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MR. GEORGE GILBERT

THE death of George Gilbert, of Burnham, has removed a great personality from ringing circles, and the Oxford Diocesan Guild has sustained a severe loss. Ever an individualist, George Gilbert made clear his views on politics, High Church practices and the Central Council's decisions regarding methods. He was a staunch Conservative. He abhorred Anglo-Catholic ritual and would not ring for the monthly Sung Eucharist service but only for what he termed the Church of England services (Matins and Evensong), which he regularly attended.

He believed in ringing what he liked, especially if the method served a useful purpose, and frequently declared that the methods experts ruled out methods without Plain Bob lead-ends because they were lost when ringing them! We did not agree with all George preached, but much of his argument was based on common sense.

A master of teaching youngsters, George used methods systematically. For instance, he taught Plain Bob, then Reverse Canterbury because it contains Kent places; thus leading his pupils into Treble Bob. As he had no time for ringers with exalted opinions of themselves, he kept his pupils from Surprise ringing because he felt so many young ringers considered they were in a select class once they could ring Cambridge Surprise and, as Wilfrid Wilson says, 'never looked back' but rather 'looked down' on those who were not Surprise ringers. He probably recruited and trained more young ringers than any Oxford Guild instructor, especially ladies, as he always declared that it was a waste of time training lads who would most probably be lost to ringing when claimed by National Service demands.

A former sergeant-major in the R.E.'s, he was a martinet in the belfry. Two examples will suffice from the writer's experience. One practice night a stranger walked into his practice at Burnham, immediately doffed his jacket and took a rope. 'You can put your coat back on,' said George, 'and ring when you're invited to.' George once arranged a seven-method peal of Minor for a young lady ringer to score her first in seven methods. Towards the end of the fifth extent George rebuked one young ringer for bad striking—he had actually missed a dodge!—and the victim retaliated by criticising George. 'Stand!' yelled George. 'That will teach you to keep your mouth shut.' The tragedy was that George *had* been clipping, as latterly he had grown rather deaf, but when he rang on a noisy ring of bells his striking was immaculate.

Having done so much peal ringing in his earlier days with Alfred Pulling, he knew what 'good striking' really meant, and *insisted* on it. He was far more concerned about perfect striking than advancement in method ringing, and his pupils progressed slowly but certainly accurately. Although he often offended people by his brusqueness, they all recognised that he was out for the best only, and would not be satisfied with less, and he was respected for it. Had this not been so, he would not have built up the bands at Burnham which, just before and after the war, were among the best in the Oxford Diocese.

Ringing was almost his whole existence. How he worked till he achieved his objective in providing Burnham with a new ring of eight, when the church also had to have a new organ, a new roof and a new floor! How pleased he was when some youngster rang his or her first peal, or first in a method under his guidance, sometimes being rewarded with a kiss if a lady. How greatly was a meeting enlivened when he was on his feet. How loyally and enthusiastically he supported the 'Cumberlands,' and how many members he gained for that Society. How generous he always was, and how he disliked 'spongers.' How much we learned of the ringers of long ago over a pint of beer. How we listened to his stories, as if we had never heard him relate them before! How he hated fast ringing—he always said that a bad ringer could not ring properly slowly, and he made his pupils ring wide.

And now George Gilbert has gone, but there are many left who will remember him for the rest of their ringing career, as they have all something to thank him for. Despite his eccentricities he was indeed a true servant of the Exercise, and gave an inspired example of selfless devotion to our Art and its pursuit at the highest level. Night after night he would cycle miles to help struggling bands on their practice nights. When he saw a tower 'getting on its feet' he would desert it for some other where there was a greater need of help. He must have spent pounds on taking youngsters to meetings or arranging peals for them. Little wonder that, as his young lassies at Burnham took their last look at his coffin, many a tear fell, as they had indeed lost a devoted ringing 'father.'

The highest tribute actually came from his Vicar when, at the funeral service, he said George Gilbert always gave the bells an exaggerated importance. George believed in their importance, and ever strove to make his an example to his Guild and their ringers dedicated people.

May his shining example long live on and inspire us who are left to 'Go, and do likewise.'

PALUDIAN.

TEN BELL PEALS

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Sept. 24, 1960, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 29 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in D.

CLIVE M. SMITH Treble	JOHN H. ALLEN 6
*PENELOPE SEDGWICK .. 2	BARNABAS G. KEY .. 7
ANN BARR 3	†BERNARD J. TOWNSEND.. 8
†ANDREW J. STRATHDEE .. 4	JEFFREY B. WEBB .. 9
‡E. JOHN DOLMAN 5	§BARRIE HENDRY Tenor

Composed by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD. Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.
* First peal in the method 'inside.' † First on ten bells. ‡ First in the method and on ten bells. § First of Caters.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Mon., Sept. 26, 1960, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

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

G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 6
*†BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2	GORDON A. HALLS .. 7
RICHARD J. CLIFTON .. 3	A. JAMES POYNOR .. 8
ERNEST MORRIS 4	RUSSELL S. MORRIS .. 9
MRS. G. A. HALLS .. 5	†JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
* 550th peal on tower bells. † 200th peal together.

EVEESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 3 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE BELL TOWER,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE ROYAL

Comprising 2,520 changes each of Yorkshire and Cambridge Surprise Royal, with 55 changes of method and all the work of both methods for all the bells. Tenor 35 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in C sharp.

ARTHUR GIBBS Treble	GERALD C. HEMMING .. 6
JENNIFER M. DAVIES .. 2	GEOFFREY J. HEMMIG .. 7
JAMES G. NEWMAN .. 3	ALFRED E. RUSHTON.. 8
RONALD J. SHARP 4	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN.. 9
JAMES R. TAYLOR 5	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS. Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.
First peal of Spliced Surprise Royal by all the hand.

AN OXFORDSHIRE TOUR

ALL PEALS RUNG FOR THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
On Sat., Sept. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURG,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, comprising 2,880 London, 960 Cambridge, 640 each of Bristol and Superlative, with 110 changes of method. Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb. in F.

E. WINIFRED KEYS .. Treble	DENNIS BERESFORD .. 5
JOAN BERESFORD 2	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 6
ERIC E. SPEAKE 3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON.. 7
PHILIP MEHEW 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.

DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
On Sat., Sept. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5088 ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 10 lb. in E.

LEONARD STILWELL .. Treble	DENNIS KNOX 5
EDGAR R. RAPLEY 2	ALICK CUTLER 6
RONALD H. BULLEN .. 3	THOMAS J. LOCK 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

KIRTLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
On Mon., Sept. 5, 1960, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in E.

RONALD H. BULLEN .. Treble	EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 5
E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 2	THOMAS J. LOCK .. 6
RONALD J. SHARP .. 3	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 7
JOAN BERESFORD .. 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed by S. J. IVIN. Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.
Rung as a first wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. D. Beresford.

AMBROSDEN, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Mon., Sept. 5, 1960, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In six methods, comprising 960 London, 928 Watford, 896 Bristol, 832 each of Cambridge, Pudsey and Superlative, with 127 changes of method. All the bells do all the work of each method. Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E flat.

PETER J. COLES .. Treble	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 5
ALICK CUTLER 2	PHILIP MEHEW 6
DENNIS KNOX 3	*RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON.. 4	DENNIS BERESFORD.. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.
* 400th peal.

BANBURY, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Tues., Sept. 6, 1960, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in E.

MRS. T. J. LOCK .. Treble	DENNIS KNOX 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 2	THOMAS J. LOCK .. 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON.. 3	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 8
JOAN BERESFORD .. 4	PHILIP MEHEW 9
DENNIS BERESFORD .. 5	RICHARD E. PRICE .. Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by RICHARD E. PRICE.
First peal on ten as conductor.

BURFORD, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Wed., Sept. 7, 1960, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, comprising 1,600 London, 1,440 Rutland, 480 Bristol, 320 each of Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Pudsey. Superlative and Yorkshire, with 129 changes of method. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. in E.

MRS. T. J. LOCK .. Treble	DENNIS KNOX 5
JOAN BERESFORD .. 2	PHILIP MEHEW 6
*EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON.. 7
ALICK CUTLER 4	RICHARD E. PRICE .. Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.
* First peal of Spliced Surprise in eight methods.

WITNEY, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Wed., Sept. 7, 1960, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

LEONARD STILWELL .. Treble	RONALD J. SHARP .. 5
RONALD H. BULLEN .. 2	THOMAS J. LOCK .. 6
E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 3	WILLIAM ROGERS .. 7
DENNIS BERESFORD .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY. Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

KINGHAM, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Thurs., Sept. 8, 1960, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5184 OXFORDSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. Treble	*ALICK CUTLER 5
*DENNIS BERESFORD .. 2	*PHILIP MEHEW 6
*THOMAS J. LOCK .. 3	*RICHARD E. PRICE .. 7
†JOAN BERESFORD .. 4	DENNIS KNOX Tenor

Composed and Conducted by DENNIS KNOX.
* First peal in the method. † 300th peal.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Sept. 8, 1960, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's variation.	Tenor 12½ cwt.
LEONARD STILWELL .. Treble	PETER J. COLES 5
RONALD J. SHARP .. 2	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON.. 3	RONALD H. BULLEN .. 7
WILLIAM ROGERS .. 4	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.
Rung as a fourth wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. D. Knox.

CHURCHILL, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Thurs., Sept. 8, 1960, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Treble	THOMAS J. LOCK .. 5
DENNIS BERESFORD .. 2	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 3	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. 7
DENNIS KNOX 4	PHILIP A. CORBY .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Fri., Sept. 9, 1960, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, comprising 1,312 Bristol, 1,280 each of London, Cambridge and Superlative, with 112 changes of method. All the bells do all the work of each method. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. WILLIAM ROGERS ... Treble DENNIS KNOX ... 5 JOAN BERESFORD ... 2 ARTHUR V. PEARSON ... 6 EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... 3 THOMAS J. LOCK ... 7 DENNIS BERESFORD ... 4 PHILIP A. CORBY ... Tenor Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

HOOK NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Fri., Sept. 9, 1960, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. LEONARD STILWELL ... Treble RONALD H. BULLEN ... 5 E. WINIFRED KEYS ... 2 GEORGE E. FEARN ... 6 ALICK CUTLER ... 3 RICHARD F. B. SPEED ... 7 RONALD J. SHARP ... 4 RICHARD E. PRICE ... Tenor Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

GREAT TEW, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Fri., Sept. 9, 1960, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5024 EALING SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 10 lb. in D. MRS. T. J. LOCK ... Treble ARTHUR V. PEARSON ... 5 JOAN BERESFORD ... 2 DENNIS BERESFORD ... 6 *EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... 3 DENNIS KNOX ... 7 ALICK CUTLER ... 4 RICHARD E. PRICE ... Tenor Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by DENNIS KNOX. * First peal in the method.

BLOXHAM, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Fri., Sept. 9, 1960, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF BLOXHAM,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. RONALD J. SHARP ... Treble RONALD H. BULLEN ... 5 E. WINIFRED KEYS ... 2 THOMAS J. LOCK ... 6 *WILLIAM ROGERS ... 3 RALPH G. EDWARDS ... 7 PETER J. COLES ... 4 GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor Composed by H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN. * 300th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 6, 1960, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. *SHEILA BRADDER ... Treble GEOFFREY C. RIX ... 5 GEOFFREY R. CRISP ... 2 EDWARD FOSBERRY ... 6 HAROLD WOOD ... 3 BERNARD E. MATTHEWS ... 7 RAYMOND A. BROWN ... 4 W. LESLIE WELLER ... Tenor Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by W. LESLIE WELLER. * First peal. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Dennis Mitchell to Miss June Clements on July 30th.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Sept. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes, AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C. G. RONALD EDWARDS ... Treble JOHN A. ACRES ... 5 PATRICIA A. WARDLE ... 2 JOHN M. JELLEY ... 6 ERNEST MORRIS ... 3 RUSSELL S. MORRIS ... 7 BRIAN M. SMITH ... 4 A. JAMES POYNOR ... Tenor Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Sept. 19, 1960, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes, AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

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

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C. *JOHN M. JELLEY ... Treble *A. JAMES POYNOR ... 5 †RICHARD J. CLIFTON ... 2 †BRIAN G. WARWICK ... 6 ERNEST MORRIS ... 3 †RUSSELL S. MORRIS ... 7 JOSEPH W. COTTON ... 4 G. RONALD EDWARDS ... Tenor Composed by HENRY W. WILDE. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK. * First peal of Major in the method. † First true peal of Major in the method.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Sept. 24, 1960, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5056 BOTTESFORD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. PATRICIA A. WARDLE ... Treble A. JAMES POYNOR ... 5 *BARBARA MANSHIP ... 2 RALPH ELKINGTON ... 6 JOHN M. JELLEY ... 3 RUSSELL S. MORRIS ... 7 MURRAY A. COLEMAN ... 4 BRIAN S. CHAPMAN ... Tenor Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY. * First peal of Surprise 'inside.' First in the method.

