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A RINGER AND HIS OBLIGATIONS

RINGERS, generally, are very fond of reminiscing, to the obvious delight of their fellows and of the younger element, who thereby learn much of the celebrities of one and two generations before theirs. How often, one wonders, do they return to the time of their very earliest struggles and experiences in acquiring some degree of proficiency as bell-ringers? A few minutes' serious reflection will certainly underline their debt to many individual ringers and towers.

The writer well remembers the circumstances that led to his introduction to the belfry, and the unflagging zeal and patience of his instructor, who was creating almost an entirely new band of teenagers. To have become one of the drifters would have been a personal affront and the height of ingratitude. Instead the writer has experienced over twenty years of immeasurable pleasure and owes an eternal debt to one man's enthusiasm. Can that debt ever be repaid?

Just as parents have a duty to provide for their children as their own parents made sacrifices for them, so a ringer owes it to his pursuit to sacrifice his time, money and effort to the generation of ringers which must succeed him if the art is to survive. In this way he can meet his obligations: but the recruitment and encouragement of young ringers is not his only obligation. He has a duty to his Church, to his belfry, to the public, to his Guild or Association, and to the Exercise at large.

His own progress was probably by way of an instructor who insisted on the best and, in doing so, no doubt spoke severely to him and all whose bell was not in its exact place. He had to learn that only the best will be accepted, and to take correction in the right spirit. There exist to-day far too many ringers, old enough to know better, who bitterly resent being spoken to, even by people whom they have themselves set in authority over them, and display the most obvious signs of bad temper and bad taste. Unless a ringer can curb such a habit, no hope of eliminating it is possible, as a young ringer witnesses it, tries it on eventually and a bad tradition is continued instead of being eradicated. One of our obligations to our belfry is to accept its discipline gracefully.

Peal ringing is a very controversial issue, but there is little doubt that the polished ringers acquired their finesse by participating in peals with other skilled performers. It is, therefore, clearly their duty to lend their skills to enable

other promising beginners to reach the same standard of proficiency. One doubts whether the prolific peal ringers are in this respect really pulling their weight. The methods rung are beyond the capabilities of the keenest learner, and the colossal annual total of peals rung suggests personal self-satisfaction and kudos are of more importance than the future well-being of the Exercise. The conductor who rings ten or a dozen peals a year mainly of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major or a few simple Minor methods, with numerous 'firsts' always included, is making a worthy contribution to the future and humbly accepting his responsibilities — and his pride is of the proper kind, in witnessing the success of *others*! He would also be a ringer who is always in his belfry on practice night.

Ringing, like everything else, will not stagnate. Either it progresses or retrogresses, and the only means of ensuring its advancement is by regular and assiduous practice. A ringer's duty is to be in his tower every practice night, and to be there *punctually*. The beginner has the obligation to learn and the old hand to teach, and he who despises participating in elementary methods or in bad ringing to help a struggling band should be reminded that he had to learn once when others rang humble methods for his benefit, and asked whether he has come only to get and not to give! These may be strong words, but there is no place for selfishness in the belfry on practice night—or at ringing meetings.

The ringer also has a duty to his public. We recognise that to an outsider a peal is a quite unreasonable performance. Let us not further alienate the public by ringing at unreasonable hours, by permitting more than a minimum of jangled bells, and by our conduct when we fraternise outside the tower. If we keep people properly informed of our reasons for ringing, particularly on special occasions, they will then be more understanding and, therefore, more tolerant.

We have a duty to our Guild or Association: to attend its meetings (again to help novices as well as to advance our own standards), to help its prestige by taking part in peals under its auspices, and by not embarrassing the officials by presenting ourselves for tea without having ordered it! In all the Association rules the writer has seen there is the object of 'promoting the art of change ringing,' but peal ringing is never mentioned as an object: which suggests it is not of supreme importance but only incidental.

A ringer has a duty to the Exercise at large. He should buy 'The Ringing World' to keep abreast of opinion and

developments all over the world, and to be in touch with the work of his national body, the Central Council. It is also his duty to frustrate all attempts to destroy his art by the installation of electronic and mechanical devices, and to deal diplomatically with non-ringing contacts who may be critical, or genuinely curious, regarding bells and ringers.

Finally, there is the obligation of a ringer to his Church. His first duty is to worship God. He should be regular in his public worship and encourage his colleagues to be likewise. He should consider very seriously how much he spends on his ringing for pleasure (travelling, postage, refreshment, literature, etc.) compared with what he contributes to his Church during the year. Perhaps he might make a Lenten resolution about this. Too many ringers complain that they are the 'backroom boys,' that the clergy and churchpeople have little or no interest in them. Is the fault all on one side? The writer knows of one old ringer (now deceased) who, when challenged by his Rector on his non-churchgoing, retorted, 'How long have you been Rector?' 'Oh, nine years.' 'And how many times have you been up to the belfry in those nine years?' 'Um . . . I don't know.' 'Well,' rejoined the ringer, 'you've been twice! But I've been into church more than twice in nine years! And when the east end of the church takes more interest in the west end, then the west end will take more interest in the east end'—an able reply.

But might not that old man have been wrong? Perhaps, had the west end taken more interest in the east end, the east end might have taken more interest in the west end. Ringers should not be content to remain the 'back-room boys.' They should come out into the open and identify themselves with the life of their Church, and they would soon discover that they would be better understood and more appreciated and given every encouragement.

W. BIRMINGHAM.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 36 cwt. in C sharp.

HENRY O. BAKER Treble	JOHN E. BIBBY 7
MURIEL REAY 2	SIDNEY T. HOLT 8
FRED DUNKERLEY 3	EDWARD JENKINS 9
BASIL JONES 4	JOHN WORTH 10
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 11
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING 6	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
Rung in honour of the bicentenary of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.

TEN BELL PEALS

SOUTHAMPTON, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5000 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

No. 3 version.	Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.
*PETER NASH Treble	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 6
REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD 2	*J. MICHAEL LAKIN 7
NELIA M. LEAHY 3	MAURICE J. BUTLER 8
†BERYL R. PITTAWAY 4	†FREDERICK W. ROGERS 9
*MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.
* First peal of London Royal. † First peal of London. ‡ 600th peal.

WILLENHALL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 16½ cwt.	
*GEORGE L. ROOBOTTOM .. Treble	†DOROTHY T. GARDINER .. 6
GEORGE W. HUGHES .. 2	HOWARD HOWELL .. 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 3	ERNEST STITCH .. 8
HERBERT KNIGHT .. 4	FREDERICK G. HANDLEY .. 9
ALAN G. FOSTER .. 5	BARNABAS G. KEY .. Tenor

Composed by C. WALLATER.
* First peal of Royal. † First of Royal on tower bells. First of Royal as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HAWLEY, HANTS.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5152 WINCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

PETER NASH Treble	J. MICHAEL LAKIN 5
NELIA M. LEAHY 2	JACK A. C. KING 6
JESSIE M. KIPPIN 3	MAURICE J. BUTLER 7
*GEOFFREY K. DODD 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method by the Guild and upon the bells.

WEST HALLAM, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID.

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

*VIVIENNE HORTON .. Treble	ELISABETH GRIME 5
E. FRED GOBEY 2	DEREK P. JONES 6
WILFRID ROBINSON 3	*DAVID K. WALKLATE .. 7
*ALAN G. FOSTER 4	*†SAMPSON WALKLATE .. Tenor

Composed by J. THORP.
* First peal Kent Treble Bob Major. † 25th peal.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Michael Manning.

LONGSTANTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Feb. 25, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Being 1,536 of Yorkshire, 2,208 of Cambridge and 1,344 of Superlative with 132 changes of method.	Tenor 7½ cwt.
GEORGE E. CRISP .. Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 5
GEORGE W. MASSEY .. 2	CYRIL A. HURST .. 6
*JOHN G. GIPSON 3	C. M. P. JOHNSON .. 7
WILLIAM T. COOK 4	*WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.
* 50th peal together. First peal of Spliced Surprise Major by all the band and for the Association.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Feb. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).	Tenor 28 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb.
*PETER EVANSON .. Treble	ALAN G. FOSTER 5
GEORGE L. ROOBOTTOM .. 2	DOROTHY T. GARDINER .. 6
VIVIENNE M. HORTON .. 3	BARNABAS G. KEY 7
DAVID K. WALKLATE .. 4	GORDON HARRISON .. Tenor

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

* First peal. Rung half muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. William Leach, father of W. J. Leach, Secretary of St. Paul's Society of Change Ringers, who died on February 21st.

ECCLESFIELD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Sheffield & District Society.)
On Sat., Feb. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.	
*PETER KETTERIDGE .. Treble	IAN HOLLAND 5
BARRY HOLLAND 2	†NORMAN CHADDOCK .. 6
JOHN S. SEAGER 3	GORDON K. CHADDOCK .. 7
SAM SCATTERGOOD 4	†HERBERT O. CHADDOCK .. Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.
* First peal. † 50th peal together.

HERSHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. in G sharp.

*MONICA E. COLLINS Treble	E. JOHN WELLS 5
HERBERT COLCOMBE 2	JAMES F. DODSON 6
*SHELAGH R. COLLINS 3	ROLAND W. MORANT 7
*MARGARET M. LEWIS 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Double Norwich Court Bob.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5184 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

ERNEST MORRIS Treble	JOHN M. JELLEY 5
MRS. B. G. WARWICK 2	BRIAN G. WARWICK 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
*BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 4	HAROLD J. POOLE Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major 'inside.'

A 75th birthday compliment to John Grant, member of Leicester Cathedral band.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Mar. 2, 1955, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 LYME SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt.

HARRY BAKER Treble	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD 5
GEOFFREY PEARSON 2	MARK W. MARSHALL 6
JOHN R. COOPER 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD 7
THOMAS E. SONE 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH Tenor

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

First peal in the method by all except the tenor ringer and the first in the method for the Association.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUDBURY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER Tenor	ALICK CUTLER 5
ALFRED J. HOUSE 2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL 6
JOHN R. MAYNE 3	THOMAS J. LOCK 7
MRS. T. J. LOCK 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

The first peal in the method.

EARLS COLNE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 FEERING SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 14 lb. in F.

ALAN R. SYDER Treble	TERRY EARLE 5
FRANK CLAYDON 2	JOHN WARNER 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 3	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 7
RONALD SUCKLING 4	WALTER ARNOLD Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HILDA G. SNOWDEN.

First peal in the method.

Rung to the memory of William Keeble, composer of this method.

FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF 5056 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. in F sharp.

ELSIE K. FULTON Treble	*PETER D. BEEDIE 5
*PHYLLIS M. MAYNE 2	*HARRY POYNER 6
*DAVID J. TAYLOR 3	*J. ALAN AINSWORTH 7
H. GEORGE HART 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

* First peal in the method.

GEORGEHAM, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).

Tenor 13 cwt.

DAVID YEO Treble	FRED YEO 5
BEATRICE M. BOYLE 2	NORMAN MALLETT 6
MARIELLA E. MUNDY 3	DAVID BEACHAM 7
D. KENVYN WALTERS 4	ARTHUR SMALLRIDGE Tenor

Conducted by DAVID BEACHAM.

The first peal on the bells.

Rung with the best wishes of the band to Norman Mallett and Mariella Mundy on their engagement.

HERSHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8½ cwt. in G sharp.

ROLAND W. MORANT Treble	DUGALD MACPHERSON 5
E. JOHN WELLS 2	ALAN E. HARTLEY 6
MONICA E. COLLINS 3	G. KENNETH WILLIAMSON 7
ANN M. COX 4	*ROY COLLINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

* 25th peal.

Rung for the wedding of Judy Dodson and Alan Kingston.

LISKEARD, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

In six parts.

Tenor 19 cwt.

*DAVID N. PENROSE Treble	HARRY HARPER 5
V. MARY MATTHEWS 2	CLEMENT W. JOSE 6
DOUGLAS BURNETT 3	*ALAN CARVETH 7
†A. HUBERT EPLETT 4	ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD.

* First peal of Bob Major. † 25th peal together. First peal of Major as conductor.

A compliment to Alan Carveth and Douglas Burnett on being elected President and Ringing Master, respectively, of the Truro Diocesan Guild.

