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REBUILDING OUR CHURCHES

The announcement that a number of London churches damaged by the blitz are to be rebuilt will be received with satisfaction. The list includes the famous Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, with its bells which are unquestionably the best known in the world through use as a call signal by the B.B.C. This programme of rebuilding will not be confined to London. At both Bristol and Plymouth famous peals were lost by enemy action, and definite news of rebuilding plans should be to hand any day. The passing of Major J. H. B. Hesse last week and his work for the Exercise serve to emphasise the need on the part of all lovers of church bells to be ever vigilant that the Church authorities insist that the architects employed should obtain professional guidance in regard to bell towers and bell hanging.

In Major Hesse's peal book for 1925-6 appeared the following observation concerning a peal of six in Suffolk: 'They are hung in a miserable frame which ought to be scrapped. The noise in the ringing chamber is deafening. These defects are due to a fool of an architect called —. (I hope some day he will see this.)' This incident from a Suffolk village could be multiplied a score of times; ringers all over the country are familiar with such towers and suffer in consequence Sunday by Sunday.

The problem is not a new one. Sir Arthur P. Heywood, when President of the Central Council in 1914, arranged for the publication of a very readable book on bell towers and bell hanging. Contributors to this volume included the present President of the Council (Mr. E. H. Lewis) and Mr. E. Alexander Young, who is an architect. Unfortunately the book is out of print, but the time is opportune when a summarised version of it should be published and widely circulated. The question is of such importance at this juncture that every Guild should have a special committee ready to make representations personally as soon as any scheme of rehanging or augmentation is contemplated, and appropriate non-technical literature should be available.

The Central Council has constantly advocated specialists dealing with bells, and in view of the absence of ringing during much of the war years, it is well to remind towers generally of their advice. 'Even when there is a competent steeplekeeper in charge, a "ring" of bells should be thoroughly examined by a bell hanger of repute about every fifth year, when all necessary repairs should be promptly effected, after which the bells, frame and fittings should be well cleaned down and the woodwork

and ironwork repainted.' The initiative in such matters rests with the ringers, who should remind the Parochial Council or the incumbent of their responsibility. Some towers present an annual report to the Parochial Church Council and thus retain interest; others hold open days when members of the congregation are invited to the ringing chamber and, if possible, to see the bells. Bells in many churches can well be regarded as a priceless heritage, and it is our duty to foster among the congregation worshipping at these churches the same love and affection with which they are held by ringers.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

READING, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

*JAMES HIGGINS ... Treble	†FREDK. A. H. WILKINS ... 7
WALTER F. JUDGE ... 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 8
WILFRED WILLIAMS ... 3	†RICHARD A. POST ... 9
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 4	FREDK. E. COLLINS ... 10
GEORGE E. FEARN ... 5	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 11
JOHN S. MASON ... 6	ALFRED B. PECK ... Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* First twelve-bell peal. † First peal of Surprise Maximus.

TEN BELL PEALS

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours & Twenty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 99 lb. in C.

REV. A. G. THURLOW Treble	HENRY TOOKE ... 6
*ARTHUR G. BASON ... 2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS ... 7
NOLAN GOLDEN ... 3	GEORGE BAILEY ... 8
ALAN F. THIRST ... 4	WILLIAM CLOVER ... 9
GEORGE SAYER ... 5	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY J. TUCKER.

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Bob Royal.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Mon., Oct. 14, 1946, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

JAMES F. HARVEY ... Treble	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 6
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 2	*NORMAN J. GOODMAN ... 7
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 3	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 8
SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ... 4	JOHN PINFOLD ... 9
THOMAS HEMMING ... 5	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PVE. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal of Royal.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JILL POOLE ... Treble	SHIRLEY BURTON ... 6
PETER J. STANFORTH ... 2	*WILLIAM R. HAMMONS ... 7
*ERIC NOBLES ... 3	†GEORGE CARE ... 8
†PHILIP JONES ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 9
BURLEY MORRIS ... 5	WILLIAM G. FAREY ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. J. W. Auger on his retirement.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E flat.

GEORGE LATHAM ... Treble	WILLIAM STAITHE ... 6
CHARLES J. GARDNER ... 2	JOHN F. BALLINGER ... 7
TREVOR PRITCHARD ... 3	*WILLIAM DEAN ... 8
THOMAS WITTS ... 4	LESLIE BARRY ... 9
*RAYMOND THAIN ... 5	RUPERT SHARPE ... Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON.

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* First peal of Caters.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

SYLVIA R. E. PIPE ... Treble	GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 6
HOBART E. SMITH ... 2	*FRANK REED ... 7
*JAMES W. JENNINGS ... 3	CECIL W. PIPE ... 8
CHARLES CLARKE ... 4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 9
FRANK FISHER ... 5	*HERBERT G. JILLINGS ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal on ten bells. First peal of Bob Caters by all the band and for the Guild.

PRITTELEWELL, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*GERALD FROST ... Treble	FRANK B. LUFKIN ... 6
†JOSEPH C. JENNINGS ... 2	JOHN E. FOWLER ... 7
†DOUGLAS C. JENNINGS ... 3	FREDERICK SOUTER ... 8
*EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... 4	JOHN H. BOTHAM ... 9
SYDNEY M. BAILEY ... 5	JAMES BULLOCK ... Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

HAROLD A. NOBES ... Treble	WALTER C. ROSE ... 5
FRANK L. HARRIS ... 2	ALFRED MEARS ... 6
*JOHN S. WALTON ... 3	JOHN H. HUNT ... 7
WILLIAM A. THEOBALD ... 4	FREDK. W. BURNETT ... Tenor

Composed by GEO. WILLIAMS. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.

* First peal in the method.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F. sharp.

W. E. MAULDEN ... Treble	FRANK L. FISHER ... 5
*GEORGE W. PIPE ... 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 6
MRS. CECIL W. PIPE ... 3	LESLIE G. BRETT ... 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 4	CECIL W. PIPE ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by C. W. PIPE.

* First peal in the method.



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LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT I. WALPOLE ... Treble	STANLEY FENN ... 5
EDWIN R. GOATE ... 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN ... 6
*SELIM GOODSWEN ... 3	GODFREY G. WALPOLE ... 7
FREDK. C. GUNTON ... 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

* First peal of Double Norwich.

MILFORD-ON-SEA, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th the observation).

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MARY E. DAVIS ... Treble	ROY C. HIRST ... 5
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 2	WILLIAM G. YOUNG ... 6
*IVAN KNIGHT ... 3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... 7
*DOROTHY GOULD ... 4	HARRY GILLARD ... Tenor

Conducted by Mrs. F. J. MARSHALLSAY.

* First peal.

HATFIELD, YORKSHIRE

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

JAMES MCCLUSKEY ... Treble	ERNEST SHORT ... 5
NORA HOLMES ... 2	HAROLD WAGSTAFF ... 6
ERNEST J. PADGETT ... 3	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ... 7
RICHARD WILLCOCKS ... 4	HARRY BARNES ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

First peal in the method for all the band.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FRANK CLAYDON ... Treble	CLAUDE SNOWDEN ... 5
LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... 2	JOSEPH C. JENNINGS ... 6
H. WALTER SMITH ... 3	*EDWIN JENNINGS ... 7
RONALD SUCKLING ... 4	WALTER ARNOLD ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by E. JENNINGS.

* 100th Surprise peal.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

*BRIAN SISSONS ... Treble	MRS. E. BRADLEY ... 5
MRS. J. RENDER ... 2	TOM JUNE ... 6
H. S. MORLEY ... 3	FRED TERRY ... 7
MISS M. HAWLEY ... 4	EDWARD BRADLEY ... Tenor

Composed by H. H. WILDE. Conducted by EDWARD BRADLEY.

* First peal. First peal in the method by all the band.

THORNE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*THOMAS D. LEASK ... Treble	ERNEST THORLEY ... 5
ARTHUR J. FARR ... 2	JOHN T. NEWINGTON ... 6
LESLIE M. WOODHEAD ... 3	STANLEY E. BENNETT ... 7
†CHARLES THORLEY ... 4	JOHN G. AMES ... Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON.

