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MOIST BUT MUSICAL

THE cynics, not the tourist agencies, came into their own on June 11th, when the pick of Devon's call-change ringers rang it out at Torrington. It was grey, sunless and chilly, and until tea it tried to rain; after tea it succeeded most effectively with that soft, gentle and astonishingly wetting rain which is the West Country's speciality. In the High Street, under the arcaded front of the Town Hall, and more still in the beautifully-kept churchyard under the lime trees and among the slate headstones, ringers from all over Devon were gathered discussing the prospects for the afternoon. The judges, Messrs. T. Darch, C. Tapper, J. J. Brewer and H. Pidler, were installed in their room nearby before the teams drew for their order of ringing, that there might be no knowing which peal was whose; the first team were locked into the church; the treble of the eight chimed a few times to set the judges on their toes; and the competition was on.

The ten bands competing in this final were drawn five from North Devon and five from the South. In the North, the holders of the shield, West Down, had been second to Down St. Mary in the regional competition by a narrow margin, but many people expected them to turn the tables again now. Behind them came Mortehoe, Swymbridge and Heanton Punchardon. (If you don't believe in such a place, you'll find it on the map a few miles north-west of Barnstaple.) In the South, at Kenn, Widecombe had won from Colebrooke by over 10 faults, with West Alvington, Plymstock and Combe-in-Teignhead coming after. As in all six-bell competitions, the teams had to ring a 'peal' (as much a technical term here as among change ringers, so please bear with it) of a rise in peal, sixty-six call-changes, and a lower, the whole to be not less than 15 minutes. A clip costs a quarter fault; a bell out of place, failing to strike or striking superfluously in the rise and lower, is a full fault. And a clip means any irregularity in the beat that the ear can detect. The standard is perfection, and no previous practice on the bells is allowed in this competition.

The draw has been very co-operative in keeping the afternoon exciting, by putting the probable leaders in the second half of the list. Of the top four from the regional competitions, only Colebrooke are to ring before tea, and the holders of the shield are last of all. First on the list is Plymstock; their rise is not perfect, but pretty fair, but they push the bells up too stiff—perhaps it's the ball-bearings—and their changes, at 30 a minute, are rather unsteady. Like most of the bands competing, they failed to stop the bells from speaking at the end of their lower: oddly enough, the tenor was the chief offender in most cases. The judges gave Plymstock 56½ faults.

The next three bands each improved the standard, and the listeners began to find the characteristics of the bells as each band rang. They had a very definite 'pitch' of 33 rounds a minute, which the next band, Heanton Punchardon, found, after trying for a while to push along at 34, a little unsteadily. Heanton also found, it seemed, that the bells should be rung up, not pulled up. On ball-bearings, with a tenor of about 15 cwt., they got out of hand if, like Heanton, you tried to rise them too fast, but at that the standard was good, and the best rises excellent. Forty-nine faults went to Heanton Punchardon.

Mortehoe had drawn eighth position, but changed with Swymbridge to ring next, and improved on the last band by 12½ faults; their rise was notably better, and they were perhaps the first band to get their 'top ringing' (the rounds and call-changes) really swinging along. Colebrooke went still better; their rise was the best so far, and their call-changes, once they had settled down from a slightly pushed 34 to a steadier 32 rounds a minute, were excellent. The tenor lost her tongue for a few blows during the lower, and that may have brought their faults up to 26½, but it was a good peal.

Combe-in-Teignhead had a most unfortunate peal; they didn't seem to get the feel of the bells at all, rushing them up very fast and getting them too high for their top ringing at 30 a minute. They went down badly with 63 faults. Still, Combe is a band we shall hear more of in the future, and a credit to a very small place.

After tea, the rain had come in earnest, and ringers huddled into nooks and crannies, or peered out from doorways like rabbits apprehensive of the presence of a poaching cat. But the ringing was worth peering out for. West Alvington is a name to conjure with, or was three years ago; this was their second band which came to Torrington, having beaten the first for the second year running. Perhaps it was the journey of over 70 miles or the tea interval, but West Alvington had an off day, which was a disappointment to me, who have so often heard splendid music from their tower coming across Kingsbridge town on a Sunday. They pushed the bells a little too fast at 34 and, unlike most bands, didn't slow up to a steadier pace. But they redeemed their performance with a good lower.

With Widecombe ringing next, all ears were pricked, and we certainly heard some lovely music. Widecombe lost marks on their rise and lower, particularly on the chiming at the end, when the tenor got a little behind. Enough to say that all the marks they lost (there were 27) were lost thus; their top ringing the judges found faultless, and I found a real delight. Dead on the pitch of the bells, fluent and steady, it was better than clockwork; it had a touch of inspiration. But the next to ring, Swymbridge, though without the highlights of Widecombe's peal, beat them by 4½ marks with an excellent piece of ringing which put them into a well-deserved third place.

Now came the two great rivals, the two Downs, St. Mary and West Down, and what a treat! Down St. Mary recovered from a slightly unsteady start to rise the bells well, and went off into the top ringing at 33. They slowed by a round a minute later, but, thanks to beautiful control, kept the bells steady and even, which no other band succeeded in doing at that speed. Their lower was the best of the day. Then came West Down, the holders of the shield, with a very stiff task ahead if they were to beat the last. That they failed to do so by a mark and a half is no criticism of their ringing; it was a beautiful peal, and their lower, slow to get the very last bit of song from the bells, so slow that you could never believe they'd keep it steady (but they did), was one of the joys of the day.

And so into church, for the service and the presentation of awards. To Down St. Mary, the big Shield and 1st Certificate, 10½ faults; to West Down, the Shelley Cup and 2nd Certificate, 12½; to Swymbridge, the 3rd Certificate, 22½; and to Colebrooke, the 4th, with 26½. It will be some time before the grey Church of St. Michael hears such a treat of bell music, or Rudhall's back six make it. And if any band from 'up the line' fancies its striking, let them come and see whether they can persuade Messrs. Darch, Tapper, Brewer and Pidler to let them off with ten and three-quarter faults for fifteen minutes' ringing!

J. G. M. S.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., June 9, 1955, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 25 cwt

JOHN A. ACRES Treble	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 7
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	HARRY G. WAYNE 8
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	SIDNEY O. CHENEY 9
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 4	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 10
*DAVID HOARE 5	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 11
SHIRLEY BURTON 6	WILLIAM J. ROOT Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.
* First peal of Surprise Maximus. A birthday compliment to Sidney O. Cheney.

LONDON, S.E.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 48 cwt.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Treble	*TREVOR A. CROSS .. 7
THOMAS H. FRANCIS 2	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. 8
MRS. T. H. FRANCIS 3	RALPH BIRD 9
ARTHUR G. MASON 4	FRANK B. LUFKIN 10
A. RONALD LING 5	*THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. 11
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 6	ALFRED J. HOUSE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.
* First peal on 12 bells.

TEN BELL PEALS

DERBY.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 19 cwt.

ALAN TAYLOR Treble	ROBIN G. TURNER 6
JOAN BERESFORD 2	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 7
GEORGE E. OLIVER 3	DENIS R. CARLISLE 8
GORDON A. HALLS 4	DEREK P. JONES 9
HAROLD TAYLOR 5	*REV. G. GORDON GRAHAM Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by DENIS R. CARLISLE.

* First peal of Surprise Royal. First of Pudsey Surprise Royal for all and for the Association.

Rung for the Feast of St. Barnabas.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5080 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 24½ cwt.

CYRIL WRIGHT Treble	SAMUEL SCATTERGOOD .. 6
*GEORGE CHALLANS 2	*DENNIS COOPER 7
ARNOLD HILL 3	STANLEY SLANEY 8
A. BENJAMIN COOPER .. 4	REV. G. GORDON GRAHAM .. 9
†DOUGLAS H. ROOKE .. 5	HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by H. T. ROOKE.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal.

Rung to mark 21 years' service as Vicar of Chesterfield by the Ven. T. H. Dilworth-Harrison.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., May 29, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

HARRY BAKER Treble	GEOFFREY PEARSON 5
WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. 2	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 6
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	MARK W. MARSHALL Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., June 7, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 19 lb. in F.

CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. Treble	FRANK E. HAYNES 5
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
ALBERT WALKER 3	HENRY H. FEARN 7
PETER BORDER 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.
The first peal on the light eight, marking the successful completion of the Rector of Birmingham's £100,000 appeal.

ANSTEE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in G.

ALBAN DISNEY Treble	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 5
*PETER R. JOHNSON 2	RALPH ELKINGTON 6
WILLIAM A. LACEY 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
DAVID S. HARRIS 4	S. ANTHONY JESSON Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by REDVERS F. ELKINGTON.
* First peal of Surprise Major.

A compliment to Gordon H. Arguile (ringer, chorister and server at this church) and Miss Iris M. Hinds on the occasion of their wedding, which took place at this church earlier in the day.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE Treble	*DAVID HOARE 5
MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 2	JOHN A. ACRES 6
ERNEST W. RAWSON 3	†S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 7
J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 4	HAROLD J. POOLE Tenor

Composed by FRED DENCH. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
* First peal of London Surprise Major. † 200th peal.

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat. June 11, 1955, in 3 Hours,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALAN R. ANDREWS .. Treble	ARTHUR G. BUTTON 5
*DENNIS WHENT 2	FELIX H. ERITH 6
ROY DUESBURY 3	GEORGE W. BARNES 7
CHARLES A. ANDREWS .. 4	GEORGE N. ORMAN Tenor

Composed by HORACE HOWLETT. Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.
* First peal. First peal on the bells since restoration by John Taylor and Co.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 25½ cwt.

*CHRISTINE PEDDER .. Treble	VERNON BOTTOMLEY 5
*ROBERT E. MOULDS 2	SAM LONGBOTTOM 6
ERNEST H. SIMPSON .. 3	JOHN PEARSON 7
WILLIAM DIXON 4	*TOM PEDDER Tenor

Composed by A. J. CORRIGAN. Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.
* First peal of Triples. First peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells since 1905.

