs to local band.

LEADENHAM, LINCOS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Swithun,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Single Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb. in F sharp.

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| *JACK VESSEY ... .. Treble | FRANK VERNON ... .. 4           |
| †THOMAS VESSEY... .. 2     | JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... .. 5      |
| G. LESLIE A. LUNN ... .. 3 | CLIFFORD A. VESSEY ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. VESSEY.

\* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods 'inside.' Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Fareham on Saturday, January 16th, when members attended from Alverstoke, Bishopstoke, Bishop's Waltham, Curdridge, Fareham, Gosport, Hambledon, Netley, North Stoneham, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Southampton, Soberton, Swanmore, Titchfield, Twyford, Winchester and Wickham.

The Guild service was held in the Parish Church, the Vicar (the Rev. A. Cory) officiating and giving an address.

Tea was served in the Church Hall, after which the business meeting was held, the Master of the Guild, Mr. G. Williams, being voted to the chair in the absence of the Vicar. The report and balance sheet were read and adopted. The sum of £5 5s. was voted from the district funds towards the cost of restoring Soberton bells, subject to the order being placed with the bellfounder.

All the officers were re-elected for the ensuing year. Mrs. F. W. Lager and Mrs. M. Stansfield were elected honorary members of the Guild, and ringing members were elected from Fareham and Alverstoke.

The Cathedral, Portsmouth, was selected for the next annual meeting, to be held on Saturday, January 15th, 1938.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, for officiating at the service and for granting the use of the Church Hall for tea.

The members afterwards returned to the tower for further ringing, which ranged from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major.

YOUTHFUL HANDBELL RINGERS.

QUARTER-PEALS BY REV. H. S. T. RICHARDSON'S DAUGHTERS.

At St. Nicholas' Rectory, Hereford, on handbells, during the Christmas holidays, three quarter-peals of Bob Major were rung—1,254, 1,280 and 1,296 changes, and (on December 31st) a date touch of 1,936 Bob Major—by Monica Richardson (age 12) 1-2, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson (conductor) 3-4, Brenda Richardson (age 14) 5-6, Dorothy Richardson (age 10) 7-8. And 720's of Double Bob Minor and Oxford Bob Minor (Monica Richardson 1-2, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson 3-4, Brenda Richardson 5-6). Every member of the band has rung 720's of Bob Minor on every pair of bells, one of these being conducted by Brenda.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT SUPPER AND SOCIAL.

The fifth annual supper and social of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, held at Heston on January 16th, was attended by about 70 members and friends and was an unqualified success. After ringing during the afternoon at Heston (8) and Norwood Green (6), the company assembled in the Village Hall at 6 p.m., under the chairmanship of the Rev. G. Craggs, Vicar of Heston, supported by the vice-president of the association (Mr. J. A. Trollope), all the district officers, and members from most of the towers in the district and some from the North and East District.

An excellent supper was quickly and efficiently served and disposed of as efficiently, if not quite so quickly.

After the toast of 'The King' had been honoured, the Chairman proposed the toast of 'The Association,' and assured the members of his pleasure in welcoming them to Heston. He evidenced the activity of the local band in a story of a man who went to Heston on Christmas Eve for a rest after a strenuous week's work. When he arrived the bells were ringing. When he woke up on Christmas morning the bells were still ringing. On Boxing Day he woke to find them still ringing and they went on for about three hours. On the following morning (Sunday) they were ringing again, so that the visitor was glad when Monday came and he was able to go back to work and get some peace and quietness.

After a touch of Grandsire Triples on handbells by Messrs. G. Kilby, E. O. S. Turner, J. Herbert and W. G. Wilson, the vice-president replied to the toast. He thanked the Vicar for his welcome and drew attention to the difference in the status of ringers at the present time compared to the early days of the association.

Mr. H. W. Lidbetter proposed a vote of thanks to the Supper Committee (Messrs. Chandler, Gladman and Goodfellow), and this was carried with acclamation.

By this time the tables had been cleared and removed in readiness for the social programme, for which Mr. Lidbetter was M.C. Community singing, led by Mr. Herbert, with Miss Bradford at the piano, gave a good start to a programme, consisting of games of the Christmas party type, violin solos by Mr. Leonard Townsend and dancing. The Rugby international held at Twickenham was quite overshadowed by what was called in the programme 'balloon handball.' Teams of seven were made up from four towers, and goals were scored by knocking a balloon over strings suspended about 10ft. high at each end of the hall. The Hillingdon team beat Heston by 2-0 after an exciting game, in which Mr. Corke's nose was mistaken for the balloon—at least it is hoped it was a mistake. Faling beat Isleworth by 4-0, although the latter team, which included four ladies, put up a strong resistance.

After an interval for refreshments and more games, the final between Hillingdon and Heston was keenly contested, and Hillingdon gained the victory by 3-2 after extra time and a little bloodshed.

More community singing round a 'camp fire,' a dance and Auld Lang Syne ended a happy evening about 11.30 p.m., and the members who worked so hard to make the event a success are assured that they did so. W. G. W.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DIVISION MEETING AT BURGESS HILL.

On Saturday, January 23rd, a quarterly meeting of the Southern Division was held at Burgess Hill, about 30 members being present from towers in the district.

The peal of eight bells was kept going from 2.30 to 8.30, except for an hour and a half break for tea and service, a variety of methods, ranging from rounds to London and Bristol Surprise, being rung.

Owing to the illness of the Vicar, the service was taken by the Rev. H. Birmingham, who gave a brief and interesting address on the subject of churchworkers as a great and united family.

At the business meeting, Mr. T. Holman, people's warden, presided, and, after the minutes of the last meeting had been signed, the ringers present stood for a moment in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of four members who had passed away since the last time the division met—Mr. R. J. Dawe, Lewes; Mr. H. Rann, St. Nicholas', Brighton; Mr. J. Welch, honorary member, Henfield; and Mr. G. W. Stokes, trustee and hon. treasurer of the association.

Three new members were elected, viz., Canon D. C. Dunlop, Henfield; Mr. H. S. James, Lewes; and Mr. H. Packham, Twinelham.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to all who had helped to make the day a success, including Mr. T. Holman, who very kindly entertained the ringers to tea.

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## FOR BEGINNERS.

### FROM PAPER TO BELLS.

The 'pencil and paper' work, which we suggested last week beginners should do, will, we hope, have shown something of the construction of methods of pure Doubles in which the treble retains a plain hunting course. Those who worked out these courses will have found that wherever a 3rd's place is made, two bells (on the opposite side of the 'place' to the position of the treble) had to make a 'dodge'; that is each had to retrace its steps one place before going on again.

In Grandsire, which, as we explained, is the method with one 3rd's place in each 'lead,' made immediately the treble has led, the dodge takes place between the bells in 4-5. The bell that makes the 3rd's place has its course reversed, and, instead of continuing hunting up it has to turn round and hunt down to lead again. The bell that does this is often said to 'make 3rd's, and lead,' and you should remember this in case, at some time, you go astray and are suddenly given this injunction. Remember, too, that the 3rd's place is always made at backstroke and handstroke, which is sometimes called 'the wrong way,' or 'wrong,' as opposed to places made 'right,' which is at handstroke and backstroke.

The 'dodge' occurs immediately after one bell has laid its whole pull behind. This bell is said to dodge 'down,' because actually it is in its hunting course on its way down. The other bell is said to dodge 'up,' because it is in its upward hunting course, and does not lay its whole pull behind until after the dodge is completed. It is useful to know that the whole pulls behind in Grandsire are always at backstroke and handstroke.

The bells that have been dodging behind come down to lead in the same order that they hunted up, but the bell that made 3rd's place hunts down in front of them, instead of being behind them. It is by this transposition of work that the three leads forming the plain course are produced.