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method.

TICHMARSH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. in E.

WILLIAM ROSE ... Treble	*GEORGE BUSH ... 5
GEORGE W. JEFFS ... 2	ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 6
*HERBERT COAKES ... 3	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... 7
WILLIAM H. WALDRON ... 4	CHARLES M. WHITNEY ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Conducted by G. W. JEFFS.

* First peal of Major.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

(All Saints' Society.)

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*F. MORETON, R.A.F. ... Treble	JAMES DRAYCOTT ... 5
*MISS M. E. L. BEAMISH ... 2	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH ... 6
JOHN E. S. MORETON ... 3	JAMES F. CLARKE ... 7
MRS. D. E. BEAMISH ... 4	*JOHN E. LLOYD ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. BEAMISH.

* First peal, aged 11 years. Rung as a compliment to F. Moreton on his 21st birthday.

PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. EDMURGA.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Middleton's.

Tenor 28 cwt.

REGINALD WOODYATT ... Treble	GEORGE E. LARGE ... 5
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 2	DENIS R. MORRIS ... 6
SYDNEY TAYLOR ... 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 4	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Oct. 13, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF PERSHORE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

*CHARLES H. MOORE ... Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN ... 5
*F. CHARLES GOODMAN ... 2	*FRANK B. LUFKIN ... 6
*GEORGE SAYER ... 3	*CECIL V. EBBERSON ... 7
HENRY TOOKE ... 4	WILLIAM CLOVER ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, 1946, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Pittsow's Variation.

Tenor 23½ cwt. in D.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... Treble	*CHARLES W. MUNDAY ... 5
CHAS. W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 2	RONALD H. DOVE ... 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	FREDK. A. MUNDAY ... 7
HAROLD A. MAY ... 4	T. MARK WHITE ... Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, 1946, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 18 lb.

*FRANK LAWTON ... Treble	*IVAN KAY ... 5
GERALD DARE ... 2	W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 6
EILEEN H. BASTOW ... 3	FRED DUNKERLEY ... 7
STEPHEN L. PARRY ... 4	*ISAAC GARTSIDE ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by F. DUNKERLEY

* First peal in the method.

SHALFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Oct. 16, 1946, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

LESLIE C. W. HUNTER ... Treble	FRANK BENNETT ... 5
CHAS. W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 2	RONALD H. DOVE ... 6
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3	HAROLD A. MAY ... 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 4	NORMAN V. HARDING ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

First peal in the method on the bells.

SILEBY, LEICESTER.—On October 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Dexter 1, Miss Z. Walker 2, Miss A. Mansfield 3, A. H. Mansfield 4, H. Humphreys 5, A. E. Hubbard 6, G. T. H. Walker (conductor) 7, J. Toon 8. Rung for the christening of the son of the ringer of the 6th.

SIX BELL PEALS

WRENBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

*JOHN HOLLOWAY Treble	FRANK OLLIER 4.
FRANK BARNARD 2	ALBERT CRAWLEY 5
EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 3	JOHN E. BROUGH Tenor

Conducted by J. E. BROUGH.

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor in the method.
Rung for the birthday of the 2nd ringer.

HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Oxford Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

ROBERT CRITCHLEY ... Treble	JACK POUNDS 4
CUTHBERT ACKERS 2	WILFRED CORE 5
ARTHUR MAWDESLEY 3	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. J. Pounds.

TAXAL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

JAMES A. MILNER ... Treble	ARTHUR HIBBERT 4
*MISS YVONNE BOTHAM ... 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
†ARTHUR TAYLOR 3	†ALFRED JOHN LEE Tenor

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal. † First peal away from the treble. ‡ First peal in the method.

WARBLETON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's, each called differently.

BERT STANDEN ... Treble	GEORGE E. DANN 4
LESLIE W. JARVIS 2	WILFRED BOOTH 5
ARTHUR F. LEWY 3	FRANK H. HICKS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

BURITON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

*MALCOLM H. LAWRENCE Treble	*ARTHUR H. FISHER 4
*PERCIVAL L. WRIGHT ... 2	EDWIN S. SMITH 5
CECIL C. WRIGHT 3	CHARLES E. BASSETT ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES E. BASSETT.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

BROUGHTON, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 12, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford, St. Clement's, Double Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

W. BRIAN BRAY ... Treble	G. LESLIE LUNN 4
FRANK LORD 2	PHILIP BARNES 5
GEORGE E. FEIRN 3	JACK BRAY Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

Rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Rev. H. M. Swift.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Oct. 16, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

FREDK. HANNINGTON ... Treble	CHARLES H. PERRY 4
ALFRED HANNINGTON 2	TREVOR RHODERICK 5
ERNEST STITCH 3	ALFRED W. HEATH Tenor

Conducted by C. H. PERRY.

First peal of Minor on the bells.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(Western Branch.)

On Thurs., Oct. 17, 1946, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

WM. H. A. COMPTON ... Treble	DENIS R. MORRIS 4
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	REGINALD WOODVATT ... 5
ALLEN MORGAN 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

Rung on the front six of the ten.

HANDBELL PEALS

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Oct. 11, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT 4, FAIRLEIGH TERRACE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor (cast 1835) size 20 in E.

ALBERT ROUGHT 1-2	NOLAN GOLDEN 5-6
JOHN PUMPHREY 3-4	WALTER C. MEDLER 7-8

Composed by WILLIAM E. BASON. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Oct. 13, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

ERIC A. DENCH 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7-8

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.
This peal contains 2,976 changes of Kent and 2,048 changes of Oxford, with 56 changes of method.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Oct. 16, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

MISS LUCILE M. HULBERT 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7-8

PHILIP A. CORBY 9-10

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Oct. 17, 1946, in Two Hours and Three Minutes,
AT 92, BUTCHER'S ROW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven variations. Tenor size 15 in G.
HAROLD F. WOOD 1-2 | EDGAR R. RAPLEY 3-4

FRANK B. LUFKIN 5-6

Conducted by EDGAR R. RAPLEY.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Oct. 17, 1946, in Two Hours and Three Minutes,
AT VERNON HOUSE, FRIAR LANE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores.

PETER NIX 1-2	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 3-4
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*J. KENNETH WAGSTAFFE 5-6

Conducted by PETER NIX.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Thurs., Oct. 17, 1946, in Two Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT TRINITY COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.

R. F. B. SPEED (Caius) ... 1-2	*S. E. DARMON (St. John's) 5-6
K. S. B. CROFT (St. John's) 3-4	*E. J. LINDLEY (Trinity) 7-8

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES (Caius).

Conducted by K. S. B. CROFT.

* First peal of Major on handbells.

ANSTEY, NEAR LEICESTER.—On Oct. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: M. D. Staniforth (first quarter in method) 1, Jill Poole 2, S. R. Gardner 3, J. S. Liffe 4, R. F. Elkington 5, Dennis Dodson (conductor) 6, Derek Dodson (first quarter in method) 7, P. J. Staniforth (first quarter in method as conductor) 8.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On Oct. 6th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: N. D. Layton 1, Betty Layton (first in method) 2, Winifred Adams 3, M. E. H. Pitstow (first in method) 4, N. Hobden 5, H. Cheesman 6, A. J. Adams (conductor) 7, A. E. Cheesman 8. A silver wedding compliment to Mrs. and Mrs. H. N. Pitstow.

BISHOPSGATE, LONDON.—On Oct. 6th, at St. Botolph's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: M. V. Chilcott 1, Mrs. C. J. Matthews 2, H. Belcher 3, H. D. C. Satow (first quarter in method) 4, Mrs. E. E. Davis 5, J. E. Chilcott 6, J. A. Phillips (conductor) 7 R. W. Stannard 8.