BRISTOL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Sept. 24, 1960, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY AND UNDIVIDED TRINITY, A PEAL OF 5088 KENT & OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Ilkoston variation. Tenor 21 cwt. 1 lb. in E flat. DAVID HEIGHTON ... Treble ELISABETH A. G. BOWDEN ... 5 PATRICK J. BIRD ... 2 ROYSTON BLACKLER ... 6 JANE K. A. COOK ... 3 BRIAN J. WYLDE ... 7 MICHAEL J. AUSTIN ... 4 FRANK D. MACK ... Tenor Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN (Three-Pack, No. 2). Conducted by DAVID HEIGHTON. First peal of its type by all except ringers of third and fifth, on the bells, and for the Society.

OVERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Wed., Sept. 21, 1960, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

F. H. Dexter's variation of Thurstans' Four-Part. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in A flat. MRS. S. H. JONES ... Treble JOSEPH W. COTTON ... 5 WILLIAM F. WOODWARD ... 2 *PETER J. STRETTON ... 6 ERNEST MORRIS ... 3 BRIAN G. WARWICK ... 7 DEREK P. JONES ... 4 SIDNEY H. JONES ... Tenor Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK. * First peal of Stedman. Rung on the Patronal Festival of St. Matthew.

DOUGLAS-IN-PARBOLD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Sept. 27, 1960, in 3 Hours,

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's variation. Tenor 12 cwt. *MARTIN SNAPE ... Treble CYRIL LOW ... 5 RONALD KENRICK ... 2 ERIC COOK ... 6 ALAN CAPSTICK ... 3 PETER COXAL ... 7 †BRIAN BUSWELL ... 4 JOSEPH RIDYARD ... Tenor Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD. * First peal. † First of Cambridge. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. Charles Barnes, Vicar of Christ Church, who is retiring.

BOTTESFORD SURPRISE MAJOR

-38-14-38-36-12-1458-16-78. L.H. 12. 1573.

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JOHN SMITH & SONS - DERBY

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Sept. 29, 1960, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

HARRY BALDWIN Treble	C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 5
JACK BRAY 2	ARTHUR CROWDER 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 3	GEORGE W. MOODY 7
*VERNON HEPWORTH .. 4	PHILIP BARNES Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.
* First peal on eight bells.
In memoriam Mrs. W. Bramwell, of Goxhill, a regular attender at ringers' meetings, and George Hobbins, one-time ringer at this church.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Sept. 29, 1960, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 HAMMERSMITH SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in A.

FRANK C. PRICE Treble	ALICK CUTLER 5
THOMAS J. LOCK 2	J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 6
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 3	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 7
ALFRED J. HOUSE 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

First peal in the method: Corrigan, No. 149.

BREWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Fri., Sept. 30, 1960, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY-THE-VIRGIN AND CHAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-Part (seventh observation).

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in D.

LOUIS ROBERTS Treble	ROY K. MOWFORTH 5
ROBERT J. WARRILOW .. 2	BARNABAS G. KEY 6
ROBERT W. BROUGHTON .. 3	RICHARD J. WARRILOW .. 7
ROGER L. HAWKSWORTH .. 4	ARTHUR J. ALLSOP Tenor

Conducted by ROGER L. HAWKSWORTH.

Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. A. G. Hunt, of the local company, whose funeral took place this day.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Sept. 30, 1960, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

JILL V. MORGAN Treble	RALPH BIRD 5
ARTHUR G. MASON 2	IAN H. ORAM 6
JOAN BERESFORD 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER 7
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

ATTENBOROUGH, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 21 lb. in F sharp.

JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. Treble	PETER A. SHARP 5
CLAIRE DILLAMORE .. 2	GEORGE H. RANGLES .. 6
NORAH M. RANGLES .. 3	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 7
MARGARET A. SWANN .. 4	JOHN WALDEN Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

HAMMERSMITH SURPRISE MAJOR

36-56.4.58-58.16-12-5-34-1

8ths place lead-end 13527486. 4ths place bobs.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

ITCHINGFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Sept. 2, 1960, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED AND PLAIN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in 35 methods, viz.: New Bob, Itchingfield S.C., Huntspill, Oakley S.C., St. Vedast, Chipstead S.C., Westminster, Chesham S.C., Blackburn, Broughton S.C., St. Hilary, Ockham S.C., Reverse Union, Bedfont S.C., Reverse St. Faith, Boveney S.C., Reverse St. Julian, Eton S.C., St. Nicholas, Longford S.C., Winchendon, Thornborough S.C., St. Remigius, Hascombe S.C., St. Simon's, Rugby S.C., St. Martin's, Slapton S.C., St. Osmand, Meton S.C., All Saints', Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Tenor 6½ cwt.

BRYAN C. BURROUGH .. Treble	GEOFFREY R. CRISP .. 3
RAYMOND A. BROWN .. 2	BERNARD E. MATTHEWS .. 4

W. LESLIE WELLS Tenor

Conducted by W. LESLIE WELLS.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Christopher Godfrey and Miss Janet Burroughs, both local ringers.

NETTLEBED, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Sept. 10, 1960, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B., Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Bob, Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 27 lb.

PAMELA M. JERVIS .. Treble	FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 4
*LINDA J. KEW 2	*J. KEITH WARD 5
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 3	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in seven Minor methods.

Rung for the 50th birthday (September 11th) of Mr. W. Birmingham, in the tower where he learned to ring, with a band consisting of the conductor of his first peal and some of his own ringing pupils.

WANSFORD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Sept. 17, 1960, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being one 720 of Reverse Canterbury, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Plain Bob, April Day and three of Grandsire. Tenor 2½ cwt.

*ROY W. SPENCER .. Treble	RONALD RUSSELL 3
†RICHARD A. WEBSTER .. 2	‡FREDERICK DERRY 4

JAMES H. MUSSON Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal on the treble. † First in five Doubles methods. ‡ First on five bells. First on the bells.

FULBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Sept. 24, 1960, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Oxford, Single Oxford, Double Court, Single Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

*FREDERICK DERRY .. Treble	HARRY BARNES 4
GEORGE SCOTT 2	ALBERT E. SCOTT 5
CECIL WADE 3	JAMES H. MUSSON Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal in seven Minor methods.

Arranged for Mr. George Scott (83) and Mr. Harry Barnes, who took part in the first peal on these bells 56 years ago.

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HONILY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Sept. 24, 1960, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents Plain Bob, 30 Grandsire. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.
PERCY A. ORAM... .. Treble | ANTHONY A. UPTON 3
DAWN V. ELSON 2 | WILLIAM H. MALE 4

DOUGLAS HARRISON Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS HARRISON.

Rung as a welcome home to A. C. Morris, a local ringer, after 20 months in Warwick Hospital.

DICKLEBURGH, NORFOLK

On Tues., Sept. 27, 1960, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

ERNEST WHITING Treble | ROBERT PLUMMER 4
CHARLES R. CATCHPOLE 2 | LEONARD J. MINNS 5
E. AUSTIN HEAD 3 | L. EDWARD ETHERIDGE Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. A. O. Dent.

WILLINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE UNIVERSITIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Sept. 29, 1960, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of London, Wells, Beverley, Surfleet, York, Durham and Cambridge. Tenor 9½ cwt.

BRUCE GRAINGER (Nottm.) Treble | JENNIFER M. DAVIES (Read.) 4
JEAN ADDICOTT (Oxford)... 2 | JAMES R. TAYLOR (Camb.) 5
DEBORAH HOPKINS (Nott.) 3 | BRYAN PATTISON (Durham) Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

POLSTEAD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Fri., Sept. 30, 1960, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 14 methods, being the following extents: (1) London and Wells S., (2) Ipswich and Cambridge S., (3) Kent and Oxford T.B., (4) Hereward and Single Oxford Bob, (5) Childwall and Thelwall Bob; (6) St. Clement's and D. Oxford Bob, (7) Plain and Double Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

JOHN AVIS Treble | BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD 4
EVELYN R. M. CANSDALE 2 | MAURICE E. DOWNS 5
ALLEN W. CANSDALE 3 | *URBAN W. WILDNEY Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

* 350th peal.

GORTON, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At THE UNITARIAN CHURCH, BROOKFIELD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings). Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. in F sharp.

*GEORGE W. MITCHELL ... Treble | GORDON RUMNEY 4
BRIAN SCHOFIELD 2 | JOHN ROBINSON 5
*BRYAN RUMNEY 3 | E. MICHAEL QUINN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN ROBINSON.

* First peal in the method, and of Doubles. First in the method, and of Doubles, as conductor.

HARTFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of one extent of St. Clement's and two each of Plain Bob, Oxford T.B. and Kent T.B. Tenor 12 cwt.

CHRISTOPHER JONES ... Treble | JOHN RYDER 4
REGINALD W. WORRALL ... 2 | HAROLD WORRALL 5
DAVID GODFREY 3 | HARRY W. HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

Rung on the eve of Harvest Festival, and in honour of the induction of the Rev. J. Orme.

LITLINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. KATHERINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 LIGHTFOOT SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

CHRIS. R. F. MUNCEY ... Treble | GEORGE E. THODAY 4
ROGER J. PALMER 2 | GEOFFREY A. LUCAS 5
DONALD F. MURFET 3 | MANSFIELD GINN Tenor

Conducted by MANSFIELD GINN.

PRES, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. CH'D.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt., approx.
BESSIE A. CARTER ... Treble | HAROLD F. WHITE 4
RICHARD E. MORRIS... .. 2 | HARRY POYNER 5
MARY C. POYNER 3 | EDWARD V. RODENHURST Tenor

Conducted by HARRY POYNER.

Rung for Michaelmas.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Kent Treble Bob and two each of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MARGARET E. PANTON ... Treble | JAMES L. TOWLER 4
PATRICK W. SALTMARSH ... 2 | HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE... 5
RICHARD J. HARRISON ... 3 | IAN R. PANTON Tenor

Conducted by IAN R. PANTON.

First peal as conductor.

Rung to celebrate the wedding of Brian J. Howard and June Egglestone.

STOKE-PRIOR, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents, no 6-5's at backstroke. Rung on the front six. Tenor 5 cwt. in C sharp.

PAUL CATERMOLE ... Treble | RICHARD G. MORRIS... .. 4
MICHAEL J. FELLOWS 2 | PETER S. BENNETT 5
ARTHUR D. COOK 3 | MAURICE C. HUGHES Tenor

Conducted by PAUL CATERMOLE.

The conductor's 50th peal.

Rung within the octave of the Patronal Festival. Also a farewell peal to the conductor, who is leaving Droitwich to attend King's College, London.

BASSINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Oct. 2, 1960, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 11 methods: (1) Single and Double Court, (2) St. Clement's and Double Oxford, (3) Cambridge Surprise, (4) Reverse Bob, (5) Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, (6) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (7) Double Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. in G.

MARGARET A. SWANN ... Treble | A. ROBIN HEPPENSTALL ... 4
GEOFFREY R. PARKER 2 | LOUIS WILLDERS 5
DELIA SMITH 3 | JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

Rung for Michaelmas.

FOUR BELL PEAL

STANFORD DINGLEY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Sept. 30, 1960, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINIMUS

Consisting of 2,520 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and 2,520 Plain Bob, methods changed at every 20 extents. Tenor 6 cwt.

*WILLIAM A. CUMMINS ... Treble | ERIC P. WOOLGROVE... .. 3
GERALD B. EVANS 2 | GEOFFREY K. DODD... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

* First peal.

Rung for the wedding of Mr. Gerald Evans to Miss Suzanne Worsfold, which took place the following day at Ash Road Methodist Church, Aldershot. Also to commemorate the anniversary of the first peal of Minimus ever rung, at Newtown, Hants, on October 1st, 1959.

HANDBELL PEALS

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tues., Sept. 13, 1960, in 1 Hour and 58 Minutes,
IN THE BELFREY OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SS. MARY AND CHAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 40 extents (ten callings) and one Morris' 240. Tenor size 8 in C.