Rung also for the birth of James Warwick Gavin Parsons, first grandson of Canon J. H. Parsons, vicar of Liskeard.

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5440 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

GEORGE SAYER Treble	JAMES B. MORLEY 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	ROBERT C. GUNTON 6
STANLEY W. COPLING 3	GODFREY G. WALPOLE 7
JAMES W. FORDER 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT Tenor

Composed by CHARLES MIDDLETON. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Rung on the centenary of the first peal of Major at this tower, the same composition being used.

An 83rd birthday compliment to Mr. Ronald E. Browne, churchwarden.



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NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

*ANNE P. BROWN Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
*GRAEME A. HUGHES 2	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER 6
ALAN A. POTTS 3	ALAN J. BROWN 7
JAMES FERNLEY 4	PETER LAFLIN Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS.

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal in the method.

A birthday compliment to the mother of the ringer of the second.

RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation.	Tenor 15 cwt. in F sharp.
*WILLIAM L. EXTON Treble	W. NEVILLE BROWN 5
CLARENCE F. BRIGGS 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	*F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER.. 7
FREDERICK PICKARD 4	CHARLES J. COPP Tenor

Conducted by J. FREDERICK MILNER.

* First peal of Stedman Triples.

A 'welcome home' to Mrs. W. Bateman, of Southwell, niece of the ringer of 2nd, upon her return to England from South Africa.

ROTHWELL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Leeds & District Society.)

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 21 lb.

*SHEILA M. SCHOFIELD .. Treble	GEORGE W. STEEL 5
ARTHUR G. WOOD 2	THOMAS W. STRANGWAY .. 6
GEORGE WARD 3	LEONARD DRAKE 7
PETER WOODWARD 4	PERCY MASSAM Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by THOS. W. STRANGWAY.

* First peal and first attempt.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

Parker's Ten-part No. 1.	Tenor 14 cwt. 3 lb.
*GEORGE FRY Treble	CHARLES A. BASSETT 5
ERNEST J. LADD 2	*KEVIN S. HOHL 6
BERNARD V. COLLISON .. 3	*ROBERT COLLINS 7
*THOMAS E. SONE 4	*DORIS E. COLGATE Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.

* First peal in the method.

The tenor ringer has 'completed the circle' in this tower.

SIX BELL PEALS

STITHIANS, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Feb. 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STYTHIAN.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 34 six-scores and four 240's.	Tenor 9 cwt.
*PAUL HARDING Treble	FREDERICK ROBERTS 4
DOUGLAS BURNETT 2	VYVIAN WILLIAM 5
†ANTHONY LOCKE 3	CLEMENT W. JOSE Tenor

Conducted by VYVIAN WILLIAM.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal 'inside.'

ELING, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, viz., London and Cambridge Surprise, Double Court and Double Oxford, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob.	Tenor 12 cwt.
PETER NASH Treble	*MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 4
*BERYL R. PITTAWAY 2	MAURICE J. BUTLER 5
NELIA M. LEAHY 3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal in seven methods.

First seven method peal on the bells.

CUCKNEY, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Mar. 4, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.	Tenor 10½ cwt.
ARNOLD HILL Treble	GEORGE CHALLANS 4
HERBERT T. ROOKE 2	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 5
*GEOFFREY SIMONS 3	A. BENJAMIN COOPER .. Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

* First peal at first attempt.

FORDHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 4, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.	Tenor 17½ cwt.
*MICHAEL FINCH Treble	ROLAND MORLEY 4
†ROGER PALMER 2	†JIM MORLEY 5
RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

* First peal † First peal of Minor.

BRAMHAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 720 each of St. Martin's, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Colum, Old Doubles, Plain Bob, April Day and Grandsire.
Tenor 18 cwt.

*ALAN THORNTON Treble	D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 4
*DOUGLAS RUCKLEDGE .. 2	ALAN SHEPPARD 5
EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 3	JOHN POTTS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN SHEPPARD.

* First peal.

A birthday compliment to the wife of the conductor; rung also to welcome a son and heir to the vicar of Bramham, Rev. F. Mitchell, and his wife

All are Sunday Service ringers at All Saints', Sherburn-in-Elmet.

BRIGHTWELL BALDWIN, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising one extent of Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob, and four extents of Plain Bob.	Tenor 9 cwt. 7 lb.
*ARTHUR J. WHITE Treble	HARRY P. FLOYD 4
HARRY W. BADGER 2	*BERNARD C. COLLINS .. 5
DOUGLAS O. WILKS 3	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

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

Rung on the occasion of the institution and induction of the Rev. G. H. Weymont to this benefice.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents.	Tenor 10 cwt.
DAVID VOKES Treble	HENRY TOOKE 4
WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. 2	JOHN R. SMITH 5
FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. 3	C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. SMITH.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son (Stephen Thomas) to John R. and Elizabeth Smith.

COGENHOE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.	Tenor 8½ cwt.
*RONALD DANIELS Treble	†REX LINE 4
†IVOR J. DICKIN 2	GEORGE F. ROOME 5
†KENNETH D. PERKINS .. 3	†ALAN C. COZENS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. ROOME.

* First peal. † 25th peal together. ‡ First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

FRAMPTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD
(Eastern Branch.)

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPICED SURPRISE MINOR

Being 1,440 Carlisle, Northumberland, Sandiacre, Wooler, Whitley, Alnwick, Newcastle, Morpeth, Canterbury, Munden and Chester, and extents of (1) Horton, Hanley, Milton, Cheddleton, Allendale and Westminster; (2) Wearmouth, Rossendale, Lightfoot, Annable's London, Stamford and Netherseale; (3) Beverley, Hexham, Surfleet, Durham, York and Berwick; (4) London, Wells and Cunecastre; (5) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Primrose and Bourne, with 130 changes of method. Tenor 13 cwt.

PHILIP H. REYNOLDS .. Treble	*ALBERT E. FLATTERS .. 4
RHODA BROWN 2	JOHN R. KEMP 5
ARTHUR YOUNG 3	*JOHN R. YOUNG Tenor

Conducted by RHODA BROWN.

* 50th peal together. First peal in 38 Surprise methods by all the band, for the Guild and in the country. The most Surprise methods to be rung in a peal.

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of St. Clement's College Bob and two 720's each of Kent, Oxford T.B. and Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

KATHERINE BURCHNALL .. Treble	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 4
*ALEX WILSON 2	GEORGE CHALLANS 5
GRACE BURCHNALL 3	HAROLD DENMAN Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

* First peal in four methods.

The conductor has now 'circled the tower.'

HARTFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of one extent of Cambridge Surprise, and two extents each of Kent, Oxford T.B. and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

VICTOR NEAL Treble	HENRY PARKER 4
DAVID GODFREY 2	DAVID SMITH 5
ERIC HORNBY 3	HARRY W. HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

Rung as birthday compliments to the son of the ringer of the 4th, E. Hornby, A. G. Lawrence and the conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS

DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1955, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes.

AT 105, DONCASTER LANE, WOODLANDS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 57 methods: (1) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV, Willesden, Charlwood, Neasden, St. Alban's, Wragby, Clarence, Elston, Humber, Taxal, Marple and Braintree Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob; (2) Oxford, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Chapel, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury and Ockley Treble Bob and Carisbrooke, Donottar, Wath and Pontefract Delight; (3) Plain, Double, Reverse, Canterbury, Fulbeck, Double, Oxford, Thelwall, London, Lytham, St. Clement's, Childwall, College, Wavertree College, Windermere, Frodsham, Horsmonden, Killarney, Cumberland and Ennerdale; (4) Walsingham, Cromer, Olney, Tibenham, Lammas, Steventon, Fulmer and Chalfont Alliance and Little Bob; (5) Kent Treble Bob; (6) and (7) Plain Bob. Tenor size 13 in E.

HOWARD SCOTT 1-2	WILFRID F. MORETON 3-4
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY 5-6	

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

The greatest number of methods in a peal by all and for the Association.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sun., Mar. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

IN BULL HOSTEL, ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 18 in G.

*J. H. FIELDEN (St. Cath's) 1-2	†B. D. THRELFALL (Trinity) 5-6
P. K. WILLIAMSON (Trinity) 3-4	†W. T. COOK (Jesus) 7-8

B. J. STAFFORD (Queens) .. 9-10

Composed by E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath's).

Conducted by B. D. THRELFALL.

* First peal of Royal 'in hand.' † First peal of Royal.



**GILLETT
AND
JOHNSTON
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No matter in which corner of the country you happen to be, as likely as not you will come across Gillett & Johnston bells or tower clocks. Gillett & Johnston craftsmanship is embodied in an all-embracing service — as much in the preservation and restoration of old rings of antiquarian interest as in the installation of new.

**BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS**

CROYDON



QUARTER PEALS

ABINGDON, BERKS.—At St. Nicholas' Church, on Mar. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: A. E. Lock 1, M. Angela Carter 2, J. W. Berry 3, Mrs. A. E. Lock 4, Janet E. Dicks (cond.) 5, W. H. Holfield 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Miss Agnes C. Baker, B.A., and Mrs. Edith M. Franklin.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: June Grieveon 1, Diana M. Gough 2, Mary W. Brown (cond.) 3, Pamela Law 4, Derek H. Paine 5, Beryl Reynolds 6. Rung as a compliment to Mr. A. Cherryman for his 80th birthday.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8 covering: J. Haynes (first away from oover bell) 1, Kathleen Beasley 2, J. T. Symonds 3, P. Jackson (first 'inside') 4, D. A. Astridge (cond.) 5, E. A. Lewis 6, H. H. Haynes 7, Dorena Rowe 8.

BONVILSTON, GLAM.—On Mar. 3rd, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: E. Carter 1, S. Lunn 2, E. Morgan 3, H. Blick 4, R. E. Coles (cond.) 5, I. Davies 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam the Rev. Gilbert Thomas, who was the Vicar of Bonvilston for 39 years, and was buried there this day.

BOXLEY, KENT.—On Mar. 5th, 720 Single Oxford and 540 Plain Bob Minor: F. Tomlin 1, L. Mannering 2, S. A. Hayzelden 3, W. R. Manser 4, E. S. J. Hatcher 5, R. L. Sills (cond.) 6. Rung to celebrate the completion by Mr. W. C. Gosling of 50 years' membership of the Kent County Association, and 30 years' captaincy of the Boxley band of ringers.

BROCKDISH, NORFOLK.—On Mar. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Chilvers 1, F. J. Bhrllingham 2, Betty Syrett 3, H. Moss 4, E. A. Chilvers 5, J. B. Morley (cond.) 6. First quarter for 2 and 5.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.—On Mar. 1st, 1,440 Minor (720 Kent, 720 Plain Bob): D. Nicholls 1, D. Vokes 2, W. G. Saunders 3, R. Burt 4, C. Browne 5, F. Phillippo (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, president of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. Freeman 1, D. Sims 2, E. Deacon 3, G. M. Rouse 4, S. W. Bignmore 5, K. Everett (cond.) 6. Rung for morning service.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—At the Church of St. Dunstan, on Mar. 3rd, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: J. Stockbridge 1, Mrs. D. Chatfield 2, Mrs. G. Stockbridge 3, A. Butler 4, D. Chatfield (cond.) 5, R. Divers 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Canon S. L. Ewell, for 38 years a missionary in the Sudan, and one time a ringer at this church.

CROYDON, SURREY.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, on Mar. 6th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. H. E. Oatway 1, Pamela Steere 2, C. Parks 3, L. Brown (first quarter of Stedman) 4, E. W. Razzell 5, W. F. Oatway 6, R. Davies (cond.) 7, F. E. Mitchell 8.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—On Mar. 6th, 1,280 Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major (Killamarsh variation): L. S. Woods 1, A. C. Chaplin 2, Mrs. R. L. Armstrong 3, I. Campbell 4, F. R. Schofield 5, J. R. Fleetwood 6, N. J. Fleetwood 7, J. Armstrong (cond.) 8. First of combined Treble Bob for 3, 5, 6 and 7. Rung for the birthdays of Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong.

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.—At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, on Mar. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: D. R. Airey 1, E. Burnett 2, R. Busby 3, Miss D. M. Killingley 4, D. Robinson 5, T. Hill 6, M. Stewart 7, T. Cooke (cond.) 8. First quarter of Plain Bob Major for 4, 5 and 7. Rung for Confirmation service.

