

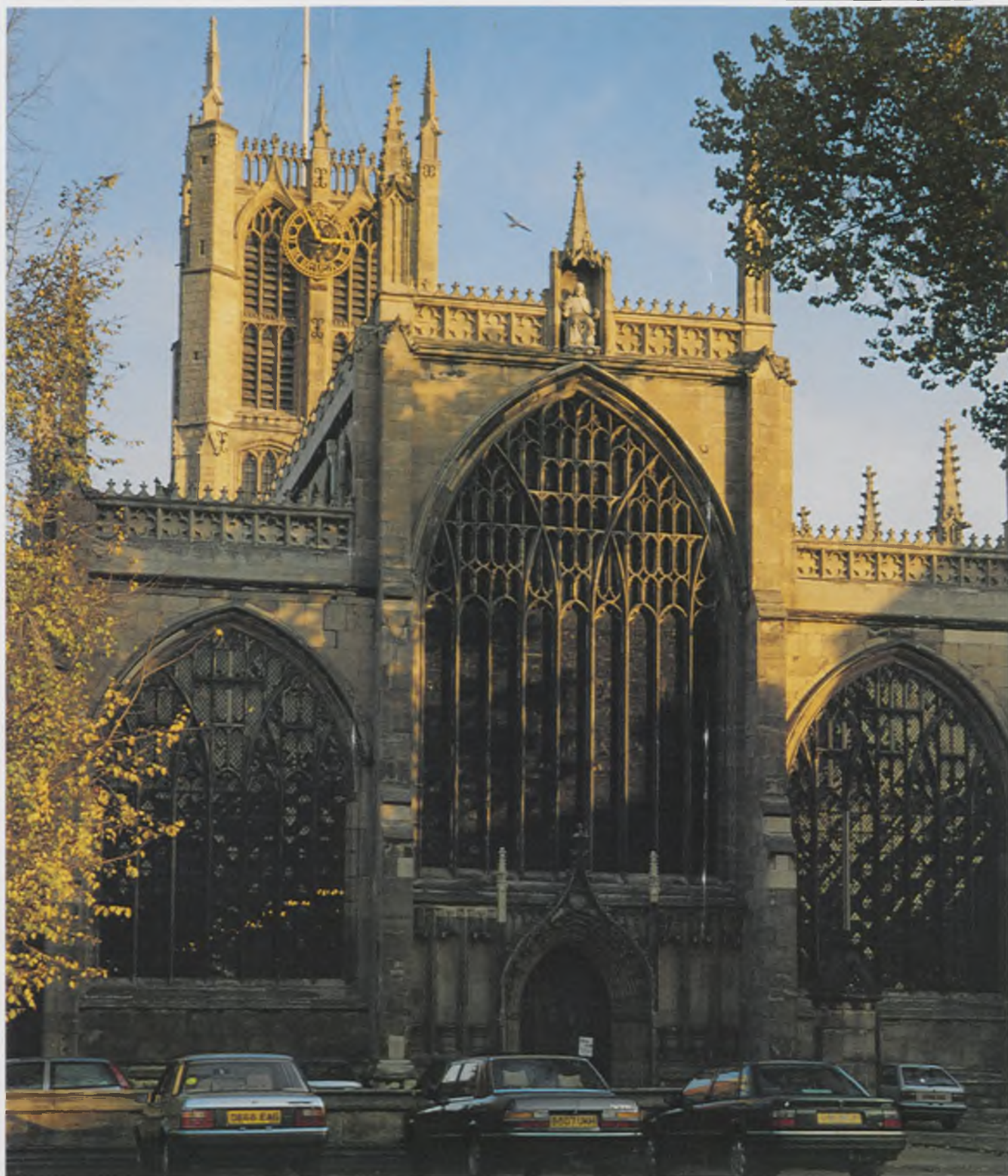
The
**Ring
ing
World**

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The Weekly Journal for Church Bell Ringers



As the Beverley and District Society enters its 50th Anniversary year our cover picture is of the Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, Kingston upon Hull.

1996, a special year for the Beverley and District Society

In September 1996, we shall be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the Beverley & District Ringing Society. Following the Second World War, there was a shortage of ringers. An extract from a letter sent to 21 local towers by Albert E. Sellers reads "... There is not a sufficient number of experienced ringers in any one tower in the area to give the necessary tuition and encouragement to learners in the art of change ringing." He then went on to invite tower representatives to a meeting to discuss the formation of a district society.

On the 19th August, 1946, the meeting was held in the vestry of Holy Trinity Church in Hull, with representatives from 11 towers present and support from a further three. Mr Clement Glenn proposed, and Mr Clement Robinson seconded the formation of a District Ringing Society. Mr George Braithwaite proposed and Mr Clement Robinson seconded that its title be the "Beverley and District Ringing Society". Both motions were passed. The first President was Mr George Williams of Holy Trinity. To celebrate the 50th Anniversary, a programme of events is proposed throughout the year, and these will be advertised in greater detail later. The committee hopes that as many members and former members as possible will participate fully.

The first will be the "Beverley Dinner" in early January, at which it is hoped that the guests will be The Rt. Rev. Donald Snelgrove, formerly Bishop of Hull and Patron of the Society, and the Editor of *The Ringing World*.

It is hoped to attempt to ring 50 successful peals during the year. There will be an open tower weekend during August Bank holiday and on the 7th September, a service will be held in Trinity Church to be attended by the Lord Mayor and the Bishop of Hull, followed by a Civic reception in the City's Guildhall. On the

lighter side, there will be a barn dance in the summer and a social at the end of the year.

A major exhibition will be on display in the Central Library in Hull for a week from the 9th September. Smaller exhibitions will be coupled with Open Tower days in several churches during the year. Continuously rolling ringing will take place starting at 9.45a.m. in those towers on the outskirts of the region and finishing in the centre at about 4.30p.m. on Saturday, 22nd June. The Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity "fills a considerable space of the frontage on the west side of the Market Place. It is said to be the largest parish church in England. The nave alone will accommodate a congregation of 2000" says J. S. Fletcher in *Picturesque Yorkshire* (1899). The tower rises to a height of 150 feet.

The church is the site of the Foundation of Trinity House of Hull whose elder Brethren have regulated the lives of mariners and their dependents since 1458. It was fortunate to escape total destruction during the ferocious bombing of the town and its docks during World War II.

From 1648, there was a ring of six bells by Oldfield of Nottingham. These were recast and augmented to eight by Penn of Peterborough in 1727. There were further recastings to improve the tone by Lester & Pack in 1747 and 1759 and by James Harrison in 1802 and 1821. In 1898 the bells were recast and augmented to ten at the City Council's expense. Again at the Council's expense, in 1959, the bells were recast and augmented to 12 to celebrate the bi-centenary of William Wilberforce. Other augmentations, initiated by the generosity of the steeple-keeper, David Stipetic, took place in 1975, 1979 and 1983 so that the tower now has 15 bells, tenor 25½cwt in D from which there is a wide choice of rings.

DEREK WATSON.

The Church and Ringing

I would first like to thank you for publishing my letter 'The Church and Ringing' (p.1047). Secondly I would like to thank those who have given time to reply to my letter in your columns. I would be grateful if you would allow me the opportunity to make some comment to the replies.

I certainly have to agree with the comments made by Frank Crosier (p.1120) concerning the attitude of the clergy. Many clergy do miss a good opportunity when addressing such occasions as Society Meetings, mainly due to their lack of knowledge of ringers and societies. I also sympathise with Mr Crosier's example of how a priest made no point of looking in on his ringers. I find that this happens so often and does nothing to improve the relationship between ringers and the clergy. Support of the ringers by their priest is of paramount importance if the ringers are to feel part of the worshipping Community.

I also welcome the comments made by M. J. Broad (p.1144), and to some point by Harry Good (p.1168) concerning parishes in rural areas, and where parishes have been grouped together. This is the situation of where I ring on a Monday evening in rural Shropshire. The local ringers have five towers in their group of parishes, which means a mad rush around the towers on a Sunday morning. Of course in this situation ringers could not be expected to attend 'every' service they ring at; however, that should not be an excuse not to attend any service.

I also take the point of Mr Broad's comment concerning ringers who belong to other denominations of the Church. In my last parish,

strongly that we must make it quite clear to those whom we teach to ring, that not only are they ringing in God's house, but also for his glory and his kingdom.

I am sure from the comments made by Andrew Buckley (p.1144), he would accuse me on this point of promoting, in his words, "an enclosed ghetto". I was very saddened by Mr Buckley's letter, as I felt his letter reinforced the point I was trying to make in the first place.

I really do not understand the accusation that it is against 'natural law' to expect ringers to stay for the worship of the Church they have called the people to. Also, to say that it is theologically flawed is quite unacceptable. To accept Mr Buckley's point would be like saying to the Sidesmen that they could go home once they have welcomed people into Church and given out the hymn books. Their ministry like that of the ringers is part of the whole ministry and worship of the Church and must not be seen as a separate act. Perhaps a read through I Corinthians 12: 12-30 would make this point clearer.

I would also like to point out to Mr Buckley that the 'reciting of ancient Creeds' is the basis of our Christian belief in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. If we start to deny such a fundamental doctrinal statement of our faith, as Mr Buckley appears to do so in his last paragraph, where he questions the insistence of an orthodox belief for parents and God parents at the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, then I fear that there will be no bells for Mr Buckley or for the rest of us to ring as there would be no Church!

The main point of my letter, was my fear of increasing secularism within the ringing fraternity; church attendance by ringers was one example. Another example I made was footnotes to peals that are inappropriate for peals rung on church bells. Two weeks after my letter was published, the following appeared at the end of one peal report rung on church bells:

"... also to mark 20 years since the first episode of Fawlty Towers".

I wonder what this has to say to the outside world about the Church's ministry of furthering God's Kingdom?

Finally I would like to thank all those, both lay and ordained who have personally contacted me in their support of my letter.

Fr JOHN C. GREATBATCH



"Leave?! Good gracious no!
Our bellringers always stay for
Services — especially on Christmas Eve."



Heard by the bells

Ecclesiasticus Chapter 38

"... they will maintain the state of the world; and all their desire is in the work of their craft. ..."

In spite of their sturdy appearance, bells are extremely sensitive things.

Strike one, and it will give out what is known as a 'fundamental' note ... yet, as these die away, what we call 'partial' notes continue, as the whole of the metal mass vibrates from crown to lip.

So subtle and so prolonged are these vibrations that they are beyond the detection of human beings at ground level, and so we may imagine that for ages and ages after they've last been struck, Church bells go on humming to themselves way up in the belfry. And perhaps it is the case that Church bells are very sensitive to vibrations which come from *outside*: it would, for instance, be quite credible that a Church bell in a tower in Eastern Europe could detect the first shudders of a coming earthquake, long before, hours before that same bell would be needed to warn the villagers who live below.

Who knows what sonic murmurings, what distant echoes our Church bells might be able to locate, high up on their frames in the belfry, suspended all day and all night between the earth and the heavens?

One night, long ago, during the latter part of the 18th century, the six bells of Yetminster had become a little agitated because of something No. 4 bell had just heard drift in on the breeze.

"I tell 'ee", he said, "it came from Germany".

The other five could not believe it; yet No. 4 bell was the oldest and he was cast in the big city of Bristol and so they respected his wisdom and listened to him:

"Definitely from Germany" No. 4 continued, "from the town of Weimar at around seven of the clock. I heard it very clearly. The sound of a goose-quill scratching on paper."

True, an east wind had been blowing for days and all six bells had been specially sensitive to noises from Holnest and Longburton.¹

Just before nightfall a chicken had been slaughtered for somebody's supper and they'd all heard the blade being whetted ...

A little later, somewhere in a copse between Totnell and Leigh, a startled deer had made the wood crackle as it leapt, that, too, had not escaped their notice.

But to detect a goose-quill at work in Germany seemed too fantastic to be true.

But No. 4 went on, "Not only could I hear the scratching of the nib, but I could feel the disturbance of the air currents as the goose-feather moved back and forth across the paper and to-and-from the inkpot ... a poem was being written in the study of Mr Johann Wolfgang von Goethe,² scholar and gentleman: it went something like this:

Once there was a Sunday child
Who would not go to church,
Who ran into a sunlit field
As far as he could reach.

His mother warned him:

'Hear the bell.

You must not make it wait;
Unless you heed the good Lord's call,
That bell will seek you out.'

'No!' cried the Sunday child, 'not so,
The bell can't leave its tower.'
So off without a care he flew,
He'd darken no priest's door!"

There was stunned silence in the Yetminster belfry as the bells ruminated on what they had been told by No. 4. Things did not augur well. For centuries they'd been valued for their part in



This photograph taken by Nicholas Green is a 1985 shot of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, Wren's wedding cake masterpiece, and bastion of avant-garde ringing in the early 18th century. The church and its bells were largely destroyed in 1940, and although the church was restored, the bells were not. The railway bridge in the mid-ground now no longer exists, and Ludgate Hill and Ludgate Circus have been raised to allow the underground passage of the Crossrail link.

calling villagers to worship, sounding curfews, announcing victories on land and sea, proclaiming anniversaries, mourning the dead, celebrating coronations. They'd been valued, respected, loved. But now here was a poem extolling the virtues of *running away* from the sound of a bell.

As they considered this, the bells of Yetminster could hear night-noises drift into the belfry.

From somewhere up on the sandy fields near the quarry they detected the crumbling of earth as a mole broke surface with its nose and sniffed the warm night air; from below came stronger human voices from that dark and secluded part of the village the respectable folk called 'Church path' but which others called, for some reason, 'The Grope'.

And then, through the roof of Upbury Farm, the bells located the whimpering of Farmer and Mrs Jesty's six month old baby child, little Harriet.³ The bells remembered well Mrs Jesty's cries when the birth-pangs came on ... they remembered to that occasion ten years before when she screamed throughout the fever that followed Farmer Jesty's experiments with inoculation against smallpox.

"I tell you", said No. 5 bell "as sure as I was born at Closworth,⁴ this 'ere science is going to have a lot to answer for. For I've heard many a rumour that the learned and wise be forsakin' the Church and turning to other pursuits what they do call the Enlightenment. And if it do continue, them will *all* be leavin' Church like thik Sunday child in thikky poem. They'll all be running away, you mark my words, and the likes of us will be made redundant!"

"Not only redundant" continued No. 3 gloomily, "We'll be melted down in a furnace.

Thrown in a fire and turned into singing kettles or something."

And so it went on, each of the bells murmuring of facts they'd detected about the state of the world and bemoaning their fate.

All with the exception of No. 2, the second most senior bell in the peal who'd kept his silence through debates like this on many a night. He'd heard it all before, the muttering about various members of the Royal Family and their shortcomings, village gossip, rumours of wars and the excessive price of cheese.

But No. 2 bell preferred to keep his silence and meditate. He enjoyed especially thinking back to his first days as a bell in the field over at Closworth. Sometimes he could fully recollect that moment when the Closworth bell-casters, Thomas Purdue's men, had knocked away the doors of the furnace, letting the molten metal pour into the clay mould, with the vivid sensation of flooding as the metal filled the mould, and then the long hours of waiting, the long hours of cooling down.

He could recall first feeling his shape up against the sides of the mound, his first moments of consciousness, of wondering *what he was* and *where he was*.

He remembered how the clay had spoken to him, told him what his job would be, how he'd spend centuries up in the cold and the dark, among bats droppings, and cobwebs, and owl pellets, but how there would also be days of deep devotion with the smell of sweet cider drifting up from the bell-chamber, days of swinging his seven hundredweight form back and forth, merrily.

"But life won't always be one of making noise", the clay continued, "there will be long
(continued overleaf)

HEARD BY THE BELLS—continued

hours in which you can listen."

"What's the point of listening?" No. 2 bell replied as he cooled, "What kind of job is that?" "The best there is," the clay came back, "one of the best jobs ever. Take me, for instance, ordinary clay in an ordinary field. But one night, centuries ago when I lay all ploughed up and looking up at the winter constellations I heard very clearly the unfurling of angels wings at the time when the Christ-child was born. And if you listen too, young No. 2 bell, you'll hear wonderful things as well."

During the centuries which followed, No. 2 had tried to follow this advice and that's why he preferred meditation, during which he yearned and longed to hear of things heard beyond the local, to hear of things from further and further afield, further even than Germany, if it could be possible, sounds from beyond the heavens, vibrations from beyond the stars, from *eternity*.

As midnight came, all the bells fell silent. Above them the fine gilt weathercock squeaked on its mounting as the wind veered.

Below, in the Rectory, the Reverend Edward Cooper, Vicar of Yetminster, muttered a prayer in his sleep.

Somewhere to the north-east, a rooster, scared by a passing fox, scratched dirt in a Beer Hackett farmyard.

And then all six bells could distinctly hear, from under thick Yetminster thatch, an elderly villager breathing his last.

No. 3 bell cleared his throat. "Gentlemen," he said confidently, "I have a feeling we'll be needed a little later on".

Footnotes:

1. Holnest and Longburton: villages to the east of Yetminster and not far from the town of Sherborne.

2. Johann Wolfgang van Goethe: German statesman, administrator, poet and scientists, a man of genius who was the embodiment of 18th century literature.

3. Benjamin Jesty farmed at Upbury, next door to St Andrew's Church, during the 18th Century. In 1774, during an epidemic of smallpox, Jesty noticed that his dairymaids were unaffected by the disease. Linking this fact with their exposure to cowpox, Jesty then inoculated his family with some of the pox, thus becoming 'The First Vaccinator', some 40 years before Dr Edward Jenner made his experiments.

4. No. 5 and No. 2 bells of the Yetminster peal were cast at the village of Closworth by Thomas Purdue.

(Sermon given by the Rev'd Stephen Batty at the Service for Dedication and Rededication of the Bells at Yetminster on Friday 24 November 1995).

Looking towards the New Year!

A bell ringer's prayer
Lord, forgive thou these,
my miserable offences,
which I do, most grievously,
commit regularly,
(though not deliberately!)
Against Thee, my captain,
and my fellow Band.

First and foremost, Lord,
Forgive me for all those things
Which I ought to have done,
And have NOT done!

To my shame,
I do not always concentrate
On the job in hand!
(Thereby causing much irritation,
and many cock-ups)
I do not always keep my hands firmly together
on my rope,
nor do pull straight and true,
(thereby allowing my rope to fly wilfully, hither
and thither, so striking terror into the hearts of
those who do flank me, to my right, and to my
left, and even to the fore!)

I do not always learn diligently
the Blue Line!
though 'twas my intention!
(Thus do I dither, become blank,
and know not whither I pass
the treble, which are my fore and after bells,
nor even, sometimes,
which methods I do be ringing!
Thus causing much wailing
and gnashing of teeth!)

I do not, at times, I must confess,
count my places;
But rather, (sinfully),
do try to remember
the order the bells do come to me.
(Thus, when others flounder
and default;
I, like a lost sheep, do follow
and go astray, bleating woefully!)
There is more, Lord!
I do not always,
strike my places well,
nor yet, pull in my backstrokes!
(Thus I do make dischord,
and they, who are my superiors,
clench their fists,
and draw in their breath sharply,
with a most fiercesome and hideous
hissing through the teeth!)

There are days, Lord,
when I do not remember where my bell
doth begin its work!
(Even though I thought I did!)
So that, just as we are about to "GO",
I do ask for direction.
(This brings forth great wrath!
and I am forced to suffer
most horrible abuse,
and smouldering glares,
through half shut eyes!)

There is still more, Lord,
If Thou can spare the time?!
For, I must ask forgiveness also,
for all those things I have done,
But ought not to have done!!!

I do, upon occasions, miss my sally!
(Thus causing panic,
and consternation!)
I do, also, (though not often!)
Miss my dodge.
"Which doth instigate chaos,



"Now look what you've done, Maggie!"

and great confusion all round!)
I do rush my Leads,
Fail to "hold up" in 2nds. Place,
and do (somehow!) arrive
at the back, too soon!
(Causing he/she,
who is calling the "touch",
to, lustily, bellow "STAND!")
Like a wimp, I do become confounded,
at BOBS and SINGLES.
(Especially in Stedman!!!
And this doth heap much derision
upon me.)
The next I will whisper, Lord,
So please do listen carefully!
There have been times when...
I have bumped the stay;
Nay! Even broken it!
I did not do it deliberately, Lord.
(Never-the-less, it doth bring
much cursing, and profanity,
into Thy house! I do apologise,)

You will be pleased to know,
that I think I am done, Lord.
(Although there are those
who would declare further faults!
I am sure!!!)

I am sorry for these, my offences,
And do promise to renew the
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS,
(Which I did make last year,
and the year before,
and the year before that!)

To rectify my faults,
And overcome my weaknesses.
However, Lord,
Being human,
I know I will fail.
(Again!)

Therefore, I will to the Inn,
make haste:
To commiserate,
Lay blame,
Hold post-mortem,
And drink to better days!
Then, home to bed.
To rest, to sleep,
Perchance to dream...
(Of perfection!)

Tomorrow is another day!

Y.F.H.

A. ELLIS

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Bellfounders' Gift Page



Editorial

We hope you manage to find something of interest in this issue of *The Ringing World* which includes the usual mixture of fiction and fact, entertainment and instruction. Our thanks to all who contributed material for this issue and our apologies to those for whose efforts space on this occasion could not be found.

In this column last year comment was made on the imminent introduction of new typesetting and page make-up procedures. We did have one or two small teething problems early on but in general the system has settled down and your 1995 annual subscription bought you 36 more pages than your 1994 one!

As ever our thanks to our outworkers who continue to tackle the typesetting of peals and quarter peals, and this year we should also like to pay tribute to the efforts of David Hughes. David (who many of you will know as the Tower Captain at St Mary's, Liss) is the typesetter at Seven Corners Press charged with the unenviable task of converting the Editor's fancies into the reality of a printed page a task which he performs with expertise and good humour week after week. Thanks to him and the help and cooperation of David Muggridge in the Printers London office the Editor has managed to retain most of his hair!

A Happy Christmas and successful New Year to you all and please keep those articles and news snippets coming in. Contrary to some ringers' belief we do not have issues of the magazine planned months ahead – our time scale in a good period is about two weeks (Yes you're right, it is nerve-wracking at times).

Whitfield Bells 1987-1995

We were the silent five.
Nobody heard us call
over the trees and fields
for close on forty years.

Then we were hung anew—
Refurbished, cleaned and greased.
New ropes of green and gold
helped give us voice.

Now we ring loud and clear
over the fields and roofs;
Inviting all who hear
"Come, Sing with us."

— — — — —

But soon we will be six.
Evangelist
will ring with treble voice
high in the tower.

We older five will sing,
our voices joining in
to ring the changes
with our younger brother.

(see Tower Announcement in this issue)

A New Year Message from the President of the Central Council

Ringers made their mark on the public ear in 1995 during the important commemorations associated with VE-day and VJ-day. The great efforts to ensure that as many bells as possible rang out were widely appreciated by church and civic authorities, and stimulated much favourable local and national media attention. During a year when we also faced protests against our activities and were threatened by legal powers and sanctions regarding noise 'pollution' and also health and safety, such positive responses stood us in very good stead.

Associations, Guilds and other ringers' groups to demonstrate that we are responsible in what we do, so that we can successfully resist unreasonable attempts to limit the use of bells. The best way by far to ensure that our ancient craft thrives is to make certain that church authorities and the general public appreciate ringing. So bells should be heard regularly across the country, from Allington to Assington and Zeals to Zennor. The ringing must be of good quality; not the discordant noise which can occur if too many people try to make fishtails for the first time in the same touch; our practices must be well-organised, and our ringing on Sundays and for special events exemplary rather than experimental. Much tireless work to these ends goes on throughout the exercise – a lot of it unobtrusive and unsung, but effective nonetheless, we can always do more, however.

And so we enter yet another new year in good heart. My best wishes to you all for Xmas 1995 and for another excellent year in your ringing, in town and country, from call changes to Carter's Cinques, from Minor to Maximus and beyond.

RON JOHNSTON

* * *

A quarter peal was rung half-muffled on the 51st anniversary of "Fauld Explosion" – starting at 11.05 a.m. – the time of the underground explosion which killed 70 people and caused much damage.

The quarter should have been at nearby Hanbury but a recent architect's inspection found several cracks in the tower which has stopped the bells being rung. John Daubner should have rung in the quarter but was "diverted" to Cannock to assist in removing the old eight in preparation for augmentation to ten.

The band send best wishes to Derek P. Jones who should have rung but is in Burton-on-Trent Hospital recovering from a slight heart attack. The conductor visited Derek afterwards. He is making good progress and should be home in a few days.

Tutbury, Staffs. 27 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Alison L Barnett 1, Lesley Brown 2, S R Alliss 3, R M Barnett 4, C T Cousins 5, B Townsend 6, R H Daw (C) 7, M Webster 8. 80p

Lottery jackpot

The ringers of St. Peter's Church, Church Langton, Leicestershire are celebrating their good fortune. They obtained the maximum grant of £16,900 in response to their bid they submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund earlier this year. The target of £30,000 needed to restore the bells to full working order has now been achieved.

The strict procedure adhered to by the Heritage Lottery Fund which works in conjunction with English Heritage, ensured success after much consultation at all levels with the Church. This is the first time that a grant has been obtained by a parish church in this diocese, in fact the bellringers of St. Peter's were the first to apply in this diocese.

This grant is the culmination of much hard work and fundraising by the ringers and their supporters over the last two and a half years. The launch of the Bell Restoration Fund began at the home of the late Lt. Col. Derrick Hignett who was the President of the Fund. Sadly he was not able to witness the achievement of obtaining all the funds necessary to start the project.

If the death of their President wasn't sad enough, they received another devastating blow when their Tower Captain Derek Morley, who had been the driving force of the fund raising campaign, died last November. Derek had been the first of the present team, of ringers of the mid-seventies, having taken the job of sexton, which included chiming the Ellacombe Apparatus installed in the 1930's after the ringers had given up on ringing the bells "the proper way". Not content to carry on chiming he set to work to make the bells at least swing better by fitting self-aligning roller bearings. However they were still notoriously difficult to ring.

It was decided by the remaining team to "go for it" in memory of the Colonel and Derek, both of whom had absolute faith that it could be done. Trust Funds were approached to help and local people gave generously though £30,000 was still a long way off. The Lottery which was launched 12 months ago, had set up five funds one of which was the Heritage Fund. It was decided this was the most appropriate for this situation.

The ringers are looking forward to proceeding with the work as soon as the contract is signed.

MAXINE JOHNSON

* * *

If your tower has been awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund please let John Barnes know (in confidence, if you wish). This would be very helpful to the C.C. Bell Restoration Fund committee.

John Barnes, 56 Leamington Ave, Orpington, Kent BR6 9QB. (Tel: 01689 853 666).

First peal congratulations

Kenneth D. Crozier, Jean A. Lee, Andrew S. Nelson, James A. J. Babbage, Christopher J. Poole, Jeremy Meyrick, Andrew J. Wakely, Beverly Faber.

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Letters

Noise complaints

Mr. N. W. H. Simon, in his letter (p.1221), has explained in an excellent manner and in less formal language than the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act, the role which ringers and indeed Church Authorities can play in the Development Plan process where vacant land, close to towers, could be designated for residential purposes.

I have been concerned regarding the curtailment of ringing in a few towers throughout the country (including one in Devon) where the District Council have exercised their powers under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and ringing activities have been regarded as a statutory nuisance.

In my capacity as a Vice President of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers I have been in correspondence with Sir Paul Beresford, MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State with the Department of the Environment, through my local MP, about possible amendment to current legislation. My request was that consideration be given to amend current legislation which would exempt churches from noise nuisance. Sir Paul explained that this was considered during the drafting of the Act but not found to be acceptable for a variety of reasons. He did not accept my argument that present control represented a threat to the tradition of bellringing. He has, however, promised to continue to monitor the effectiveness of the legislation.

It seems to me that there is one further line of action which might be taken. The Department of the Environment published a series of planning Policy Guide Notes which are used to Local Planning Authorities when determining planning applications and by the Secretary of State or his Inspectors when determining planning appeals. PPG.24 deals with the subject of 'Planning and Noise'. Principal noise generating sources are named in this document, such as aircraft, traffic and commercial development. I propose to write to the DoE requesting that church bells might be referred to in this guideline when it is next reviewed. This together with suggestions made by Mr Simon might assist our cause.

NORMAN MALLETT,
Chartered Town Planner.

* * *

Thank you Mr. Cribley for the well shaped copy of "Unrules". I like especially "Don't use commas, which aren't necessary".

"Unrules" has nothing to do with the church. If it did it would no doubt include a reference to the "common vulgarity" (Fowler) "Rev. Smith". I see it is not only in this paper but frequently in reports to incumbents on their bells. Mr. E. A. Barnett, I think and expect, pointed out some years ago that the correct way to write is "Dear Mr. Smith", or "Father", "Canon" where appropriate.

The envelope has "The Rev. A. B. Smith" or, second best if the initials are not known, "The Rev. Mr. Smith". "Rev." can be replaced by "Revd" without the abbreviation full stop, or, more nicely, by "Reverend".

WILFRID MORETON.

Wakefield.

Please don't let your typesetter put "well-shaped" or he/she would be in deep trouble.

Even-bell Grandsire

I well remember a very respected ringer storming out of a practice night vowing not to return if the tower captain should suggest ringing such "rubbish" again.

On another occasion a friend arrived at a district meeting and was cordially invited to suggest a method to ring, which he did, only to be told "Now, how about a sensible suggestion?"

The foregoing were, by no means, isolated examples, just two extremes in a ritual of abuse hurled at what surely must be the most controversial of methods – Grandsire Major.

Unusually, I discovered, around the turn of this century a chap named Charles Barrett rang a stream of handbell peals of Grandsire Major, nearly all of them from the same address in Norfolk, crediting them to different societies and associations up and down the country as their "First of Grandsire Major".

Technically the method introduces fascinating possibilities for the composer, peal ringer and even at practices and meetings where its capability to produce very short touches, touches with an odd number of singles and odd numbers of changes surely opens up a whole new field. This applies on all numbers from 6 to 16 (and beyond?).

Grandsire, of course, belongs to the group of "Double – hunt methods which I believe has never been deeply explored – has a treble bob version ever been rung? Maybe it would break too many rules". Another example would be St. Simon's Minor. I believe it's impossible to obtain a 720 with conventional Grandsire type calls and requires a Holt's type bob, or plain-lead, single. Other interesting possibilities include Anteloper, and the Double, Reverse and New versions of all the Twin-hunt methods.

A recent *Ringling World* contained 25 peals of Surprise out of a total of 121. Against such a background, 20 years ago, I and several colleagues formed a peal band to ring non-Surprise methods, even-bell Grandsire featuring regularly, even to the extent of replacing Plain Bob in peals of Minor. This band usually featured Clive Mobbs of Birstall on the tenor, and Leicestershire's "Geordie Treble expert" – Bill Shaw. Whilst we never claimed "First of Grandsire Major with bobs only" for our peal at St. Mary de Castro, Leicester, we did have the dubious distinction of having rung a peal of Grandsire Royal at all the 10-bell towers in Leicestershire by 9/10/76. The family was completed at St. Peter's, Nottingham on 17/10/81 with a peal of Maximus, whilst a "rival" band also did so just one month later, on 23/11/81, with Peter Hayward (of Hayward Mills Associates) at the helm. Can St. Peter's, Nottingham claim, therefore, to be the only tower in the world with 2 peals of Grandsire Maximus? Incidentally, the latter was composed by Henry Cooper – any comments?

I suspect such claims may be of little interest to the majority of ringers, but even bell Grandsire can bring a new dimension to your ringing. I append three simple touches:–

47 Minor: PSSP

95 Minor: Call Tenor Before Twice

128 Major: BPBB x 2

If you want to be really controversial try the latter – and listen carefully!

ROGER N. SCHOLES.

A flexible approach

In my response (RW p.904) to Geoff Berriman's first article, I avoided directly discussing the up v down issue, but tackled the more general issues raised by D. F. Willcocks' (RW p.832). Geoff's second article (RW p.1170) returns to this issue and suggests that the up method has become popular since everyone does it. This is only partly true.

As a teenager, I was taught with a bell down. I raised it and stood it, as far as I can remember without any interference from my tutor, though he naturally supervised me closely and gave advice. We raised and lowered the bells for each handling session. I learnt on an easy bell of about 3cwt. with a short draught. During the next few years before I left home, I taught many others, mostly young but one middle aged, using the same method. It was not until I went to Cambridge that I saw anyone being taught with a bell up, and I was worried that it looked so dangerous compared with what I was used to.

I did little ringing during the '70s and when I became active again I 'conformed' by teaching with the bell up for ten years. Not until I taught my daughter did I have the confidence to return to the way I had learnt. She and her friend raised their bells at first attempt. The next pair I taught were women in middle age. I began the same way and it was soon clear they would not get their bells up at first attempt, so I had to change tack.

Having given them a feel for the bell part way up, I reverted to the single strokes with the bell up.

I now use a mixture of methods. I always start with the bell down, but whether it goes straight up or not depends on how well the student adapts, and whether a rise can be achieved without undue exertion. Even when I do use 'up' teaching, I aim to get through single strokes as quickly as possible, before the end of the first lesson. I find extended single stroke ringing makes it harder to adapt to two strokes, since the one stroke style has to be unlearned.

To return to the original point, does everyone teach 'bell up'? Clearly not, and nor do all books recommend it. I have spoken to many people who were taught from down, but it is not something you discover unless you ask, and so it is easy for the perception that 'you are the only one' to gain hold.

In fact, how you start is only a small part of teaching bell handling. Of the many different exercises I give trainees, I find I need to adapt both the sequence and duration to suit individual needs. Perhaps this is the most important message, to be familiar with a range of techniques and have the confidence to apply them flexibly.

JOHN HARRISON.

Wokingham.

Darkest Blue

It sounds like my former lodger, Dr Byrne (p.1244), has been sampling his own home-brew again, probably washed down with a couple of glasses of sour-grape wine. How strange that he thinks the OUS might draw attention to themselves by *not* ringing a peal. Nottingham Forest have rarely not made the front page by *not* winning the league. How interesting too that Alex apparently considers his own Christian name to be of more significance than that of the meritocratic Merton College.

If only he had taken the advice from his own concluding point.

ROBIN HALL.

Oxford.

Restrict reserves

The triennial survey of BRFs shows the total grants paid in 1993 was £197,100, with year end capital at £821,300, giving capital cover of 4.2 years. It also advises that all societies have their BRF registered as a charity.

An article in *The Sunday Times* on 12 November 1995 states that new Charity Commission guidelines coming into effect next year say that charities should try to restrict their reserves to a maximum of two year's expenditure. Whilst the word 'should' implies there may not be a problem for BRFs, particularly as the amounts involved are small compared with some of the National charities with very large reserves, the article does go on to say that charities would be prevented from raising funds until reserves were reduced to 'acceptable' levels.

Whilst we do not yet know how strict the Charity Commissioners will be in enforcing what are only termed 'guidelines', could a member of the Bell Restoration Funds Committee or anyone with more knowledge of this subject offer some further comment and guidance? It would appear that many Guilds and Associations will need to review their grant allocation policy, at least over the short term, if these guidelines are enforced.

PAM FISHER.

Groby, Leics.

We understand this matter is under active consideration by the Central Council Bell Restoration Funds Committee.

An acquaintance is off bell-ringers at the moment. A peremptory message on his answering machine summoned him to a court appeal at Clerkenwell. Now, he happened to have been caught speeding six weeks before. It took an hour-and-a-half on the phone to establish that no hearing was booked.

Two weeks later, another message, rather more sharply phrased, invited him to a court appeal at Christ Church, somewhere south of the river. The penny dropped. His number had been mistaken for that of one of roving ringers who keep London's bells alive (and among whom, at least on major festivals, speeding between churches is not unknown). On two occasions, then, they would have had only seven turn up for their *quarter peal*.

(from the *Church Times* of 17th November)

Hull wonderful

Last year I wrote and asked if any society had achieved as much as the Hull University CRS. There was little real response. Having been placed no higher than 11th in previous NUA striking competitions, Hull entered the 1995 competition arena to chants (from Nottingham's arguers) of "Hull are dull" and somebody said something about side partings which I didn't understand. Out of 14 teams ours rang with a certain amount of sang-froid and were placed 2nd and 5th proving beyond doubt that "Hull are wonderful". Can other societies match this achievement or massive improvement? I very much doubt it.

On the point of achievement, I've read with interest the correspondence on the record length at Hawkeshead. It was surprising to find that such an important peal was not featured on the front page of RW. Hull was represented by John Goldthorpe and me. Are the complainers and whingers capable of achieving as much as we did, or, as I suspect, are they just jealous of us? Remember that others have failed to match us.

Thirdly, Hull is entering a team in the national 12 bell competition for the first time that I know of. Spirits are high amongst those taking part and thanks must go to Dinah Reed for engendering such youthful enthusiasm in all of the band. We may not win the competition, but we'll try our best. So, watch out!

ANDREW J. M. KAYE

Hull

For his last two golden ringing anniversaries (definitely no more to come!) John Lonsbrough called a quarter-peal of Oxford in that City and another in that Diocese:

Oxford. (St Thomas). 30 Nov, 1400 Oxford T.B. Royal: Judith Passant 1, Katie Lane 2, Stephen Ivin 3, David Lane 4, John Lonsbrough (C) 5, Michele Ellender 6, Robin Hall 7, Bernard Stone 8, Clive Holloway 9, Mark Shepherd 10. Rung at the church where John started his method ringing, by Oxford Society members to mark his 50 years membership of that Society.

Woughton on the Green, Bucks. 3 Dec, 1320 Oxford T.B. Minor: Zoe Story 1, Peter Tribble 2, Malcolm Story 3, Simon Head 4, John Lonsbrough (C) 5, Brian Baldwin 6. Rung by local band members to mark 50 years of membership by John of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

Grateful thanks are given to all who rang in both events, especially to Brian, Clive, David and Stephen for arranging and helping in various ways.

£10



A band not to be trifled with. The "Beaks" who rang a Magistrates' Association peal at East Hlsley in October. Left to right: Alan Baldock (Hailsham Branch), Peter Sloman (Rochford and Southend), Sheila Cheeseman (SW London), Angela Newing (North Gloucestershire), Bob Tilt (Ludlow), Mike Powell (Hereford), Diana Day (Hastings) and Peter Goule (Gloucester).

Scurrulius, Scribe to the High and Mighty Paulus le Chagrin, Master of the Ancient College and Speaker for the Blessed Company of the Abbey of St Peter, to Davidus, Youth of the Society of the Royal Duke of Cumberland and Keeper of the Great Organ of the Exercise, greetings. Whereas it hath pleased thee in they great wisdom to inscribe in they great Organ the first writings of this humble Scribe thy Servant, and whereas master Paulus hath expressed himself indifferent to these writings and whereas it is the earnest desire of this humble Scribe to please Master Paulus with his every action, a further attempt to Chronicle his most mighty Reign of Truth, Justice and Virtue is consigned herewith for thy most learned consideration. It is the desire of this humble Scribe and diverse Elders and Youths of the Ancient College that these writings be written in the Christmas edition of the said great Organ if this meets with they approbation and approval.

Yea verily and all that - Ed.

Chronicles of the Ancient College

Part the Second

Now Paulus le Chagrin, New Master of the Ancient Society, was a man Mighty in Arm and Great in Voices. His Hair, which was not plentiful, he never groomed before battle. His Chariot was of the shiny metal powered by many horses and had a silver Beast of the Forest on its prow. His prowess was acclaimed throughout the land by Boards of Wood subscribed to by his many disciples.