The 3rd's place puts the last one first. Suppose they are running in the order a, b, c; c makes 3rd's place; then the order is c, a, b. Next b makes 3rd's, and the order becomes b, c, a. In turn a makes 3rd's and the order is once more a, b, c.

Of the other two bells the treble, as you already know, is plain hunting. The other bell also keeps to plain hunting until a bob or single is called, and in simple Grandsire this bell continues to 'course' the treble; that is, it takes it off at lead, and turns it from behind, and there is never more than one other bell (a bell going in the opposite direction) between them at any time.

The three dodging and place-making bells follow a regular cycle of work—indeed, in all methods the 'working bells,' as they are called, follow a regular cycle, until a bob (or single) shunts them off into another part of the same cycle.

The cycle of work in Grandsire Doubles is:—

Make 3rd's, and lead.  
Dodge 5-4 down.  
Dodge 4-5 up.

In the plain course the bell in the hunt with the treble is the 2nd. In previous articles we have attempted to explain how to hunt, so all that it should be necessary now to elaborate is the differences in the work.

You will know when it is your turn to make 3rd's place by the fact that immediately before it the treble will have taken you off the lead; in other words, you will have 'passed the treble' in 1-2. At your backstroke lead the treble strikes over you, at your first blow in 2nd's you strike over the treble. That is 'passing the treble' in 1-2. Your next blow will be over the bell in the hunt, and that is your first blow in 3rd's. In these two blows you are hunting up—they require a little 'holding up' on your part, to keep the rhythm. Your next blow in 3rd's requires an interval in your pull equivalent to the space in rounds, and then you hunt down to lead by 'pulling in' just a little each time. The two bells you strike over in turn are the treble and the bell in the hunt—the same two in the same order that you met after leading.

Whichever way you are dodging you must 'pull in' a little to strike into 4th's and 'hold up' a little to go back into 5th's.

After making 3rd's and leading, you 'pass the treble' in 3-4 before dodging in 5-4 down, and in 2-3 before dodging in 4-5 up. This passing of the treble should be one of your main guides to your next work, and if you are to rely upon it you must count your places as you pass through them.

Here is a simple table which gives you the complete work in a plain course of Grandsire Doubles. Learn it:—

|       |                  |                      |
|-------|------------------|----------------------|
| Lead. | Pass treble 1-2. | 3rd's.               |
| Lead. | Pass treble 3-4. | Lie. Dodge 5-4 down. |
| Lead. | Pass treble 2-3. | Dodge 4-5 up. Lie.   |
| Lead. |                  |                      |

Write out your course of Grandsire Doubles, check over with the figures the work of the different bells as explained here and then endeavour to put it into practice in your tower, or, if your tower bells are not available, then on handbells, ringing the bells upward for the handstrokes and downward for the backstrokes.

## LONDON RINGING SOCIETIES.

To the Editor

Sir,—Your reference to the relationship between the ringing societies in the London area, in your issue of January 15th, will, I hope, encourage some action to be taken. Too long have they gone on 'officially' trying to ignore each other's existence. As one who has mixed a good deal with those who ring in London, I have generally found them quite amiable and sociable individually, yet in their organised relationship they adopt towards each other a curiously, and altogether unnecessary, frigid attitude.

There is really no reason for this aloofness, or any need for airs of superiority. A cordial spirit of co-operation among the organisations covering London might, at this time, do much good in the interests of ringing. This Coronation year offers a great opportunity. Cannot the ringing societies bury their petty differences—if that is what is keeping them apart—and show the real spirit of brotherhood towards each other?

'SUBURBAN RINGER.'

## SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### SHREWSBURY BELLS.

The annual meeting of the Shropshire Association was held in Shrewsbury on Saturday, January 16th. After ringing at St. Chad's Church, the members attended a service, conducted by the Rev. E. B. M. Close, Vicar of St. Chad's. Tea was served in the Parish Room.

The attendance was representative of the towers with which the association is in contact, and 47 members were present.

The Rev. E. C. Pigott presided at the business meeting which followed, there being an apology for absence, owing to illness, from Major E. R. T. Corbett, the Ringing Master.

The balance sheet was adopted, there being a slight increase in the balance carried forward.

The report of the committee was also received with approval, and recommendations that an annual report should be issued, and that three additional summer meetings should be arranged, were accepted.

The report of the committee also contained an announcement that the Vicar of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, had been interviewed, and that he had agreed to provide new ropes for his bells, and expressed his wish that the bells should be rung occasionally. The committee is also to inspect St. Alkmund's bells and are in touch with St. Julian's authorities with a view to getting the bells in order for ringing.

Confidence in the officers was expressed by their re-election, together with the committee, Mr. J. Griffiths only receiving a new office, in connection with the peal books, for greater convenience.

The following meetings are to be arranged, if possible, during the year: Pontesbury, Clive, Oswestry, Wroxeter, Wem, Great Ness, Moreton Corbet, Church Stretton and Much Wenlock.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. R. B. M. Close and the Rev. E. C. Pigott.

During the day touches of Grandsire Caters, Triples and Cinques, Stedman Triples and Caters, Plain and Treble Bob Major and Royal were rung, and also an excellent course of Cambridge Surprise Major.

## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

### GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT RINGING MASTER APPEALS FOR MORE BEGINNERS.

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, January 16th, and was attended by a good company of ringers from Brigg, Lea, Upton, Willingham, Surfleet, Lincoln, Ulceby, Retford, Warsop, North Wheatly, Treston and the local tower. The excellent ring of eight (tenor 19½ cwt.) at the Parish Church was made good use of in a large number of methods during the afternoon and evening.

Service was conducted by Canon Witworth. Before his address he extended a very hearty welcome to all to Gainsborough and said how pleased he was to meet the members of the Guild, it being the first opportunity he had had of doing so since he came to the town. In his interesting address he said that unfortunately the proverb, 'Out of sight out of mind,' was too often applicable to bands of ringers, but he assured them that the majority of people appreciated their services. Bellingring was one of those works of which no man could estimate the value.

After tea the business meeting was held. Owing to officers having left the district, three vacancies had occurred during the past year.

Canon Witworth was elected president, Mr. George L. A. Lunn Ringing Master and Mr. C. Hooton representative on the committee.

Miss K. M. Smith, of Lea, was elected a ringing member. Four meetings were agreed upon for the year, viz., at Lea, Bigby, Willingham and Haxey in April, June, August and October respectively, subject to the necessary arrangements being made.

In thanking members for the honour they had conferred upon him, the new Ringing Master drew attention to the declining number of ringers in the district and pointed out that several towers had barely as many ringers as bells. 'Let us make a special effort during 1937,' he said, 'to swell our ranks.' As a solution, he suggested that each member should try and introduce one new ringer to his tower.

This concluded the business meeting, and ringing was resumed until 8.30 p.m., bringing to a close a very enjoyable meeting.

### ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. HUNTINGDON BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Huntingdon Branch of the Ely Diocesan Association was held at Godmanchester on Saturday. Visitors were present from Coventry, Newmarket, Easing, Fulbourn, Sawston, Cambridge, Dersingham, Wisbech, Terrington St. John's, Chatteris and Trumpington.

Ringling commenced at 3 p.m., and the Vicar (the Rev. L. Douglas) conducted the usual service at 4.30 p.m. He also gave the ringers a warm welcome to Godmanchester and said how he loved to hear the bells rung each week, although he had a feeling of home sickness each time he heard them, for it reminded him of the hospital work he had just left near St. Paul's Cathedral, and how he used to love to listen to the bells of St. Paul's being rung while carrying out his duties at the hospital nearby.

Tea and business meeting were held at the Dorothy Cafe, arranged by Mr. Matson.

Mr. Harry Chapman presided over the business meeting, the Vicar being unable to attend.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: District secretary, Mr. H. Parker; Ringing Master, Mr. H. Fields; committee, Messrs. F. Lack, S. Peck, S. Coleman and E. Wakeling.