*CLIVE M. SMITH 1-2 | BARNABAS G. KEY 3-4
E. MARION KEY... .. 5-6
Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

BEDFORD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Sept. 30, 1960, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,
At 51, WINCHESTER ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 11 in B.

JENNIFER M. DAVIES ... 1-2 | JAMES R. TAYLOR 3-4
BRYAN PATTISON 5-6
Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD
Dorchester Branch**

The autumn meeting of the Dorchester Branch was held at Litton Cheney on September 17th where 30 members had a most enjoyable time. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. Lynch), who gave a most inspiring address on the old characteristics of English life compared with that on the Continent and said what he missed most of all was the ringing of church bells.

Following tea, which was generously given by parishioners, the meeting was conducted by the chairman, the Rev. C. E. C. Brinkworth. The next meeting (annual) will be held on January 21st at St. Peter's, Dorchester. Practice meetings were suggested as follows: — Leigh, Piddletrenthide, Litton Cheney, Frampton, Upwey, Wyke Regis, Fordington, at fortnightly intervals commencing October 8th.

The Branch promised to help Rev. A. Lynch and Litton Cheney members to re-form their band, and to give them all the help and instruction possible.

The chairman extended a vote of thanks to the Rector, the ladies who served tea, and all who helped to make the meeting such a success.
R. H. D.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The autumn quarterly meeting of the Eastern district was held at York on October 1st, when about 30 ringers from 14 towers were present. Members attended choral Evensong at the Minster, and an excellent tea was served in the Railway Institute.

Mr. A. E. Sellers (vice-president) presided at the business meeting when Mr. Alan Sheppard (Sherburn-in-Elmet) and Miss Sheila James (Hull) were elected members. Pocklington was selected for the next meeting. To the vote of thanks, the Rev. A. J. McMuller (precentor at the Minster) and Mr. H. Walker replied.

**JOINT MEETING AT WEST
WICKHAM**

It was the turn of the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association to be hosts for the annual joint meeting with the Northern District of the Surrey Association. The venue chosen was West Wickham and a most fortunate choice it proved for the afternoon was sunny, thus showing the setting of the church to best advantage. Those who had not rung at the tower before found the bells to be as good as reputed, and methods from Bob Doubles to London catered for all tastes.

Ringling, which was under the charge of Mr. Ian Oram, was followed by the K.C.A. Service form led by the curate, after which tea was served in nearby Coney Hall. For this the company were guests of the West Wickham ringers and the tea was rather unusual in that it had been prepared by the gentlemen. After the usual votes of thanks a return was made to the tower where more ringling was enjoyed by all. The large and representative contingent from Surrey look forward to being hosts as successfully at next year's meeting.
W. P.

THE LADIES' GUILD

Western District

The Western District of the Ladies' Guild held their annual outing on September 10th. A departure was made from the usual custom of hiring a coach and several members kindly made their cars available, an experiment which proved to be very successful.

Ringling took place in four towers:—Evercreech, Shepton Mallet, Wedmore and Rowberrow, and a picnic tea was taken en route. Thanks are due to those friends who so efficiently organised in record time a never ending supply of freshly made tea.

During the afternoon members were joined by friends from the Swindon area and also visitors from London and Halifax. Our thanks go to all those who met us at the various towers, and to the incumbents who made their bells available.
B. J.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

A very successful meeting of the S.W. Branch was held at Modbury on September 24th, when about 30 ringers assembled to ring Grandsire, Stedman, Kent and Cambridge on the very fine heavy ring of six bells (17½ cwt.).

Those present included the president of the Guild (Prebendary Cox), and a number of friends from the N. and N.W. Branches of the Guild, also two holiday-makers, one from Kent and the other from King's Lynn.

Ringling was under the direction of the Ringing Master (Mr. T. G. Myers), of St. Andrew's, Plymouth. The short business meeting was presided over by the chairman, (Mr. H. H. Thomas), Emmanuel, Plymouth. Ringing continued until about 8.30, the Vicar giving us his kind permission to ring as long as we wished.

The annual meeting of the branch will be held on January 28th at Lifton, if circumstances permit.
H. H. T.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—J. P. 5s., O. M. 3s., E. P. H. 2s. 6d., J. M. 6d., C. E. J. 6s., Bushey Heath Outing 3s. 6d.

Peals.—Hensingham 6s., Clifford 3s., Morpeth 3s. 6d., Brewood 5s., Wilfred Williams' 1960 Peal Tour £1, Honily 2s. 6d., Birchington 5s., Rayleigh 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Horsell and Send 4s. 6d., Havant 5s., Beckford 4s., Upper Clapton 1s. 9d., Stratton St. Margaret 3s., Backwell 4s., Queenborough 2s. 6d., Chalfont St. Peter 5s. 6d., Histon 2s., Hershaw 4s., Farnborough Hants 6s., Barming 3s., Finedon 3s., Goldington 1s., Stafford 2s. 6d., Merrow 2s. 6d., North Stoneham 2s., Plymouth 5s., Clifton 2s., Hutton 2s. 6d., Luppitt (2) 6s., Epsom 2s. 6d., Kingsdon 3s., Wells 5s., Newton St. Loe and Dyrham 6s., Cookham 3s., Romsey 2s., Watford 5s., North Weald 3s., Buckfast 3s. 6d., Rayleigh 5s.

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The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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FRANK I. HAIRS.

R. S. ANDERSON.

W. G. WILSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The ringers of the Church of St. Mary, Stafford, paid a compliment to their head ringer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Warrilow, by ringing 1,360 Kent T.B. Royal on the occasion of their silver wedding. Two of the band—Messrs. F. R. Wiggins and A. E. Garbett—took part in 1,260 Grand sire Triples rung on their wedding day in 1935.

Congratulations to Mr. Wm. Love, general secretary and treasurer of the Norwich Diocesan, on ringing his 100th peal.

Mr. J. E. Jeater has received a cheque for 3/- drawn on Lloyds Bank, Soham, Cambs, without a signature or other means of identification. Will the sender please apply to the editor for its return.

A novel experience of Hanbury, Worcs, ringers during their outing to the Forest of Dean was ringing by candlelight at St. Mary's Church, Litton. All agreed that the lovely new six were the best bells of the day.

There was an amusing incident at the Leeds and District Society's meeting at Drighlington on October 1st, when a gentleman from Newcastle wandered in. He had been obviously celebrating and his remarks conveyed that he thought all ringers were a grand lot.

The band who rang in the peal of Spiced Surprise Royal at Evesham on October 1st regret that they were unable to inform a well-known Birmingham 'listener to peals' of their intention to ring in the morning. He was most disappointed to learn that the peal had been rung when he arrived.

David Eames (15), the young vice-captain at Church Gresley, Derbyshire, was commended by the other ringers on his skilful handling of the 30 cwt. tenor at St. Neots, Hunts, which he covered to a quarter of Plain Bob Triples, maintaining a good steady beat with no apparent difficulty. It was his first on eight and he felt he would be safer 'behind,' an opinion which was justified by his performance. A week later he covered 1,260 Doubles on the 28 cwt. tenor of the fine six at Hoar Cross, Staffs, again an immaculate performance.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The Rev. G. M. P. Hamilton, Religious Broadcasting Organiser, North Region, has sent the following reply to Mr. W. F. Stenson, of Crewe, regarding his protest over the broadcast of Ashbourne bells (see page 675):—
'Dear Mr. Stenson,— Thank you for your letter. I am sorry you felt so strongly about the bells at Ashbourne Parish Church. All good wishes.'

Miss Joan Beresford is climbing the peal ladder. She rang her 300th during Mr. T. J. Lock's Oxfordshire tour. During the tour Mr. Wm. Rogers also rang his 300th.

There was a happy gathering after the peal at Walsall on October 1st, in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hughes. At the 'celebration' party the toast 'Best wishes for the next 25 years of wedded bliss' was drunk with enthusiasm.

The peal at Fulbeck, Lincs, on September 24th was a special occasion as it marked the 56th anniversary of the first peal on the bells. Participating were two of the ringers of that first peal band—Mr. George Scott, now 83, and Mr. Harry Barnes. They both put up a fine performance.

Buckfast Abbey bells were solemnly blessed on September 29th, 1910. To mark the 50th anniversary the monks rang ten bells to call changes in the morning of September 29th and again in the evening of the same day. A peal attempt of Plain Bob Triples had been arranged for October 1st further to mark the occasion, but due to the indisposition of one of the Abbey band a quarter peal had to suffice.

Mr. Brian G. Warwick writes that in connection with the report of the Leicester Diocesan Guild quarterly meeting on page 661, he had been asked by Mr. Sidney Harrison, of St. John-the-Divine's, Leicester, to state that the motion that 'The Guild ask the Central Council NOT to recognise peals of Minimus' was not proposed by him but by Mr. Colin Harrison, of Loughborough.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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MR. T. J. LOCK'S OXON TOUR

SAFELY forecasting that there would be no heat wave during the first week in September and knowing that travelling would involve only relatively short distances, and these being mostly on the level, the party, organised by Mr. T. J. Lock, looked forward to a leisurely but interesting tour in the northern part of Oxfordshire. It turned out that none was disappointed.

On the way to headquarters at Chipping Norton, on September 3rd, one band commenced the programme with a peal of four Spliced Surprise Major at Bicester whilst another band found the bells at Deddington amenable to a five thousand odd of Ashtead Surprise Major. There was no sense of urgency on the first morning either, for we joined in the ringing and Matins at the local Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin. During the afternoon and evening our time was spent in the city of Oxford, where streets were closed and preparations were being made for St. Giles' Fair. Ringing was shared at St. Ebbe's and St. Giles', at the latter a quarter peal being rung for the Patronal Festival.

With preliminaries of introductions and reunions over, the first weekday started with a peal of Rutland Surprise Major at Kirtlington, which marked the first year of married life for Dennis and Mary Beresford. Those not otherwise engaged were able to ring on the octave at Woodstock. Ambrosden was visited after lunch and on these bells a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in six methods was registered, whilst the remainder found pleasure in ringing at Piddington (5) and Brill (6). The parish church of Piddington is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and the local inhabitants may have heard, for the first time, their bells being rung to a touch of St. Nicholas Doubles. It was certainly the first time that some of the band taking part had rung the method.

A DAY OF HEAVY RAIN

On Tuesday we set out in heavy rain, which continued through all the hours of daylight, but interest and surprise took our minds away from climatic conditions. We were privileged to ring on the very recently restored eight at Shipton-under-Wychwood, but unfortunately found at Brailes a condition about which we had been warned—the chiming apparatus was being repaired and it was not possible to swing the bells. Whilst a few of the party went off to buy some stamps, three enthusiastic members rang, among others things, a course of London Surprise Minor on handbells.

Although we feared we may have interrupted him during his lunchtime, we called on Mr. Jarvis at Home Farm, Balscott, who most kindly opened up his 'tower' to allow us the experience of a ring on his six bells—the lightest six in the world yet to be rung to a peal. The one peal attempt arranged for this day was at Banbury and the band made good use of this delightful ten in completing a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal. During the reaping of this success the overflow of the party rang on the heavy six at Middleton Cheney.

The middle day of the tour also bore its 'light and shade,' the morning passing quickly with successful peal attempts at Burford and Witney and, for the seven remaining members of the party, a thoroughly interesting tour around a blanket factory. London Surprise Major, at Kidlington, was the scheduled peal attempt for the afternoon, but sentiment prevailed. Although permission had been given in writing, we were advised that the next peal, the 150th on the bells, would be rung by a potentially local band. Accepting regrets from the local incumbent and hoping that William Judge, the tower captain, would soon recover from his recent illness, we then joined forces again with the rest of the party, who had been ringing at Islip.

AT LAUNTON AND CAVERSFIELD

For the evening we visited two towers: the first at Launton, where the president of the Central Council welcomed us and led us up the straight and narrow way of an iron ladder which alone gives access to the ringing chamber; and the second at Caversfield where a pleasant ring of five is in a church which stands on ground with a known history dating back to the year 903. To pay homage on this ancient site we rang a touch of Original Doubles.

SERVANTS OF THE EXERCISE - No. 42**MR. J. J. L. GILBERT****Yorkshire Association**

Mr. John J. L. Gilbert is one of the staunchest stalwarts of the Yorkshire Association. He is of a quiet, modest and unassuming disposition, but he is the type of man that gets good results, and many of those who have received their instruction from him at Handsworth, Sheffield, have much for which to thank him. A thoroughly reliable ringer himself, he seems to have that priceless gift of being able to instill his ideas into his learners, and many of those who have come under his

On Thursday, the habit of ringing a peal in the method named after the county of our tour was continued at Kingham, during which time the others had a ring at Stow-on-the-Wold. This was followed, after lunch, by one band ringing a peal at Bourton-on-the-Water and another band doing likewise at Churchill. The peal in the Gloucestershire tower marked the fourth year of married life for Dennis and Sybil Knox.