And it came to pass that one day Master Paulus went to the Great City. And he entered into the City by the Gate which is called Cripple. And Master Paulus did observe that the Gate of Cripple was in poor repair and did cry unto the Keepers of the Gate, "Lo the gate is laid low. Behold, I will call forth Masons and Carpenters and Workers of Metal in the name of the Ancient College and the Gate will be restored and I will fix a Great Board of Wood on the Gate to my Glory". But the Gatekeepers and the Scribe of the Ancient College replied "Thou hast not the authority to order the repair the Gate on behalf of the Ancient College for lo it is written that only the Scribe of the Ancient College shalt have the Parchment and Quill of the College". But Master Paulus replied "To the Master of the Ancient College is given dominion over all the Creatures of the Earth" and he did take up his own parchment and quill and did summon the Masons and Carpenters and the Workers of Metal and did order the Great Board of Wood to his Glory. And there was wailing and gnashing of teeth in the Ancient College.

And the time was accomplished that the Festival of the Nativity was celebrated. And the Youths of the Ancient College went each unto his own land. And the Company of the Great Church of St Paul did make merry and eat the pies of mince and drink of the wine of Oporto and of the Glen that is called Fiddich. And the Keeper of the Scrolls, who was also Scribe of the Company of the Great Church of St Paul, did take unto himself a white beard and a coat of red and did drink mightily of the fruit of the vine. And the Youths of the Ancient College did cry unto all men "Good cheer and Merrie Christmas" and thus doth this humble scribe, unto all the readers of this Chronicle.

SCURRULIUS SCRIBO

(Scurrulius will return in the New Year with more Chronicles of the Ancient College)

Wedding bells

by Heather Lamont

The tenor chimed the hour disturbing Sally's sleep. Lazily she rolled over and a warm ray of sunshine fell across her face.

"Hurrah! Ding dong merrily on high the wedding bells are ringing," she sang to herself improvising the words.

"You awake, Sally?" her mother asked from the door.

"Yes Mum, and it looks like a lovely day."

"It is and you've plenty of time, now relax and I'll bring you breakfast in bed in ten minutes."

"Oh Mum, I couldn't eat anything."

"I thought you'd say that so I've brought you some orange juice to be sipping. Afterwards you'll probably manage an omelette."

"Mother you spoil me but I couldn't."

"Now, now less of that it is going to be a long and exciting day. You need to eat to keep your strength up."

"And the condemned man ate a hearty breakfast!" intoned Sally in a resigned voice.

A look of pain crossed her mother's face, quickly she came into the room and put her arm around Sally and gave her a hug before hurrying downstairs to make breakfast.

Sally sat up in bed and pushed a pillow angrily behind her back. Why had she said that to upset her mother? She had promised herself that now they had persuaded her to get married she would just go ahead with the wedding to please everyone. All the arrangements had been made and it wasn't as though she didn't love Richard. In fact she knew that she couldn't live without him.

The smell of cooking drifted up the stairs. Sally got out of bed and looked at herself in the mirror. "Now you behave yourself," she said sternly to her reflection. "make this a happy day for everyone, no snide comments or innuendoes. Just be pleasant and smile. Smile!"

There was a knock at the door. Quickly she jumped back into bed calling, "Come in."

Her mother entered with a tray and put it on the bed.

"Mmm, that smells good, suddenly I feel hungry," said Sally smiling at her Mother.

"That's better!" commented her Mother. "Eat up and I'll run you a bath."

As Sally soaked in the bath the rich voice of the tenor bell rang out again. "Ding, dong, ding, dong," called Sally and she began to sing. "Ring the bells of heaven there is joy today." Suddenly she stopped. What was she doing singing an old hymn that her grandmother had loved. She thought how pleased Gran would have been that she was getting married and then she realized that Gran would not have been taken in by the charade.

Once again she carefully began to think it all out. There were her parent's old-fashioned views on marriage to be considered. Then her own modern views. She wanted to live with Richard. Why marry him when one in three marriages failed? She liked her name Pillingson why change it to plain Brown? She wanted to keep her own identity, to have her own rights, to receive her single person's tax allowance.

The water was getting cold hurriedly she got out and wrapped herself in a large bath sheet deliberately breaking her train of thought because there was Richard to consider. All Richard wanted was for her to be happy, she thought and felt deliciously warm. He really was a wonderful person. He had asked her to marry him twice. Dreamily she thought back to each occasion and her smile was spontaneous. He was a romantic, first a beautiful candle lit meal

for two and then a scenic walk along the river Swale. She knew that she had hurt him with her rejection the first time and so the second time to the music of a waterfall she had said, "I love you Richard." The joy on his face had made her feel so wonderful as he replied, "I love you, Sally".

"But why did everyone start to talk about weddings when she had made plans for their home?" she asked the bath towel and with disgust threw it in the wash basket.

She put on her lace underwear.

"Hi, it's your gorgeous bridesmaid!" Angie announced herself coming in to the bedroom. "Oh dear, you do look tense. Wedding nerves or second thoughts?"

"I never had first thoughts about a wedding," Sally snapped.

"It's just nerves, you'll be fine once we are at the church and you see Richard. Get some clothes on it's time to go to the hairdressers. You don't know how lucky you are. Richard is great, so good looking, if you change your mind I'll have him."

"I want Richard, I don't want a wedding!" said Sally sharply.

"I see," said Angie giving her friend a funny look as they climbed into the car. "It's not for me to lecture you I'm sure you have had The Talk from the minister but to me weddings are special. To become man and wife in the eyes of God, to say your marriage vows and hear the man you love promise to love and honour you and be faithful until death is very special."

"That's just it," broke in Sally. "So many men are not faithful and the divorce rate is so high."

"That's two reasons. Do you think that Richard will be unfaithful?"

"No, of course not."

"So you're worried about getting divorced."

Sally sighed, "No, not really, but why can't we just live together? We've found a small house and made it very cosy we will be happy there. It is nobody else's business."

"You know that marriage is a symbol of the union between God and the Church but I was told that it is also a handrail. The promises are there to hold on to when the going gets tough and slippery. You have to work hard to make a marriage work and if you don't believe in divorce then you'll make an effort to work things out together."

"That's some speech, Angie!" Sally laughed.

Angie blushed, "Sorry."

"Your forgiven only if you remembered to bring my headdress," suddenly Sally felt much happier and as she sat in the hairdressers phrases kept repeating in her mind. "You don't how lucky you are. Richard is great. To hear the man you love promise..."

Suddenly her dream was shattered as she overheard one of the hairdressers say, "It's a good thing some people are still getting married it's very profitable for us."

Sally thought of all the money that her parents had spent. For what? To make their daughter look like a fairy princess. She could have done so much to the house with the money.

"You've got that look again," said Angie.

"Sorry."

"Let's get some lunch. Do you fancy a bowl of soup or a salad?"

"Mmm, the soup smells delicious, whose idea was this?"

"Your Mum told me to keep you out of her hair until 1.30. Soup it will be."

"No, I daren't have the soup I'd need the loo in the middle of the photographs." They both started to giggle.

Time flew by and in all the bustle and minor panic of preparation there was no more time to think.

The car drew slowly out of the driveway. Sally sat next to her father looking calm and beautiful but her thoughts were in turmoil. Consciously she released her hand from gripping the bouquet and waved to the neighbours.

Faintly in the distance she could hear the church bells ringing. She wondered how many of her friends were having a ring and if Richard had rung in the peal that morning? Winding the window down she tried to lose her thoughts in the clear notes of the bells.

"Be careful, the wind will disturb your hair," her father warned then stopped as he saw the strained look on her face.

Sally squeezed his hand gently. She was very sorry for all the anguish that she was causing the family. They all loved Richard and felt that this marriage was right. Yet her mother worried that Sally was unhappy and her father worried because he knew that she was only getting married to please them, which was a very poor reason to get married, and Richard could not understand what her problem was, he loved her dearly. They had all talked and reasoned and in the end she had given in to their pressure.

She still could not define her reasoning. She knew she loved Richard and wanted to spend the rest of her life with him. What was the point of marriage? Long ago she had made a list of the pros and cons.

Several of her friends were very happy living together but her mother thought that this was sinful. She knew that Jenny and Clive had a trial period of living together before their marriage and now after only two years they were separated.

The bells had stopped ringing yet in her mind she still heard them, "Turn again Dick Whittington; turn again Sally Pillingson!" Suddenly she saw quite clearly. Marriage was the natural outcome of their love as they hoped that a child would be the natural product; a fulfilment of the law, a symbol to society and obedience to God's commandment. She was no longer a pawn resignedly being moved through the wedding procedure, she was the Queen moving at will. Jesus had blessed the wedding at Canaan she would ask His blessing on theirs.

She smiled at her father as he helped her out of the car. Her first real smile of the day, and saw the look of relief in his face as he smiled back. She enjoyed Angie arranging the dress and fussing with her veil. As she walked up the aisle her inner peace grew. She knew what she had to do.

Then she was standing next to Richard and he took her hand. Radiantly she smiled up at him as the minister stepped forward.

Clearly the congregation heard Sally say, "May I speak for a minute?" Richard looked apprehensive, the minister surprised and there was a gasp from her mother on the front row.

Sally turned to Richard and said, "Richard, will you marry me?"

For a second he was very still looking into her eyes then solemnly he said, "Sally, I will marry you if you will marry me?"

"Thank you, Richard, I want to marry you," Sally replied simply.

Only Sally heard Richard whisper, "Thank you," as her mother blew her nose and the minister cleared his throat.

"Dearlly beloved..."

* * *

As meetings go the bye-meeting of the Canterbury District of the KCACR held at St Mary's, Wingham on Saturday, 11th September was very successful. Over 60 members were present, and the afternoon ringing, organised by the new Ringing Master, Tim Dawes, began

with Stedman Triples. This made a change, as so often in recent times, so few members have turned up to the afternoon session of ringing, that it has proved impossible to ring much at all. The eight bells, the "go" of which has improved somewhat since the ringing room has been moved upstairs, were used to the full. A service of shortened Evensong, conducted by the incumbent, Peter Brownbridge was followed by a splendid tea, served at the back of the church by the Wingham ringers. There was a superb variety of cakes and the recipe for Margaret's date slice was greatly in demand.

After tea, the new District Chairman, Ian Young, opened the meeting by welcoming so many to Wingham. He said that he wasn't sure if there were so many present because it was his first meeting as Chairman, or because it was the first meeting that the new Ringing Master, Tim, was in charge or it may even have been that Simon Dixon, the other Ringing Master was absent. The Chairman also reported that the District Secretary had sent his apologies for absence because he was being a Thespian. Another one of his hidden talents!

The business of the day was rapidly dealt with, a few new members were elected and a few membership certificates were presented, then it was back to the bells. Ringing from rounds and call changes to Cambridge Surprise, continued until 8.00pm when the locals came back to put the muffles on for Remembrance Sunday. There was then a mass exodus across the road to The Dog for light refreshment. The bar was very soon taken over and a convivial evening ensued.

P.R.Y.

* * *

Glasgow & Paisley – Both towers had been working towards mastering their namesake methods for the best part of the year and then success with both in the space of ten days. Several attempts at a quarter at Glasgow had faltered but on this occasion fierce concentration saw a successful conclusion without incident. Now onto a full peal! The incentive at Paisley was to have Steve Taylor in the band before he departed south and after a false start a good quarter was rung ably guided by Oliver Coldrick. Notable was the return to the quarter peal columns of Alex Scott and Iain Peacock after an absence variously estimated at between 10 and 25 years.

BOB HANCOCK.

Glasgow, Strathclyde. 14 Nov, 1280 Glasgow Surprise Major: Kate Weston 1, Rose Hancock 2, Bev Ouzman 3, Jennifer Tomkinson 4, Paul Harden 5, Marcus Wheel (C) 6, Oliver Coldrick 7, Robert Hancock 8. 21st birthday compliment to Heather Preece. First in method by local band and on the bells. £1

Paisley, Strathclyde. 23 Nov, 1250 Paisley Delight Major: Iain Peacock 1, Rose Hancock 2, Kate Weston 3, Alex Scott 4, Oliver Coldrick (C) 5, Eric McNally 6, Steve Taylor 7, Robert Hancock 8. Rung as a farewell to Steve Taylor, leaving for Cambridge. First in method by all and on the bells. £1

Method named

On Friday 24th November, an extent of TDMM 2078 (56-34.16-12-1236-14-56 le 12) was rung at Shincliffe, County Durham, and if previously unring, the band would like to name it St. Cuthbert Delight Minor.

This year is the One Thousandth anniversary of the founding of the diocese. In 995 the Community of Cuthbert arrived in Durham carrying St. Cuthbert's body, and set about building a final resting place for it. Initially this was a small wooden church, on the banks of the Wear, and at this time the Diocese was founded. The church was later built in stone and, almost a hundred years after the arrival of St. Cuthbert, was rebuilt as our present Cathedral.

CHRIS COOPER.

"A Prosperous New Year to you"

... On Boxing Day in the morning the glassy air was enlivened with thin chimes, sudden and near. The village bell-ringers stood in a half-circle about the front door, where still the wheat-ears hung pecked empty by birds, plying their handbells.

This was an annual custom. Boxing Day was the one holiday of the labourer, besides Christmas Day, and that was how these men liked to spend it. With mistletoe in their caps, wearing greatcoats and mittens and clean boots shining like coals among the snow, they went from house to house in the parish, ringing a chime and wishing prosperity through the New Year. ...

We always invited them in – we always invited everybody in. No matter who they were, they had to mix with whomsoever they might find there. ...

When they had had a drink of beer and some cake, and brushed the crumbs from their moustaches, coughed, and blown their noses, they laid their caps in the centre of the table and on them their bells. They stood round in a circle. Their leader murmured some technical instructions in which the word "bob" recurred. Then they rang us a chime, and another. The enclosed air of the room tingled with their echoes as of miniature church bells, while we sat round the fire listening to the knell of our life at Groveside.

The method of the ringing was this. As soon as one man had rung his two bells he put them down on the caps. They were at once taken up by another man, maybe on the opposite side of the table, while the first man's hands stretched to pick up two others somewhere else. So this complicated and swift exchange went on, and the harmony was not of the bells alone, but of the movements of all their arms as they lifted and laid them down, till the chime was ended with a clang of unison. They said nothing all the while, but their eyes were sidelong and intently observant of one another as they poised their bells shoulder high, judging the exact moment to jerk each down with a flick of the wrist and add its note to the chain of sound. Only the leader gave occasional cries of "Bob" when it was time for some change in the order of their ringing. The air above was a swirl of the echoes of all the notes they had just played, dying into one another in a kind of tonal rainbow.

Then I was asked if I would care to have a try. This had become a yearly custom: after the first two chimes the invitation was always made, and I took up the two deep-toned bells. While the others were throughout the ringing handling their bells to and fro among them, mine was the simple duty of adding the two final notes to every round without change. Even so, I found it hard to judge the right moment; either my notes came too close on the heels of my neighbour's, or they rang out after a little gap of silence in absent-minded haste. Nor had I improved with time, though they said I had.

My father, too, took them up, and derived a technical pleasure from listening closely to their tones one by one.

Then finally they rang us a very quick, joyful chime, all the notes tumbling over one another as though for gladness which made me think of spring and the scattering of the multitude of flowers upon the earth again in a little time from now.

My mother amused them by crying, "Who is this Bob you keep shouting to? I'm sure he's doing it very well."

After another drink of beer they picked up their caps, saying, "Well, we must be getting on

The Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund

In the early nineteen seventies a number of far sighted people amongst them Henry Lawrenson and Frederick Sharpe proposed to the Oxford Diocesan Guild that it should set up a Fund to raise and collect sums of money and to apply the income arising from the investment of such money in or towards the repair, maintenance and renewal of the church bells in the Diocese of Oxford.

After much discussion and some opposition to the scheme, both from Diocesan Authorities and from some of its members, the constitution of the Fund was finally adopted at a meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, General Committee at Mapledurham on the 21st September 1974. The same meeting elected Managing trustees under the Chairmanship of Frederick Sharpe and during the next eighteen months these Trustees held several meetings to discuss ways of raising money.

By the time of the second Annual General Meeting in March 1976 the Capital Account stood at £1,589.41 and the Income Account had a deficit of £90.50. It was with regret that the meeting had to record the death of the chairman. Ten years after its formation the Capital Account showed a balance of £44,436 and the Trustees were able to make grants for restoration work in the region of 10 per cent of cost.

As a result of a lot of hard work by an enthusiastic body of people around the Guild the next ten years has seen the fund grow by a further £82,609 to £127,065. All of this money has been invested and at the end of 1994 the value of these investments was £192,574. The money available for grants in its twentieth year, 1994, was £11,110, exceeding the new money raised during the year by £3506.

Despite the growth of inflation far exceeding that ever envisaged by the founders of the Bell Fund, and notwithstanding present low interest rates, the target level of grants is now around fifteen per cent of the cost of bell work and has been so since 1991 with some payments being between four and five thousand pounds. If no more money were to be raised the Fund could continue to pay out significant grants. However it is intended to continue raising funds and it is hoped in time to be able to increase the amounts given to applicants.

In 1992 The Oxford Diocese celebrated its 450th anniversary and the Oxford Diocesan Guild decided to mark the occasion by assisting with the installation of a ring of bells at the new ecumenical church at Downs Barn in Milton Keynes. The Trustees of the Bell Fund had some concerns that the appeal for this, £30,000, which was launched in the May, would have an adverse effect on the income of new money into their fund. We were delighted that this proved not to be the case, for not only had the Downs Barn project been completed and paid for by the end of March 1994 but the income of the Bell Fund had been unaffected throughout the period of the appeal. This is a great tribute to the hard work and fund raising efforts of the Guild members and is a very encouraging sign for the future.

DEREK FOWLES (Hon. Secretary)

or we shan't get round before dark. A prosperous New Year to you, sir, and to you, ma'am, and all of you." They did not know we were leaving Groveside. "Good day," they cried, and trooped off across the snow, misty-breathed in the keen air.

(From: *Silver Ley* by Adrian Bell, Penguin Books 1940. Article sent to us by Barbara Wheeler).

Union Triples

by William Willans

You have never heard of Union Triples? I'm not surprised. Not one ringer in a hundred has, although it was once a standard method, retaining its popularity through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Being one of the very few who ring Union regularly, I have come to appreciate its excellent qualities – musical, interesting to ring, and rewarding to ring well. I may be prejudiced, the method being one of my favourites, but I am not wrong!

"This peal differs from Grandsire Triples only, that when the treble leads her hand, or forestroke blow, the bell in fifth's place lays still and the two hind bells make a double dodge..."

("Clavis Campanologia", 1788.)

1234567
2135476
2314567
3241657
3426175
4362715
4637251
6473521
6745312
7654132
7561423
5716243
5172634
1527643
1256734
2157643
2516734
5261374
etc.

The structure is asymmetrical, and so is the work of the plain course. This confuses experts – less experienced ringers cope much better!

From thirds – double 6/7 down
– 5ths and 4/5 down
– double 6/7 up
– 4/5 up
– thirds

If you have mastered Grandsire Triples, you will not find Union difficult.

A tip from the "Clavis" for making 5ths and 4/5 down – "... if after you have led, you go up into thirds place and the treble in fourths hits you at backstroke, then of course you pass the treble in three-four; this is a certain indication of making fifth's place at hand, dodging in four-five and going down again to lead."

The bob is exactly as in Grandsire:

5716243
5172634
1576243
1752634
7156243
7512634

However, the effect is different in that three bells only are affected. To quote from the "Clavis" again, "the two hind bells are at a certainty of making a double dodge, whether a bob is called or not":

In the hunt – double 4/5 down, double 6/7 up next
Making thirds – unaffected
Double 6/7 down – unaffected
5ths, 4/5 down – double 4/5 up, thirds next
Double 6/7 up – unaffected
4/5 up – thirds, into the hunt

For touches, three courses (210) can be had by calling a bell unaffected at the same point three times, B-P-B-P repeated gives 112, B-B-P twice repeated gives 126 (with 6-7

The debt

(A story for the season)

by Yvonne Hall

Young Jack Johnson pushed open the gate and scrunched up the gravel path to the church. He glanced at the clock on the tower as he went. He could just make out the time in the moonlight. Nine o'clock. Three hours before they would be back to ring out the old year and ring in the new. A large bottle of champagne was sitting ready in the fridge at home. In a few minutes the ringers would arrive at his front door for the party he and Mary always gave. He was ready for it too. He was damn hungry. It had been a long, tiring day, taking the lorry all the way down to Penzance and back. Some drivers ought to be shot. It didn't make his lot any easier, all these idiots on the road, and that was a fact.

He unlocked and pushed open the heavy door. The coldness of the church rushed out to meet him. He shivered as he groped around for the light switch.

The dim light on, he hesitated. Why was he feeling so jittery? It was stupid. Mind you, he should have asked George or Nathan to come with him. He was taking a risk. His father and Grandfather would have several fits if they knew what he was going to do. He closed the great door behind him, and on an impulse, shot the bolt. Just in case those young hooligans had seen him come in, and decided to make a nuisance of themselves again. They had already done some damage. If he had his way he'd give 'em all a damn good hiding. A good whacking had never done him any harm as a kid. Too much psychology these days and not enough action.

He walked to the back of the church, and flung his anorak on the font. Then, unlocking the tower door, he began to climb the stone steps.

The cold air from above sank down on him, and a sudden icy draught touched his upturned face. He shivered. He was feeling guilty because they had left the bells up ready, and he had no business to be going up to put the muffles on alone. He knew, well enough that one slip could tip any of the great giants full circle, and with several hundred weight behind it, it would crush a man to pulp.

together) and there are many others. But be careful – the use of singles can easily lead to falseness, even more so than in Grandsire.

The method is particularly suitable for quarter-peal ringing. Here is an arrangement of my own which I have called many times:

• 1260 Union Triples

234567
–752634 1
–247563 2
–462375 4
–534762 1
–425376 2
–324576 5
–653724 1
–346572 2
–543672 5
–325467 2
–423567 5

Twice repeated. 21–567s (12 at hand, 9 at back) and Queens.

Lastly, a word of warning – Surprise Major ringers tend to find Union difficult. Some even get fretful and refuse to ring it. Don't let them discourage you. Treat them with kindness and courtesy, just as though they were human beings, and in the meantime save the pleasure of ringing this delightful method for yourselves.

It had happened so, here in this very tower, many years ago, when his Grandfather had been captain. A friend of his. What was his name? No. He couldn't remember off hand. Something strange. A biblical name. He should remember it. There was a plaque somewhere down in the church. He'd looked at it often enough. It told the man's name with dates. There was a trite bit of verse too. Anyway, this chap had done much what he was about to do. Gone up to muffle the bells, ready to ring out the old year. He'd not gone up alone mind you. Tom Dodds had gone with him. Funny how he could remember his name and not the other.

They had climbed out onto the frame holding the waiting bells, with just a couple of candles to see what they were doing. They had startled some pigeons who were roosting there. The birds had flown up noisily from their perch, flapping their wings against Tom's face, putting out his candle. In a panic he had put out his hand to save himself from falling, straight onto the twenty-five hundredweight tenor. The massive bell had swung obediently into motion, taking the other bloke with it. He had been unrecognisable when they went to get him out of the well. Tom had never recovered from the shock of it, and had ended up in an asylum. So the story went.

Jack shuddered. Well, that had been 50 years ago, and they'd only got candles! He had electricity up here now, and there were no pigeons because of the wire netting, and there was no idiot with him to get in a panic!

He reached the belfry, paused for breath, then opened the door. Looming ponderously and silently above him, the eight huge bells cast their ominous shadows across the stone walls and wooden shutters. To see them poised ready to strike was awesome to say the least. He would have to be very careful. He had worn his rubber soled trainers. There was no way he could slip. Mind you, he wished he had brought one of the others with him, although – if one of the bells did go – no one, not even the good Lord himself, would be able to stop it.

He put the leather muffles down on the top step, keeping just one between his teeth, ready. He could hear the silence now. It was as if the bells were trying to tell him something through their stillness.

The sweat broke out on the back of his neck. Good Lord. What a whimp. Next to his lorry, the bells were nothing. Whatever was the matter with him? Get on with it, man!

He stepped forward, grabbing hold of the great iron frame, so that he could haul himself up.

"Nay, lad! Whatever are you thinking of? You know better than that!"

He froze and thought he was about to have a stroke. Who the bloody hell was that? Why hadn't he heard him coming up the steps? Hadn't he shot the bolt across? God! He'd nearly wet himself! "Who the devil are you?" he said angrily. "You've no business being up here!"

"No business, lad! Why, I was ringing these bells afore you was even thought of."

Jack took a deep breath. An old bell ringer. Well, that was different.

"God! You scared me half to death!" he exclaimed with a laugh.

"Good job I wasn't up there, among the bells. It could have been damn dangerous!"

"Ay. That's a fact, lad. Dangerous is the right word. You know you shouldn't be up among them upturned bells! Look at 'em! Just waiting! They wouldn't show you no mercy! Not them. Whatever were you thinking of!"

(continued opposite)



He could see the old man's face now. Strange though. Was it an old man's face? Strong and weathered, but he wasn't sure. Silly old fool could have killed him, creeping about like that, appearing from nowhere, and talking to him out of the blue! Had made him jump out of his skin.

"How about we go down and lower 'em, lad? I'll give you a hand with them muffles. Done it a few hundred times in my life I do reckon."

Jack felt annoyed. Who the hell did he think he was? He knew the stranger was right, but he didn't like being told. If he'd had any sense at all, he would have got the band to lower the bells after the practice last night. It's just that it was so bloody awkward, putting the muffles on when the bells were down. Also they'd have to do it all over again to take them off! Wasn't worth it, when he came to think about it. They didn't have to ring the old year out. Not really, if they didn't want to. They could just ring the New Year in. Save all the palaver!

He felt relieved.

"Thanks for the offer, but I think I'll just leave them be, after all. We can ring in the New, and make do with that this year."

"That's a right sensible idea, lad. Well done."

In the gloom on the steps below him, the face that was troubling him, broke into a smile.

"When were you here then?" he asked curiously, as he closed the door and followed the intruder down the steep spiral.

"Rang with your Grandfather. Went t' school with 'im, and fought with 'im in the trenches! He saved my life, lad! Bleeding like a pig I was. Carried me three miles on his shoulders, and his own leg so shattered he could hardly walk. I'd have died there, in the mud, if it hadn't been for 'im!"

Funny that. His Grandfather had never told him. Too modest, as always. Wouldn't want to be a hero!

"Are you visiting friends?" he asked.

"Ay! You could say that!"

"How about coming back to my place for a quick drink? My Grandfather will be along too."

"I don't think so, lad. Thanks all the same. Just passing by, you see. Can't stop."

On the way down Jack poked his head into the Ringing Chamber to check all was well. They mustn't forget the champagne! He must asked the stranger his name.

"Hey! Who shall I say?" he shouted.

"Jeth. Jethro Paul. I owed him, lad. I owed him for twenty years of my life! Twenty precious years. Now my debt's paid at last."

"Eh? What?"

Jack closed the door and bounded down the last few steps.

"What did you say?"

Where the devil had the bloke got to now? There sure was something odd about him.

The church was empty and cold like a tomb. He'd be glad to get home and warm himself in front of the log fire.

He pulled on his anorak and picked up the keys. He was puzzled. He was sure now that he had shot the bolt across. Oh, well. As he walked towards the door, a shaft of moonlight fell across the plaque on the wall. He took his torch from his pocket and shone it onto the dull brass, so they he could see it more clearly.

There it was.

Jethro Paul. 1898 - 1938. A tragic death this man befell, a faithful ringer of these bells.

There! He knew it had been some sort of biblical sounding name! And that daft bit of doggerel! Surely they could have done better than that? Didn't even rhyme properly! He could have written something better himself.

He walked to the door and pulled back the heavy bolt. So he had shot the darn thing after all. Of course he had! Whatever made him think he hadn't?

He stepped outside into the clear frosty air. Just as well he'd decided not to muffle the bells. It would have been a stupid and irresponsible thing to do. A bad example to set the youngsters. He looked up at the clock. Nine fifteen. He'd better get his skates on, or Mary would be worrying about him.

He must ask his Grandfather about Jethro Paul. Half a century ago, that dreadful accident. Perhaps when they rang their peal tomorrow, they could dedicate it to his memory. Yes. That was a good idea. Jethro Paul would have liked that, he felt sure.

Y.F.H.



"He's gone out to get some fresh air".

* * *

A. S. Watt questions the origin of peal names recently (*RW* p 1220). I offer some suggestions as to what they may have been named after:-

Dr. Butler S. Max. - The liniment used by the tenor ringer after leaving the front work too quickly.

Netheravon A. Major. - Local Authority boundary reorganisation.

Novecentonavantanove-The latest car from Fiat.
Kingston Bagpuize S. Max. - A Jamaican/Scottish wind instrument.

Bradanford S. Major. - A concerto by Beethoven.

Pexa S. Major. - What Peter Popper did to a puck of pockled peppercorns.

A merry Christmas to all my reader.

NHTOAF

Christmas board game

(The road to a thousand peals)

Firstly you need to make the board. This is quite simple. You only need to create a grid 100 x 10 with each square numbered. You will need a die and a counter for every player. You can only play with more than twelve if you live in Winchester or Birmingham.

The following entries are then made on the appropriate squares, as follows:

1. You ring your first peal but your hands are so sore that you cannot ring for two weeks. Miss a turn.

10. You are suddenly struck with the enthusiasm of youth. Have three extra turns.

12. Rope breaks; miss a turn.

14. Bicycle chain breaks; miss two turns.

16. The new vicar at your local church encourages peal ringing: move on to 47.

25. You team up with a non ringing girlfriend/boy friend, miss six goes.

26. Your girlfriend/boy friend learns to ring, miss seven goes.

39. You go on your first peal week. Move on 10 places.

47. In-comers complain about the large number of peals rung at your local: miss five turns.

57. A new conductor joins your band. She is very good. Move on 48 places.

106. You stay in at nights writing a peal proving program on your PC. Miss five turns.

139. You start ringing your own compositions. Move on 23.

143. Lock out: miss a turn.

162. A fault is found in your peal proving program: go back to 139.

250. You find a collection of very musical compositions. Move on 62.

325. You discover that the composer of your musical compositions did not understand internal falseness. Move back 62.

379. Car fails its MOT, miss four turns.

532. Middletons found to be false. Go back 123 spaces.

533. Computer hard disk fails and you have not bothered to back up. You spend many hours looking up old peals in *The Ringing World*. Miss 17 turns.

537. You discover that your favourite composition of Kent false. Go back 37 spaces.

541. You set your heart on a peal of Erin Doubles and refuse to ring anything else until this particular peal is scored. Miss 25 turns.

543. You find that you are ringing with five different peal bands and are averaging an attempt a day. Move on to 847 but then miss five turns while you seek professional help.

639. You lose your job and your wife leaves home: move on 1274 spaces.

704. A large win on the lottery solves all your financial problems: move on to 803.

737. You hang a ring of bells in your garage and you find that you can average 25 peals a week. Move on to 998.

803. Trouble with your private helicopter causes you to miss a peal week. Miss three turns.

853. Internal politics causes the peal band to fall apart. Miss 10 turns.

998. You get fed up with ringing and take up golf. You never touch a rope again. Drop out of the game and put the kettle on.

1000. How sad. You now have nothing to live for.

1013. You discover that 14 of your Cambridge peals were false but also come across a peal in the *Ringing World* that you had not recorded. The final adjustments mean that your 1000th peal was a dead rough hack at Bob Doubles and the immaculate peal of Spliced Max. with all your old mates in it was number 987.

A.J.B.

Fabian Stedman – the final resting place

When I first arrived in London, I decided to spend some time visiting the City churches. Many amongst them have a vital rôle in the origins of ringing, not least St Andrew, Undershaft, the church at which Fabian Stedman seems to have rung and where he was buried. The ring of six, cast by Robert Mot(t) at the very beginning of the Whitechapel Foundry's history, is now hung dead. But it was Stedman who caught my attention. The church contains very many memorial stones to various notaries, mayors, writers and other important people in the city, and also a plaque commemorating Stedman, put up by the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1983, following the 300th anniversary of his mastership.

I visited the church and quickly found that plaque, so I was then interested in finding his place of burial. The caretaker of the church (which is now effectively a church hall for St Helen's) told me that there were no bodies remaining in the church or churchyard, because they had all been shifted out during the 1850s, as from all city churches. Stedman, therefore, is no longer buried at St Andrew, Undershaft. Having set out to find his place of burial, though, I continued my search at the Guildhall library.

There is no surviving copy of any faculty to remove the corpse of Fabian Stedman from the consecrated ground at St Andrews during the period 1849-63, nor of any general faculty for the removal of corpses. There are many others, however, some of which make grim reading, and some also contain certificates of burial in the city cemeteries, so it seems that the corpses must have ended up in one or other of the many cemeteries that were founded around London at this time.

So the next step was to look through the Vicar General's notebooks for mention of permission to carry out work at Undershaft. Unfortunately for the researcher, St Andrew's seems to have been relatively autonomous, and receives almost no attention from the Vicar General throughout the period 1758-1863, except for the regular granting of parish clerk's licences. Presumably, then, it was the vestry that bore the responsibility for the conduct of business at Undershaft.

The vestry minutes run from the early 18th century, but during that period they are concerned with raising rates and appointing officials. By 1800, though, the maintenance of the church grounds and fabric became the concern of the vestry with the appointment of new churchwardens, and also a sextoness. The senior churchwarden was a Mr George Westacott, who seems to have lived next door to the church on St Mary Axe, and was therefore in a position to deal directly with any problems arising. Security was a problem, and on 9th December 1828 it is reported that "an attempt had been made to remove a corpse from the churchyard." The solution to this problem was to put up new iron railings, to install gas light, and also "not to permit any strangers to be interred in the churchyard in future except upon payment of £2. 2s. to the rector and £1.1s. to the clerk and 10/6d to the sexton!" Quite why this was resolved, I can only speculate. Perhaps overcrowding was already becoming a problem – obviously these prices, totalling £3 13/6, were prohibitively expensive, except for the wealthiest families.

Certainly, in the next ten years, the problem of overcrowding becomes of great concern to the vestry. On 28th April 1836 "it was resolved that it be proposed to the next vestry that the

churchyard shall be lettered and numbered and a proper account kept of the interments in the churchyard and in the vaults." But the minutes of the next vestry do not record that the proposals were made, and even if the work was carried out, it may not have been retrospective and therefore may not have recorded Stedman's grave. Furthermore, the record does not survive even if it was made. Even so, it would only have covered 13 years, because the minutes of 11th October 1849 declare:

... that in the opinion of this vestry any further burials in the church or churchyard of this parish will be dangerous to the health of person living in the neighbourhood thereof and should not take place. [...] And that proper measures be taken to enter into an agreement for burial of the bodies of persons having right of burial in the Churchyard in some authorised cemetery near London pursuant to the 10th Clause of the Nuisances Removal & Diseases Prevention Amendment Act 1849. Also that the churchwardens be authorized to cause the Churchyard to be paved over with flag stones having it first covered with lime."

These arrangements seem to have been made very rapidly. The churchyard is now paved, and has been for some time. At the following vestry on 17th January 1850 a letter is copies, from "C.J." of Fulham to Harry Hill, the Rector. It gives assent to "the arrangement which has been determined upon by the vestry",¹ which I assume is the proposal to bury the dead of the parish elsewhere. Although C.J. is not identified, his letter dates from 20th October 1849, immediately after the vestry of the 11th, and so I infer that he was responsible for Fulham Cemetery. However, he considers "the arrangement to be merely temporary to provide for the present emergency". For this reason I would hesitate to conclude that any bodies were exhumed and moved to Fulham, just that new burials probably took place there. Unfortunately, the records of Fulham cemetery only began in 1865, and are not available for public inspection.

The business is concluded 12 years later when, on the 9th October 1862 it is resolved "that the churchwardens be authorised to cause the works described in Mr. Westacott's specification & estimate and proposed to be done in the churchyard to be carried into effect." This could refer to any number of things, but it would seem consistent that this should be the liming and paving of the churchyard, there not having been any burials for over a decade.

It is now evident to me that no evidence survives of the final resting place of Fabian Stedman. He was not a rich man when he died and so would not have had a memorial, nor did he have any close family, so far as I can discern. The account of the development of his principle given by W. T. Cook² suggests that it only became popular in London more than 50 years after his death, and so he may not have been remembered immediately for that. By the time bodies were moved, Stedman had been dead some 190 years, and ringing had moved on rapidly. Whether he continued to be a legendary figure I do not know – but there is little biography of him, and little known about his life apart from his contribution to ringing. He was not commemorated in any great style. My conjecture is that his body lies either in Fulham cemetery, or another city cemetery, but is unrecorded and therefore untraceable. Or perhaps he is still in the churchyard of St Andrew's, Undershaft. This latter seems a distinct possibility bearing in mind the absence of any evidence of reburials, and the fact that the debate over hygiene in the 1850s was concluded by

The blessing

by Ann Tillman

Mirabilia woke gently from her peaceful slumber and wiped the stardust from her eyes. She liked to pick out her wardrobe for the day while she was still snug in bed, and decided on the double-daffodil skirt, the camisole of evening primrose, with perhaps the sash woven of clover to add a touch of color. That decided, she arose from her milkweed feather mattress, smoothed the soft mullein blanket, and fluffed up her downy joe-pye-weed pillow. The glorious morning called Mirabilia to join the day. She dressed quickly and put on her moccasin-flower slippers. It wouldn't do to be late for ringing.

Mirabilia felt particularly joyous this morning, and stopped to wish a "good day" to the snapdragons. "How do?" she called, waving cheerily, "A sunny day to you all!" "A good day to you, too, Mira," they snapped, and she hurried on her way. Over in the meadow, she noticed the skunks tending their cabbage garden. She lifted her face to the warmth of the giant sunflowers as she passed. Soon Mirabilia could see the tip-top of the steeplebush and, within seconds, campanile underneath.

Mirabilia joined her friends in the ringing chamber and prepared to raise the bluebells for Sunday service ringing. There was Rod Golden (of whom Mira was particularly fond), Lily Tiger, Holly Hock (in her frilly new pink skirt), Hairy Beardtongue, Red Pimpernel, Lou Pine (with his dusky after-shave), and they were all happy to be joined this morning by the vicar, Jack, with his Dutchman's pipe dangling precariously from his lips. "You oughta give up that nasty habit," chided Hairy, "the vicar oughta set a good example for the rest of us!"

"I know, Hairy, I know," Jack laid his pipe in the window ledge, "well, grab hold everyone; let's raise these bluebells!"

Mirabilia took the treble. She enjoyed being the first to hear her bluebell and one could always count on the path of the treble. The light bluebell would raise easily and, without having to worry so much about her pattern, she could spend more time listening. Mira's heart leaped for joy as they began chiming.

Higher and higher the bluebells swung; "THIS is the music of angels," thought Mirabilia. The glorious cascade pealed forth in near-perfect rhythm, slowing just a bit as the bluebells reached their balance.

"Stand next!" boomed the vicar and the bluebells came to rest, mouths up, "What shall we ring today?"

"St. Peter's swort," suggested Lily, her striped orange blouse picking up the glint of the sun as it peeked through the window of the steeplebush.

"No! St. John's wort," retorted Rod with a defiant shake of his golden locks.

Jack could see that he'd opened a can of

(continued opposite)

paving the churchyard over. Perhaps by 2013 his body will have been found and he can be properly commemorated by ringers in the 300th year after his death.

DAVID BAVERSTOCK.

¹ St Andrew, Undershaft Vestry Minute Book commencing 1807, p.173.

² *ibid.*, p.281.

³ *ibid.*, pp.493 and 494.

⁴ *ibid.*, p.496.

⁵ *ibid.*, p.625.

⁶ W. T. Cook, *The Society of College Youths* 1637-1987.

mandrake by asking for suggestions. "Perhaps we should start with a well-struck course of St. Andrew's Cross," he offered. "We can work on the more difficult methods at practice. Hairy, will you say go and stop please?"

"Glad to!" Hairy beamed. He always felt good when given the opportunity to conduct. As the oldest, it only seemed right that he should look after the band.

The circle of ringers stepped up to their ropes, taking the tails in one hand and reaching up to grab the purple loosestrife sallies.