DERBY.—At the Cathedral, on Mar. 6th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: P. J. Skinner 1, G. Halls (cond.) 2, J. Stennitt 3, J. Constant 4, D. P. Jones 5, A. E. Thompson 6, Alan Taylor 7, H. Taylor 8, Albert Taylor cover bell. Rung for Evensong.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Feb. 26th, 1,279 Stedman Caters: H. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, J. Waters 3, H. Belcher 4, W. Langdon 5, A. Peck 6, W. Rawlings 7, R. Deal 8, J. Phillips (cond.) 9, J. Allsop 10.

HALKYN, FLINTSHIRE.—On Feb. 26th, 2,160 Plain Bob Minor: S. Williams 1, L. S. Griffiths 2, P. Handley 3, J. P. Griffiths 4, L. J. Evans 5, A. J. Salisbury (cond.) 6. Also 420 each of April Day. Plain Bob and Grand-sire Doubles.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—On Mar. 3rd, 1,260 Doubles (120 each of April Day, Norfolk, Old, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Clifford Pleasure, Southrepp, Grand-sire, 180 of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 240 Plain Bob; 10 changes of method): J. Cruickshank 1, R. Trebilcock 2, J. Hadfield 3, V. Green 4, T. Smith (cond.) 5, R. Gallop 6. Rung to welcome home to the Vicarage the Vicar (the Rev. G. E. Day) from hospital.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On Mar. 6th, 1,560 North-repps Doubles: Laura M. Becey 1, Kathleen Yeo 2, G. Becey 3, F. Becey 4, F. H. Hicks (cond.) 5, A. Ellis 6. First in method by all the band.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On Mar. 2nd, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Papworth 1, R. Pye 2, Miss W. Elliott 3, C. Button 4, C. Burton (cond.) 5, A. R. Elliott 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam H. P. Child's, J.P., who was interred this day.

LEICESTER.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: P. Kirk (first quarter) 1, E. Morris 2, Barbara Endall 3, T. H. Bent 4, W. Tanser 5, C. P. Walker (cond.) 6, E. J. Clements 7, J. Bramley 8. For evening service.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS.—On Feb. 25th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: F. W. Midwinter 1, M. W. Lewis (first 'inside') 2, W. L. Exton 3, S. L. Barley 4, C. J. Copp 5, F. G. Hooper (cond.) 6. Also on Mar. 4th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: M. W. Lewis 1, F. G. Hooper 2, D. Simpson 3, W. A. Muddell 4, S. L. Barley (cond.) 5, F. W. Midwinter 6.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On Mar. 2nd, 1,320 Grand-sire Doubles: Isobel Inman (first quarter) 1, Margaret E. L. Beamish (first of Grand-sire Doubles) 2, J. Knight (first of Grand-sire Doubles) 3, R. E. Finch 4, D. C. Jackson (cond.) 5, P. W. M. Jones (first quarter) 6. First quarter peal by Southampton University Ringing Society.

NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.—On Mar. 1st, 1,440 Surprise Minor (360 each of London, Ipswich, Norwich and Cambridge): A. Walpole 1, J. W. Forder 2, F. Gunton 3, G. Walpole (cond.) 4, E. Long 5, D. Long 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam the Rev. A. St. John Heard.

ROMSEY ABBEY, HANTS.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Miss A. Knight 1, C. Herbert 2, J. Page 3, M. Northway 4, D. Greenlaw 5, K. Jacobs 6, C. T. Drew (cond.) 7, J. Salvi 8.

RUDDINGTON, NOTTS.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: R. A. Bartlam 1, J. Butler 2, Miss M. Hill 3, A. S. Colton 4, J. W. Horspool 5, S. Adams (cond.) 6, M. Colton 7. Ringers 5 and 7 covering. To the honour and glory of God, and for service, by the regular Sunday morning band.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—Anon. 10s., M. F. 2s., J. H. H. 5s., F. W. R. 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Liskeard 4s., Loddon 6s., Georgeham 4s., Ratcliffe-on-Trent 4s., Bramham 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Silsoe 2s. 6d., Bonvilston 3s., North Stoneham 4s. 6d., Ashtead 5s., Watford 4s., Croydon 4s., Sowton 2s., Canterbury 3s., Leicester 2s., Ruddington 2s. 6d., Steep 3s. 6d., Stafford 2s. 6d., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s.

Durham and Newcastle Association

The 12th century Church of St. Michael, Heighington, with its three pre-Reformation bells, a tenor of 16 cwt. and a very long draught of ropes, was visited by 20 ringers from a wide area at the meeting of the Southern District held on March 5th. Methods rung ranged from Doubles to Surprise Major.

After tea in a local inn, at the business meeting, Mr. Kenneth Arthur thanked the Vicar (the Rev. A. J. Meek) for the use of the bells and for conducting the service. Coupled with the thanks, he also mentioned the Vicar's warden, who played the organ and also joined in the ringing. F. W. C.

SALFORD, LANCs.—At the Church of the Sacred Trinity, on Mar. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Anne Muirhead 1, W. A. Cooper 2, E. Margaret Mitchell 3, P. E. Parry 4, R. G. Turner (cond.) 5, L. Bournemouth 6. A 21st birthday compliment to Brian A. Tomlinson, ringing master of the Manchester University Guild of Change Ringers.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKS.—On Feb. 20th, 1,260 Doubles (720 Plain Bob, 480 Old and 60 Grand-sire): A. Thornton (lead), Miss P. Render 1, J. Potts 2, E. M. Bradley 3, Miss D. M. Hawley (cond.) 4, A. Sheppard 5, D. Ruckledge 6.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Mar. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. C. Birt 1, A. D. Rivers (first of Stedman 'inside') 2, W. W. Wolstencroft 3, Mrs. J. C. Birt 4, Mrs. W. Butler 5, D. W. Stone (first of Triples in the method) 6, W. Birmingham (first in method as cond.) 7, Miss J. L. Adamson 8. First in method for 4, 5 and 8. Rung for the return of H.R.H. Princess Margaret from her Caribbean tour.

SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.—At the Minster, on Mar. 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. L. Exton (first in method) 1, G. E. Foster 2, C. F. Briggs 3, F. Pickard 4, W. N. Brown 5, J. F. Milner (cond.) 6, F. W. Midwinter 7, J. B. Smith (first of Triples) 8.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On Feb. 27th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: R. Jelley 1, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 2, E. J. Jelley 3, N. Moyes 4, G. H. Bray 5, A. E. Bodycote 6, B. S. Chapman 7, J. M. Jelley 8. For Evensong.

SOWTON, DEVON.—On Mar. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Tapley 1, W. Reeks 2, S. Skinner 3, J. L. Glanville 4, F. Wreford 5, J. Quick 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, D. Reeks 8. First of Stedman Triples for 3 and 6.

SPARSHOLT, HANTS.—On Feb. 18th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of New Bob, St. Simon's, Stedman, Plain Bob and 300 Grand-sire): C. W. Barnes (first quarter) 1, P. Nash 2, J. A. C. King 3, J. M. N. Lakin 4, R. F. Brewer (cond.) 5.

STAFFORD.—At St. Mary's Church, on Mar. 5th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: C. Sherwood 1, F. R. Wiggan 2, F. Eley 3, C. Hone 4, R. K. Mowforth 5, A. E. Garbett 6, J. Moore (first in method as cond.) 7, M. Carter 8. Rung for Communion of Assize.

STEEP, HANTS.—On Mar. 8th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: Miss A. Norris 1, Mrs. G. M. Hunt 2, Miss E. M. Slater (15, first quarter) 3, Miss C. Roberts 4, N. Edwards (17, first quarter, cond.) 5, E. Hall 6. Rung as a tribute to the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. N. M. Livingstone), who is retiring after 51 years in the ministry, and to Mrs. Livingstone.

THAKEHAM, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: B. J. Luff (cond.) 1, Julia Collet (first quarter) 2, Marian Skinner 3, Jean Horton 4, B. W. Farhall 5, W. T. Cherriman 6. For evening service. Also on Mar. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Helen Skinner 1, Marian Skinner 2, C. B. Skinner 3, J. Newell (first of Minor) 4, B. W. Farhall 5, B. J. Luff (cond.) 6.

THATCHAM, BERKS.—On Feb. 20th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Miss B. Brown 1, Mrs. S. G. Brown 2, Miss G. Brown 3, A. N. Other 4, Miss P. A. Gaunt 5, M. Maisey (cond.) 6, C. Lewinton 7, R. Rivers 8.

TOTTERSHOE, BEDS.—On Mar. 5th, 1,440 Norwich Surprise: D. G. Broyd 1, R. J. Scott 2, D. M. Knox 3, J. W. Sinfeld 4, J. G. Newman 5, C. B. Jefferies (cond.) 6. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. O. Sunman and family.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—On Mar. 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: S. Dearden 1, J. Chilcott 2, James Phillips 3, W. S. Langdon 4, B. Lunn 5, H. Heath 6, John Phillips (cond.) 7, J. Waters 8.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Mary Carnoghan (first quarter) 1, W. Paul 2, S. Hoare 3, R. Smith 4, E. Durrant 5, R. Bell (cond.) 6, G. Seaman 7, R. King 8.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, CO. DURHAM.—At St. Oswald's Church, on Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Miss P. C. James 1, Mrs. W. Maughan 2, Miss P. M. James 3, F. Robson (cond.) 4, T. Templeman 5, J. Clouston 6, W. Maughan 7, K. Lawson 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. W. Pellar, one of the first ringers at St. Oswald's.

NORWICH DIOCESAN Tributes to Late President at South Norfolk Meeting

The 21st annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch was held at Diss on February 26th. Despite the very cold weather 40 ringers and friends attended. Before the service commenced the congregation stood while the organist, Mrs. W. Woods, played 'O Rest in the Lord' in memoriam to the late president, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, who died the previous day, and also to Frederick Roope, of Pulham Market, 60 years a ringer of the Association. The service was conducted by the Rector, Bishop Belcher, assisted by Canon Nock and the Rev. F. E. Vokes. The Bishop, in his sermon, paid tribute to the late president and Mr. Roope in their great work for the church and the Association.

The Rev. F. E. Vokes presided at the business meeting. Mr. H. J. Watts, B.Comm., lay reader of Diss, was elected an honorary member, and Messrs. G. Herbert, M. Green and H. Chastney, of Quidenham, and H. Hines, of Brockdish, elected ringing members. The Branch secretary, Mr. A. G. Harrison, gave a review of the work of the Branch during 1954. The officers were re-elected, and the new committee elected were: Miss Betty Syrett, Messrs. H. Moss, F. C. Roper, C. F. W. Phillippo, W. A. Lock, W. G. Saunders and W. Flatt.

The chairman spoke of the sterling character of their late president and the great loss to the Association, also of Mr. F. Roope's services as a faithful member and church worker.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded, also to the members of the Suffolk Guild who attended.

CHERTSEY DISTRICT WEDDING

A wedding of special interest to the Chertsey District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was held on March 5th at St. Peter's Church, Hersham, when Judith Ann Dodson became Mrs. Allen Harry Kingston. Both the bride and her father are ringers at Hersham, and both the bridegroom and his father ringers at Ottershaw.

Ringing by the Ottershaw band preceded a full choral service, and the Hersham ringers in their turn took over the ropes after the service.

After the 'newlyweds' had left the church for the reception, other ringing friends from various parts of the Diocesan Guild rang a successful peal of Plain Bob Major in their honour.

MR. F. W. ROGERS' 600 PEALS

With the peal of London Surprise Royal rung at St. Michael's, Southampton, on March 5th, Mr. F. W. Rogers, of Portsmouth, completed his 600th peal. He has conducted 250.

Minor.—Cambridge 3 (conducted 3).

Triples.—Grandsire 6, Stedman 46 (11).

Major.—Plain Bob 12 (5), Kent Treble Bob 5, Double Norwich Court Bob 38 (17).

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 75 (41), New Cambridge 7 (5), Superlative 65 (32), London 84 (35), Bristol 49 (22), Yorkshire 34 (22), Lincolnshire 5 (3), Pudsey 1 (1), Norfolk 1, Painswick 6 (6), Ashted 1 (1), Rutland 3 (3). Spliced: Six methods 1 (1), five methods 1 (1), four methods 20 (6), two methods 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 3 (1), Stedman 18 (2).