Rung following the marriage of the Cathedral Succentor, the Rev. Leonard R. Barker, to Barbara A. Hodgson; also for the marriage of the Rev. J. M. Douglas to Anne Hill at Guiseley Parish Church this day. A 74th birthday compliment to the mother of the ringer of the 6th.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CLIFFORD SKIDMORE .. Treble	WILLIAM C. DOWDING .. 5
SHIRLEY V. RYMER 2	*FREDERICK JUKES 6
*MOLLY P. FLYNN 3	THOMAS HEMMING 7
GEOFFREY WESTWOOD .. 4	SYDNEY T. HOLT Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by SYDNEY T. HOLT.
* First peal of Surprise.

FAIRFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

*MICHAEL SAGE Treble	*IVOR JENKINS 5
SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. 2	NEIL D. LOMAS 6
MRS. A. RICHARDSON .. 3	WILLIAM A. SMITH .. 7
BRIAN WOODRUFFE 4	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT. Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal of Major.

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. in D.

NANCY E. MARKLEW Treble	LEONARD TREVOR 5
ALFRED BALLARD 2	MICHAEL E. BROWN 6
JEFFREY B. WEBB 3	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

WEST HALLAM, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

Brookes' Variation	HAROLD TAYLOR 5
ROBIN G. TURNER Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON 6
*VIVIANNE HORTON 2	DEREK P. JONES 7
DENIS A. CARLISLE 3	DAVID K. WALKLATE .. Tenor
GORDON A. HALLS 4	

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman Triples as conductor. Rung for the Feast of St. Barnabas.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., June 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL FOUNDATION CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO,

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. Treble	BRIAN G. WARWICK 5
*MRS. S. J. HAYNES 2	SAMUEL J. HAYNES 6
MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
MRS. H. J. POOLE 4	HAROLD J. POOLE Tenor

Composed by FRED DENCH. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal of London Surprise Major to be rung by married couples resident in the same district. All reside in the Leicester District of the Leicester Diocesan Guild.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., June 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 lb.

*JILL TOMBS Treble	†WILLIAM DAVIES 5
STANLEY PRESTIDGE .. 2	HOWARD HOWELL 6
†HAROLD J. SHUCK 3	ERNEST STITCH 7
JOHN A. RODEN 4	HENRY HUBBALL Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST STITCH.

* First peal. † 25th peal together.

Mr. E. Stith has 'completed the circle' in this tower.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., June 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

E. MARTIN FIELDEN .. Treble	RALPH BEAUMONT 5
VERNON BOTTOMLEY 2	J. HENRY FIELDEN 6
SHEILA M. TAYLOR 3	ROBERT E. MOULDS 7
HAROLD SCHOFIELD 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by ROBERT E. MOULDS.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., June 14, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 SOUTHWELL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E

*MARY DOWSETT Treble	*JOE E. G. ROAST 5
JOHN WARNER 2	WALTER ARNOLD 6
ERNEST W. FURBANK .. 3	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS .. 7
FRANK B. LUFKIN 4	TERRY EARLE Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

* 25th peal together. First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the Association.

A birthday compliment to John Warner.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., June 16, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

JACK BRAY Treble	HARRY HALL 5
*MICHAEL CROWDER 2	ARTHUR CROWDER 6
*JOHN HALL 3	PHILIP BARNES 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 4	GEORGE W. MOODY Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN.

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal 'inside.'

ANDOVER, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

PETER NASH Treble	GEOFFREY K. DODD 5
REGINALD W. REX 2	RONALD F. DISERENS .. 6
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 3	J. MICHAEL LAKIN 7
ADRIAN J. TUMBER 4	J. ALAN AINSWORTH Tenor

Composed by HARRY POYNER.

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

First peal in the method by all except the ringer of the 2nd. The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

COLSTON BASSETT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (Seventh Observation).

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in D.

MARK W. LEWIS Treble	*F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER 5
DENNIS SIMPSON 2	*GEORGE R. PAYNE 6
J. DAVID CLARKE 3	WILLIAM L. EXTON 7
CLARENCE F. BRIGGS .. 4	†ALBERT FOSTER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal on eight bells.



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DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Containing 960 changes of London, 928 Watford, 896 Bristol and 832 each of Cambridge, Superlative and Pudsey, with 127 changes of method. The full work of each method by all the bells. Tenor 30½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. JACKSON .. Treble	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 5
MILTON C. FOWLER .. 2	*LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 6
HOWARD SCOTT .. 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise.

Rung on the 111th anniversary of the birth of Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, founder of the Association.

DOUGLAS-IN-PARBOLD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	JACK ASHCROFT .. 5
TERRY OWEN .. 2	RONALD KENRICK .. 6
MARGARET E. RIDYARD .. 3	JAMES W. GROUNDS .. 7
PETER COXALL .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Composed by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

First peal in the method by the band and on the bells.

Rung as a 72nd birthday compliment to Mr. Arthur Tomlinson, of Blackburn.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in F.

HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS .. Treble	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. 5
RONALD W. PANKHURST .. 2	KEVIN H. HOHL .. 6
BERNARD V. COLLISON .. 3	ERNEST J. LADD .. 7
STANLEY G. PONTING .. 4	JOHN W. MEADE .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*RUSSELL H. R. PARKER .. Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR .. 5
*ERNEST J. MUNDAY .. 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON .. 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 7
*E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS.

* First peal in the method.

An engagement compliment to the ringer of the second and Miss M. Anthea Rawson.

SHRIVENHAM, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 lb. in F.

CYRIL SAVAGE .. Treble	†WALTER H. TRUEMAN .. 5
*ERIC SUTTON .. 2	IVOR H. TRUEMAN .. 6
†W. BERTRAM KYNASTON .. 3	GEORGE F. BURTON .. 7
BRIAN BLADON .. 4	ALAN R. PINK .. Tenor

Composed by PERCY GREEN. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Surprise Major. † First peal in the method. The first peal in the method on the bells.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 15 cwt. 26 lb.

ERNEST F. PAYNE .. Treble	*JEAN A. BROOKS .. 5
MARY C. PAYNE .. 2	*ROYSTON WILMORE .. 6
*H. LESLIE WYKES .. 3	B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 7
*J. JULIAN PAWLEY .. 4	ERNEST MORRIS .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

* First peal of Bob Triples. First peal of Bob Triples as conductor and 100th peal.

The treble ringer has now 'circled the tower' twice.

UTTOXETER, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

SHELAGH K. SEERY .. Treble	CHARLES S. RYLES .. 5
FREDERICK E. WILSHAW .. 2	EWART H. EDGE .. 6
RICHARD J. WARRILLOW .. 3	*CHARLES H. PAGE .. 7
F. HECTOR BENNETT .. 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by FREDERICK E. WILSHAW.

* 300th peal.
A compliment to Mr. E. A. Roberts on completing 50 years as a Sunday service ringer at this church.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

LITTLE HOUGHTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
On Mon., May 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 480 St. Simon's, 720 Canterbury, 720 Old, 480 London, 840 April Day, 840 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

*DAVID RINGROSE .. Treble	*JACK KIGHTLEY .. 3
*RAYMOND HENMAN .. 2	LESLIE BATTISON .. 4
*ANTHONY FORD .. Tenor	

Conducted by LESLIE BATTISON.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

Rung for the festival of Whitsun.

COLEBROOKE, DEVONSHIRE.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., June 4, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight extents each of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, and nine each of April Day and Reverse St. Bartholomew. Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR TAPLEY .. Treble	*SIDNEY SKINNER .. 4
WILFRED PANTER .. 2	JOHN QUICK .. 5
L. KENNETH DAWE .. 3	A. COURTNEY THORNE .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN QUICK.

* 50th peal. First peal in five Doubles methods for all. First peal on the bells.

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

SCULTHORPE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., June 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

*A. COOKE .. Treble	*A. WEBSTER .. 4
TONY OWEN .. 2	*G. DREW .. 5
CECIL V. EBBERSON .. 3	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

* First peal.

Rung to welcome the Rev. F. G. Gunn, who was inducted Vicar of this parish on January 6th, 1955.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed. June 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN R. G. SPICER .. Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 4
JOHN G. GIPSON .. 2	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 5
FRANK W. LACK .. 3	HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

HAYNES, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., June 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In nine methods: 240 each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place, Reverse Canterbury, Reverse St. Bartholomew and April Day; 1,320 Plain Bob; and 2,040 Grandsire. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.

JOHN W. V. SINFIELD .. Treble	*J. RUSSELL TAYLOR .. 3
PETER J. SHIPTON .. 2	PHILIP MEHEW .. 4
STEPHEN IVIN .. Tenor	

Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

* First peal 'inside.' First peal on the bells.

Rung on the Eve of St. Barnabas, in the Octave of Corpus Christi, and in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents each of Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

DAVID J. MARSHALL Treble	† FRANK D. MACK 4
*TERENCE K. PRICE 2	REGINALD G. HOOPER 5
†CLIFFORD BLUNDELL 3	TUDOR P. EDWARDS Tenor

Alternate 120's conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL and REGINALD G. HOOPER.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles in three methods.
The ringers of treble and tenor have now 'circled the tower.'

BROUGHTON ASTLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

*HOWARD WATSON Treble	*WILLIAM JOHNSON 4
*GERALD JOHNSON 2	MICHAEL VERNON 5
*HOWARD TURNER 3	JOHN A. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. SMITH.

* First peal.

EAST HOATHLY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Consisting of seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb.

*MRS. RUTH REYNOLDS .. Treble	GEORGE BEENY 4
†LAURA M. BEENY 2	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 5
†KATHLEEN M. YEO 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

SHIPDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three extent of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

CHARLES E. G. BANHAM .. Treble	JOHN S. BARNES 4
THOMAS A. A. POTTER 2	ROBERT C. BUTTON 5
FRANK C. J. ARNOLD 3	CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO .. Tenor

Conducted by CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO.

WESTBURY-SUB-MENDIP, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720, each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt.

ALBERT E. CAVER Treble	GWILYM SALMON 4
MARJORIE LEGG 2	RONALD H. GARDENER .. 5
VICTOR G. ROBERTS 3	GEORGE PRESCOTT Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.

Fiftieth peal as conductor and the 50th Somerset tower in which he has rung a peal.

ABBOTSBURY, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Dorchester Branch.)