"Look to!" Mirabilia called proudly as she eased her bluebell off of its resting place and gently to the balance. "Treble's going, she's gone!"

The bluebells rang out in descending order of pitch. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, pause... one, two, three...

"Can we stand please?" asked Holly. "I need a box." She was just on the end of her rope and needed a little boost.

"Stand!" called Hairy.

Holly selected a box and placed it just behind her rope. Lou took the opportunity to shorten his rope by tying a knot just under the loosestrife sally.

"Everybody ready now?" asked Hairy. A murmur of readiness moved through the band like the wind through a field of ready wheat. Hairy nodded to Mirabilia.

"Look to! Treble's going, she's gone!" After several sets of rounds, the rhythm finally evened out.

"Go St. Andrew's Cross!" barked Hairy and the ringers began the changes. Two, one, four, three, six, five, eight, seven, two, four, one, six, three, eight, five, seven. Their eyes darted back and forth across the circle as they looked to see which loosestrife sally they were following in the hunt. Rod caught Mira's eye and sent her a wink and a smile.

The ringing moved along at a good, steady pace and the bluebells sounded especially sweet this morning. Mirabilia thought again of the angel music and wondered if her Poppy might be listening. He would be so proud of her. Poppy in his trillium-tipped shoes, smelling of his Sweetbriar after-shave and cologne. Poppy who had been there every day to pick up Mirabilia after school and care for her until her mother and Indigo came home from work.

Suddenly, a gentle breeze blew through the bluebellfry and a beautiful white aura surrounded Mirabilia. She felt Poppy's presence for a time; she felt such love and peace and tranquility. She also became aware that, during this time, the whole band rang as if it were one instrument rather than eight ringers and eight bluebells. Mira basked in the glow; she marvelled in it.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, the bells came back to rounds. The aura disappeared and Mirabilia whispered softly, "So long, Poppy; thanks for coming by."

"Stand at next backstroke," came the command and the band let their bluebells swing once around and balanced them: mouths up, purple loosestrife sallies way up high-just under the ceiling, tails just barely within reach. It was safer to leave the bluebells this way during service and it saved them having to ring down and then up again right after service. All of the bluebells stood, that is, except for Lou Pine's. His bluebell came back off of its balance and he had to give four more tugs before he could get his bluebell to rest in its upside-down position. He'd not been ringing as long as the others, and really was doing quite well; and so nobody gave him the raspberry bush over not having stood his

bluebell on the first attempt.

The band silently descended the steeplebush steps. Old Bachelor Button greeted them at the church door with a friendly smile and a nod of approval. Seven of them filed into their own pew, the one with the lovely creeping bellflower carved along its seat back. Jack, of course, made a bee line for his pulpit.

"Hymn number 405," he announced, casting a peaceful look over his congregation. "All Things Bright and Beautiful."

The congregation fumbled through their hymnals and the organist began the refrain. Mirabilia had loved this hymn since she was a child; it sounded especially sweet today with the new columbine pipes and trumpet honeysuckle stop on the organ:

"All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings..."

Mirabilia's thoughts drifted back to the steeplebush and Poppy. He had really, really been there! She'd have to be sure to tell Indigo. Mira knew how Indigo had loved Poppy and how terribly she missed him. Indigo would be glad that Poppy's angel had visited Mira in the bluebellfry.

A deep contentment settled in. "What a nice feeling," thought Mira as she looked around. Oh, how she loved this church. She loved all of the

beautiful things: the Queen-Anne's Lace altar linens, the pots of charming grape hyacinths on the altar today, the shiny brass candlesticks-recently polished by the Altar Guild ladies in their foxgloves.

Jack-in-his-pulpit, wearing his purple Monk's Hood, was giving a sermon about the angels climbing up and down Jacob's Ladder: all the way up to the Star of Bethlehem and all the way down to Jacob himself.

"Sort of like the incarnation," thought Mirabilia, "God so loved the world, that he climbed down Jacob's Ladder to wrestle with US and to tickle us with His Fringed Gentian!"

Many prayers came forth this Sunday morning. Prayers for the Indian Reservation up the road and Blazing Star, their chief. His friendship with the congregation grew over the years as he taught them many wonderful and useful Indian secrets, such as how to use the Indian Paintbrush to paint the lovely scarlet details on the front of the altar. Prayers for Violet's Mommy, Susan, who was home tending to the black eye she'd gotten when she tripped on a teasel. Prayers for all of the broken and Bleeding Hearts of the planet. The ringing band would have to ring something wonderful later in order to ring all of these prayers up to heaven.

Mirabilia truly was blessed. She had a lovely day, filled with beauty and friends. She had a home to return to with her heart full. She had her wonderful bluebells with their glorious music and Poppy, her own dear Poppy, had visited her and brought her his blessing.

(This story was first published in the Spring 1995 issue of *The Clapper*, the North American Guild magazine).

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Heavy carillons

Among several recent bits of news about the enlargement of the War Memorial Carillon in Wellington, the newspaper article reprinted on page 931 deserves correction. When completed, that instrument will indeed be the *third* heaviest in the world, after Riverside Church in New York and Rockefeller chapel in Chicago. But it will be the *sixth* largest in terms of number of bells, since the four new basses will increase that count from the present 65 to 69. This is shown by the enclosed table, which lists the eight heaviest carillons in the world plus those others which have more than 53 bells and a bass weighing more than 4 tonnes. (It may be worth noting that all of the eight heaviest, except the new basses for Wellington and the unfortunately recast trebles at New York, are from English foundries.)

The columns showing weight require some further explanation. Under the heading "bass weight (common)" is shown the weight of the bass bell either as commonly reported or in the most probable units of precision for that commonly reported weight. In only a few cases is this available as actually weighed out by the bellfounder upon completion of tuning, in pounds avoirdupois (lb). More often it is an estimate to the nearest hundredweight (cwt, or 112 lbs) or the nearest 100 lbs or the nearest 50 or 100 kilograms (kg), either provided by the bellfounder or made by some other person.

To translate from any of these units of measure into another for purposes of "standardization" (excuse me, "standardisation" for my English readers) would be to introduce a misleading appearance of precision. For example, the bass bell at Chicago is sometimes reported as 38080 lbs, which might appear at first sight to have an accuracy of 10 lbs. or less. However, this weight is equivalent to 340-0-0, which is probably not accurate to the nearest pound, but only to the nearest 10 cwt, a difference of three orders of magnitude! Accordingly, I have provided the column headed "bass weight (tonnes)" for use in actual comparisons. It is very fortunate that the metric ton (1000 kg, or 2205 lb), the American long ton (2200 lb) and the English tonne (20 cwt, or 2240 lb) reflect the same weight to an accuracy of less than two parts per hundred (i.e., less than 2% difference). Since I have shown the converted weights only to the nearest $\frac{1}{10}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ ton, this column may be read equally well as any of the three "ton" measures. (American readers should note that the American short ton, which is more commonly used by the general public, is only 2000 lb, and thus differs by 10% from the long ton.)

Further details will be given in the second edition of my book *Carillons of the World*, now in preparation. This will include (where available) maker(s), year(s) of installation,

keyboard disposition, carillonist or other contact, &c., &c. Due announcement of this publication will be made to *The Ringing World* as well as through all national carillon societies, since it has been undertaken as a project in support of the World Carillon Federation.

Additions, corrections, or comments of any nature will be welcomed, whether communicated through these columns or directly to the undersigned.

CARL SCOTT ZIMMERMAN, Chairman,
Committee on Tower and Carillon Statistics,
The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America,
226 North Elm Avenue
Webster Groves, MO 63119-2420 U.S.A.

Herbert Howells Centenary Peal

In October 1992 an Oxford DG band was privileged to ring a peal of Stedman Cinques at Gloucester Cathedral on the centenary of the birth of the composer Dr Herbert Howells, CBE, one time chorister at the cathedral.

The Cathedral authorities decided to mark the occasion with a peal board and on "Stir up" Sunday, November 26th 1995, the peal band was kindly invited by David Burt the Cathedral Ringing Master, to return to the Cathedral for the board's dedication. A quarter peal was rung before the service by a team which included ten of the 1992 peal band and then we attended a splendid Evensong which included a magnificent rendering of Balfour Gardiner's anthem, "Evening Hymn", and the hymn "When morning gilds the skies". The Dean, the Very Reverend Kenneth Jennings, in dedicating the peal board, spoke of the part played by the bells of the cathedral and their ringers in worship and in proclaiming the Church's witness. With the concluding voluntary, "Carillon de Westminster" by Vierne, ringing in our ears we returned home to Berks, Bucks, Oxon, Herts, Birmingham and Carlisle.

A second peal board, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Queen's Coronation, was also dedicated. J.A.A.

Gloucester Cathedral. 26 Nov. 1311 Stedman Cinques: J. R. Martin 1, S. Kathleen M. Baldwin 2, Margaret A. Edwards 3, Cathy M. Martin 4, A. W. Kilgour 5, R. Baldwin (C) 6, P. F. Windley 7, M. F. Edwards 8, A. F. Alldrick 9, L. Boumphrey 10, R. C. Stevens 11, J. A. Ainsworth 12. For Evensong. Also to welcome Robin Christopher Laven, born 3.11.95, and to remember his Great Grandmother, Kathleen Frances Burt, who died 6.11.95

Exceptionally large or heavy carillons of the world

Site	Number of bells	Bass note	Bass weight (common)	Bass weight (tonnes)	Rank by weight
Kirk-in-the-Hills Presbyterian Church Bloomfield Hills, Mich., USA	77	G	11685 lb	5.3	
Roterturm Halle, Germany	76	F	8050 kg	8	
Riverside Church New York, N.Y., USA	74	C	40926 lb	18.5	1
Rockefeller Memorial Chapel University of Chicago Chicago, Illinois, USA	72	C#	340 cwt	17	2
Chateau des Ducs de Savoie Chambéry, France	70	G	?	-5	
National War Memorial Wellington, NZ (future)	69	D# ?	(not yet cast)	12	3
Kongresshalle Berlin, Germany	68	F	7820 kg	7.7	
Princeton University Princeton, N.J., USA	67	G	115 cwt	5.75	
Thomas Rees Memorial Springfield, Illinois, USA	66	F#	14900 lb	6.3	
National War Memorial Wellington, NZ (present)	65	G#	?	5.5	
Centralia, Illinois, USA	65	G	11000 lb	4.8	
University Library Leuven (Louvain), Belgium	63	F#	?	-7	
Stadhuis (City Hall) Rotterdam, Netherlands	61	G	12430 lb	5.1	
University of California Berkeley, California, USA	61	G	10580 lb	4.4	
Bok Singing Tower Lake Wales, Florida, USA	57	D#	210 cwt	10.5	5
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Cohasset, Mass., USA	57	G	105 cwt	5.25	
Burton Tower University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA	55	D#	24300 lb	10.7	4
Rainbow Bridge Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada	55	E	178 cwt	8.9	8
National Cathedral Washington, D.C., USA	54	D#	24000 lb	10.4	6
Scottish Rite Cathedral Indianapolis, Indiana, USA	54	G	100 cwt	5	
Peace Tower Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	53	E	200 cwt	10	7
(several others have:	>53	A up		4 or less)	
(or	53	F# up		6 or less)	
(or	<53	F up		8 or less)	

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Noise of bells has not only been of interest to Ringers. The Journal of the Ecclesiastical Law Society, *The Ecclesiastical Law Journal* carried an article in July 1995 by R. H. Bloor the Joint Registrar of the Diocese of Leicester entitled 'Clocks, Bells and Cockerels' for which permission has been given to reprint in *The Ringing World*. It is written for Lawyers and might read a little differently to the usual run of article in the R.W. but I hope it may be of general interest to those who are following the debate about noise nuisance.

R. J. COOLES

Clocks, Bells and Cockerels

by R. H. Bloor, LLB
Joint Registrar, Diocese of Leicester

In the public mind noise is associated more with the sound of twentieth century inventions than the ages old chime of church clocks and the clang of church bells or indeed the crowing of cockerels. The Law Reports give little guidance as to the principles governing the legal liability in the case of nuisance from clocks, bells and cockerels at common law and the circumstances in which an injunction can be obtained to stop them, in contrast to a steady flow of cases arising out of noise created by today's mechanised and industrialised society. However, it would appear from recent experience as reported in national newspapers and from the writer's own experience that these issues are very much alive and of interest to practitioners, particularly those who are advising ecclesiastical authorities.

The facts of the recent case of *Houston v Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Mary's, Belton* and Reverend Stuart Samuel (Loughborough County Court) 1993 (unreported) are in themselves interesting. The bells in the church tower were themselves ancient. Shortly after the First World War the parish council and the British Legion raised monies to install a clock in the tower which struck on the hour on the tenor bell 24 hours per day until 1979 when the mechanism failed. At the same time the bells were removed because they were thought to be unsafe. Twelve years later the bells were reinstalled following repair and repair to the tower and in 1991 the parish council paid for a new striking mechanism to the clock and the striking of the clock resumed as before.

In the meantime the George Hotel, Belton, opposite the church, from being a relatively small hostelry had become much larger and much more important because it served the East Midlands Airport. The proprietor, Mr Houston, approached the incumbent and the parish council seeking to have the clock silenced during certain hours of the night when he said airline pilots and guests were trying to sleep. On a without prejudice basis the incumbent and church wardens and the parochial church council were inclined to compromise although agreement could not be reached as to the hours during which the clock should be silenced. The parish council who owned the clock were not inclined to compromise at all. Thereupon Mr Houston commenced proceedings for an injunction and damages against the PCC and the incumbent claiming that the noise of the clock striking on the tenor bell constituted a nuisance and seeking an injunction and damages for loss of goodwill and profit at his hotel.

The leading case in this area of law is the well known case of *Soltau v De Held* [1851] 2 Sim. (N.S.) 133. In that case the ringing of bells in a Roman Catholic Church at 5am each morning for periods in excess of ten minutes was held to



amount to a nuisance at common law. This case is cited in text books as being authority for the proposition that church bells may be a nuisance if rung often enough and loud enough. This explanation of the case may be somewhat too simple because in fact the leading judgment of Kindersley V-C lays great stress on the particular facts of that case as follows:

1. That the church was in fact not a church at all but a converted residential property and the other part of the same property in which the plaintiff lived was in fact only separated by a thin wall.
2. That the defendant claimed the right to ring the bells whenever he thought fit.
3. The particular effect the ringing had on the plaintiff. Kindersley V-C states (para 143) "a peal of bells may be and no doubt is an extreme nuisance and perhaps an intolerable nuisance to a person who lives within a very few feet or yards of them; but to a person who lives at a distance from them, although he is within the reach of their sound, so far from it being a nuisance or an inconvenience it may be a positive pleasure; but I cannot assent to the proposition of the plaintiff's counsel, that in all circumstances and under all conditions the sound of bells must be a nuisance".

Indeed it seems that one of the witnesses at the trial who gave evidence for the plaintiff conceded "but where I live at Clapham which is about a furlong from the bells and with the intervention of trees, so far from their being a nuisance to me they are a positive gratification and I confess I should be extremely sorry if they were done away with".

Nevertheless the judge was extremely impressed by the unusual circumstances of the case as follows:

"But I must observe that the six bells in the steeple of the church are not in respect of size such as are used in most chapels and district churches in and near London; but they are unusually large bells; and the effect produced by ringing them is thus described by Mr Soltau in his affidavit. He says: 'that when a peal of the bells of the said Roman Catholic Church was rang the noise was so great that it was impossible for me or the members of my family to read, write or converse in my dwellinghouse; and I further say that the tolling and ringing of the said bell and bells was and is an intolerable nuisance to me; and if the said bell or bells is or are permitted to be tolled or rung in the manner in which the same was so tolled and rang as aforesaid, it will be impossible for me to continue to reside any longer in my said house.' The Vice-Chancellor further recorded that Mr

Soltau had said in evidence that the value of his dwellinghouse would be considerably diminished and that he and his family would be compelled to leave and that he could only dispose of the property at a great pecuniary sacrifice.

It will be an unusual case which is on all fours with the *Soltau* case. It is submitted that the judgment is an authority for little more than the proposition that it depends on the building and the proximity of the plaintiff to the defendant's bells or clock.

However, the judgment in the *Soltau* case is of further interest to those seeking to advise in this area of the law for the following reasons:

1. The question of the disturbance of the plaintiff's sleep. Sam in the morning as in the peculiar circumstances of the *Soltau* case may be more than the Court is prepared to countenance. However in *Hardman v Hardman* [1866] W.N.379 the parish clock struck between 10pm and 6pm on the quarter hours and an injunction was refused on the grounds that the clock did not interfere with the enjoyment of adjoining property. It may have been an annoyance to the plaintiff and his wife who was ill but the clear evidence was that to most people in the parish it was not a nuisance and did not interfere with the enjoyment of their property. This was a very significant factor in the *Belton* case as will be remarked upon later. So far as noise at night is concerned the leading authority on this aspect of noise nuisance is now *Halsey v Esso Petroleum Co Limited* [1961] 1WLR 683 where Veale J. remarked that night was the time when the ordinary man took his rest and the noise from boilers working continually and lorries going to and from an oil storage depot were an inconvenience materially interfering with the ordinary comfort physically of human existence. The ordinary man was entitled to sleep during the night in his own house. The persistence of the noise was emphasised, which marks this case out from those concerning bells and clocks and cockerels where the noise is intermittent.
2. The judgment in the *Soltau* case is also interesting because of Kindersley V-C's examination of the respective positions of the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England as far as their bells and clocks were concerned. The learned judge seems to draw a distinction between a church of which there would be but one in

(continued overleaf)

CLOCKS, BELLS & COCKERELS—contd

a particular parish (in those days) and a building as in the instant case which was no more than a meeting house or chapel. The learned judge says (paragraph 161):

"The law recognises the bells as an appendage to a parish church and by law the church wardens are to have the custody and care of the belfry in which the bells are suspended and tolled. Moreover with regard to churches, unless in special cases of churches founded by the Crown, or special cases of churches founded by an Act of Parliament not parish churches they are under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Diocese. There is but one Bishop of the Diocese. It is said that this building is under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Winchester, in whose diocese Clapham is situated? Certainly not: it is but a chapel; it is no church; it has no legal privilege of having bells in the same way as a parish church has. I do not mean in what I say to intimate in the slightest degree that it is unlawful for Roman Catholics to have bells attached to their places of worship. I avoid that question entirely as I have hitherto done. But it seems to be assumed that this church stands on the footing of a parish church and therefore that it is as much privileged and entitled to have bells whether they are a nuisance or not as a parish church is: and for that reason I have made these observations."

The position generally is summarised by Kindersley V-C in *Soltau v De Held* citing with approval the language of Knight Bruce V-C in the case of *Walter v Selfe* (15 Jurist 416):

"The important point next for decision may properly I conceive be thus put: Ought this inconvenience to be considered in fact as more than fanciful, or as one of mere delicacy or fastidiousness; as an inconvenience materially interfering with the ordinary comfort physically of human existence not merely according to elegant or dainty modes and habits of living; but according to plain sober and simple notions among the English people?"

From these cases and the case of common law nuisance generally it can be stated that the major factors affecting liability in cases of this kind arising out of noise will be as follows:

1. The reasonableness of the usage by the Defendant. But the fact that bells have rung and cockerels have crowed since time immemorial will not be conclusive in favour of the defendant.
2. The regularity, duration and intensity of sound. But again this will not be conclusive because the courts have held that a temporary state of affairs may be an actionable nuisance. However the courts will ask if this noise interferes with the comfort of the average man.
3. The fact that the plaintiff came to the nuisance will not be a defence but only goes to the question of reasonableness.
4. Even if the defendants have rung bells for 20 years it does not seem that their conduct would have the element of certainty necessary to create an easement in their favour by prescription.

These are the legal principles but in every case the facts will be the deciding factor as to whether the judge in his discretion grants an injunction. Limits of noise are recommended by British Standard 8233 and these limits may well be decisive in the particular case.

However the story does not quite end there.

Under Section 79 Environmental Protection Act 1990 the local authority through its environmental health officer may serve a noise abatement notice if satisfied that noise is being emitted from premises so as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance. In fact, therefore, the environmental health officer is making his own judgment as to whether a common law nuisance exists and he will be governed by the principles enunciated above. Where an individual is served with an abatement notice there is right of appeal against the notice to a magistrates' court.

Alternatively, the local authority may take action in the High Court for the purpose of securing the abatement, prohibition or restriction of any statutory nuisance where they are of the opinion that proceedings for an offence of contravening an abatement notice would not provide a sufficient remedy. The current fine in the magistrates court is £5,000 (level five). If the nuisance continues after conviction then a fine of one-tenth of the above level is payable for each day the nuisance continues. In the case of industrial trade or business premises the maximum, fine is increased and is now a maximum of £20,000.

The writer understands from other practitioners in ecclesiastical law that local authorities have fairly widely threatened to use these powers in the case of clocks which strike through the night but that the matter is generally settled by the provision of a regulator on the clock or by having belfry windows soundproofed to reduce the noise level. Indeed in the Belton case soundproofing had already been provided when the matter was reported to the local authority and the local authority decided having made tests that they had no ground for complaint under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Therefore the plaintiff was left with his remedy at common law. It was, of course, a considerable disadvantage to him when commencing proceedings that the local authority's environmental health officer had in effect decided against him; because the statutory principles and the common law principles are the same. In effect the plaintiff would have had to show that the health officer had been unreasonable. Bells, clocks and cockerels have one thing in common namely that their noise is always intermittent, and therefore it is submitted that "cockerel" cases are instructive when advising on "bells" and "clocks" cases.

In a recent case in the Wakefield Magistrates Court (*Daily Telegraph*, 9th December 1993) the local authority served a noise abatement notice on Mr Stead, a farmer, in respect of the alleged nuisance caused by two cockerels. The local authority relied on evidence of intermittent crowing by the cockerels between 4am and 7am on five days in April, July, October and November. Local residents gave evidence that the cockerels disturbed their sleep during these times in the early morning. The case is unreported so that the facts are not entirely clear except from newspaper reports but it appears that both sides relied on expert evidence that the crowing of the cockerels was sufficiently loud to disturb most normal people in their sleep. The farmer relied on evidence that the crowing was no louder than the normal sounds of nature to be found in the countryside. The magistrates dismissed the complaint after a three day hearing, apparently on the grounds that the crowing was not loud enough or constant enough to constitute a statutory nuisance. The question of cockerels crowing had already been examined in the case of *Leeman v Montagu* 1936 2AE1677. In that case it appeared that there was a very large number of cockerels kept on land which was in a largely residential

The midnight hours

by Lyn McConchie

I'm a spookhunter. I keep getting some very silly comments ever since that confounded film came out in America but I usually ignore them. I'm fortunate enough to have written a book which caught the public's fickle little minds. I wrote a second and a third. Then found I had sufficient money and time to stop writing for several months each year. So I became a spookhunter. I prowl happily about old places setting up my cameras and debunking the ghost when it fails to appear. I have a knack of getting the atmosphere into my writing and my work continued to sell.

I should say that it isn't that I don't believe in ghosts. But so long as I never see one, I feel free to pour cold water on the idea they exist. It pays. However I was quite sure I wouldn't be seeing one in the Wrothingham bell tower either. So far as I know there ARE no legends about the place. The village is the usual out of the way picture postcard kind of hamlet. One public house with several rooms to rent, perhaps twenty houses in the immediate vicinity, a Big House, (originally the Squire's but now the property of retired acquaintances of mine,) and the church. Again the usual thing, an Anglo-Saxon wall, a Norman altar, and embellished with the Victorian's hideous imagination. But the bell tower was rather good of its kind.

Back home in my own village I act as relief ringer when I'm there. So naturally when away, I often look over other bell towers. My tales about them sometimes supplemented with photographs impress my fellow ringers. Many of whom have never been further than the larger town, some thirty miles away, to shop. Besides, I could make the opportunity to call in on my retired friends and have a comfortable gossip.

This I did and it was almost dark when the conversation finally turned to the bell tower.

"So it has no ghost?" I was saying.

Gerald laughed, "Not a one. I know with something that old it should have but the village is a fortunate backwater. The Black Death passed by, as did Cromwell and his church-wreckers."

"What about Good King Hal?"

"Oh, the place was catholic originally. So was the family who built this house. They had the living in their hands at the time. I looked up the

district and the cockerels started to crow at 2am in the morning until 7 or 8am in October. The plaintiff and his wife were obliged to sleep with cotton wool in their ears. A witness described the noise as being "Like three cornets, two of which are out of tune". The court granted an injunction on the grounds that the poultry farm could be re-arranged so as to reduce the nuisance.

What therefore may ecclesiastical law practices conclude from all this? It is submitted that when the noise is intermittent then unless it is very loud with the plaintiff in close proximity the plaintiff will have great difficulty in establishing his case for an injunction. The Belton case had an interesting outcome because following an adjournment of the case on a temporary undertaking affecting certain hours of the night the parish council held a parish meeting which overwhelmingly and without any dissent decided to defend the litigation even if it meant a substantial parish rate levied to meet the costs. A defence was filed and the plaintiff seeing an overwhelming feeling of people against him in the locality appears to have taken fright and subsequently withdrew.

records out of interest." He grinned, and Molly chuckled. "The owner was quick, he changed beliefs almost as fast as King Henry. But he was smart enough to keep a foot in the other camp. Once Mary was back on the throne he could show he'd been supporting a priest all the time."

"Supporting him?"

"With money. He persuaded the priest – who appears to have been something of a coward – to take ship for France. He was provided with a pension direct from the Manor here and returned the minute Mary was crowned."

"And I suppose the moment she died the priest was off to France again and this chap and his family were devout C of E."

I could see why Gerald and Mary found it amusing. "What was this bloke, the original Vicar of Bray?"

"Pretty much I should think. Anyhow it took two World Wars this century to wipe his family out. The house was in a mess by then too. A bomb demolished one wing. The only bomb by the way, that ever landed near here. The other wing burned down in a fire just after that. We bought it and cleared the remains of both wings after the old Lady died." Mary giggled. "You might find something there. The village says she used to enjoy listening to the bells. It was her who gave the tower its last bell to make up the peal. Maybe she'll turn up to listen tonight."

I had been aware of bells ringing over the last few minutes.

"The anniversary of her death," Mary informed me. "The ringers promised to ring the bells every year then, when she gave them the last bell. They'll be finished soon. Go over and see if you can see anything." I glanced out through the window at the last of the daylight. A fine night and very mild for the time of year. I wanted to take photos of the inside of the tower anyhow. If I did it now I wouldn't be disturbing anyone. I would wait until the ringers had finished. Another whisky wouldn't go amiss either. I settled back.

I'd been up at University with Gerald. We didn't see each other often so we found plenty to talk about. He'd retired quite young, both of us no more than in our fifties. We deplored brash youth, and complained vigorously over recent leniency in the courts. It was almost midnight when I finally came to myself and glanced at my watch.

"Good grief! Well, if I want to take photos it had better be now." In fact I had little option. Morning the church would be filled with a wedding party and a christening. Different families I hasten to add. It might be free after lunch but I'd planned to leave by then. As I'd noted earlier, it was a pleasant night, ample moonlight and no sign of rain or even cloud as yet.

I wandered out to my car, opened the rear and removed the photographic gear I carry everywhere. It was just on Midnight as I entered the church. I had no belief in the appearance of the old Lady whose family had owned the whole place once. From all accounts she'd died peacefully in her bed. And the idea that she would be here listening to her bell was nonsense so far as I believed. Still, the tower was old and beautifully done in the country style. Photos of that would make a nice addition to my collection.

I moved around outside taking several shots of the tower against the moonlit sky. I'd done little the previous day and was still un-tired. Perhaps just a few shots inside and I could set up my ghost traps for an hour or so. I entered quietly. My indignation was considerable when I found that my intentions had been pre-empted already – and by a brash young man at that. He

had the latest in photographic equipment, a smug smile, and an air about him which said he was used to getting his own way. For a moment I glared, then I approached firmly.

"Young man, have you permission to be here?"

His reply parodied mine unpleasantly, "Old man, have YOU permission to be here?"

"Yes. I have. Unless you can say the same I must ask you to leave." I was aware that I was being pompous but the boy seemed to call that from me. He snorted, an irritating sound of derision.

"I was here first and I'm staying. If you don't like that, you leave." I considered quickly. I had no intention of bandying words further with the insolent young sprig. By the time I'd taken my gear back to the house. Then woken the local policeman, the boy could be either long gone, or remaining to make me look a fool by proving permission. I would also lose my chance of taking my own photographs before I departed. I decided to stay and set up my equipment in silence.

Not so the boy. He made witty remarks about my gear – rather old-fashioned surely? My person – rather old to be out so late? And my technique of setting the traps – quite futile really. After all, as he added then, he'd waited to see the old Lady for a long time now and seen nothing of her. An old man with no idea of what he was doing and poor equipment to do it with, had far less hope. For the first time in several years I lost my temper. I told him he was an insolent young swine, that in the morning I would most certainly check he had received permission to be here. Further more, if he had not, I would see to it that charges of trespass were laid against him.

By now I had taken several ordinary shots of the bell tower from inside. If I stayed any longer I might find myself losing my dignity enough – under the boy's wicked tongue – to physically assault him. I packed hastily and headed back to the house. Once there I packed the gear back into my car and retired to my temporary bed. By morning I had simmered down. No old Lady had appeared, but then I had had little faith in her anyhow. I had several pictures I believed good clear shots of the tower from inside. Plus rather more of the tower against the night sky. I would pass a pleasant morning with my hosts and then depart. Mute but not of malice. Why should I permit their time to be spoiled, their tempers to be heated as mine had been? I breakfasted with only light gossip as spice for my scrambled eggs. In reply to amused questioning I said only that I had seen no ghosts.

I was to lunch with my hosts and while Mary was in the kitchen Gerald produced several large scrapbooks.

I flicked casually through them. They chronicled interesting events in the village since the two had moved here. They were culled from several small local newspapers whose subscription areas covered that of the village. I smiled over such items as the local flower show, and the winning of a talent contest by a village child. Then a headline caught my eye. I read the information below. A tragedy no doubt. It was not unheard of for a young man in only his late twenties to die of cerebral haemorrhage. But the boy had been promising it seemed. His friends had noticed a distinct change in his manner the weeks before his death. He had become rude and unpleasant. Quick to challenge.

I read the next line and started. The boy had developed an unhealthy interest in ghosts. I

muttered quiet indignation. That wasn't so unhealthy and I didn't approve the tone of ridicule. Gerald leaned over to see what was upsetting me.

He nodded. "Yes, a pity that. The young man came a couple of years back. He wanted to sit up with camera and so on to see if old Lady Hawksmith's ghost appeared when the bells were rung. The vicar found the boy dead next morning. Natural causes, a pity as I said."

By now there was a cold feeling creeping down my spine. I turned the page."

Gerald pointed to it. "That's his picture," he said. I knew who it was before I looked down. By my fingers the face of the young man who had so angered me last night looked up. I kept my countenance with difficulty. It was another couple of hours before I was able to take my leave. I drove slowly through the countryside with two questions roiling about my mind. The first; how to free that poor young man from his eternal vigilance – waiting to see a ghost. I knew why he'd begun. The paper had reported his parents. The boy had known of his condition and been in terror lest death be the end of everything for him. A ghost would have given him hope. I found the whole of that situation very ironic.

Still more ironic was my own quandry. My books sold, if I was to stand revealed as one who now believed, sales might rapidly fall. And revealed I would be if I told my story to any. Yet if I did not, the boy would be bound – for how long I did not know. Nor could I console myself with the belief he deserved this for his rudeness. His illness had changed him, all reports had said so. Perhaps if I exorcised the young may myself? I drove on, my mind whirling and the only conclusions I was to come to in many hours as I drove were that I must do *something*, and – that whoever had first put Murphy's Law into words had been a wise man!

* * *

One practice night at Rougham R.F. had a bright idea: "Why don't we have a go at Netherseale, it's an easy method – most of it's Cambridge anyway". Many months and much muttering later, five ringers have rung their first quarter in the method. Len Sharpe, Ernie Bishop and Brian Evans on November 5th and Marie Carson and Elizabeth Teverson on the 26th. Both were conducted by the tower captain Maurice Rose. R.F. rang in them both, rumour has it that Bourne is next! From little acorns mighty oaks do grow.

ELIZABETH TEVERSON.

Rougham, Suffolk. 26 Nov, 1440 Netherseale S. Minor: L Sharpe 1, Elizabeth Teverson 2, Marie Carson 3, E Bishop 4, R Fordham 5, M J Rose (C) 6. 1st in m-2, 3. For Evensong. £1

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Towers and peals

When I wrote my first "Felstead" article, which was published in the 1994 Christmas *Ringling World*, I very rashly said that I would be producing a series of articles during 1995. It is now November and this is the first one. I didn't realise how optimistic I was being – perhaps when I retire I'll have time to do more (or I could always give up ringing!)

Top towers

The league table of leading peal towers always seems to be of interest. According to my records, the top 50 towers at the end of 1994 were as follows.

Tower	1994 (end)	1994 peals	Position 1993
1 Loughborough Bellfoundry	3108	94	1
2 Birmingham Cathedral	1517	23	2
3 Meldreth	1107	63	3
4 Shoreditch	823	9	4
5 Isleworth	759	7	5
6 Erith (St John)	732	0	6
7 Bushey	693	15	7
8 Willesden	646	6	8
9 Trumpington	623	63	14
10 South Wigston	616	10	9
11 Rotherham	611	20	11
12 Maidstone (All Saints)	609	26	13
13 Leicester Cathedral	606	12	10
14 Birmingham (St Martin)	600	13	12
15 Bedford (St Paul)	570	14	15
16 Crayford	551	0	16
17 Hughenden	547	4	17
18= Grundisburgh	541	10	18
Ipswich (St Mary-le-Tower)		12	19
20 Ashton under Lyne (St Peter)	525	6	20
21 Nottingham (St Peter)	507	9	21
22 Thatcham	502	35	23
23 Hazel Grove	499	4	22
24 Accrington	479	14	25
25 North Stoneham	467	1	24
26 Bristol (St. Stephen)	462	10	26
27 Ashton under Lyne (St Michael)	455	4	27
28 Duffield	448	9	31
29 Debenham	445	2	28
30 Barrow Gurney	443	19	36
31 Appleton	442	1	
29=			
32 Burton upon Trent (St Paul)	441	0	
29=			
33 Beddington	439	1	32
34 Brighton (St Peter)	436	1	33
35 Warnham	432	2	34
36 Aston (Birmingham)	429	1	35
37 Daventry	425	2	37
38 Netherton	424	2	38
39 Burton Latimer	423	22	41
40 Worsley	415	13	40
41 Windsor (St John)	410	16	42
42 Ashted	404	1	39
43= Belper	389	44	53
Bristol Cathedral		7	45
45 Cambridge (St Andrew)	388	0	43
46 Framdsen	387	4	44
47 Newcastle upon Tyne (St John)	375	16	49
48 Guildford (Holy Trinity)	371	0	46
49 Edenham	369	9	48
50 Crawley	365	2	47

The top eight towers were the same as at the end of 1993. Trumpington moved up to 9th from 14th place the previous year, pushing South Wigston down a place to 10th, and Leicester Cathedral dropped from 10th to 13th having been overtaken by Rotherham and All Saints, Maidstone as well as Trumpington. Milestones passed during the year were: 3100 at the Bellfoundry; 1500 Birmingham Cathedral; 1100 Meldreth; 600 St Martin's, Birmingham, Leicester Cathedral, Maidstone, Rotherham and Trumpington; 500 St Peter's, Nottingham and Thatcham; 400 St John's, Windsor.

Belper made its first appearance in the top 50, moving up ten places to 43=, and, on current form, should continue to rise rapidly. Five of the

top 50 towers had no peals during 1994: St John's, Erith and Crayford maintained their positions at 6th and 16th but St Paul's, Burton on Trent, St Andrew's, Cambridge and Holy Trinity, Guildford all moved down a few places. Overall, 12 towers moved up the list, 18 moved down and 20 stayed the same.

Cathedrals

In his foreword to the sixth edition of Dove's Guide, Brian Harris commented on the book's appendices which, he said, "...provide enjoyable browsing for the idle moment". Such browsing is doubly enjoyable when you can also browse through the "Felstead" cards. The table below is a result of such combined browsing. It covers the Anglican cathedrals of England, the subject of the first of Dove's appendices, and gives details of the first recorded peal and the total number rung by the end of 1994. These details relate to the location, not to a particular ring of bells. In a number of cases, of course, the church had not acquired cathedral status when the first peal was rung.

The Anglican Cathedrals of England			Total to end 1994
Cathedral	First Peal		
Birmingham	16 September 1755 (Bob Major)		1517
Blackburn	2 January 1854 (Grandsire Triples)		236
Bradford	1769 (College Triples)		301
Bristol	7 February 1959 (Grandsire Triples)		389
Bury St Edmunds	10 November 1879		114
	(Grandsire Triples)		
Canterbury	30 May 1732 (Grandsire Triples)		137
Carlisle	21 November 1925 (Stedman Triples)		20
Chelmsford	11 July 1777 (Bob Major)		183
Chester	22 March 1873 (Grandsire Triples)		114
	old tower (53 old tower)		
	25 June 1975 (Kent TB Maximus)		
	new tower (61 new tower)		
Chichester	18 July 1885 (Grandsire Triples)		81
Coventry	15 November 1737 (Grandsire Triples)		57
Derby	15 February 1763 (Grandsire Triples)		285
Durham	30 October 1893 (Grandsire Triples)		44
Exeter	6 October 1902 (Grandsire Caters)		91
Gloucester	20 September 1820 (Grandsire Triples)		75
Guildford	18 July 1965 (Grandsire Triples)		160
Hereford	26 December 1898 (Kent TB Royal)		57
Leicester	12 November 1781 (Grandsire Triples)		606
Lichfield	20 May 1815 (Grandsire Caters)		124
Lincoln	14 June 1886 (Kent TB Major)		330
Liverpool	23 January 1965 (Grandsire Cinques)		17
London (St Paul's)	10 December 1881		48
	(Stedman Cinques)		
Manchester	27 August 1810 (Grandsire Triples)		249
Newcastle	10 April 1755 (Bob Triples)		292
Oxford	1 January 1733/4 (Grandsire Caters)		148
Peterborough	25 April 1987 (Grandsire Cinques)		40
Portsmouth	30 July 1749 (Grandsire Triples)		274
Ripon	22 April 1764 (Ripon's Delight Triples)		85
Rochester	21 October 1905 (Bob Major)		105
St Albans	19 December 1765 (Bob Major)		181
Sheffield	15 April 1754 (Allwood's Delight)		294
Southwark	19 December 1730 (Bob Triples)		363
Southwell	13 October 1894 (Grandsire Triples)		107
Truro	26 December 1911 (Grandsire Caters)		64
Wakefield	18 July 1742 (Grandsire Triples)		289
Wells	4 November 1891 (Stedman Caters)		90
Winchester	4 June 1798 (Grandsire Triples)		100
Worcester	14 December 1893 (Grandsire Caters)		41
York	6 January 1758 (York's Delight Triples)		74

(The information I have for "St German's, Isle of Man", which appears in Dove's appendix, is very confusing. I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has details of peals rung on the Isle of Man.)

I don't think it's possible to deduce anything earth-shattering from this list but I hope it will be mildly diverting for fellow "idle browsers". It won't be any surprise to find that Birmingham has by far and away the largest peal total (1517, followed by Leicester with 606 and Bristol with 389) but it's interesting to note that the first peal rung in a cathedral was at Canterbury in 1732. The first peal at Southwark was two years earlier but it wasn't a cathedral then.

5040 Cambridge S Royal Richard I Allton

23456	M	W	H
42356			-
54326		-	
34256	3	2	-
53246		-	
62345	-		-
42365		S	3
53264	-		-
65234		-	
23456	S	-	-

Rung East Retford, 30/4/94

5040 Cambridge S Royal Colin Woods

23456	W	H
34256	2	(SS)
53246	-	3 (-SS)
23465	2	S

2 part

S = 1456.