Royal.—Plain Bob 7 (3), Kent Treble Bob 13 (3), Double Norwich 1.

Surprise Royal.—Cambridge 54 (20), New Cambridge 1, Yorkshire 13 (6), Spliced Cambridge and Yorkshire 3, London (No. 3) 3.

Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 13.

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 4, York Surprise 1.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD Southern District

Those who turned up early for the quarterly meeting of the Southern District at Sketty on March 5th were able to ring for a wedding which took place at the church. The number which arrived later was the average, and represented Porthcawl, Aberavon, Neath, Cadoxton, Gorseinon, Llandilo, with visitors from Carmarthen, Bedwellty, Cardiff and St. Athans. It is hoped that the visitor from St. Athans, who motored 30 miles out of his way, was fully compensated by his first visit to Sketty. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. H. Williams), who gave a very warm welcome to the ringers to St. Paul's, Sketty.

Tea was served in the Manor Hall, and afterwards, at the business meeting, with the Vicar in the chair, the secretary said that membership was being maintained but more members were wanted. Several new members were elected.

Mr. Meredith, of Sketty, who is leaving for Shrewsbury very shortly, was elected a life member. Good wishes were expressed by all. The next meeting will be held at Gorseinon in September.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar, and also to the ringers' wives and their mothers in arranging and helping at the tea. J. A. N.

QUERY CORNER

Mr. Ernest J. Rowe: The Rev. F. E. Robinson, in his book, gives his last peal as rung at St. James', Devizes, Wilts. I feel, however, that in the belfry of St. Andrew's, Uxbridge, there is a board stating that the Rev. F. E. Robinson's last peal was rung in this tower. Did he commence peal ringing again after his illness, and, if so, how many more peals did he ring?

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford
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JOSEPH T. DYKE.

HAROLD J. POOLE.

R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

A lady is now the pace-maker in Spliced Surprise Minor ringing. Miss Rhoda Brown conducted a peal of 38 Surprise Minor methods at Frampton, Lincs, on March 5th. We feel sure that the congratulations of the Exercise will be extended to her and the band on this fine performance.

The ringer of the fifth bell in the peal at Great Wymondley on February 19th was Mr. Frank W. Croft, and not Alfred W. as printed.

Miss Denise J. Shaw, of Deer Park Farm, Thrybergh, near Rotherham, is 'The Ringing World' representative for the Sheffield and District Society.

Work has started on quarter turning and re-hanging the six bells at Wellesbourn Hastings, Warwicks, by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. These bells have been silent for many years.

Miss Judith Holder, the first girl ringer at St. Andrew's, Amptill, is now nursing at St. George's Hospital, London. She would like to continue her ringing in London.

The peal at Maids Moreton on February 19th was the first in more than seven methods on the bells and was not the first peal, as stated on page 133.

Eight of the 15 service ringers of All Saints', Runcorn, took part in a quarter peal of Bob Major on February 27th in honour of the birth of Elizabeth Ann Levin, on board S.S. 'Arcadia' on February 18th, bound for Melbourne, Australia. She is the granddaughter of Mr. E. H. Hughes, secretary of the tower. The ringers were all parents, two were grandparents, two were brothers and two father and son. The band was Walter Allman (conductor), William Allman, Harold Hayes, Harold Hayes, jun., Robert Hulse, Charles Ward, Fred Newport and Ernest Hughes.

BELFRY GOSSIP

We have received an interesting photograph taken by Miss Margaret C. Kelly, of Ottery St. Mary, on October 10th, 1901, showing a band of ringers who were the guests of the Rev. Maitland Kelly on their point of departure on a farm wagon from Kelly to Launceston. The party consists of the Revs. G. F. Coleridge, Saltern, Willett and F. E. Robinson, Messrs. W. W. Gifford, E. J. Munday, G. Williams, A. T. Beeston and P. R. Lilley.

Mr. W. Meredith is leaving Swansea for Shrewsbury very shortly. The good wishes from many ringing friends will go with him.

The custom is still preserved at Stafford of ringing the bells of St. Mary's Church for the commissioning of the Assize—the day the judge arrives and also for the Assize service.

Several of the 11 eight-bell towers in Devon which have not had peals rung in them are in the northern part of the county. One of them, Georgeham, was conquered on March 5th with a peal of Grandsire Triples. The Rudhall six were augmented to eight in 1926. The majority of the band were from Coombe Martin, the only scientific tower in North Devon.

The venue for the South of England Ringers' Rally and Dinner has this year been changed from Christchurch to the Gaumont Restaurant, Bournemouth, situated only one minute from buses and railway station. As announced last week the function is being held on May 7th at 6 p.m.

At the annual meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild it was found that there were 158 paid-up ringing members for 1954. The District comprises 14 towers with a total of 98 bells, so this figure of 158 gives an average of 1.62 ringing members per bell. Is this a record? inquires Mr. W. H. Viggers.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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PEAL RINGING IN KENT

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

AFTER Huntingdonshire we come to a group of counties where thousands of peals have been rung and about which it will be difficult, in a short space, to include all the items of interest. The first of them is Kent, in which county probably more peals have been rung than in any other (that is rather in the nature of a guess at the moment, but when I have written about all the counties, I shall be in a position to say definitely). One good reason for making this guess is that the county gets off to such a good start with two towers where more peals have been rung than in any other church in the world. They are, of course, Crayford, with a present total of 509 (since 1881—there were four or five before this date), and Erith, St. John's, with 500. Thus these two alone can claim over 1,000 peals between them.

Then there are eight other towers which have passed the century mark and they account for another 1,000 peals between them. I think the only possible rival for most peals will be Suffolk, which I haven't examined properly yet except to know that six towers have passed the 200 peals mark, and six more the 100 peals mark, which suggests a 2,000 peal total from them alone, also. Be that as it may, Crayford and Erith, St. John's, are far ahead of any other church tower in the land (Loughborough Bell Foundry, which is getting on for 600, is most of all, of course, but it is a secular ring). I am not going to say very much about these two towers, for long articles appeared in this paper about them.

Just a little comparison of the way the peals have come from the two towers will, I hope, be sufficient here. Crayford started a few years earlier than Erith, but it was the latter tower which was the most popular before the first war (not that you could call Crayford unpopular when 116 peals were rung there in that period!). No less than 241 peals were rung at Erith in those 32 years from 1882 to 1914, 237 of them from 1888 onwards. The greatest number of peals rung in any year in its history was in 1892, when 21 successful attempts were made. This average of about eight a year has been kept up very consistently since, for a further 162 were rung in the 20 years from 1919 to 1939, and there have been 95 in the past ten years.

Crayford has seen rather more fluctuations. Its 116 before 1914 means only about four a year, but between the wars no less than 280 were rung, an average of about 12 a year. The most prolific year was in 1934, which produced 25 of them, but other years about that time reached 24. Erith was still ahead in numbers, however, by the beginning of the last war, despite the large number of peals coming from Crayford in the 1930's, and it was only the better start which the latter got off to after the war which enabled it to pass Erith's total in 1944. One hundred and thirteen have been rung at Crayford since 1943, but during the last two or three years Erith has begun to catch up again. It remains to be seen whether it will do so in the next few years. But we must leave it at that as far as these two prolific 8-bell towers are concerned.

It is the 8-bell towers which have been most popular in Kent, for all the eight centenarians are in this group. They are Dartford (181, 43 from 1882 to 1909, 99 between the wars and 39 since the war); Woolwich (166, 112 before 1914, 43 from 1917 to 1939 and 11 from 1944 to 1951); Lewisham (162, 114 from 1881 to 1914, 39 between the wars and nine in the past six years); Gravesend (134, 34 pre-1914, 85 from 1923 to 1939 and 15 from 1945 to 1954); Speldhurst (125, 98 from 1886 to 1911, 17 from 1921 to 1938, 10 since 1945); Tunstall (120, 56 from 1900 to 1914, and five from 1920 to

1923, when there were six bells in the tower, 37 on the eight bells between 1923 and 1939 and 22 since 1943); Tunbridge Wells (113, 49 pre-1914, 44 between the wars, 20 from 1945); and Bromley (109, 55 from 1884 to 1912 and 54 from 1918 to 1939—this tower was destroyed in the war). It will be seen from these figures how consistent has been the peal ringing in the county over the past 70 years.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

There are two 12-bell towers in Kent—Canterbury Cathedral and Quex Park. The former was a 10-bell tower at the beginning of the period, and 28 peals were rung there from 1884 to 1923 (with the usual gap of the war years) on the ten. After augmentation, 15 peals were rung up to 1937 and there have been eight since the war, giving a grand total of 51. Quex Park (a secular tower) was more popular early on, for 66 of the 96 peals were rung before 1911. There were 21 from 1920 to 1939 and nine since 1951.

The most that the seven 10-bell towers can muster is 70 (and there are actually two 6-bell towers with a bigger total than this, as will be seen later). Greenwich has this number, and 60 of them are prior to 1913. Eight were rung in the early 1920's and one each in the years 1930 and 1937. Thus it is nearly 20 years since a peal was rung here. Leeds (a famous tower of old) has 69 in the period. It has done better in the latter half of the 70 years than in the former, for only 15 peals were rung before 1913, and there have been 19 since 1945. Maidstone has 61—one a year from 1883 onwards with gaps from 1910 to 1922 and during the last war. Beckenham was an 8-bell tower up to 1933, and 22 peals had been rung from 1905 up to the augmentation. Five were rung on the ten before the last war, and there have been 19 since then. Rochester Cathedral was also an eight up to the early 1920's. Twelve peals were rung on the eight bells from 1905. Nineteen more came before 1939 on the ten from 1924, and the tower has appeared eight times in the lists since 1945. St. Lawrence, Thanet, likewise became a 10-bell tower in 1924, and only seven peals had been rung there prior to that, the earliest in 1891. It was more popular with ten bells and there followed 12 peals up to 1939, and ten in the last ten years, giving a total of 29. The last of the 10-bell towers is Cudham, where only 17 peals have been rung. These have all come since 1930—at about one each ringing year.

A few more of the 8-bell towers are worthy of mentioning, especially those which are nearing the century mark. Canterbury, St. Stephen's, is nearest with 98. The majority (67) were rung between 1901 and 1914, but there were 21 from 1920 to 1935. Only five have come since then, three since the war. Milton (Gravesend) has 95—the first in 1891 and most between the wars (63). Fifteen have come from 1946 to 1953, so the 100 should soon go up. Sittingbourne has scored 94. The post second war period is the best here for 28 have been rung since 1944. There were 32 before 1914 and 34 from 1919 to 1939. Rolvenden and Gillingham have both 92. In each case they are spread evenly over the whole period and both have produced just under 20 since 1944. Three towers in the 80's are Deptford (St. John's) and Swanscombe (both 84) and Northfleet (83).

SIX-BELL TOWERS

Several 6-bell towers have good totals for their group, and one in particular—Lamberhurst—deserves special mention, for it is nearing the century (91 peals). As I have previously said, only one 6-bell tower in the whole country has passed the 100 mark (Thornton Magna with 136) and actually Lamberhurst comes

third in the whole country, for only Wickham Skeith (apart from Thornham) can beat its total and that only by one. Since this tower has not been heard for many years and Lamberhurst has (but not so frequently as before the war) it should soon move up into second place. Lamberhurst's peals are spread fairly evenly over the years from 1906, but we find a bigger proportion from 1928 to 1939 (40) than elsewhere. Six have been rung since 1948. Horsmonden (72) can also beat the 10-bell towers for number of peals. The earliest here was as far back as 1888, but the best period was again between the wars when 49 were rung. Eleven have come since 1945. The only other 6-bell tower to pass the 50 mark is Bobbing with 52. Only two of these came between the wars (in 1936 and 1937). Twenty-nine were rung from 1896 to 1914, and there have been 21 in the past six years, so the tower is going great guns at the moment. Other 6-bell towers worthy of note are Upchurch (43 peals), Willesborough (39), Teynham (36), East Peckham (34), Seal Chart (33) and Rodmersham (31). With the exception of Teynham all are doing very well at the moment.