On Mon., June 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*GEORGE J. W. ABBOTT .. Treble	*JOHN W. ROSE 4
*DOROTHY M. NICE 2	†JOHN D. KAPE 5
*BETTY J. MARSH 3	HENRY J. FORD Tenor

Conducted by HENRY J. FORD.

* First peal. † First peal of Plain Bob Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor



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BELL FOUNDERS

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CROYDON



LANGLEYBURY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., June 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in nine methods: (1) London, (2) Cambridge and Primrose, (3) Bourne, (4) Kent Treble Bob, (5) Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, (6) St. Clement's, (7) Double Oxford. Tenor 8 cwt. 21 lb.

BRIAN M. BARKER Treble	†KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 4
WALTER AYRE 2	AUGUSTIN V. GOOD .. 5
*GEOFFREY S. DUNCAN .. 3	WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in nine methods and the first 720's as the first five.
† First peal in nine methods.

Rung in honour of the birth of a son (Andrew Philip) to the Rev. and Mrs. R. W. Martin.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., June 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9 cwt.

*CLIVE HOLLOWAY Treble	VERNON GREEN 4
†JOHN CRUICKSHANK 2	ROBIN TREBILCOCK 5
JOHN HADFIELD 3	TOM SMITH Tenor

Conducted by TOM SMITH.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'
Rung for the Queen's birthday by an all-Headington band, except the treble ringer.

EDGWARE, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., June 15, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being two extents each of Bourne, Cambridge and London, and one extent of Wells. Tenor 9 cwt.

H. GEORGE HART Treble	JOHN R. MAYNE 4
ELSIE K. FULTON 2	HAROLD E. CLAYTON 5
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE 3	RICHARD G. OUSTON Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD E. CLAYTON.

First peal as conductor.
Rung for the wedding of Canon C. F. Payne to Miss Rita F. Hamm, which took place at this church on Saturday, June 11th.

ASFORDBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being four six-scores each All Saints, Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob; one 240 Pitman's Grandsire; 20 six-scores Grandsire in ten callings. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

*REV. FRANCIS D. E. BURNE Treble	*FREDERICK J. WILLIAMS .. 4
HAROLD T. BONSHOR 2	GEOFFREY BOWCUTT .. 5
J. HARRY COOK 3	†JOHN DAY Tenor

Conducted by J. HARRY COOK.

* First peal of Doubles in six methods. † First peal. First in six methods as conductor.

Rung as a farewell to the Rev. F. D. E. Burne, who has been an active ringer in the Melton District.

BODENHAM, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Court and Single Oxford Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

*MRS. T. RUSHTON Treble	JOSEPHINE GREEN 4
MOLLIE TILBURY 2	AUSTIN T. WINGATE 5
PHILIP G. MORGAN 3	REGINALD T. JONES Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD T. JONES.

* First peal.

BUCKMINSTER, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Melton District.)

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

J. PHILLIP EASTLAND Treble	RICHARD E. MANTON 4
GEORGE E. HANCOCK 2	WILFRED RILEY 5
DOREEN ARMSTRONG 3	FRANK BRADLEY Tenor

Conducted by DOREEN ARMSTRONG.

GREAT EASTON, ESSEX.

THE GUILD OF MEDICAL RINGERS.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

J. MARY BOISSARD Treble	LEWIS CASTLEDEN 4
*F. STEDMAN POOLE 2	†P. J. SPENCER-PHILLIPS .. 5
†D. J. NEAL SMITH 3	DAVID L. GULLICK Tenor

Conducted by DAVID L. GULLICK.

* 80th peal. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Minor. The first peal rung for the Guild.

MARBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being four extents of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.

*MARGARET HALL Treble	JOHN E. BROUGH 4
NEIL D. LOMAS 2	*BRIAN SCHOFIELD 5
SYDNEY SAGE 3	SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.

* First peal in two methods.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in six methods: three extents St. Martin's and Reverse St. Bartholomew, six extents April Day and Grandsire, and 12 extents Plain Bob and Reverse Canterbury Pleasure. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JAMES RANFORD Treble	JAMES WARD 4
C. WILLIAM NUTT 2	FREDERICK MERRICK 5
ROLAND E. LEWIS 3	JACK MERRICK Tenor

Conducted by C. WILLIAM NUTT.

Believed to be the first peal in six Doubles methods on the bells.

PACKINGTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROOD,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 lb. in B flat.

J. CHRISTOPHER RIGG Treble	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 4
ROLAND BENISTON 2	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY 5
WILLIAM WOODWARD 3	FRANCIS R. LOWE Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being extents of Oxford Bob, Double Court, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

EVELYN R. M. CANSDALE Treble	A. EDWARD LEGGETT 4
ROSEMARY SEABROOK 2	SAM. J. TWITCHETT 5
*ALLEN W. CANSDALE 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

* First peal in seven methods.

A welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. H. G. Keet, D.S.O., M.C.).

HANDBELL PEAL

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

AT 34, LEONARD AVENUE, SHERWOOD.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

MRS. A. SIMPSON 1-2	BRIAN BUSWELL 5-6
CLEMENT GLENN 3-4	ALLAN SIMPSON 7-8

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

A birthday compliment to Albert H. Ward. 82 on the above date.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE Western District at Benfieldside

A very successful meeting was held at Shotley Bridge on June 11th. Mr. Stephen Thompson presided, and in his remarks pointed out that on previous occasions the Western District depended on the support from other Districts, but to-day, apart from one member, all were residents of the District. Towers represented were Consett, Benfieldside, Lanchester, Blaydon, Chester-le-Street, Whickham and Newcastle Cathedral.

The local ringers kindly provided a free tea and were thanked by Mr. Robson (Newcastle). A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens was proposed by Mr. R. W. Leighton, who took the opportunity later to make an appeal for more members to take 'The Ringing World.' It was decided to hold the next meeting at Tanfield.

The Rev. T. H. H. Hood (Blaydon), in the absence of the Vicar, conducted the service, and Mr. Jack Brown was the organist. The collection was given to the local bell fund and amounted to 18s. 6d.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL

The half-yearly meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Bishopstone on June 11th and some good ringing was had on the heavy ring of eight, methods up to Cambridge and Superlative being rung. There was a fairly good attendance of members, and visitors were present from Buckland, Chiseldon and Shrivenham.

The Branch chairman (Dr. H. Craig) presided at the business meeting and Mr. W. B. Kynaston gave a report of the Central Council meeting held at Bristol. It was proposed that the next three meetings be held at Wanborough, Ashton Keynes and Cricklade and Highworth.

NORWICH ASSOCIATION

Resignation of S. Norfolk Chairman

The South Norfolk Branch meeting held at Pulham St. Mary on June 4th attracted 43 ringers and friends from 22 different parishes in Norfolk and Suffolk, and a visitor from Frome, Somerset. The Rector (the Rev. C. G. Kerslake) conducted the service, and the new president of the Association (the Rev. H. G. Lillingston) was the preacher.

At the meeting which followed tea, the Rev. F. E. Vokes presided, accompanied by the president, the new general secretary (Mr. Love), the Branch Ringing Master (Mr. E. Whiting) and Branch secretary (Mr. A. G. Harrison) and members of the committee. New members elected were: Mr. L. Minns and Mr. W. T. Bell (Pulham St. Mary); and Miss Moyrl J. Alden (Saxlingham), Mr. R. Plummer (Fressingfield) and Mr. C. Brown (Wingfield) non-resident life members.

The Branch chairman, the Rev. F. E. Vokes, who is leaving South Norfolk for Wales in the near future, tendered his resignation. Dr. Paul H. A. Jonason, of East Harling, was elected as the new chairman. The president expressed his thanks on behalf of the Branch to Mr. Vokes for the able way he had conducted the meetings during his term of office. Thanks were also passed to Mr. E. Whiting and the ladies who served tea.

A writer asks: Cannot Mr. E. Razzell (mentioned in these columns on May 27th) find a Mr. Brewer to join forces with Edward J. Beer, Maurice Stout and Mansfield Ginn to ring a peal? Suggested meeting place—'The World's Upside Down'! Terry Onions, Wilfred Pickles and Mr. Cheese might be invited to join forces.

BARNESLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

By the kind invitation of the Vicar and the local company, the annual shield contest was held at Ossett on June 11th. Four teams entered the draw and the result of the ringing was as follows.—1 Friezland 60 faults; 2 Shelley 84; 3 Cawthorne 74; 4 Silkstone rung out.

The test piece was 720 changes. Cawthorne rang Violet, the other three rang Oxford. Mr. H. Chant (Felkirk) was the judge, and Mr. E. Atkinson (Horbury) the marker. Friezland were the winners and hold the shield for 12 months, and each ringer received a chrome jam dish. Thanks are extended to the Vicar, the local company, the judge and the marker. It is hoped to hold the next meeting at South Kirkby on July 9th.

A YORKSHIRE VETERAN

Mr. F. Parr, of Killamarsh, had a pleasant surprise for his 78th birthday, which he celebrated on Sunday, June 5th. At the invitation of his ringing colleagues at Killamarsh, ringers from Sheffield and Rotherham gathered at Killamarsh Church after evening service and rang the bells in his honour to touches of Plain Bob, Cambridge and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob.

After the ringing those taking part were invited to Mr. Parr's home to drink his health and enjoy a sample of his birthday cake. Mr. Parr is the remaining link between the present band and the old team, which was so successful under the leadership of the late Charles N. C.

If you are a quarterly or half-yearly subscriber your subscription is now due.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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JOSEPH T. DYKE.

HAROLD J. POOLE.

R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The Exercise will congratulate Mr. John Thomas, of Hinton-on-the-Green, on ringing his 1,000th peal on June 18th. It was a peal of Stedman Caters rung at St. Stephen's, Bristol, where he rang his first peal.

The bells of Evershot Parish Church will be broadcast in the West Home Service next Sunday at 9.30 a.m.

Mr. Charles R. Morss, tower master of St. Mary's, Woodford, Essex, has the proud record of having rung at this tower for 61 years.

A touch of Plain Bob Triples rung at St. Margaret's, Leiston, Suffolk, on June 14th, is believed to be the first rung on the bells.