5040 Yorkshire S Royal Colin Woods

23456	M	W	H
42356			-
26354	-		2
52364		-	SS
24365	-		2
62345	-	-	3
25346	-		2
23456	-		2

Also true to Lincolnshire

Rung to Evesham at St. James,
Accrington, 18/9/94

5760 Swindon S Royal Richard I Allton

23456	4	5	7	9
42356				-
52364		S	S	SS
324657089	-		-	SS
324657908			-	SS
324657890			-	3
64523	-	-		
25346	-	-		3
23456	-			2

For 5040, include only one SS.

Rung at Thorverton, 17/2/95

5040 London No. 3 S Royal Colin Woods

23456	M	In/5ths	W	H
42356	-	x	-	-
63254	-		-	-
26354	-	x	-	-
35264			-	-
23564	-	x	-	-

3 part

Rare visitor

A final snippet: at the time of writing, the "rarest visitor" to the peal columns in 1995 seems to be Bangor-Is-Y-Coed, Clwyd, where the peal of 7 Surprise Minor on 18 March was the second in the tower and the first since 1910.

Please contact me if you have any queries about the information in this article or if you would like to find out about peals in particular towers.

David Dearnley, 49 King Street, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 9AZ. Tel: 01763 244637.

Shelford 1645-1995

Towards the end of 1645 the Parliamentary forces in Nottinghamshire, were once again looking towards the town of Newark, the town had already been under siege in 1643 and 1644 and was one of the few towns and cities in the country that was still under Royalist control.

However, before such an attack could take place there was the problem of the satellite garrisons which surrounded Newark and the most important of these was the Manor at Shelford.

The Manor stands about half a mile from Shelford and in 1643 it was fortified with ramparts, palisades, moat and drawbridge and garrisoned for the King by Philip Stanhope, son of the first Earl of Chesterfield. Also based there were troops from Queen Henrietta Maria's Regiment and they joined in with the Newark Royalists for attacks on Nottingham in 1643 and 1644.

With this size of garrison at the Manor the Parliamentary could not consider an attack on Newark, as without doubt they in turn would have been attacked from the rear by the Shelford Manor force and it was decided to 'take out' this garrison first.

The nuisance value of the Shelford could not be underestimated and in October 1645, Colonel Hutchinson, the Nottingham Governor, offered Philip Stanhope favourable terms of surrender. Stanhope's reply was in the form of a threat to "lay Nottingham Castle as flat as a pancake".

On Saturday, 1st November 1645, Hutchinson, General Poyntz and Col. Rossiter along with their horses and foot soldiers assembled in the village. Col. Hutchinson was to stay in the village overnight, but on his arrival he and his men were met by a party of Royalists near the Church and also some snipers who had climbed up to the top of the Church tower with their muskets and a small cannon, drawing up the ladder and bell ropes as they went. After the Royalist forces at ground level were overwhelmed, the snipers refused to come down when Hutchinson threatened them, so he ordered that the bottom of the tower be filled with straw and set on fire. Fearing that the tower would be set on fire and that they would be roasted alive the sniper group surrendered and were taken prisoner. They are said to have included a woman corporal and a boy who had once been in Hutchinson's own Company. Hutchinson withdrew his death threat on the boy for changing sides, when the lad offered to disclose weaknesses in the defences at Shelford Manor.

On Monday, 3rd November, Gen. Poyntz made preparations to take the Manor House and gave Col. Stanhope half an hour to reply to his ultimatum to surrender. Stanhope remained steadfastly defiant, "I keep this garrison for the King and in defence of it I will live and die". At four o'clock the battle began and fierce hand fighting took place. Poyntz was worried that Royalist reinforcements might arrive at any time from Newark and instructed that 'no quarter be given' and the house was stormed. Forty men were killed on the staircase alone with the fighting fierce and brutal. With the danger of Roundhead killing Roundhead, Poyntz commanded the slaughter to stop. Over forty Royalists were taken prisoner and around one hundred and sixty were killed. The Roundhead claim to have lost only sixteen men would appear to be considerably understated given the ferocity of the battle.

Philip Stanhope's end was singularly undignified. Shot and badly wounded during the fight he was, according to Lucy Hutchinson's account, stripped naked and "flung upon a dunghill". Col. Hutchinson's brother took the Shelford Governor to his own quarters, but despite the efforts of a surgeon Stanhope died the following day.

Several hours after the fighting ended, the night sky was aglow as flames engulfed the once magnificent seat of the Stanhope family, whether accidentally or deliberately is not known. As Shelford burned, King Charles rode out of Newark heading via Belvoir for the comparative safety of Oxford.

On Sunday, 5th November, 1995, the 350th Anniversary of the above event was commemorated with a re-enactment by around 400 members of the Sealed Knot Society, with members travelling from as far afield as Gillingham, Newcastle, Bournemouth and Looe in Cornwall.

As 350 years before the first battle took place at St.Peter's & St.Paul's Church, after a skirmish on West Street had seen the Royalists pushed back into the churchyard, three snipers in the tower were smoked out as they had been in the original conflict (without straw this time), and one was hung from a tree in the churchyard. The battle then moved over the fields to the Manor where a major confrontation took place.

Needless to say, the ringers did not miss the opportunity to mark the occasion, and on Saturday, 4th November a peal was rung in appropriate methods for the event.

SOUTHWELL D.G.

SHELFORD, Notts.

SS Peter & Paul

Saturday, November 4 1995 2h47 (12)

5040 Minor

(4m: 1 extent each Cromwell S, King Charles D, Stanhope D; 4 extents of Shelford D.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Sharon L Mills | 4 R Brian Mills |
| 2 Christine L J Mills | 5 John R Rigby |
| 3 Andrew B Mills(C) | 6 H Geoffrey Wells |

To commemorate the 350th anniversary of the attack on Shelford Church tower by the Parliamentary forces and the subsequent destruction of Shelford Manor.

£2

Peal Reports

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE D.A.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,

Tyne & Wear

St George, Jesmond

Wed Nov 22 1995 3h8 (18)

5088 Wembley S.Major

Comp. J W Washbrook

- 1 Barbara M Wheeler
- 2 John E Anderson
- 3 Barbara Davies
- 4 Rachael H Dyson
- 5 George S Deas
- 6 Christopher M Richardson
- 7 Oliver D Cross
- 8 Ronald R Warford(C)

To celebrate the birth of Poppy Claudia Grace Wheeler on 13/11/95, first granddaughter for the treble ringer.

ESSEX ASSN.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, Herts.

St Mary

Sat Nov 25 1995 3h16 (24)

5056 Plain Bob Major

Comp. J R Pritchard

- 1 Gerald V Pearson
- 2 Mary Bone
- 3 Kenneth D Crozier
- 4 Paul A Cammiade
- 5 Clive B Moore
- 6 Michael J Edwards
- 7 Angus S Dodds
- 8 Fred Bone(C)

First attempt: 3. To welcome

Revd Canon T Lewis-Lloyd,

inducted as vicar of

Sawbridgeworth on 3/11/95.

A 21st birthday compliment

to Kenneth Crozier. £2

HERTFORD C.A.

WIDFORD, Herts, St John

Sat Nov 25 1995 2h38 (7)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: 1 extent each London,

Wells, York, Norwich,

Beverley, Surfleet,

Cambridge)

- 1 John J Ford
- 2 Keith G Game
- 3 Terry J C Streeter
- 4 Shane A Saunders
- 5 Brian C Watson
- 6 Gerald Penney(C)

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LANCASHIRE ASSN.

SOUTHPORT, Lancs.

Emmanuel

Sat Nov 25 1995 3h (12)

5040 Plain Bob Triples

Comp. J Clatworthy

- 1 Jean A Lee
- 2 Celia F Hughes-D'Aeth
- 3 Kay G Townes
- 4 Christopher Pitman
- 5 Stephen Ollerton
- 6 Paul G Tidd
- 7 Martin E Snape(C)
- 8 Charles A Wilkinson

First peal: 1; First inside: 4.

In thanksgiving for 28 years

of ministry in this parish by

Revd Canon Malcolm

Whyte, on the occasion of

his retirement, by a

representative band, and on

behalf of all ringers at this

Church, with thanks for his

support and friendship to us

all, and to wish him and his

wife, Lilian, a long and

happy retirement. £2

EAST CROMPTON, Lancs.

St James

Sun Nov 26 1995 2h53 (9)

5024 Plain Bob Major

Arr. N Bennett

- 1 Iain M Taylor
- 2 Lindsay F Smith
- 3 J Frederick Howard
- 4 A Peter Ogden
- 5 Anthony J Smethurst
- 6 Derek Sanderson
- 7 Geoffrey H Smith
- 8 Andrew J Webster(C)

To welcome the new vicar,

Revd D Peel, inducted on

22/10/95, and as a wedding

compliment to Paul & Katie

Dransfield.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL D.A.

AVEBURY, Wilts, St James

Sat Nov 25 1995 2h27 (4)

5040 Doubles

(100m: (1) Cricklade, Boynton, Burbage and Chitterne Alliance; Clewer Little (2) Durnford, Fovant, Liddington and Ampney Alliance; Stanwell Little (3) Alderton, All Cannings, Zeals and Latton Alliance; Hampton Little (4) Sedgell, Shalbourne, Sutton Benger and Ashton Keynes Alliance; Ashford Little (5) Plain Bob (6) Reverse St Simon's, Reverse St Nicholas,

Be summoned by . . .

NORTH TAMAR FESTIVAL OF BELLS AND CHURCHES

4-6 May 1996. Enquiries to: Bells and Churches, Tourist Information Centre, Crescent Car Park, Bude, Cornwall EX23 8LE. Tel. 01288 354240



Ancaster and Union Bob (7)
Reverse St Martin's, Reverse
Winchendon Place Bob, St
Faith and Newton Place (8)
Reverse St Osmund Bob,
Reverse St Remigius,
Helpringham and St Julien
Bob (9) Plain Bob (10)
Reverse, Canterbury
Pleasure and Stedman Bob;
Coxwell and St Botolph Place
(11) Plain Bob (12) Eton and
Bedfont Place Slow Course;
Twineham, Bampton Place
and Fildfield Bob (13) Plain Bob
(14) Reverse New Bob and St
Alphege Bob (15) Reverse
Huntspill Bob and St Andrew
Bob (16) Reverse St Vedast
Bob and St Gregory Bob (17)
Plain Bob (18) Shipway Place
Bob and Tandridge Place (19)
Shipway Place Bob and
Colnbrook Slow Course (20)
Plain Bob (21) Reverse
Canterbury Pleasure Bob and
Dorton Bob (22) Reverse
Canterbury Pleasure Bob and
Raveningham Slow Course
(23) Plain Bob (24) Plain Bob
and Boxford Bob (25) Plain
Bob and Candlesby Slow
Course (26) Plain Bob (27)
Westminster, Nampton and
Intwood Bob, Lyng and
Strelley Place (28) Plain Bob
(29) Westminster, Blackburn
Place and St Hilary Bob;
Ockham, Broughton and
Chesham Slow Course (30)
Plain Bob (31) New Bob,
Fornett, Ellingham,
Bedingham and Screveton
Bob (32) Plain Bob (33) New,
Huntspill and St Vedast Bob,
Chipstead, Oakley and
Itchingfield Slow Course (34)
Plain Bob (35) St Nicholas,
Fundenhall and Harpley Bob,
Haddiscoe and Ossington
Place (36) St Nicholas,
Winchendon Place and St
Remigius Bob, Hascombe,
Thornborough and Longford
Slow Course (37) Plain Bob
(38) St Simon's, Braywood,
Welford, Longworth and
Sutton-on-Trent Bob (39) St
Simon's, St Martin's and St
Osmund Bob; Merton,
Slapton and Rugby Slow
Course (40) Plain Bob (41)
Grandsire (42) Stedman:
244 com.)

1 Cynthia E Howell
2 Anita D Sherriff
3 Jennifer M Taylor
4 James R Taylor
5 Anthony R Peake(C)
6 Desmond L Jones
250th peal: 6. Completes the
family of 100 methods on all
numbers from five to twelve
bells, and the first married
couple to achieve this: 3 & 4.
Boynnton Alliance:
3.145.125.123.3.123.5 le.125
13524

Burbage Alliance:
3.145.125.3.123.3.5 le.125
13524

Chitterne Alliance:
3.145.5.123.3.123.5: le.125
13524

Durnford Alliance:
3.1.125.123.3.123.5: le.125
13524

Fovant Alliance:
3.1.125.3.123.3.5: le.125
13524

Liffington Alliance:
3.1.5.123.3.123.5: le.125
13524

Sedgehill Alliance:
5.1.125.123.3.123.5: le.125
14253

Shalbourne Alliance:
5.1.125.3.123.3.5: le.125
14253

Sutton Benger Alliance:
5.1.5.123.3.123.5: le.125
14253

Alderton Alliance:
345.1.125.123.3.123.5:
le.125 13524

All Cannings Alliance:
345.1.125.3.123.3.5: le.125
13524

Zeals Alliance:
345.1.5.123.3.123.5: le.125
13524

LICHFIELD ARCHDEACONRY SOCIETY

WOLVERHAMPTON, W Mids.
St Luke, Blakenhall
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h36 (10)
**5040 Double Norwich C.B.
Major**

Comp. A P Heywood
1 Anthony R Marsden
2 Lucy Smith
3 Clive M Smith
4 Cail K Baggott
5 Matthew Lawrence
6 Andrew C Ogden
7 Stuart C W Hutchieson(C)
8 John F Mulvey

First in the method: 5, and
as conductor. In memory of
Eric Speake who rang at this
tower and was to have rung
in this peal.

LEICESTER D.G.

LEICESTER, Leics, Cathedral
Mon Nov 27 1995 3h22 (25)
5136 Spliced Maximus
(2m: 2496 Bristol S,
2640 Avon D.)

Comp. J R Thompson
1 E Alan Jacques
2 Roland H Cook
3 Gail L Wade
4 Simon C Melen
5 Garry W Mason
6 Rupert A Clarke
7 Alan Cattell
8 Christopher M Rudge
9 Mark J Pendery
10 Mark A Boylan(C)
11 Murray A Coleman
12 Andrew B Mills

First spliced maximus: 3, 8,
10, and as conductor. A
welcome to Rebecca Louise
Graves, who was born this
day at Queen's Medical
Centre, Nottingham.

Please send details as
soon as possible after
ringing and **PRINT**
names to avoid mistakes.
Peal forms are available
free from **The Ringing
World** office - please
send SAE. Peals received
more than four weeks
after date of ringing are
treated as late.

Ely D.A. Peal Weekend

10th-12th November 1995

For this year, our Annual Peal Day was extended to
embrace the whole weekend - as a result of which, a
creditable total nine peals were scored. Sadly, two were lost,
but in both cases a quarter-peal was rung in consolation.

Because of the coincidence of Remembrance Day, five of
the peals were rung half-muffled. One 'first' peal and
seventeen various other 'firsts' were achieved.

To all who took part in the weekend please accept my
thanks for your whole-hearted efforts. I.M.H.

ELY D.A.

COTTENHAM, Cambs.
St Mary & All Saints
Fri Nov 10 1995 2h54 (16)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

1 Peter R Coe
2 Mary E Mitchell
3 Andrew S Nelson
4 Ian M Holland
5 Phillip J Wilding
6 Clive J Dunbavin(C)

First attempt: 3; First of
minor: 1. Half-muffled for
Remembrance.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leics.
Bellfoundry
Tue Nov 28 1995 2h34 (6)

5056 Snibston S.Major

Comp. M A Coleman
1 Colin Lord
2 Ruth A Stretton
3 Richard C L Brown
4 Andrew D Higson
5 Frank Chambers
6 Rev Reginald J Stretton
7 E Alan Jacques
8 Roland Beniston(C)

To welcome Rebecca Louise
Graves, born on 27/11/95, a
third daughter for Philip &
Rosamund.

First peal in the method.

Snibston S.Major:

F -3-4-2-5-6-2-5-2-7

SUFFOLK GUILD

STUTTON, Suffolk, St Peter
Wed Nov 22 1995 2h43 (12)

5040 Minor

(4m: (1,2) Kent T B (3,4)
Oxford T B (5,6) Cambridge
S (7) Plain B.)

1 Christine Jennings
2 George W Pipe
3 David G Salter(C)
4 Matthew A Ball
5 Adrian Knights
6 Brian E Whiting

In thanksgiving for the life
of James W Jennings. R.I.P.

DEBENHAM, Suffolk
St Mary Magdalene
Sat Nov 25 1995 3h15 (21)

5120 Cambridge S.Major

Comp. F Dench
1 Muriel R Page
2 J Martin Thorley
3 Michael J Matthews
4 Alan P Mayle
5 Donald C Price
6 Maurice J Rose
7 Stephen J Bedford
8 David G Salter(C)

First Cambridge S.Major: 3.

RAMPTON, Cambs.

All Saints

Sat Nov 11 1995 2h40 (4)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

1 Phillip J Wilding
2 Mary E Mitchell
3 Michael G Purday
4 John F Buttifant
5 John G Gregory
6 Ian M Holland(C)

First peal of minor inside: 4.

BURWELL, Cambs.

St Mary Virgin

Sat Nov 11 1995 3h7 (13)

5056 Plain Bob Major

Comp. J E Burton

1 David Gilbert
2 Dee F Smith
3 Mary E Mitchell
4 Simon J Wilson
5 Phillip J Wilding
6 Joanthan P Hardy
7 Christopher L Bell
8 Ian M Holland(C)

First of major: 6; First on 8:

4. Half-muffled for

Remembrance Day, and

also in memory of Ian

Russell Secrett, vicar of

Burwell 1975-95, and Albert

G Fuller, a ringer here for

over 70 years.

STREATHAM, Cambs.

St James Great

Sat Nov 11 1995 2h42 (10)

5040 Cambridge S.Minor

(Comprising 3 different

1,440s, 1x720)

1 Roderick M Johnstone
2 Marion A Robinson
3 Jonathan Hetherington
4 Susan E Marsden
5 Donald F Murfet
6 Michael G Purday(C)

First peal inside: 3.

CHATTERIS, Cambs.

SS Peter & Paul

Sat Nov 11 1995 2h50 (11)

5040 Doubles

(10m: 1 extent Stedman, 9
extents Grandsire, 4 extents
each Reverse Canterbury,
Winchendon Place, St
Osmund, St Nicholas, St
Simon, St Remigius, St
Martin; 3 extents Plain B.)

1 Esther Bates
2 Andrew J Stevens(C)
3 Marion A Robinson
4 Donald F Murfet
5 Colin A Johnson
6 Richard J Edgeley

Half-muffled for

Remembrance.

WANT INFORMATION?

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Librarian:

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GODMANCHESTER, Cambs.

St Mary Virgin

Sat Nov 11 1995 3h4 (19)

5088 Uxbridge S.Major

Comp. S Jenner

1 Timothy W Griffiths
2 Catherina E Griffiths
3 Jane K A Hough
4 D Graham Hall
5 Mary E Hall
6 Mark G H Hood
7 George E Bonham(C)
8 Phillip S George

First peal in the method: 2, 3

& 6. Half-muffled in
memory of the Fallen.

HEMINGFORD GREY, Cambs.

St James

Sat Nov 11 1995 2h48 (11)

5120 Spliced S.Major

(4m: 1440 Lincolnshire,
1280 each Cambridge,
Yorkshire; 1120 Rutland;
74 com.atw.)

Comp. J S Warboys

1 Timothy W Griffiths
2 Michael V White
3 Catherina E Griffiths
4 D Graham Hall
5 Mary E Hall
6 Mark G H Hood
7 George E Bonham(C)
8 Phillip S George

150th peal: 5; First of

Spliced: 2; First of 4-Spliced:

6. In thanksgiving for the life

and work of Royston

Brown, OBE (1934-95) who

died on 19/10/95; Elder of

the Church, former organist,

Pathfinder Leader and

Cambridgeshire County

Librarian.

UPWELL, Norfolk, St Peter

Sun Nov 12 1995 2h46 (14)

5040 Surprise Minor

(8m: (1) London (2) Bourne

(3) York (4) Norwich (5)

Beverley, Surfleet (6)

Ipswich (7) Cambridge)

1 Donald F Murfet

2 Phillip J Wilding

3 Marion A Robinson

4 Mary E Mitchell

5 Alan P Mayle

6 Clive J Dunbavin(C)

To welcome the new vicar,

Revd Robin Vlacjall; also as

a birthday compliment to

the grandmother of the 2nd

ringer.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY,

Beds, St James

Sun Nov 12 1995 3h (18)

5040 Single Oxford Bob

Triples

Comp. J J Parker

1 Timothy W Griffiths
2 Anthony H Smith(C)
3 Catherina E Griffiths
4 Charlotte M Smith
5 Wendy Piercy
6 Phillip S George
7 George E Bonham
8 Mary E Hall

First peal in the method by

all except the conductor.

First peal in the method as

conductor. Half-muffled for

Remembrance Sunday.

MIDDLESEX C.A. & LONDON D.G.

WINDSOR, Berks.
St John Baptist
Sun Oct 22 1995 2h55 (17)
5056 Oxford T.B. Major
Comp. D Prentice
1 William J Stungo
2 Howard Oglesby
3 Trevor J Woodward
4 Michael J Palmer
5 Norman Phillips
6 Walter Lee
7 Frank T Blagrove(C)
8 L Roy Woodruff

WINDSOR, Berks.
St John Baptist
Sat Nov 11 1995 3h (17)
5072 Plain Bob Major
Comp. F T Blagrove
1 Kevin J Beer
2 Monica Blagrove
3 Trevor J Woodward
4 Andrew Clark-Maxwell
5 Norman Phillips
6 Walter Lee
7 L Roy Woodruff
8 Frank T Blagrove(C)
Half-muffled for Armistice Day and the Eve of Remembrance Sunday.

WINDSOR, Berks.
St John Baptist
Sun Nov 26 1995 2h54 (17)
5012 Spliced Triples & Major
(4m: 840 St Simon's Triples, 1260 Plain Bob Triples, 1456 each St Clement's C.B. Major, Plain B. Major: 58 com.)
Comp. F T Blagrove
1 Monica Blagrove
2 Howard Oglesby
3 Andrew J Sparling
4 William J Stungo
5 Michael J Palmer
6 Walter Lee
7 Frank T Blagrove(C)
8 L Roy Woodruff
First peal in these four methods.

OXFORD D.G.

BROUGHTON IN FURNESS, Cumbria, St Mary Magdalene
Sat Nov 11 1995 3h11 (11)
5042 Tantum S. Maximus
Comp. R W Pipe
1 Timothy G Pett
2 Brian Bladon
3 John Cornock
4 Nicola J Crichton
5 Colin M Turner
6 Diane Bridle
7 Bernard F L Groves(C)
8 Geoffrey K Dodd
9 Robert J Crocker
10 Peter G C Ellis
11 Simon Poole
12 Peter Bridle

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THATCHAM, Berks, St Mary
Fri Oct 27 1995 2h47 (13)
5040 Inkersall S. Royal
Comp. C K Lewis
1 Elisabeth A G Bowden
2 Brian Bladon
3 Martin J Turner
4 Richard J Tibbetts
5 Graham A C John
6 William Butler
7 Philip A B Saddleton
8 Timothy G Pett
9 Bernard F L Groves(C)
10 John R Martin

THATCHAM, Berks, St Mary
Fri Nov 10 1995 2h56 (13)
5040 Berlin S. Royal
Comp. W Butler
1 Vivienne M Rigby
2 J Alan Ainsworth
3 Charlotte Everett
4 Rev Barry J Fry
5 Richard C Stevens
6 James E Daniels
7 William Butler(C)
8 Michael K Till
9 Michael J Stone
10 Clive Holloway
100th peal together: 2 & 7.

THATCHAM, Berks, St Mary
Fri Nov 17 1995 2h44 (13)
5040 Owston S. Royal
Comp. W Butler
1 Brian Bladon
2 Timothy G Pett
3 Colin M Turner
4 Adrian P Beck
5 Michael K Till
6 J Alan Ainsworth
7 William Butler(C)
8 Robert E Beck
9 Jenny M A Astridge
10 Peter Bridle

SOUTHWELL D.G.

WEST BRIDGFORD, Notts.
St Giles
Tue Nov 7 1995 2h34 (9)
5120 Egremont S. Major
Comp. P Needham
1 R Brian Mills
2 Janet I Rogers
3 Paul F Curtis
4 Ruth Richardson
5 David G Adams
6 Christopher N McCarthy
7 Richard I Allton
8 Ian Butters(C)
First in the method by all and for the Guild.

SUSSEX C.A.

TURNERS HILL, W Sussex
St Leonard
Thu Nov 16 1995 2h45 (14)
5024 Vanadium S. Major
Comp. M Maughan
1 Caroline V Harris
2 Betty Green
3 Ann Smith
4 Linda J Etherington
5 Louise G Pink
6 Stephen R T Pocock
7 John E Hawes(C)
8 Ian V J Smith
First in the method for all.

BUXTED, E Sussex
St Margaret, Queen
Tue Nov 21 1995 2h57 (15)
5000 Bob Major
(2m: 2768 Plain B, 2232 Little B: 84 com.atw.)
Comp. P V D Swift
1 Betty Green
2 Ann Smith
3 Jacqueline M Hunter
4 Linda J Etherington
5 Rev J David E Smith
6 Louise G Pink
7 Ian V J Smith
8 John E Hawes(C)

ARUNDEL, W Sussex
St Nicholas
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h49 (14)
5088 Aldenham S. Major
Comp. D Knox
1 Valerie J Howard
2 Joan Peel
3 Margaret L Sherwood
4 Ruth E Reeves
5 Edward E Woodward
6 Colin R Spencer
7 Alan R Baldock
8 Roy M Cox(C)
First in the method by all except the 3rd ringer. In celebration of the graduation of Janine Cox at Aldenham College, the University of Hertford.

UCKFIELD, E Sussex
Holy Cross
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h41 (12)
5056 Spliced S. Major
(10m: 768 Lincolnshire, 576 each Cambridge, Pudsey, Superlative, Yorkshire; 448 Bristol, 384 each London, Jersey, Uxbridge: 135 com)
Comp. M C W Sherwood
1 Jacqueline M Hunter
2 Ann Smith
3 Linda J Etherington
4 Louise G Pink
5 Ian V J Smith
6 Stephen R T Pocock
7 Edward G Mould
8 John E Hawes(C)
Most method: 7.

HAMMERWOOD, E Sussex
St Stephen
Tue Nov 28 1995 2h36 (6)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each Beverley, Cambridge, Carlisle, London, Norwich, Surfleet, Wells)
1 Jacqueline M Hunter
2 Ann Smith
3 Linda J Etherington
4 Louise G Pink
5 Ian V J Smith
6 John E Hawes(C)

HANDBELL PEALS**CHESTER D.G.**

HOLMES CHAPEL, Cheshire
28 Mardale Court
Tue Nov 28 1995 2h11 (11)
5088 Kent T.B. Major
Comp. J Reeves
1-2 William F Gibbons
3-4 John R Scott
5-6 Michael C E Hodge
7-8 Frank R Morton(C)

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSN.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, Worcs, St Peter
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h48 (10)
5056 Cambridge S. Major
Comp. Charles Middleton
1 Neil J Garner
2 Catherine R Taylor
3 H T Keith Haslam
4 John W Nicholls
5 Nicholas J Green
6 John H Smart
7 Gerald C Hemming(C)
8 Andrew J Hartley
90th peal of Cambridge S. Major: 7;
50th peal in 1995: 6.

PERSHORE, Worcs.
St Andrew Parish Centre
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h33 (9)
5088 Yorkshire S. Major
Comp. Arthur Craven
1 Paul R Smith
2 Catherine R Taylor
3 Nicholas J Green
4 Christopher E Slade
5 H T Keith Haslam
6 John H Smart
7 Gerald C Hemming(C)
8 Andrew J Hartley
A farewell to Dr Nicholas J Green, to a work practice, at the Shrewsbury Hospital, Salop.

GREAT HAMPTON, Worcs.
St Andrew
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h39 (12)
5088 Lincolnshire S. Major
Comp. William Barton
1 Kevin Jones
2 Catherine R Taylor
3 H T Keith Haslam
4 Andrew J Hartley
5 Christopher Lees
6 John H Smart
7 Gerald C Hemming
8 Nicholas J Green
100th peal together: 2 & 3;
First '3 in a day': 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and as conductor.

DERBY D.A.

MELBOURNE, Derbys.
The Vicarage
Mon Nov 13 1995 3h45 (18)
5056 Spliced Sixteen
(9m: 640 each Ealing S, Newgate S, Leatherhead S; 576 each Parkhurst S, York S; 512 each Melbourne D, Sawley S, Wembley S; 448 Feering S: 78 com.)
Comp. D J Marshall
1-2 Rupert A Clarke
3-4 Robert B Smith(C)
5-6 John M Jelley
7-8 Simon C Melen
9-10 Paul Jopp
11-12 Roland H Cook
13-14 David J Marshall
15-16 Christopher M Wulkau
The greatest number of methods to be rung to a peal on sixteen bells.
1,200th peal: 11-12.
Parkhurst S. Sixteen:
3-3-4-2-3-4-4-5-6-6-7-4-58-4-9-4-58-4-9-4-4-9 1e.12

MELBOURNE, Derbys.
45 Blanchcroft
Thu Nov 23 1995 2h44 (15)
5040 Quidhampton S. Royal
Comp. C K Lewis
1-2 Adrian Dempster
3-4 Robert B Smith(C)
5-6 Brian L Burrows
7-8 David J Marshall
9-10 David C Lester
A compliment to Chris & Fiona Towers of Sydney on the birth of their son, Lincoln Christopher.

ELY D.A.

REACH, Cambs.
Gable Farm Cottage
Thu Nov 30 1995 3h2 (18)
5152 Seana Bhragh Alliance Maximus
Comp. D C Brown
1-2 Frank C Price
3-4 Lesley H M Boyle
5-6 William H Jackson
7-8 Gareth Davies
9-10 David C Brown(C)
11-12 John P Loveless
First peal in the method: 1-2.

OXFORD D.G.

TILEHURST, Berks.
90 Fairway Ave
Wed Oct 25 1995 2h17 (11)
5088 Spliced S. Major
(4m: 1344 Rutland, 1248 each Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire: 90 com.atw.)
Comp. P G K Davies
1-2 Patricia M Newton
3-4 John R Martin
5-6 Bernard F L Groves(C)
7-8 Alex F Byrne

READING, Berks.
18 Sandhills Way
Wed Nov 1 1995 2h37 (11)
5082 London S. Royal
Comp. B H Taylor
1-2 David F Moore
3-4 Alex F Byrne
5-6 Bernard F L Groves(C)
7-8 John R Martin
9-10 Philip A B Saddleton

READING, Berks.
18 Sandhills Way
Wed Nov 15 1995 2h15 (14)
5024 Spliced S. Major
(7m: 832 Uxbridge, 800 Rutland, 704 Yorkshire, 672 each Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Pudsey, Superlative: 135 com.atw.)
Comp. G A C John
1-2 N David Lane
3-4 Philip A B Saddleton
5-6 Bernard F L Groves(C)
7-8 Robert H Newton
This composition is rung for the first time and contains 144 combinations with all the work.

PHOTOGRAPHS/REPORTS

We rely on you to send in reports, comment, articles, short features, cartoons, etc., etc. Photographs should be prints, any size, B/W or colour. They need to be of good quality (definition) and not too dark. Please inform us if you want them returned after use.

Paul & Ruth's Peal Week 1995

The Diary of Samuel Pepys, aged 33+

Dear Diary!!

Saturday - Perhaps this tour should more appropriately be called the 'Ruth and Paul-less' Peal Week! Paul had been ill shortly before the week started and was under doctor's orders not to ring. He had, however, been given permission to come away on holiday in a 'listening' capacity. Our accommodation was a cottage at Stibbard, near Fakenham, which was surrounded by rolling countryside, fields of cows and blackberry bushes. On arrival, we set up the beer barrels and bar area, giving pride of place to the 'Peal Week Bitter' that Peter had brewed for the occasion. The low beams in the cottage helped to expand the vocabulary of those over 5'6"; Sally and Ruth's vocabulary remained unaltered. David and Sally attempted a duet - 'The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba' - on the piano. More practice required. Had blackberries for tea.

Sunday - Following the daily cooked breakfast, a leisurely morning was spent picking blackberries and playing rounders on the front lawn. David had to be lowered into a ditch - feet first - to retrieve the ball. Nurse Birkett and Dr Ruth examined Paul using a make-shift stethoscope (more commonly recognisable as a shampoo spray) and prescribed that he should have more rest. The evening's handbell ringing was followed by more wine, and Ruth - in true Brownie leader style - organising the games. Kingsley slept throughout the whole event. Sally tried to get blackberry thorns out of her fingers.

Monday - Most people had a couple of paracetamol before breakfast, whilst Ruth, undeservedly, looked remarkably well. Paul listened enviously to the peal at Northrepps. At Marsham, however, he did not have very long to wait before the other ringers joined him. Back at the cottage the Queen of Sheba made another attempt to arrive. The menu for the evening featured - yes, you've guessed it - blackberries. Then we drank the last of the summer wine. David proudly showed off a lizard that he had found in the bathroom - it could have been far more exciting had Ruth discovered it first!

Tuesday - Following successful peals on the glorious bells at East Dereham and the little eight at Beetley, we returned to the cottage to carry on draining the barrels. Kate and Peter were in charge of cooking and they ensured that our favourite fruit featured yet again. The annual limerick tradition, which featured during the main course, had Brian laughing so infectiously that he nearly lost his teeth. Stocks were getting low, and so more blackberries were picked.

Wednesday - Despite losing the peal attempts at North Lopham and Gressenhall, everyone still seemed to be enjoying themselves. George Dawson arrived in the evening (to help empty the barrels?) and, after a little chat with the cows, went with Sally to search for food from the countryside. Although the pheasants proved a little hard to catch, as did the live beef, the intrepid explorers returned with blackberries, apples and two field mushrooms. After dinner (stewed blackberry and apple) the handbell ringing produced the first touches that had come round all day!

Thursday - The morning peal at Saxlingham put us back into peal-scoring mode. During the peal at Reepham the clock winder arrived. Peter had to move out of the way whilst the man attempted to unlock the door immediately behind his rope. It took a few attempts before the correct key was found, much to the amusement of the band. The filed mushrooms (both of them) - which George had assured us were edible - were served as a starter for the evening meal. Unfortunately, George had gone home and so was not able to try them. He also missed out on yet more blackberries.

Friday - Whilst listening to the peal at Kenninghall, Paul spotted an elderly couple standing in a field. They were obviously enjoying the ringing as they had stood there motionless for over two hours. When he went over to have a chat, he discovered that they were life-sized scarecrows! Paul was getting quite frustrated at having to listen to peals - particularly now they were all being scored! He decided to make a come-back and rang in the peal at East Harling. By this stage in the week, people were wishing that the Queen of Sheba would arrive. Someone commented that she seemed to have been held up in customs! Ian Butters joined us instead - only just in time to sample the contents of the barrels.

Saturday - Paul passed the 'stethoscope' examination and rang in the peals at Lowestoft and Aylsham. The last of the blackberries went into a summer fruit pudding. An encore was requested to 'The Departure of the Queen of Sheba'...

Sunday - Following Service ringing at Holt and Wiveton, the cottage was vacated. The peal at Swaffham had to be finished in time for the rehearsal of a visiting choir. Unfortunately, no mention had been made to us of the visiting orchestra and youth group who performed - very loudly - for the final hour and a half of the peal! Like true professionals, we carried on, trying to ignore all the other sounds that were filling the Church. When the peal came round, the visiting performers applauded loudly, commented on how much they had enjoyed the ringing and hoped that they had not disturbed us. We made the most of the revised Sunday licensing Laws before staring our homeward journeys. The Queen of Sheba had finally departed!

We are extremely grateful to all the incumbents and ringers who allowed us to ring on their bells, and to Paul and Ruth for the hard work they had put into arranging yet another extremely enjoyable week.

P.S. (Tuesday 17th - By now, at least seven members of the peal week had a mystery illness. What are the symptoms of blackberry poisoning? Or could it have been the mushrooms. Donation £10

SOUTHWELL D.G.

WYMONDHAM, Norfolk
SS Mary & Thomas
Sun Oct 8 1995 3h10 (26)
5040 Lincolnshire S.Royal
Comp. J H Fielden
1 Bryan Birkett
2 Ruth Richardson
3 Sally A Mason
4 Robin H Rogers
5 David J T Wilson
6 Peter S Lacy
7 J Neville Parkin
8 Geoffrey R Parker
9 Andrew D Higson
10 R Kingsley Mason(C)

NORTHREPPS, Norfolk
St Mary Virgin
Mon Oct 9 1995 2h49 (11)
5152 Lincolnshire S.Major
Comp. S Humphrey
1 Sally A Mason
2 Mary C Poyner
3 Ruth Richardson
4 David J T Wilson
5 Bryan Birkett
6 J Neville Parkin
7 Peter S Lacy
8 Geoffrey R Parker(C)

EAST DEREHAM, Norfolk
St Nicholas
Tue Oct 10 1995 3h15 (22)
5088 Lessness S.Major
Comp. S Jenner
1 Bryan Birkett
2 Ruth Richardson
3 Sally A Mason
4 J Neville Parkin
5 Geoffrey R Parker
6 David J T Wilson
7 Christopher P Turner
8 R Kingsley Mason(C)

BEETLEY, Norfolk
St Mary Magdalene
Tue Oct 10 1995 2h28 (4)
5120 Spliced S.Major
(8m: 896 Rutland, 704 each
Lincolnshire, Yorkshire; 640
Cambridge, 576 each
London, Pudsey, Superlative;
448 Bristol: 87 com.atw.)
Comp. P G K Davies
1 J Neville Parkin
2 Geoffrey R Parker
3 Peter S Lacy
4 Robin H Rogers
5 David J T Wilson
6 Ruth Richardson
7 Christopher P Turner(C)
8 Sally A Mason

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE,
Norfolk, St Mary Virgin
Thu Oct 12 1995 2h36 (8)
5088 Superlative S.Major
Comp. N J Pitstow
1 Sally A Mason
2 Ruth Richardson
3 J Neville Parkin
4 Peter S Lacy
5 David J T Wilson
6 Geoffrey R Parker
7 George A Dawson
8 R Kingsley Mason

REEPHAM, Norfolk
St Michael
Thu Oct 12 1995 2h33 (8)
5088 Yorkshire S.Major
Comp. R Baldwin
1 David J T Wilson(C)
2 Sally A Mason
3 Ruth Richardson
4 J Neville Parkin
5 Bryan Birkett
6 Geoffrey R Parker
7 George A Dawson
8 Peter S Lacy

KENNINGHALL, Norfolk
St Mary
Fri Oct 13 1995 2h56 (15)
5056 Double Norwich C.B. Major
Comp. I Butters
1 Sally A Mason
2 Ruth Richardson
3 David J T Wilson
4 Geoffrey R Parker
5 Peter S Lacy
6 J Barry Pickup
7 R Kingsley Mason
8 Ian Butters(C)
700th different tower to a
peal: 7; 1,100th peal: 2.