The last full day, Friday, was programmed to be the fullest of all the days. Four peals were attempted and all four completed with the usual high standard of performance: Spliced Surprise Major in four methods at Chipping Norton and Yorkshire Surprise Major at Hook Norton in the morning, with Ealing Surprise Major at Great Tew and Lincolnshire Surprise Major at Bloxham in the afternoon. The day was finished by ringing the octave at Adderbury.

A LEAKY ROOF

Saturday morning arrived all too soon and with a depleted company we journeyed once again into Gloucestershire in ring at Moreton-in-Marsh and then to add to the peal list with Spliced Surprise Major at Blockley. Here, however, as the bells were found not at all easy to ring, also to our ears considerably out of tune and, in addition, a noticeable amount of dampness due to leak in the belfry roof, any attempt for a peal was abandoned. We reported these conditions to the Vicar before we left but the leaky roof had been repaired prior to our visit.

Having completed another itinerary and nothing more to do than find our way home we all agreed that the week had been most enjoyable and successful and that, whilst opinions naturally reflected the more desirable qualities of one ring of bells compared with others, the bells which we had been privileged to ring were an extremely good collection for such a short period.

Our sincere thanks are due to all incumbents, tower secretaries and others who met us or

influence have risen high in ringing circles, and are a credit to him.

John, himself, at an early age came under the instruction of another fine Yorkshire ringer, Fred Watkinson, who was responsible for the installation of the very handy ring of eight bells at Handsworth. Fred Watkinson, having obtained the bells, then set about building up a good band of ringers, which eventually became capable of ringing Surprise methods. His advice and help were often sought, and never in vain, and it is obvious that his example had its effect on John Gilbert.

It was natural that when Fred Watkinson relinquished the post of Ringing Master at Handsworth, John should be chosen to succeed him.

Born in 1914, he joined the choir at Handsworth when seven years old, and by the time he was aged 12 he had been taught to ring by Fred Watkinson, and rang his first peal at this age. For his 13th birthday he took part in a peal of Double Norwich, and in the same year conducted a peal in that method. By the time he was 15 he had taken part in peals of London, Cambridge Royal and Stedman Cinques. In 1934 he conducted the record youngsters peal of Plain Bbb Major, at Crayford. His peals total is 259, of which he has conducted 59. These include 38 different Surprise methods, and the record peal of 53 Spliced Surprise. He is connected with the electrical industry, and is a wayleaves officer.

He is a good Yorkshire Association man, and has been, for 22 years, secretary of the Southern Division. So keen were they to have him as secretary that the office was kept open whilst he was serving in the Royal Signals during the war. That old Yorkshire warrior Sid Palmer, of Sheffield, carried on for him during his absence.

John Gilbert is also Ringing Master of the Sheffield and District Society, and to see him in action during one of their meetings is an inspiration. His encouragement of the youngsters wants seeing to be believed. So long as we have such men amongst us we need not fear for the future of our art.

JAFUS.

who did anything to ensure us the pleasures of this year's tour, and whilst it would be so easy to mention names we would add that we remain very pleased and grateful to have received a warm welcome.

T. J. L.

THE NEW QUARTER

This issue is the second of a new quarter. We welcome the many new subscribers and remind those whose subscriptions are due that early payment saves much clerical work. Remit to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Rate: 3 months 9s. 6d., 6 months 18s., 12 months £1 15s.

MINIMUS AT STANFORD DINGLEY

The peal at Stanford Dingley will no doubt add a little more fuel to the fire for the Minimus critics who are so determined that the Central Council must alter the present rule that allows 4-bell peals.

Ringing his first peal was Mr. Bill Cummins, the local captain, who has an enthusiastic local band consisting of 12 members who regularly ring the bells for every service and are already considering the raising of sufficient money to add two more bells.

Mr. Cummins now claims the distinction of being the first local ringer to ring a peal on four bells, no doubt other members of 4-bell towers have rung peals but not on their own bells.

An unusual feature at Stanford Dingley is that the ropes hang more or less in a straight line and this and a long draught make them tricky to handle.

We now look forward to seeing the next peal on the bells being rung by the local band, or will it have to be a performance? This we shall have to wait until next Whitsun to find out.

G. D.

WILFRED WILLIAMS' YORKSHIRE PEAL TOUR

THE peal columns of this paper have already given some impression of Wilfred Williams' 1960 peal tour. It would, however, be out of place to commence a commentary on this latest and successful venture without first paying tribute to Wilfrid Moreton, who arranged all the Yorkshire towers. All the bells were excellent and gave us much enjoyment, for which we are most grateful.

The advance guard assembled at Loughborough on Friday, August 19th, in readiness for Saturday's attempts at Shepshed and Derby. Once again we enjoyed the feminine charm and quiet dignity of Ruth Border, and also welcomed for the first time one of Birmingham's bright young men in the person of John Anderson. Six Spliced were well rung at Shepshed and this proved a good omen for the afternoon attempt. 'Our man from Suffolk' joined us at Derby and was soon showing us that, among other things, shirts are used to cover clocks. At Derby Cathedral and with the aid of another of Birmingham's bright young men a good peal of Spliced Surprise Royal was successfully brought round. This was the first time that a peal of Spliced Surprise Royal featuring all the work for each bell had been rung in this church and it was therefore fitting that it should be recorded for the premier ringing society.

HEADQUARTERS AT BRADFORD

After two such successes the tour could be said to have got off to an auspicious start which was duly celebrated and then a start was made for Bradford and the Northgate Hotel, which, with the exception of one night, was to be our headquarters for the week. A notable absentee was a celebrated vintage Morris but the two and a half litre Riley added greatly to our mobility and showed its paces by regularly disappearing the wrong way down a one-way street.

Sunday morning saw us at Far Headingley, where we rang for morning service then on through the North Riding and the rain for County Durham where on an extremely pleasant eight at Staindrop our conductor passed another milestone by calling an excellent peal of Bristol. A two hour run into the unending rain across the Pennines brought us to Sedburgh, home of the late G. F. Woodhouse, of Ringing Machine fame. Here we spent the night in preparation for another pilgrimage to Ambleside.

Monday saw us away early crossing Windermere on the ferry boat via Bowness and we were soon at Hawkhead, the scene of our morning attempt. A warm welcome awaited us here from the Rev. R. Lindsay, himself a keen ringer, and he assisted us in rising this pleasant ring. Yorkshire was rung at a speed too fast for comfort and those facing the church had their concentration continually disturbed by the large crowd of visitors who continually thronged the building. Following lunch Graham said farewell, having to return to his practice.

FAILURE AT AMBLESIDE

The afternoon's attempt was on the fine heavy eight at Ambleside, the scene of an unfortunate failure two years previously. Alan Capstick had everything in readiness and a start was made for Rutland, which to those outside soon settled into an excellent beat. It would, however, have required considerable effort on the part of the back-enders to score a peal. The tenor clapper broke recently and the repair has left the bell extremely wide at backstroke, the conductor being far from satisfied with the ringing. It was a great disappointment to the listeners when a miscall brought 'Stand' after one hour and 46 minutes of excellent ringing. Descending the tower we were very pleased to see Mr. and

Mrs. Tony Price, who were on holiday in the district, and to have Tony ring the tenor to a course of Double Norwich.

Following this failure an early start was made for Bradford, stopping en route for a 'snatch' at Gargrave with somewhat disastrous results. Tuesday morning saw us retrace our steps over much of the previous night's route to the ancient 'Lang Kirk of Craven' or, as it is better known, the Parish Church of Saint Andrew, Kildwick. Charlotte Bronte had a long association with this church, which is distinguished by an extremely long nave. The Kildwick Cope is housed here, and in the tower hangs a fine eight by Taylor, dated 1914.

THE POLICE LISTENED

This was our first meeting with Yorkshire tail-ends, also the profusion of boxes of varying heights on which to stand. Rutland was soon under way and after a false start some serious ringing was heard. Two hours later two police officers were seen to have the cars under observation and we had fear of charges for parking offences or disturbing the peace, but on being approached it was found that they were having a discussion on the quality of the ringing.

The afternoon saw us at the fine church of the Holy Trinity, Skipton, with its equally fine bells. It was necessary to splice and move ropes here and while this was taking place we were invaded by a keen young reporter from 'The Yorkshire Post.' After two attempts to cover the clock with a certain shirt, Bristol was soon rolling out and how grand it sounded from this fine ring. The later editions of 'The Yorkshire Post' reported that we were on our annual tour of England and unexpectedly to the ears of people began playing Bristol. Leaving Skipton we made our various ways to Otley where Harold Schofield had kindly arranged a practice and where we were much impressed by the abilities of the younger Schofields, Gillian and Barry.

The return journey to Bradford revealed that our bell-hanging friend has other than poetical talents when he joined the Coventry Bass Trio in a rendering of 'On Ilkley Moor baht 'at.' Back at our headquarters we were very pleased to have Leslie Morris join us and have the latest news of the Cheshire ringers' tour in Worcestershire.

INCESSANT RAIN

Wednesday proved the longest day of the tour with distances of almost 50 miles between towers, the almost incessant rain making our task less pleasant than usual. London was well rung on the magnificent eight at Birstall, a little too slow for some but nevertheless very much enjoyed by others. The composition used here contained a 'Before' in each course and is little rung nowadays. There is a large painting of a coat of arms in this ringing chamber but the shirt has not been made which could cover this and we are sure that among those staring figures our shirtless one could see his wife.

The local hostelry, The Black Bull, contained much of interest especially to the Celts, as the famous Jimmie Wilde once fought there. It was also once the district courthouse and the old dock and judge's bench are well blended into what is now a pleasant lounge. It was into the rain we went on a two hour run to the magnificent Minster Church of St. Peter, Howden. This is surely one of the finest examples of ecclesiastical architecture in a county renowned for churches of beauty and dignity and stands in a class which includes the Minsters of York and Beverley, Selby Abbey and Ripon Cathedral.

Much of this great church was destroyed in a disastrous fire in 1929 and the bells, a

glorious eight, were recast in 1931. The bells are hung low down in the vast tower, and as there is a tremendous amount of glass can easily be seen from the street below; many people stopped to watch as the peal was being rung. London was again the order and this was duly brought round, notching Arthur's 300th.

LARGEST RINGING CHAMBER

The new twelve at Hull Parish Church had been made available to us for the evening but unfortunately owing to our late arrival, we were unable to make the most of this very pleasant twelve. This must be the largest ringing chamber in the country with an area of 1,440 sq. ft.

At a late hour we faced a journey of something like 70 miles to Bradford, and with Ruth revolting against the stock supper of fish and chips we reached Leeds before finding the required steak. We understand that the Riley failed to pay at Selby toll bridge and had its number taken.

Thursday saw the enforced departure of one of your chroniclers, thus reducing the party to ten; however, Lincolnshire was soon knocked off at Sowerby on a Taylor eight recast in 1954. Lunch was taken at Sowerby Bridge with our bell-hanging friend disgracing himself by drinking a pint mug of tea.

In the afternoon we ascended the steep hill to Heptonstall with its fine view of Calderdale. Eight Spliced was attempted on this fine eight but stopped after 20 minutes with the bells right: the conductor thought he had miscalled. A second attempt stopped after a further 20 minutes and this time the shirt on the clock received the blame. We must have been overawed by the great record of 17,824 of Oxford Treble Bob rung here in 1927 as after a long discussion it was unanimously decided against a further start, so we visited Elland where it was practice night and enjoyed some fast ringing.

YORK TENOR CLAPPER CRASHED

Friday morning saw an attempt for London Royal on the fine ten at Ripon Cathedral but this would not go so with a change of conductor Cambridge was substituted. We should like to record this as a compliment to Canon D. M. M. Bartlett who was 87 the previous day. An afternoon attempt was scheduled for Birstwith, but with a visit to York Minster also on our programme, it was decided to abandon the peal attempt and a practice for Eight Spliced was substituted. We were joined at York by Miss M. E. Wilkinson and Leslie Morris and rang Stedman Cinques, and half a course of Cambridge Royal, but unfortunately in the third lead of Cambridge Maximus the ball of the tenor clapper flew off, hitting the fifth and causing this bell to drop like a stone. It was a miracle that no further damage was done. The ringing concluded with London on the Minor Eight. That evening we were treated to a real Yorkshire supper of black pudding.