Mr. E. S. Ruck, the Grand Old Man of Kent, rang in a quarter peal at Willesborough on June 20th in celebration of his 88th birthday.

A peal of 53 Spliced Surprise Major methods was rung at Conisbrough, Yorkshife, on June 24th, conducted by Mr. W. Eric Critchley. This constitutes a new record.

Dr. Richard von der Riet Woolley, the new Astronomer Royal as from January 1st, 1956, is a cousin of Mr. C. W. Woolley. He rang in at least one handbell peal while at Cambridge University.

The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead writes: 'The peal of Stedman Cinques at Cirencester was the first in a method other than Grandsire for 50 years. There has not been a peal of Maximus this century—the last was of Kent Treble Bob in 1897.'

The Chartered Institute of Secretaries gave a luncheon at the House of Commons last week in honour of Mr. J. C. Mitchell (president of the Institute 1916-17), who has been a member for 50 years. Mr. Mitchell has, however, a longer membership of the Ancient Society of College Youths—over 70 years. He was formerly secretary of the London General Omnibus Company.

BELFRY GOSSIP

His many friends in the Canterbury District will wish to congratulate Mr. A. H.

Sayer on reaching his 91st birthday yesterday (Thursday). Formerly of Birchington and Canterbury, he has been a ringer for many years, and is one of the last remaining members of the old band at Quex Park. In spite of his great age he still visits both Birchington and Canterbury, although not to ring. All will wish him good health.

A married couples' peal of London Surprise Major was rung by four couples resident in the Leicester District.

Congratulations to Mr. Leslie Battison on conducting a peal of seven Doubles methods at Little Houghton, Northants, with the other four ringers attempting their first peal.

Another peal this week containing four 'first peals' was at Abbotsbury, Dorset. Here Mr. Henry J. Ford was calling his first peal of Plain Bob Minor.

We regret to learn that Mr. F. M. Mitchell, the general treasurer of the Kent County Association, is in Gravesend Hospital for treatment. He was visited on June 25th by Mr. B. J. Luck during the Canterbury District's outing.

Mr. C. Chambers sails for Durban on the 'Oranje-fontein' from Southampton on July 2nd. Through 'The Ringing World' he expresses his appreciation of the many kindnesses he has received while ringing in England, in particular from the St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge, band.

Congratulations to David Hoare, of Radstock, on scoring his first of Cambridge Surprise Maximus and London Surprise Major on two consecutive days. His visit to Leicester Cathedral brought back to the peal columns three members of the old school, to whom congratulations are also tendered on their first-class 'come-back.'

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL AT BRISTOL

(Continued from page 395)

COUNCIL READY TO ADVISE ON INSTALLATIONS — VARIATIONS AND AUTHORSHIP — DEFINITIONS

ROLL OF HONOUR

That a photostat copy of the Roll of Honour be made, to be taken to Council meetings.

The Standing Committee's recommendation that this be retained was agreed.

That the Roll be housed in St. Paul's Cathedral.

The Standing Committee's recommendation that this be rescinded was agreed.

That, in future, all peals not conforming to the Council's decisions will not be included in the Analysis; they will, however, if sent, be published in 'The Ringing World.'

The Standing Committee make no recommendation regarding this, as it would be superseded if motions (e) or (f) on the agenda were carried. Motion (f), amended, was carried later.

That this Council deprecates the increasing number of installations of synthetic and recorded bells, which it considers to be unworthy of use in the House of God, and wishes to support the responsible authorities in the steps they are taking to prevent their installation.

The Standing Committee recommended that this be retained with the addition of the following paragraph:—

'That this Council is always ready to advise on alternative schemes.'

This was agreed on the proposition of Mr. E. A. Barnett, seconded by Mr. C. K. Lewis.

REPORTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL WHICH ARE STILL CURRENT

Report on Variation and Authorship.

The conditions controlling composition vary so greatly, according to the method treated, that it is impossible to devise a comprehensive set of rules which shall be equally applicable to all methods and yet free from the imperfection of being too lax when applied to some methods, and too stringent in the case of others. Each method requires separate consideration and rules determining the limits of originality in composition applicable to itself; and though it would, no doubt, be possible to form groups of methods, to each of which one set of rules might be applicable, the result would be both cumbersome and confusing. The following propositions are, therefore, limited to a general statement of the features distinguishing 'originality,' which are more or less applicable to all methods:—

(1) The earliest ascertainable true composition on any definite plan in any method, which is not a reproduction or obvious variation of the same composition in another method, is entitled to be termed the 'original' composition on that plan.

(2) Subsequent compositions on the same plan which are not demonstrably reversals or transpositions (as hereinafter described) or obvious variations of a previous composition in the same method, may be considered as 'distinct' compositions on the plan and allowed the claim of 'originality.'

(3) **Reversals** in which the calls in one position are exchanged for those in another, including direct inversions of calling; **Transpositions**, by which one bell is substituted for another as 'the observation,' or rearrangements of the same calling; **Artificial Alterations**, such as the employment of alternative calls, the multiplication or subtracting or shifting of singles, or the redistribution of 'shunting calls,' by which the general result is not affected, but only the form of the composition—if applied to any previous composition possessed of the distinction of 'originality,' are to be considered as 'Variations.'

In the foregoing statement, the word 'plan' is used in a comprehensive sense, as embracing not only the divisions of a composition into a given number of parts, but also the assignment of 'qualities' with reference to length, the treatment of 'Fixed' or 'observation' bells, or any other **Distinctive Feature in Construction**.

The Standing Committee's recommendation that this be retained was agreed.

Report of the Committee on Regular Methods.

(A) All methods are founded on principles.

(B) A principle is a collection of rows which form a perfect round block, in which:—

(a) Every bell does the same work.

(b) No bell moves up or down more than one place at a time.

(c) No bell lies more than two consecutive blows in any one place.

(C) Methods are formed from principles in two ways:—

(1) A principle may be used as a method when it conforms to the following rules:—

(a) It must be true within itself.

(b) It must be divisible into as many divisions as there are bells, each division, together with the hunting and place-making that connect it with the next division, to contain the whole working of the method.

(c) In the case of those methods in which the coursing order of the bells is altered by an alternative work (as the quick and slow in Stedman), these divisions are sub-divided.

(d) Each division, or, in (c), each sub-division, must reverse true to itself.

(2) One or more bells in any principle (called 'hunts') may be allowed to retain their original paths, while the places of the others are taken by working bells, which revolve about the hunt (or hunts), subject to the following conditions:

(a) No bell shall move up or down more than one place at a time.

(b) No bell shall strike more than two consecutive blows in any one place.

(c) There shall be as many plain leads in the plain course as there are working bells, each lead containing as many rows as the principle on which it is founded.

(d) The working bells shall be in the same coursing order at each lead head and end in the plain course.

(e) Each lead shall reverse true to itself, and, together with the hunting and place-making that connect it with the next lead, shall contain the whole working of the method.

Note: In 1952, 2(b), (c) and (d) above were modified in respect of Doubles methods only, as follows:—

(b) No bell shall strike more than four consecutive blows in any one place, such four consecutive blows to occur only when the treble is at the front or at the back.

(c) As far as possible there shall be as many leads in the plain course as there are working bells, but this requirement to be relaxed to include single-hunt methods which have three leads in the plain course.

(d) The working bells need not be in the same coursing order at each lead head and end in the plain course.

The Standing Committee's recommendation that this be retained with Section C(2) suitably reworded was agreed.

DEFINITIONS

(A) A Plain Lead is a succession of rows so arranged that when the hunt (or hunts) has completed its work from the lead-head to the lead-end, it is in a different relative position among the working bells, but the working bells are in the same coursing order.

(B) A Bob Lead is a succession of rows so arranged that when the hunt (or hunts) has completed its work from the lead-head to lead-end it is in a different relative position among the working bells, and the working bells have three of their number in a different coursing order.

(Continued on page 410)

Those who took part successfully in the peal of Lincolshire Surprise Major at Portsmouth are warm in praise of Eric W. Harrison, who stood in at short notice. Eric is in the Royal Marines doing his National Service and is suffering from a fractured right arm. The way he rang his bell with his right arm in plaster, strapped to his side, was amazing.

Mr. J. Lewis Cockey sails on August 10th from Liverpool on the 'Ascania.'

The University of Bristol Society is thinking of forming an overseas branch. Miss B. E. L. Roberts is in Australia, Dr. Alan Pedlar in the United States and he is to be joined by Bob Stokes. Peter Stanford, who was tower secretary for 1954-55, leaves shortly for New Zealand.

The marriage of Mr. Gordon H. Arguile and Miss Iris M. Hinds took place at St. Mary's Church, Anstey, on June 11th. Gordon has been an enthusiastic ringer, chorister and server at Anstey Church for a number of years. A wedding present in the form of an electric fire was given to the couple from the bellringers and choir with their very best wishes; no doubt this will be a reminder to Gordon of the many times he has mended the temperamental fire in Anstey belfry! In the afternoon following the wedding, a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung to honour the happy occasion.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

The Rev. F. D. E. Burne, an active ringer in the Melton District, is leaving for missionary work in Malaya. Many years of his missionary work were spent in China. He took part in a farewell peal at Asfordby.

Mr. Howard Watson has rung his first peal at the age of 47 at Broughton Astley, Leicestershire. There were three other 'first pealers' with him, to the satisfaction of Mr. John A. Smith, the conductor.

The many friends of Albert H. Ward (82) will be sorry to hear that owing to disability he was unable to take a pair in the handbell peal rung on his birthday, and send all good wishes with hopes for a speedy recovery.

Mr. W. Eric Critchley has now conducted from an 'inside' bell all three of the compositions of Spliced Surprise Major by A. J. Pitman in four, five and six methods, with the full work of each method for all bells. Any chance of some more in seven or eight, Mr. Pitman?

On Wednesday, June 15th, Mr. Norman Chaddock gave a talk on 'Campanology' to the Teachers' and Parents' Association of Heringthorpe School. The talk was illustrated by pictures, diagrams, a model bell and demonstrations of handbell ringing by girls from Rotherham High School. The programme ended with selections of tunes on handbells. Requests to visit Rotherham Parish Church belfry were received by the speaker from several members of the audience.