EAST HARLING, Norfolk
SS Peter & Paul
Fri Oct 13 1995 2h52 (8)
5090 Cambridge S.Major
Comp. B D Price
1 Sally A Mason(C)
2 Geoffrey R Parker
3 Ruth Richardson
4 Peter S Lacy
5 David J T Wilson
6 Bryan Birkett
7 Harry Poyner
8 Paul F Curtis

LOWESTOFT, Suffolk
St Margaret
Sat Oct 14 1995 2h53 (13)
5184 Cornwall S.Major
Comp. N Thomson
1 Sally A Mason
2 Ian Butters(C)
3 Ruth Richardson
4 Richard C L Brown
5 Geoffrey R Parker
6 Peter S Lacy
7 Paul F Curtis
8 R Kingsley Mason

AYLSHAM, Norfolk
St Michael
Sat Oct 14 1995 3h3 (17)
5040 Cambridge S.Royal
Comp. S D Pettman
1 Sally A Mason
2 Ruth Richardson
3 Mary C Poyner
4 Peter S Lacy
5 David J T Wilson
6 Harry Poyner
7 Geoffrey R Parker
8 Richard C L Brown
9 Paul F Curtis
10 Ian Butters(C)

SWAFFHAM, Norfolk
SS Peter & Paul
Sun Oct 15 1995 3h1 (15)
5088 Spliced S.Major
(8m: 736 Superlative, 704
each London, Rutland; 608
each Cambridge,
Lincolnshire, Pudsey; 576
Bristol, 544 Yorkshire: 120
com.atw.)
Comp. N J Diserens
1 Bryan Birkett
2 Sally A Mason
3 Ruth Richardson
4 Peter S Lacy
5 David J T Wilson
6 Paul F Curtis
7 Ian Butters(C)
8 R Kingsley Mason



Nurse Birkett and Dr Ruth give Paul his daily check-up.

Composition Review

8 Peals of Bristol Surprise Major

5,088 by James Clatworthy

23456	M	4/1	W	H
24536			1	2
25463	2	x	1	2
25346	1	x	1	1
23564	2	x	1	2

3-part. Contains 93 combination rollups; 15 each 4578's, 5678's and 6478's; and 16 each 5478's, 4678's and 6578's.

5,088 (5,024) by James Clatworthy

23456	M	4/1	W	H
24365	2	x	1	2
25463	2	1/v		2
24536	2	x	1	2
23645	2		1	1

3-part. Contains 114 combination rollups. For 5,024 call the second course of any one part as 2M,H.

The composer has dedicated the above peals to Robert C Kippin "who seems to like the 2nd at home at the final course end of each course". They do not contain all the rollups, which are generally available in simple three-parts, and so if you are not

particular about the position of the 2nd at the course-ends, you might prefer to choose one of the following instead:

5,024 by Murray A Coleman

23456	M	B	W	H
35426			2	
24653	2	-	2	
25346	2		1	1
32546	2	x	2	
23645	2			2

3-part, calling the 2nd course M, W in one part only. x = s3rd's, s5th's. Contains 144 combination rollups. Rung at Rothwell, Notts (to Maunsell Surprise) on 9th October 1993.

5,088 by Murray A Coleman

23456	M		W	H
43526			2	1
25346			2	2
26543	2			1
62345	2	1/v		
23645	2	x	2	1

3-part; x = s3rd's, s5th's. Contains 144 combination rollups.

5,024 by Murray A Coleman

23456	M	I	B	V	W	H
54326					2	2
25346		-		1	2	2
26543	2					1
423756	2			2		2
236457				1	2	2
63425					2	1
24365					2	2
25463	2	-		1		2
357246	2		-	4th	2	
235647	-					2
53624					2	1
26354					2	2
24653	2					1
23456	2	-		1		2

Contains 144 combination rollups, 12 7568's and Queens.

5,184 by Murray A Coleman

23456	M	I	B	V	W	H
43526					2	1
24365				x	2	2
24653	2	x				1
735462	2				x2x	
236457	x			2	x1x	1x
234756	-	x				2
634257		x			x2	1
26354				x	2	2
26543	2	x				1
23564	2		x			1x
53624					2	1
25346				x	2	2
25463	2	x				1
357246	2				x2	
234567	-					1x

Bob = 14, x = 16. Contains 144 combination rollups, 24 each 8765 & 7568 at the back, 18 7658's and Queens.

5,120 by Alan M Barber

23456	M	I	B	V	W	H
43526					2	1
32546					2	
26543	1					2
23645	2	-		1		2
63425					2	1
24365					2	2
25463	2					1
23564	2	-		1		2
65324					2	2
745263	-	-			2	
537264				2	1	1
26354	-	4/1			2	2
24653	2					1
25346	2				1	1
23456					1	2

Contains 142 combination rollups, 24 8765's and Queens. Rung at Spitalfields on 30th January 1993.

The first composition above from Murray Coleman concentrates solely on music at the back, and introduces 468's including Queens and 7568's without greatly complicating the calling. The tenors are only split for a few leads. The second offering uses both sixth's place and fourth's place bobs to good effect to introduce additional music at the back (again not much on the front). Some purists (that's me — OB) may object to two types of bob, but the peal is musical and the "big bobs" add some variety.

The final composition, from Alan Barber, introduces the 8765's and Queens using conventional calls with some nice split tenors courses about three-quarters of the way through the peal. The conductor must be careful to remember the slight differences between the two similar parts.

MJH

Composition Review

Spliced Surprise Royal
by Brian D Price

No 1 — 5,280 in 4 methods

23456	M	W	H	Methods
26354	2	-		L•CCCLCS•CL•
46532	-	2	-	L•B•CLSSSS•L•
54632		-		BBBBBBBB•
53246	2	-	-	L•SSSSLC•B•L•
34256		2		LC•SCLCCC•L

Twice repeated. Contains 1,440 Cambridge and London (no 3); and 1,200 each Bristol and Superlative (no 2), with 72 changes of method. Yorkshire may be rung for Superlative throughout.

No 2 — 5,040 in 3 methods

23456	M	W	Methods
43652	-		L•LY
56234	-	-	L•LLLLLLL•L
35264	-		YL•L
(56423)	-	2	CYCY•Y•YYCLCC•YCL
23564	2	-	CY•CCLCYY•Y•YCYC

Twice Repeated. Contains 1,920 London (no 3); 1,680 Yorkshire; and 1,440 Cambridge, with 62 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell

No 3 — 5,040 in 3 methods

23456	M	W	H	Methods
65432	-	-	-	L•C•CCCC•
24536	-	-	-	L•BBBBBBBB•
64352	-	2	-	L•C•CLL•L•
36452		-		LLLLLLLLLL•
35264	2	-	-	L•LLC•C•L•
26354	-	-	-	BBBBBBBB•L•
53462	-	-		CCCC•C•L
(64235)	-	-		L•C•BBB
32546	-	-		BBB•C•L

Repeated. Contains 1,920 Bristol; 1,840 London (no 3); and 1,280 Cambridge, with 32 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Armed with his trusty allies, the palindrome and the PC, Brian has taken his first steps into spliced surprise. Unfortunately, a change from 2nds to 10th's place methods must always be bobbed in palindromic peals, forcing Bristol to be rung in long blocks when all the work is required. In peal no 1, we see Brian getting up to speed with all the work of Bristol and none of the other methods. However, it's an easy peal of the standard 4 and there's a choice of Yorkshire if you don't like Superlative. No 2 eschews Bristol but obtains all the work of the remaining 3 methods. Like no 1 it uses easy 3, 5 and 9-lead courses and has a simple 3-part calling. No 3 might be termed the "revenge of Bristol" — Cambridge appears to squeeze in the cracks between the looming masses of Bristol and London. More bobs this time, but fewer changes of method, so it's still easy to call. None of the peals is especially musical, but the constraints of all-the-work Royal make this hard to achieve. I suspect that handbell ringers may find these peals more to their taste than tower-bell ringers (though personally I've never eaten a tower-bell ringer).

Old Bailey

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Quarter Peals

Two in a morning

7th October

Whatley, Som. 1272 P B Minor: Awen Kimmis 1, Mandy Spearing 2, Oliver Crowle (25th on 6) 3, Andrew Wakely 4, Terry Spearing 5, Mark Harris (50th different bell as C) 6. £1.20

Nunney, Som. 1289 Doubles (1P/2M/1V): Mandy Spearing 1, Oliver Crowle (25th Doubles) 2, Andrew Wakely 3, Terry Spearing 4, Mark Harris (C) 5, Awen Kimmis 6. Lots of April Day, just for Noggin. 25th together this year: 1.5. 100th different 6 bell tower for a Q; 5. £1.20

Two in an afternoon

14th October

West Hatch, Som. 1320 April Day & Dedworth Doubles: Judith Aelberry 1, Andrew Wakely 2, Oliver Crowle 3, Jeremy Harris 4, Mark Harris (C) 5. 1st Dedworth for all. 1st on 5 1. £1.00

Hatch Beauchamp, Som. 1300 P B Doubles: Judith Aelberry 1, Oliver Crowle 2, Andrew Wakely 3, Mark Harris 4, Jeremy Harris 5. Jointly conducted by all. Get well compliment to Katie Broxup, tower captain. £1.00

Addington, Surrey. 30 Oct, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Denise Harden 1, Eric Godfrey 2, John Perrin 3, Chris Stanley 4, David Tamberlin 5, Ian Wiltshire (C) 6. £1

Adlington, Lancs. 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Gillian Makinson 1, Audrey McNutt 2, N Tompkins 3, Jean Barnes 4, P Reeves 5, J Thornley 6, J Ashcroft (C) 7, A McNutt 8. A compliment to Barry Winstanley on being licenced as a Reader. £2

Aldershot, Hants. 29 Oct, 1265 Stedman Triples: Brenda Mayle 1, Val Grossmith 2, Kenneth Williamson 3, Judith Curnow 4, Robin Walker (C) 5, Mark Wilson 6, John Mayle 7, Matthew Edwards 8. For Crematorium Service. £2

Alstonefield, Staffs. 5 Nov, 1260 Stedman Doubles: Rowena Gay 1, Phil Gay (C) 2, Sue Bonsall (1st of Stedman) 3, David Midgley 4, Ken Brown 5, Chris Lucas 6. £2

Ashbourne, Derbys. 29 Oct, 1260 P B Triples: Keith Woolley 1, Kath Brown 2, Jackie Burns 3, Andrew Burns 4, Ursula Gott 5, Revd. David Sansum 6, Maurice Starkey (C) 7, Ian Brown 8. 1st triples away from cover; 1. For the "Ordering of Vestments Service". £1.75

Bakewell, Derbys. 29 Oct, 1344 Rutland S Major: Viv Suttie 1, Gill Pearson 2, J Heading 3, J Franklin 4, J Thorpe 5, R Marchbank 6, R L Taylor 7, F Pearson (C) 8. 75th Birthday compliment to Beryl Thompson (mother of 2 and mother-in-law of 8). 1st in m; 2, 4. £2

Banbury, Oxon. 25 Sep, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: J D Hankin 1, Diana M Reeves 2, Charlotte A Holmes 3, P J Davis 4, R A Reeves 5, C Holmes 6, M W Sayers 7, D J Davis (C) 8. In memory of H L Roper, former Tower Captain at Adderbury. £3

Barnwood, Glos. 5 Nov, 1260 Stedman Triples: Thomas Hinton 1, Timothy Poole 2, Hannah Poole 3, Grahame Groves 4, Christopher Poole 5, Frances Mulvey 6, Keith Poole (C) 7, Caroline Ellis 8. 1st Stedman; 2, 5. For Evensong. £2

Barton Seagrave, Northants. 2 Oct, 1260 Doubles (11m): Jane Sibson 1, Jean Aldwinckle 2, Michael Downham 3, Richard Hall 4, William Hulme (C) 5. Also: on 9 Oct, 1260 Doubles (5m): Jean Aldwinckle 1, George Shiells 2, Michael Downham 3, Richard Hall 4, William Hulme (C) 5. On the feast of St Denys Areopagite, B & M. Most m's 2. Also: on 16 Oct, 1260 Doubles (7m): Jean Aldwinckle 1, George Shiells (most m's) 2, Michael Downham 3, Richard Hall 4, William Hulme (C) 5. Also: on 28 Oct, 1260 Doubles (5m): Margaret Pridmore 1, Jean Aldwinckle 2, Caroline Mitchell 3, Jane Sibson 4, Richard Hall (C) 5. To celebrate the wedding this day of Nicola Jane Tilley to Karl Ward Whittaker. Also: on 30 Oct, 1260 Doubles (9m): Timothy Samson 1, George Shiells (most m's) 2, Michael Downham 3, Richard Hall 4, William Hulme (C) 5. £2.50

Basingstoke, Hants. (S Michael). 5 Nov, 1260 Stedman Triples: Esme Weaver 1, Philip Turrell 2, John Foster 3, Kathy Arkless 4, Raymond Walsh 5, Stephen Gibbons 6, Keith Walpole (C) 7, Roderick Boucher 8. 1st Stedman; 2. For Evensong. £2

Birling, Kent. 23 Sep, 1260 P B Minor: Tracy Weekes (1st on treble) 1, Shona Colebrook 2, Kathryn L Babbage 3, J Whitefield (1st minor inside) 4, D Cheeseman 5, D W Elphick (C) 6, Rosemary Whitefield (1st minor covering) 7. To celebrate 30 years of marriage to David and Jean Cheeseman, also David's 30 years as a Verger. £1.40

Blackburn, Lancs. (Cathedral). 24 Sep, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Steven Worrall (1st on 8) 1, Lindsay Smith 2, Alison Hammond 3, Gary Wignall 4, Kit Helps 5, Jean Barnes (C) 6, Walter Wilkinson 7, Geoffrey Smith 8. For the installation of Revd. David Galilee as Canon Chancellor and of Revd. Ron Greenall as Honorary Canon (Preston). Also: on 8 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Colin Tester 1, Philip Woods 2, John Hartley 3, Jean Barnes (C) 4, Graham Turner 5, Jeff Roundell 6, Raymond Clayton 7, John Sharples 8. For Harvest Festival Evensong. £4

Blackburn, Lancs. (S Silas). 1 Oct, 1260 Doubles (3m incl. Stedman): Betty Palmer 1, Jean Barnes (joint C) 2, Alison J Hammond (joint C) 3, Kit T B Helps 4, Richard Palmer 5. For Harvest Festival Evensong, also to celebrate the baptism at S John, Edinburgh, of Herries Maxwell Anderton, Grandson of the tower captain of this church and a wedding anniversary compliment to Betty & Richard Palmer. Also: on 20 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Pamela Turner (1st triples) 1, Donna Jones 2, Stephen Jackson 3, John Sharples 4, Raymond Clayton 5, Graham Turner 6, Jean Barnes (C) 7, Virginia Johnston 8. For the Diocesan 'Songs of Praise' at this church. £3.50

Bobbing, Kent. 7 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Tracy Weekes 1, D W Elphick 2, M J Hitchcock 3, T R Laws 4, D Williams 5, R W Young (C) 6. £1.20

Bolton, Lancs. (All Souls). 2 Nov, 1440 London S Minor: Joseph Thornley 1, Barry Hale 2, Lindsay Smith 3, Geoffrey Smith 4, Jean Barnes 5, Geoffrey Fothergill (C) 6. Half-muffled for the Feast of All Souls.

Bradford-on-Tone, Som. 3 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: L T Richards 1, A. Margaret Gillard 2, J Wenham 3, A F Lee (C) 4, C L Gillard 5, G L Comer 6. In memoriam William J Spiller, aged 81, village craftsman. Also: on 5 Nov, 1260 Doubles (9m): L T Richards 1, A. Margaret Gillard 2, Jane F Beveridge 3, A F Lee (C) 4, C L Gillard 5, G L Comer 6. In memoriam Helen Vernon, who died in an air crash 3 years ago aged 24. £2.30

Brecon, Brecknock. (Cathedral). 3 Sep, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Mary Richards 1, Malcolm Johns (C) 2, Laetitia Jack 3, Kathleen Johnson 4, Anne Kleiser 5, Paul Johnson 6, Robert Johnson 7, Jonathon Cook 8. For Morning Service. Also: on 24 Sep, 1259 Grandsire Triples: Mary Richards 1, Kathleen Johnson 2, Robert Johnson 3, Anne Kleiser 4, Jonathon Cook 5, Paul Johnson 6, Malcolm Johns (C) 7, Richard Wheeler 8. For Morning Service. Also: on 8 Oct, 1280 P B Major: Lloyd Evans 1, Laetitia Jack 2, Kathleen Johnson 3, Anne Kleiser 4, Jonathon Cook 5, Paul Johnson 6, Philip Saunders 7, Malcolm Johns (C) 8. For Morning Service. Also: on 22 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Kathleen Johnson 1, Ruth Young 2, Sonia Irwin 3, Paul Johnson 4, Anne Kleiser 5, Stephen Young 6, Malcolm Johns (C) 7, Jonathon Cook 8. For Morning Sung Eucharist. Also: on 29 Oct, 1260 Doubles (3m): William Kleiser 1, Kathleen Johnson 2, Anne Kleiser 3, Malcolm Johns 4, Paul Johnson (C) 5, Geoffrey Miles 6. For Morning Sung Eucharist on the front six. 1st Q in 3 m's; 1. £3.80

Brecon, Brecknock. (S Mary). 17 Sep, 1260 P B Minor: John Trimm 1, Kathleen Johnson 2, Jonathon Cook 3, Anne Kleiser 4, Paul Johnson 5, Robert Johnson (C) 6. For Evensong. Also: on 1 Oct, 1274 P B Triples: John Trimm 1, Mary Richards 2, Kathleen Johnson 3, Laetitia Jack 4, Anne Kleiser 5, Paul Johnson 6, Malcolm Johns (C) 7, Jonathon Cook 8. For Evening Service. Also: on 8 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: John Trimm 1, Jonathon Cook 2, Kathleen Johnson 3, Paul Johnson 4, Marcus Williams 5, Malcolm Johns (C) 6, Richard Wheeler (cover) 7. For

Harvest Festival Evensong. Also: on 15 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: John Trimm 1, Anne Kleiser 2, Jonathon Cook 3, Kathleen Johnson 4, Malcolm Johns 5, Paul Johnson (C) 6. For Evening Service. Also: on 29 Oct, 1280 P M Major: John Trimm 1, Susan Lloyd 2, Anne Kleiser 3, Kathleen Johnson 4, Jonathon Cook 5, Paul Johnson 6, Philip Saunders 7, Malcolm Johns (C) 8. For Evening Service. £3.40

Bristol, Avon. (S Michael). 8 Oct, 1320 Norwich S Minor: Sam Lemin 1, Michael Priestley 2, Jeff Tozer 3, Louisa Holt 4, Adam Jenkins (1st in m) 5, David Spencer (C) 6. For Patronal Festival and as a 21st birthday compliment to 1 & 6. Also: on 22 Oct, 1260 P B Doubles: Helen Kefford 1, Chris Shepherd (1st inside) 2, Louisa Holt 3, Nathan Jones 4, Matthew Tosh 5, David Spencer (C) 6. For the beginning of Session Service of the Universities of Bristol and the West of England, also as a farewell to 2. Also: on 29 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Chris Darvill 1, Gaynor Wightman (1st inside) 2, Michael Priestley 3, Ben Shipp 4, Julian Watson 5, Adam Jenkins (C) 6. In celebration of the life of Doris Griffiths. £3.60

Calverley, W Yorks. 27 Aug, 1250 Lincolnshire S Major: Maurice Calvert (C) 1, Joan Dawson 2, Alan Combs 3, Karl Grave 4, Peter Dawson 5, Ian Calvert (1st in m) 6, Robert Appleby 7, Alex Marsh 8. For Evensong. £2

Canterbury, Kent. (Cathedral). 8 Oct, 1280 London S Major: Jane E Kennett 1, Vanessa J Martin 2, Clare J Larter 3, Susan E Record 4, K A F Record 5, C J Robinson 6, P H Larter 7, M P Gilham (C) 8. For Canterbury Festival Evensong. Also: on 22 Oct, 1287 Stedman Caters: D H Niblett (C) 1, Judith A Robertson 2, Susan E Record 3, Vanessa J Martin 4, E C Westlake 5, K A F Record 6, R G W Robertson 7, Clare J Larter 8, P H Larter 9, M P Gilham 10. For Evensong. £2

Catherington, Hants. 7 Oct, 1250 Spl. S Minor (C, Beverley, Surfleet): Michael Kerton 1, John Boniface 2, Marie Boniface 3, Andrew Routh 4, Michael Esbester 5, Mark Esbester (C) 6. Immediately following the wedding of Joanna Alchin and Andrew Maber-Jones. Also: on 1 Nov, 1260 All Saints Doubles: Michael Esbester 1, Marie Boniface 2, Gillian Hales 3, Doug Boniface 4, Mark Esbester (C) 5, Fred Hales 6. By members of the local band on All Saints Day prior to the Patronal Festival Service. £3

Chipstable, Som. 21 Oct, 1320 Hexham S Minor: Anne S Stenning 1, Sally K Wheeler 2, W E Dunn 3, M H Weighell 4, J M Levin 5, A F Lee (1st in m as C) 6. 1st in m by all except 2 & 6. Also: on 4 Nov, 1272 Warkworth S Minor: Anne S Stenning 1, Sally K Wheeler 2, M H Weighell 3, W E Dunn 4, J M Levin 5, A F Lee (C) 6. 1st in m; 3, 5, and as C. 700th Q together; 2 & 6. £2.40

Clapham Common, London SW14. (Holy Trinity). 1 Nov, 1260 P B Minor: Stella Shell 1, Francis Milner 2, Irene Rich 3, Revd. David Houghton 4, Nicholas Simon 5, James Ingham (C) 6. For the Service of Institution of the Reverend David Isherwood as Vicar of Holy Trinity, Clapham and Rector of the Clapham Team Ministry. 50th as C. Also: on 4 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Nelson Cuprita 1, Ruth Simon 2, Katherine Parker 3, Peter Jefferson Smith 4, James Ingham (C) 5, Nicholas Simon 6. For Evensong. 100th Q this year; 5. £2.40

Coventry, W Mids. (Cathedral). 28 Oct, 1264 P B Major: R Carol 1, M Chester (C) 2, S Hooper 3, G Jessica Davies 4, T Griffiths 5, B S Parcell 6, C W Foxall 7, J W Hughes 8. On the back 8. Also: on 29 Oct, 1346 Cambridge S Maximus: J W Hughes 1, Ruth Border 2, Beverley Winter 3, T Griffiths 4, G Jessica Davies 5, R Winter 6, F Munday 7, C F Mew 8, M J Dew 9, G Pratt 10, M Chester 11, P Border (C) 12. Prior to Evensong. £3

Coventry, Stoke, W Mids. 14 Oct, 1280 Cambridge S Major: M G Cole 1, Jean R Harrison 2, Janice E Sheasby 3, B S Parcell 4, C W Foxall 5, D G Harrison 6, C Jessica Davies 7, R A Sheasby (C) 8. To celebrate the 80th birthday of Grace Robinson and the 21st birthday of Christopher N Sheasby. Also: on 29 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: S A Deakin 1, P M Deakin 2, Jean R Harrison 3, Janice E Sheasby 4, D G Harrison 5, R A Sheasby (C) 6. To celebrate the Silver Wedding of Alan & June Deakin (parents of 1 & 2). 1st minor inside; 2. £2.80

Dalham, Suffolk. 3 Nov, 1250 Pudsey S Major: Hannah Kidger 1, Catherine Colman 2, Ruth Young 3, Josephine Beever 4, Adrian Blumfield 5, Stephen Young 6, Julian Colman(C) 7, Ian Holland 8. £1.60

Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria. 27 Oct, 1260 P B Royal: Margaret Taylor 1, I W Taylor 2, P S Whalley 3, Jacqueline Preston 4, O B Osmotherley 5, Jane Chandler 6, S Walmsley 7, P A Thompson 8, A J B Ingram 9, W Wall(C) 10. For the Silver Wedding Anniversary of David Tinney, a local ringer. The 100th Q at the church (93rd on the 10). £2

Derby, Derbys. (All Saints). 17 Sep, 1280 Spl. S Major (6m): Cheryl Dodge 1, Jane Temple 2, Elizabeth Heaton 3, Richard Hamby(C) 4, Roy Meads 5, Frances Haynes 6, Paul Jopp 7, John Heaton 8. To celebrate the birth of Samuel Charles Jopp, a son for Paul and Ruth. £1.60

Dunstable Priory, Beds. 4 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Robert Tregillus 1, Lucy Shepherd 2, John Pemble 3, Jad Bienek 4, Alan Shepherd 5, Michael Barker 6, David Adams 7, Richard Horne(C) 8. In memoriam Margaret Cobon, member of the Priory congregation and benefactor of the church. £1.50

East Farleigh, Kent. 21 Sep, 1260 Single Oxford Minor: Shona Colebrook(C) 1, Dot A Hooker 2, M A Williams 3, C T Homewood 4, D W Elphick 5, M N Pring 6. On the day of St Matthew. £1.20

Edinburgh, Lothian. (S Mary). 27 Aug, 1260 P B Royal: Susan Rankine 1, Rahcael Davies 2, Margaret Allan 3, Helen Brotherton 4, Frances Cunningham 5, N Ballard 6, M Hutcheson 7, W A Walker 8, J Hargreaves 9, W A Brotherton(C) 10. 1st B royal; 2, 3, 5, 6, 8. By a Sunday Service band to mark the birth of Heather and Robert Allan, grandchildren of 3rd ringer. Also: on 2 Sep, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Helen Brotherton 1, Susan Rankine 2, Rachael Davies 3, Frances Cunningham 4, N Ballard 5, W A Walker 6, W A Brotherton(C) 7, A A Scobbie 8. For the opening of the Cathedral Fete. £2

Evershot, Dorset. 3 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Howard Bowering 1, Beryl Paton 2, Peter Barnett 3, Mark Ball 4, Joseph Burdett (1st minor inside) 5, Andrew Smith(C) 6. A Q for DCA Peal Week. £1.24

Exhall, Warks. (84 Coventry Road). 23 Oct, 1260 P B Royal: G Pluckrose 1-2, D J Allen(C) 3-4, M Chester 5-6, I D Thompson 7-8, C W Foxall 9-10. Also: on 23 Oct, 1280 Oxford T B Major: M Chester 1-2, D J Allen 3-4, G Pratt(C) 5-6, C W Foxall 7-8. Also: on 23 Oct, 1259 Grandsire Caters: I D Thompson 1-2, D J Allen 3-4, M Chester 5-6, G Pratt(C) 7-8, C W Foxall 9-10. Also: on 23 Oct, 1260 P B Royal: C W Foxall 1-2, D J Allen 3-4, I D Thompson 5-6, G Pratt 7-8, M Chester(C) 9-10. Also: on 23 Oct, 1280 Kent T B Major: C W Foxall 1-2, I D Thompson 3-4, D J Allen 5-6, M Chester(C) 7-8. Also: on 23 Oct, 1259 P B Royal: G Pluckrose 1-2, D J Allen 3-4, M Chester 5-6, I D Thompson(C) 7-8, C W Foxall 9-10. £6.50

Filey, N Yorks. 4 Nov, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Adam Wheldon 1, Michael Henshaw 2, Revd. Michael Stephens 3, William Watts 4, David Johnson 5, John Sinfield(C) 6. 50p

Goring-on-Thames, Oxon. 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Gemma Jackson (1st on 8) 1, Nicola Hibbert (1st inside) 2, N H F Tull 3, J A Beaumont 4, K G Baker 5, J W T Hibbert 6, I G Judd(C) 7, C A Laurence (1st on 8) 8. To mark the refurbishment of the church piano. £2

Great Barton, Suffolk. 18 Oct, 1260 St Clement College B Minor: Carol Girling 1, Susan Munford 2, Stephen Munford 3, Julian Colman(C) 4, John Ramsbottom 5, Winston Girling 6. 100th together; 1 & 6. 1st in m; 2, 3. Also: on 2 Nov, 1272 Oxford T B Minor: Julian Colman 1, Carol Girling (1st in m) 2, Mary Mitchell 3, Tim Hart 4, Clive Dunbavin 5, Winston Girling(C) 6. £2.40

Halifax, W Yorks. (S John the Baptist). 29 Oct, 1260 Stedman Triples: J F Bryant 1, D Smith 2, Margaret E Perrott 3, Tina Newsome 4, A Rogers 5, D J Townend 6, I R Pantan(C) 7, R North 8. For the rededication of the Rokeby Chapel. £3

Honiley, Warwicks. 23 Oct, 1320 Norwich S Minor: Richard Card (1st TB) 1, Thomas Griffiths (1st in m) 2, Steven Hooper (1st blows in m) 3, Sarah Moore 4, Ben Parcell 5, Jessica Davies (1st in m, C) 6. Also: on 23 Oct, 1250 Cambridge S

Minor: Jessica Davies 1, Richard French 2, Richard Card (1st C) 3, Jason Hughes 4, Thomas Griffiths 5, Ben Parcell(C) 6. The 1st Q rung for the Warwick University Society of Change Ringers. £1.60

Horringer, Suffolk. 4 Sep, 1280 Superlative S Major: Christopher Nunn 1, Clive Dunbavin 2, Brian Whiting 3, Mary Mitchell 4, Ian Holland 5, Winston Girling 6, Julian Colman(C) 7, Catherine Colman 8. £1.60

Hovingham, N Yorks. 5 Nov, 1260 Doubles (3m): June Sinfield 1, Kirsty Watts 2, John Sinfield(C) 3, Revd. Michael Stephens 4, William Watts 5, Adam Wheldon 6. To celebrate the birth of Marcus William Worsley. 50p

Huish Champflower, Som. 15 Oct, 1260 Rev. Canterbury Pl. B Doubles: Anne S Stenning 1, S J Smith 2, Audrey J Westall 3, A F Lee 4, J M Levin(C) 5, F G Gardner 6. 525th together; 4, 5. For Mattins. £1.10

Ightham, Kent. 28 Sep, 1260 Doubles (6m): Dot A Hooker 1, M A Williams 2, M N Pring 3, Shona Colebrook 4, D W Elphick(C) 5. £1

Kensington, London W8. 29 Oct, 1299 Stedman Caters: R Eddy 1, N Simon(C) 2, Katherine Parker 3, Rachel Billinge 4, Ruth Simon 5, J Ingham 6, M Brady 7, S Gay 8, Lucinda Reeve 9, P Daybell 10. For Evensong. £3

Kimpton, Herts. 8 Oct, 1260 Stedman Triples: Susan J Newman 1, K Lewin 2, R D R Brown 3, E P Brown 4, S Brown 5, K Newman 6, R J Crocker(C) 7, W D Watts 8. For the birth of Alexander Andrew John Titmus, son of Judith and Ron. Also: on 29 Oct, 1250 Spl. S Major (8m): K Newman 1, Susan J Newman 2, A J W Tibbetts 3, Jennifer V Johnson 4, Christine M Carter 5, R J W Tibbetts 6, R D R Brown 7, R J Crocker(C) 8. £2

Kingskerswell, Devon. 16 Oct, 1260 P B Doubles: Martin Lloyd 1, Wendy Campbell 2, Ian Campbell(C) 3, Susan Tucker (1st inside) 4, Tony Osborne 5, Pam Miller 6. £1.20

Kirkbymoorside, N Yorks. 1 Nov, 1260 St Clements B Minor: Molly Stephens 1, Adam Wheldon 2, June Sinfield 3, Kirsty Watts 4, John Sinfield 5, Revd. Michael Stephens(C) 6. For Communion Service on the Patronal Festival of All Saints. 50p

Liverpool, Garston, Mers. 29 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Pat Furniss (1st minor) 1, Ian Roche 2, Peter Bengier 3, Christine Haggard-Jones 4, Ian McLoughlin 5, Peter Furniss(C) 6. £2

Loughton, Essex. (S John Baptist). 29 Oct, 1260 P B Doubles: Margaret French 1, Jonathon Boughton 2, Jean Goodwin 3, Terry Lane 4, Fred Goodwin(C) 5, Perry French 6. In memory of Maurice Palfrey who died of Friday 20th October 1995 after 82 years of faithful service in our Church. £2

Maidstone, Kent. (S Michael & AA). 10 Sep, 1260 Rev. Canterbury Minor: D Williams 1, M A Williams 2, R A Barclay 3, D W Elphick 4, M N Pring 5, Shona Colebrook(C) 6. £1.20

New Alresford, Hants. 4 Nov, 1260 P B Triples: Helen Winter(C) 1, Claire Robson 2, Lisa Allison (1st triples inside) 3, Sue Smith 4, Lyn Breslain 5, Rodney Skinner 6, Elizabeth Johnson 7, Peter Bardow 8. A compliment to Damian Trasler & Julia Howcroft, married this day. £1.60

Nuneaton, Chivers Coton, Warks. 26 Oct, 1250 Cambridge S Major: Jill Roberts 1, Helen L Glover 2, J Hughes 3, Sarah E Moore (1st in m) 4, M Chester(C) 5, A Coleman 6, R A Swallow 7, C W Foxall 8. Also: on 26 Oct, 1280 Lincolnshire S Major: Helen L Glover 1, Jill Roberts 2, C W Foxall 3, M Chester(C) 4, R A Swallow 5, Sarah E Moore (1st in m) 6, J Hughes 7, G Jessica Davies 8. £3

Oxford, Oxon. (S Giles). 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: P Walker 1, Katie Lane 2, S Edwards (1st inside) 3, D Lane(C) 4, J Pusey 5, M Day 6, D Roaf 7, B Masterman 8. For Evensong. £1

Peterborough, Cambs. (Cathedral). 5 Nov, 1282 Yorkshire S Royal: Judith Corby 1, Bryony Dorrington (1st in m) 2, Shirley Harris 3, Ronald Noon 4, Frank Coles 5, John Roffe 6, Jonathan Clegg 7, Brian Harris(C) 8, Robin Rogers 9, Paul Carless 10. For the Magistrates' Service. £3

Pimlico, London. (S Saviour). 5 Nov, 1280 Double B Major: R A H Brown 1, K Parker 2, K D Anderson 3, R C Billinge 4, J R L Ingham 5, E G Mould 6, J R Lawrance 7, T F Lawrance(C) 8. For Evensong. £2.40

Queenborough, Kent. 7 Oct, 1260 Single Oxford Minor: Tracy Weekes 1, T R Laws 2, R W Young 3, M J Hitchcock 4, D Williams 5, D W Elphick(C) 6. Early congratulations to Malcolm & June Hitchcock on their Silver Wedding Anniversary. £1.20

Ranmore, Surrey. 1 Oct, 1260 P B Triples: Jane Palmer 1, Nigel Proctor 2, Katharine Proctor 3, Brenda Swaine 4, David Cameron 5, Paul Beeken 6, Kate Cameron(C) 7, George Swallow 8. For Harvest Festival. £1

Rayleigh, Essex. 1 Oct, 1260 P B Triples: Lydia Roberts 1, Diana Belcham 2, Julie Pye 3, S Smith 4, Angela Belcham 5, D Pye 6, D E Belcham(C) 7, D Jolly 8. For Evensong. 1225th recorded Q in the tower. Also: on 8 Oct, 1272 P B Minor: Diana Belcham 1, Kathy Neville 2, Julie Pye 3, D Hildred 4, S Smith 5, D E Belcham(C) 6. For Guides Service. Also: on 15 Oct, 1312 Boreham S Major: Diana Belcham 1, J Harpole 2, R Dunhill 3, M Hallett 4, Lydia Roberts 5, G Lucas 6, C Chapman 7, D E Belcham(C) 8. For Evensong. 1st in m by all. £1.80

Rodbourne Cheney, Wilts. 5 Nov, 1260 Stedman Doubles: Jane Williams 1, Helen James 2, Natalie Williams 3, David White 4, Mark Edwards(C) 5, Philip Ockwell 6. 1st Stedman; 1, 2, 3 & as C. For Evening Service. 60p

Rougham, Suffolk. 5 Nov, 1440 Netherseale S Minor: Elizabeth Teverson 1, E Bishop 2, L Sharpe 3, B Evans 4, R Fordham 5, M J Rose(C) 6. 1st in m; 2, 3, 4. For Evensong. £1

Rushden, Northants. 22 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Roger Emeney 1, Wendy Emeney 2, Pam Bailey 3, Vivienne Striblehill 4, Eric Critchley(C) 5, Bob Whitworth 6. For Evensong. Also: on 29 Oct, 1287 Grandsire Triples: Meg Boatright 1, Wendy Emeney 2, Pam Bailey 3, Sarah Hedgcock 4, Brenda Dixon 5, Eric Critchley 6, Alan Marks(C) 7, Jim Hedgcock 8. For Evensong. £1.60

Snodland, Kent. 23 Sep, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Tracy Weekes (1st doubles) 1, Shona Colebrook 2, Rosemary Whitefield 3, D W Elphick(C) 4, D Cheeseman 5, J Whitefield 6. £1.20

Solihull, W Mids. 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Katharine L Whitehead 1, R J Cann(C) 2, G D Willson 3, W G R Davies 4, Linda M Whitehead 5, Katherine E Jowett 6, Sandra J Cooper 7, P D Pope 8. For Evensong and in thanksgiving for the life of Canon Raymond S Wilkinson who was Rector here 1971-1987. £1.60

Southampton, Hants. (S Mary). 25 Oct, 1272 Norwich S Minor: Ian Woodward 1, Helen Green (1st blows in m) 2, Edie Robinson 3, John Boniface 4, Eleanor Kippin 5, Emma Southerington(C) 6. Also: on 1 Nov, 1260 All Saints Doubles: Julian Newman 1, Edie Robinson 2, Ian Woodward 3, Eleanor Kippin 4, Emma Southerington 5, Wendy Dewfall 6. For All Saints Day Evensong. £1.80

Southampton, Hants. (S Michael). 15 Oct, 1280 Dragon Doubles: Paul Garside 1, Edie Robinson 2, Ian Woodward 3, John Boniface 4, Eleanor Kippin(C) 5, Simon Potter 6. 1st in m by all. Also: on 18 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Helen Green 1, Edie Robinson 2, Claire Gardner 3, Julian Newman (1st in m) 4, Ian Woodward 5, Emma Southerington(C) 6. Also: on 29 Oct, 1416 Cambridge S Minor: Mark Harris (1st TB) 1, Ian Woodward (1st C inside) 2, Simon Harrison 3, John Boniface 4, Eleanor Kippin(C) 5, Nick Kimber 6. £2.70

Streatley, Berks. 22 Oct, 1320 P B Doubles: Antoinette J R Jackson 1, C A Laurence (1st inside) 2, Josie S Irving 3, J A Beaumont 4, I G Judd(C) 5, D Taylor 6. In celebration of the birth of Edward to Robert and Michelle Thomas. Also: on 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Gemma Jackson 1, J A Beaumont 2, Antoinette J R Jackson (1st inside in m) 3, I G Judd 4, D Taylor(C) 5, C A Laurence 6. £3

Swindon, Wilts. (S Mark). 13 Aug, 1260 Doubles (3m): Jane Williams 1, Natalie Williams 2, David Parks 3, Simon Barnes 4, Mark Edwards(C) 5, John Gwynne 6. Before our VJ Day Commemoration Service and Victory Parade to mark the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War. £1

Upper Cam, Glos. 21 Sep, 1260 P B & Grandsire Doubles: Dave Hipwell 1, Janet Presley 2, Lynn Clutterbuck 3, Terry Baker 4, Ken Clutterbuck(C) 5,

Clive Legg 6. To celebrate 25th Wedding Anniversary of Fr. Chrise Gill Malkinson, incumbent of this Parish. £1.20

Wadhurst, E Sussex. 1 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Barbara Godsalve 1, Alison Buttler-Blythe 2, Ann Bainham 3, David White (1st inside) 4, Chris Bainham(C) 5, John Bishop 6. To celebrate the wedding of John Rogers & Amanda Kennaird (both ringers at this tower) to take place the following day in Grenada, West Indies.