Our last day had arrived all too soon with peal attempts at Northowram and Bradford Cathedral. At the former the tower houses an eight by Gillett and Johnston, dated 1913. Eight Spliced was successfully brought round here while in the afternoon Pudsey Royal was rung on the beautiful ten at Bradford Cathedral. Leslie Morris joining us in this as Arthur wanted an afternoon off.

So ended our peal ringing programme and there followed a social evening at our hotel in the best Yorkshire tradition which ended in the early hours with Jim's speech of thanks and farewell to our hostess, Mrs. Taylor.

We cannot finish this commentary without asking 'Where did the Guvnor sleep this night?' Was he too exhausted to reach his room after receiving Harold Schofield's full sales treatment? The tie would have been a fitting present after such an effort.

D. G. C. and A. F. T.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEALS OF MINIMUS

Dear Sir.—With regard to Mr. Peter Border's letter on page 634, although he states that he did not intend to slight the Leicester Diocesan Guild in his original letter, the fact still remains that he DID do so. No doubt Mr. Border will find some consolation in the fact that the Leicester Guild have passed a motion asking the Central Council NOT to recognise 4-bell peals.

I am completely at a loss in understanding Mr. S. Harrison's letter on page 659 in the issue of September 30th. Just what bearing the list of the achievements of his tower have on the subject of 4-bell peals. I fail to understand. No doubt there are many more ringers up and down the country who could suggest a better occupation for all three and I think it is quite obvious to all what the answer is. As for 'no right to criticise,' surely any person or persons who perform publicly or who advertise their performances must expect criticism (if it is constructive). After all, we criticise other musical performances (e.g. symphony concerts) and who doesn't criticise the sermon?—Yours faithfully,

BRIAN G. WARWICK.

Glen Hills, Leicester.

THE COLLEGE ALSO HAD THOUGHT OF IT

Dear Sir.—The manner of teaching the early stages of change-ringing that Mr. B. D. Price advocates in his recent article has already been adopted by the College in its 'Ringer's Manual of Reference—Part I.' and first published in 1956. Exercises based on this principle and described in the above handbook lead the pupil from solo bell control through the three elements of change-ringing, i.e., place-making, dodging and plain hunting, and combinations of these, to the simplest method. Plain Bob. Professional teaching experience of ringers has led them to adopt these methods, which have proved sound and successful in practice.—Yours etc.,

R. G. T. BENNETT.

P. and P.R.O., College of Campanology.

5,152 OSGATHORPE

Dear Sir.—In my letter relating to the FCHs of the above composition, I inadvertently gave 26543 as the course to which it is true. This should have been 25634, one of the FCHs of Southport. The 5,152 is wholly true to the following six courses—25634, 24365, 32546, 46253, 53624, and 65432. The 6,496 composition is only true to the last five.—Yours sincerely,

S. BURTON.

Braunstone, Leics.

HALLING BELLS

Dear Sir.—With regard to the letter from R. Crane (R.W., September 30th), the bells of Halling, Kent, have not been silent for 28 years. I have rung there on two occasions since the war, the last time being April, 1954, on an outing arranged by the late John L. Morris.—Sincerely yours,

E. J. ROWE.

Tottenham, N.

MR. GEORGE GILBERT AN APPRECIATION

Dear Sir.—I would like to pay tribute to George Gilbert as a ringer. I think he was perfection as far as striking and ringing were concerned. I was trained by him over 30 years ago, and belonged to the Burnham band when he founded it. And one was always welcome at Burnham tower.—Yours faithfully,

J. E. TAYLOR.

Newbury.

POINTS FROM LETTERS

Dear Sir.—May I be permitted to make one or two comments on recent correspondence.

Ownership of bells. One further comment on the interesting letter from Norman Phillips (page 595). Both he and Mr. Lock would no doubt benefit to know that although at other times bells may only be rung by consent of the incumbent, or churchwarden in the case of a vacancy in the living, this does not apply to ringing for Sunday service, or any Divine service. According to Church Law, not even the priest can prevent the bells being rung on these occasions.

4-bell towers (Leicestershire). In case there are any Minimus fans thinking of writing to any of the towers mentioned in Ernest Morris's list of 4-bell towers, may I say that I have taken services at many of these churches, and I can say that the majority of bells are not ringable, and may need a lot of attention to make them safe for ringing.

Belfry conduct. No doubt many ringers in their travels during holiday time find much in other towers to be commended, and ideas to be 'borrowed,' but an experience which was mine conjured up memories of the words 'Belfry Reform' which are still part and parcel of the aims of some Guilds and Associations today, and which up to now I have considered to be out of date. I had taken part in a touch for Sunday morning service and we were resting, when one of the ringers began to hand out cigarettes to all present, followed by a general 'lighting up'.

Has any other ringer had this experience?

Finally I cannot understand why captains do not advertise their times of ringing, both for services and practices, outside the tower for the benefit of visitors. Only at two towers have I come across this foresight—Lincoln Cathedral and Barwell (Leics.)—Yours faithfully,

THOMAS C. BELTON.

Birstall, Leicester.

IMBER CHURCH

Dear Sir.—With reference to Imber Church, the ring of bells has been removed some time and are being held for the new Church of St. Francis at Salisbury. The mural painting of Changes, I think, is being taken care of. I remember attempting a peal at Imber between the wars and this painting was getting 'the worse for wear' and some figures were hardly visible; but I understand it is being taken care of by the Wilts Archaeological Society and you can rest assured it will not be lost.—Yours sincerely,

W. C. WEST, Hon. Sec.
Salisbury Diocesan Guild

Herts County Association

Baldock Church was most beautifully decorated for harvest festival on October 1st, when the Northern District met there. Canon Brenchley conducted the service, with Miss D. Bate at the organ, then the ringers continued to a more than adequate tea provided by the wives of the local ringers.

Canon Brenchley took the chair at the business meeting, when the revision of rules was discussed, and Mr. Charles M. Timbury, of Pirton, was elected a member. The next meetings will be evening ones, at Stevenage and at Royston, with the annual district meeting at Hitchin on January 28th, not the first Saturday, as is usual. Canon Brenchley also gave news of Baldock tower's restoration, involving the removal of the concrete on the outside, strengthening the tower internally, and a new weather-vane. It is hoped that this work will be shared next spring.

Ringing continued afterwards in methods to please everyone. The attendance at the tea was disappointing, but quite a number came for a short while. J. S.

OBITUARY

(See also page 693)

MR. A. G. HUNT

Mr. A. G. ('Bert') Hunt, of 14, Coneybere Gardens, Brewood, Staffs, died on Sept. 27th, aged 60. A bellringer for 50 years, he was also people's warden at the parish church. He was in business as a painter and decorator and for many years he was secretary to the local lodge of Oddfellows. During the last war he was chief Civil Defence warden at Brewood.

On the day of his funeral, September 30th, a half-muffled peal was rung to his memory on Brewood bells.

MR. CHRIS H. HAWKINS

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Chris H. Hawkins of Llanelly, suddenly on October 4th. He was one of the founders of the St. David's Diocesan Guild and had for many years been its secretary. For the years 1949-50 he was a member of the Central Council. The funeral service was at Llanelly Parish Church on October 7th.

MR. JESSE W. HARRISON

The death occurred at Amersham Hospital on September 19th of Mr. Jesse Harrison, at the age of 79. Mr. Harrison, who had been a faithful member of the band at St. Mary and All Saints', Beaconsfield, since 1926, had been in failing health for some months.

He began ringing at the age of 13 at St. Mary and All Saints' Church, Dunsfold, Surrey. He was elected deputy foreman at Beaconsfield in 1934, an office which he held until his death.

During his 66 years as a ringer, he rang 100 peals, most of them being rung for the Oxford Diocesan Guild, but his last peal was rung at his old home, Dunsfold. He was once heard to say, in a joking manner, that he took 30 years to ring 10 peals in Surrey, but rang 30 peals within 10 years of joining the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The funeral took place at St. Mary and All Saints', Beaconsfield, on September 22nd. An 'in memoriam' quarter peal of Grandshire Triples was rung in the evening, with the bells half-muffled by the following members of the local band:—H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, Gwen Reeves 2, Dorothy Fletcher 3, Ann Shiels 4, R. Broadley 5, M. Broadley 6, A. Bridges 7, S. Hatfield 8.

Leeds and District Society

A pleasant meeting was held at Drighlington on October 1st, and the fine ring of bells was kept going to a variety of methods under the direction of the ringing master, Mr. I. Slack. The large ringing chamber enabled the 20 members present to move about freely without disturbing the ringing.

The routine business concluded with votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens and to Mr. Maurice Brown for his excellent arrangements. Next meeting: Hunslet Church, Leeds, October 29th.

West Wickham Ringers' Outing

A route along country lanes was chosen for an outing of 15 young ringers from North West Kent and Surrey on August Bank Holiday.

Towers visited were Ash-by-Wrotham, Wrotham, Yalding, Hunton, Boughton Monchelsea, Chart Sutton, East Sutton and Headcorn. It was in the early hours of Tuesday that the party arrived home. Methods rung ranged from Grandshire and Plain Bob to Cambridge, Norwich, Ipswich and London Surprise.

Sincere thanks are extended to incumbents and local ringers who made us so welcome.

D. M.

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MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION HONOUR MR. J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE

THE Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild have decided to hold their dinners triennially and at each of these to honour the memory of a famous ringer who had been a member of their Association. The first of these dinners was at Ealing Town Hall, on October 1st, and was to the memory of Mr. J. Armiger Trollope, who for many years lived in Ealing and was at one time a churchwarden of the Church of Christ the Saviour. It was at this church that a short service was held prior to the dinner.

On medical advice the president (the Rev. G. C. Taylor) could not attend and the chair was taken by the Rev. R. Deasy, Vicar of Harrow Weald. Supporting him on the top table were the Mayor of Ealing (Ald. Mrs. A. Murray), the Mayoress (Mrs. Hugh Murray), Mr. T. J. Lock (general secretary), Mrs. Lock, Mr. E. A. Barnett (hon. sec. of the Central Council), Mrs. Barnett and Miss Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Wilson, Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (treasurer), Mrs. Goodfellow, Mr. J. R. Mayne (Master) and Mr T. W. White.

The toast of 'The Association' was proposed by the Mayor of Ealing, who expressed her pleasure at seeing so many lady ringers present. She thought they could say to the gentlemen 'Anything you can do we can do better.' At any rate they could do it just as well. The gentlemen had allowed them to hold such offices as Mayor which was traditionally a male office.

Mr. John R. Mayne, Master of the Association, who replied, said regarding the ladies they were delighted to have them in the belfry as they were to have them in the office of Mayor. He would suggest that marriages were made in heaven, but proposed in the belfry.

This was the first of a series of triennial dinners: in each of these they hoped to commemorate a Middlesex Association ringer of bygone times. That night they were commemorating a ringer who lived for many years in Ealing—Mr. J. Armiger Trollope, and it was due to his untiring work that a tremendous amount of detail about ringers and ringing of past generations was known.

That night they were thinking of those who had gone before and if they were to think more of that subject they would enrich the present appreciation of their art; they would put the present into its true perspective and finally see their work in relation to the future. Many of the achievements of the present were not new, they had been done before. They should put their present day ringing in its true perspective with that of the past.

In felicitous terms Mr. W. H. Coles proposed the toast of 'The Visitors' and in a special welcome to Mr. E. A. Barnett he said, 'We rejoice that you are bringing prestige to the name Teddy Barnett, which has been a household word in ringing circles for 100 years.'

Mr. Barnett, who replied, said that though technically he was a visitor he had been a member of their Association for 25 years. At one time he resided in Middlesex, although under duress, as he was at Bentley Priory for four years and his bans were called in their chairmen's church.

Mr. W. G. Wilson, speaking to 'The Life and Work of J. Armiger Trollope,' said he was born at East Dereham, Norfolk, in 1876 and educated at King Edward VI Grammar School, Norwich, and it was while he was at school that he learnt to ring. In those days youngsters were not encouraged to ring; they sat in the belfry and that was all. Trollope and three or four lads decided to teach themselves to ring and they made a set of handbells from basement bells used in a large mansion. They rang peals on these bells and were admitted to the Association.