There is little to be said about the 5-bell towers. Only 11 out of the 26 have had peals rung at them—Stockbury having the most (six in the past three years).

As for virgin towers, Sandwich alone of the 86 8-bell towers has not appeared in the peal lists during the past 70 years (but peals were rung here over 100 years ago). Several of the 6-bell towers need attention as far as ringing a peal on them is concerned. They are Chislehurst, Elmsted, Kennington, Maidstone (St. Michael's), Pluckley, Sheldwich, Southborough and Southfleet. But nine out of 100 is not many. Thus only ten out of the 195 6- to 12-bell towers have not had a peal rung at them since 1881. No doubt some of these will be conquered soon. Only four of the 86 8-bell towers have not had a peal since the war, the longest silence being at Lee (last peal 1931). Several 6-bell towers have been silent longer than this, with Boughton Monchelsea holding the record, since its only peal was rung in 1904.

So much for the prolific peal ringing county of Kent.

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

Leicester friends will join with us in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. John R. Smith on the gift of a son. The happy father conducted a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Bunwell in honour of the event on March 5th.

The bells of Diss Parish Church were rung half-muffled on March 5th to the memory of the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, president of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and for Mr. F. Roope, for 60 years a member of the Association.

A centenary peal was rung at Loddon, Norfolk, on March 5th, 100 years after the first peal of Major at this tower. The same composition, one of Charles Middleton's, was used. The band that rang the original peal was Edward Goose, Robert Burrell, Charles Middleton, William Freeman, Robert Palgrave, Walter Cole, James Truman and George Smith. Are there any ringers living who rang with any of them?

Members of the Universities Association will note with pleasure that Southampton University Ringing Society, which was founded last November, has rung its first quarter. The Society use North Stoneham tower for instruction and regular practices. With the assistance of ringing members of Peter Symonds' School, Winchester, the Society is attempting to introduce some of the Minor and Doubles methods less frequently rung in the district. Already two joint peals of Minor have been rung. The Society has at present a membership of nine.

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY

A Gain of 50 Members in 1954

Over 40 members from 15 towers journeyed amidst wintry conditions to Ranmoor Church for the annual meeting of the Sheffield and District Society. Ringing in a variety of methods from Grandsire Doubles to London and Bristol Surprise continued from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

With his usual efficiency the Rev. John H. Pain presided over the business meeting, at which members were confronted with a long agenda. This, however, due to excellent preparation at the committee meeting held earlier in the afternoon, was dealt with in record time.

The secretary, Mr. N. Chaddock, reported a most successful year's activities, saying that over 50 new members had been elected, and that both the income and the worth of the Society had increased considerably. Meetings had been well attended. In thanking various bodies for their support in making the year such a successful one, he said that the Society was indebted to 'The Ringing World' for publishing, promptly and in full, all the reports he had sent in.

The Ringing Master, Mr. J. J. L. Gilbert, remarked how promising it was that there were so many towers in the area with large numbers of young recruits coming forward, and emphasised the value of ringing meetings to these ringers of the future.

Mr. N. Chaddock expressed his wish to be relieved of his duties as secretary as he had an exceptionally busy year before him. Mr. John Seager was elected to take his place. Other new officers elected were: Vice presidents, Mr. F. Brunt and Mr. W. L. Robinson; Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. W. L. Robinson; 'Ringing World' representative, Miss D. J. Shaw. All other officers were re-elected.

A fixture list for the next two years was agreed upon, covering 24 towers.

The meeting concluded with the president, Mr. H. O. Chaddock, expressing satisfaction on the progress made during the year and prospects for the future. He thanked friends at Ranmoor for the excellent arrangements provided for this meeting.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on February 26th, was attended by about 42 members, a little below the average for the annual meeting, but no doubt the very cold weather had some effect on attendance.

Ringing during the afternoon and evening was varied and included rounds, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Double Norwich. There was a short service conducted by the Vicar (Canon L. E. Meredith) assisted by the Rev. Mr. Tibbs.

An excellent tea, served in the Old Parsonage, was followed by the business meeting. Mr. S. E. Armstrong, Master of the Association, was in the chair, and members expressed pleasure that he was able to attend. The secretary's report and the balance sheet were read and adopted. The secretary was able to report a good increase in membership, including the tower affiliations of Northiam, St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, Waldron and Willingdon. The bells in the Division were reported to be in good condition.

All the officers of the Division were re-elected:—Mr. R. W. Pankhurst, secretary; Mr. L. W. Giles, Ringing Master; Mr. T. A. Hunnissett, auditor; Mrs. B. Percy and Mr. H. G. Reynolds, committee members.

Thanks were expressed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for conducting the service, the organist who kindly offered his services at very short notice, and the ladies for an excellent tea.

R. W. P.

EXPLORING IN WARWICKSHIRE

Friends from Wolverhampton and Little Aston, near Lichfield, were exploring five- and six-bell towers in Warwickshire on Saturday, February 12th.

At Barston, near Solihull, the Vicar informed the party that the bells had not been rung for seven years and, as far as he knew, were unringable. An inspection revealed that all that was wrong was that a little of the treble wheel was missing. The Vicar, who is a ringer, gave permission for a trial. The bells are the second lightest five in the county, the tenor (a bell of 1683 by Matthew Bagley) weighing 5 cwt. in C. Matthew Bagley also cast the second six years later. The treble is by William Bagley, cast in 1691, while the fourth is 1728, by Joseph Smith, of Edgbaston. The third is the most interesting, being a 14th century bell. Although they are all in tune, they need rehanging before a peal could be attempted.

Honiley, near Warwick, has a somewhat peculiar looking tower containing a poor-going five of fair tone (tenor 8 cwt. in A). An order for rehanging is shortly to be placed—not before time. The front four are hung on one level with the tenor above in the centre, at the bottom of the spire.

On arrival at New Milverton the band discovered that the reputed ring of five there consisted in fact of four clock bells hung dead, and an hour bell (14½ cwt.) hung for ringing. Fellow 'tower snatchers' interested please note.

In contrast, the band received permission from the Archdeacon of Coventry to try the excellent six bells at Bilton, near Rugby, on condition that ringing was kept to a minimum. The bells (tenor 7½ cwt. in A flat) were retuned and augmented from five by Taylor in 1948. The church is fortunate in possessing a good, keen, local band, who practise every Monday.

Although disappointed they could not ring there, the band are pleased to report that an order has been placed to have Napton-on-the-Hill bells overhauled, and they received an invitation to try them out when the job is completed.

St. Leonard's, Priors Marston, was the last tower visited—a fine-toned ring of six (tenor 14½ cwt. in F). Originally a six, by H. Bagley, in 1721, they were retuned and the tenor recast by John Taylor and Co.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

The annual meeting of the Elloe Deaneries Branch took place at Spalding on February 19th. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m. The service, at 4 p.m., was conducted by the Rev. D. Jenkins, and the address given by the Rev. G. N. Heath.

Tea was taken at the Greyhound Hotel, an excellent meal which was enjoyed by the 47 members present. The business meeting followed, and in the absence of the president (the Rev. M. H. R. Syngge) the Rev. G. N. Heath took the chair. All officers were re-elected with the exception of the vice-president, the Rev. Mr. Wright, of Deeping St. Nicholas, who is leaving the district; the Rev. Mr. Davies, of Fulney, was elected to fill this vacancy. Membership was still on the increase with plenty of young members coming along. The Branch funds were also in a healthy state. A sum of two guineas was granted to the St. Paul's Cathedral appeal, and the sum of five guineas was granted to Thetford, Norfolk, to help towards the cost of a new headstock for the sixth bell; this unfortunately broke on the Spalding outing last year.

The best wishes of the members were expressed to the Rev. G. N. Heath, who is shortly leaving to take over a new parish in Hertfordshire.

The meeting closed with some handbell ringing. All then returned to the tower for more ringing. Methods ranged from rounds and Plain Hunt to Surprise Major.

R. C. N.

MR. JAMES F. SMITH

An Appreciation

The Oxford Diocesan Guild has lost a faithful servant in the death of Jim Smith, and those whom he taught to ring a true ringing 'father.' As one who learned the rudiments of ringing from him, the writer can testify to his born leadership and gift for instructing. Almost all his life he had been in charge of men and he brought that discipline into the belfry. He was no martinet but he would not tolerate indifferent striking. The older hands at Nettlebed (Oxon) didn't take kindly to criticism, but the youngsters nurtured in the tradition of 'only the best will do' revered a leader who established standards that would make them unashamed in any tower they visited.

His enthusiasm was conveyed to his pupils, and it was quite common for the bells to be rung three and four times on a Sunday. Jim devoted hours to his trainees outside the belfry. The village club was the ringers' rendezvous and, to the obvious amusement of the uninitiated, the mysteries of change ringing were explained orally and on paper, and 'homework' set to be figured out before the next visit to the belfry. Every recruit was well in advance theoretically of what was being practised. Thus beginners were eager to advance to what they had already studied.

Enthusiasm was maintained by cycle outings about twice a year, when two towers would be visited on a Sunday afternoon and evening. Mr. Smith made a point of introducing his youngsters to his old ringing friends and personalities in the Guild, so they felt part of the greater brotherhood of ringers and not ringing outcasts from a remote country village. Once Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Oxford Bob were mastered he switched to Stedman because, as he often said, 'If you can ring Stedman you will always get a pull when you visit another tower. Although a beginner finds the mastery of Stedman more difficult than methods, Jim's skill as a teacher was such that one new recruit who joined the band when they were attacking Stedman was soon ringing it perfectly before he could ring Grandsire or Plain Bob.

His favourite methods were Double Oxford and Woodbine, and the writer, brought up to love Woodbine, feels a natural opposition to those who would forbid it. Mr. Smith was never at home on eight bells, though he rang the standard service methods, but as a ringer and conductor of Minor he was brilliant.

When he found himself since the last war among ringers with no wish to learn, or to change from their 'stoney' ringing he was almost heartbroken, and often spoke to the writer about his misfortune. For the past two or three years he did no ringing on doctor's orders, but when the writer visited him a week or two before his death he was conversant with every topic from 'The Ringing World,' and mentioned all the peals in which the writer had participated in recent years, inquiring about their standard and the bells. He pleaded for some action to be taken on behalf of those incapacitated like himself, on the shabby treatment meted out to ringing by the B.B.C., when a few minutes' uninterrupted ringing would bring so much pleasure and satisfaction.

Many a ringer has enjoyed the hospitality of his home, and seen him tapping changes on his handbells or enjoyed his anecdotes of ringers and ringing incidents, always clean and kindly. After ringing he regularly attended the service, and as a singer joined in the hymns, singing lustily in harmony. His life was an example of what a good ringer can be. May he find rest and joy in his new life beyond the grave. W. B.

The peal of Doubles recently rung at St. Mary-the-Virgin's, Hambleden, Bucks, was the first since the rehanging of the bells last year. It is also believed to be the first ever rung on the bells, which were augmented to five in 1634.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A DISPUTED PEAL

Dear Sir,—In his letter on the above subject Mr. Fox does not put the position at all clearly. As chairman of the committee at the time the matter was discussed, may I give the facts as they were presented to us?

Fordham Surprise Major was being rung, a bob was called, the fourth bell should have run in but did not do so at once, thus causing a little confusion in the striking. I questioned several of the band who were present at the meeting and was quite satisfied that the trip had been corrected at once and that no 'fiddling' had been done. The committee decided by a large majority to accept the peal for inclusion in the annual report. It must be assumed, therefore, that Mr. Fox has written to you for his own satisfaction; he certainly was not asked to do so by the committee.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK W. LACK.

Huntingdon.

PEALS ANALYSIS COMMITTEE'S RULING

Dear Sir,—If the facts are as stated, the Analysis Committee would not accept it as a 'true peal.'

I can personally quote several instances where this has happened—bells accidentally running into rounds—but 'Stand' was called and the 'peal' was not even sent in.

The conductor should, in my opinion, notify 'The Ringing World' that the peal has been withdrawn.

W. AYRE,
Convener, Peals Analysis Committee.

'THE CRAFTY BRER FOX'

Dear Sir,—I would like to point out to Mr. K. W. H. Felstead that, had he intended emulating the antics of Brer Rabbit, he would not, as he implies, 'lie low and say nuffin,' for it will be remembered that it was the crafty Brer Fox who lay low while Brer Rabbit got himself all stuck up on the Tar Baby. Perhaps one of Mr. Felstead's critics could tell us whether the Tar Baby's name could possibly have been Robert Triples.