Wentworth, S Yorks. 4 Nov, 1272 Norwich S Minor: Geoffrey Graham 1, Anne Marie Monaghan (1st S minor inside) 2, John Barden 3, Roderick Ismay 4, Brian Sanders(C) 5, Trevor Ledger 6. Birthday compliments to Philip Barden, Adam Ledger and Kirsty Smithson. £1.20

West Clendon, Surrey. 9 Oct, 1260 St Martins Doubles: Vicki Wallis 1, Jenny Lewin 2, Christine Reese 3, Ian Mackenzie(C) 4, David Taylor 5, Frank Lewin 6. Also: on 15 Oct, 1260 Rev. Canterbury Doubles: Vicki Wallis 1, Ann Taylor (1st inside) 2, Ian Mackenzie(C) 3, Jenny Lewin 4, Piers Lewin 5, David Taylor 6. £2

Whitchurch-on-Thames, Oxon. 4 Nov, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: J A Harland 1, L F Palfrey 2, J R Reed 3, S D Wood 4, Stephanie A May 5, K G Baker(C) 6. 300th Q and 1st S minor as C to celebrate 30 years of ringing; 6. £1.20

Whitehaven, Cumbria. 22 Oct, (no. of changes not given) P B Caters: Sally Thomas 1, Sandra Heddle 2, Ruth Whitelock 3, M G Evans 4, Pat M Evans 5, R C Last 6, M J Smith 7, J H McTear 8, J Whitelock(C) 9, M Cubey 10. To celebrate the birth of Pheobe Catalina Thompson, daughter of friends of the ringers. Also: on 29 Oct, 1260 P B Doubles: Heather A Naylor 1, Sally M Thomas 2, R C Last 3, M J Smith 4, J H McTear(C) 5, T H Naylor 6. Also: on 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Lesley B Ellen 1, Ruth Whitelock 2, M J Smith 3, R C Last 4, S Hutchinson 5, J H McTear 6, J Whitelock(C) 7, T H Naylor 8. To celebrate the life of the Revd. Russell Rebert, who recently died in Sri Lanka. £2

Winchester, Hants. (Cathedral). 5 Nov, 1456 Kent T B 14: O A Davis 1, D J Baverstock 2, H L Arrowsmith 3, S Castle 4, K J Walpole 5, Rosemary E Scott 6, J P Adams 7, R Sales 8, R M Damerell 9, R R Savory 10, J P Colliss 11, P J Gorrod 12, G A Duke 13, R Le Marechal(C) 14. 1st on more than 8; 3. 1st on 14; 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13. 1st on 14 tower bells; 5. Before Choral Evensong, in memoriam Thomas J Southam. Believed to be the 1st tower bell Q of Kent 14. £1.40

Witham, Essex. 5 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Ann Lee 1, Rosemary Bennett (1st inside) 2, Sue Marriott 3, Pat Chapman 4, Peter Chapman(C) 5, Albert Wiseman 6. For Evensong. £1.20

Witton, Ches. 30 Sep, 1260 P B Minor: Sheila Hignett 1, Lynne Sawyer 2, Ken Hignett 3, Ashley Pugh 4, Stuart Bracegirdle 5, Stephen Knight(C) 6, Helen Knight 7. 40th Wedding Anniversary compliment to ringers of 1 & 3. Also: on 28 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Ashley Pugh 1, Alan Dewar 2, Lynne Sawyer 3, Stephen Knight 4, Frank Horrocks 5, Helen Knight(C) 6. Birthday compliment to Lynne Sawyer and Jennifer Ward. £2

Wiveliscombe, Som. 15 Oct, 1280 Pudsey S Major: J M Levin 1, Anne S Stenning 2, Valerie J Stone 3, Sally K Wheeler 4, A F Lee 5, K E Beale 6, Preb. C J B Marshall 7, D B Carter(C) 8. 1275th Q and 6th different S major "inside" (registered blind); 2. For Evensong. £1.50

Worle, Avon. 1 Oct, 1260 Doubles (11m): F Meredith 1, D Hawkins 2, J F S Lambard 3, C A Swatton 4, P J Spence(C) 5, G J Webster 6. For Family Service. Also: on 22 Oct, 1260 P B Minor: Jennifer Spence 1, B G Williams 2, J G Cook 3, J F S Lambard 4, C A Swatton 5, D Hawkins(C) 6. For Morning Service. Ruby Wedding compliment to Doris and Ray Baker. Also: on 29 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: J Parsons 1, C A Swatton (750th Q) 2, J F S Lambard 3, B G Williams 4, D Hawkins(C) 5, J H Widgery 6. For Morning Service. Compliment to Joanne Spence on her 18th birthday from her ringing friends at Worle. £3.60

Yoxall, Staffs. 15 Oct, 1260 Doubles (10m/v): Richard Hamby(C) 1, Wendy Talbot 2, Rosemary Payne 3, Cheryl Dodge 4, Michael Payne 5, Kevin Ryder 6. For Evensong, and to celebrate the engagement of Margaret Buxton and Martin Poynton. £1.20

Ashford, Kent. 25 Oct, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Arthur King 1, Karen Mash (1st S Major) 2, Rosemary Coney 3, Janice Leeke 4, Shirley Marshall 5, Raymond Lucas 6, Michael Marshall 7, Richard Edwards(C) 8. £1

Bampton, Devon. 16 Oct, 1272 Kent TB Minor: W E Dunn 1, Anne Stenning 2, R Perry 3, B G Williams 4, B Horrell(C) 5, J M Levin (1450th Q) 6. £1

Beckingham, Notts. 23 Oct, 1260 PB Singles: J Pye (1st Q) 1, A C Thomas (1st Q) 2, M J Smith(C) 3. 4. 1st Q on the bells since re-hanging in 1990. By a local band. 50p

Bentworth, Hants. 29 Oct, 1260 PB Doubles: Sandy FitzGerald 1, Ben Woods 2, Chris Hurley 3, Sheila Padley 4, Julia Wood(C) 5, Tim Woodgate 6. For the Civic Service for East Hants District Council. £1.20

Bere Regis, Dorset. 27 Oct, 1272 London S Minor: C P Wainwright 1, Susan Legge 2, Joan Pike 3, R Fox 4, G J N Colbourne 5, C H Pipe-Wolferstan(C) 6. £1.20

Bethersden, Kent. 23 Oct, 1260 Doubles (11m): Diana Wright 1, Judith Robertson(C) 2, Philip Larter 3, Clare Larter 4, Ross Robertson 5, Tim Wright (500th Q) 6. £1

Bishopsteignton, Devon. 28 Oct, 1260 Doubles (8 m/v): Anne Stenning 1, A V Edwards 2, W E Dunn(C) 3, J M Levin 4, A F Lee 5, B G Williams 6. £1

Bishopstoke, Hants. 29 Oct, 1280 Bristol S Major: Peter Blythe 1, Roy Le Marechal(C) 2, Andrew Craddock 3, David Salter (1st in m) 4, Kay Le Marechal 5, Graham Wright (1st in m) 6, Christopher Stubbington 7, John Colliss 8. For Evensong.

Bolton, Lancs. (All Souls). 26 Oct, 1260 PB Minor: John Shallcross 1, Lindsay Smith 2, Jane Dey 3, Barbara Shallcross 4, Andrew Bradshaw 5, Geoffrey Smith(C) 6. Prior to an organ recital. To celebrate the birth of Benjamin James, a son for Sarah & Keith Taylor. £1.50

Brightstone, IOW. 5 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Ann Morris 1, Beccy Noyes 2, Stephen Noyes(C) 3, Katie Woods 4, Debbie Morris 5, Julie Eady 6. By the local band, prior to evening service of remembrance for the recently departed. £1

Brightwell cum Sotwell, Oxon. No date given, 1260 Doubles (3m): Dilys Spurrell 1, Jack Berry 2, Roy Thorpe 3, Nuala Clements 4, Adrian Procter(C) 5, Daryl Dixon 6. 1st in 3m: 4, 5 & 6. To welcome Camilla Grace Butterfield (14.10.95). £2

Bristol, Avon (Cathedral). 15 Oct, 1264 PB Major: Gaynor Wightman 1, Ben Shipp 2, Louise Steward 3, Ian Tear 4, Matthew Tosh 5, Adam Jenkins 6, David Spencer 7, David Bassford(C) 8. £1.20

Bristol, Avon (St John on the Wall). 17 Sep, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Linda Drew 1, Gerald Skelly 2, Sheila Matthews 3, Edward James 4, Michael Powell(C) 5, David Floyd 6. 30p

Bristol, Avon (St Mary Redcliffe). 8 Apr, 1346 Cambridge S Maximus: Margaret James 1, Mary Friskney 2, Wendy Bishop 3, Clare Pipe-Wolferstan 4, Jacqueline Hobbs 5, M J Hobbs 6, D Bishop 7, J Brain 8, G L Sparey 9, C H P Pipe-Wolferstan 10, K W Scudamore 11, C G Bryant(C) 12.

Bristol, Avon (St Werburgh). 9 Oct, 1272 London S Minor: Linda Drew 1, Sheila Matthews 2, Michael Powell (circled tower) 3, Robert Perry 4, Gerald Skelly 5, Stephen Bateman(C) 6. 30p

Bromyard, Herefs. 16 Oct, 1280 St Clements College Bob Minor: Ray Sayers 1, Jo Hall 2, Felicity Goldrick 3, Sarah Morgan(C) 4, Nicky Seabright 5, Martin Stallard 6, Frank Seabright 7, Philip Morean 8. 1st in m for all. Birthday compliment to 2. £1.60

Burton Latimer, Nthants. 26 Oct, 1250 Bristol S Major: Helen Coleman 1, Wendy E Meney 2, Pam Bailey 3, Eric Critchley(C) 4, Andrew Wignall 5, Nick Churchman 6, Frank Coales 7, Murray Coleman 8. 80p

Bury, Lancs. 30 Oct, 1272 London S Minor: Jeffrey Kershaw 1, Helen Rigby 2, Philip Newsham 3, John Preston 4, Anne Pettifor(C) 5, Robert Pettifor 6. Get well compliment to Joe Porter's Achilles tendon. £1.20

Caddington, Beds. 26 Oct, 1272 S Minor (2m): Robert Jones 1, Lucy Shepherd 2, Michael Barker 3, Richard Casserley 4, Alan Shepherd(C) 5, Tony Cobb 6. £1

Calverleigh, Devon. 16 Oct, 1260 St Clements Bob Minor: Anne Stenning 1, B G Williams 2, J M Levin 3, B Horrell 4, R Perry 5, W E Dunn(C) 6. £1

Campton, Beds. 25 Oct, 1260 Doubles (3m): Alan Shepherd 1, Lucy Shepherd(C) 2, Gemma Raikes 3, Michael Barker 4, Robert Churchill 5. £1

Canterbury, Kent (St Stephen). 15 Oct, 1250 Cambridge S Major: Eileen Palin 1, Rebecca Hornsby (1st S Major) 2, Clare Larter 3, Jane Kennett 4, E C Westlake 5, P B Larter(C) 6, T M Haynes 7, S C Palin 8. For Evensong. 80p

Castor, Cambs. 27 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Anna Reed 1, Robin Rogers(C) 2, Tony Evans 3, John Roffe 4, Stephen Reed (1st in m) 5, Glyn Tutt 6. To welcome the Revd William Blake to the parishes of Castor, Marholm, Upton & Sutton. Rung for his Induction Service. £1.25

Catfield, Norfolk. 29 Oct, 1260 PB Minor: G King 1, Jenny Forster 2, H F Kimber 3, R E Wiles 4, J B Gardiner 5, A S Forster(C) 6. In memory of Bishop Hugh Blackherne. £1

Chiddingfold, Surrey. 22 Oct, 1260 PB Triples: Brian Belchamber 1, Lynda Davis 2, Grant Pnyer 3, Barbara Llewellyn 4, Peter Payne 5, John Stevens 6, Ian Hastillo(C) 7, John Cowburn (1st cover to Triple 8. Get well compliment to Allan Edwards, ringer at St Mary's. £1.60

Cranfield, Beds. 31 Oct, 1260 Doubles (3m incl Stedman): Nicki Billington 1, Cara Ewen 2, Susan Ewen(C) 3, Jim Ewen 4, Jonathan Billington 5. £2.50

Crediton, Devon. 23 Oct, 1260 PB Triples: A V Edwards 1, R Perry 2, Anne Stenning 3, W E Dunn(C) 4, B G Williams 5, J M Levin 6, A F Lee 7, P Walter 8. £1

Derby, Derbys (Cathedral). 22 Oct, 1280 London S Major: Roger Lawson(C) 1, Jane Temple 2, Pat Halls 3, Jane Boden 4, Pam Timms 5, Brian Tomlinson 6, Gordon Halls 7, John Heaton 8. For Evensong. £1.60

Desborough, Nthants. 29 Oct, 1344 Yorkshire S Major: B Adcock 1, A R Wignell 2, J R Hewitt 3, C N Stephenson 4, Helen Coleman(C) 5, B Yeomans 6, N A Churchman 7, Susan Riley 8. Prior to Morning Service as a retirement compliment to the Revd Roger Chapman, Vicar. 80p

Devizes, Wilts (St James, Southbroom). 15 Oct, 1272 Cambridge S Minor: John Romain 1, Ronald Snack 2, Martin Strange 3, Mac Baker 4, Colin Smith 5, Anthony Fortin(C) 6. For Evensong and as a tribute to George Swift of Chalfont St Peter, who died on 23 May 1995. £1.60

Diss, Norfolk. 29 Oct, 1280 Bristol S Major: Kathleen Tebble 1, Lisa Webley (1st in m) 2, Paul Cattermole 3, Ailsa Jackson 4, David Webb 5, Philip Down 6, Michael Hodgkinson 7, Adrian Malton(C) 8. For Evensong. Farewell compliment to Philip Down, moving to Chichester. £1.40

Dundry, Avon. 1 Oct, 1260 Doubles (2m): E K Taylor 1, C Hobbs 2, F S Ford 3, D W Pearce 4, A H Ball(C) 5, W J Astle 6. For Evensong. Also 29 Oct, 1260 Doubles (2m): Rosemary Smith 1, M J Horsemann 2, E K Taylor 3, Valerie Stone(C) 4, P G Neil 5, P C Bridges 6. £1.20

Dunkerton, Som. 19 Oct, 1320 Redcar S Minor: Matthew Higby 1, Linda Drew 2, Michael Powell 3, Kate Walker 4, Gerald Skelly 5, Robert Henry(C) 6. 1st in m for all. 30p

Earls Barton, Nthants. 29 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Joanne Holmes 1, Janet Wilkins 2, A R Inman (1st in m) 3, J H Homes 4, I N Willgress(C) 5, R C Bond 6. For Evensong. £1.20

Edinburgh, Lothian (St Cuthbert). 24 Oct, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Jane Weller 1, Lucy Wall 2, Shanthi Ravichandran 3, Martin Gillie 4, Max Clark (1st S) 5, Jason Hargreaves(C) 6. Also 27 Oct, 1280 Spliced S Major (4m): Clare Caley (1st spliced major as 1, Susan Bryce 2, Helen Brotherton (1st spliced) 3, Shanthi Ravichandran (most splice 4, Jane Weller 5, W A Brotherton 6, Michael Barker 7. £3.20

Farmborough, Avon. 29 Oct, 1260 All Saints Doubles: R Perry (50th on the bells) 1, Rosemary Smith 2, P C Bridges 3, P G Neil 4, M J Horsemann(C) 5, J Fray 6. For All Saints Patronal Festival Service. Also 80th birthday compliment to Eva Coombs. 60p

Fitzhead, Som. 18 Oct, 1260 Doubles (8 m/v): W R Trickey 1, Anne Stenning 2, W E Dunn(C) 3, D Bowden 4, J M Levin 5, F Gardner 6. £1

The Fun Methods

by Steve Coleman

Now and again the old tried and true methods that I enjoy so much, turn to dust and ashes in my mouth. "Boring old Bob," I think, "Groany old Grandsire and Stodgy old Stedman," and I long to ring something startling, way out and entertaining to shake me out of my blues. What is there?

M.R.
Somerset

A change, they say, is as good as a rest, and a change of changes is just as good a change of anything else. No matter how much you enjoy the old standards, you might just as well ... erm ... *ring the changes* as it were.

So when the blues take you, try simply ringing something new. That may do the trick. And if you want even more excitement, there are lots of other methods that might fit the bill - such as Original, the Doubles variations and, if your band can manage them, the treble dodging possibilities in Chapter 39. You could even have a crack at the options in *A Walk on the Wild Side*. But when you and your band are really low, that's the time for the *fun* methods.

Fun methods are methods to dust off now and again. They need zing and freshness, and the ability to make people who haven't seen them before say, "Good Heavens, how extraordinary!" They should be good for learners too.

Slough Big Bob

Slough Big Bob is a method which few ringers have heard of and which the *Central Council* does not recognise. It is a mixture of Doubles and Minor and it is not rung by the top bands. You will not hear a well-struck course of it at St Paul's Cathedral but it has been around since the 1950s and has all the hallmarks of a fun method.

123456	← ②	154326	← ⑤
214356		613425	
341536		531246	
425136		361146	
453116		325416	
543161		234561	
534176		243561	
352416		453176	
325146		452136	
231546		541236	
213456		514326	
143561		534216	
142536	← ③	135246	← ⑥
415326		312546	
451326		321456	
543176		234156	
534176		243516	
352446		453261	
325446		452361	
234576		543276	
243756		534276	
421356		351426	
412536		375246	
145236		135246	
154326		123456	

As you can see, there is no dodging in it at all. The Two, Three, Four and Five hunt up and down between lead and fifths place **except** when they have taken the Treble from lead. Then, they only hunt up to fourths place. The Treble, on the other hand, hunts to sixths place and back, and the Tenor rings behind except for the two blows when the **Treble** is in sixths place. Then, it makes fifths.

If you think this looks easy because it's just plain hunt, try it. It is far from easy. The Treble hunts down over the bells in a different order to hunting up, and the inside bells have to notice when they are taking the Treble off.

The Tenor has to pay very close attention, and handle his bell with precision accuracy as well. Few bands can get it right first time, yet it is an excellent method for plain hunting learners to develop their ropesight and bell awareness skills.

It extends naturally to all numbers. So on eight the inside bells hunt up to sevenths except when they've taken the Treble off. Then, they hunt up to sixths. The Treble goes all the way to eighths.

Bastow

Bastow Little Court is one of the few methods to be named after a person rather than a place. It was first rung on 6th October 1934 in a peal at Lamberhurst in Kent to celebrate the marriage of Miss G.L. Bastow of Kensington to Mr J.C. Morland of Court Lodge. For good measure the band also rang *Morland Special Alliance* but we are not concerned with that here.

Whether or not Mrs Morland is still enjoying a long and happy marriage, I do not know. But her maiden name lives on in a method which has enjoyed a consistent, if limited, popularity ever since. Pronounced to rhyme with hoe rather than with cow, it is an extremely useful method for providing the struggling band with a step between Plain Bob and Kent.

123456	← ②
214365	
3213456	
124365	
42535	← ③
412635	
146353	
64533	← ④
615432	
614533	
65432	
56342	← ⑤
513634	
516342	
63624	
35764	← ⑥
312546	
315764	
32546	
123456	

As you can see, the Treble never gets above seconds place. It just leads and makes seconds, providing very useful experience for a learner just starting to acquire ropesight. The other bells treble bob everywhere except in 1-2. It is just like ringing an inside bell to a lead of Kent except that there is no slow work or places.

As each lead of the method is only four changes long, bobs can occur frequently. The bob is a fourths place bob and looks like this.

123456	
214356	← "Bob"
213456	
241356	
421356	
412356	
412365	
421356	
54621	

The bells running in and out are unaffected, whilst the bells in 5-6 do two extra dodges, making three in all. The bell dodging 3-4 up when the bob is called, makes fourths and dodges 3-4 down.

To make it even more fun, there can be bobs at consecutive Treble leads, so the bells in 5-6 have to do two extra dodges for each one. That can mean five dodges in all - the first one plus two extra lots of two.

Touchees are the same as Kent, although very much shorter.

Kent Little Court

Kent Little Court is just like Bastow Little Court except that you always make Kent places in 3-4 - both up and down - instead of dodging. It is just as good as Bastow for the Treble ringer but better Kent practice for everyone else.

1 2 3 4 5 6



Ashford

In *Ashford Little Court* - now sometimes known as *Ashford Little Bob* - the Treble only goes to thirds place and back. The result is that the other bells spend their time dodging in so many positions that treble bob looks pale by comparison. In treble bob you dodge everywhere, but in *Ashford* you dodge *absolutely everywhere*.

1234567	← ②	1765432	← ⑦
2143657		7156342	
2416375		7513624	
4213657		5716342	
4726375		5773624	
1462735		1537264	
1426375	← ③	1573624	← ⑥
4162735		5137264	
4617253		5312746	
6417235		3517264	
6147253		3152746	
1674523		1325476	
1647253	← ④	1352746	← ⑤
6174523		3125476	
6715432		3214567	
7614523		2315476	
7165432		1134567	
756342		1243657	
1765432		1234567	

This picture is *Ashford Triples*. Having lead, you dodge 3-4 up, 4-5 up, 5-6 up and 6-7 up. You then do long sevenths, and dodge 6-7 down, 5-6 down, 4-5 down and 3-4 down. You also make seconds over the Treble.

Believe me, dodging in all the odd positions as well as all the even positions is devastatingly difficult. And remembering to dodge 6-7 down after making long sevenths, is a nightmare. Yet when you get it right, *Ashford* is extremely pretty to listen to and hugely entertaining.

On numbers other than seven, you dodge absolutely everywhere in the same way, and you make four blows behind between your highest **up** and your highest **down** dodges. This applies whether you are ringing on an odd or even number.

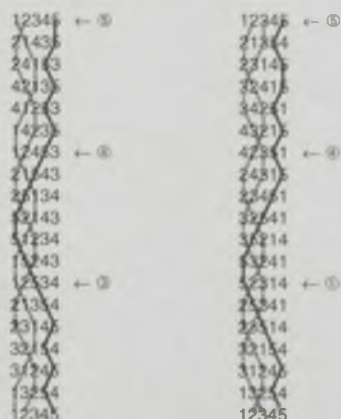
Bobs are just like Plain Bob bobs. You run in, run out and make the bob, and are unaffected

above fourths place. If you run out, though, you run all the way to 4-5 up. Singles are just like Plain Bob singles.

Cloister

Cloister Doubles - also known as *St Helen's* - is a method in the great tradition of Bastow Little Court and Slough Big Bob. It only hovers on the fringes of orthodox respectability, but it is nonetheless much enjoyed by a fair smattering of towers up and down the country. Its popularity rests on its being short, pleasant to listen to and, above all, easy for the struggling band to ring.

As you can see, it has two bells hunting to thirds place and back. These can either be the Treble and Two - as in the left hand picture - or the Two and Three as in the right hand one. The other three bells hunt out, double dodge 4-5 up, double dodge 4-5 down, and hunt back in again.



It is excellent first stage ropesight and plain hunting practice for the hunting bells as they only have to find **one** new bell every six changes, and it is excellent dodging practice for the others. It also enables a band with only three experienced ringers, one Tenor behind ringer, and two shaky plain hunters, to ring a musical method.

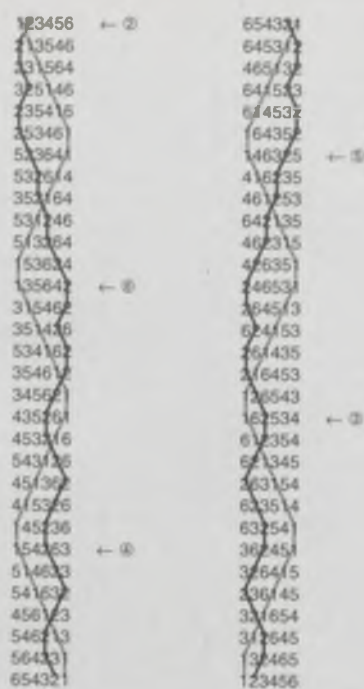
There is a picture of Cloister Triples in Chapter 21 and inveterate Cloister ringers ring it with Stedman Triples calls which are explained on pages 194 and 197.

Incidentally, it is possible to ring Cloister with a different and rather complicated bob which causes the Two to become a working bell. Modernised and regularised in this way, it is apparently more satisfying to the purists and still quite interesting to ring. Somewhat oddly, it is even called *Bastow*. But then the magic is gone, and it is not really Cloister any more.

Bala Bob

And now for something more advanced - *Bala Bob*. Or to be more exact, a touch of Bala Bob with silent bobs at every lead. Towards the end of the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth, people rang this touch as a method in its own right under the far more sensible name of *Double Stedman's Slow Course*. Indeed, in 1881 Jasper Snowdon included it under that name in his book *Standard Methods*.

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As you can see, the Treble plain hunts, but the other bells all ring Stedman slow work. They ring Stedman slow work in the normal way on the front, and they ring Stedman slow work **upside down** on the back. It is singularly entertaining and a definite challenge.

If you are going to try ringing it - and I recommend that you do - make sure you know everybody's starts **before** you suggest catching hold. The idea may be simple, but working out the starts of the back bells in your head, is a real puzzle.

Incidentally, the technically minded will note that the Treble is really ringing the quick work on the front and the quick work **upside down** on the back. But it is much easier to think of it as plain hunt.

Orpheus

Orpheus Doubles is another Stedman variation, although this one was invented by Fabian Stedman himself. As explained in Chapter 27, seventeenth century ringers went in for a lot of odd method names, and this is one of them. The essence of it is that everyone simply rings Stedman Doubles **except** that every blow below fourths place is doubled, and there are **five** dodges in 4-5 up and 4-5 down to compensate.

As a result of all this doubling, your slow work becomes very laboured indeed. It starts,

four blows in thirds
two blows in seconds
four blows lead
two blows in seconds
four blows lead
two blows seconds
and so on.

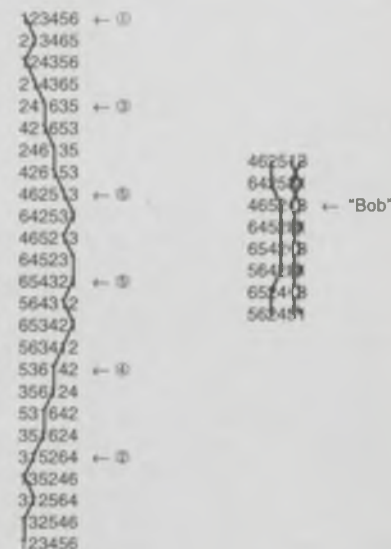
The quick work, of course, is doubled too. And forcing yourself to lead for four blows in the middle of it, can be a real problem.

As long as you don't ring it **too** often, Orpheus is definitely a fun method. There are no calls as a plain course is 120 changes long.

Forward

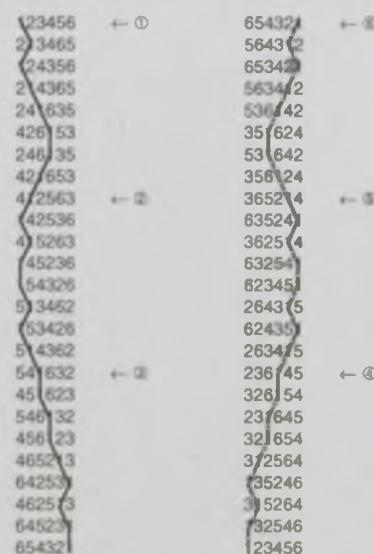
Forward Minor is another principle - i.e. everyone, including the Treble, does the same thing - and it is another treble bob variation.

You treble bob everywhere, including 1-2, but you always make Kent places in 3-4, both up and down. The plain course is only 24 changes long and doesn't take too long to master, but the bobs are a real entertainment. They can be called any time anyone dodges in 1-2, so consecutive bobs can be as close as four changes apart. They affect you just like a Kent bob, but if you get caught in 5-6, you have to do two **extra** dodges for **each** bob. So three bobs can keep you there for ages.



Coal

Coal Minor - now officially known as Kidderminster - was named as someone's idea of a joke. It is in the great tradition of such names as *Tennis Court*, *Turkish Delight*, *Nice Surprise*, and - although in poor taste - *Titanic Cinques*. It is another principle, and the structure of each section is the first four changes of a lead of Kent followed by the first four changes of a lead of Oxford. So you treble bob in 1-2 and 5-6, and in 3-4 you either do Kent places or Oxford places.



Now, that doesn't sound easy, and in fact it isn't, particularly if you ring it from first principles rather than by learning the blue line. Worse still, bobs can either be at the end of a Kent section or at the end of an Oxford section. The bells in 5-6 ring a **Forward** bob in either case. But the bell making the bob has to do **three** blows in fourths. After that it either does

thirds and out if it is a Kent to Oxford bob, or thirds and in if it is an Oxford to Kent bob. Tricky!

122456	241825
213465	426183
124563 "Bob"	246123 "Bob"
214365	421653
241365	412635
423165	142653
243156	416235
421565	146253
Kent to Oxford Bob	Oxford to Kent Bob

And even worse is that you might get an Oxford to Kent bob immediately following a Kent to Oxford bob. One bell then does **two** lots of three blows in fourths, and that really is a problem.

Boat Race

And lastly, **Boat Race**. As explained in Chapter 39, Boat Race is Oxford Treble Bob **above** the Treble, and Cambridge Surprise **below** the Treble. That's why it's called Boat Race. If you ring it by the blue line, it's just another treble dodging method and not much fun at all, so I'm not including a picture. Instead, try ringing it by the Treble.

While you are above the Treble, ring Oxford, and when you pass the Treble on the way down, change to Cambridge. Then when you pass the Treble on the way up, change to Oxford again, and so on.

Simple isn't it?

Well, no, it isn't at all simple. But it will give you a lot of excitement as well as valuable insight into the structure of Oxford and Cambridge.

Pedants, of course, call Boat Race by its official name of **Morning Exercise Delight**. But then, unlike you and me, I don't suppose pedants much enjoy ringing **fun** methods anyway.

* * *

This article is the last extract from Steve Coleman's new book, The Method Ringer's Companion.

* * *

Reference Bala Bob which we have in the past rung at Wilmslow. Does anyone know of, or can someone compose a 720 which will have each of the six bells in the hunt, preferably for equal numbers of changes. A casual view would suggest that a regular six part might be possible. This would be ideal for someone of my limited ability as a conductor.

If anyone can produce a composition will they please specify clearly how the calls they have used operate to change the hunt bell.

NEIL D. LOMAS.



To prove that there is life beyond the RW back page two recovered ladies were spotted at the Bell Inn, Skenfrith (Sheila Parry & Shirley Bolton).

Four ships and three rings

There is something deeply moving about the mural above the harbour in Lyttleton, the port of Christchurch in the South Island of New Zealand. A group of immigrants, in typical garb of the mid-nineteenth century, struggle to cross the steep slopes dividing the flooded volcanic harbour from the swampy lowlands of the Canterbury Plains.

In 1848 four ships brought settlers of the Canterbury Association to this far-flung outpost of the growing British Empire. The aim of the Association was to establish '... an exclusively Anglican colony that would transplant a more perfect and better model of English society (based on ... rural England ...), with its classes and institutions, for the relief of the mother country' (Greg, 1994, *Aotearoa and New Zealand*).

Settlement was far from easy; the lowlands of Christchurch were ill-drained and swampy, the port was divided from the growing city by steep and precipitous slopes, the local rivers, the Avon and the Heathcote, were navigable only by very small vessels, and the colony was far from its main markets, in Britain.



The timber tower of Papanui.

In spite of these drawbacks the colonists persevered, and in due course of time the spacious and beautiful city of Christchurch spread its tentacles over the fertile Canterbury Plains. Within the city was built a soaring stone cathedral, as well as churches that included the timber-church of Papanui, and as befitted the heritage of the settlers, rings of bells were installed. I visited Christchurch in October and was met at the airport by Mike Clayton, secretary of the Cathedral bellringers. From then on I was with friends, even if some of us had never met before and others had not been seen for thirty years. Master of the Cathedral Guild,

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St. Mary's, Timaru has a magnificent tower but only one bell. When will the local congregation be persuaded to complete the original plan and install a complete ring?

Peter Perry, and his family welcomed me to their timber-house overlooking Lyttleton harbour and, on my first Sunday in New Zealand, took me to the Cathedral and to Papanui.

The Taylor twelve at the Cathedral are well worth a long journey to listen to, and it was a delight to ring rounds and call changes on them before ringing Cambridge on the light eight. As a service touch we range Stedman Triples on the back eight, and very fine they sounded.

Papanui has to be experienced to be appreciated. The 6cwt octave by Warners and Whitechapel cause the timber tower to sway and dance, and woe-betide the unwary ringer. A wonderful contraption of steel girders gives the tower some semblance of stability, but Ray Idle and his band deserve admiration for ringing changes so well on these cheerful little bells.

Unlike Christchurch, Dunedin was a settlement of the Scottish Presbyterian Church, and the city exudes a Scottish flavour. The much pinnacled First Church, in the centre of the city, houses a 7 cwt octave by Whitechapel, installed in 1973.

Dunedin bells are a joy to ring and go like tops. Bastow and Julia Wilson had arranged a peal attempt for my visit, with Gwilyn Salmon as conductor. Gwilyn and his wife have recently emigrated from the Mendips to Dunedin. What happened in the peal attempt is best forgotten but next day, a Sunday, we had some excellent ringing on the tuneful little bells.

After a fascinating tour to Invercargill and the great lakes of the South Alps: Manapouri, Te Anau, Wakatipu, Wanaka (and what a beautiful place that is, with the ice-covered Alps reflected in the still waters of the lake) and Hawea, and to the grey and dirty Tasman Glacier, I returned to Christchurch. There, to cap a wonderful visit to the jewelled island of the Southern Hemisphere, I joined the cathedral band and called a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for Choral Festival Evensong.

The sound of the light eight echoing over the Sunday city will long remain a happy memory, and the service that followed, with choristers in white surplices, ruffs and red cassocks, with all the quiet pomp and ceremony of our Anglican heritage, was a fitting tribute to those four shiploads of settlers who established an Anglican colony in New Zealand.

To Mike Clayton, Peter Perry, Bastow Wilson and all the other ringing friends who made a dream come true: thank you!

Grahamstown.

COLIN A. LEWIS

Earlier Stedman controversy

May 18th 1996 will be the 150th anniversary of the first performance of Thomas Thurstans' famous Four-Part peal. This composition, or a variation of it, is still one of the most popular in the method. Why was it regarded as the 'Masterpiece' and was Thurstans actually the first to produce such a peal?

The goal

From the compositions and comments of the time we can deduce that Stedman composers in the first half of the last century were all attempting to reduce a peal with the following features:

- a regular, repeated pattern of calls, to produce a peal in 'parts'
- a bell unaffected by calls i.e. an observation bell,
- the minimum use of non-bob calls, (thought to be two), and
- non-bob calls to be 'common' singles, made in 567.

In 1832 William Hudson produced a peal with 240 bobs and 22 Holts Bob Singles, or 'doubles', the bobs being in sets of four. These sixty courses form the basis of all twin-bob peals and arguably Hudson contributed more to the development of Stedman Triples composition than anyone else.

The 1842 peal

The ideal peal came much closer in 1842 with the production of a ten-part, each part being called:

S	H	L	Q
	X	X	X
	X	X	
X	X		
	X	X	
X			

adding an extra Q in the fourth course of the first and sixth parts.

This gives fifty courses and the 'missing' ten courses are slotted in between two 'doubles' made in 34567 when the 7th is making sevenths after slow. The first is in the second course of the peal, followed by a block called L, four HL, L, four HL followed by the other 'double'. The first part then continues with SL, HL, H.

This peal therefore fulfils nearly all of the criteria listed earlier and its author could well claim to have solved the Stedman problem. But who was he?

The peal was rung on August 8th by the St. Martin's Society at Aston and is recorded in a circular with the footnote describing the peal as having "240 bobs and 2 singles only, which gives it a decided superiority over any peal yet produced, and is an improvement upon Mr. Hudson's peal, of Sheffield; having twenty singles taken away, which has been done by Mr. Thomas Thurstans, to whom great credit is due." Six months later, on February 9th, 1843, the performance was repeated, about which a "Friend" writing in the 'The Era' declared this "last great improvement (viz. reducing the singles to two) was by Mr. John Lates. Another generation may excel this, but the present will, in all probability, leave it as the ne plus ultra of composition in this much admired but intricate system".

So whose peal was it – Thurstans' or Lates'?

Correspondence in 'The Era' does not throw much light on the matter but does give an insight into the rivalries of the time. Hudson stated, probably correctly, that everyone else's peals were based on his 60-courses and that 'Mr Thurstans, or Lates, first reduced the peal to 242 calls. These composers merely call their work an improvement on my peal. John Lates in response, disputes the authorship of the 60-

courses, attributing it to Tebbs, in whose collection they appeared, and goes on to say, "and with respect to the last peal, with 242 calls, I beg to say, that when I obtained it, I communicated the same to T. Thurstans, in the presence of witnesses, who heard him declare that the attainment of this most desirable objective was quite impossible." Thurstans' comments are not available for posterity.

The truth, as Oscar Wilde put it, is never pure and rarely simple. The conductor of the peal, Thomas Day, later informed Henry Johnson that Lates was the real author – Thurstans had done the initial work in cutting out sixteen 'doubles', leaving the peal with six, but Lates had used the novel device of extras and omits to reduce this number further to two. This particular concept was to prove crucial in the final production of the famous Four-Part.

Day's statement covers the question of the number of 'doubles' but does not reveal the source of the basic five-course block. Since Thurstans had already produced his famous three-course block (SL, SHQ, H) which he gave to his friend Henry Johnson that year, it might be considered that he had a good enough understanding of the Hudson courses to break them up in any way he chose. His failure to spot the potential Ten-part in his own 1845 peal (see later), however suggests otherwise.

It is equally if not more likely that the choice of a Ten-part format was Lates' own work. He too had already produced a Four-part using a three-course block (SH, HL, HL) and four 'doubles' in 1841. This peal and his 1850 production seem to indicate that he was happier with the Ten-part concept.

It is curious that the method generated exactly the same sort of controversy over authorship 153 years later when two bobs-only peals were produced almost simultaneously. Perhaps both Thurstans and Lates had as many spare hours at Christmas as modern composers!

Missed opportunity

Thus in 1842 Lates had almost but not quite reached the goal the Stedman composers were seeking. His peal contained only two non-bob calls but these were not the singles commonly used in the method. What he failed to spot, however, was that the 110-course block 'missing' from his Ten-part could be sandwiched just as easily between two singles as between two 'doubles' (Call 9s in third course, then three SH, S, five SH, S, SH 11s – continue HLQH to bring up the first part-end. In this form the peal appeared under John Carter's name in 1894.)

It seems odd that Lates should have missed such an obvious point. However it is likely that he was looking for a peal with an undisturbed observation bell, and normal singles used in a twin-bob peal cannot achieve this. Had he been willing to surrender this objective it is likely that this very callable Ten part would be a favourite for conductors and his name, not Thurstans', would be the one that is remembered.

The four-part appears

After Lates' success Thurstans was encouraged by Johnson to 'keep at it'. He had already produced a Four-part but had not managed to join the parts with common singles. Like Lates he missed points which seem obvious now. In 1845 he composed a five-part which was lost for many years and earned the nickname, 'The Sleeping Beauty'. He does not seem to have realised how easily this peal could be restructured as a ten-part with the desired attribute of only two singles instead of ten – in his mind the answer had to lie with the Four-Part with which he was familiar.

Using extras and omits in a manner learned from Lates' 1842 peal he finally reached a solution which he handed to Johnson in early 1846. This was rung on May 18th at St. Martin's, Birmingham and conducted by Johnson. Lates was outside the tower and on meeting the conductor queried him "Why, Harry, that came round with a common single?". The reply is well-known – "Yes, John, it's one of Toms and now you can have it."

Thus Thomas Thurstans became the man who produced the first 'bona-fide' peal in the method. It has always been acknowledged that he built on the work of others but not perhaps how much he owed to Lates, nor how close Lates came to beating him.

The 1850 peal

Four years later, Lates also produced a peal with only two common singles. This failed to replace Thurstans' Four-Part in the affections of Stedman conductors and was not rung for many years. In a slightly reworked format it is a good composition and deserves to be rung more often. Its only obvious demerit is that the number of four-bob sets (38) is greater than in Thurstans' peal (22).

5040 Stedman Triples by I. J. B. Lates

In ten parts each called

S	H	L	Q
X		X	
X	X		X
X	X		
	X		
X	X		

Add Q in the 4th course of parts 1 and 6.