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBER AT 21

In 1897 when he was only 21 he was elected a member of the Central Council as a representative of the Norwich Diocesan Association. This was very exceptional, to be elected at that age. 'Mr. Trollope was, to my mind, an outstanding example of a complete ringer: he was good in every aspect of the art.' His peal record was between 500 and 600,

which is not considered high in these days, but was high then. At one time he had rung a greater variety of Major methods than any other ringer.

He was a talented conductor. He was a member of the famous band which rang Spliced Surprise Major, in from three to 12 methods. It was pioneer work which led the way to others. In 1900 he was elected an honorary member of the Central Council and at that time he was appointed by the Council as their representative on Plain Bob Major. Any problem of Plain Bob Major was referred to him. He was made a member of the first Methods Committee and later became its convener and was responsible for technical books, the first being in 1907.

He came to Ealing in 1904 and set up his home in Lammas Park Road with his sister, as he was a bachelor. He joined the Ealing Amateur Photographic Society and was silver medallist. Before the first world war he was a member of the Waterloo Society meeting at St. John's, Waterloo Road. Later, he did some of his ringing at Willesden and Ealing.

SNOWDON SERIES

In addition to his work for the Methods Committee his services were enlisted by Miss Margaret Snowdon in connection with the Snowdon series of ring books started in 1880.

In 1938 he published 'Stedman.' If that book was still in print today hundreds of copies would be sold. Later, he published 'Standard Methods,' which had since been reprinted. At the time of his death he was in the middle of writing a book on Grandsire. His friends and pupils—Ernest Turner and himself (Mr. Wilson)—completed that book and it was published in his name.

Besides these books for the Snowdon series he wrote many others. The Central Council library had a ten volume history of London bells and ringing, which was beautifully written and whenever a church was mentioned there was a pen and ink sketch of it. In addition there were records of the London Ringing Societies of the 18th century and also of ringing in the provinces in the 18th century. There were also two volumes on Surprise Major Methods, four volumes on the work of method construction, which he (Mr. Wilson) thought the College of Campanology would find useful. Another volume contained hundreds of articles he had written for 'The Ringing World,' between 1930 and 1946. Those books formed a library in themselves. In 1937 he published 'The History of the College Youths' in connection with the tercentenary of that body. That book was highly prized but it was only a small part of the 10 volumes he had written.

During the war when there was a ban on ringing and in consequence no peals, quarter peals or meetings, he kept 'The Ringing World' going, writing at times the whole of its contents. He had heard people say, 'No other man could have done it.' In his writings he had the ability to make his stories of the past live; everything he did, he did well—his photography, his writings, his drawings. His handbells were hung on a Gothic style triptych which he made in 1912.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

'I first met him at Christ Church, Ealing, and a few weeks after I introduced him to Ernest Turner and he taught us all we knew about ringing. He regarded us as his boys and we regarded him as a kind of father. Although he was a member of a famous band ringing most advanced technical stuff, he came and rang with us every Sunday and helped us all he could; nothing was too much trouble.

'I rang 46 peals with him and of those peals he only conducted 10. Ernest Turner and I had our share of conducting, although we were only youngsters. The first peal Ernest and I rang with him was Bob Minor on handbells. We each called in turn extents and the seventh nobody called. Mr. Lock, the present secretary of the Middlesex Association, probably does not know that in the first peal he rang—Bob Major—Mr. Trollope, who was calling, composed the peal as it went along. Mr. Turner afterwards became secretary of the Middlesex Association and I myself was an officer of the Association for 20 years.'

Apart from ringing, Mr. Trollope was a man of broad education and for a time he was a warden of Christ Church, Ealing. He was a victim of the pre-war slump and was unable to find work he could do satisfactorily. His loss in that respect was the Exercise's gain because during the many months he had no work he spent most of his time in the British Museum or at home writing up the results of his research. That afternoon at Christ Church they remembered him in their prayers. 'Let us now praise famous men.'

HIS EDITORSHIP

Mr. T. W. White, in a tribute, said his acquaintance with Mr. Trollope was weekly during the period of his editorship. He had an office at the Woodbridge Press next to his (Mr. White's) own and naturally as a tower secretary they talked ringing. 'I was amazed at his encyclopaedic knowledge of ringing in all its departments, the patience of his research into the early history and above all his search after truth.'

'During his editorship I reported for him the Central Council meetings at Birmingham and Norwich. I didn't know when I went with him to Norwich that that would be his last Council meeting. He was then a sick man and his collapse at the meeting during the debate on "The Ringing World" was one of the most painful scenes I have ever witnessed.

'And what was the cause of Trollope's parting with the editorship, apart from health reasons. It could well be summed up in the words of Ernest Turner. "He steadfastly refused to allow its pages to be used to satisfy the personal vanity of a minority." It would be so easy for him to conform but he would not.

'Personally I can say I went to Norwich with a special friend; I left without his friendship. Jim thought I was in the plot for his downfall. I knew of the resolutions on the agenda, but beyond that I was not a party. I don't think Jim ever forgave me for accepting the editorship. I wish my last meeting with him had been happier.

'Long after I am gone and passed into anonymity, Jabez Armiger Trollope will be remembered. His writings on London churches and ringing societies will remain as a permanent record not merely of historical scholarship but to the memory of a great little man who sought after truth and was unbending in his convictions for what he regarded as right. It seemed as if he looked on many of the generation of ringers around him and said: 'Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.'

The company then stood in silence to his memory.

The speeches were concluded with a vote of thanks from the chair to the incumbents of Ealing churches and to the dinner committee—Mrs. Elsie K. Hart, Messrs. F. W. Goodfellow, E. H. Kilby, C. F. Neal and T. J. Lock. During an interval in the programme there was handbell ringing by F. W. Goodfellow 1-2, Miss Joan Beresford 3-4, F. Price 5-6, J. R. Mayne 7-8.

THE COMPANY

In addition to the top table the company included Mr. and Mrs. G. Hart, Mr. and Mrs. A. Cutler, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Lankester, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Kilby, Mr. and Mrs. Gotham, Mr. and Mrs. R. Shepherd, Mr. and Mrs. Leversuch, Mr. and Mrs. S. Honor, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Turley, Mr. and Mrs. F. Blagrove, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coles, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Neal, Mr. and Mrs. D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Sansom.

Mrs. W. Turner, Mrs. J. Turner.
The Misses J. Beresford, J. Cox, M. Lewis, J. Morgan, J. Goodfellow, Skinner, Clayton, A. Dorey, C. White, C. Whitfield, J. Richardson, Harris.

Messrs. F. C. Price, H. J. Eldred, B. Glover, A. Cross, D. Rickett, J. M. Coles, W. Richardson, J. Goodfellow, P. Ruch, R. Wright, G. Fynes, W. Cook, D. Fowles, and C. Slade.

BYRHAM, WILTS.—On Oct. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. Salmon 1, G. Sprules (cond.) 2, J. Sprules 3, B. W. S. Angell 4, D. P. Pennal 5, H. J. Smart 6. For harvest festival.

HOW BURNHAM BECAME NATION-FAMOUS FOR RINGING

**GEORGE GILBERT
DIED 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1960
AGED 73 YEARS**

HOW totally inadequate this plate inscribed upon his coffin seemed to all those who came to say their sad farewell to this remarkable man! George Gilbert gave his soul to ringing, and his pride was in those whom he had successfully launched into the belfry to serve their God loyally on Sundays with a standard of ringing which was worthy of their lofty vocation. What a blessing the coin fell the right way when he left the army in 1926. It was his proud boast that, having successfully demanded time to train a team, he won the Army's rifle shooting trophy for his unit of the R.E.'s, an unheard-of performance for such a regiment. On his retirement he tossed a coin to decide whether to throw in his lot with the belfry or the shooting range, and the result every ringer knows.

Mr. George Gilbert was born on March 11th, 1887 and spent his early years at Rainham, Kent. He rang his first peal at Bobbing, Kent, on May 23rd, 1903, for the Kent County Association. It was conducted by William H. B. Wilkins, who shared in many of his early peals, and, like himself, gravitated to the Oxford Diocesan Guild, where both became notable figures. George Gilbert often referred to his debt to Mr. Wilkins, who happily is still with us. George had an intense love of a good peal of Minor and the rhythm of Minor ringing. This was not surprising, as every one of his first twenty peals was in seven Minor methods, of which he rang the treble to the first three only.

His first peal as conductor was not until June, 1914, when he called a peal in seven Minor methods at Seale, Surrey, by which time he had served long enough in the Royal Engineers to have reached the rank of corporal. We then hear little of him till 1920, no doubt due to his service in the Great War.

LONG PEALS

Retiring from the Army in 1926, at the age of 39, with the rank of C.Q.M.S., he returned to Rainham and reappeared in the peal columns of 'The Ringing World.' In April of that year he rang the 7th to what should have been a peal of 22,033 Stedman Caters at Leeds, Kent, but, owing to a miscall, the attempt ended when about 6,000 changes had been rung. He also stood in the attempt the same year to ring 14,144 London S. Major at Warnham, Sussex, but that, too, came to grief in the 15th course. He did, however, participate in two successful long peals, viz.:—11,008 Double Norwich at Erith on February 26th, 1927, and 9,600 Double Norwich Surprise Major at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Guildford, in April, 1931.

Of his 'stunt' peals one must mention his participation in the first 'Services' peal, comprising an Army, Navy and Marines band, at Gillingham in January, 1914. He stood in two 'George' peals—London S. Major at Gravesend in October, 1927 and Bristol S. Major on St. George's Day, 1930, at St. George's, Southwark. The latter was the first 'Name' peal of Bristol. He also rang in the first peal of Rainham Forward Bob Major—in company with the late J. Armiger Trollope, in May, 1927—which turned out to be a false method.

He was not addicted to Surprise ringing, and his collection of 21 different methods was due firstly to those he rang with the late Alfred Pulling during the latter's heyday, and those he rang with Mr. Alan Pink in the Windsor area in the 1930's. George Gilbert always held that Surprise methods were much over-rated, and mainly Cambridge 'mucked about,' and he never bothered to become proficient as a conductor in them. He would teach his Burnham band methods galore, but never Cambridge, as he preferred his pupils to remain humble, and feared for their 'ego' if they took to ringing peals of Surprise.

PEALS WITH LADIES

During his long service at Aldershot his talents as a teacher of ringing came to the fore, and Aldershot tower became prominent in ringing circles. Many well-known personalities in that area owe their ringing

careers to George Gilbert's solid foundations. Among others, he piloted George Grover, the Misses Bertha and Hilda Mills, Miss Nancy Denyer and 'Charlie' Denyer, 'Jack' Bragg and William Rogers through their first peals. With the Misses Mills and others he participated in two peals with seven ladies. The first, at Shiplake, near Henley-on-Thames, was of Kent Treble Bob, in May, 1930, and George rang the tenor. It was this peal which led him often to sign himself 'Henry VIII.' The other similar peal, Grandfire Triples, to which he rang the 7th, was at Goring-on-Thames in December of the same year. Miss Stella Davis, of Bucklebury (recently killed in a road accident) took part in both these peals.

In 1923 he came to reside in Maidenhead, Berks, where he followed his trade as a carpenter, but, as the Vicar of Burnham mentioned at George's funeral, he was not just a tradesman, but a craftsman. The writer remembers the immaculate way in which he did some work entrusted to him at Burnham Church. One remembers, too, how he used his skill in the service of others. Many has been the time when he has seen some poor old widow's fence or garden gate falling to pieces, and he has gone along in the evening and repaired it—out of his Christian charity.

AT BURNHAM

Now a member of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, he was soon on the look-out for a tower to serve, although he had already begun arranging peals to help beginners. In April, 1932, he was appointed ringing master at Burnham, and it was here where his life as a ringer reached its fruition. Very soon the old paid band disappeared, as his first act was to have it laid down that all ringing should be voluntary. Within two years he had built up a band of young lads who, at the ages of 12 or 13 years, had commenced their peal-ringing careers.

Unhappily, several of these died on war service during the second world war, and after the war, with the call to National Service continuing, George began recruiting girls. But he had not let the 1940-44 ban on ringing be any obstacle. When the bells were to ring again, Burnham would be ready; so George removed the clappers from his bells, carried on with his instruction of some very young girls—he liked to recruit them at nine or ten years of age—and by July 1944, their names were beginning to appear in 'The Ringing World' with their ages, 14 or 15, in brackets alongside.