One new ringing member was elected and the usual vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and all who had helped to make the meeting such a success.

### THOMAS OSBORN'S FIRST RING OF EIGHT.

The annual meeting of the Wisbech Branch was held at Hilgay on Saturday, January 16th, and, considering the weather, was well attended. A pleasing feature of the meeting was the excellent striking of the more advanced methods. The methods rung included Double Oxford Major, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major. The service was taken by the curate, the Rector (the Ven. Archdeacon Ward) being ill with influenza.

Archdeacon Ward was re-elected president of the branch, the Ringing Master (Mr. R. W. Crofts) and secretary (Mr. W. W. Cousins) being also re-elected. The committee was re-elected en bloc.

The members were kindly entertained to tea by the president, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

It is interesting to note that the ring of eight at Hilgay were the first complete peal to be cast by Thomas Osborn after he had commenced business on his own account at Downham Market (only three miles distant) in 1779. The tenor was recast by him in 1798, since when, apart from rehanging, the peal has not been touched, and their condition is still quite good.

### DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. BENTLEY WIN THE WALKER CUP.

The annual meeting of the Doncaster and District Society was held at St. George's, Doncaster, on Saturday, and, in spite of the wet weather, was attended by upwards of 40 members and friends. Ringing commenced at 3.30, and at 4.30 a short service was held in the Forman Chapel, conducted by the president, Canon A. Ll. Davies, Vicar of Doncaster, who gave an inspiring address on unity and fellowship. One of the ringers officiated as organist.

Tea was provided in the Memorial Hall, to which 31 sat down. At the general meeting held afterwards, the Vicar presided, supported by the Ringing Master and the Vice-president.

The report was accepted, as was also the balance sheet, which was considered very satisfactory, a gain of £1 15s. being shown on the year's work.

Mr. G. Halksworth was again re-elected vice-president for a further period of three years. The auditors were re-elected and the committee re-elected en bloc to serve another year.

Adwick-le-Street was selected for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, February 27th.

Seven new members were elected, viz., the Rev. P. Chappell, A. K. Traylen, Tony Traylen and P. Jeffries, of Doncaster, J. Elm and V. Dimon, of Burghwallis, and H. S. Morley, of Selby.

Mr. G. Halksworth proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for providing the tea and to the Vicar for presiding at the committee and general meetings, also for the service and for his kindness and help generally.

The Vicar, in reply, thanked the members for their welcome to him, which he appreciated very much, and also for the help he had received from the secretary in arranging things.

The Walker Cup for the best average attendance at Sunday service ringing has left Doncaster for the second time in its history, Arksey having won it once several years ago. The president now presented it to Mr. J. E. Stephenson, the captain of St. Peter's, Bentley, company, who showed a return of practically 100 per cent. for 1936, only one service having been missed. Doncaster came second with 74 points out of 78.

The President congratulated Mr. Stephenson, and said although he was sorry Doncaster had lost the cup, it had been worthily won, and he hoped they would repeat their win many times in the future.

Mr. Stephenson thanked the Vicar and also the society for the help that had been given to St. Peter's, Bentley. When the bells had been stopped, several members travelled a long distance to ring for Sunday service.—This concluded the business and the tower bells and handbells were brought into use.

## APPRECIATION

THE VICARAGE,  
COSELEY, STAFFS.

January 17th, 1937.

" MESSRS. JOHN TAYLOR & Co.

" GENTLEMEN,

" I am very happy to forward enclosed cheque for the repair of the Coseley Church Bells.

" I have had a talk with my Ringing Master, who tells me that he and the other ringers are more than satisfied with the job. As far as I am concerned, and my people, we are delighted to have so musical and so perfectly balanced a peal of bells. We have met with the utmost courtesy from you and your employees. We think your bellhanger the most efficient, good-natured and hard-working employee that we have ever had to do with. But he only represented the willingness and spirit of co-operation which we encountered from all connected with Messrs. John Taylor's.

" I am sorry to close the Appeal for the bells. It has been received so enthusiastically, and responded to so generously, that it has been a real pleasure to launch it and to see it through.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) NORMAN W. WATSON."

Note—The ring of eight bells of Coseley Church have recently been recast and rehung in new framework by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough. Tenor bell 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 5 lbs.

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**HANDBELLS**

in sets of any number.

**BELL ROPES MUFFLES, &c.**

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

The ring of eight bells at Rishton, near Blackburn, Lancashire, is to be recast and hung in a new frame by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., Croydon.

Congratulations to Mr. Edward Clapshaw, Farnham's veteran ringer, who was 92 on Tuesday.

It is hoped that the bells of Willenhall, Staffs, which are to be recast and augmented to ten, will be completed in time for the Coronation. There is still £300 to be raised and another appeal is being made to the townspeople.

According to the 'Daily Sketch,' the Earl of Cranbrook, soldier, politician and explorer, has become a bellringer at Great Glenham Church, which is on his estate near Saxmundham, Suffolk. There are five bells at Great Glenham, but the ringers had dwindled to three in number. The Earl of Cranbrook and, it is hoped, the new Vicar will make up the band.

The death occurred on Friday last of Mrs. R. Bevan, widow of the late Mr. Dick Bevan, a former well-known member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and mother of Mr. Thomas Bevan. Mrs. Bevan was 78 years of age.

Somerset ringers are getting more 'musical.' According to the 'Somerset County Gazette,' a band at Barton St. David, to celebrate the return of Mr. and Mrs. Withers from their honeymoon, 'rang a quarter-peal in four movements.' The ringers were E. V. Barrington (captain), T. Marks and S. Rickett (Yeovil), G. W. Randell (Hardington) and P. Rainey (Somerton).

Mr. T. W. Last, of Helmingham, Suffolk, has rung 100 peals in his home tower. What adds to the interest of this performance is that these peals have been rung in no fewer than 46 methods.

At least three fresh towers were added to his record list by the president of the 'Tower Snatchers' Union' when he spent the weekend in the Bletchley district in order to be present at the dedication of a new treble at Cosgrove, Northants, which increased the ring to six.

If all's well, it will not be long before Mr. J. H. Shepherd has visited and rung in 3,000 towers! A truly amazing number. Ringers are sometimes inclined to joke about Mr. Shepherd's special hobby, but it is one full of interest.

Owing to the clashing of dates, the meeting of the Eastern Division of the Hertford County Association, which was to have been held at Cheshunt to-morrow, has been postponed for a fortnight.

The engagement is announced between Mr. E. T. Paul Field, of Stoke Wake, Dorset, Ringing Master of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and Miss Joan P. S. Davidson, of Thornford, Dorset, a member of the local company of ringers.

Littleton Church, near Winchester, is to have a peal of six bells. This is the generous gift of Mrs. Arthur Deane, of Littleton House, in memory of the late Mr. Arthur Deane, for many years churchwarden and treasurer to the city of Winchester. It is hoped the bells will be dedicated soon after Easter. Mrs. Deane is an honorary member of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

## THE LADIES

### MR. WHITTINGTON'S REPLY.

We do not wish to appear frivolous on such a subject, but in admitting Mr. R. Whittington's letter in praise of ladies in the belfry in a recent issue we appear to have opened the door to a 'spot of bother' in our columns. With Mr. Whittington's letter below both sides will have expressed their views on the point at issue, and we must ask them to leave it at that.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am afraid I cannot agree at all with Mr. Lucas' expressed opinion, that the Sabbath is a greater gift from God to man than is woman; nor can I see what good any other gift whatever would have been to man if he had not had the gift of woman. God 'provided' the Sabbath certainly, but mankind could, if he had so desired, and of his own freewill, have made the seventh day (already 'provided') holy, in exactly the same way as many people now make Wednesday or Saturday recreative.