Call 2s, four HL, H, four HL, H, 14s at beginning of first part.

(Facts and quotations are taken from an early edition of 'Stedman' – opinions are entirely the author's!)

BERNARD TAYLOR

Solutions

Firstly, let me offer a solution to the problem of backlogs of peal compositions awaiting publication.

You could run a series of specially funded pull out colour supplements. This might be especially appropriate at times like Christmas, New Year and Easter. We could have goodies such as the *Rod Pipe bumper pull-out* of peal compositions. You might try the *1001 outing reports* where ringers go ringing and then visit the pub. If these were all in very small print you might fit them onto four pages for ease of extraction and economy of production. The collection of *rejects from the bin* could be specially crumpled and torn which could make it exciting trying to read them even if, after the event, it was not deemed worth the effort. Historical research could be printed on really old paper. If this proved to be a bit on the crumbly side the little bits could be put in plastic bags and stapled to the front of *The Comic*. Putting the bits together could be more fun than interpreting the torn and crumpled pages.

A.J.B.

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S Mary
Sat Oct 21 1995 2h59 (22)
5040 Yorkshire S. Royal
Comp. J R Ridley
1 Michael B Clifford
2 Reg C Hitchings
3 Helen K Normington
4 Mark B Davies
5 James A J Babbage
6 Philip A Abbey
7 Michael J Seagrave
8 James R D Normington
9 Cyril A Wratten
10 John R Ridley (C)
First peal: 5. First of Yorkshire
Royal: 3.8. Cheltenham
Branch Peal. Second birthday
compliment to Jeremy
Hitchings. 4th wedding
anniversary compliment to
James and Helen
Normington. £2

CHARLTON KINGS, Glos.
S Mary
Tue Oct 24 1995 2h54 (17)
5008 Plain Bob Major
Comp. J R Ridley
1 Christopher J McKenzie
2 Hilda C Ridley
3 Christopher Ross
4 Cyril A Wratten
5 Robert W Sanders
6 Philip A Abbey
7 Conrad Warford
8 John R Ridley (C)
Cheltenham Branch Peal.
£1.50

BARROW GURNEY, Avon
SS Mary & Edward
Wed Oct 25 1995 2h43 (12)
5152 Kupfernicks S. Major
Arr. A J Cox
1 Robert E Beck
2 Anthony J Cox (C)
3 Elisabeth A G Bowden
4 Jenny M A Astridge
5 Ian P Hill
6 Joseph St J Beaumont
7 Reginald T McKenzie
8 Adrian P Beck
650th peal: 5.
First peal in the method.
Kupfernicks S. Major
g 34-38. 16-56-36. 14-
14.38.56-34.18

GLOUCESTER, Glos.
S Mary-de-Crypt
Thu Oct 26 1995 2h42 (14)
5040 Stedman Triples
Comp. P A B Saddleton
1 Frances Mulvey
2 Janet L Fox
3 Jon P Hill
4 Michael J Mulvey
5 Thomas Hinton
6 Adam W Kilgour
7 John R Ridley (C)
8 Grahame S Groves
First of Stedman: 5. £1

SWINDON, Wilts, S Mark
Sat Oct 28 1995 2h43 (11)
5024 Rutland S. Major
Comp. N Smith
1 Jane Williams
2 Natalie J Williams
3 Mary E Holden
4 David A Strong
5 Cyril A Wratten
6 Richard L Thumwood
7 Mark Edwards
8 John R Ridley (C)
First of Rutland: 2.
Sponsored peal in aid of the
Children's Society.

BARNWOOD, Glos.
S Lawrence
Sat Oct 28 1995 2h47 (10)
5056 Cambridge S. Major
Comp. C Middleton
1 Ben Gooch
2 Frances Mulvey
3 Grahame S Groves
4 Christopher J Poole
5 Derek J Harbottle
6 Thomas E Hinton
7 Jane D Bull
8 Andrew M Bull (C)
First peal: 4. First T.B.: 1.
First in the method: 3. 18th
birthday compliment to
John Hinton. £1.60

MICKLETON, Glos.
S Lawrence
Sat Oct 28 1995 2h50 (16)
5040 Grandsire Triples
Comp. A Burbidge (12 part)
1 John Smart
2 Murry Newbury
3 Michael Fairfax
4 Jeremy Meyrick
5 Christopher Povey.
6 Pamela Copson
7 John Huntriss (C)
8 Andrew Baker
First peal: 4. Rung as a
compliment to Michael
Fairfax, retiring after 28
years as Mickleton Tower
Captain.

BRISTOL, Avon, S Stephen
Mon Oct 30 1995 3h8 (19)
5042 Yorkshire S. Maximus
Arr. A J Cox
1 Rebecca J Cox (C)
2 Andrew J Mitchell
3 Jacqueline A Hobbs
4 Ian P Hill
5 Stephen J Bateman
6 Jennifer M Taylor
7 Julian T Watson
8 Michael J Hobbs
9 Ronald J Johnston
10 Patrick J Bird
11 Brian P Diserens
12 James R Taylor
In celebration of the life of
Professor R J Brocklehurst
1899-1955, on the day of his
funeral.

A.N.Z.A.B.

SYDNEY, NSW
S Mary's Cathedral
Wed Nov 1 1995 3h28 (34)
5031 Stedman Caters
Comp. R Dennis
1 Margaret E Goodyer
2 M Elaine Lee
3 Caroline J Richards
4 B Enid L Roberts
5 Thomas W Goodyer
6 Robert Dennis (C)
7 Andrew P J Davies
8 Christopher D O'Mahony
9 Alan H Champion
10 Neil G Broderick

TURRAMURRA, NSW
St James,
Sat Nov 18 1995 2h50 (9)
5056 Superlative S Major
Comp by J W Parker
1 Alan H Champion(C)
2 Margaret E Goodyer
3 Fiona F Prince
4 M Elaine Lee
5 Frank J Lee
6 Ronald E J Shepherd
7 Thomas W Goodyer
8 Caroline J Richards

BATH & WELLS D.A.

WESTON SUPER MARE,
Avon, S John
Sat Nov 11 1995 2h40 (12)
5152 Spliced S. Major
(23m: 224 each Bristol,
Ipswich, Rutland, Yorkshire,
Ashted, Lindum,
Cassiobury, Cornwall, Cray,
London, Double Dublin,
Jersey, Ospringe,
Cambridge, Superlative,
Pudsey, Aldenham,
Lincolnshire, Ealing,
Uxbridge, Ickleton, Watford,
Wembley)
Comp. T G Pett
1 David J Purnell
2 Susan M Field
3 Paul K Williamson
4 George W Massey
5 Adrian P Beck
6 Donald Carter
7 Jenny M A Astridge
8 Joseph St J Beaumont (C)
Most methods spliced: 2.
Most methods spliced as
conductor.

(Assn assumed, not given).

SOUTH PETHERTON, Som.
SS Peter & Paul
Sat Nov 25 1995 3h4 (24)
5040 Plain Bob Triples
Comp. H Hubbard
1 Andrew J Wakely
2 Yvonne A Nicholls
3 Jenny M A Astridge
4 Reginald C Beale
5 John W G Pidgeon
6 Derek S Beaufoy
7 David J Purnell (C)
8 Basil Guppy
First attempt: 1. Rung to
welcome Revd. Alan Ripley,
inducted as rector of South
Petherton the previous
evening.

CHEW MAGNA, Somerset
St Andrew
Sat Dec 2 1995 2h58 (28)
5040 Stedman Triples
Comp F H Dexter (8 part
variation of Thurstans')
1 Richard J Bowden
2 Anthony M Bulteel
3 Graham J N Colborne
4 Mary C Friskney
5 Christopher P Darvill
6 Clive G Bryant
7 Charles Pipe-
Wolferstan(C)
8 Julian T Watson
Rung for St. Andrew's Tide.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

KINGSTEIGNTON, Devon
S Michael
Sat Nov 11 1995 3h10 (17)
5024 Bristol S. Major
Comp. Stanley Jenner
1 Ian R Fielding
2 Simon J Davies
3 Alan Regin
4 John P Loveless (C)
5 Rebecca J Cox
6 Douglas J Beaumont
7 Linda M Garton
8 Howard W Egglestone

SPITALFIELDS, London E1.
Christ Church
Tue Nov 28 1995 3h3 (17)
5152 Spliced S Major
(23m: 224 each Yorkshire,
Uxbridge, Cornwall,
Double Dublin, Bristol,
Whalley, Rutland,
Cambridge, Lindum,
Cassiobury, Watford,
Jersey, Tavistock,
Superlative, Wembley,
Pudsey, Lincolnshire,
Glasgow, Preston,
London, Ashted, Cray,
Ipswich. 160 changes
of method, all the work.)
Comp J M Goldthorpe (No.3)
1 Ian Roulston(C)
2 Claire F Edwards
3 Simon J Davies
4 Paul A Cammiade
5 Ian K Bushell
6 Peter M Fleckney
7 Ian R Fielding
8 Alan Regin
To welcome Alexander
David Barnes, a son for
Elizabeth and Phillip and
brother of Benjamin.

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH,
Devon, S John Evangelist
Sat Nov 11 1995 3h16 (17)
**5000 London S. Royal (No 3
version)**
Comp. Ian R Fielding
1 Linda M Garton
2 Simon J Davies
3 Alan Regin
4 Timothy E Barnaby
5 Howard W Egglestone
6 Rebecca J Cox
7 Douglas J Beaumont
8 Peter J Sawyer
9 Ian R Fielding (C)
10 John P Loveless

THORVERTON, Devon
S Thomas of Canterbury
Sun Nov 12 1995 3h5 (15)
5000 Spliced S. Royal
(4m: 1280 Yorkshire; 1240
Bristol, Cambridge, London
No. 3: 101 com. atw.)
Comp. Robert C Kippin
1 Simon J Davies
2 John P Loveless (C)
3 Alan Regin
4 Howard W Egglestone
5 Douglas J Beaumont
6 Linda M Garton
7 James Grant
8 Timothy E Barnaby
9 Joseph St J Beaumont
10 Ian R Fielding

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

LONG EATON, Derbyshire
St Laurence
Mon Nov 25 1995 2h28 (6)
5152 Krypton S Major
Comp A J Cox
1 Peter S Lacy
2 David J T Wilson
3 Mark R G Smith
4 Simon C Melen
5 Richard I Allton(C)
6 Joanne E Marshall
7 F Gordon Faulks
8 David J Marshall
First in Method by all.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE ASSN

STRANTON, Cleveland
All Saints
Fri Nov 17 1995 2h55 (13)
5088 Spliced S Major
(6m: 1056 Cambridge; 864
Yorkshire, Lincolnshire; 576
Pudsey, Superlative; 1152
Rutland: 140com)
Comp M Coleman
1 Kathryn S Dodds
2 Christopher A Cooper(C)
3 Barbara Davies
4 Richard A M Turner
5 Duncan G Walker
6 Matthew J L Durham
7 Christopher A Leese
8 Kristopher King
A Farewell to local ringer
Margery Maughan, who is
leaving Hartlepool

EAST DERBYS. & WEST NOTTS. ASSN.

CRESWELL, Derbys.
S Mary Magdalene
Wed Nov 15 1995 2h47 (12)
5040 Stedman Triples
Comp. F H Dexter (No 2)
1 Nicholas J Parkes
2 Mandy K Freeman
3 Walter Davis
4 Jim Heading
5 Clive W Longden
6 Brynley A Richards
7 Christopher B Richards (C)
8 J Stuart Brown
First Stedman as conductor.
Circled the tower: 1.

PEAL COMPOSITIONS

Compositions should now be sent to:

Roger Bailey • 52 Burrows Road • London NW10 5SH
Email RB@doc.ic.ac.uk

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(i.e. church dedication, composition, unusually spelt
names), please indicate this on your report.

ELY D.A.

MELDRETH, Cambs.
Holy Trinity
Tue Nov 14 1995 2h46 (10)
5024 Bristol S. Major
Comp. N Smith
1 Donald F Murfet
2 John G Gipson
3 Jack S Dear
4 Walter Hunt
5 David J Hawkins
6 Maurice A Collings
7 Richard F Prime
8 Alan M Barber (C)
On the 40th anniversary of
Dick Prime's first peal
(Leicester Cathedral, 14
November 1955).

HADDENHAM, Cambs.
Holy & Undivided Trinity
Sat Nov 18 1995 2h52 (14)
5040 Minor
(7m: (1) Double Court; (2)
Norwich S.; (3) Single
Oxford; (4) Ipswich S.; (5) St
Clements; (6) Cambridge S;
(7) Plain Bob)
1 Donald F Murfet
2 Mary E Mitchell
3 Philip J Wilding
4 Brian D Hullah
5 Alan P Mayle (C)
6 Clive J Dunbavin

HARPENDEN, Herts.
S Nicholas
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h58 (15)
5120 Bristol S. Major
Comp. A M Barber
1 Charlotte M Smith
2 Jack S Dear
3 D Graham Hall
4 Anthony H Smith
5 Mary E Hall
6 Alan M Barber (C)
7 George E Bonham
8 Phillip S George

ESSEX ASSN.

GREAT TEY, Essex
S Barnabas
Tue Nov 21 1995 2h43 (15)
5056 Superlative S. Major
Comp. J W Parker
1 Michael J Edwards
2 Vicki L Patmore
3 Rowena L Marshall
4 Adrian C Malton (C)
5 Colin F Chapman
6 James L Towler
7 George E Thoday
8 Brian G Meads
First in method: 2.
950th for the Association: 6.
100th together: 4 & 8.
150th together: 1 & 4.
1700th attempt: 7.

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EXP number is the issue
number when your
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BROOMFIELD, Essex
S Mary
Tue Nov 7 1995 2h55 (11)
5040 Spliced S. Minor
(68m: (1) King Edward,
Bourne, Cambridge,
Ipswich, Bunwell, Beedon,
Queen Mary, Norfolk,
Primrose, Hull, Wath,
Northern Star; (2) Chester,
Bangor, Netherwood,
Sleaford, Orsett, Grantham,
Blunsdon, Munden,
Chester-le-Street, Mitcham,
Upshire, Navestock; (3)
Beighton, Eastwood,
Beverley, Redcar, Pattiswick
Caithness, Appleby,
Surfleet, Wroxham,
Hatfield, Winfarthing,
Terling; (4) Linden, Luton,
Westminster, Ripley,
Bamborough, Broomfield,
Rhyl, Allendale, Thorne,
Fyfringern, Fyfield; (5)
Bakewell, Kelso, Retford,
Lincoln, Purleigh,
Brampton, Minehead,
Coldstream, Spalding,
Redbourn, Quendon; (6)
Lightfoot, Wearmouth,
Rossendale, Annable's
London, Stamford,
Netherseale; (7) London,
Wells, Dearne Valley,
Cunecastre)

1 Michael J Edwards
2 Andrew J Dickinson
3 Alan M Barber
4 Adrian C Malton (C)
5 George E Thoday
6 Brian G Meads

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL
D.A.

CIRENCESTER, Glos.
Holy Trinity, Watermoor
Fri Nov 17 1995 3h3 (19)
5040 Double Norwich C.B. Major
Comp. J R Ridley
1 John C Sheppard
2 Peter G Holden
3 Mary E Holden
4 Ralph E Bucknell
5 Mark Edwards
6 Ian D Bucknell
7 Cyril A Wratten
8 John R Ridley (C)
First in method: 3.
200th peal: 4.

GREAT WITCOMBE, Glos.
S Mary the Virgin
Sat Nov 18 1995 2h25 (6)
5040 Minor
(7m: 1 extent each Double
Oxford, Single Oxford,
Cambridge S., Oxford T.B.,
Kent T.B., St Clements, P Bob)
1 Grahame S Groves
2 Frances Mulvey
3 Pat Wood
4 Michael J Mulvey
5 Derek Harbottle
6 Thomas Hinton (C)
First in 7 methods for
conductor. Rung for the
wedding of Rachel and
John Elley, both Gloucester
Branch ringers. £1.20

LANCASHIRE ASSN.

HAWKSHEAD, Cumbria
S Michael & All Angels
Sat Oct 21 1995 2h50 (8)
5040 Grandsire Triples
Comp. J J Parker (12 part,
7th obs)
1 Canon David H Sansum
2 Maurice A Starkey
3 Andrew J M Kaye
4 Hilary J Atkinson
5 John S Sharples
6 Revd Kevin M Price (C)
7 John M Goldthorpe
8 Brian Maudsley
Rung on the 30th
anniversary of the
conductor's first peal, also
at Hawkshead. The band
would like to associate this
peal with Tim Flitcroft, who
was unable to ring due to
illness, with special thanks
to Brian Maudsley for
standing in at short notice.
Also with L Martin Daniels
and Thomas F Metcalfe,
who were unable to ring
due to work commitments.

CROSSTHWAITE, Cumbria
S Mary the Virgin
Sat Oct 21 1995 2h36 (10)
5040 Minor
(3m: 1 extent St Clements
College; 2 extents
Grandsire; 4 of Plain Bob)

1 } Revd Kevin M Price (C)
2 }
3 Canon David H Sansum
4 John S Sharples
5 Andrew J M Kaye
6 John M Goldthorpe
Has 'circled' the tower to
peals: 6. Rung to mark 30
years of peal ringing by the
conductor.

LEICESTER D.G.

GAULBY, Leics, S Peter
Fri Nov 17 1995 2h42 (9)
5040 Minor
(8m: (1) York S.; (2) Double
Oxford, St Clements; (3)
Beverley S.; (4) Surfleet S.;
(5) Kent T.B.; (6) Cambridge
S.; (7) Plain Bob)
1 Brian G Warwick (C)
2 Elizabeth A Betts
3 Brian S Chapman
4 Winifred M Warwick
5 Philip J H Hudson
6 George Pluckrose

SOUTH WIGSTON, Leics.
S Thomas
Sun Nov 19 1995 2h37 (14)
5040 Stedman Triples
Comp. F H Dexter's variation
of Thurstan's 4-part
1 Elizabeth A Betts
2 Martin J Nutter
3 Brian S Chapman
4 Winifred M Warwick
5 Timothy Wylie
6 Brian E Mozley
7 Brian G Warwick (C)
8 David Kingman
First peal Stedman Triples: 1.
For Choral Evensong.

LEICESTER

S Mary de Castro
Mon Nov 20 1995 2h43 (16)
5040 Stedman Triples
Arr. J Pladdys (No 14)
1 Sally A Mason
2 John Pladdys (C)
3 Richard Brown
4 Andrew Farmer
5 Andrew W Gordon
6 Maurice F Edwards
7 R Kingsley Mason
8 Revd David L Cawley
To commemorate the
centenary of the birth of
Canon John R Collins, vicar
1929-55, during whose
incumbency the bells were
rehung.

SAPCOTE, Leics, All Saints
Wed Nov 22 1995 2h27 (9)
5040 Spliced S. Royal
(4m: 1440 Yorkshire,
Cambridge; 1080 Rutland,
Lincolnshire: 13 com. atw.)
Comp. Michael Maughan
1 Brian G Warwick (C)
2 Elizabeth A Betts
3 Winifred M Warwick
4 Ian N Robinson
5 Brian S Chapman
6 Burley P Morris
7 Frank E Coales
8 Gail L Wade
9 David Kingman
10 Philip J H Hudson
With best wishes from the
band to Michael C Brown in
the Coronary Care Unit of
Leicester General Hospital
for a speedy recovery.

LICHFIELD
ARCHDEACONRY SOCIETY

(No tower given)
Tue Oct 31 1995 3h3 (17)
5024 Bristol S. Major
Comp. M A Coleman
1 Gordon K Chaddock
2 Rachel D Carter
3 Zoe A P Ogden
4 Andrew E Else
5 John F Mulvey
6 Matthew Lawrence
7 Michael Maughan (C)
8 Andrew W Gordon
First in the method: 2.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY
SOCIETY

LIVERPOOL, Merseyside
Our Lady and St Nicholas,
Pier Head
Sat Nov 11 1995 3h36 (42)
5042 Cambridge S Maximus
Comp R Dennis
1 John E Heaton
2 Marc Hart
3 Elizabeth P Heaton
4 Geoffrey C Sparling
5 Katrina A Lenton
6 Stephen N Whittleton
7 Bryan J McCahey
8 Richard R Moore
9 Richard I Allton (C)
10 Lenard J Mitchell
11 Colin Woods
12 Peter L Furniss
In Affectionate Memory of
Roger Shea.

LINCOLN D.G.

GREAT CARLTON, Lincs.
S John the Baptist
Sat Oct 28 1995 2h45 (10)
5040 Doubles
(3m: 14 extents each
Reverse Canterbury
Pleasure, Plain Bob; 10
extents and 2 x 240s
Grandsire)
1 Revd Kevin M Price (C)
2 Keith N Buckingham
3 Susan Buckingham
4 Robert W Lee
5 John M Goldthorpe

FOLKINGHAM, Lincs.
S Andrew
Sun Oct 29 1995 2h44 (11)
5040 Spliced S. Minor
(15m: (1) York, Durham; (2)
London, Wells; (3) Beverley,
Cambridge, Surfleet; (4)
Berwick, Primrose, Hexham;
(5) Bourne, Caithness; (6)
Hull, Cranford; (7) Norwich)
1 Susan Buckingham
2 Robert W Lee
3 Keith N Buckingham
4 W Bryan Cox
5 Tim Flitcroft
6 Revd Kevin M Price (C)

BLANKNEY, Lincs.
S Oswald
Wed Nov 8 1995 2h35 (9)
5040 Cambridge S. Minor
Comp. R D Bailey (No 2)
1 Shawn K Lewis
2 Margaret A Parker
3 Judith J Williamson
4 Michael J Smith
5 John F Underwood
6 Geoffrey R Parker (C)

LONDON C.A.

SLOUGH, Bucks, S Mary
Sat Nov 25 1995 3h2 (17)
5040 Spliced S. Royal
(6m: 840 Cambridge,
Lincolnshire, Yorkshire,
Rutland, Bristol, London
(No 3): 93 com. atw.)
Comp. D W Beard
1 Shirley E McGill
2 Lucinda J C Reeve
3 Graham Naylor
4 Simon J Gay
5 James W Belshaw
6 Wendy Bishop
7 Nicholas W H Simon (C)
8 David S Bishop
9 Ian G Campbell
10 Stephanie J Pattenden
First touch of Spliced S.
Royal: 8. £1

NORWICH SOCIETY

NORTH LOPHAM, Norfolk
S Nicholas
Sat Nov 18 1995 2h42 (10)
5056 Turramussa S. Major
Comp. A J Pitman
1 Joanna K Dorling
2 Gilian H Knox
3 David Cubitt
4 Brian G Meads
5 Martin Cubitt
6 J Barry Pickup
7 Richard P J Carter (C)
8 J Michael Roberts

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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY

TARRANT KEYNESTON, Dorset, All Saints
Sat Nov 11 1995 2h21 (7)
5040 Doubles
(42m: 1 extent each
Antelope, Fundenhall,
Haddiscoe, Harpley,
Ossington, Rugby Slow
Course, Merton Slow Course,
Slapton Slow Course,
Braywood, Welford,
Longworth, Sutton-upon-
Trent, Maltby, Chevasse,
Callendar, Montgomeryshire,
Westminster, Blackburn, St
Hilary, Dragon, New Bob,
Huntspill, St Vedast,
Blaisdon, St Nicholas,
Winchendon, St Remigius,
Huntley, St Simon, St Martin,
St Osmund, Eynesbury,
Twineham, Bampton, Fifield,
St Oven, St Augustine,
Shipway, Plain Bob,
Grandsire, All Saints,
Reverse Canterbury)
1 Judith A Robertson
2 Ross G W Robertson
3 Simon R Robertson
4 Clare J Larter (C)
5 Philip H Larter
Mose Doubles methods:
4,5. Most methods as
conductor. Circled tower to
peals: 1,3. Rung by the
members of one family to
celebrate the 50th
anniversary of the society.
Also a 90th birthday
compliment to Annie
Robertson, mother of 2 and
grandmother of 3 & 4. £2

MIDDLESEX C.A. & LONDON D.G.

EGHAM, Surrey
St John the Baptist
Sat Nov 25 1995 3h (17)
5040 Spliced S. Royal
(3m: 2040 London (No 3);
1520 Yorkshire; 1480
Cambridge: 90 com. atw.)
Comp. S Jenner
1 E Jane Sibson
2 Ann Jenner
3 Joan Summerhayes
4 Ruth Blackwell
5 Geraldine R Forster
6 Ian G Campbell
7 David J Dearnley
8 Derek E Sibson
9 Peter M Fleckney
10 Stanley Jenner (C)

NORTH AMERICAN GUILD

PRINCESS ANNE, MD
St Andrew
Sun Nov 26 1995 2h15 (4)
5040 Minor
(4m: 1 extent Cambridge S;
2 extents each Kent TB,
St Clement's, Plain)
1 Eileen J Butler
2 David C B Mills
3 Donald Trumpler (C)
4 Margaret A Holmes
5 Elisabeth Trumpler
6 Bruce N Butler
First peal: 4. £1.80

WASHINGTON, DC
The Nancy Hanks Center
Sat Nov 11 1995 3h15 (26)
5184 Stedman Caters
Comp E W Martin
1 Quilla Roth
2 Meredith A Morris
3 Ann G Martin
4 Theresa M Rice
5 Edward J Fletcher
6 Robert G Gibson
7 Edward W Martin (C)
8 Joseph P Fickus III
9 Matthew J Sorell
10 John Wells King
First tower circled; first to
circle the tower: 10.
First in principle: 2, 8.
For Veterans Day: on the
occasion of the
groundbreaking for the
memorial honoring World
War II veterans. £10

BOSTON, Mass
Church of the Advent
Fri Nov 24 1995 2h59 (19)
5056 Quabbs S Major
Comp D F Morrison
1 Cally D Perry
2 Kenneth R Ballou
3 Donald F Morrison (C)
4 Keith Ramsay
5 Theresa M Rice
6 Geoffrey Davies
7 Matthew J Sorell
8 Edward J Fletcher
First in method for all.
In memory of David Brown
of Washington, D.C., died
November 22, 1995.

BOSTON, Mass
Christ Church
(Old North Church)
Sun Nov 26 1995 2h55 (14)
5152 Yorkshire S Major
Comp C P Starbuck
1 Gregory W Johnson
2 Donald F Morrison
3 Laura Dickerson
4 Meredith A Morris
5 Keith Ramsay
6 Theresa M Rice
7 Geoffrey Davies
8 Matthew J Sorell (C)
To commemorate 250 years
of ringing on these bells.

PHILADELPHIA PA
St Martin in the Fields
Sun Dec 3 1995 2h31
5040 Doubles
(7 methods: 6 extents each
Winchenden Place, St.
Nicholas, Reverse
Canterbury, St. Simon's,
St. Martin's, Plain Bob,
Grandsire)
1 Christian Haller
2 Eileen J Butler
3 David Mills
4 Theresa Rice
5 Bruce N Butler (C)
6 Beverly Faber
First Doubles: 1; First
Doubles Inside, Most
Methods: 2; First Peal: 6.
For Advent, The first peal by
members of the Butlers' Tour

*You can read your own
handwriting - but can
our typesetters?
If in doubt, print it out!*

NORWICH D.A.

NORWICH, Norfolk
S Peter Mancroft
Sat Sep 16 1995 3h22 (38)
5015 Grandsire Cinques
Comp. T Hooley
1 Thomas R Roast
2 Gilian H Knox
3 Barbara C Caffyn
4 Maureen P Cubitt
5 J Barry Pickup
6 David Cubitt
7 Martin Cubitt
8 Neil M Thomas
9 Paul Cubitt
10 Trevor N J Bailey
11 Richard P J Carter (C)
12 J Michael Roberts
Rung in memory of H
William Barrett. A loyal
friend and member of the St
Peter Mancroft Guild.

OXFORD D.G.

NETHERSEAL, Derbys
St Peter
Fri Nov 10 1995 2h45 (12)
5184 Yutton S Major
Comp G A C John
1 Sally A Mason
2 Peter G C Ellis
3 Nicola J Crichton
4 R Kingsley Mason
5 Geoffrey K Dodd
6 Robert J Crocker
7 Timothy G Pett (C)
8 Colin M Turner

ARLECDON, Cumbria
St Michael
Sat Nov 11 1995 2h42 (14)
5088 Henlow S Major
Comp S Jenner
1 Nicola J Crichton
2 Colin M Turner
3 John Cornock
4 Geoffrey K Dodd
5 Bernard F L Groves
6 Leslie Boumphrey
7 Timothy G Pett (C)
8 Robert J Crocker

HIGH WYCOMBE, Bucks.
All Saints
Sat Nov 18 1995 3h38 (30)
5184 Bristol S Maximus
Comp R Baldwin
1 Katrina A Lenton
2 Brian Bladon
3 Stephen A Coaker
4 Bernard F L Groves
5 Stephen S Russ
6 Andrew J Graham
7 Nigel J Bailey
8 Claire F Edwards (C)
9 Peter Bridle
10 Marc Hart
11 Alex F Byrne
12 Michael E C Mears

EAST ILSLEY, Berks, S Mary
Sat Nov 18 1995 2h40 (9)
5088 Jersey S Major
Comp R F B Speed
1 Charlotte Everrett
2 Bobbie May
3 N David Lane
4 Geoffrey K Dodd
5 Clive Holloway
6 Stephanie A May
7 Helen J Piper
8 Timothy G Pett (C)
Arranged and rung as a
wedding compliment to the
Rev Tony and Kathryn Ellis.

HUGHENDEN, Bucks.
St Michael & All Angels
Mon Nov 20 1995 2h47 (15)
5024 Spliced S Major
(5m: 1120 London; 1088
Superlative; 1024 each
Cambridge, Pudsey; 768
Bristol.)
Comp A J Pitman
1 Alex F Byrne (C)
2 Hugh Neill
3 Nicola J Crichton
4 Claire F Edwards
5 J Alan Ainsworth
6 Peter F Windley
7 Timothy G Pett
8 Colin M Turner
300th peal 1.

EAST ILSLEY, Berks, S Mary
Thu Nov 23 1995 2h41 (9)
5056 Unnibium S Major
Comp A J Cox
1 Bernard J Stone
2 Nicola J Crichton
3 Peter Border
4 Colin M Turner
5 Anthony R Peake
6 Marc Hart
7 Timothy G Pett (C)
8 Peter Bridle

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, Beds.
All Saints
Sat Dec 2 1995 3h30 (35)
5088 Spliced S Maximus
(4m: 1296 each Cambridge,
Superlative; 1248 each
Bristol, Londinium. 99 com,
atw)
Comp R G Crosland
1 J Alan Ainsworth
2 John P Loveless
3 Ian Roulstone (C)
4 Alison K Regan
5 Douglas J Beaumont
6 Andrew J Graham
7 Linda M Garton
8 Peter M Fleckney
9 Claire F Edwards
10 Alan Regin
11 George H Campling
12 Mark Regan

WOLVERHAMPTON, W Mids,
St Peter
Sun Dec 3, 1995. 3h 36 (33)
5090 Avon D Maximus
Comp R W Pipe
1 Ian K Bushell
2 Simon J Davies
3 Linda M Garton
4 Ian Roulstone (C)
5 Richard J Tibbetts
6 Robin O Hall
7 Michael PA Wilby
8 Margaret Whiteley
9 George H Campling
10 Claire F Edwards
11 Frank W Rivett
12 John P Loveless
100th on 12: 6.

OXFORD SOCIETY

CITY of OXFORD
St Thomas the Martyr
Mon Dec 4 1995 2h42 (12)
5040 Bristol S. Royal
Comp. R O Hall
1 Sonia C Tucker
2 Nicola J Crichton
3 Robin O Hall (C)
4 Tina R Stoecklin
5 Nigel J Bailey
6 Colin M Turner
7 Andrew J Graham
8 Peter Border
9 Claire F Edwards
10 Timothy G Pett
50th together: 1,7.

CITY OF OXFORD,
S Mary Magdalen
Tue Dec 5 1995 2h 38 (7)
5056 Bristol S Major
Comp A J Cox
1 Charlotte Everrett
2 Robin O Hall
3 Peter Border
4 Sonia C Tucker
5 Mark H Ainsworth
6 Bernard J Stone
7 Andrew J Graham (C)
8 Clive Holloway
50th Peal Together: 2,7

PETERBOROUGH D.G.

NORTHAMPTON, Northants.
S Giles
Sat Nov 18 1995 3h6 (24)
5040 Yorkshire S. Royal
Comp. J R Ridley
1 Stanley M Ruddlesden
2 Rosemary K Hemmings
3 James Hughes
4 Richard F Waddy
5 Michael D Fiander
6 Christopher W Foxall
7 Brian J W Foley
8 John F Thorne
9 John R Ridley (C)
10 Michael Chester
First peal of Royal: 6. First
Yorkshire Royal: 2,3.

WADENHOE, Northants.
S Michael & All Angels
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h45 (7)
5040 Minor
(7m: 1 extent each Single
Oxford Bob, St Clements
Bob, Double Oxford Bob,
Kent T.B., Oxford T.B., Plain
Bob, Cambridge S.)
1 Judith M Corby
2 Susan M Jones
3 John M Roffe
4 Albert H Hinton
5 Robin H Rogers (C)
6 Steven C Harrell
25th peal: 4. Specially
arranged as a 65th birthday
compliment to Albert
Hinton (Nov 24th).

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name and address of the successful ringer and
we will send a copy of the appropriate RW.

RUSHDEN, Northants.
S Mary
Sat Nov 25 1995 3h4 (18)
5152 Denfield Park S. Major
Comp. S Humphrey
1 Matthew C Whitworth
2 Pamela M Bailey
3 Brenda M Dixon
4 Wendy Piercy
5 Anthony D Sansom
6 Bob Whitworth
7 Robert Dennis (C)
8 Terry G Smith
To celebrate Bob Whitworth's 60th birthday (28/11). He was head teacher at Denfield Park School, Rushden, until his recent retirement.
First peal in the method.
Denfield Park S. Major
-3-4-56-6-2-3.56.14.56 38b

ST MARYCHURCH,
Torquay, Devon, S Mary
Sat Nov 25 1995 3h (16)
5007 Stedman Caters
Comp. J Pladdys
1 James Hedgcock
2 John Pladdys (C)
3 Elisabeth A G Bowden
4 Stephanie J Warboys
5 Richard J Bowden
6 Michael D Fiander
7 Frank W Rivett
8 Robert J Crocker
9 John S Warboys
10 John Hyden

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

EAST RETFORD, Notts.
St Swithun
Sat Nov 18 1995 3h07 (23)
5000 Spliced S. Royal
(4 methods: 1280 Yorkshire, 1240 Bristol, Cambridge, London No 3. 101 changes of method, All the work.)
Comp R C Kippin
1 Christine L J Mills
2 R Brian Mills
3 David J T Wilson
4 David A Holland
5 David G Adams
6 Peter S Lacy
7 Peter J England
8 Richard I Allton (C)
9 E Alan Jacques
10 Christopher N McCarthy
First Spliced Royal: 4 and as Conductor

NOTTINGHAM, Notts.
St Peter
Tue Nov 14 1995 2h49 (8)
5088 London S Major
Comp S J Ivlin
1 George A Dawson
2 Andrew B Mills
3 Richard I Allton (C)
4 David J T Wilson
5 Ruth Richardson
6 R Brian Mills
7 Peter S Lacy
8 Paul F Curtis
To wish David Stainsby, Tower Captain at this church, a speedy recovery from his recent operation.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD

TUCKINGMILL, Cornwall
All Saints
Sat Nov 25 2h59 (10)
5152 Cambridge S Major
Comp C Middleton
1 Michael J Wycherley
2 Debbie J Couch
3 Claire J Sweetman
4 Dominic H Beer
5 Samuel R Nankervis
6 Colin J B Taylor
7 Robert J Perry
8 Adam J Beer (C)
First Surprise Major inside:
2,4 By a resident band on Western District Dinner Day £2

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH D.G.

CHRISTCHURCH, Dorset
Priory Church of the Holy Trinity
Sat Nov 18 1995 3h22 (27)
5040 Humberside S. Royal
Comp. F E Darby
1 James E Daniels
2 Jenny A Orchard
3 Stephen Castle
4 Alan D Elsmore
5 Emma Southerington
6 C James Hustler
7 Nigel R D Orchard
8 Stephen P Noyes
9 George E Evenden
10 Brian J Woodruffe (C)
Rung after meeting short for Maximus.

BISHOPSTOKE, Hants.
S Mary
Thu Nov 23 1995 2h59 (11)
5040 Ipsfield S. Royal
Arr. B J Woodruffe
1 John A Dodd
2 Ceri J Dodd
3 Derek C Jackson
4 Brian J Woodruffe (C)
5 Patricia D Taeuber
6 Pauline C Champion
7 Andrew J Palk
8 Dennis A Chapman
9 Christopher J Woodruffe
10 George E Evenden
First in the method for all.

BISHOPSTOKE Hants
St Mary
Mon Nov 27 1995 2h47 (11)
5000 London (No.3) S Royal
Comp F Darby
1 Graham J Wright
2 John P Colliss
3 Ceri J Dodd
4 Margaret E Chapman
5 Brian J Woodruffe
6 Anthony P Smith
7 Tom Chapman
8 Roy LeMarechal (C)
9 Andrew J Palk
10 Toby Arkless

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSN.

AMBLECOTE, Stourbridge,
Worcs, Holy Trinity
Tue Nov 21 1995 2h28 (7)
5088 Rutland S. Major
Comp. Charles W Roberts
1 Marie J Pennington
2 H T Keith Haslam
3 Stephen D Brown
4 David A Chiswell
5 Lee Southall
6 Andrew N Stubbs
7 Martin D Fellows (C)
8 Clifford A Barron
To mark the 30th anniversary of this Taylor ring of eight.

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YORKSHIRE ASSN.

FLAMBOROUGH, Yorks.
S Oswald
Sat Nov 25 1995 2h36 (7)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: Wells, London, York, Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, Norwich)
1 Adam Wheldon
2 Revd J Michael Stevens
3 John W Sinfield
4 C Mark G Ockleton
5 David S Johnson
6 Michael J deC Henshaw (C)
Welcome to the Revd. John Jordan, installed as vicar at Flamborough 8/11/95. £1

CITY OF SHEFFIELD
Cathedral Church of SS Peter and Paul
Sun 26 Nov 1995 3h19 (34)
5042 Yorkshire S Maximus
Comp R C Kippin
1 Dinah M Rhymer
2 Gail L Wade
3 Angela Gardner
4 Julia S Blatchford
5 Andrew Simpson
6 Caroline J Carter
7 Andrew R Aspland
8 Judith M Reading
9 Alistair J E Smith
10 Simon J T Smith (C)
11 Neil Donovan
12 Mark A Boylan
First on twelve: 5 and 9
First Maximus: 4
First Yorkshire Maximus: 3, 6 and as Conductor
50th peal in South Yorkshire and 50th for the Association this year: 10.
A 21st birthday compliment to Caroline Carter.

ROTHERHAM, S Yorks
All Saints
Mon Nov 27 1995 3h22 (35)
5040 Belvoir S Maximus
Comp D F Morrison
1 Judith M Reading
2 Dinah M Rhymer
3 Christopher Bostock
4 Simon P Hartley
5 Richard E Price
6 John Robinson
7 Simon J T Smith
8 Adrian M Moreton
9 Howell J Williams
10 Neil Donovan
11 Roger S Riley
12 Malcolm S Turner (C)

ROTHERHAM, S Yorks
All Saints
Mon Dec 4 1995 3h21 (35)
5040 Spliced S Maximus
(10m; 576 each Bristol, Cambridge, Lyddington, Wembley, Yorkshire; 432 each Lincolnshire, Londonium, Newgate. Prittlewell, Superlative; 104 com.)
Comp J H Fielden
1 Dinah M Rhymer
2 John Robinson
3 Simon J T Smith
4 Neil Donovan
5 Jeffrey P Ladd
6 Christopher Bostock
7 Ian Lloyd
8 Michael J deC Henshaw
9 Adrian M Moreton
10 Richard E Price
11 Roger S Riley
12 Malcolm S Turner (C)
Dedicated to the memory of Mrs Winifred M Hill, grandmother of 6th, who died earlier in the day. 1100th
Peal: 2. 50th on these bells: 5.