BISHOP'S CANNINGS, WILTS.—On Oct. 9th, 1,290 Stedman Triples: Miss Joan Grant 1, William Swift 2, Robert Swift 3, George Winter 4, Frederick Hale 5, William Mortimer 6, Sidney Grant (conductor) 7, George Oram 8.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.—On Oct. 10th at St. Michael's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Allport 1, B. Lawton 2, C. Skidmore (conductor) 3, J. Lloyd 4, T. Williams 5, C. Richards 6, T. Hemming 7, G. Ball 8. First quarter in method by 6th and first quarter by tenor.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—On Oct. 6th at St. Nicholas', 1,260 Stedman Triples: S. G. Ridge (first in method) 1, S. Armstrong 2, A. Humphrey 3, G. Ales 4, F. Bennett 5, R. F. Clark (first in method) 6, H. Stalham (conductor) 7, J. C. Edwards 8.

CHORLEY, LANCs.—On Oct. 7th at St. Mary's (R.C.) Church, 1,280 Kent Major: T. Barker 1, J. Blackburn 2, J. Hill 3, E. Ramsbotham 4, S. Tuson 5, F. G. Bradley 6, J. Charnock 7, J. H. Gartside (conductor) 8. Rung muffled in memory of the late Canon Crank, for 35 years Rector of St. Mary's.

QUARTER PEALS

CARDIFF, GLAM.—On Oct. 6th at St. John the Baptist's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Hanington 1, L. W. Prosser 2, J. Davies 3, W. Richards 4, W. Heath 5, A. Rowley 6, A. Parnell (conductor) 7, S. R. Barker 8.

CLERKENWELL, LONDON.—On Oct. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. D. Prockson 1, Miss M. A. Prockson 2, G. A. Parsons 3, C. Potheary 4, J. Bennett (conductor) 5, H. W. Clark 6, A. W. Coles 7, W. Donaldson 8.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXON.—On Oct. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Francis 1, H. E. Cook 2, M. H. Sindin 3, C. F. Taplin 4, R. H. Jarvis (conductor) 5, F. Perry 6, J. Jarvis 7, H. Francis 8.

CLEWER, BERKS.—On Oct. 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: W. Butler 1, Mary Buckingham 2, R. Posnett 3, F. Rolfe 4, S. L. Posnett (conductor) 5, J. Brooks 6.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Oct. 6th at St. Bartholomew's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Eaton 1, J. F. Atkins 2, G. H. Williams 3, W. Mumford 4, D. T. Martin (conductor) 5, H. Withers 6, T. Russell 7, F. G. Fletcher 8.

FAIRFORD, GLOS.—On Oct. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Sandle 1, B. Guy 2, Miss F. M. Hope 3, A. King 4, H. Acock 5, E. Cooper 6, W. Godwin (conductor) 7, F. Evans 8.

FINCHLEY, LONDON.—On Oct. 6th, at St. Mary's, 1,260 Bob Minor: G. F. Carter 1, F. Cherrett 2, B. Tubb 3 A. F. Thirst 4, T. G. Bevan 5, F. O. W. Knight (conductor) 6.

GOSPEL OAK, LONDON.—At St. Martin's on Oct. 6th, 1,260 Bob Minor: G. F. Carter 1, J. Payton 2, D. Harman (first quarter) 3, A. Butler 4, F. C. W. Knight 5, A. F. Thirst (conductor) 6.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—On Oct. 6th at St. Nicolas', 1,259 Grandsire Caters: A. W. J. Appleton 1, S. Breeze 2, Mrs. Hazelden 3, E. A. Etheridge 4, W. Fay 5, E. Lee 6, F. Oldroyd

7, W. R. Morey 8, C. Hazelden (conductor) 9, F. Radford 10. First quarter of Grandsire Caters by ringers of 1, 6 and 8.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.—At St. Margaret's on Oct. 6th, 1,264 Bob Major: E. Blomfield (conductor) 1, P. Whittell 2, E. Ellenger 3, E. Grimes 4, W. Kinsey 5, K. Whittell 6, C. Woodward 7, C. Shemming 8.

KESWICK, CUMBERLAND.—On Oct. 6th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major on handbells at the Commercial Hotel: David Vincent 1-2, Fred Hodgson 3-4, John Worth (conductor) 5-6, Fred Dunkerley 7-8.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Oct. 6th at St. Mary's Church, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. J. Ellis 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, C. W. Ottley 3, R. Lathbury 4, E. W. Furbank 5, L. H. Bowler 6, H. G. Andrews 7, John W. Ward 8.

MARKSBURY, SOMERSET.—On Oct. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Riggs 1, C. S. Bennett 2, G. Prescott (conductor) 3, A. N. Owen 4, J. Owen 5, W. Prescott 6.

PARRAMATTA, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.—At the Church of All Saints, on Oct. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles in 10 different callings: *Miss G. Somerville 1, G. Williamson 2, J. B. Watts 3, William M. Rowe (conductor) 4, B. Dunbar 5, K. Stacey 6. *First quarter-peal: first for a lady for N.S.W. Association.

PITMINSTER, TAUNTON, SOM.—On Oct. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Holway 1, W. Burstow 2, J. Summerhayes 3, G. Salter 4, B. Burston (conductor) 5, T. Langdon 6. First quarter for ringers of 1, 4 and 6.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday, Oct. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Lightfoot 1, H. Houson 2, J. Gibbons 3, A. D. Steel 4, N. Holland (conductor) 5, F. Wilshaw 6, A. Peake 7, C. H. Page 8.

WIDFORD, HERTS.—On Oct. 6th, 1,260 Bob Minor: W. Devoil 1, J. Suckling 2, A. Redington 3, L. Ladley 4, D. Hollis (first as conductor) 5, S. Carter 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

*The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers*

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

*'The Ringing World' was founded in the year
1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained
its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.*

Greetings to our 500 new
readers this week! We
trust that your joining
'The Ringing World' fellowship will add to
your interest in the Exercise and help forward
Sunday service ringing. If you enjoy 'The
Ringing World' let your friends know. We
can still take more subscribers.

From Los Angeles comes a letter from Mr.
Ernest Weatherby, who was formerly secretary
of Holy Trinity Cathedral tower, Guildford.
He has been busy with pencil and paper and
has composed the Drayton variation for Super-
lative Maximus.

Our overseas postbag also contains an air
letter from Australia. Mr. W. Rowe, who is a
member of the Central Council, sends us a
quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in which
Miss G. Somerville claims to be the first lady
to ring a quarter in N.S.W. In Victoria a
peal was rung by a lady during the British
tourists' visit.

Good wishes for a speedy recovery are ex-
tended to Mr. L. Wright, of Shimpling, Bury
St. Edmunds, who writes to us from Adden-
brook Hospital, Cambridge. Like the con-
scientious hon. secretary he is, he sends us a
brief report of the N.E. Division of the Essex
Association meeting at Bromley on Oct. 12th.

Is ringing hereditary? With Edwin A.
Barnett completing his 500 peals at the early
age of 28, three generations of his family have
each scored 500 peals. All were named Edwin.
The late grandfather was 'Old Teddy,' his
son 'Long Teddy,' while E. A., now a modest
six-footer, is 'Little Teddy.'

Four birthday honours in one peal! This
happened at Bloxwich, Staffordshire, on Oct.
17th, when those commemorated were Messrs.
A. Dutton, H. Green and H. Howell, of
Walsall, and Mrs. J. C. Adams, of Bloxwich.
We will next be having a birthday peal with
all the ringers having the same natal day.

BELFRY GOSSIP

In response to many re-
quests we publish a second
cartoon from P.H. To
those who regret this action we would remind
them that this is a democratic country and
the majority wish it.

Major H. J. Cann, of Pirbright, is in the
Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, having under-
gone an abdominal operation. We all hope he
will soon be back again in harness.

Confirmation is to hand that Mrs. Sylvia
R. E. Pipe is the first lady to conduct a peal
of Spliced Surprise Major. What shall the
reward be? A congratulation for each of the
112 changes of method!

A 22-year-old gap exists between the peal at
Liversedge, Yorks, and the last one rung by a
local band. Three stalwarts took part in both
peals—E. B. Belts, T. Scott and F. Hodgson.