Naturally, many of these were lost to his tower as they, one after another, took on the responsibilities of marriage, but George struggled on with little or no outside help. It was noticeable that when he had a first-class band and visitors could be offered a wide choice of methods, he had plenty of visitors, but latterly, while he had been building up another band almost from scratch, he had had no support. But that is the way of the world! While he was a skilled instructor, he maintained a rigid discipline in the belfry, but his pupils loved him for all that, or they would not have stood by him for so many years. The one thing about which he was really 'blunt' was Sunday service ringing. If a youngster failed to turn up on Sunday morning—it may have been the parents' fault—she received the length of George's tongue. Occasionally he was too outspoken, and when he said, 'If you can't turn up on Sunday, then stay away altogether,' a youngster would take him at his word, and stay away for good.

91 FIRST PEALERS

During his ringing career George Gilbert conducted the first peal of no less than 91 ringers. Of these 25 were Burnham ringers. Of his 548 peals, he conducted 325 and one was non-conducted. Of the 325 he conducted there was a 'first peal' or 'first in the method' in no less than 248, another wonderful record. It was these figures which were his pride and joy, and we must not underestimate their significance. He was a great tenor ringer, having rung 248 peals on tenors in 68 towers. In his own tower at Burnham he rang in 111 of the 159 peals rung on the bells, which indicates his tremendous personal contribution: 63 of these were on the tenor, and of the 56 peals he rang on the six bells at Hitcham (on the

outskirts of Burnham), 51 were on the tenor. He was not a 'tenor basher,' and would deliberately slow down the ringing if a peal started racing, as he loved slow ringing and had taught his pupils so to handle their bells that they could 'stroke' perfectly when the ringing was slow.

George Gilbert was an enthusiastic and loyal member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths for whom he rang 47 peals and made many new members. He served for a time as their Central Council representative, only resigning because, he said, he could not afford to continue, as his Society could not afford to subsidise its members.

His greatest memorial at Burnham is the new ring of eight. He inherited a ring of 'pots' in the key of 'K blunt' (George's own description), and he worked like a Trojan to raise the £1,800 required. He insisted on the new ring being all on one level, so the weight of the tenor had to be reduced from 16 cwt. to 12½ cwt. His enthusiasm was such that the whole village was behind him, and a great series of village efforts wiped out the debt. George Gilbert's name is inscribed on the tenor bell, and how it deserves to be there, for his were the inspiration and effort which put the bells in the tower.

DEATH AND LAST PEAL

The last peal in which he participated was Plain Bob Triples at Burnham, conducted by himself, on January 8th this year, and in it, naturally, were two 'first peals.' George was obviously ailing, and his doctor forbade him in February to ascend the belfry stairs. His interest and care for the continuance of the ringing of Burnham's bells never waned, and he always came to the tower and listened outside—often looking after Cliff and Angela Blundell's twin daughters meanwhile in a most fatherly way while they rang.

He managed the organisation of the tower, until two months before his death, when he was taken into hospital. His decline became rapid and his death on September 23rd was a happy release in the eyes of his friends, whom he never lacked during his sojourn in Cliveden Hospital.

At George Gilbert's funeral on Thursday, September 29th, no less than 15 towers in the branch were represented. The service was conducted jointly by the Rev. J. Wildman (Vicar of Burnham) and the Rev. E. W. Perkins (Rector of Slough, and chairman of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild). The Vicar paid a tribute to George Gilbert's work at Burnham over nearly 30 years and stressed how he had kept the bells ringing for services, and his work in having the bells recast.

He was laid to rest by the belfry door, four feet from the tower he served so faithfully, and a course of Grandfire Triples, preceded by some 'whole pulls and stand,' was rung over the grave by A. D. Barker 1-2, R. Dean 3-4, C. Swift 5-6, and E. D. Poole 7-8.

Wreaths were sent by the Oxford Diocesan Guild (E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch), and Burnham, Hitcham, Bray, Boyne Hill, Cookham and Slough towers. Ringers present represented the following towers:—Amersham, Marlow, Nettled, Windsor, Farnham Royal, Bray, Boyne Hill, Stoke Poges, Langley, Old Windsor, Hitcham, Slough, Cookham and Burnham, and Mr. A. D. Barker (gen. treas.) represented the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

George Gilbert is departed, but his work lives on. He was a friend to many, an inspiration to all, a great ringer and craftsman with a pride in his work in both spheres and a servant of God. He leaves a widow and one son—his elder son died on active service during the war—and we tender them our sincerest sympathy. May he rest in peace.

'PALUDIAN.'

(See page 695 for his peals)

LATE NEWS

Knowle, Warwickshire, bells will be heard in the programme 'Midland Mixture' in the Midland Home Service, on Tuesday, October 18th, at 5.25 p.m. Miss Jean Holden of the B.B.C. will discuss ringing with three boys and a member of the Coventry Diocesan Guild. At Knowle, there are 12 schoolboy ringers. Only six of the octave will be heard in the broadcast.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.
Displayed: 7/6 per single column inch.
No guarantee of insertion after Monday, first post.

BIRTH

STEPHENS.—On Tuesday, September 27th, 1960, to Richard and Mary Stephens, of 8, St. Andrew's Way, The Chart, Oxted, Surrey, a second daughter (Jennifer Rosemary). 6795

RETURN THANKS

GILBERT.—The widow of Mr. George Gilbert and Mr. Geoffrey Gilbert wish to thank the many friends for the kind letters sent to Taplow Hospital and also for the wreaths from towers and friends. 6791

PERSONAL

BUT take heed lest any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. (1 Cor., viii. 9).

MARRIAGE THRO' SOCIAL INTRODUCTIONS.—The only social service of its kind enjoying the warm approval of both Clergy and Press. It is completely confidential and operates throughout Great Britain. Interesting free brochure under plain sealed cover from The Bournemouth Bureau, 176, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. 2731

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

During College terms, for the next two years, the address of Mr. P. N. Bond will be: The Theological College, Rochester, Kent. Auntie's (Mrs. Langridge) phone number now Speldhurst 202. 6768

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Jeffries now live at 41, Wingfield Road, Bromham, Bedford. 6766

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

BOURNEMOUTH.—Close sea; full board, 25s. 6d.; bed/breakfast, 17s. 6d. Daily booking (part board) accepted. Free parking. Breakfast 8.30, dinner 1, high tea 5.30, refreshments 10 p.m.—PRICE, 9, Fisherman's Avenue, Bournemouth. Tel. 46005. 5699

MISCELLANEOUS

THE ANNUAL RINGERS' SERVICE takes place on November 20th, at Christ Church, COLLIERS WOOD, at 6.30 p.m. The Bishop of Kingston will be the preacher. All will be welcome. 6763

RODBOURNE CHENEY, Swindon, Wilts. St. Mary's Church. Due to structural alterations all ringing is suspended until further notice.—F. Broughton, Tower Secretary. 6790

PEAL CARDS AND QUARTER PEAL CARDS, minimum 12 in set, price 6s. 6d, post free. For quarter peal cards, second copy written out in style of a peal is essential.—'The Ringing World' Office, Guildford.

COMPLETE YOUR 1959 FILE.—Copies available of most issues. Price 6d. post free. 'The Ringing World' Office, Guildford.

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Business meeting including Nomination of Officers at the 'Rising Sun', Carter Lane, E.C., Sat., October 15th, 6 p.m. Forthcoming practices: October 25th, St. Lawrence, Jewry, 6.30 p.m.; November 1st, St. Giles', Cripplegate, 6.45 p.m.; November 8th, Southwark Cathedral, 6.45 p.m. There will be no practice on Tuesday, October 18th.—John Chilcott, Hon. Sec. 6774

BATH & WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Quarterly meeting at Nailsea (6) on Saturday October 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea please.—D. G. Yeo, Hon. Branch Sec., Estune, Brockway, Nailsea. 6417

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Wordsley, October 15th. Bells available 3 p.m. service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. 6745

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Holywell, October 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—M. J. Dyer, Dis. Sec. 6759

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Quarterly meeting, Thorpe Bay (8), Saturday, Oct. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Practice meeting, Godalming, Saturday, October 15th, 6-9 p.m. Learners and experienced ringers please attend en masse. 6754

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Rochester District) and LADIES' GUILD (Kent Branch).—Rochester District annual meeting combined with the Ladies' Guild at Milton-next-Gravesend, Saturday, Oct. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. 6690

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Stanwick, Saturday, October 15th. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to John E. Skerritt, Conway, Villa Lane, Stanwick. 6740

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Meeting at Seaton (5), Saturday, Oct. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. 6722

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, Carlton-juxta-Snaith, Sat., October 15th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Please provide own food, cups of tea only available.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 6771

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—Quarterly meeting at Blagdon, Saturday, October 22nd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—David H. White. 6765

BATH & WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Cary Branch.—Quarterly meeting, West Lyford (6), October 22nd. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.—L. McCreadie, Level Lane, Charlton Horethorne, Sherborne, Dorset. 6770

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch.—Meeting at Hartford, Saturday, October 22nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea FREE for those notifying by previous Wednesday, to Mr. R. W. Worrall, 1, Vale Road, Hartford, Northwich. 6764

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual supper, social and cabaret, on Saturday, October 22nd, at the Masonic Hall, Little Park Street, Coventry, 6.30 for 7 p.m. Tickets 14s. 6d, each from J. L. Garner-Hayward, 8, Orchard Crescent, Coventry. Phone 22897 or 23477. 6741

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting Downham Market, Saturday, Oct. 22nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea by 21st please.—J. Fox Dis. Sec. 6784

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch. Monthly meeting, Swindon Village (5), October 22nd, 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by Oct. 18th to Mary Bliss, Beech Pike, Cheltenham. 6777

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Chippenham Branch.—Meeting, Marshfield, October 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea. Service 6. Names for tea to J. Edwards Woodham, 1, Market Place, Marshfield, nr. Chippenham. 6778

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Kirkburton, on October 22nd. For teas, please, notify Mr. E. Burton, 3, Lane Head Lane, Kirkburton, Huddersfield, by October 15th. No names no tea.—A. Farrand, Sec. 6728

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Clun District calling all ringers to quarterly meeting, Clunbury, October 22nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Inform. by 20th, numbers for tea to T. Davies, 1, Church Street, Clun, Craven Arms. 6769

HERTFORDSHIRE RINGING COMPETITION FOR THE KIMPTON CUP.—At Kimpton, Saturday, October 22nd, 2.45 p.m. Tea 5.50 in Memorial Hall, followed by informal smoking concert with licensed bar. All very welcome. Names for tea to Donald Price, Church Lane, Kimpton, Tel. 405. 6787

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Woolwich, Saturday, Oct., 22nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, 19th, to Miss M. R. Andrews, 43, Wansunt Road, Bexley. 6773

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting, Saturday, October 22nd, at Steep (6), Bells 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday previous, to Miss Roberts, Bedales, Petersfield, Hants. Petersfield (8) 6.30-8 p.m.—C. M. Harbott. 6734

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Institution of Rev. Peter Blackman (ringing curate of Aylestone) as Vicar of Ratby and Groby, October 22nd. All Guild members invited to service at Ratby, 3 p.m. General ringing at Ratby after service until 5.30 p.m. Tea available. Please notify undersigned if attending service so that seats can be reserved.—B. G. Warwick (Hon. Gen. Sec.), 12, Dorothy Avenue, Glen Hills, Leicester. (Tel.: Wigston 3244.) 6746

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting at Queniborough on Saturday, October 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Hall at 5 p.m.. Names by previous Wednesday, please to Mr. S. Parker, 6, Marsden Avenue. 6783

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Meeting, Croft (6), Saturday, October 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea followed by meeting at 5, in the Heathcote Arms Inn. Names for tea please by Wednesday, 19th, to Mr. Fred Watson, 5, Pochin Street, Croft, Leicester. Please note change of tower.—M. Vernon, Dis. Sec. 6782

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Lindsey Branch.—Meeting at Waltham (6), October 22nd. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by October 19th to Mr. J. Willows, 81, Grimsby Road, Waltham, Grimsby. 6743

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—Meeting at Ewelme, October 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4. Names for tea by Wednesday, 19th, to J. Godman, 22, Sunnyside, Benson. 6767

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Penn, Saturday, October 22nd. Ringing from 4 p.m. Tea 5. Names for tea by October 18th.—Miss Hague, 6, Stompits Road, Holyport, Maidenhead. 6792

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—October 22nd. Amesbury. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., followed by quarterly business meeting. Bells at Durrington also available in evening. Names for tea by October 18th, please, to Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 6752