Man could not, however much he may have desired, have created woman. To observe the seventh day as the Sabbath was a commandment of how to use a day already 'provided,' whereas the gift of a woman to man, according to Genesis II., 21-22, was a creation. Mr. Lucas seems also to wish to belittle the woman's worth as the 'noblest gift of Heav'n,' 'because she was tempted and brought man into the temptation and fall'—but I read in Genesis I., 31, that 'God saw everything that he had made, and behold it was very good'—and, as I seem compelled to look at things, in that 'everything' that God had made must be included the agency which was used to tempt the woman, and, to my, perhaps ignorant, mind, it looks like God's scheme of things generally, and that the 'fall' had to happen.

However that may be, I shall still quote woman as 'the last best work, the noblest gift of Heav'n,' and I am, perhaps wickedly, inclined to look upon the 'fall' in the same way as the soldier looked upon his seven days' 'C.B.' for overstaying his leave. He said, 'Oh! well, it was worth it, anyway.'

ROBERT WHITTINGTON.

Cranleigh.



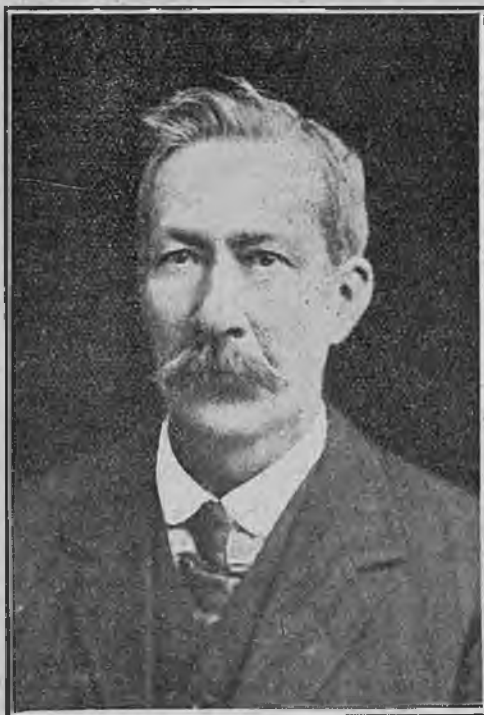
## AN OLD BIRMINGHAM RINGER.

### DEATH OF MR. THOMAS RUSSAM.

Three weeks before reaching his 80th birthday, Thomas Russam died at Birmingham on Saturday. He passed away at his home, 267, Stratford Road, Sparkbrook, after having been in failing health for some years. He suffered chiefly from asthma, and his end was not unexpected.

For well over 60 years he had been a bellringer; one who had made his mark in Birmingham ringing circles, had been associated with several of the churches, notably Bishop Ryder's, Aston and St. Martin's, and had held an honoured place in the ranks of Midland ringers.

His death breaks another link with a receding generation of Birmingham ringing 'giants.' When he began to ring, men like Johnson, Chattell, Perks, Hallsworth, Biddleston and others were at the peak of their careers, and as a young ringer Tom Russam used, as it were, to sit at the feet of the mighty and glean knowledge from their conversation.



THE LATE MR. T. RUSSAM,

As his old friends will best remember him.

Mr. Russam was born in Bishop Ryder's parish, was brought up almost under the shadow of the church tower, and became a member of the choir. As a lad, with others of his age, he used to climb to the belfry and watch with wondering eyes the old sexton, called 'Puffer' Malin, because he was also organ blower, pulling the single bell for service. The boys eventually almost used to fight to see who should have a pull.

When the peal of bells was put in in 1869, Tom Russam, then only 12 years old, became a regular ringer. J. Banister, of Woolwich, became the towerkeeper, and under him the boy became an apt pupil. He was also one of the privileged few who were allowed to go to Billy Chattell's bakery, where this worthy used to demonstrate the 'slow work' in Stedman by a novel method of his own.

Even in those early days handbell ringing commanded a lot of attention in Birmingham, and Mr. Russam had a great flair for this form of change ringing. Practices, it is said, used to commence on Monday and finish the following Sunday evening, usually at a place known as 'Old Joe Nixon's.' Certainly Mr. Russam became a very accomplished ringer on handbells. He had an exceptionally graceful style, and was very safe in a peal. He had rung everything from Triples to Cinques in Grandsire and Stedman, and put the coping stone to his performances when he rang a pair (1-2) to the one and only peal of Stedman Sextuples in 1922.

In his younger days Mr. Russam spent a lot of time teaching ringing and tuneplaying. For some time he was towerkeeper at Bishop Ryder's, and afterwards for many years at Aston, when that tower was St. Martin's Guild's 'other headquarters.'

(Continued in next column.)

### DEATH OF MR. G. W. STOKES.

#### WORK IN MANY CAPACITIES FOR THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

Sussex ringing has suffered another severe loss by the death on Thursday of last week at Eastbourne of Mr. George W. Stokes. Mr. Stokes, who was 66 years of age and formerly held a responsible position in the P.O. Telephone Service, had recently undergone two operations, from which he never fully recovered.

He began his ringing career in Wiltshire and was afterwards at Crawley, Sussex, before going to Eastbourne, where he was associated with the band at St. Saviour's Church.

For some years he was the Eastern Divisional Hon. Secretary, served on the Association Committee and later became hon. treasurer and a trustee of the Sussex County Association. At the last annual meeting of the association, when it was decided that the association should be fully represented on the Central Council, he was elected one of the representatives, but, of course, had had no opportunity of attending a meeting.

In his various capacities he had done much excellent work for the Sussex Association, the members of which will greatly regret his death.

### NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

#### SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

That there is no want of interest in the Norwich Diocesan Association was apparent by the support which was given to the annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch, which took place at Saxlingham on Saturday last, when members from Acle, Alburgh, Dickleburgh, Diss, Garboldisham, Halvergate, Norwich, Pulham, Redham, Shelfanger, Starston, Winfarthing, Wymondham and Yarmouth turned up in force and took part in touches from Grandsire Triples to Double Goslany Court, Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major.

At the business meeting, which followed a short service conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. S. Deuchar), all the officers of the branch were re-elected.

Herbert Howlett and Cecil Poyntz, a promising lad, both of Saxlingham, were elected members.

It was decided to hold the next meeting on April 24th at Redenhull, and to practise Bristol Surprise Major, which has been rung at infrequent intervals in Norfolk for many years.

The branch secretary (Mr. N. Golden) thanked the Rev. J. S. Deuchar for conducting the service; Mrs. Deuchar, the Misses Duffield and Mr. W. L. Duffield for so kindly providing tea for the company of fifty which sat down; Mr. C. D. Thornton, of Long Stanton, for officiating at the organ; and the contingent from Acle, Halvergate and Yarmouth.

This concluded the business of the meeting, when the members dispersed for handbell ringing and further touches on the tower bells.

### NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. Russam was a member of the old Birmingham and District Association and the Birmingham Amalgamated Society from their formation until they were disbanded. He was also a member of the Holt Society until it was absorbed by St. Martin's Guild. Previous to the amalgamation the Guild was known as St. Martin's Society. He conducted the first peal rung under the auspices of the Guild.

Although he kept no accurate record of his peals, Mr. Russam had rung something over a hundred and fifty. This is not a large number on the part of so competent a ringer for such a long period, but Mr. Russam was never anxious to ring a lot of peals. He preferred 'one good one now and again.' And they had to be good to please him. For, excellent striker himself, he had little patience for those who were careless over their ringing.

Among the notable performances in which he took part, in addition to the Stedman Sextuples, were the first peal of Grandsire Cinques on handbells and the first double-handed peal of Stedman Cinques out of London, this being the second ever rung. His handbell peals also included a 10,000 of Grandsire Major. On tower bells he took part in the first peal of Duffield Maximus.