CENTRAL COUNCIL—Cont.

(C) A Single Lead is as a Bob Lead except that the working bells finally have two of their number in a different coursing order.

The Standing Committee recommended that these be retained with the addition after 'lead-end' in both (A) and (B) of the words 'and the hunting and place-making that connect it with the next lead are completed.'

This was agreed on the proposition of Mr. E. A. Barnett, seconded by Mr. E. K. Lewis.

NOTES

Principle.—This word is used in a purely technical sense.

Division.—All methods in Class (C) (i) are divisible into as many divisions as there are bells. The division of Stedman comprises a quick six and a slow six; for neither by itself contains the whole method.

Reversion.—If lines are drawn at the top and bottom of any division (or sub-division) all places counted from the top line downwards must correspond with places counted from the bottom line upwards.

Methods founded on two Principles.—In some cases it is possible to found a method on two Principles.

(Added in 1933).—An illustration of this statement is to be found in the Little and Alliance Methods, which have come into prominence of late years. In appearance their form places them outside the definition of Plain and Bob leads, but, properly speaking, they are in logical succession of such methods as Bob Major. Thus a Little Method is one which follows the rule except in so far as this is qualified by the restriction of the hunt to fewer places than the number of bells employed: an Alliance Method is one in which the hunt has a composite path comprising portions of more than one principle.

It should be noted that such methods, by themselves, are never capable of producing the full extent of the rows.

'The bells to be in the same coursing order at each lead-head and end.'—This means that all methods must have what are known as 'Plain Bob lead-ends.'

Division between leads.—This is:—

(a) In methods with one hunt (treble)—between the first and second blows of the whole-pull of the hunt, before or behind;

(b) In methods with two hunts (treble and bell in the hunt)—midway between the whole-pull of the first hunt and the whole-pull of the second hunt, before or behind.

Methods.

(a) A **Single** method has all its places made on one side of the hunt (or hunts) only, e.g., Single Oxford Bob Major, all places above the hunt, and College Minor, all places below the hunt.

(b) A **Reverse** method is in all respects reverse to its single variation, e.g., Reverse Grandsire Triples.

(c) A **Double** method has places made above the hunt and places made to correspond with them below the hunt, e.g., Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

(d) A **Compound** method has places made on both sides of the hunt (or hunts) which are not related to each other, e.g., Cambridge Surprise. Some Compound methods can be reversed.

The Standing Committee recommended that these be retained with the following amendments:—

(i) **Reversion.**—The words 'lead or' to be inserted between 'any' and 'division.'

(ii).—Note headed 'The bells to be in the same coursing order at each lead-head and end.' The words 'For single-hunt methods and Grandsire lead-ends for those with two hunts' to be added after 'lead-ends.'

These were agreed on the proposition of Mr. E. A. Barnett, and seconded by Mr. C. K. Lewis.

Report on Method Classification.

(Note:—The following tabular classification is taken from the 1907 Edition of 'Collection of Legitimate Methods,' Section I.):—

Plain Methods, whether having one or two hunts:—

(a) Bob methods, having the Grandsire Bob place, either before, or behind, or both, the place being the extreme working bell nearest the hunt or hunts.

(b) Imperial methods having Imperial places as, for instance, those made in Kent Treble Bob.

(c) Court methods, having Court places, i.e., places other than those in (a) and (b). The Standing Committee recommended the substitution of the following:—

Bob Methods.

These methods have the same Plain Bob place, either before or behind, or both, the place being made by the working bell coming in front of the treble. The simplest example is Double Bob. Any method in which such places occur is automatically a 'Bob' method, irrespective of any other class to which it may also belong.

Imperial methods.

These methods have contiguous places made as, for instance, in Kent Treble Bob.

Court methods.

These have places other than those in Bob and Imperial methods. There are two classes of Court method:—

(a) In which a bell coursing in front of the treble makes an internal place, crosses the treble's path and immediately makes another place, e.g., Double Norwich.

(b) In which the bell coursing in front of the treble makes an internal place, hunts down to lead or makes an internal place away from the treble, hunts up and makes a third place immediately after crossing the treble's path, e.g., New London Court.

College Methods.

In these methods, the normal characteristic is the dodging which takes place in 1-2, the bells which the treble leaves there dodging until its return, e.g., St. Clement's College Bob.

Note.—Strictly, a 'Bob' method is as described above. By definition, a 'Court' method cannot be a 'Bob' method, but traditionally the word 'Bob' is added. Similarly, neither 'Imperial' nor 'College' methods are entitled to the addition of 'Bob' unless they possess a 'Bob' place.

Treble Bob Methods.

(a) Treble Bob methods proper have no places made at a cross-section.

(b) Pas-alla-tessera methods, having places made at all cross-sections but four.

(c) Pas-alla-tria methods, having places made at all cross-sections but three.

(d) Exercise methods, having places made at all cross-sections but two.

(e) Delight methods, having places made at all but one cross-section.

(f) Surprise methods, having places made at all cross-sections.

The Standing Committee recommended that (b) and (c) be deleted and that (d) be amended by the addition at the end of 'three or four.'

The Standing Committee also recommended that the following note be added:—

'The word "cross-section" as used here means the point at which the treble passes from, e.g., 1-2 to 3-4; it does not apply to the treble's leading or lying.'

These were agreed on the proposition of Mr. E. A. Barnett, and seconded by Mr. E. K. Lewis.

(To be continued)

THE LADIES' GUILD

Sussex Division

A meeting was held at All Saints', Hastings, on Saturday, June 11th, in an attempt to form a Division of the Ladies' Guild in Sussex.

Owing to a misunderstanding and postal delay the meeting was not advertised in 'The Ringing World' and an apology from the Editor was received. This was probably the reason for the small attendance.

Ringing took place at All Saints' in the afternoon, and St. Clement's in the evening. With the help of the gentlemen present, rounds, Triples, Bob Major and Cambridge Minor were rung.

After tea a short business meeting was held and Miss Colgate explained the rules, etc., and gave details of the annual meeting of the Ladies' Guild to be held at Guildford on July 2nd. Four new members were elected. Mrs. Percy was elected vice-president, and it was decided to leave the election of an hon. secretary and two committee members till the next meeting, to be held at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on August 13th.

Thanks are due to the clergy for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Buckland and Mr. Baker for meeting the members at the towers.

B. P.

South Wales District

The quarterly meeting of the South Wales District, held at St. Mellons, on June 11th, proved most enjoyable. Some 35 ringers attended and a variety of methods was rung.

The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Gower Rees, who heartily welcomed the Guild to St. Mellons. The organist was Miss Dorothy Attivel, All Saints', Newport.

A bountiful tea was prepared by the ringers' wives and members of the Sewing Guild. The ladies were sincerely thanked by Mr. R. E. Coles, Cowbridge.

At the business meeting six new members were elected. It was decided to accept the invitation from Mr. Leslie Evans to hold the next meeting at Eardisland, Herefordshire.

OUTING

SUTTON-ON-TRENT

Saturday, June 4th, was a very wet morning for the outing of Sutton-on-Trent ringers. The first tower visited was Rammoor, near Sheffield (10, 16 cwt.) and the bells were soon raised, and ringing ranged from rounds to Grandsire Caters and Little Bob Royal.

Moving westwards over the Pennines into Derbyshire, thick mist was encountered, but Hope was not lost, indeed it was found to have a nice eight (tenor 14½ cwt.). Here several Triples and Major methods were rung.

Further westward still, in fact only one side of the street away from Cheshire to the Church of St. George-the-Martyr, at New Mills. The last tower before tea was Hayfield, where some members, not content with the normal entrance, appeared from a trap-door in the floor from the stokehole below.

Tea was taken at Buxton and the visit to Fairfield coincided with the May Fair. While some of the younger members tried their skill for cocoanuts, some good ringing was enjoyed on these fine bells.

The lightest six in the country, Wormhill (6, tenor 1 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.) was then sampled. Some amusement was caused until ringers got accustomed to the weights. The last tower was St. Giles', Great Longstone (6, 11 cwt.), after which a very tired party returned home-wards.

Many thanks are due to the incumbents and the ringers who met the party and the Misses G. and K. Burchall for organising a most enjoyable day.

LETTERS

SINGLE-HANDED HANDBELL PEALS

Dear Sir,—The recent intelligence that single-handed handbell peals are to be accepted in future as peals on a par with more worthy performances properly rung 'in hand' will surely be received with mixed feelings, both on account of the unexpectedness of this decision and on the lack of opposition to it at the Central Council meeting.

While admitting that, to a band of learners, such a performance would have value as an extended form of practice, would it not be justice to other peal ringers to classify such peals as 'Other Performances' in the columns of 'The Ringing World,' and so exclude them from the annual Peal Analysis? Reports on the proceedings at Bristol show no mention of any proposal of this nature, possibly because representatives were so taken by surprise that the full implications of such a step did not occur to them.

It is always possible that some of our more unscrupulous brethren might use this loophole to further their own ends by amassing peals of this nature, for in spite of the general condemnation in which they would be held, such a means of obtaining peals cheaply and easily is now completely legal.—Yours faithfully,

HARRY POYNER.

Blackdown, Aldershot.

A RECORDING FOR AUSTRALIA

Dear Sir,—On June 15th, practice night at St. Helen's Church, Darley Dale, Derbyshire, an Australian Film and Recording Unit paid a visit, and a recording of the bells was taken for use in Australia to illustrate scenes of British life. A plain course of Grandsire Triples and call changes were rung, also some handbell ringing was recorded. Comments by the Rector of Darley and several of the ringers were added. Mr. Lee Proofs and his wife, of Australia, who were in charge of the unit, were shown round the belfry and bells, and they saw change ringing being performed. They were very much impressed by the proceedings, it being the first time they had seen any ringing. Greetings to ringers in Australia were also included in the recording.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE H. PAULSON.

Darley Dale, Derbys.

ST. BOTOLPH'S

Dear Sir,—May I, through the pages of 'The Ringing World,' be allowed to offer my sincere and humble apologies to Mr. W. E. Box, of Harborne, for misquoting the name of the Parish Church of St. Botolph.