Fifty years ago last Saturday the first peal
was rung at Prittlewell, Essex. The peal on
October 19th was rung as near to the anni-
versary as possible. There was nobody present
to say 'I remember'!

From Lancashire comes an ex-Service peal.
No suggestion of an ex-Service Guild behind it!

There has been more nine-bell ringing at
Basingstoke. This time it was 5,184 Kent
Treble Bob Major with the tenor behind on
October 12th, Charles H. Kippin again being
the conductor. The ringers were NESTA D.
Smith 1, William Hibbert 2, F. A. Munday 3,
E. Austen 4, R. W. Rex 5, H. W. Simmons 6,
F. E. Collins 7, C. H. Kippin 8, and John
Chesterman tenor.

Mr. Herbert E. Taylor's performance in con-
ducting a peal on his wedding day recalls the
distinction Miss Chillingworth, now Mrs. A. E.
Reeves, gained on June 1st, 1916. She was
married at Bradfield that day and conducted
a 720 of St. Minor. A framed cutting in the
belfry of St. Peter's, Dorchester, records the
fact of 'being the only time that a bride has
conducted her own wedding peal.'

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MUFFLES

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ESTABLISHED

1570

READERS' COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Length of Recorded Peals

WHY RECORD 5,000 PEALS?

'VANITY OF VANITIES, ALL IS VANITY.'

Dear Sir,—Mr. F. F. Rigby is not correct in saying that there is a 'rule' that 5,000 changes must be the minimum for a peal. Obviously a band can ring any lesser number if they wish.

The rule of most associations is that no peal of less than 5,000 shall be recorded. Mr. Rigby is probably right in thinking that the extent of Triples led to the adoption of 5,000 as a minimum length, but the reason why the performances were recorded was that they were so rare as to be outstanding. To-day 5,000's are so commonplace that they are not worth recording, and any move to make recorded peals more numerous is to be deprecated.

After all, the only reason for recording a performance is 'swank,' and there is precious little 'swank' to be got out of ringing a length which many men have rung a dozen times in a week and to-day is often performed by children of tender years.

I suggest, therefore, that the minimum for recorded peals be increased to 7,000. This would ensure that the recorded performances would be sufficiently rare to allow the performers to take pride in them, and if 7,000's eventually became too numerous, the figure could be increased to 10,000.

Those who wished to ring shorter lengths could still do so, but they would not be recorded. Perhaps an exception could be made in the case of a record length in a method where it was less than 7,000.

I agree with Mr. Rigby's remarks re peal ringing and the outside listener. A peal of 5,000 changes is too long to inflict on the public when rung solely for the ringers' pleasure. It is precisely 5,000 too long. No ringing except that for services and special occasions should ever be audible outside the boundaries of the churchyard.

If a group of people congregated in a public place and kicked up a din for three hours non-stop on any medium other than a peal of church bells they would be 'run in' and sentenced to a well-deserved term of imprisonment. Let us face the fact that when we attempt a peal we are thoroughly enjoying ourselves and being a confounded nuisance to everyone else within earshot, and it is one of the marvels of modern times that we have been allowed to get away with it.

For the benefit of those who may demand my head on a charger, may I say that I have rung many 5,000's and hope to ring many more.—Yours sincerely,

H. G. CASHMORE.

24, Muriel Avenue, Watford.

'THEY HASTY THINGS'

Dear Sir,—It was with real pleasure that I read the excellent letter from Churchwarden and Ringer of Chichester in a recent 'Ringing World.' I am sure he voices the views of the great majority of the Exercise. Some of us have been pained at the spite displayed by certain critics of Mr. Dark's letter, as I am sure Mr. Dark must be himself. We were discussing the subject in the belfry, and our old tenor man, a wise and long-headed rustic, spoke up and said, 'There be a lot of cocky youngsters about nowadays, an' I'll 'flow two some o' they said they hasty things.'

I like to feel that the letter from Chichester and that of the organiser of the record peal reflect the sentiments of most of us, and I, for one, as a method ringer for 57 years, thank Mr. Dark for opening an interesting discussion.—Yours faithfully,

'VETERAN RINGER.'

Weston-super-Mare.

IN DEFENCE OF THE 5,000 CHANGES

Dear Sir,—Having read Mr. Rigby's letter, I feel that to shorten a peal below 5,000 changes will tend to cheapen peals. I have been teaching now for the past 42 years and have yet to find any complaints from non-ringers about peals that are rung, always, of course, providing that there has been sufficient foresight to deaden the louvres in the case of noisy bells. If a peal is going badly, stop. Towers are easy enough to get (if you put up a good performance). Bells generally go extremely well (providing the heavy bell 'bashers' do not want to ring the quickest peal on the bells). Too much stress is laid on ringing some fancy method (so-called Surprise) with bands that are incapable of striking Bob Major. Very few bands to-day go out to enjoy the music and rhythm of a well-struck peal. That in itself justifies the 5,000. Surely we are not to be told that peal ringing proper is tiring.

Without wishing to advertise Burnham, which possesses one of the most unmusical and false-struck rings of bells in Bucks, tenor 16 cwt., I append the following: Band started from nothing 1932. Results up to outbreak of war: R. G. Taylor (age 12), 5 peals; J. E. Taylor (age 13), 40 peals; P. N. Cashman (age 14), 1 peal; W. A. Gyster (age 14), 4 peals; B. O'Neill (age 14), 22 peals; J. D. Taylor (age 14), 16 peals; M. A. Blamey (age 15), 13 peals; P. A. Blamey (age 16), 15 peals; J. Jones (age 17), 1 peal; N. G. Bristow (age 17), 1 peal; C. A. Burgess (age 17), 33 peals; G. H. Limmer (age 18), 48 peals; G. W. Limmer (age 20), 41 peals; Miss Fleming, 1 peal. All members had rung peals of Minor up to and including seven Minor methods. A band of local boys, aged 14 years 7 months (average age), had rung a peal of Doubles with four taking part in the conducting. The war claimed this band.

A post-war band of girls was formed, and results to date are as follows: Jean Broomfield (age 14), 17 peals; Mary Pemberton (age 14), 12 peals; Joyce Hearn (age 14), 9 peals; Hilda Taylor (age 14), 7 peals; Freda Murkitt (age 15), 5 peals; Valerie Crouch (age 15), 1 peal; P. Mellor, 1 peal. I am very proud of this band, and so are the people of Burnham, as the girls only took on peal ringing as a sideline. One will find them at their posts for every Sunday service before time, and this applies also to practice. Is this enough to defend the peal of 5,000 changes?—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE GILBERT.

Instructor to the St. Peter's Society of Change Ringers, Burnham, Bucks.

Pontresina, Milner Road, Burnham, Bucks.

SIZE OF WHEEL AND SWING OF BELL

Sir,—I have several times heard ringers refer to the effect on the swing of a bell of the size of the wheel. They speak of a bell swinging the slower because the wheel is large.

Without presuming too much experience, I would suggest that this is a fallacy. For it seems to me that, when a bell is once pulled off, there are but two factors concerned in the time it takes to revolve:—

(1) The total weight of the bell and its fittings.

(2) The distance of the centre of gravity of the bell and fittings from the axis of rotation. For practical purposes this amounts to how much the bell is tucked up in the headstock.

I cannot conceive how the size of the wheel is concerned. It will undoubtedly move the rope a greater distance, but can have no other effect.

D. G. H. HOLLIS.

Widford Rectory, Ware, Herts.

IS KENT UNWIELDY?

Dear Sir,—I entirely agree with the statement in your leading article of October 11th that there is 'wisdom in division.' I agree that guilds should never become unwieldy organisations and officers should be able to cover their territory easily.

There is a lesson in this for my own association, the Kent County, covering as it does an area of 1,570 square miles and having distances of some 73 miles between extreme towers east and west and some 35 miles north and south. It covers the whole diocese of Rochester, all but a tiny portion of Canterbury (Croydon), and a considerable part of Southwark. The time for division into diocesan guilds is indeed overdue.