Tom Russam's early ringing brought him into touch with some interesting characters, and when he was in reminiscent vein many were the good tales he could tell. Those who heard him propose the toast of 'The Memory of Henry Johnson' at the Johnson Commemoration Dinner a few years ago will remember the wealth of anecdote with which he adorned the toast. He was of a retiring disposition, but was held in high esteem in Birmingham ringing circles.

Ill-health had prevented him from much active participation in recent years in the art he loved so well, and of which he was so able an exponent, but he never lost his interest in ringing. From time to time a little note of comment, criticism or congratulation on a passing event would come into the office of 'The Ringing World' in his neat and perfectly formed writing, for he had been a jeweller's engraver by trade. He was a delightful and well-informed correspondent, and in all his communications as in all his contacts with others he proved himself ever one of Nature's gentlemen.

The funeral service took place at Yardley Wood Church on Wednesday, when several members attended to represent St. Martin's Guild and handbells were rung over the grave.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

### SONNING DEANERY DISCUSSES COMBINED PRACTICES.

The annual meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Wokingham on Saturday, January 16th. Ringing took place at the towers of St. Paul's and All Saints' Churches. Service was held in St. Paul's Church, Canon G. F. Coleridge, Master of the Guild and chairman of the branch, being the preacher. A collection for the Branch Restoration Fund was taken and realised £1 10s.

The Master took for his text Ezekiel, 40, v. 3, and, in the course of an inspiring address, brought out the following points, from the superman with a line of flax in his hand and a measuring reed. In the course of the preparation for rebuilding the temple seen in the vision, the line of flax and the reed were used and the smallest details were carefully taken. The line of flax would appeal to bellringers as their bell-rope. The narrative taught the need of preparation—not to leave all till they reached the belfry. The Master impressed the need for careful attention to punctuality and the full use of time, which should not be wasted. There was an art which required earnest application if the full value of it were to be realised in their work.

The ringers then adjourned to St. Paul's Parish Room, where a sumptuous tea was provided, and included the famed meat pies, also mince pies, and a fine Christmas cake, kindly presented by Mrs. P. O. Watson, of Cantley, Wokingham.

The Master, who presided, thanked the great number of good people for 'making this excellent provision for us.' He named Mr. Churchwarden Newbery and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Eamer, and Mrs. Watson for her kind gift (applause).—Mr. Newbery briefly responded for all the helpers.

Canon Anderson (Rural Dean) thanked the churchwardens and authorities of St. Paul's for the use of their church and tower; the organist, Mr. F. A. Burgess; and last, but not least, Canon Coleridge for the sermon. No one, he said, was better qualified than Canon Coleridge to speak on such an occasion as that from the pulpit (applause).

### THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Master, as chairman of the branch, presided at the annual meeting, and there were also present the Rural Dean, the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master), the Rev. A. P. Carr, the Rev. L. R. Majendie, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, Mr. A. D. Barker, of Slough (Guild treasurer), Mr. R. T. Hibbert (Guild secretary), Mr. W. J. Paice (deanery secretary), Mr. F. Dentry, Mr. J. Moth, other foremen and ringers, including several ladies.

The secretary, by permission, stated that he had received a letter from Tilehurst (not in their deanery) inviting assistance in re-conditioning their ring of eight bells before the Coronation. The cost would be £300.

The response to this appeal was immediate—the plate was passed round and £1 5s. subscribed at once.

Arising from the minutes, the hon. secretary said that Easthampstead Rector and churchwardens, as their appeal had been generously responded to, had returned the five guineas voted by the Sonning Deanery last year, with deep expressions of gratitude, feeling that by so doing they might help some other tower more in need than themselves (applause).

Apologies were announced from the Rev. R. W. Tuesday (curate in charge of St. Paul's), who was away on a short holiday, after a time of strenuous work; Canon E. J. and Miss Norris, Mr. R. Bagley (Easthampstead), Mr. J. White, Mr. E. Foster (St. Laurence's, Reading), and Mr. W. J. Fuller (Wargrave), who, although not now an active ringer, enclosed subscriptions for himself and wife. The secretary mentioned two deaths, not at the moment connected by membership with the branch, viz., Canon Parsons, who for 41 years was Rector of Sandhurst, and Viscount Mountmorres, late Rector of St. Paul's, Wokingham.

### FINANCIAL.

Mr. Paice then, as treasurer, reported a credit balance on the general fund of £9 7s. 7d., some £2 below that of last year, and £9 15s. 6d. in hand in the Branch Restoration Fund.—Mr. Owen Goddard, hon. auditor, was thanked for his services and the report was adopted. As secretary, Mr. Paice next reported a membership of 28 hon. members and 141 ringers, total 169. Three members—the Rev. J. C. F. Wimberley, of Hurst, Mr. G. Green (All Saints', Wokingham) and Mr. W. Penton (Binfield)—had died during the year. The branch had a good number of young ringers—keen to get on in learning methods to ring their first peal. The Sunday service ringing had been well maintained. The half-yearly meeting at Wargrave was quite a success. A cordial welcome was given by the Vicar and the local band. Peals, in which branch members took part, had been rung at Binfield, Easthampstead, Pinchampstead, Waltham St. Lawrence and Sandhurst (half-muffled in memory of Canon Parsons). The report also noted the re-hanging of Easthampstead bells by Messrs. White. Fitted with ball bearings, they were now in excellent ringing order. The report closed with thanks to Rectors, officials and foremen of towers for their help and ready co-operation.—The report was adopted on the proposition of Mr. Dentry, seconded by Mr. Houlton.

Elections then took place. The chairman (Canon G. F. Coleridge) was proposed for re-election by the Rural Dean, and seconded by Mr. W. Houlton. The proposer, amid applause, happily remarked of Canon Coleridge that 'though prevented from getting up the towers,

he is still a tower of strength to the Guild, his work being appreciated by all in the deanery. If anybody has the right to preach about what ringers should do, surely he has (applause). He has practised what he preached.' The resolution was endorsed by acclamation.

Canon Coleridge thanked the branch and said he was always glad to serve to the utmost. This year he hoped to reach 80; it was not his inability to get up the towers, but to get down, that was his trouble. He promised to do his best for the branch in any way.

The hon. treasurer and secretary (Mr. W. J. Paice) was re-elected, with cordial expressions of appreciation. Expressing thanks, he recalled that it was ten years ago that night, in that very room, they first elected him as secretary.

The Branch Committee, consisting of the foremen of the towers, was then re-elected, Mr. H. Goodey succeeding Mr. R. Bagley (retired) as foreman at Easthampstead. Branch representatives to the Guild Committee were next re-elected, viz., Messrs. F. Dentry, J. Moth, J. Rance and J. White.

The half-yearly meeting was fixed for early in June at Binfield and combined practices as before, both at the suggestion of the committee.

### COMBINED PRACTICES.

The committee further invited suggestions for making combined practices more useful, stating that the matter had been brought up by a young ringer to the Branch Committee. The suggestion was that some of the combined practices be given up to learning a new method. Some objections, which might now be voiced, were raised at the committee.

Mr. R. G. Cross, the young member in question, then referred to late attendance, which impaired the usefulness of the practices by losing valuable time; also to time lost between touches, which themselves were sometimes too long. He advocated shorter touches and more of them, so as to avoid long pauses between the ringing.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow supported Mr. Cross, who, he said, 'practices what he preaches.'

Mr. Moth spoke of the local bands not attending these practices, and remarked that six-bell towers were not so good for the purpose as eight-bell towers.

The secretary stressed the necessity of looking up the method at home before going to combined practice, and agreed with the disadvantage of arriving late. So many ringers, too, were not able to ring their bell and ring rounds properly. That marred combined practices. He wanted to see young ringers at these practices. His advice was, 'Learn to ring in rounds in your own tower.'