Maybe we are only poor, ignorant country gawbies, but we did enjoy ourselves and, I venture to add, brought the art of good striking to the notice of quite a few.—Yours sincerely,

A. FARRAND.

Mossley, Lancs.

Carillon Recital Welcomes Rotarians

When 20,000 Rotarians attended Rotary International Golden Anniversary Convention on May 29th at Chicago, they were given a ringing welcome on the Rockefeller Memorial Carillon. Mr. James R. Lawson, the chapel carillonneur, planned a programme which included arrangements of the National Anthems from the home countries of the visitors.

The programme on these 72 bells, with the largest weighing over 18 tons and the smallest 10 pounds, included Organ Toccata in D minor (Bach), Prelude in C sharp minor (Rachmaninoff) and 'Ave Maria' (Schubert). The bells were cast by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY

Whitsun Tour, 1955

Every tour has certain features which make its details readily distinguishable from those of other tours when the passage of time might otherwise cause our memories to blend everything into a confused mass of itinerant campanology. These distinguishing features are usually not directly concerned with ringing—though, of course, outstandingly good (or bad) towers are not readily forgotten. In this present tour the two most striking memories were the accommodation and a form of party activity which in these politically enlightened days might be described as 'deviationism.'

The living accommodation was unique in the experience of the Society which, although it has previously rested at guest houses, has never before patronised one with a supper licence. A detailed description is neither necessary nor appropriate; suffice it to say that the licence was more evident than the supper, that our beds—when we eventually reached them—were comfortable, and that breakfast was worth getting up for.

On Friday evening, May 27th, most of the party assembled at Westerham, where the local band kindly welcomed them to join their practice. Heavy rain greeted us on Saturday morning. After ringing on the six at Sundridge, the party climbed a variety of steep hills through narrow lanes to ring at Cudham. The ten bells here produced mixed feelings, but there was general agreement that the back five—on which a course of Grandsire Doubles was rung—constituted a likeable ring. There was no disagreement, however, about the excellence of the eight at Edenbridge. It was at lunchtime in this town that the first deviationist tendencies were noticed. Three members who partook of some quick refreshment before joining the rest for lunch found no seats immediately available, and so went off to other premises, where they managed to obtain sandwiches, pies and cheese with their food.

At Hever a 'snatching' member joined us for a short ring, but soon left to catch the next train back to London. Everyone enjoyed ringing on the very pleasant eight at Withyham. The fine eight in a fine tower at East Grinstead were also much admired, though many cups of tea were brazenly consumed by various splinter groups. The day's organised ringing ended at Godstone, where one of the highlights was a touch of Spliced Cambridge, Superlative and Yorkshire, which was the first Spliced Surprise ever rung by three members of the band. After a good and much needed supper had been taken we repaired to the Bell at Godstone, where a room was at our disposal for the evening, and refreshment was most generously provided by one of the Elder Brethren. Randal Clouston gave some details of the summer tour he is organising this year in the Ipswich area, and the gathering then broke into handbell ringing, other forms of music and general gossip.

Most of the party attended the early service in Sevenoaks and then—biggest breakaway movement of all—three members travelled 25 miles to breakfast, although the invitation so pressingly given and readily accepted the night before did not seem quite so convincing in the cold light of day. It was somewhat difficult to find the farm in the miles of orchards around Maidstone which was their goal, but the travellers were eventually picked up by a searching guide who had earlier missed them while negligently buying a paper. The breakfast invitation was extended to lunch, and eventually to tea, also. Meanwhile the main party rang at St. Nicholas'. Sevenoaks, for Matins and, after lunch, at Seal Chart. The rest of the afternoon was spent in seeing a variety of sights, and all were re-united for evening ring-

ing at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells. At the Artichoke an enjoyable evening was spent amidst extraordinarily varied company.

On Monday morning Martyn Harbott, who had spent the night hitch-hiking and walking from Southampton, was found waiting to serve us with breakfast. Perfect weather and pleasant bells at Leigh, Chiddingstone and Penshurst made the morning pass all too quickly. Lunch was taken in Tonbridge before ringing on the really fine eight there, and the six at Shipbourne were visited on the way to another excellent ring at Wrotham. The last tower of the tour was Eynsford. After ringing had finally finished here, group photographs were taken in the churchyard, and Mary Fuller was warmly thanked by everyone present for having made all the arrangements for this very good tour. Some members who had had to make use of the car park of the Malt Shovel then went to pay their parking fees and bid each other 'au revoir.'

The Society thanks, in addition to the organiser, all the incumbents and local ringers, who, by their permission to ring, and in many cases personal welcome, contributed much to the success of the tour. D. N. I.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Half-yearly and quarterly postal subscribers are reminded that subscriptions are overdue. Please send without delay to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Rates: quarterly 7/6, six months 13/6.

CRAWFORD CUP CONTEST

The contest for the Crawford Cup took place this year at Bawtry for the first time. Five teams entered, and Mr. J. Thorley, of Thorne, was the judge, assisted by Mr. A. Firth, of Rawmarsh, as marker. Each team had to ring a test piece of 360 changes.

Over 50 sat down to a very good tea after which Canon E. F. H. Dunncliffe, of Bawtry, took the chair at the meeting. Mr. J. Thorley gave the result as follows:—Sutton-on-Trent 193 faults; Warsop 59; Ordsall 144; East Retford 305; and Bawtry 287. Although Warsop were easy winners it was unfortunate that while they were ringing a helicopter passed over, the judge missing about four leads. Canon Dunncliffe then presented the cup to Mr. H. T. Rooke, captain of Warsop, who thanked him.

The next meeting, at Cresswell, on July 9th, will be a joint one with the Chesterfield District. The collection for the Bell Fund was £1 9s. 11d.

Canon E. F. H. Dunncliffe was elected a vice-president and votes of thanks were accorded him for the use of the bells, to Mr. J. Thorley and Mr. A. Firth for their services, and to all who had charge of tea arrangements. H. D.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations for the support of 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—Woodford Ringers 2s. 6d., Mr. and Mrs. Sparkes 3s.

Peals.—Abbotsbury 3s., Westbury 3s., Oxford 2s. 6d., Bristol 1s. 6d., Mathon 3s., Colston Bassett 2s. 6d.

Quarter Peals.—Pendleton 2s. 6d., King's Norton 2s. 6d., Stourbridge 2s., North Weald 3s., Chilton Cantelo 2s. 6d., Twerton 2s., Poulton-le-Fylde 2s. 6d., Combe Martin 4s. 6d., Watford 4s., Chatham 3s., Melbourne 2s. 6d., Moorlinch 2s., Holywell 1s. 6d., Bath 3s., Swanwick 2s. 6d., Willesborough 5s., Rotherfield 2s.

TOPIC FOR THE MONTH - VI.

'Strike It'

IN many districts the annual festivals of music and drama have been claiming attention once again, and the degree of interest evoked makes one wonder how much truth there is in the suggestion that, as a nation, we are becoming 'music lazy.' In other words, in spite of the wider opportunities of hearing music of all kinds through the present-day media of records and radio (as compared with the conditions of, say, 30 or 40 years ago) and of the greater interest that these opportunities should encourage are we, nevertheless, now generally content to sit passively and listen only, rather than make the effort to learn something of the pleasure of the active playing of a musical instrument?

At one time there was even the vogue of a sort of compromise between these two attitudes, as evinced in the player-piano; by which the performer, while actually manipulating levers at the keyboard and operating the pedals, had his music played for him by means of a roll of perforated paper! Such 'playing,' of course, was bound to be lacking in life and character.

The point is, how many of us ring that way? It may be said the two are not comparable. Well, let us look more closely into it, bearing in mind that this is not an investigation of the musical qualities of ringing compositions, but rather of the ringer's mental attitude towards the quality of his audible performance.

In the simple sense, of course, the bell is a musical instrument. When sounded it produces a number of tones, some more predominant than others. As we know, in some musical instruments the tones are already 'prefabricated'—merely awaiting birth; while in others the player has to form them as he produces them. In the latter class come, for example, the violin family, the slide trombone, etc., while in the former class are included the piano, the merimbaphone and—the bell.

VITAL IMPORTANCE OF 'TEMPO'

But although the ringer has his tones 'pre-formed,' he has, nevertheless, the residual and all-important necessity of performing to a given tempo. And this tempo, or 'timing,' varies just as much in method ringing as in the playing of music on other instruments. But there is a quite extraordinary difference between the tempo variation of the striking of the bells in a ring performing changes and that of the instruments of the orchestra. In the latter (the band) the tempo variation is exactly the same for all the instruments at the same moment. In other words the instruments perform *simultaneously* (for instance), a tempo (at the given steady beat) or perhaps *andantino* (a little slower), or again *allegretto* (a little faster), and even so, they have something to guide them precisely in this—the beat of the conductor.

In a ringing performance, on the other hand, the tempo variation does not affect all the bells simultaneously; some being a tempo (i.e., when leading, lying, place-making or covering), some *andantino* (i.e., those hunting up) and the rest *allegretto* (i.e., those hunting down). And not only are the ringers thus individually at variance in their timing but also their conductor can give them no indication of precisely what that variation in time is individually to be. Each must gauge it precisely for himself, and by listening, and the gain in time of one must be accommodated exactly by the loss in time of another, since the 'beat' of the whole is to remain relatively constant. Yes—this is the art of striking!

But what consternation (not to say confusion!) would ensue in an orchestra if the conductor were withdrawn and the players presented with scores marked with timing that varied from instrument to instrument! Can it then be denied that ringers have indeed a musician's task—that of maintaining, with a

high degree of precision, a continual variation of timing of the notes they individually produce? To what degree, actually, is this precision demanded?

If a peal of 5,040 changes on eight bells be rung in three hours it means that in every minute of that time there occur, on an average, 28 changes—in other words, 224 bell sounds plus 14 silent intervals (one for each 'open' handstroke). This is an aggregate of 238 equal intervals of time in 60 seconds—practically four per second. I fancy the average musician, though he can well play more than four notes per second, would be a little taken aback if asked to strike a note on his instrument to coincide with a time interval of precisely one quarter of a second. Yet ringers do better than this when, for instance, they ring such a peal in under three hours, or if they ring on higher numbers in slightly over three hours; or if they ring more changes than 5,040 in those times; always assuming, of course, that it is good ringing, i.e., good striking.