Some will regard this as rank heresy on my part, and will point out that we are already divided into six districts. This is quite true, but anyone who has had any part in the management of the K.C.A. will, if he speaks the truth, agree with a remark made to me recently. 'The six districts are six watertight compartments; one of them carries the association as far as ringing is concerned and the others exist on the association's large bank balance.' For my part, I am forced to acknowledge the truth of this, and such a state of affairs cannot be good for any organisation, whether an association of change ringers or anything else.

County associations have, for the most part, outlived their usefulness and the time has come when no ringing organisation should extend beyond the confines of its own diocese.—Yours faithfully,

E. BARNETT.

10, King's Close, Crayford, Kent.

BLIND RINGERS

Dear Sir,—I have been very interested in the references to blind ringers, and I would like to mention that in September, 1925, I was spending a week-end at Marden, near Hereford, where there is a lovely ring of six bells, tenor 16½ cwt. We met one short for a quarter-peal when Mr. T. Barnes, the churchwarden, came into the tower leading a blind gentleman and said, 'Albert, here is an old pal of yours. Do you know him now?' To my surprise it was Mr. Owen Lang, who taught me to handle a bell 40 years before when his father was Vicar of Marden.

After a greeting that I expressed regret that he could not take the vacant rope. He replied, 'I think I can. At least I'll try, Albert, for old time's sake. I'll ring the treble.' He did so, and called the touch and struck his bell perfectly. He had gone blind a couple of years previously. After his father's death he left Marden and went to either Croydon or Swindon. No doubt many ringers in those towns have rung with him. I know Mr. E. Morris has.—Yours sincerely,

ALBERT WEAVER.

Penarth, near Cardiff.

APRIL DAY DOUBLES

Dear Sir,—I have been in more than one five-bell belfry of late when disputes have arisen as to the correct way to call April Day Doubles. An old Leicester friend of mine (who ought to know how to conduct almost anything) once described it as Plain Bob with a Grandire single, but this version does not appear to be generally acceptable. The correct calling is 'Bob,' shouted someone at a meeting recently, followed by another voice who said, 'It doesn't matter what you call, bob or single.'

Now, sir, all I know is that one bell at the call makes long thirds, and I have yet to know or hear of any bell making long thirds at a Grandire bob. So which is correct—Bob or Single? P. AMOS.

Northampton.

Funeral of Major J. H. B. Hesse

The funeral service for Major John Harley Bridges Hesse, whose death on October 18th was recorded in our last issue, was held at Wrington Parish Church on October 22nd. The great church was well filled by relatives, friends and villagers, and the coffin was borne by six local ringers. The officiating clergy were the Rev. A. Chetwynd-Talbot (Rector of Wrington) and Preb. A. J. Hook (Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association).

Representative ringers and friends present included Mr. A. A. Hughes (Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. A. H. Pulling (vice-president, Guildford Diocesan Guild), Miss N. G. Williams and Miss Ann Brown (Ladies' Guild), Mr. F. Skidmore (St. Ambrose's, Bristol), Mr. E. F. Hancock (St. Stephen's, Bristol), Messrs. I. W. G. Fulford and E. G. Beynon (Universities' Guild), Mr. Alan R. Macdonald (Salisbury Guild), Messrs. J. T. Dyke, W. Osborn, H. Sauter, A. E. Wall, E. Fisher, E. G. Caple, Dubric Wood, E. Avery, L. Pullin, E. R. Norton, H. A. Price, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Knight, Mrs. S. Gilling and the local band of the Bath and Wells Association. Canon Coleridge was unable to be present.

A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by H. W. Knight, A. H. Pulling, J. T. Dyke and A. A. Hughes, and 1,277 of Grandsire Caters was rung on the half-muffled tower bells by the following local ringers after the ceremony: Mrs. S. Gilling (first quarter) 1, H. H. Yeates 2, T. Ferris 3, W. H. Kingcott 4, T. Brice 5, A. Ferris 6, W. Hobbs 7, H. Vowles 8, H. W. Knight (conductor) 9, B. Chard (first quarter) tenor.

MAJOR HESSE'S PEALS.

Stedman Cinques 32 (including 2 at St. Paul's Cathedral and the 'John' peal); Caters 106 (including a 10,025); Triples 143.

Grandsire Cinques 1, Caters 25, Triples 34, Doubles 2.

Treble Bob Maximus 6, Royal 30, Major 64 (including a 10,432), Minor 1.

Surprise Royal (on treble): Cambridge 3, Yorkshire 2.

Surprise Major (on treble): Cambridge 32, Superlative 14, London 18, Bristol 10, Yorkshire 2, Norfolk 1, Dublin 1.

Plain Bob Maximus 2, Royal 8, Major 59 (including a 10,208).

Forward Royal 2, Major 3.
Canterbury Pleasure Major 1, Duffield Major 1, Oxford Bob Major 1, Oxford Bob Triples 1.
Minor: Grandsire 1, seven methods 3, four methods 3 two methods 1.

Doubles: Five methods 1.
Double Norwich Caters 1, Erin Caters 1, Double Norwich Major 38 (on treble), Grandsire Triples on handbells 3.

Total 655.
This list includes the first peal of Major at Sherborne and the first peal of Surprise at Sherborne.

APPRECIATIONS.

Dear Sir.—By the passing of Major Hesse we, the Wrington ringers, have lost a most true and loyal friend. We have him to thank very largely for the fine peal of bells we have at Wrington, and they were a great joy to him, especially when they were well struck. In fact, they were a great part of his life.

He was always ready to help us in any way that he could, and we shall remember and appreciate his generosity and kindness.

H. W. KNIGHT

(on behalf of the local ringers, Wrington).
The heading of your leader, 'An Ideal Master,' is quite correct and the tributes paid to John H. B. Hesse are indeed worthy of one who did so much for ringers and ringing. In 1901 he introduced himself to me outside a London tower, and said that John Taylor had recommended ringing to him as a splendid art. After the practice he asked if he could come with me to various towers and get plenty of experience. This was the start of a personal

and ringing friendship with one of the true and noble type it was a privilege to call friend. He knew his limitations and would tell them to you quite frankly. Early in 1903 the Rev. F. E. Robinson was going to call his first peal of Stedman, and having heard that the old gent would sometimes 'bark out' at a trip, John Hesse asked me to ring next to him and help him, in order to avoid being 'barked at' during the peal. The following year we took part in a bachelors peal together, a peal which caused many a joke in after years.

We in the Guildford Diocesan Guild found him not only the ideal Master doing his best for all whatever their station in life, but we also found and appreciated that wonderful engineering knowledge which has resulted in many improvements, wherever he was called in to advise. He did not adopt a 'class' attitude in any connection, and though he held a first class season to and from London, he would always come third with me whenever we met on the railway. This and other characteristic actions on his part always tended to show how thoughtful and considerate he was to others; in fact it can be truthfully said he carried out 'service before self.' It can be said of Major Hesse as of Brutus, 'His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world: This was a man.'

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN HENRY ARBON.

The death is reported on October 15th of Mr. John Henry Arbon, of Monewden, at the early age of 41 years. A member of the Helmingham company of ringers, he regularly attended the weekly practices until the ban on ringing. The funeral took place on October 18th at Monewden.

Mr. Arbon had rung 39 peals in the Suffolk Guild, in methods up to and including London Surprise Major, and took part in several Surprise peals at Helmingham, one of them being named, as a compliment to him, after his native place. Until his illness he was secretary of the Framlingham district of the Suffolk Guild. Of an agreeable and willing nature, he will be missed by many.

MISS HELEN W. BILL.

The death has occurred in Norwich of Miss Helen Winifred Bill. This was not entirely unexpected, as she had been ill since she was blitzed out in one of the Baedeker raids on Norwich in 1942. She became progressively worse and passed away peacefully on September 20th.

A funeral service was held at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, the church she had served so faithfully for over 37 years, and on the following Tuesday a peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at St. Peter Mancroft half-muffled to her memory.