SALISBURY GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Meeting, Heddington (6), October 22nd. Service 4. Names for tea please early.—Hacker, Downsview, Heddington, Calne. 6779

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Meeting on October 22nd, St. John's, Alloa, 1.15, Dunblane 3-4 p.m. and at Edinburgh in the evening. Further details from Rognvald Wilson, 15, Durham Road, Edinburgh, 15. 6788

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Hanmer (6), Flint, October 22nd, 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Six miles west of Whitchurch. 6668

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North-East District.—Meeting at Beccles (10), Saturday, October 22nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, 19th, to Mr. E. R. Goate, 51, Grove Road, Beccles.—A. R. Bridges, Dis. Sec. 6735

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting at Hailsham on October 22nd. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, to F. Beeney, Sec., Hillbrae, Carters Corner Rd., Hailsham. 6786

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Quarterly meeting at Bramley, Hants, on Saturday, Oct. 22nd. Bells from 2.30. Service in the Parish Church 4.30. Tea 5 in the Village Hall. Names for tea to Miss C. Symonds, The Post Office, Bramley, nr. Basingstoke.—F. Chesterman, Hon. Sec. 6785

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The Snowdon dinner will be held at The Co-operative Restaurant, Rotherham, on October 22nd, at 6.40 p.m. Tickets 12s. 6d, each from Mr. J. J. L. Gilbert, 56, Glencoe Road, Sheffield 2, by Wednesday, 19th. Requests for hotel accommodation as soon as possible. Ringing as follows: Thrybergh (6) 10.30-11.30 a.m., Rawmarsh (8) 11-12.30 p.m., Wentworth (6) 11.30-1, Whistow (8) 2.30-4.30, Eastwood (8) 2-3.30, Rotherham Parish Church (10) 3-6 p.m. The Ecclesfield handbell ringers will entertain at dinner. A cordial welcome to all.—N. Chaddock, J. J. L. Gilbert. 6751

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deaney.—Corporate Communion at Barrow Gurney (8), on Sunday, October 23rd. Bells available 7 a.m. Service 8., followed by breakfast. Names by October 21st, please.—D. G. Yeo, 'Estunc,' Brockway, Nailsea. 6418

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Practice meeting at Salford Priors, on Saturday, October 29th, at 6.30 p.m. All welcome. 6781

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stow Branch.—Meeting, Longborough. Sat., October 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. All welcome. Names for tea to F. Newton, 44, Bishops Drive, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, Glos. 8789

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex District.—Meeting at All Saints', Hastings, on October 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea by October 26th, to Mrs. A. Levett, 151, London Road, Hastings.—L. M. Beenev, Hon. Sec. 6757

LADIES' GUILD (Central District), MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (S. and W. District) and OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (East Berks and South Bucks Branch).—Joint meeting, October 29th, at St. John's, Hillingdon. Bells (10) from 3.30. Service 5. Tea 5.30. St. John's Hall, with social evening to follow. Names, please, to F. W. Goodfellow, 46, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.—Mrs. S. Bullock, E. R. Gotham and Miss D. Hague, Hon. Secs. 6776

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual dinner, Saturday, Oct. 29th, Rose and Crown Hotel, Tonbridge, 6.15 for 6.45 p.m. Tickets (13s.) from Miss D. Colgate, 30, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. Please apply early as number limited. 6660

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual dinner and social at the Shakespeare Hotel, Braunstone, Leicester, October 29th. Tickets (12s. 6d.) from undersigned by October 24th, at latest. Dinner 6 for 6.30 p.m. Guests include the Lord Bishop of Leicester. Ample parking. Buses L1 and L12 (frequent service) from Newark Street, Leicester. Bells available: St. Margaret's (12) 2.30-4 p.m.; St. John's (10) 3.30-5 p.m.—B. G. Warwick (Hon. Gen. Sec.), 12, Dorothy Avenue, Glen Hills, Leicester. 6747

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (1672).—Meeting, Hucknall, October 29th. Bells 2.30. Tea 5. Names to Mr. Lewin, 44, Nottingham Road, Hucknall, by previous Thursday. Service 7, followed by ringing until 9. 6772

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The 323rd anniversary dinner will be held at the Bridge House Restaurant, London Bridge, S.E.1. on Saturday, November 5th, at 6 for 6.30 p.m. Tickets (21s.) are now available.

Ring arrangements for those attending the dinner:—St. Dunstan's, Stepney (10), 10.30-11.30 a.m.; St. Clement Danes', Strand (10), 12 noon-1 p.m.; St. Giles', Cripplegate (12), 2-3 p.m.; St. Lawrence Jewry (12), 2.30-3.30 p.m.; St. Michael's, Cornhill (12), 3-4 p.m.; Southwark Cathedral (12), 4-5 p.m.—John Chilcott, Hon. Sec., 67, Farley Road, Selsdon, Surrey. 6775

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Annual dinner to be held at 'The Black Horse,' Thompsons Avenue, Wolverhampton, Saturday, November 12th, 6 p.m. for 6.30 p.m., price 12s. 6d. Bells available:—St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, Penn. Coseley, Bradley during the afternoon. Tickets from Mr. D. J. Tranter, 36, Seven Acres, Aldridge, nr. Walsall. 6681

An attempt is to be made for five different Surprise peals in five different towers on Sat., starting at Aldermaston at 3.30 a.m. Mr. Robin Leale and Mr. A. Patrick Cannon are in the attempt.

RINGING, RAILWAYS AND BOATING

In two cars driven by the curate and the ringing master, the youngsters of Gresley, whose ages otherwise range from 12 to 15, covered 172 miles on their annual outing, ringing at five towers in four counties, and adding railways and boating to the enjoyment of ringing.

All the bells visited were of excellent tone and easy to ring and the lads acquitted themselves well, attempting rounds and Plain Bob Doubles. The destination was St. Neots, Hunts, but on the way there Great Glen, Leics (6, 9 cwt.), and Keysoe, Beds (5, 17 cwt.) were visited, met respectively by Mr. L. Allen and by Mr. Stapleton. Though the band thought Keysoe bells (a grand five of long draught under a tall spire) a little heavy, the Vicar, the Rev. J. M. Boyd Roberts, was impressed and wished they could all come to live in Keysoe. Also inspected was Wellingborough Railway Locomotive Dept., where the Franco-Crosti type freight locos. aroused much interest, three still being fitted with the special preheating water tube.

After lunch at St. Neots, most spent time watching the expresses dash through the railway station on the East Coast main line. Two, however, ascended the beautiful pinnacled tower, reminiscent of Somerset, and, joined by ringers from Bromham, Beds, Stamford, Lincs. and Brampton and Great Staughton, Hunts, rang a quarter of Bob Triples in 55 minutes on the majestic Taylor octave. The Gresley vice-captain, David Eames, excelled on the 29½ cwt. tenor, handling it with skill and precision that won the admiration of the older ringers. The Beds and Ely Associations' joint meeting followed, and the others from Gresley joined in some ringing and the tea, being welcomed by Canon L. Galley. They also found time for over an hour's voyage in three motor boats on the Ouse.

The long journey home was broken by rings on the pleasant 5-bell towers of Upper Dean, Beds (11 cwt.), and Grafton Underwood, Northants (7 cwt.), not to mention the essential fish and chip supper. All had such a good day that they have planned something even more ambitious for next year!

D. P. J.

'EXERCISING DIFFERENT METHODS'

'Lord give me a steady hand and watchful eye' (In the tower)
'That no man be hurt as I pass by' (Addition for the road).

Naturally I suppose a Ringing Driving School's Principal gets the job of teaching his fellow ringers to drive. Ringers from the same tower, others met on visits, at meetings. The friendliness and the atmosphere that exists in the towers crept into the School's instruction cars, also some of the jargon of the Exercise.

To have a number of ringers on the books at the same time induced quick snappy comparable instructions like, 'Careful with that last bit of the clutch. No, don't bring it up too far or too quick, you'll break the stay.' No, no dodging, that is only when stationary or nearly so. From top come first into third, then seconds' Or, when slowed down by an obstruction ahead, 'Make seconds and lead again!' 'Hold her, like holding your bell up' (First gear engaged, clutch slipping for a second or two) 'Let him (pedestrian) go first.'

Once when entering a large roundabout and intending to turn right . . . 'Look there's your chance, between the lorry and the bus! make the lorry your course bell and the bus your after bell' . . . 'No, make sure the gear lever is in neutral before using the starter, like making sure where your bell is before pulling.'

'Look to! That is around you going moving away, like when its Treble's gone, Treble's gone' . . . Or like in the early stages, when there were muddles, things happening too quick to be able to record in detail, 'Bring em' round, stand, and start again!' 'Steady, steady, you're pressing the accelerator pedal too hard, you're ringing the bells here! (Making her pink) 'Ringing Minimus' 'How can I ring Minimus with a Morris Minor?' asked one of the pupils in one of the cars.

After 23 years of driving instruction, this made quite a change and we all enjoyed it, with 98% passing the first time.

Congratulations to Miss Marion Noble, ringer at SS. Peter and Paul's, Mansfield, who passed her test on her 21st birthday: Miss Doreen Murfin, ringer at St. Helen's, Etwell, Derbys; Mr. J. Smithson, ringer at St. Werburgh's, Blackwell.

Also for advanced tuition to the Rev. H. Pettingell, curate and ringer, SS. Peter and Paul's, Mansfield; Mr. F. Adcock, ringer at SS. Peter and Paul's, Mansfield.

Other more recent successes:—Mr. W. Iball, ringer SS. Peter and Paul's, Mansfield, (1951); Mr. J. P. Eastland, ringer St. Werburgh's, Blackwell (1955); Mr. W. Stocks, ringer St. Mary's, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts (1956).

Mariorem Dexteritatem Aspiramus.
(Seeking to improve our Skills).

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- Minor : (1-14 Methods) 164 (143).
- Triples : Plain Bob 8 (8). Oxford Bob 5 (1). Stedman 38 (2). Grande 67 (55). St. Clement's 1 (1), Union 1.
- Major ; Rev. Canterbury Pl. 1 (1). Double Norwich C.B. 26 (2). Little Bob 2 (1). Plain Bob 69 (47) and one non-conducted. St. Clement's 2 (1). Single Oxford Bob 3 (3). Double Oxford Bob 1. Kent T.B. 40 (27). Oxford T.B. 28 (24). Liversedge Variation 1, Worcester Variation 1 (1), Surprise (21 methods) 67 (2).
- Caters : Stedman 9.
- Royal : Plain Bob 1. Kent T.B. 4 (1). Cambridge S. 1.
- Cinques : Stedman 1.
- Total 548 (325).

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A CAMPANOLOGICAL CRUISE FROM READING

The dank river mist had already cleared, and the blue sky promised a fine day, on the morning of September 17th, when a small party of ringers, mainly from St. Mary's, Reading, boarded the 'Treleague' at Lower Basildon.

The 'Treleague,' a shapely 56ft. pinnace with a tall brass funnel, under the command of Cap'n Cheeseman, that much respected veteran of the Upper Thames, was to be our conveyance for a novel outing.

We 'steamed' through Goring and Cleve locks, passing many a magnificent riverside mansion, backed by the Berkshire Downs on one side of the river and the Chiltern Hills on the other. At the 'Beetle and Wedge' we have to for refreshment, whilst coffee was served on board, and it was all that we could do to restrain one would-be tower-grabber from diving in when the bells of South Stoke could be heard ringing across the water. We arrived on time, at Wallingford, our first port of call. Mr. Jack Berry met us at St. Mary-le-More, and led us up to the tower to 'tap round' some Stedman and London on these eight good old bells.

On returning to the boat, we found that the galley had prepared an excellent five course lunch for which we were all very grateful. Between Wallingford and Dorchester, the Battle of Britain flying display at Benson aerodrome was very much appreciated. We finally dropped anchor under the shadow of the Wittenham Clumps, and walked across half a mile of muddy fields to Dorchester Abbey. Most of us made use of the opportunity to view the Abbey whilst the remainder struggled with the complexities of the combination lock on the belfry door. Fortunately the Vicar came to the rescue in time for us all to have a short ring on this pleasant octave.

Back on the boat again, the apple barrel was pitched into whilst the kettle boiled to provide a very welcome hot cup of tea in the rather cool evening. Although we were a little late leaving Dorchester, we passed through Goring Lock before sunset.

Thank you, Cap'n Cheeseman, for a very enjoyable day. We'll come again next year if we may.
C. E. L.

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