The Guild Secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) said the art of handling the bell should come first, and referred to the valuable articles for beginners now running in 'The Ringing World,' which he advised young ringers to study. He referred humorously to the fine in some towers for late attendance. He hoped the virtue of punctuality would be seen among them in the coming year on all occasions. It was very nice to see young members in the branch who had the courage of their convictions. He was glad to see the young ringers and advised them to spend a couple of hours now and then at home with paper and pencil, learning the diagram of a bell so as to be able to put the bells just where it ought to be put (applause).

Mr. A. D. Barker, the Guild treasurer, congratulated the officers on their balance sheet. He did not know about combined practices, but suggested that to take away from the secretary the hardships of looking after the ringing would help him in carrying out his other duties. He suggested one or two who could relieve him in that respect.

## PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

### TOWCESTER BRANCH AND DEATH OF LATE MASTER.

The annual meeting of the Towcester Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday at Paulerspury, where there is a peal of five bells, lately rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., which require careful handling on account of long draught without guides.

The service was conducted by the Rev. E. Kenworthy-Browne (Rural Dean), who also gave an excellent address. Tea was partaken of in the Institute, amongst those present being Capt. and Miss Grant-Ives, the Rev. and Mrs. Kenworthy-Browne, the Rev. E. V. Fenn (hon. secretary), etc.

At the business meeting which followed regret was expressed at the death of Mr. F. Wilford, late Master of the Guild, and a vote of sympathy was passed with Mrs. Wilford. The late Master attended many meetings of the branch, and his presence and advice will be sadly missed.

All the officers were re-elected, and Mr. E. Smart, of Paulerspury, was added to the Branch Committee.

The usual votes of thanks were recorded.

### THE LATE MR. F. WILFORD

At Woodford, Northants, on Wednesday, January 20th, a muffled quarter-peal was rung as a token of respect to the oldest ringer of the village, Mr. John Bunning, and to Mr. Fred Wilford, who for some years was Master of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. The quarter-peal consisted of 720 Oxford Bob and 540 Plain Bob: G. H. Roberts 1, J. M. Nickerson 2, O. Tincey 3, C. Allen 4, T. Jervis 5, C. Wilson (conductor) 6.

Mr. Wilford was born within two miles of this tower, although most of his life was spent at Northampton.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### PROGRESS OF THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Rochester District of the Kent County Association held a quarterly meeting at Milton-next-Gravensend on Saturday last and over 70 members attended.

The tower was open from 3 o'clock till 9, and, throughout, the ringing was of the highest quality, both from the methods rung and the striking, which was a credit to all concerned.

Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. H. J. Powell, an honorary member of the association, and Mr. H. E. Champion, L.R.A.M., the organist, accompanied the singing, which was up to the usual Kent standard. The Rector gave a short and inspiring address, which was greatly appreciated.

A collection at the close for the Association Benevolent Fund realised 14s. 6d.

The company were afterwards entertained to tea in the Johnston Institute by the general hon. secretary and Mrs. F. M. Mitchell, the Rector and Mr. Powell being among those to partake of the hospitality provided.

The business meeting followed, the Rector presiding. The district secretary (Mr. S. J. T. Shellock) was unavoidably absent owing to a family bereavement, and the general hon. secretary deputised on his behalf. It was unanimously resolved that the sympathy of the members be extended to Mr. Shellock.

The business was conducted in a completely harmonious spirit. Three new members were elected, and Queenborough was chosen without opposition as the place of the next meeting.

Mr. Allen, the district representative, gave a full and comprehensive report of the committee meeting held at Maidstone in November. He stated that the committee decided, among other things: That the annual meeting should be held at Ashford on Easter Monday, when the association would entertain the members to lunch; another sub-committee had been appointed to discuss the various amendments to the new rules, and submit the new draft to the annual general meeting; at the Central Council meeting, which this year was being held at Canterbury, the County Association would offer hospitality to the visitors; and £22 had been paid to deserving members from the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Allen was thanked for his report.

Mr. Allen proposed that hearty thanks be extended to the Rector for his many efforts on their behalf, and said how much they appreciated his helpful address.

The Rector responded and said they were always pleased to welcome the association to Milton. He was sure they would wish him to extend their best thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell for providing them with such an excellent tea.—Mr. W. Spice (Tunstall) associated himself with these remarks.

Needless to say the thanks were accorded in real Kentish style.

Mr. Mitchell said Mrs. Mitchell and he were very pleased to see such a large number present. He was doubtful if at their next meeting at Milton their hall would be large enough to hold the 100 he expected to attend. They contemplated building a new Parish Hall, and he wondered if the ringers would like to leave a memento of their visit in the form of a 'whip round.'

This met with a generous response, as £1 5s. was contributed to the fund.

Mr. Mitchell also gave some interesting figures of the association's Benevolent Fund. When he became the general secretary, he said, the balance stood at £142 13s. 8d. It had now reached £268 5s. 1d. During the past year £22 had been paid to aged and deserving members, and £17 10s. 4d. had been collected at meetings in the county.

Mrs. Mitchell also responded and said the gathering gave her the opportunity of repaying the many kindnesses that had been extended to her by the members of the association.

The handbells were brought into use, and the company were delighted to hear a course of Grandsire Cinques rung by three of the visitors ringing four bells each: Messrs. C. Hopper 1-2-3-4, D. Sharp 5-6-7-8, A. Hopper 9-10-11-12.

The tower was again visited and the bells kept 'on the go' until 9 o'clock, when a very enjoyable meeting terminated.

### COSGROVE'S NEW BELL.

#### TREBLE ADDED IN NORTANTS TOWER.

The dedication of a new treble bell at Cosgrove, Northants, by the Bishop of Peterborough, took place on Sunday week in the presence of a large congregation. After the dedication a short touch of Bob Minor was rung by J. H. Shepherd 1, A. J. Green 2, E. C. Lambert 3, J. Higgins 4, E. Hillyer 5, H. Ridgeway 6.

The Bishop gave an inspiring address. He spoke of the service ringers gave to the church and of the great and noble character of the late King George V., to commemorate whose Jubilee the new bell was installed.

In addition to the ringers of the district visitors were present from Hemel Hempstead, Woburn, Watford, Swindon, etc.

The opinion of the ringers present was that Cosgrove has now a pretty ring of six. The tenor is 10½ cwt. The work was carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.

## CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

### CREWE BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING WELL ATTENDED.

The annual meeting of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild took place on January 16th at Christ Church, Crewe. There was a splendid attendance, 68 members being present, representing the following towers: Acton, Alsager, Barthomley, Crewe, Nantwich, Lawton, Marbury, Wistaston, Daveulham, Wrenbury and the Potteries.

Ringling commenced about 3.30 p.m., under the guidance of Mr. G. Biddulph, the Ringing Master, and many enjoyable touches were rung on the 10 bells.

A service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. S. T. Stevens), who is chairman of the branch. The preacher was the Rev. C. E. England, Vicar of Church Lawton, and the lesson was read by the Rev. C. G. Dickson, of Christ Church, Crewe. Mr. W. Dunning officiated at the organ.

Tea was afterwards partaken of in the Schoolroom, at the kind invitation of the Vicar and wardens, and was much appreciated. In addition to the members present there were the Rev. S. T. Stevens, the Rev. C. E. England, the Rev. C. G. Dickson, the Rev. C. Coomber (Wrenbury), Mr. W. Curtis and Mr. W. Thomasson (churchwardens) and Mr. R. Owen (secretary, Parochial Church Council).

The business meeting followed, with the Vicar in the chair. The following elections of officers for 1937 took place: Chairman, the Rev. S. T. Stevens (Crewe); hon. secretary, Mr. R. D. Langford (Crewe); hon. treasurer, Mr. W. T. Holding (Crewe); instructor, Mr. A. Crawley (Wistaston); Ringing Master, Mr. G. Biddulph (Lawton); representative on General Committee, Mr. W. Sutton (Nantwich).