'BRER BEDFORD.'

Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES

Dear Sir—In your issue of March 4th I notice that Mr. Smith, of Lichfield, makes some remarks about St. Dunstan's Doubles being included in our handbell peals at Sherburn-in-Elmet, and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my opinion of the method. Mr. Smith states that it was condemned by the Central Council as an illegitimate method a few years ago, but if he cares to examine a copy of the Council's book on 'Doubles and Minor Methods' he will find that St. Dunstan's is included, without any comment on its illegitimacy.

After all, it is practically Grandsire Doubles with an extreme in place of a plain lead. If, as he says, its illegitimacy is due to the fact that it has not the same number of leads in a plain course as there are working bells, I think he will find there are other methods with the same 'fault.'

Personally speaking, this is the first time I have heard anything querying the legality of St. Dunstan's.

In conclusion, may I say that I am hoping to ring a good many more handbell peals with Mr. Sheppard and Co. and hope that (unless it is quoted as illegal by the Council) we shall complete our Doubles peals with an extent of St. Dunstan's.—Yours sincerely,

E. M. BRADLEY.

Sherburn-in-Elmet.

BLUE BOOK AND REGISTER

Dear Sir,—I consider the suggestion of 'Blue Book' and 'Register' a very good one. It is a pity it has not been put forward before.

The difficulty with the 'Blue Book' will be, I think, a workable system of classifying methods and fitting index letters and numbers to avoid a cumbersome group of letters and figures for each method. Also a really competent keeper of the 'Blue Book' must be found. A retired records clerk would be the right person, if such a person willing to do it could be found in the Exercise.

I hope that if and when the work of classifying is undertaken, room will be found in the method notation for a symbol indicating its musical qualities, say, Stedman, Double Norwich and Superlative as the yardstick in their different classes for a definition of quality. We ringers claim that we ring for the glory of God, so let us find out what is the best ringing, for only the best is good enough for God.—Yours sincerely,

A. H. KEMP.

Hawkhurst, Kent.

'THE RINGING WORLD'

Dear Sir,—Not long ago we understood if more postal subscribers could be found there would be no need to increase the price. Now it has been increased it will be interesting to note the effect. My view is that a peal advertisement charge of 3d. per bell should have been tried first; on the average this would realise £200 to £250 per year, and with voluntary donations there might be a surplus. Each year the Central Council could vote such surplus to a worthy bell restoration fund and the ringers could partly justify their use of bells for peals. If the price is continued at 6d. we may find some will cancel, many will share, and the prospects of new subscribers are lessened. May we hope this matter will be debated at all annual meetings and the Central Council representatives will be instructed to vote as the majority desire, and the price will once more encourage more subscribers.

J. EUSTON.

Streatham, S.W.16.

Note.—The effect of the increased price is given on page 154 in the Editor's speech at the Henry Johnson dinner.—Ed.

LENGTH OF PEALS

Dear Sir,—If a full peal is too long in some circumstances, why not recognise half-peals of 2,500 or over (2,520 for Triples, and four extents of Minor 2,880) and leave us our quarters for Sunday service ringing?

Why this craze for speed in peal ringing? I so often hear 'What has been the quickest peal rung on these bells?' I would much sooner hear 'Which was the best-struck peal on these bells?'—Yours sincerely,

C. TOM DREW.

Romsey.

278 SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS

Dear Sir,—I regret to say that the list of c.p.s. Surprise Major on page 102 contains the following mistakes:—

(54) For 14, —, 14 read 14, —, 34.

(58) For 12, 38, 14 read 12, 36, 14.

(86) For 14—14 read 14—12.

(91) For 14, —, 34 read 14, —, 12.

The following are not c.p.s.: Nos. 41, 43, 44, 45, 48, 222, 223, 270, 271.

I apologise for these slips.—Yours sincerely,
F. T. BLAGROVE.

W. Bedfont, Middlesex.

MAINLY ABOUT TRIPLES

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letter from Mr. W. A. J. Knight, published in your issue of February 25th, I think Mr. Knight will find that, if he takes the trouble to read my letter properly, I was certainly not advocating the rejection of peals of Grandsire Triples from the Analysis. I expressed the opinion that if peals in any method had to be rejected, I would vote for the rejection of peals of Grandsire Triples; however, I went on to say that I fail entirely to see why peals in any method, which contain 5,040 true changes, should be so rejected. I can assure Mr. Knight that I make no claims whatever to be a conductor in any method, and anyone who can call such a peal as Holt's Original, and correct any trips which may occur, has my wholehearted admiration. I am fully aware of the difficulties involved in conducting a peal of Grandsire (a duty which I am not likely ever to undertake), but this fact does not make Grandsire in itself a better method. In previous letters published in these columns I have stated at length my reasons for believing that Grandsire is a 'dead end' method as far as progress in ringing is concerned; the popularity of the method is perfectly obvious to all, and the preference is purely one of personal opinion.

However, leaving aside this vexed question, I have not yet read in these columns of a satisfactory answer to my question as to why peals of Bob Triples should be rejected from the Analysis—the reason is probably that there is no satisfactory answer. However, even if the Council, at the Bristol meeting, does take the step of refusing for the future to accept for its records a peal in a perfectly true and complete method, the mere thought of making such a decision retrospective is wholly ludicrous; to declare that a peal of Bob Triples rung in, say, 1910, is not now to be recognised is rather reminiscent of the trial of the bones of Thomas a Becket for treason, some 500 years after his martyrdom!

One or two final points. I would like to thank Mr. Felstead for his letter, and assure him that I am well aware of the proceedings at most of the recent Council meetings; I wished merely to emphasise the need for delegates to remember that they are there to put forward the views of their Associations and Societies, however much these may conflict with the recommendations of the various Council committees. This, of course, leads to a consideration of the main point raised by Mr. Birmingham in the fourth paragraph of his letter, also published in the issue of February 25th. All delegates must at some time or another have been confronted with the necessity of voting on an important matter, which they have had no opportunity whatever of bringing before a representative gathering of the members of the Society which they represent. There is certainly plenty of room for action over this matter, and I, too, hope very much that the question will be raised at the Bristol meeting.

One last word—personally I take part in peals for my own pleasure and not solely for the satisfaction of knowing that these peals will be included in the Analysis (how many ringers can seriously say that the ever examine the Analysis in detail?). It is the principle that concerns me; why should peals of Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob be included in the Analysis and those of Plain Bob Triples rejected, when all three methods have the defect (if defect it can be termed) of one bell striking four times consecutively in one place? I had the pleasure of taking part very recently in a good peal of Bob Triples, and I care not in the least whether this peal will be included in the 1955 Analysis or not. I enjoyed taking part, as did all the band, I am certain. No, sir, the whole affair is a matter of principle, and an important principle.—Yours sincerely,

PETER N. BOND

Hildenborough, Kent.

LETTERS—Continued

'CHURNING OUT v. DESIGNING'

Dear Sir,—Mr. Blagrove's list of Surprise forms in the Major stage will be useful to those scoring 'first in the method' peals, but there are second thoughts on this matter.

This is no disparagement of his effort. On page 812 of issue 2,280, he himself makes light of it, saying that he turns out Surprise methods 'at a higher rate than one a minute.' Again, though he says that 'there are over 200,000 of them,' even with limitations he imposes, yet on page 102 of issue 2,290, he claims that his list of 278 methods he 'churned out and proved in under ten hours.' So how many of the 200,000 he made out and examined we may guess. But to inspect even one three-hundredth part of that total would be to make out, and test completely, at least one every minute of that 'under ten hours.' Even employing a digital computer would take longer than that to set it up!

But seriously, he confuses this 'churning out' process with that of obtaining a method 'by design.' The former process, routine, mechanical, repetitive, may be undertaken (as we indicated on page 11 of issue 2,284) by anyone shown the routine of place-marking-in. Several, if not all, of these major forms he listed will have been previously noted by some or others of us in working over many years in the field of method structure. In fact a very rough check indicates that at least about 40 have been previously published. That a potentially exhaustive list of these particular forms of method has not been previously compiled only serves to illustrate the point that it has been considered preferable to make particular note only of what has been 'designed' for some specific object 'Churning out' yields skeletons, exhibiting (superficially) little of the characteristics and qualities of the method until examined; whereas the alternative approach is to decide on certain requirements of design—effectively, what you will get in the blue line, in musical qualities and so on—and to draw up the specification for the method accordingly, having regard especially to its 'family' capacity. This last qualification (modern designs should be fully extensible) will demand, Mr. Blagrove will find, something more in time and ability than the 'churning out' process. It is a factor his list ignores, nor does it indicate whether the forms are basic or otherwise. (Even so, the list is limited to even-bell methods, to hunt-controlled forms, to the Major stage only and to 'Surprise' only.) Unfortunately for his cause he does it further disservice by declaring that we 'idolise' method designing.

On the contrary, one's true objective is to explode the myth that it is some sort of secret process of 'discovery,' and to show that it consists in building up a framework from given particulars, i.e., formulating a SPECIFICATION, which shall define the method pattern for all tenable stages. The act of designing a method resides in drafting the specification and not in filling in the place-positions of one stage only. For example, when I wished for an entirely new method for the Coronation, I designed it to embody 'stepped' places in symmetry, forming a pyramidal shape in the grid pattern, suggesting the position of the Sovereign at the head of the State. That it might have a more general appeal I decided that it should be a plain-hunt-controlled even-bell method. Mr. Blagrove tells us, on page 812 of issue 2,280, that all Plain Major methods are in the Driver collection. But the fact is that my specification provided a quite new method in that class, fully extensible; the design being deliberate—not hit upon by routine pegging of place-positions until sundry 'skeletons' showed something we were after. The basic was found to be in the Major stage. It was named 'REGINA' and a peal was later rung at Witney, in Oxfordshire, conducted by Alan Pink.

But Mr. Blagrove would appreciate far more of our main contention by trying his hand at 'designing.' If he would care to have a shot, here is an outline specification which will give him greater latitude than normally. He may be satisfied to tackle one stage only:

Stages.—Odd-bell.

Type.—Omni-working. (No hunt-bell.)

Form.—In Triples, 'Double.' (Basic stage.)

Characteristics.—Variable position of group-hunting with paired dodging.

The clues to the design are implied. (It will not be satisfied, of course, by such as 'Double Stedman.'—Yours very truly,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Southsea.

PRESTON CANDOVER-WITH-NUTLEY

Dear Sir,—A couple of years ago I wrote about the cacophony of our ring of five at Preston Candover, Hants.

Friends in the Exercise and in the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild may like to know that those bells are out and on their way 'to the pot,' where, with the Laverstoke bell (1624) they will be converted into a ring of six with the Laverstoke bell as tenor. We are hoping that they will be back and rededicated by the autumn.

We have been blessed with a substantial grant from the Barron Bell Trust, and during the last six months, since the appeal was launched, we have received a total of £450 towards a total of £900.

Maybe there are some who would like to share in our aspirations by sending a small contribution. Every little helps.—Yours sincerely,

C. E. C. BRINKWORTH,

Vicar.

The Vicarage, Preston Candover,
Basingstoke.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD

A New President and Ringing Master

It is the custom in this Guild to hold the annual business meeting alternately in the west and east of the county. This year it was the turn of the east and it was held on February 26th amid snowy conditions in the beautifully warmed Church Hall at Liskeard. Among those who attended were representatives from the little parish of Zennor, near St. Ives, which, according to the newspapers, had recently been cut off from the rest of the world by snow.

Two important changes were made among the officials. Miss E. Symons, the retiring president, having stated in a letter that she would be quite ready to give place to a younger member should the meeting desire it, Mr. A. Carveth, of Kenwyn, was elected president. Mr. Southeard, who has for many years given magnificent service as Ringing Master, has for some time wished to see someone else in his place, and Mr. D. Burnett was elected Ringing Master. The other officials were re-elected. A recommendation was made that the President and Ringing Master should be changed every two years.