Although Miss Bill had not done a great deal of peal ringing of recent years, her name was very well known to both Norfolk and Suffolk ringers, as she was one of the five original lady ringers admitted to the St. Peter Mancroft Guild during the Great War and was the first lady to take part in a course of Grandsire Cinques on the bells.

Her first peal was one of Bob Major at St. John de Sepulchre, Norwich, in August, 1919, and in all she took part in about 21 peals. She also had the honour of having rung at St. Paul's Cathedral.

When the New Eastern District of the Ladies' Guild was formed in 1938 she was elected to the committee and was of great help in starting the new division.

Helen Bill was quiet and unobtrusive; but it is no exaggeration to say that she was one of the nicest and most loyal persons living. She will be greatly missed by all. S.R.E.P.

MR. W. HAMMOND.

A regular ringer at St. Michael's Parish Church, Braintree, for the past 50 years, except for a short period when business took him to the Dunstable district, Mr. Walter Hammond died on October 20th after a long illness, aged 70 years.

He was always very punctual and a most reliable ringer. He preferred to ring the tenor and liked good striking and kept very good time. He was not a prolific peal ringer, but during his career rang several peals up to Cambridge Surprise Major. He was of jovial disposition and was a great asset to the social side, being very fond of tune ringing on handbells. He will be greatly missed by all ringers in the district, among whom he was extremely popular.

On October 23rd, the evening of the funeral, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung with the bells half-muffled at St. Michael's Church, Braintree, in his memory by the following fellow ringers: S. Warne, G. Lindridge, H. Hammond, B. Redgewell, R. Martin, H. Felton, L. Wiffen and A. Wiffen.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

The half-yearly meeting of the association was held at St. John's, Alloa, on October 12th and was attended by 35 members. A feature of the meeting was the ringing of two touches by an all ladies' band, this being the first occasion that the Scottish lady ringers have accomplished this. The service was conducted by Canon Sturrock Clarke (Rector).

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTH-EAST DISTRICT.

A good muster of ringers was present at the meeting of the North-East Division of the Essex Association at Bromley on October 12th. Methods rung included Plain Bob, St. Clement's Double Oxford, Court Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge, London and Yorkshire. The service was conducted by Mr. T. B. Millatt, licensed lay reader.

At the business meeting, presided over by Mr. C. J. Ellis (District Master), a special welcome was extended to Mr. Ronald Bugg, of Thorpe-le-Soken, who had just returned from the Forces. Mrs. J. Thomas, Mr. T. W. Lewis and Mr. A. J. Martin were elected non-resident members. The annual district meeting was fixed for Thorington on January 4th.

A NEW BRANCH OF THE LADIES' GUILD

A South-Eastern Branch of the Ladies' Guild was inaugurated at a meeting at St. Nicholas', Brighton, on October 12th, attended by 25 ladies.

The scheme, as outlined by Mrs. Hairs, is to divide Sussex into four divisions, coinciding with the divisions of the County Association. Each division is to have a member to act as assistant secretary to the branch secretary. Kent is to be covered in a similar manner, the inaugural meeting in that county being suggested to be held in January.

After discussion this scheme was adopted on the proposition of Mrs. Cross, seconded by Miss Colgate. Miss Eva Belcher, a foundation member, was unanimously elected vice-president of the branch and Mrs. Hairs secretary. Assistant secretaries for the four Sussex divisions are Miss Wyman, Mrs. Cross, Mrs. Tamplin and Mrs. Percy, with Miss Colgate for Kent. These will form the committee. Nineteen new members were elected.

It was decided to hold the annual meeting of the branch at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, in April, 1947. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the hon. general secretary (Mr. S. E. Armstrong) of the Sussex County Association for his letter of welcome to the Guild, and also to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Messrs. Bennett and Stalham for having everything in readiness.

Oxford University Society

Evidence of the flourishing state of the society was provided at the general meeting held in Magdalen College on October 15th, when there was an attendance of over 70 people, of whom about 45 were newcomers. There were also present several old members of the society, now back in residence again, notably Messrs. W. F. Moreton, A. E. F. Trotman, M. A. C. Frewer and A. Routh.

The president, the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, was in the chair. After the presentation of the treasurer's and Master's reports, Mr. H. von der Heyde was elected to the treasurer's office, which had fallen vacant on the retirement of Mr. J. J. Bredin for reasons of health. Then followed a talk by the Master (Miss B. Spice) on the origin and development of change ringing, illustrated by handbell ringing. A general discussion followed.

At the first practice, on silent bells in New College tower, there was again a record number of beginners who were also present at the first handbell practice the following Saturday. The society has also been pleased to welcome several new members who can already ring, and altogether it is felt that this should prove to be one of the most successful years on record.

WELLS CATHEDRAL PRACTICES

Dear Sir,—I have been instructed by the members of the Wells Amateur Bellringers Society to write you with reference to the advertisement stating that bellringing practice will take place twice a month at Wells Cathedral, viz., second and fourth Wednesdays in the month. The above society members only practise at St. Cuthbert's Church, usually Thursday evenings, and only during the winter months.

Our members, therefore, would be glad if you would be good enough to discontinue the advertisement relating to practices at Wells Cathedral. I am asked also to say that it is usual for any ringing which takes place at the Cathedral should be arranged through the Dean and Chapter or the secretary of the local society.—I am, yours faithfully,

W. E. STILES, Hon. Sec.

Chaleroft, Wells.

Lois Weedon, Northants, parishioners and ringers are proposing to purchase a chalice and paten as a memorial to Mr. William Hinton, for many years parish clerk and ringer.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

ST. STEPHEN'S, EALING, REVISITED.

The first ringing meeting of the South and West District at St. Stephen's, Ealing, for a considerable time was held on October 19th and proved a great attraction. This beautiful church, with its spire visible for many miles around, and its musical peal of bells, has always been an attraction to ringers, but until recently ringing has been very restricted.

Recently, however, owing to the kindness of the new Vicar (the Rev. H. Claude Harland) and the church authorities, a considerable sum of money has been spent in structural alterations inside the tower. Two heavy floors above the bells have been partly removed, allowing the sound of the bells to escape through the spire louvres, and the tower louvres have been blocked up. The result is very successful, the sound of the bells being much softened nearby, they are heard much further away, and the tone seems to be improved.

About 40 members and friends attended from Cheltenham, Chichester Cathedral, Chiswick, Cranford, Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Hastings, Harrow, Hillingdon (St. John's), Isleworth, Kensington, Kingston-on-Thames, Lowestoft, Northrepps (Norfolk), Norwood Green, Richmond, Ruimsip, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Thames Ditton, Twickenham, Wembley Park and Willesden.

Methods rung, under the supervision of Mr. F. G. Baldwin (Ringing Master), included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich, and Cambridge, Superlative, London and Spliced Surprise Major, with rounds for learners, and continued at intervals from 3.30 p.m. till 8 p.m. Service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar. Tea was provided by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Izzard and the younger members of St. Stephen's band.

Mr. J. E. Lewis Cocke welcomed the association to St. Stephen's. The Vicar, who had to leave early, responded to a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. F. G. Baldwin, who referred to his striking address, which referred to the camaraderie existing amongst ringers. The Vicar also referred to the fact that although he had held livings in various places, he had never before had charge of a peal of bells. When he came to St. Stephen's the bells were silent, and it was not until the Christmas of 1942 that he received a tremendous thrill when he heard them ring out for the first time. Incidentally, it might be mentioned that the

Vicar, whenever his heavy duties permit, visits the ringing chamber on a Sunday and conducts the Belfry Office, as given in the Middlesex County Report, with some added prayers—a practice which might well be followed in other places.

At the subsequent business meeting Mr. W. H. C. Davey presided. At the invitation of St. John's, Hillingdon, the next monthly meeting (joint with the Oxford Guild) was fixed for November 30th. An invitation from the Chiswick band to hold a meeting there in January was also accepted.

The following members were elected: Mr. E. H. Pennington (Chiswick) and Mr. J. Smith (St. Mary's, Ealing), Miss A. M. Izzard (St. Stephen's, Ealing) and three students from the College of St. Mark and St. John, Chelsea—Messrs. K. L. Brown, E. T. Chapman and J. King—the first named being a member of St. Stephen's band—and Miss P. G. Kitchen, of Thames Ditton, and Mr. R. W. Daniel, late of Cheltenham (non-resident life members).