During the meeting a grant of £1 ls. was made to the Chester Cathedral Bell Fund from the branch, and a further collection was taken which realised £1 12s. 6d.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the branch officers for the work done during 1936; to the Vicar and wardens for the splendid tea; to those who officiated at the service; and to the ladies who catered.

The ringers afterwards adjourned to the tower, where the bells were kept merrily going until nine o'clock, the methods rung being Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters, Cambridge Major and Bob Royal.

### THE BELLS OF BIRCH

#### YOUNG RINGERS' GIFT TO BISHOP.

On Saturday last the reconstructed ring of bells at Birch Church, Manchester, was reopened by Dr. Guy Warman, D.D., Lord Bishop of Manchester. The service was well attended by people from the parish and district, and, in addition, many bands of ringers renewed acquaintance with this well-known belfry, attending even from so far away as Greenfield, Todmorden and Loughton (Staffs).

In his address the Bishop sketched what he considered was the ideal band of ringers, and from this proceeded to lead up to the pressing need of the present day—the duty of the individual to the team and the team's duty to the individual, that all should work together in harmony and with due regard to each other's idiosyncrasies.

A pleasing interlude occurred during the proceedings when the eight young ringers presented to the Bishop an illuminated booklet, written and actually printed by two of their number using founts of type belonging to the Rector, the Rev. A. E. Horner, L.Th., Hon. C.F., giving details of the Birch bells and their history, the art of bell-founding, and a short symposium on the mysteries of bellringing.

After the service various visiting bands of ringers celebrated the occasion with short touches. Altogether a memorable date in the annals of Birch.

### PRESENTATION TO LINDFIELD RINGER.

#### MR. A. TOMSETT'S FIFTY YEARS' SERVICE.

The annual meeting of the Lindfield (Sussex) Bellringers' Society took place at the Tiger House on Thursday, January 14th. After the usual business had been transacted, the chairman, Mr. S. E. Armstrong, hon. general secretary of the Sussex County Association, called upon Mr. G. W. O. Huddart, tower secretary and warden, to present a small token of the members' appreciation to Mr. A. Tomsett, the retiring captain.

Mr. Huddart mentioned that Mr. Tomsett had been connected with Lindfield Church for some 50 years in the capacity of ringer, and for more than forty as captain. Lately he had also represented the ringers on the Church Council, and this he was prepared to continue if re-elected. On behalf of the present band, Mr. Huddart then handed to Mr. Tomsett a silver inkstand, suitably inscribed, as a memento of his services.

In the course of his reply, Mr. Tomsett thanked the members for their gift, and recalled the great number of ringers who had passed through his hands during the time he had been in charge of the tower. Few of the old members now remained, some having left the district, and time had taken its toll of others.

Mr. Tomsett's resignation was received with regret, and despite a request to reconsider it, he handed over to his successor, Mr. E. Barnes.

**SULGRAVE, NORTHANTS.**—On Wednesday, January 20th, 720 of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled, for the anniversary of the death of the late King George V: J. Mardell 1, J. Salisbury 2, T. Wilcox 3, L. Wootton 4, W. Bramson (conductor) 5, W. Wilcox 6.

**NOTICES.**

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The meeting advertised for Cheshunt for tomorrow (Jan. 30th) is postponed until Feb. 13th. All previous arrangements stand for this date. — W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Streatham on Saturday, Jan. 30th. The bells of St. Leonard's will be available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock at St. Leonard's. Tea at The Manor, at 1s. per head, followed by meeting. The bells of Immanuel Church, Streatham Common, will be available immediately after the meeting till 8.30 p.m.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Tea in canteen at 5.30. Business meeting in the Vestry Hall at 6.30. St. Bride's, Fleet Street bells available from 2.30 to 3.45 p.m.—G. A. Card, Hon. Sec., 7, Gilstead Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—Annual meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells from 2.30 to 7.30. Service at 4.30. Tea, 1s. each, at 5. Important business meeting to follow. Ringing at Willesden from 7 to 9 p.m. Special method, St. Clement's Bob Triples. The District Committee will meet at 3.30 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Bath Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Twerton-on-Avon on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15. — Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath, Som.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, January 30th, when the following bells will be available: Far Headingley (8) 12 noon to 9 p.m., St. Michael's, Headingley (8) 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., St. Matthias', Burley (8) 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service at St. Chad's at 4.15 p.m., the preacher being the Lord Bishop of Ripon. The President asks that on this special occasion all ringers should do their best to attend. The general meeting will be held in the schools immediately after tea, and the presentation to Canon C. C. Marshall, who completes 25 years as President of the Association at this meeting, will be made by the Lord Bishop of Ripon on behalf of the members. The President and local company extend a very hearty welcome to all ringers.—J. E. Cawser, Hon. Gen. Sec., Cragdon House, Ashton Lane, Braithwell, near Rotherham.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Chertsey District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Chertsey on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting, in Church Room. All ringers and friends given a hearty welcome. Subscriptions for 1937 now due.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 4, Temperance Cottages, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District. — Saturday, Jan. 30th, annual meeting at Baldock. It is the duty of all Northern District members to attend. Bells ready 3 p.m. Short service and tea to follow. Business meeting includes election of district secretary, district committee, election of two members to serve on General Committee, balance sheet of district and report. Book the date and don't be late.—Don Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., Fritton, Moorhead Close, Hitchin.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting of the Grimsby District will be held (D.V.) at St. James', Grimsby, on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Service 4.15. Preacher, the Vicar, the Rev. E. Lisle Marsden. Tea in Church House at 5 p.m., at 1s. 6d. per head. Business meeting to follow. All subscriptions are now due. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Essendon on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Two bus services—Barnet to Hertford and St. Albans to Hertford—are suitable. Tea arrangements will be made. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. Nash, N. Mimms, and H. V. Frost, 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans, Dis. Secs.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Loughborough District.—The annual meeting will be held at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough (by kind permission of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.), on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. This meeting should not be confused with quarterly meeting of the M.C.A., which is being held at Loughborough on Feb. 6th.—H. Kerly, Hathern Road, Shepshed, Loughborough.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Deptford, on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1937 are now due and should be paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 30th, at Bourne (owing to Edenham bells being unavailable). Bells (6) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service in Abbey Church at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting at Brightman's Café. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid. All welcome.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Sleaford, Lincs.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Salisbury Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Salisbury (6 bells), on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business meeting to follow. St. Martin's (8), St. Edmund's (8) also available.—F. W. Romaine, Hon. Sec., 41, Green Croft Street, Salisbury.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL GUILD.**—Chippenham Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's (8), Chippenham, on Saturday, Jan. 30th, at 3 o'clock. Service 4.45. Tea after. St. Andrew's (8) also open. Visitors please notify early. — F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., 38, Downing Street, Chippenham, Wilts.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's (8), Wells, on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—F. D. Rickards, 32, Burcott Road, Wells.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The sum of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not attended twenty times to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at \*St. Paul's Cathedral on Feb. 2nd; St. Magnus' on the 4th and 18th; Southwark Cathedral on the 11th; \*St. Mary-le-Bow on the 16th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, on the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Andrew's on the 25th, at 8 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards. — Wm. T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—A meeting will be held at Cramlington on Wednesday, Feb. 3rd. Meeting at 3 p.m. Tea, in Parish Hall, 1s. each. Bells available from 3 p.m.—W. Sheraton, Guild Sec.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—A mid-week meeting will be held at St. John's, Leytonstone, on Wednesday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30. Service at 8 p.m. Will all requiring tea notify me by Saturday, Jan. 30th?—E. K. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