The treasurer reported a balance of over £54, and a letter was read from the peal secretary stating that 14 peals had been rung for the Guild during 1954. It was resolved that peals rung which do not conform to the rulings of the Central Council should not be inserted in the Guild peal book or published in the Guild report.

The Diocesan Festival is to be held at Launceston on the second or third Saturday in July. Launceston is a perfect paradise for bells, there being three good rings in the town in walking distance of each other, and another good ring of eight just over a mile outside.

The retiring president and Ringing Master were thanked for their good services to the Guild, also the Vicar of Liskeard for the use of the Church Hall and Liskeard bells.

THE BELLS OF TWO SURREY
'FOLDS'

Among the group of 'fold' villages to be found in Surrey only two are known to possess a ring of bells, the octave at Chiddingfold and the light six at Dunsfold. These villages are not many miles apart, and in both are found interesting churches with bells of good quality which have known recasting within the last twenty years.

Chiddingfold was made a market town by Royal Charter in 1300, but at the present time there is very little to show of such a status, even though the population is over 2,000. The church tower, stunted and unimposing, was probably built in the 15th century, but its height was increased by 14 feet in 1870. To reach the ringing room you ascend a stairway in the church and pass through a trap door, an unusual and awkward contrivance. The bells were four in number when the 'Inventory' was taken in 1552, and one of them can still be found in the tower, though not included in the present ring of eight.

Bells by three members of the Eldridge family had dates of 1622, 1656 and 1665, and Samuel Knight dated one in 1699 which, like the others, were recasts. In 1870 Mears and Stainbank cast a treble for the back five and Warners added two trebles in 1894. In 1936 seven of the bells were recast at Whitechapel, and a new 5th was cast to take the place of the pre-Reformation 5th which was taken out of the ring after several centuries of service. This bell, now hung dead and used as a minute bell, has the 'lion's head' foundry stamp of the Wokingham foundry, also the R.L. bell W shield which denotes the period when Roger Landen had the foundry from 1448 to 1487. It is inscribed 'Sancta Trinitas Ora Pro Nobis.' The present octave is a pleasing ring with a tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in F sharp.

Dunsfold nestles at the foot of the southern slopes of the North Downs, with a church well away from the village overlooking a tributary of the River Arun. The first church fell down in 1275, and the present building was probably built by the Augustinian Canons, who had a house on the river bank nearby. Dating from the middle of the 13th century visitors will find it a perfect gem of a village church. The list of Rectors goes back to 1294, and the key of the church dates back to the first Rector. It is a massive piece of ironwork, probably made from iron mined near at hand.

It would seem that the builders intended to complete the church by a central tower, but the part of the plan was never carried out. Instead, there is a small spire carried up over the roof at the west end, and in this is housed a ring of six bells, the tenor of which is 10 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in A flat.

In 1552 there were three bells and these appear to have been recast, one by W. Knight in 1583, another by R. Eldridge in 1621 and the heaviest by B. Eldridge in 1649. By adding three lighter bells in 1892 the Croydon foundry formed a ring of six which did duty until 1946, when they were all recast at Croydon.

Ringing is done at the west end of the church, and for the inexperienced there is a long draught of rope, but the acoustics are good, which is a great help towards good striking.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Mar. 3rd, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: F. C. Case 1, W. A. Yates 2, A. Cozens (first quarter of Surprise) 3, T. E. Roberts 4, W. F. Eyden (first quarter of Surprise) 5, G. E. Green (cond.) 6. A compliment to the conductor and his wife on the birth of a daughter.

RANDOM THOUGHTS ON BOB MAJOR

By H. CHANT

Random thoughts on the composition of Bob Major, although designed for the benefit of young composers, may be perused with impunity by older ones.

Bob Major, as you already no doubt know, has a clean proof scale. This means that so long as the tenors (i.e., 7 and 8) are 'kept together,' there will be no internal falseness so long as the lead ends (or heads) do not repeat.

'Keeping the tenors together' means that they pursue throughout the composition the same relative position as they occupy in the plain course. Calling the tenor 5ths and 4ths is still regarded as keeping the tenors together, but I am ignoring the 5ths and 4ths altogether in this edifice of campanological clarity!

A bob 'before' merely repeats the previous lead with regard to the respective positions of the tenors and therefore in no way impairs the truth of our previous statement.

Internal falseness is the liability of a method to repeat certain rows even if the tenors are kept together and the lead ends are different, e.g., Treble Bob.

If the young composer—or would-be composer—has followed me so far he will now realise that all he has to do is to write out the lead-ends (or heads) of his composition, check them over to see that he does not get the same one twice, and his composition will be 'true.'

This, however, is tedious, except in short 'touches,' and, furthermore, life is short. (I might also have added that time is money, but I abhor clichés.)

It is not surprising, therefore, that efforts were made to curtail the flow of ink and the spoiling of paper, until eventually a system of proof was devised by Sir Arthur Heywood (and first presented in his book 'Duffield') whereby 'lead-ends were stated in the form of course-

This was further clarified by Snowdon in his 'Ropesight,' to which work the student can refer if he doesn't want to read what I have to say about it later on.

Leaving this system for the moment let us view the matter from another angle.

As 1, 7 and 8 are at 'Home' (i.e., in 'rounds' position) at the 'head' of every course when the tenors are kept together, it follows that the number of courses available will be equal to the number of changes that can be obtained by the other five bells.

Now any Doubles ringer (and a few Minor ringers) will tell you that this number is 120. (I once knew a Major ringer who knew, too—but he had been educated in a Minor tower.) Furthermore, owing to the peculiarities of 'in-course' and 'out-of-course' changes, only half of these ($120 \div 2 = 60$) can be used unless a 'single' is called.

For a full explanation of 'in' and 'out' changes the student is referred to Snowdon's 'Treble Bob' or 'The Campanologia Encyclopædia Chantonica,' Vol. VIII., Ch. 16 (page 1212).

These 60 courses then will contain all the changes possible with the tenors together unless a 'single' is called, and the 120 courses altogether the maximum changes with the tenors together.

But if we don't ring any part of any course twice over, then our composition must be true.

So simple, isn't it?

How is it done? Like this:—

Start with a round block, i.e., a plain course, and insert into that round block two complete courses.

Examine the following:—

2 3 4 5 6 W
5 2 4 3 6 —
3 5 4 2 6 —
2 3 4 5 6 —

Before the first bob and after the last bob the plain course is rung. Between the first and second bob a complete course is rung. (Starting in the 'Wrong' position and returning via the beginning of the course to the 'Wrong' position.)

Between the second and third bob a complete course has been rung. (For in parentheses see above.)

In fact we have rung three complete courses, i.e., 23456, 52436 and 35426, although we have priced one open at the 'Wrong' position (23456) in order to insert two more, which in each case have been rung back before front.

What is more, no proof is needed beyond looking at the course-heads to see that they are different.

This sort of thing can soon become a habit—and nothing to be proud of.

Look at these four stages of decline:—

(1)	(2)		(3)		
23456	23456	W	23456	W	H
23456	52436	⇒	45236	⇒	—
	35426	⇒	24536	⇒	—
	23456	⇒	52436	⇒	—
			35426	⇒	—
			23456	⇒	—
(4)					
23456	W	M	H		
42635	—	—	—		
62534	—	—	—		
45236	—	—	—		
52436	—	—	—		
35426	—	—	—		
23456	—	—	—		

And as a final lesson of the horrors of this revelation, this monstrosity I concocted in a weak moment:—

23456	W	M	H	63254	W	M	H
43652	—	—	—	34256	—	—	2
54632	—	3	—	25346	—	—	—
35642	—	3	—	32546	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	52643	—	—	—
46253	—	2	—	62435	—	3	—
25463	—	—	—	63425	—	2	—
62453	—	—	—	43526	—	3	—
56423	—	3	—	53624	—	3	—
54263	—	2	—	46325	—	—	—
65243	—	—	—	43265	—	2	—
63254	—	2	—	23564	—	3	—
23564	W	M	H				
53462	—	3	—				
24365	—	—	—				
53246	—	—	—				
52436	—	—	2				
42635	—	3	—				
62534	—	3	—				
45236	—	—	—				
23456	—	3	—				

6608 Bob Major.

The extent direct with the tenors together.

Notice that by erasing consecutive blocks of three (W, M or H), the whole ungainly fabric is reduced to a plain course. No further proof is needed beyond seeing that the course-heads do not repeat.

It may be as well for the student to realise why the 'extent direct' (i.e., without bobs 'Before') is 59 courses, as we start from one course, and as we add two courses each time, the total must always be odd. This may be

clearer than delving into Bob-sets and Q-sets, whatever they are!

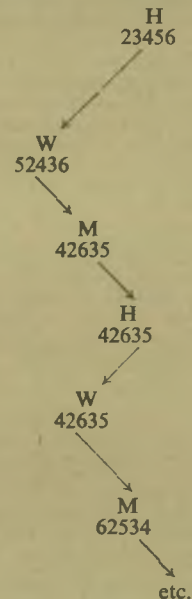
Later I hope to introduce you to a method of producing such peals by an easier method; meanwhile let us return to the system of proof I mentioned earlier.

Here is a 'touch' with proof:—

23456	W	M	H	W	M	H
42635	—	—	—	52436	42635	42635
62534	—	—	—	42635	62534	62534
45236	—	—	—	62534	52436	45236
24536	—	—	—	45236	45236	24536
52436	—	—	—	24536	52436	52436
35426	—	—	—	35426	35426	35426
23456	—	—	—	23456	23456	23456

In the proving columns, the three on the right, the seven courses used are neatly sliced up and prepared for our digestion. It could, therefore, be called a seven-course luncheon!

If your digestion (as a student) seems unequal to the task, then the following diagram (original) may help you to swallow:—



The plain course (23456) is rung to the W position. That is the first lead of the plain course. A bob 'Wrong' moves us into the second lead of the course 52436, which is rung as far as the 'Middle' position. Notice that we have rung neither the first nor last lead of the course 52436. The first lead is rung in the 6th course and the last lead in the 3rd course of this particular touch.

If you still don't understand it (not you professor, sit down!), then you can see me at the next Henry Johnson Dinner (provided you buy me a ticket).

For final checking see that there are no repetitions in the respective columns, i.e., the W column is true in itself, the M column itself is true and the H column is itself true.

If a bob 'Before' is called, enter this in the W column thus:—

23456	W	B	M	H	W	M	H
52364	—	1	—	—	52436	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—	23564	23564	52364
23456	—	—	—	—	52364	52364	35264
					63254	23456	23456

Check as before.

(To be continued)

OBITUARY

MR. WALTER S. BEAUMONT

It is with great regret we report the death of Mr. Walter Samuel Beaumont, who passed away peacefully at his home on March 7th at the age of 80. He first rang at Oxhey, near Watford. Afterwards he rang for many years at Frindsbury and Rochester. Mr. Beaumont came to Ruislip in 1933, and joined the St. Martin's Guild at the Parish Church. He retired from ringing about two years ago. He was not a great peal ringer but loved a quarter peal. He was a most lovable man and most reliable. He was never known to be late for the service ringing and was only absent when he paid his annual visit to his friends at Oxhey.

He was laid to rest in Ruislip Churchyard on March 12th by the side of his old friend, Mr. George M. Kilby. The bells of St. Martin's were rung half-muffled before and after the service by the Ruislip ringers. He was an old member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, also the Middlesex and other Associations. A much respected member of the Ancient Order of Foresters, he was deeply loved by all who knew him. May he rest in peace. T. C.

MR. W. M. BROOKE

One of the oldest ringers in the country, Mr. William Maurice Brooke died on March 4th at St. James' Hospital, King's Lynn, aged 90. He was a bellringer at St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, for over 65 years, and sang in the choir for 78 years. In recent months he had been bedridden. For a great number of years he was captain at St. Margaret's.

His first wife was a cousin of Sir Arthur Sullivan. His son became musical director of the Lyceum Theatre, London, and his daughter, Miss May Brooke, appeared in musical companies and eventually settled in Australia.

A peal to his memory was rung at St. Margaret's on March 9th.

THE REV. A. ST. J. HEARD

The passing of the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, president of the Norwich Diocesan Association since 1942, on February 25th, is deeply regretted not only by ringers of his own Association but by the Exercise at large. His death at the age of 69 took place while visiting his wife in a Norwich nursing home. She has been an invalid for several years.