MIND, MUSCLE AND EAR

The bell, then, as an instrument, must be mastered by its 'player' to be sounded within precise limits of timing; an accomplishment requiring quite as much practice as that given to his instrument by any musician. And when it is realised that the effect is produced by continually inverting a mass of several hundred-weights controlled only by a rising and falling rope, the requisite co-ordination of mind and muscle begins to be appreciated. With practice and upon bells of varied radius of swing, a ringer must learn to acquire the 'feel' or pull-off interval, and thus place his blow precisely amid the others.

But this is not all. There have been, and are, blind ringers—some of them very good strikers. But does anyone know of a stone-deaf ringer who is a good striker? And by 'good striking' we mean, of course, striking properly any unfamiliar and odd-struck bell. The clue to it is obviously the ear.

So now we are down to it. A good ringer must—absolutely must—make good and constant use of his ear while ringing. But have we not met or heard of ringers who can't tell the sound of their own bell? Almost incredible, isn't it? How can the striking be good when they stand in? Investigation will often reveal the trouble being due to neglect during their instruction.

EAR TESTING AND TRAINING

Pupils beginning a course of instruction in ringing should be tested for tone recognition, and given practice in it, if they need it. This is not difficult. There are several ways of setting about it. Handbells are most helpful for the purpose. For example, the pupil is asked to turn his back upon the rack where hangs an octave of handbells, and the instructor tells him he is 'on' a given bell, and strikes it several times, preferably in conjunction with the treble and tenor in the octave, so as to give the pupil a 'reference' in pitch. The instructor then taps various bells, frequently inserting the pupil's bell, at about two taps per second. The pupil is required to call out 'Mine' whenever he thinks his is struck. If in error he is shown the difference in pitch by tapping the 'named' sound alongside that of his bell. A variation can then be made by giving the pupil a bell to ring whenever he hears the bell preceding his in pitch, tapped by the instructor. Many other variations of these exercises will no doubt suggest themselves; and it is often surprising how quickly a keen pupil, starting with little tone-sense, develops this faculty. Once tone is recognisable, striking practice can begin.

The ear has other uses in ringing, of course, especially for conductors. But it can be particularly helpful to the beginner in learning to hunt amongst the other bells, reducing hesi-

tancy and thus improving striking again. In hunting up, he catches the sound of the bell striking after him, and in hunting down, the sound of the bell preceding his. Combined with the pure ropesight this faculty is a helpful check on his tempo as he hunts up and down. For improvers moving on to the higher numbers the faculty is especially helpful if ropesight is weak. But the pupil must be shown and helped in all this until he has acquired the knack of ringing by rhythm.

This final thought is perhaps impressive and should be remembered when ringing especially on practice nights. As a musician must acquire dexterity and polished skill in the playing of his instrument, so also must the ringer in the ringing of his bell; for he, like the player in the orchestra, is one of a band. But this requires constant practice with consistent attention by ear to what sound-intervals are being produced; and whereas most musical instruments can be practised in privacy, ringing practice is publicly audible—every trip and every odd-struck blow is broadcast from the tower.

A sobering thought? Well, it should foster keen enthusiasm to attain faultless striking. But it all (or nearly all) depends upon the use of the ear. Do we, from the outset of instructing our pupils, recollect this, and see that it is put into practice? A. Y-B.

OUTINGS

PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK

On June 2nd the annual outing of the ringers of All Saints', Pakefield, was arranged with visits to Helmingham, Debenham and Eye. Accompanied by the Rector, organist, members of the congregation and four ringing friends from St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, and Gorleston, the party of 68 by a coincidence reached Helmingham just about the time that H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was due to pass the church on her way to Helmingham Hall for a private visit. The ringers joined the villagers in giving her a rousing cheer and then hurried to the tower, and the bells rang out in further loyal greeting as her car passed through the park to the Hall.

On reaching Debenham the ringers were soon making use of the bells while the rest of the party made for tea. After an hour's ringing the ringers went to the cafe for their tea, and found the main party had cleared the eatables up! However, after a short delay, they were able to enjoy a first-class meal. Afterwards the whole party attended Evensong, taken by the Rector of Debenham.

The ringers were loath to leave the lovely bells at Debenham, but at last Eye was reached, and an hour's ringing on this good eight was enjoyed although the tenor has a crack in the crown.

The ringing at the three towers was quite good in spite of the unaccustomed weight of metal. The methods rung were Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Stedman. B. T.

WALTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY

An early start was necessary for the annual outing of Walton-on-Thames' ringers and friends on Whit Monday, as East Anglia was the objective. After ringing at Sible Hedingham (18½ cwt.) the party went on to Sudbury for lunch and a good ring at All Saints' Church. Then came Lavenham with its finest-toned tenor in the country, where the ringing brought visitors to the belfry.

The route back into Essex was via Clare and Finchingfield to Great Dunmow where a wonderful tea awaited the party. After so much climbing, the ground floor ring here was a great relief. The last tower was Cheshunt, and the action of the local ringers here in waiting nearly an hour through heavy holiday traffic delays was much appreciated. Thanks are due to Mr. R. Lathbury, the organiser, and the incumbents and ringers who met the party.

OBITUARY

MR. WILLIAM R. BAXTER

With deep regret we record the passing, after a long illness, of Mr. William R. Baxter, who died at the Trowbridge and District Hospital on June 18th, aged 69 years.

'Bill,' as he was known to a wide circle of ringing friends, had been a member of the St. James' band, Trowbridge, since 1910, and was a most regular Sunday service ringer. On his return from war service, in 1919, he rejoined the St. James' band, who were then making some progress in change ringing. He became one of its most enthusiastic members, and soon made progress in the standard methods. Although a full list of his peals is not available, he had rung about 100, ranging from Doubles to Cinques, mostly for the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

The interment took place at Trowbridge Cemetery on June 22nd, when ringing friends were present from Trowbridge, Bath, Melksham and North Bradley. A course of Grand-sire Triples was rung on handbells, following the committal, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, with bells half-muffled, at St. James's after the service.

The Trowbridge tower, which has been hard hit by death during the past few years, has lost another whom it will be hard to replace. May he rest in peace. C. F. A.

MR. FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH

We regret to record the death of Mr. Frederick W. Rishworth, who until recently was an active member of the Aston Parish Church and St. John's, Perry Barr, bands.

Fred, who was in his 81st year, and a Yorkshireman by birth, came to Birmingham in 1915, and until his retirement was engaged by the Austin Motor Company as a machine tool fitter.

A regular attendee at St. Martin's Guild meetings, he was also a member of the Yorkshire Association and the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. His peals totalled about 130 including several 'in hand,' many of which were rung with Morris J. Morris and the late George F. Swann.

Mourned by his widow, two daughters and son, he was laid to rest on May 26th at his native village of Silsden, in Yorkshire, where, at the Parish Church, he first handled a bell.

Fred will be sadly missed by his ringing colleagues at Aston, where his regular attendance and punctuality for Sunday service and practice nights was an example to all. R. C. I.

OUTING

ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT

St. Paul's, Burton, and their ringing colleagues from nearby Repton, Needwood and Uttoxeter made the long journey to Suffolk for their annual outing on June 4th.

Leaving Burton at 6.30 a.m. the party arrived at Lavenham just before noon to enjoy a ring at the beautiful Church of SS. Peter and Paul. After lunch at Bury St. Edmunds the early afternoon was spent ringing at the Cathedral (10) and St. Mary's (8). The next call was at the Memorial Tower of SS. Patrick and Andrew's, Elvedon (8), where this lovely ring was enjoyed to the full.

After tea at Mildenhall the final 'pull' of the day was at the Church of St. Andrew (10).

A high standard of ringing was maintained throughout the day and methods rung were Grandsire Caters and Triples, Stedman Caters and Triples, Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob Major and Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

It was a very tired band of ringers that arrived back home shortly after midnight, but all agreed it had been a most successful and memorable outing.

NOTICES

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

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Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

ENGAGEMENT

SEAMAN—AMBLER.—The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Seaman, of 5, Richmond Drive, Watford, Herts, and Shirley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Ambler, of 183, North Approach, Kingswood, Watford, Herts. 6567

MARRIAGE

RICH—GRIFFITHS. — On Thursday, June 23rd, 1955, at St. Mary Magdalene's, Tanworth-in-Arden, James Rich, of Bradstone Coombe, Milton Abbot, Tavistock, Devon, to Muriel Winifred Griffiths, of Woodside, Salter Street, Hockley Heath, Warwickshire. 6600

DEATH

YATES.—On June 26th, 1955, at his home, 42, The Green, Stony Stratford, Bucks, Edwin Yates ('Father') aged 87 years. Beloved tower captain and vergier of St. Giles' Church. 6599

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. G. L. Hewitt is: Spa Restaurant, Llanthony Road, Gloucester. 6580

The address of Cyril S. Jarrett is now 38, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, Kent. 6601

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Nicholas' Vicarage, Great Yarmouth. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

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MISCELLANEOUS

STAMFORD HILL OUTING.—Sept. 17th, 1955. Old friends and new are invited to accompany us this year to Sussex. Eight towers, Fare £1: 7s. 6d. deposit, please, to E. Rowe, 3, Avenue Road, Tottenham, N.15. 6561

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

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MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Meeting, Ship, Talbot Court, Saturday, July 2nd, 6 p.m. Ringing at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, 3.30.—A. B. Peck. 6561

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly meeting at Darley Dale, July 2nd, 2.45 p.m. Names for tea, by July 1st, to H. E. Taylor, 7, Vineyard Terrace, Hillside, Darley Dale.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — Quarterly meeting at Kingswinford, July 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Names for tea to R. A. Peakman, 47, High Street, Kingswinford. 6509

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Evening meeting at Over on Saturday, July 2nd. Bells (8) at 6 p.m.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South Eastern Division. — Meeting, Boreham (8), Saturday, July 2nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, Cornerway, Plantation Road, Boreham. 6508