A welcome on his return from the Forces was accorded to Mr. H. G. Andrews, of Kingston, an old Ealing ringer, and good wishes were accorded to the Chiswick and Twickenham bands on their reconstruction. The action of the chairman in insisting that each individual as mentioned should stand up so that 'we could have a look at them' was adopted with applause.

At the suggestion of the chairman, it was proposed by Mr. W. J. Paice, seconded by Mr. G. M. Kilby, and carried, that a special vote of thanks be accorded to the secretary for the work he is doing for the association and especially at St. Stephen's, and that he be requested to record this in the minutes.

On the proposition of Mr. F. G. Baldwin, the best thanks of the association were accorded to the Vicar for the use of the church and bells, and for his address and welcome; to Mr. Davey for playing the organ and for his chairmanship; and to the local company for the arrangements made, especially to Messrs. J. C. Birt and D. K. Judd, and Miss A. M. Izzard for providing the tea.

Progress is reported from Carhampton, Somerset, where the local band rung their first 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. We shall be hearing more of this company: J. Watts 1, R. Young 2, S. Wyburn 3, B. Chubb 4, I. Farmer (conductor) 5, H. W. Lloyd 6.

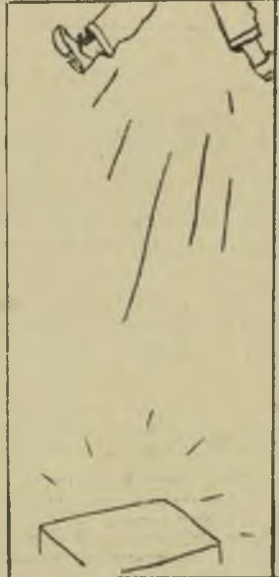
YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION WESTERN DIVISION MEETING AT GUISELEY.

A very successful meeting was held on October 19th, when over 80 members were present from a very wide area. The fine new ring of eight, tenor 162 cwt., was available throughout the day, and everyone expressed the opinion that Gillett and Johnston's had done another very good job. There is no doubt that the new peal will add to the dignity of the ancient Church of St. Oswald, dating back as it does to the early 12th century.

A bounteous tea was served in the British Restaurant and the Guiseley ringers are to be complimented and thanked most heartily for their generous hospitality.

The business meeting was under the chairmanship of the vice-president (Mr. P. J. Johnston), supported by the Rector, who gave a hearty welcome to the association and reminded the assembly that the ringing of church bells was an act of worship and expressed the hope that ringers would always regard it as such.

Mr. C. J. Johnston and Mrs. Johnston were also present, and, in replying to Mr. Barton, who had expressed delight in the work done, Mr. Johnston thanked the members for the complimentary remarks passed on the bells of Guiseley. Seven new members were elected, and the collection to the Belfry Repairs Fund amounted to £2 11s. 6d.



Never try to raise a bell until you're sure it's down!

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is *one penny per word, minimum 2s.* For additional insertions with no change, one half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROP-SHIRE.—William Saunders Memorial Fund.—Will all ringers and friends interested kindly send their donations to Mr. T. J. Belk (Hon. Treasurer), Paradise, Coalbrookdale, or Alfred S. Bayley (Hon. Sec.), 20, Church Road, Coalbrookdale.

SURREY ASSN. (N.-Western District) and **KENT COUNTY ASSN.** (Lewisham District).—Joint meeting, Beckenham, Saturday, Nov. 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea 4.30, followed by service.—D. Cooper and A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Secs.

SHEFFIELD SOCIETY.—Norton (8), Nov. 2nd, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided at the Rectory. Bring food. All welcome.—H. Chaddock, Sec.

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOC.—Snaith (6), Saturday, Nov. 2nd, from 2 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—T. H. Foster.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting at Ryde, Nov. 2nd. Bells from 2.30 p.m.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSN.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Warnham, Nov. 2nd, 3 p.m. Tea. Those requiring tea please advise.—G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Watford District.—Bushey (8), Saturday, Nov. 2nd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—S. Hoare, 56, Acme Road, Watford, Herts.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. (Established 1637).—The next meeting will be held in the Vestry of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, E.C., on Saturday, Nov. 2nd, at 2.30 p.m., by kind permission of the Rev. A. Taylor, M.A. A wreath will be laid at the base of the tower to the memory of Benjamin Annable, Master in 1746. Business meeting at 3.15 p.m. Ringing, St. Botolph's, Bishops-gate, at 5.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Combined practice each

Monday, 7 p.m., commencing Nov. 4th. First, third and fifth Monday: Adderbury, second and fourth in month: Deddington; until further notice.—E. Pearson, Branch Sec.

KENT ASSN.—Tonbridge District.—The monthly practice at Tonbridge will in future be held on the first Wednesday in each month, beginning Wednesday, Nov. 6th.—R. A. Whitehead, Sec.

REPTON, DERBYSHIRE.—Sat., Nov. 9th, at St. Wystan's (8). Open practice 3-6 p.m. All ringers welcome.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Next meeting will be held at Oatlands Park on Saturday, Nov. 9th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Weybridge (8) 6.30 to 8 p.m. Notifications for tea to Mr. R. Lathbury, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames, by Nov. 5th. Nomination of district officers for 1947 at this meeting.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Hadleigh District.—Saturday, Nov. 9th, Hingham (6). Cups of tea provided. Bring own food. Names to me by Nov. 4th.—J. T. Corder, 93, Angel Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk.

NORWICH ASSN.—Meeting of East Norfolk Branch at Acle (6) on Saturday, Nov. 9th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 in Church Room. Bring own food. Cups of tea supplied.—J. Harwood, 189, Palgrave Road, Great Yarmouth.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Quarterly meeting, Nov. 2nd, at Bramshott (6). Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Cups of tea only 5.30, Church Room, Liphook. Business meeting follows.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at St. Peter's, Woolton, Liverpool, Saturday, Nov. 9th. Bells (8) 2.45. Service at 5. Tea provided.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSN.—Cambridge District.—Ickleton (8), Saturday, Nov. 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Bring own food; cups of tea provided at the Caldrees Manor.—H. L. Martin.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Burnley, on Saturday, Nov. 9th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in the tower at 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Ashby Folville, Saturday, Nov. 9th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea only; bring own food.—H. Humphreys.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Practice meeting, Saturday, Nov. 9th, at Broughton-in-Furness. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to F. Langtree, Broughton-in-Furness, by Wednesday, Nov. 6th.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN.—Eastern District.—Meeting at West Hartlepool, St. Oswald's (10), Saturday, Nov. 9th, at 3 p.m. Tea for those notifying Mr. F. Robson, 13, Grainger Street, West Hartlepool, not later than 7th.—Frank Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Grangetown, Sunderland.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Willoughby (6), Saturday, Nov. 9th. Please notify Mr. Geo. Hancock, Willoughby, near Rugby, if tea is required.—Miss H. Smith.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Tewkesbury Branch.—Tewkesbury Abbey (12), Nov. 9th, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30, Willow Cafe. Names by Nov. 5th to E. T. Newbury, Railway Avenue, Beckford, near Tewkesbury.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN.—Saturday, Nov. 9th, St. Mary's, Putney Bridge (8), 3 p.m. Tea, Bishop's Park Pavilion 5 p.m. Business 6 p.m. All Saints', Fulham (10), 7-8 p.m. Names for tea, please.—H. W. Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth.

DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSN.—Chesterfield Branch.—Next meeting, North Wingfield, Nov. 9th. Tea will be provided. Bells ready 3 p.m.—Sam Scattergood, Hon. Sec.