He had held the living of Mulbarton since 1942. At the funeral service, conducted by the Rural Dean (Canon H. Llewellyn), the Bishop of Norwich paid a tribute to his life and work.

The Bishop said: 'We are gathered together, parishioners, friends of his from all walks of life, companions and brethren associated with him in many activities, to say farewell in the church he loved so much. In our hearts there is just a simple thought—"Thank God we knew him." Nothing would have pleased him more than to have known how many loved and respected him for he never knew how deeply he touched the lives of so many. He loved the work of a parish priest and always carried it out with a devotion and a sense of duty.'

Freemasonry, in which Mr. Heard had held important offices, was represented by members of the Norfolk Installed Masters, Bowers Chapter and Union, Social, Francis and Lorraine, Cabbell, Mancroft, Sincerity, Knight Templars and St. Giles' Lodges.

Other organisations represented included the Modern Churches Union, Mulbarton County Primary School, school managers and Church Council, Mulbarton and District British Legion, Norfolk County Nursing Association and the Norfolk Branch of the Red Cross Society.

Cremation at St. Faith's followed the service. The bells of Mulbarton Parish Church were rung half-muffled for the service.

MR. GEORGE WIGHTMAN

The funeral took place at Cretingham, Suffolk, on February 19th, of Mr. George Wightman at the age of 88 years.

Learning to ring at an early age, he rang his first peal, Doubles in eight methods, at Easton (non-Association). In 1887 he joined the Norwich Association, when he rang Bob Major at Debenham. His last peal was in 1949, which was rung in his own home, conducted by Mr. F. L. Fisher. During the years he had rung 328 and conducted 160. He was a fine ringer and a superb conductor in his day.

A true churchman, he was sexton at his own church for 44 years, and in recognition he was presented with an easy chair. Following their father's footsteps are his fine family—Edgar, whose compositions are so well known; David, a fine Treble Bob conductor; Stephen, who for over 30 years owing to rheumatism was unable to ring; Alfred, father of Leslie C and George A., was a super-strong man, his ringing including a 10,000 Kent at Helmingham (brother George conducted), also 10,000 at Coddtenham; to both these he rang the tenors.

From all who have had that kind and welcome hospitality at the shoemaker's shop, we extend our heartfelt sympathy to William, who within weeks has lost a sister and brother. L. G. B.

FEERING SURPRISE

Feering Surprise was rung for the first time on March 5th at Earls Colne, Essex, by an all-Northern Division band. This method was composed several years ago by the late William Keeble, of Feering, one of the greatest exponents of the art that ever lived. He intended to call this method Chelmsford Surprise, at the time when a motion to change the name of Essex Association to that of Chelmsford Diocesan Guild was put forward at an annual meeting. The motion was defeated and he lost interest in his method. For several years prior to his death he was confined to hospital, so the method was not pursued. Interest was aroused recently by Miss Hilda G. Snowden, and after getting the method checked by a member of the Essex Association's Peal Committee, it was decided to call it Feering Surprise, thereby linking William Keeble's name with that of his method, on account of his long association with Feering tower. It has also been decided to call the eighth place variation Foxearth Surprise. Miss Hilda G. Snowden has been assured that the method is original and is not to be found in Corrigan's collection.

Burnaby Delight Minor, the first peal of which method was rung at Hoar Cross, is a good method to bring out the magnificent qualities of these bells (tenor 28 cwt.). Michael Orme and Philip Mehew travelled from Hitchin to stand in the peal with Derby ringers. The conductor, Mr. D. P. Jones, suggests that these might be the heaviest ring of bells rung to a peal of Delight.

FORDHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

The method:—

38—14—1258—36—14—38—34x
H.L. 18 Lead End 4263857
False Course Ends A, B, C.

5.088

By J. W. WASHBROOK

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

3 5 4 2 6 — 2

2 4 6 5 3 — —

2 3 5 6 4 — 3 — 3

Repeated twice.

Well known as a peal of London.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

IN MEMORIAM

JARRETT.—Victor Albert. In ever loving memory of a dear husband, dad and granddad, who passed away March 19th, 1954. 'In heavenly love abiding.' 6030

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

On and after March 25th next all communications for Mr. George Baker should be sent to his private address: 8, Queen Square, Brighton 1, Sussex. 6027

After March 17th, the residential address of Mr. Reuben Charge, of St. Leonards, Streatham, is 20, Catherine Street, Mill Road, Cambridge. 6032

The address of Mr. H. J. Hazell is now 27, Slade's Hill, Enfield, Middlesex. 6023

The permanent address of Mr. John R. Ketteringham is now 251, Wragby Road, Lincoln. 6031

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

LLANDUDNO.—Close to sea, bowls, golf, tennis and buses.—Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Griffiths, Maesteg, Clarence Road, Llandudno, N.W. Tel. No. 7271. 6004

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—Complete set of 25 musical handbells, 'Mears.' Nos. 4—18 excellent condition. Also 11 G handbell. Seen by appointment. £60 or near offer.—Davis, Netherby, Monks Road, Virginia Water, Surrey. 5923

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—A good secondhand set of handbells suitable for starting a boys' handbell band. Write: Hardwick, 18, Lister Avenue, Hitchin, Herts. 5968

SET of secondhand handbells, 12 or more. Good condition. — Miss Bent, Bovey Tracey, Devon. 6007

PUBLICATION

EVERY TOWER should have a copy of the Central Council's Handbook on the Installation, Preservation and Repair of Bells, Bell Frames and Fittings and other kindred matters. Fourth edition just published. Price 2s. post free from Miss P. J. Ayris, 10, Sherwood Close, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

MISCELLANEOUS

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch. — Meeting, Hilgay, Saturday, March 19th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names, please.—J. Fox, Walpole Marsh, Wisbech. 5990

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — N.E. District. — Meeting, Great Bentley, Saturday, March 19th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. —J. Gould, Fir Tree Cottages, Great Bromley.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Seale (6) on Saturday, March 19th, 6-9 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 5973

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Saturday, March 19th, Rolvenden. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. 5965

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, Harpenden, Saturday, March 19th, at 3 p.m. Bells (8). Names for tea to Mr. A. Day, 58, Craveles Road, Harpenden.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 5974

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting, Swanscombe (8), March 19th. Bells 3 p.m.—Cyril S. Jarrett, Hon. Sec. 5991

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at Wrotham (8) on Saturday, March 19th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. R. Sils, The Square, Wrotham. All ladies welcome, gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Haffenden. 5964

LADIES' GUILD.—Yorkshire District and Doncaster and District Society.—Joint meeting at Thrybergh, near Rotherham, March 19th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. For tea at 5 p.m. notify Miss D. Shaw, Deer Park Farm, Doncaster Road, Thrybergh. 20 minutes bus service from Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster.—E. D. Kelly, F. Jackson, Secs. 5978

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next Rossendale Branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, March 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3. Cups of tea at 5. Meeting in tower at 6. Members and non-members are cordially invited.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 6025

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Meeting at Stanwell (6), March 19th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. followed by tea. Ringing at Bedford (6) 6.30-8 p.m. Names for tea to J. D. Rock, 346, Staines Road, Bedford, Feltham. 5971

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Reigate, March 19th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—W. F. Oatway, Hon. Gen. Sec. 5932

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Maresfield, March 19th. Bells 3 p.m. 5913

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Stockbridge, March 19th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5, Vine Inn. 5987

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Branch.—Practice meeting, Wedmore, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) 5 p.m.—E. C. Wickham. 6018

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Practice meeting at Ashcott, March 26th, 6.30 p.m. Look up something.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 6021

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Meeting at Burbage, Buxton, 3 p.m., Saturday, March 26th. Cups of tea provided. All welcome.—H. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 6002

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting to be held at Morpeth Watch Tower on March 26th at 3 p.m. Outside caterer. Names for tea to Mr. Pegg, 19, Mitford Road, Morpeth. 6005

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely and Wisbech Districts.—Joint meeting at Littleport on Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—R. J. Housden, Ely Dis. Sec. 6003

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Eynesbury (6), March 26th. Bells 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 6028

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Meeting at Warmley, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (6) 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, March 22nd, to W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, Bristol. 6017



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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Meeting at Lydney, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, March 23rd, to Mrs. D. Stafford, Staunton, Coleford, Glos. 6033

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stroud Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Stonehouse, March 26th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea after service. Names by March 22nd.—S. T. Price, 12, Regent Street, Stonehouse, Glos. 6034

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Stanton (6), March 26th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. followed by meeting. Buckland (6) 6.15 p.m. Notify for tea, by March 22nd, to Mary Bliss, Beech Pike, Cheltenham. 6022

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—Meeting at Kemerton, March 26th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Business meeting follows. Names for tea, please, by 22nd to S. Devereux, Charmaine, Kemerton, near Tewkesbury.—J. Beech, Hon. Sec. 6000

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Great Wymondley March 26th, 3 p.m. Tea 4.45. Special method: Norwich Surprise.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 6006

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Hythe (8) on March 26th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea must reach Mr. W. J. Bidnell, Kenora, London Road, Hythe, Kent, by March 22nd.—W. P. G. 5992

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting at Lenham, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names to R. L. Sils, The Square, Wrotham. 5993

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Meeting at St. Paul's (10), Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, March 26th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Names for tea, not later than Wednesday, March 23rd, to Mr. B. G. Key, 54 Rolleston Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs. All ringers and friends welcome. 6009

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at The Saviour, Deane Road, Saturday, March 26th. Bells 4 p.m. Tea 5; cups of tea only. Business meeting 6.—J. Thornley, Hon. Sec. 6016

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next monthly Branch meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on Saturday, March 26th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.; cups of tea provided.—J. H. Foster, Branch Sec. 6029

LEEDS AND DISTRICT.—Nomination meeting, March 26th at Armley. Bells available 3 p.m. Bring own food; cups of tea provided. Business meeting 7 p.m.—I. Slack, Hon. Sec. 6011

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Lubenham, Saturday, March 26th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—L. W. Allen, Dis. Sec. 6019

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—District meeting at St. Olave's, Hart Street, City (close to Fenchurch Street Station), on Saturday, March 26th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Ringing in the evening at St. Botolph's, Aldgate, 6.45 to 7.45 p.m.—T. J. Lock 6008

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Helmdon on March 26th. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to W. A. Yates, Welsh Lane, Boycott, Buckingham. 6001

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Quarterly meeting, Aston, March 26th. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. followed by meeting. Numbers for tea by March 23rd, please.—G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone SPR 1025. 6015

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Canford on March 26th. Ringing from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea for those who notify, by March 23rd. I. Davis, of Restormel, 13, Sandbanks Road, Parkstone. 6020

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at Thames Ditton, Surrey, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (6) available 2 p.m. Service (probably) 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Kingston bells (10) available after tea. Names for tea, by Monday, March 21st, please, to Mrs. F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec. 5970

SUFFOLK GUILD.—General meeting, Newmarket, March 26th. St. Mary's (6, 21½ cwt.) 2.30 p.m. Tea only to those who notify me by 25th, 4.30 p.m., at Lakemans.—C. W. Pipe, Grundisburgh. 6014

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting, Burwash, Saturday, March 26th. Bells 2.30. Names for tea, 5 p.m., by March 23rd, to R. W. Pankhurst, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne. 6024

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Surprise practice, Arundel, March 26th. Bells (8) 4 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—G. Francis. 6035

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Western.—North Ockendon April 2nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to Mr. W. Carter, Clay Tye Road, North Ockendon. 6010

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Quarterly meeting, Brenchley, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (2s.) 5 p.m. Names, with cash, please, by Wednesday, March 30th, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 5961

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Cotgrave Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (6) available 2.30. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday previous, to Mr. L. Henson, 14, Scrimshaw Lane, Cotgrave, Notts.—C. W. Towers. 6012

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting at Brandon (6), Saturday, April 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Woodlynn Cafe.—Miss E. M. Peckett, Dis. Sec. 6026

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Yeovil, on Easter Monday, April 11th. Ringing at St. John's 11. Service at 12 noon. Luncheon, limited to 100, for ticket holders only. Applications for tickets, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to R. O. Fry, 5, Morford Street, Bath. Details of further ringing later. 5977

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