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—St. Stephen's (10), Saturday, July 2nd, 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.—A. Bennett. 6589

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. —Tonbridge District. — Quarterly meeting at Penshurst on Saturday, July 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. 6500

LADIES' GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Guildford, July 2nd, 1955. Bells available:—Stoke (6) 11 a.m.—11.45 a.m., 3 p.m.—4 p.m., 7.30–8.30 p.m.; Merrow (6) 12 noon–1 p.m., 3 p.m.—4 p.m., 7.30–8.30 p.m.; St. Mary's (6) 11 a.m.—12 noon, 3 p.m.—4.30 p.m.; Shalford (8), Clandon (8) and Holy Trinity (8) 3 p.m.—4 p.m., 7.30 p.m.—8.30 p.m.; St. Nicolas' (10) 12 noon–1 p.m., 7.30–8.30 p.m. Service, St. Mary's, 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. at Congregational Hall, North Street. Reception by the Mayor and Mayoress of Guildford 6 p.m. 6524

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool Branch.—As already announced, the next meeting is a joint meeting with the Wigan Branch at Aughton on Saturday, July 2nd. The next regular Branch meeting will be held at Halewood on the following Saturday (July 9th). Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea in school-room after service (price 2s.). Names for tea must be sent, before Wednesday, July 6th, to Mr. J. Robinson. Halewood Farm, near Liverpool.—P. W. Cave, Hon. Sec. 6592

NORWICH ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—An interim meeting will be held at Holkham on Saturday, July 2nd. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at the Victoria at 5. Names for tea to C. Tovell, 18, New Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn. 6535

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Banbury Branch.—Annual meeting, Deddington (8), July 2nd. Service 4. Tea 4.45. All ringers welcome. Please notify.—E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. 6506

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Quarterly meeting at Tanworth-in-Arden, July 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. 6530

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at High Bradfield, July 2nd (Bolsterstone unavailable). Tea available. Bus from Camps Lane 2.20 p.m.—J. Seager, Sec. 6564

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting on Saturday, July 2nd, at Staunton-in-the-Vale. Bells 2.30. Tea 5. Names to Mrs. Merrin, The Staunton Arms, Staunton-in-the-Vale, Orston, Nottingham. 6560

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District.—Meeting at Aldeburgh, July 2nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service 7.30 p.m. Please send names for tea to Mr. J. Pilgrim, 52, Saxmundham Road, Aldeburgh.—A. R. Bridges, Dis. Sec. 6545

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Basingstoke, Saturday, July 2nd. Bells: St. Michael's (8), All Saints' (9), 1.30–3.45 and after meeting; Bramley (8), Church Oakley (6), Deane (6) 1–3.15. Service in St. Michael's 4 p.m. Tea, followed by meeting, Church Cottage, 5 p.m.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., 197, Chatsworth Avenue, Cosham, Portsmouth. 6528

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Bath Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Dunkerton on July 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Butt, 2, The Cottages, Dunkerton, near Bath. 6568

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT R.S.—Annual meeting, Hutton Cranswick, on Saturday, July 9th. Bells (6) 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Friday, July 8th, to Rev. G. Storer, The Vicarage, Hutton Cranswick, Driffield. 6583

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wirral Branch.—Meeting, Wallasey, St. Hilary's, July 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea provided for those notifying by 12th.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 6591

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD. — Maresfield (8), July 9th. Names to R. Bennett, The Limes, Maresfield, Uckfield.—C. A. Bassett. 6569

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cambridge and Huntingdon Districts.—A joint meeting at Bourn, Saturday, July 9th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, H. S. Peacock, Dis. Secs. 6588

ELY ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Terrington St. Clement, Saturday, July 9th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Tea provided.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 6602

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—Blunsdon (6), July 9th. Tea. — Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon. Tel. 3936. 6566

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Farnham District.—Combined practice at Frensham (6) on Saturday, July 9th, 6-9 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6562

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guildford District.—Meeting at Shere, Saturday, July 9th. Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea to Hon. Sec. by Wednesday, 6th. 6590

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern and Eastern Districts.—Joint meeting, Aspenden, July 9th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Thursday, 8th, to F. Aldridge, 14, Council Houses, Aspenden, near Buntingford. — T. J. Southam and E. G. Buck, Dis. Secs. 6540

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Western District. — Flamstead (6), July 9th. Names for tea, by the 6th, to Mr. Smith, 14, Trowley Hill Road, Flamstead, Herts. — R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 6575

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, July 9th, at Boxley. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. 6546

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Lancaster Branch.—Monthly practice meeting on Saturday, July 9th, at Kirkby Lonsdale (6 bells). Ringing 2.30-7.30. Tea at 4.30. Names for tea to E. Proctor, 7, Greenside, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland.—R. F. Eales, Branch Sec. 6593

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Preston Branch.—Meeting at Goosnargh, Saturday, July 9th. Whittingham buses from Preston. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, 6th, to Mr. W. Billington, Hospital Cottage, Goosnargh, Preston.—L. Walmsley. 6570

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leicester District.—The meeting which was to be held on July 9th is now cancelled. Further District meetings will be as advertised. 6573

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Lincoln District.—Meeting at Rusington (6), July 9th. Tea for those who notify me by Wednesday previous.—C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 6549

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION. — Meeting at Stanmore on Saturday July 9th at 3 p.m. Service at 5.15 p.m. with tea and business to follow. Bus 114 passes by; Underground Station and bus 142 nearby.—T. J. Lock. 6586

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Reading Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Mortimer, July 9th. Ringing, both towers, 2.30 p.m. Service, St. John's, 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names, by Wednesday, 6th, to Mrs. R. Cowdry, Sherborne, Victoria Road, Mortimer. — R. G. Burton. 6584

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Thrapston Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Wadenhoe (6), July 9th. Names for teas by Tuesday previous, please. — L. Witten, 4, Johns Street, Thrapston, Kettering. 6577

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Joint meeting with the SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD at Walsall, July 9th. For details see Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. 6595

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Joint meeting, Walsall, July 9th. Bells: Walsall (12) available noon onwards; Rushall (6), Wednesbury (10), Willenhall (10), Wood Green, Wednesbury (8) all available from 2 p.m. Service, St. Matthew's, Walsall, 4 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. Names for tea, not later than Wednesday, July 6th, to Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne, near Wolverhampton. 6544

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — N. District.—Quarterly District meeting at Walton-on-Thames, Saturday, July 9th. Bells 3. Service 4. Tea and meeting in Church Hall 4.30. Names, by July 6th, to Mr. R. Lathbury, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames. Walton bells after. Also Weybridge bells 6.30 to 7.30, and Oatlands bells 8-9.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 6492

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION. — Western Division.—South Harting (3-4.30) and Rogate (6-8) on July 9th. Tea at the White Horse Inn, Rogate, 5. Names for tea, by previous Tuesday, please, to W. L. Weller, Sunnyside, Itchingfield, Horsham. 6585

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD. — Diocesan Festival at Launceston, Saturday, July 9th, 2.30 p.m. Service St. Stephen's 4.30, followed by tea. Bells: St. Stephen's (8), St. Mary Magdalene's (8) after tea; Lawhitton (6), Lezant (6), St. Giles' (5). No ringing during service time. Replies by Monday, July 4th.—Rev. H. Trehella, Penhevela, Crantock, Newquay. 6533

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting, King's Somborne, Saturday, July 9th. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Martin's Cafe, Romsey Road. Names for tea, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. J. A. C. King, 21, St. Faith's Road, Winchester. 6557

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Southampton District.—Practice meeting at Sherfield English on Saturday, July 9th. Bells available from 2.30. Names for tea, by July 5th, to M. J. Butler, 8, St. Peter's Road, Southampton. 6581

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Meeting, South Kirkby, July 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify me not later than July 11th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 18, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 6599

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Quarterly meeting, Rugby, July 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 followed by tea and business meeting.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. 6582

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western.—Quarterly meeting, Ingrave, July 16th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea and meeting. Brentwood bells (8) will be available in the evening. 6565

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Margate, Saturday, July 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15 followed by tea and meeting. Tea is by kind invitation, and names must reach Mr. A. J. Dadds, 130, Byron Avenue, Margate, not later than Monday, July 11th.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6563

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Quarterly general meeting at Bottesford on July 16th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names, by Monday, July 11th, please, to Mr. W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec., Fosseyway, Croft, near Leicester. 6574

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Grimsby District.—The meeting arranged for July 16th at Appleby has been cancelled. 6594

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Edenham (8), July 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at Five Bells Inn 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, July 12th, to J. W. Haw, 61, North Street, Bourne, Lincs. 6603

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Eastern Branch.—Meeting at Winterton, Saturday, July 16th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who send names or numbers, by Wednesday, July 13th, to Mr. R. Woodhouse, Clink Road, Winterton, Norfolk.—P. Newstead, Branch Sec. 6596

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual meeting and festival, Oxford, Saturday, July 16th (D.V.). Service, Cathedral, 11 a.m.; preacher, The Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Oxford. Meeting, Chapter House, 12 noon. Luncheon, Dining Hall, 1.30. Tickets 5s 6d. from A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks. Choristers please contact Mr. F. Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxon. Towers and times of ringing to be given out at luncheon.—W. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 6478

PETERBOROUGH GUILD. — Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton Maudit, Saturday, July 16th. Service 4.30. Bozeat and Yardley-Hastings bells also available after meeting. Names for tea to A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough. 6598

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Dinton, July 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5. Chilmarch available after tea. Names for tea, by Wednesday, 13th, latest, to Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 6587

SUFFOLK GUILD. — Mildenhall District.—Meeting at Lakenheath Saturday, July 16th. 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Bell Hotel.—E. M. Peckett, Dis. Sec. 6597

SURREY ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District). — Joint meeting at Buckland and Betchworth, July 16th. Bells available: Buckland (6) 3-4.30; Betchworth (8) 6.30-9. Service at Buckland 4.30. Tea at Red Lion 5.30. Names for tea, by July 12th, to C. J. Champion, 1, Rectory Lane, Buckland, Betchworth. 6571

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The Ringers' Handbook

Reprinted 1952

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