**ALL SAINTS', HEREFORD.**—You would be welcomed at our last 'open bell' practice before Easter, on Thursday, February 4th, at 7.29 p.m.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting of Guildford District at Guildford on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available: Cathedral, 3 to 4 p.m.; S. Nicolas', 3.30 to 4.30. Shalford, after meeting, until 9 p.m. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30. Tea and meeting at Ayres' Café 5.15. Please send me numbers for tea by Feb. 3rd. —G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Burley Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Meeting in tower at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil St., Blackburn.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Kington District.—The annual meeting will be held at Kington on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—Jabez Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—North Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting for the election of officers for the year takes place at Wymondham on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells at 2.30. Service, conducted by the Rev. F. Jarvis, at 4. Tea, followed by business meeting, at 4.45 p.m. Methods for practice: Erin Triples and Duffield Major. Diagrams on receipt of postcard. Please notify your intention to be present at tea.—Nolan Golden, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Francis Xavier on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Tower open for ringing at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. T. Egan, 10, Brookes Terrace, Liverpool 6, not later than previous Wednesday. —H. Grundy, Branch Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Old Cleeve (8) on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the Village Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Kindly advise me not later than Feb. 1st for tea.—G. Stacey, 6, Park Street, Minehead.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—Sevenoaks is the place, and Saturday, Feb. 6th, the date, for the first meeting of the New Year. You come, please, and help start the year well. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Members requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 2nd. Subscriptions for 1937 are now due.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Sible Hedingham on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present please notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 2nd. — F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South-West District. — The annual meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, Old Isleworth, on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea, 5.30, in Church Hall, South Street. Business meeting to follow. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. and after meeting. If you require tea, can you notify me by Feb. 1st, please?—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Seaforth, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Meeting 5 p.m. A hearty welcome given to all ringers to attend.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—General quarterly meeting, Loughborough, Feb. 6th. Bells of All Saints' (10) and Bell Foundry Campanile (10) available 2 to 3.45 and after meeting. Committee meet 3 p.m. Special service 4 p.m., during which late Rector (Canon Briggs) will dedicate tablet to past Loughborough ringers. Tea at 4.30, followed by general meeting; both in the Fearon Hall. Tea will only be provided for those applying for and obtaining tickets before Feb. 4th from Mr. J. Grundy, Limehurst, Bridge Street, Loughborough.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Ledbury District.—The annual meeting will be held at Colwall on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service in St. Crispen's Chapel at 5 p.m. Tea in Parish Room 5.30 p.m., to be followed by annual business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please let me know by Thursday, Feb. 4th? All ringers welcome.—A. Jones, jun., Hon. Dis. Sec., The Reddings, Colwall, near Malvern.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Southill on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (6), recently rehung and retuned by J. Taylor and Co., available 3 o'clock. All visitors welcomed.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy, Beds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at the two six-bell towers in Lytham on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business 5.30. Members and non-members heartily welcomed.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Fenton on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided free of charge to all who notify Mr. S. Dutton, Gramerci, Grove Road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, not later than February 3rd.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Bridgnorth Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6th, at Bridgnorth. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Those requiring tea please notify the undersigned.—H. G. Thomas, Hildon, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock (not Wigan Parish, as previously arranged) on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea, gratis, to all who notify Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan, by Wednesday, Feb. 3rd.—S. Forshaw, Branch Sec., 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Ilminster on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Service at 6 p.m. Please advise, if tea required.—D. G. Taylor, Cornhill, Ilminster.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—South Forest Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Newnham-on-Severn on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) open 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. All ringers who require tea must let me know by Wednesday, Feb. 3rd.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, Victoria Road, Lydney, Glos.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Brightwalton on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., at 6d. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify Mr. J. E. Hedges, Myrtle Cottage, Brightwalton, near Wantage, Berks, by Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, for tea. The 'Reliance' bus from Newbury Wharf at 2.30 for this meeting, returning 7.30 p.m. from Brightwalton.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—V.W.H. Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Shrivenham on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Those requiring tea please notify not later than Thursday, Feb. 4th.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting of the Northern Division will be held at Balcombe (8 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, 1s. per head. Names for tea by Feb. 3rd. Half rail fare to members, maximum 1s. 6d.—O. Sippetts, 10, Albany Road, Crawley, Sussex.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Braunston (6) on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Spalding on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by Feb. 2nd?—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Market Lavington on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringing friends welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Chester-le-Street on Saturday, Feb. 6th. The bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Short service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. A. Brown, 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, by Feb. 4th at the latest?—R. Park, Hon. Sec.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Ludlow on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Kindly advise me not later than Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, number attending requiring tea.—W. J. Beniams, Hon. Dis. Sec., Ben-All, Henley Road, Ludlow, Shropshire.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A special meeting will be held at Fakenham on Feb. 6th, to dedicate an oak peal board, recording a muffled peal rung as a tribute of respect to the late F. T. Cooke, a former ringer at Peterborough and Fakenham. Service at 3.30. Bells (8) available 2.30 till 8 p.m. Tea will be provided free to all who send a postcard before Feb. 4th to R. W. Cooke, Hempton Green, Fakenham.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Chatteris, Cambs, on Saturday, February 6th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.45. Short evensong 6. Please advise Mr. A. J. Abrams, number for tea. Very good train and bus services all ways.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting Feb. 13th. Ringing at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; St. Lawrence Jewry, E.C., 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; Bow, Cheapside, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3.10 p.m. to 4.10 p.m., followed by service 4.15 p.m. Preacher, probably Lord Bishop of Stepney. Tea, 5 p.m., reserved only for those who notify me well beforehand. Meeting and handbell competition in Parish Room 7 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec., 26, Southway, Raynes Park, S.W.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—The spring meeting will be held at Boughton on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those who intend to be present please notify me not later than Thursday, Feb. 11th? Subscriptions for 1937 are now due and may be paid at this meeting.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.**

The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at St. Mary's Church, Brecon. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5. Tea supplied by the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, followed by tea (1s.) and business meeting at the Duke's Head. Will those requiring tea please send numbers to Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Feb. 10th and not go to the Institute from force of habit?—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec., Drakelow, Howard Road, Great Bookham, Surrey.

**NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.**—Annual meeting at Liverpool, Saturday, Feb. 13th. Ringing: St. Francis Xavier's R.C. Church, Salisbury St. (8 bells) 10.30 a.m. to 11.45 a.m.; St. Nicholas' Church (12 bells) noon to 12.45 p.m., 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. Luncheon (2s. 6d.) 1 p.m. prompt. The Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Alderman Denton) will give a reception to the party at 3 p.m. at the Town Hall. Tea (1s. 6d.) 5 p.m. Business meeting 5.45 p.m. Social 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. All at the Bear's Paw Restaurant, 53, Lord Street. Members, please make special effort to attend. Hearty invitation to all ringers. Please notify Chief Inspector J. Meldrum, City Police, Prescott St. Station, Liverpool, by Feb. 10th. Subscription for 1937 now due.—Inspector H. J. Poole, Hon. Sec., Wayside, Narborough Road, Leicester.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Chichester on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Half rail fares, maximum 1s. 6d., to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—A bye-meeting will be held at Yalding (6 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available 2.30. Service at 5. Tea at the Bull 5.30. Please send a postcard for tea to Mr. H. Mills, High Street, Yalding, by Wednesday, Feb. 10th. Every ringer welcome. Bourne Surprise, Double Court, or plain fare according to taste, but come and try it!—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Fryerning on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Ingatestone bells also available in the evening. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, Feb. 10th?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Div. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, Feb. 13th. If you intend being present, will you make a note that the tower is not open until 6 p.m.? Now, chaps, show your interest and please turn up.—J. Porter, 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

**HARPENDEN PARISH CHURCH TOWER.**—Owing to the death of Mr. Ben Jarman all correspondence in future should be sent to A. Day, 131, Luton Road, Harpenden, Herts.

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