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY.—Middleton-on-Wolds, Nov. 9th.—Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in R.A.O.B. Club to all who notify by Nov. 5th Mr. E. Dooks, Station Road, Middleton-on-Wolds, Driffield.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Leigh (6), Nov. 9th, 3 p.m. Tea at Bat and Ball, 5 p.m. Names by Nov. 6th to Mr. B. Pankhurst, Chestnuts, The Green, Leigh, Kent.—C. A. Bassett.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Swindon Branch.—Lydiard Millicent (6), Nov. 9th. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—W. B. Kynaston.

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOC.—Meeting at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, Nov. 9th, 2.30 p.m. For teas, notify Mr. W. Riley, 12, Woodland Avenue, Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, not later than Nov. 6th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, Nov. 9th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—I. Kay, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Nov. 9th. Bells (10) available from 2.30. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Lois Weedon, Saturday, Nov. 9th. Service 3.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided; please bring food.—The Rev. E. V. Fenn, Hon. Sec., Lois Weedon.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSN.—Frome Branch.—Practice meeting, Chewton Mendip, Saturday, Nov. 16th. Bells (8) 5.30 p.m.—E. H. Nash, The Talbot, Mells.

SHROPSHIRE ASSN.—Wellington (8), Saturday, Nov. 16th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Evening ringing 6.30-8.30. Names for tea to Mr. A. Pritchard, The Glen, Station Road, Hadley, by Tuesday, the 12th.—E. D. Poole.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSN.—Quarterly, Ebbw Vale (8), Nov. 16th, 3 p.m. Service at 4. Business meeting to follow.—F. J. Hanington, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—Quarterly meeting at Drighlington, Leeds, Saturday, Nov. 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (approx. 2s. 6d.) at 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Barron, West House, 40, West Street, Drighlington, before Tuesday, Nov. 19th. All welcome.—E. Dorice Kelly, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—309th anniversary luncheon, Bridge House Hotel, Saturday, Nov. 23rd, at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 7s. 6d. each.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Saturday, Dec. 14th, 3 p.m. Deddington (8), tenor 17 cwt. The Lord Bishop of Oxford will dedi-

cate two new treble bells (Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, hung by Messrs. R. White and Son). All welcome. Tea 4 p.m. for those who notify E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury, before Dec. 10th.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Ivan Kay, 69, Fir Tree Lane, Bardsley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION

NEW MASTER OF SOUTHERN BRANCH.
At the annual meeting of the Southern Branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, held at Badsey on October 19th, Mr. Frank Jones, of Badsey, was elected Ringing Master in succession to Mr. J. C. Perkins, who did not seek re-election. Mr. W. J. Newman was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Mr. Bob Geden appointed to the Central Committee in place of Mr. James Henning, who expressed a desire to see the branch represented by younger men.

Mr. Henning's 35 years' service to the branch was recalled amid the applause of the members. He was secretary and treasurer from the commencement of the branch in February, 1911, until his resignation in 1936, when he was elected to the Central Committee. Elections were as follows: Messrs. Austin (hon. member), W. Busby, Frank Spiers and Fred Spiers, of Bidford (performing members). The Rev. G. J. Jefferies presided, and Pershore was selected for the spring meeting.

Ringers attended from Evesham, Bretforton, Bidford, Mickleton, Bredons Norton, Willersey, Eckington, Hampton, Hinton-on-the-Green, Beckford, Gloucester and the local ringers. After shortened evening song, conducted by the Vicar, a splendid tea, provided by the local band and their friends, was served in the Village Hall.

RINGER FOR 76 YEARS

Mr. J. W. Wilkins, of 80, Whiteands Road, High Wycombe, has been a church bellringer for 76 years. In a brief memoir he recalls All Saints' Church, Maidenhead, being built in 1864 by R. Silver and Sons to designs by Mr. Street, R.A., and a peal of bells by John Warner and Sons placed in the tower. A few years later the tower was destroyed by fire.

A second peal was supplied by Warner's and this event was accompanied by an accident. Mr. Henry Boswell, Warner's chief man, had the tenor 17½ cwt. up ready for placing when the pulley block broke and the bell crashed down 40ft. to the pavement below. In its passage it passed through a circular opening in the floor of the ringing chamber, which was only ½ inch wider than the bell itself. The bell was dug out uninjured and hung.

'I was a chorister at 7 and a ringer at 10 at Boyne Hill, where I rang for nearly 30 years. In 1900 I moved to High Wycombe and joined the belfry and still ring. I joined the Oxford Diocesan Guild in 1881 and acted as instructor to ringers at 10 towers. My membership of the College Youths dates from 1879. I have rung about 400 peals in some 260 towers situated in 18 different counties. I remember particularly my first peal of Double Norwich at Caversham, which ended at 10 p.m. Afterwards I walked the 12 miles home!'

OFFICERS' PEAL TABLET

Exception is taken in a letter to the Editor by Mr. Ernest H. Rayner, of Thornbury, Bradford, to the decision of the Yorkshire Association to place a peal board in All Saints', Ilkley, commemorating the officers' peal of the Yorkshire Association in November, 1945. His point is that boards in ringing chambers should be confined to commemorating the achievements of Sunday service ringers and those connected with the tower in question.

Bob Caters at Ipswich

By way of a change from the usual routine or as a novelty, the Suffolk Guild rang a peal of Bob Caters at Ipswich on October 19th. This peal was almost faultlessly struck throughout and the ringers were all charmed by the good music produced.

Probably some persons may criticise this manner of ringing Plain Bob on odd number of bells owing to four blows behind, but there are precedents of four blows in 4ths at a bob in Kent Treble Bob, also four blows in 3rds at a single in Graudsire.

At Leeds, Kent, 6,480 Bob Caters were rung on November 2nd, 1751, and the same number at Maidstone on December 30th, 1786, in 4 hours and 22 minutes. The Ipswich peal had two preliminary courses, then nine courses in the titbits, followed by 24 courses in the plain course position, with the sixth at home in the whole 35 courses. Appended is the composition:—

5,040 BOB CATERS.

By George E. Symonds, Ipswich.

23456789	1	4	8
45236897	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—
52436978	—	3	—
35426	—	3	—
23456	—	3	—
45236789	—	—	—
24536	3	—	—
52436	3	—	—
42356	2	—	—
43256	3	6	—

Repeat the last 12 courses, omitting bob at 4.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

NEGLECTED BELL ROPES.

The meeting on October 26th was held at two towers owing to local circumstances. The afternoon was spent at Holbeck, and after tea the ringers journeyed to Hunslet, where Mr. Cole had everything in readiness, but, alas, owing to the fact that the bells had not been rung for some considerable time, the ropes were not equal to the strain and the fourth rope broke during the first touch. While this was being spliced endeavours to find a reasonable peal of eight from the 56 handbells in the tower were made, and a course of Bob Major was rung. The Vicar (the Rev. W. Hammerton) and his wife were interested visitors.

The business meeting was held in the Hunslet tower, the president (Mr. J. McGlenn) presiding, and members were present from Armley, Drighlington, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge, Rothwell, Woodlesford and the local company.

A vote of thanks to the Vicars and churchwardens of Holbeck and Hunslet was proposed by Mr. J. McGlenn and seconded by Mr. W. Dixon. A further vote of thanks to Mr. Teale, of Holbeck, and Mr. A. Cole, of Hunslet, for their endeavours in making the meeting enjoyable was proposed by Mr. Lofthouse and seconded by Mr. S. Barron.

The next meeting is due to be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on November 30th.

LEGACY FOR PETERBOROUGH RINGERS

In his £14,579 will, Mr. Edward Swallow, of Flamborough, Yorks, left £20 to St. John the Baptist Church, Peterborough, for the better furnishing of the ringers' chamber in the belfry, 'for the greater comfort and convenience of the bellringers and their visitors.'

He also left income from £120 to be paid annually on Christmas Day to regular bellringers 'in recognition of their loyalty when the bells were not in full ringing order.'

QUARTER PEALS

WRAYSBURY, BUCKS.—On September 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Brants 1, T. Bates 2, W. H. Brants 3, C. Heskins 4, E. Beach 5, R. Franklin 6, W. Welling (conductor) 7, W. Brants 8. First quarter for ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 5.

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