LATE PEAL REPORT

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE D.A.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING,
Tyne & Wear, S Michael
Sat Apr 29 1995 3h5 (12)
5152 Spliced S. Major
(17m: 448 each Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Ashted, Ipswich, Rutland, Cambridge; 224 each Uxbridge, Cornwall, Double Dublin, Bristol, Whalley, London, Cassiobury, Superlative, Lindum, Cray, Pudsey: 154 com. atw.)
Comp. N Smith
1 Barbara Davies
2 Duncan G Walker (C)
3 Matthew J L Durham
4 E Alyson Kerr
5 G Jessica Davies
6 Rachael H Dyson
7 Conrad D Warford
8 Ronald R Warford
First 17-spliced for all except 8. £5

Dixon's Bob Minor

Through the Peterborough Diocesan Guild newsletter, Robin Rogers our Ringing Master, challenged members to ring a quarter peal of Mr Dixon's Bob Minor (giving a calling and a short explanation of how the method works).

For every person who managed this, he offered to donate £1 to the guild bell fund. Six of us now know that he was on a pretty safe bet, and not being as generous as we first thought!

David Kingman, unable to resist a challenge and being daft enough for anything where ringing is concerned, took up this challenge. On a couple of Tuesdays, after his regular quarter peal, he encouraged the others to have a little go. It was not easy!! But at 7.30pm on 9th November a quarter peal of Dixon's Bob Minor was attempted at

Rushton but after almost an hour and very many attempts we retired to the local hostelry eager to try again another time (time had run out – we would not have had time to finish had we 'gone' again).

Full of enthusiasm, and before we forgot how to do it, we assembled at 7.30pm at Ringstead on 14th November (we had to wait 'til 8pm for choir practice to finish) but had to call it a day at 8.30pm after seven more attempts.

However, on 21st November at our regular quarter peal tower, we finally did it – but still not until the sixth attempt!!! (I would add that the ringing in all these attempts was of a good standard – we merely started and stopped, as one does on a practice night, but there was no clashing about!)

So, Mr Rogers, put your hand in your pocket – and thanks for the challenge. We can't wait to ring it again (perhaps a peal?). It

was great fun, and there are others in our "Tuesday Night Quarter Peal Band" who would love to have a go (you can, too, if you wish! – just give us a call).

LIZ BETTS.

Rothwell, Northants.

P.S. The "Tuesday Night Quarter Peal Band" arose in mid 1992 to give me concentrated help in learning to ring Cambridge. Since then, every quarter has achieved something for someone. Furthermore, we have always donated 50p each to every tower plus 10p each to the RW for publication, and this year (since February) we have each given an additional 40p per quarter, which will be donated to the guild bell fund (over £100!). Next year, by paying £1.10 each per quarter we will increase our donation to the bell fund by approximately £30.

First Quarter Congratulations

The following quarter-peals have been specially sorted for early publication as they contain details of those ringers who have rung or conducted their first quarter-peal.

Abbots Bromley, Staffs. 5 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Daniel Williams (1st Q.) 1, Jo Cannon 2, Elizabeth Hutchieson 3, David James 4, Stuart Hutchieson(C) 5, Roy Farrington 6. For Evensong. £1.20

Accrington, Lancs. 24 Nov, 1260 P B Minor: J Roundell 1, Jean Long 2, P Clare 3, Audrey Newlove (1st Q.) 4, I Benson 5, G R Whewell(C) 6. £1.75

Angmering, W Sussex. 19 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2 m): Anne Golds (1st Q.) 1, Martin Spencer 2, Colin Chappel 3, Alan Tettmar 4, Rick Clay(C) 5, Donald Standing 6. A birthday compliment to Colin Chappel. £1.00

Barford, Warks. 20 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Thomas Ashton 1, Michael Ashton 2, Gordon Benfield 3, Ruth Border 4, David Morrow (C) 5, Ken Hope (1st Q.) 6. For the Coventry Diocesan Guild Quarter Peal Week. £1.50

Blo Norton, Nflk. 25 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Bill Smithbone (1st att.) 1, Paula Blatchford 2, Geoffrey Drew(C) 3, Shirley Drew 4, Caroline Spiller 5, Stephen Drew 6. £0.60

Bressingham, Nflk. 25 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Carolyn Smithbone (1st att.) 1, Shirley Drew(C) 2, Geoffrey Drew 3, Caroline Spiller 4, Stephen Drew 5, Paula Blatchford 6. £0.60

Bury, Lancs. 6 Nov, 1260 Stedman Triples: Helen Rigby 1, Deborah Preston 2, Jean Kelly 3, John Preston 4, Anne Pettifor 5, Jeffrey Kershaw 6, Robert Pettifor(C) 7, Linden Charnley (1st Q.) 8. Following the laying up of the the colours of the Royal Regiment. £1.60

Claremont, WA. 3 Dec, 1260 P B Doubles: Edward Clark (1st Q.) 1, Mary Townsend(C) 2, Rachel Andrew 3, Devena Haggis 4, Laith Reynolds 5, John Townsend 6. For Advent Carol Service. Annual

Colchester, Essex. (S Peter). 30 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: John Henry (1st Q.) 1, Malcolm Oliver 2, Anne Turner 3, Ann Dowden 4, John Felgate 5, Dick Furminger(C) 6. For practice night. £1.00

Fillongley, Warks. 17 Nov, 1260 P B Minor: George McKenzie (1st Q.) 1, Phillip Boffin 2, Penelope McKenzie 3, Jane Cox 4, Tony Coleman 5, Rodney Swallow(C) 6. For the Coventry Guild Quarter Peal Week. £1.00

Gainsborough, Lincs. 20 Nov, 1260 P B Triples: Elizabeth Clarke (1st Q.) 1, Janet ClarkeE 2, Penelope Dadd 3, Delia Heppenstall 4, Alison Clarke 5, Jonathan Swatton 6, Robin Heppenstall(C) 7, Stephen Clarke 8. £1

Geddington, Northants. 22 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: A C Williams(1st as C) 1, G Shiells 2, Clare Leaton 3, Claire Williams 4, K Jackson 5. A 75th birthday compliment to Walter Dodd. £1.00

Kenwyn, Cornwall. 2 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2 m): D Mattingley (1st Q.) 1, N Mattingley(C) 2, R Humphries 3, Stephanie Mattingley 4, A Carveth 5, E Carlyon 6. £1.00

Loughborough, Leics. (Bellfoundry). 16 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: C Berry 1, A D Higson 2, D A Jones (1st Q) 3, A E Clayton 4, J K Eggleston 5, R C Graves(C) 6. Remembering 58 Loughborough Grammar School pupils who gave their lives in the 14-18 War and 60 boys who gave their lives in the 39-45 War. 50p

Nailsea, Avon. 26 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: A Balmer (1st Q.) 1, R Caton 2, J McGibbon 3, Judith Caton 4, P Balmer(C) 5, J Powell 6. £1.00

Perth, WA. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Fiona Taylor (1st Q.) 1, Mary Townsend 2, Devena Haggis 3, David Knewstubb 4, John Skinner(C) 5, John Townsend 6. For Advent Carol Service. Annual

Redhill, Surrey. 12 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Peter Bentley (1st Q.) 1, Carl Watts 2, Alison Eason 3, Gail Terry 4, Andrew Holland(C) 5, Jane Holland 6. For Remembrance Sunday. £1.20

Reigate, Surrey. 15 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Peter Hope-Jones (1st att.) 1, Carol Brown 2, David Gilmore 3, Doug Linnington 4, Andy Brown(C) 5, Alison Elson 6. £0.60

Ripon, N Yorks. 7 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Amanda Lloyd (1st on treble) 1, H Winter 2, Maureen Lowe 3, G W Johnson 4, Wendy Winter(C) 5, Katharine Harrison (1st Q.) 6. £1.00

Sharnford, Leics. 24 Nov, 1260 P B Doubles: Anne Waller (1st Q.) 1, John Illingworth(C) 2, Melvin Hawkins 3, Margaret Grewcock 4, Anthony Gillias 5, Caroline Collier 6. £1.00

240s Plain Bob Doubles

having each row once at hand stroke and once at back stroke

	(1)	(2)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
S	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345
	3245	2354	3524	3524	3524	3524	3524
	2534	3425	3542	S 5324	5432	5432	3542
S	5234	3452	5234	3452	5423	S 4532	5234
	2453	4235	2453	4235	4352	S 5243	S 2534
-	2435	S 2435	2435	S 2435	3245	2354	2543
	4523	4523	4523	4523	2534	3425	5324
S	5423	4532	4532	S 5423	S 5234	3452	5342
	4352	5243	5243	4352	2453	4235	3254
-	4325	S 2543	2354	3245	S 4253	4253	2435
	3542	5324	3425	2534	4235	S 2453	4523
-	3524	S 3524	S 4325	2543	2543	4325	S 5423
	5432	5432	4352	S 5243	5324	3542	5432
2-part	2-part	S 3452	4235	5234	3452	S 5234	S 4532
	(3)	(4)	2543	2453	3425	S 2534	5243
	2345	2345	5324	4325	S 4325	2543	2354
	3524	3524	5342	S 5342	3542	5324	3425
-	3542	3542	3254	3254	3254	3254	4235
	5234	S 5342	3245	S 2354	2435	2435	4253
-	5243	5324	2534	3425	4523	4523	S 2453
	2354	3452	5423	4532	4532	S 5423	4325
S	3254	S 4352	5432	S 5432	5243	4352	4352
	2435	4325	4253	4253	2354	3245	3245
S	4235	S 3425	2345	2345	2345	S 2345	S 2345
3-part	3-part						
	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345
	3524	2354	S 3245	3524	S 3245	3524	2354
S	5324	3425	2534	5432	2534	5432	3425
	3452	S 4325	2543	4253	5423	4253	4532
-	3425	3542	5324	4235	S 4523	S 2453	4523
S	4325	3524	S 3524	2543	4532	4325	S 5423
	3542	S 5324	3542	2534	5243	S 3425	4352
S	5342	5342	S 5342	5234	5234	3452	S 3452
	3254	3254	3254	5243	2453	S 4352	4235
	2435	3245	S 2354	2354	2435	3245	S 2435
	4523	2534	3425	S 3254	S 4235	3254	2453
-	4532	2543	S 4325	2435	2543	2435	4325
S	5432	S 5243	4352	2453	5324	S 4235	3542
-	5423	5234	S 3452	4325	5342	2543	S 5342
	4352	2453	4235	3542	3254	5324	3254
	3245	2435	S 2435	S 5342	S 2354	5342	3245
	2534	4523	4523	5324	3425	S 3542	2534
S	5234	4532	S 5423	3452	3452	5234	S 5234
	2453	S 5432	5432	3425	S 4352	S 2534	5243
S	4253	5423	S 4532	4532	4325	5423	S 2543
-	4235	4352	5243	4523	3542	S 4523	5324
	2543	S 3452	5234	S 5423	3524	4532	S 3524
S	5243	4235	2453	4352	5432	5243	5432
	2354	4253	S 4253	3245	4253	2354	4253
-	2345	2345	2345	S 2345	2345	2345	2345

Notes

(1) and (2) by Alan Freke; (3) to (16) by Anthony P Smith;
(3) to (12) are palindromic; (2), (14), (16) are the reverses of (1), (13), (15) respectively;
As rotated, (1), (2), (5), (6) have each of the different rows occurring once in the first 120 changes and once in the second 120 changes.

Sherburn-in-Elmet, N Yorks. 19 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Jennifer Bennett 1, Jennifer Clark 2, Margaret Bottomley 3, Derek Bottomley 4, Hazel Calvert (1st as C) 5, Pamela Issatt 6. £1.50

Stourbridge, Worcs. 19 Nov, 1344 PB Triples: Brenda E Wiggan (1st Q) 1, Marie J Pennington 2, G Westwood 3, J H White 4, R J Hurst 5, R Smith 6, M D Fellows (C) 7, L Hanby 8. A belated compliment to Mrs F L Smith of this tower on the 50th anniversary of her 1st peal. £1

Stratton St Margaret, Wilts. 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Clare Hawkins (1st Q) 1, A R Peake 2, Cynthia E Howell 3, K J Musty 4, I A Kearsley(C) 5, Alison E Kearsley 6. For Bellringers' Evening Prayer Service.

Stretford, Gtr Manchester. 19 Nov, 1440 T B Minor (2 m): Stan Rumney 1, Mary Eccles 2, Barbara Bell 3, Howard Entwistle 4, Mark Bell (1st as C aged 14) 5, Andrew Eccles 6. To celebrate the tercentenary of the death of Henry Purcell and as a 15th birthday compliment to the conductor. £1

Swineshead, Lincs. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: T Wright (1st Q) 1, W J Brunt 2, Rhoda Reynolds 3, J M Percival 4, G R Dawson 5, P H Reynolds(C) 6, D Collin (cover) 7. For ruby wedding anniversary of the ringers of 3 & 6, by a Sunday Service band. £1

Thurby, Lincs. 3 Dec, 1260 P B Minor: Pat Osborn 1, Lois Webb 2, M Payne 3, A Payne 4, T Maddison 5, R Lee(1st as C) 6. £0.60

Trowbridge, Wilts. 3 Dec, 1259 Grandsire Triples: Jeremy Davis (1st att.) 1, Veronica Newman 2, Robert Quartley 3, Roger Carey 4, Ian Mozley 5, Bernard Groves 6, Brian Coward (C) 7, Tony Longdon 8. For Carol Service and birthday comp to 8. £1.50

Wadenhoe, Northants. 22 Nov, 1272 PB Minimus: C Harrell 1, A Dicks 2, S Harrell (C) 3, K King (1st inside) 4, J Clarke (1st Q) 5. Birthday compliment to C. £1

York, N Yorks. (S Michael). 24 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: David Cooper (1st Q.) 1, Lynne Stretton 2, Naomi Burgess 3, Rupert Burgess 4, Tim Bradley(C) 5, Trevor Elliott 6. £1

Obituary

Brian Pidgeon

On October 28th 1995 the art of ringing lost one of its most committed and hardworking members. Brian Pidgeon, son of an East Budleigh baker, was a pioneer of method ringing in Devon during the early 1930s. During the silent years of the war Brian was in the catering corps. After the war he returned to Devon and took up farming near Honiton; some of his best stories come from this time. One of my personal favourites is the story of the pig stranded up a tree above the river Otter after the 1965 floods subsided. Efforts to rescue the animal were hampered by the fact that it tried to bite anyone who came near. Of course Brian got it down with some help. After his retirement from farming, and the sudden death of his wife, Brian threw all his energies into ringing, he became president of the Guild of Devonshire Bellringers in 1975, a post he held until 1988. During this time Brian rarely missed a meeting anywhere in Devon, injecting his enthusiasm and spreading encouragement and support. There can be no ringer in Devon who did not know Brian and who does not mourn his passing.

L. F. PALMER

Ottery St. Mary, Devon. 5 Nov. 1260 P. B. Triples: Ann Agnew 1, Don Salter 2, Bryan Coles 3, Donald Carter 4, Janet Coles 5, Frederick Sage 6, Derek Conway (C) 7, Edward Summers 8. In memoriam Brian Pidgeon, Past President of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

Bisley, Glos. 5 Nov. 1260 Grandsire Triples: Lucy Burrows 1, Gill Day 2, Kay Exell 3, A. P. Hendy 4, I. D. Bucknell 5, R. J. Day 6, S. J. Bucknell (C) 7, M. J. Burrows 8. In thanksgiving for the life of Brian Pidgeon of Ottery St. Mary, Devon by some of his friends at Bisley.

Buckerell, Devon. 3 Nov. 1260 Plain Bob Doubles: Gwen Farmer 1, Edward Summers 2, Les Stevens 3, Crispin Denny 4, Don Salter (C) 5, David Farmer 6. Rung half muffled for Brian Pidgeon whose funeral was earlier in the day.

East Budleigh, Devon. 9 Nov. 1260 Grandsire Triples: Celia Deem 1, Robert Perry 2, Maureen Hawkins 3, Brian Horrell 4, Robert Franklin 5, Janet Coles 6, Derek Hawkins (C) 7, John Quick 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of Brian Pidgeon, who was Tower Captain at East Budleigh for many years from 1942.

Honiton, Devon (St Paul). 9 Nov. 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Grace Carter 1, Jim Crabb 2, Pam Bailey 3, Paddy Priscott 4, Ann Moss 5, Barbara Miller 6, Don Salter (C) 7, Peter Real 8. Rung by Sunday Service band for the thanksgiving for the life of Brian Pidgeon. £1.60

Luppitt, Devon. 8 Nov. 1260 Grandsire Triples: Don Salter 1, R. Ann Agnew 2, Bryan Coles 3, Laurie Palmer 4, John Quick 5, Brian Conway 6, Derek Conway (C) 7, Jim Crabb 8. Rung in memory of Brian Pidgeon.

St Germans, Cornwall. 4 Nov. 1260 Plain Bob Major: Nicola Trewolla 1, Margaret Reeves 2, Andrew Mudge 3, Allan Carveth 4, Edward Barnaby 5, John Rose 6, David Pike 7, George Mudge (C) 8. Rung in memory of Brian Pidgeon.

Uffculme, Devon. 4 Nov. 1260 Grandsire Triples: P. Walter 1, Sheila Scofield 2, A. Edwards 3, L. Boyce 4, W. Dunn (C) 5, T. Hargreaves 6, W. R. Trickey 7, D. Wells 8. Rung by officers and committee members of the N. E. Branch in memory of Brian Pidgeon.

Woodbury, Devon. 8 Nov. 1260 Grandsire Triples: Sylvia Johns 1, David Wills 2, John Langabeer 3, Brian Horrell 4, Tony Williams 5, Robert Perry 6, George Retter (C) 7, Dennis Whiteley (1st Quarter) 8. Rung in memory of Brian Pidgeon by members of the Aylesbeare Deanery Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

Stuart Warren

Mr Stuart Warren died at the George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton in October 1995 at the age of 55.

Stuart's life was packed with activity, much of which he maintained even as his health declined. Having graduated as a music teacher from Trinity College London, he served as Organist, and latterly also as Choirmaster, at several churches including Christ Church Epsom Common, St Margaret's Stoke Golding and St Nicolas Nuneaton. Music, especially Church music, was a vital part of Stuart's life and he in turn returned so much life and decorum to God's music.

For anyone uncertain whether bells are to be considered within the realm of Church music, Stuart's reply was resounding in the positive. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and was pivotal to the practice and Sunday service bands as well as having been clock winder, steeple keeper and ringers' treasurer. He regularly provided a magnificent and much appreciated organ finale to Stoke Golding's bell ringing outings.

Those lucky enough to have been taught to handle a bell by Stuart and to have rung peals with him will have the enduring memory of his unhurriedness and understanding, both of which were so endearing. His competence was obvious, yet he never raised his voice beyond gentle encouragement and was unassuming throughout. And of course the social gatherings in The White Swan afterwards were always enriched by Stuart's presence, including his insistence that his rather dog-eared 1965 Ringers Diary was not in need of replacement!

Stuart revitalised the Stoke Golding handbells. He skilfully arranged many pieces of music and led the band through the streets and pubs at the Festive Season. That same music is being enjoyed again this Christmas, and lives on.

His legal knowledge was helpful in his roles as village Parish Councillor and charity trustee. He had also been treasurer of the Parochial Church Council, cemetery administrator and joint organist at the Nuneaton Crematorium.

Stuart's calm approach to life easily reflected in his interest in canals and it is fitting that some bell ringing friends, whom Stuart annually accompanied on a narrowboat holiday, rang a very fine touch of Stedman immediately following his funeral. Stuart would have been well pleased with it. We shall all miss him.

JOHN PATULLO

Edgar (Eddie) Richard Rapley

1920-1995

When I first came to Horsham in 1967, I was introduced to the ringers, amongst whom was a quiet, unassuming man. He greeted me warmly and at once enquired after my wife and family. It was my first meeting with Eddy Rapley and he immediately made me feel welcome and that he had a genuine interest in me and my family's well-being. Over the many years I have known him, I came to appreciate his interest in everyone and everything. Being just an average sort of ringer, I was somewhat awed by his ability, it seemed to me, to ring any method called for without any apparent effort and with his eyes shut! When I first saw him ring Bob Minor, four in hand, again with eyes shut, I realised that here was someone special.

That point was also brought home in my travels around the UK. No matter where I went, it seemed that as soon as I mentioned Horsham,

the cry went up - 'How's Eddy Rapley? remember me to him.'

Mind you, there was a dark side. Those of us, and there are many, who have spent ages waiting on his doorstep for him to answer the bell, waiting for him to turn up for ringing, searching for him on outings etc. would agree that he had absolutely no sense of time. He was on another planet. His apologetic 'I'm so sorry, I didn't realise time was getting on', did not always mollify our exasperation. But you couldn't stay mad with him for long. He was a gentle man and we all had a soft spot for him.

He was born in 1920, at West Grinstead, Sussex into a ringing family. His grandfather and three uncles were ringers at the village church of St George. During the Great War 1914-18, his mother learned to ring so that she could help to keep the band going while all the men were away. Eddy learnt to ring when he was 12 and after a couple of months was regularly ringing for services at St George's. He was a meticulous bell handler and in the early days, used to practise at home.

In those days, most Sussex cottages had a large hook fixed in the kitchen ceiling. On it was hung sides of bacon etc. Eddy got hold of a long piece of sashcord, plaited a sally in the appropriate place and tied a large weight on to the end of the cord. The cord was then thrown over the hook, and he was able to ring the weight up and down. With careful handling, he was able to produce a hand and back stroke. His cousin, Cecil Longhurst, says Eddy used to spend hours 'ringing' this contraption.

Country kitchens were busy places and it doesn't take much imagination to see the young Eddy ringing away under the hook, oblivious to all the hustle and bustle going on around him. This must be from where he got his marvellous power of concentration.

He rang the first of his 954 peals in 1937 at St George's. It was in three minor methods and he rang the second. A year later, his second peal was in five methods, including Cambridge. At this stage, he started to ring handbells and by the time war was declared in 1939, he had conducted several handbell peals from the 3-4 position. Cecil and Eddy used to ring handbells every week with a third ringer who, unfortunately, had a job with irregular hours, so on many occasions they were left waiting when he failed to turn up. The frustration of this led Eddy to teach himself to ring four in hand. He and Cecil then regularly rang 720's of Bob Minor and Kent with Eddy on 1-2-3-4 and Cecil with 5-6.

Eventually he was called up and joined the Sussex Regiment. Following the London Blitz in 1940, he was drafted with many other tradesmen to help repair bomb damaged properties. It was at this time he met Frank Lufkin after being posted to a transit camp in Southend. They had many a handbell session at Frank's house and he recalls his astonishment when he first saw Eddy perform with four bells.

Eddy finally rejoined his Regiment and they were sent out to the Far East. On the way, he met Pat Cannon in India and they managed to visit the Church of the Holy Name in Poona. Here they found a 25cwt ring of eight. Unfortunately they were only hung for chiming. It is not recorded whether or not they succeeded in chiming some of them but I can't imagine those two going all that way for nothing.

He spent the rest of the war in Burma where he had several brushes with the enemy and his own side for he nearly got put on a charge for being found asleep whilst on guard duty. He claimed later that he wasn't asleep, he was ringing Bob

Minor with his eyes shut! He didn't, however, put this forward as an excuse at the time!

Six years ago he announced he was writing a book about his wartime experiences in Burma. Alas, he didn't manage to finish it. Cecil has seen the manuscript and says that Eddy had only got as far as the troopship crossing the bay of Biscay. At that rate it would have taken another 15 years to complete the story!

After the war, he continued his friendship with Frank Lufkin and they rang many peals together all over the country with various bands. There were lots of outings, they were both members of the NUTS, which I understand means the National Union of Tower Snatchers.

Eddy became well known as a good striker and reliable ringer. He took part in several long length attempts, including one of the early tries at Loughborough for the extent of Bob Major. Frank was with him in this attempt when they rung 32,900 changes before it came to grief. Frank can't remember why they had to stop but he is sure it wasn't Eddy's fault.

Eddy also rang in the record length of 12,740 Bob Royal at Prittwell in 1950. Frank thinks that they had a go for a record length of Double Norwich with Pat Cannon but it was fired out after 11,000 odd changes. There is also some thought that Eddy took part in an attempt for a record length of Grandsire Caters at Grundisburgh but we haven't as yet managed to get hold of Eddy's ringing records so can't verify this. Perhaps someone out there may be able to throw some light on the matter.

Handbell ringing flourished in the Horsham area in the 1970's, centred on a group who met on Sunday evenings at either Cecil's or Eddy's place. They got quite proficient at it and Eddy called several quarters including Bob Maximus. Richard Verrall, who was one of the group says they never really could get hold of Stedman and rarely got past the starting course for Caters.

Eddy was a skilled joiner by trade and spent most of his working life on the Lock estate at West Grinstead. Examples of his craftsmanship are to be found in many Churches, including a credence table at Prittwell and a hand bell cupboard at Lower Beeding. He was also a bit of an artist and had a number of his own sketches and watercolours at home. He also very often made and decorated his own Christmas cards, embellishing the borders with the blue lines of various methods.

Stories about Eddy's unconcern with time and motion are legion and nearly all Sussex ringers have got one to tell. Eddy minders were appointed on outings but he had the uncanny ability of being with you one minute but gone the next! You had to stick to him like glue!

Steve Pocock recalls going round to Eddy's place one evening at seven o'clock to give him a message about the next day's ringing. He didn't get away until half past three in the morning.

David Smith remembers him coming round to help him hang a cupboard door in a bedroom. They had lunch and went upstairs. The door was hung. It didn't fit so down it came. One swish with Eddy's plane, off came a minute shaving, back up went the door. Didn't fit so down it came again for the process to be repeated. This went on and on. Eddy's patience was limitless. David, however, being the onlooker and feeling the effect of a good lunch, inadvertently dropped off to sleep. Jenny, downstairs all this time had also dropped off. When she came to, it was gone ten o'clock. She went upstairs to find her husband fast asleep and Eddy still patiently hanging and re-hanging the door. Eventually a fit to his liking was obtained and the job completed. This was Eddy, meticulous and thorough in everything he did.

Looking back now, it is clear that he had not been really well for the last couple of years. He wasn't one to be bothered too much with the practicalities of looking after himself, although he would do justice to a good meal if it was put in front of him. This summer he was persuaded to seek medical advice and eventually cancer was diagnosed. He was taken into Crawley Hospital in August where his immediate concern was for the trouble he was causing the staff and the many friends who visited him daily. He was philosophical about his illness. 'At least', he said to me, 'I'll have had 50 more years than the mates I left behind in Burma.' I felt very humble.

He died peacefully on 9th September and was buried ten days later at St George's, West Grinstead where he had started his ringing career 62 years earlier.

It was a lovely sunny day, the Church was packed with ringers and friends from all over. The cortege arrived some minutes late. "Typical Eddy", someone murmured.

Richard Verrall, a lifelong friend, gave a moving address with a number of 'Eddy' stories to lighten the occasion. The hymns were sung in the rousing manner expected of a ringers' congregation before the final service of committal at the graveside. Three leads of Kent Royal were rung on handbells as we said our final farewells to another much loved Sussex ringer and friend.

Rest in Peace, Eddy, it's been a privilege to have known and rung with you.

REG TICKNER.

Balcombe, West Sussex. 8 Oct, 1264 Plain Bob Major: Sheila Verall 1, Wendy B Wheeler 2, F R Verrall 3, H F Wood 4, G T Jennings 5, C R Longhurst 6, Judy Howard 7, E H Knapp (C) 8. Rung for Evensong and as a thanksgiving for the life and friendship of Edgar R Rapley.

Cowfold, West Sussex. 24 Sept, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: L D Perkins 1, L J Etherington 2, M E Huang 3, R B Green 4, J E Hawes (C) 5, M J Davies 6. For Harvest Festival Evensong in memory of Eddie Rapley.

Fittleworth, West Sussex. 15 Sept, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: G Francis 1, Sandra Alford 2, C Etherington 3, Joan Peel 4, S M Alford 5, G C Rix (C) 6. In memory: Eddie Rapley.

Horsham, West Sussex. 17 Sept, 1287 Stedman Caters: A J Tunnell 1, Penny A Groome 2, Sandra Y Alford 3, Jennifer A Smith 4, I H Oram 5, E W Woodward 6, Johanna Rose 7, S R T Pocock 8, D D Smith (C) 9, R J Tilley 10. Half muffled in affectionate memory of Eddie Rapley.

Horsham, West Sussex (14 West Parade). 13 Sept, 1264 Plain Bob Major: Caroline A L Gould 1-2, David R Finch 3-4, Simon M Alford (C) 5-6, George Francis 7-8. Rung on his bells as a thanksgiving for the life of Edgar R (Eddie) Rapley.

Petworth, West Sussex. 16 Sept, 1344 Hexham Abbey S. Major: Joan Peel 1, H McNaughton 2, Jennifer Smith 3, G C Rix 4, I P Hastilow 5, E C G Higgs 6, D D Smith (C) 7, C R Spencer 8. In memory: Eddie Rapley.

David Samuel Brown

On Wednesday, November 22, Washington ringers lost one of our dearest friends when David Samuel Brown, 70, died of cardiac arrest. A native Virginian and graduate of the University of Virginia, Dave served in the Army Air Corps in the Pacific during World War II. Following the war he became a civilian flight instructor with the Air Force and, after moving to Washington in 1960, set up instructional programs for English Language Services. He later worked as an air claims investigator and adjuster with Air Claims Inc. In retirement, he also worked for National Cathedral School, and served on the Cathedral's Long Range Masterplanning task force.

Dave took up ringing in 1970, and rang his first quarter in June of 1971. He rang two full peals, Plain Bob Major and Stedman Triples, and numerous quarters in a wide variety of methods. As with the other areas of his life, Dave's ringing was characterized by a striving for precision and excellent striking. A fine keyboard man who played a harpsichord he built himself, Dave appreciated good music and understood ringing in that critical context.

Throughout the 1970's, Dave was a mainstay of the Cathedral band, not just as a ringer but, even more important, as a warm, caring, humorous, erudite, and committed friend to all in the tower. It was once observed that Dave had never been known to speak unkindly of anyone, nor could anyone ever be remembered to have spoken unkindly of Dave. Somehow, when he was present, everyone was instinctively more civil to one another; as though his decency were contagious.

For many years, Dave and his lovely wife, Anne, hosted an annual July 4th party at the sprawling farm where they lived in Potomac. A generation of ringers and their kids will always treasure memories of their swimming pool, the unlimited food and drink, the great rolling front lawn overlooking the Congressional Country Club, and the annual fireworks display which concluded the evening. In those years, July 4th was the one opportunity for a full peal to be rung open on the Cathedral's bells, so many visitors also came to enjoy Dave and Anne's gracious hospitality. They formed countless friendships with ringers in the U.S. and abroad, many of which continue unto this day.

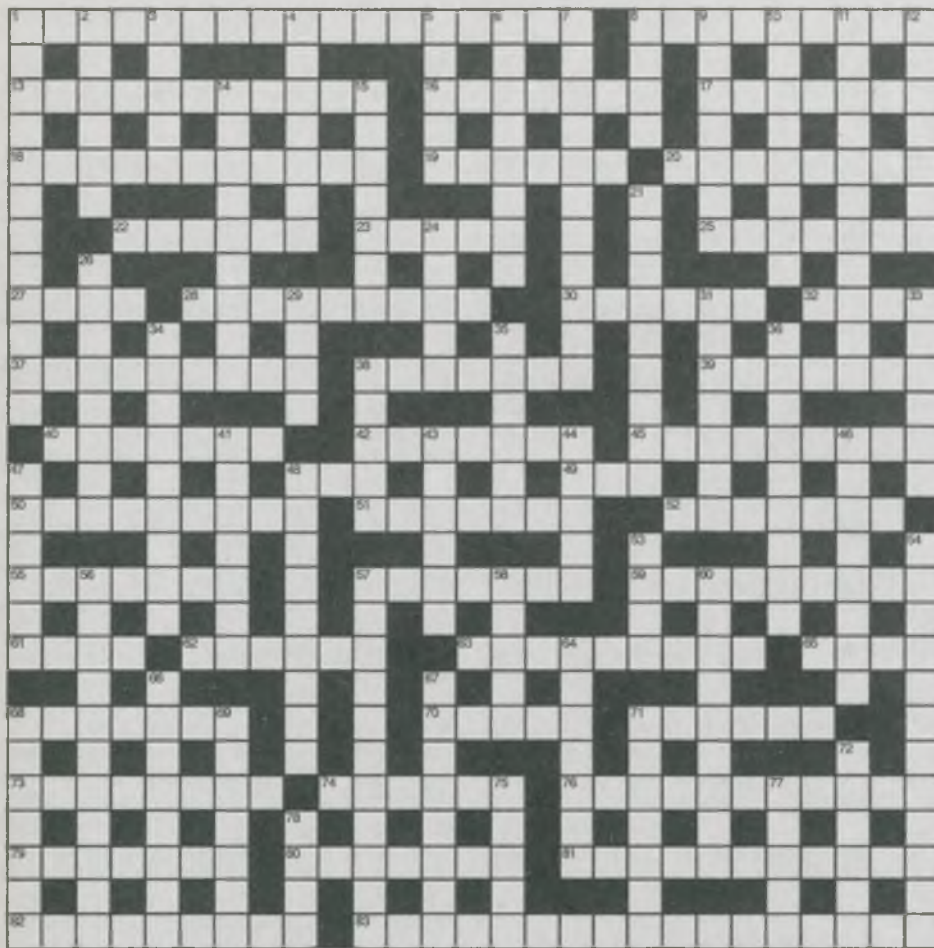
Dave remained a regular member of the band until the mid-1980's, when his growing responsibilities as Senior Warden of the St. Alban's Parish vestry, and increasing concern for the condition of his heart, dictated an early retirement. Nevertheless, he continued to attend ringing events on a social basis, and was often around at the conclusion of peals to offer congratulations and astute comments, and to join in the celebrations. He and Anne, with visitors, would also turn up on New Year's Eve to help ring the years both out and in.

Dave's funeral took place on Saturday, November 25, at St. Alban's Parish Church, located abreast of the Cathedral, and he was interred in the columbarium, within sight of the Tower and a place where the bells can be heard most clearly. A half-muffled quarter of Grandsire Caters was in progress as the procession moved out from the church, and, for the first several minutes of the interment service, silence was kept as the large company of friends reflected on the message those great bells so solemnly proclaimed: in Dave's own words, shared by the Rector at the beginning of his homily, "... death truly is the gateway to a larger, perfect life and marks the end of our worldly struggles. It is therefore to be celebrated as a victorious beginning of that perfect life." And so we shall celebrate with you, Dave. But, oh, we shall miss you too!

R.S.D.

* * *

For cleaning out a bell chamber and belfry we were pleased to note that the Lifestylers' group of youngsters received a prize from Blue Peter presenter Dianne-Louise Jordan in Hull's New Theatre. As a reward for their hard work the four lads won a holiday on the Welsh Beacons at an outdoor centre!



Name

Address

Completed solutions should be sent to *The Ringing World* to arrive no later than Friday 19 January 1996. A prize will be awarded to the first correct solution drawn "out of the hat".

Christmas Crossword 1995

by Chico Kidd

Across

- 1 Sing, so acknowledge rewritten carol (4,4,9)
 8 see 37
 13 Sorting out granting air (9,2)
 16 Appreciative audience in the tower (7)
 17 Change bird must make (7)
 18 "And — — — and tender is the North" Tennyson, *The Princess* (4,3,4,)
 19 ... last word goes with verb to make (2,4)
 20 She's a methodical girl (8)
 22 Motoring organisation outlined by Ted (6)
 23 I share the cards — perfect (5)
 25 Confused, eclipsed, loses direction; must be ringing several methods! (7)
 27 Poetic 61 method (4)
 28 Bus under it at Christmas, we hear (9)
 30 Where the conductor traditionally says there is room for one more (6)
 32 Island mountains found in Jurassic Park (4)
 37 & 8 Methodical Boat Race crews (6,3,9)
 38 Quietly re-start, I assume (7)
 39 Drove plainly, we hear! (7)
 40 Stone erratically rang note (7)
 42 Part of cult and particle (7)
 45 Little Belle, we hear, having a surprise! (6,3)
 48 see 50
 49 Short operations pos, perhaps (3)
 50 & 48 Feast of first lady and not even a mouse stirred (9,3)
 51 Carol hopes they will dutifully chime (7)
 52 Tumultuous shirt Chinese dynasty wore (7)
 55 Those who rode in it were due for the chop (7)

- 57 Found on the trees this time of year (7)
 59 I put in air, composing Bellini opera (9)
 61 27, in other words (4)
 62 Also a toff (2,4)
 63 Being prepared for rain and seeds combined (9)
 65 Composer on a mountain (4)
 68 Secretive soldier? (7)
 70 Is in beer in the church (5)
 71 As is 76's misery (6)
 73 A 46 made from guile and tar (8)
 74 Brings together sun and tie (6)
 76 "Parting is such — —" Shakespeare, *Romeo & Juliet* (5,6)
 79 Outgoing mail for far-flung destination (7)
 80 Sergeant, perhaps, searching for oil (7)
 81 Rum seminary, certainly not descriptive of 1995 (5,6)
 82 Some 79s found in methods? (3,6)
 83 Air sung by angels, Carol says (8,4,2,3)

Down

- 1 Robert, once an ancestor, is now merely homely! (9,3)
 2 Yeo uses 3 Rs to make Earl's model (6)
 3 Friend of Winnie and mother of Rue, we hear (5)
 4 Bet money owed (7)
 5 Tourist attraction found in Keep Cottage (5)
 6 Two blows at the front is not the approved type of petrol (4,4)
 7 Most highly praised method (11)
 8 Droll person sent around at Christmas (4)
 9 Mumbles about strut broken by me (7)
 10 Nastily broke up northern lottery (8)
 11 Method for two couples marrying? (6,5)
 12 Tried to write non-fiction? (7)
 14 Ion in Chad broken for another country (9)

Christmas Puzzle Corner

Another 1,000 Pealer

by Angela Newing

Between 1st January 1995 and Christmas Day, Susan rang 25 peals while Tom rang 15. If Tom were to double his overall total to date (i.e. Christmas), this would give the same number as if Susan's total was multiplied by 3. Back on 1st January 1995, Tom's total was twice Susan's on that same day.

Between 1st January and Christmas, Roger has scored as many as Susan's total at Christmas. During the year he became a 1,000 pealer, and he has now exceeded 1,000 by the reversed digits of Susan's score at 1st January.

What was Roger's total on 1st January 1995?

Solutions should be sent to Angela Newing, The Rectory, Brimpsfield, Gloucester GL4 8LD to arrive by 15th January 1996. The sender of the first correct solution drawn will receive a copy of 'More Brain Benders for Bellringers.'

IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE THE LUCKY WINNER, COPIES OF ALL THREE BOOKS OF RINGERS' BRAIN TEASERS ARE STILL AVAILABLE (although we're nearly sold out of the 2nd edition of the first book — *A Bellringer's Book of Brain Benders*) price £1.15 each plus 25p p&p.

Solution to Puzzle Corner No. 139

The Eccentric Millionaire Again

This puzzle could be solved by trigonometry or by two different geometrical methods, by Pythagoras theorem (which most competitors used) or by the Intersecting Chord theorem, which gives the neatest answer.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If the length of the cross is 'x', } 25(25+x) &= 45^2 \\ \text{whence: } 25+x &= 81 \\ \text{so } x &= 56 \end{aligned}$$

Unusually for one of the '9' puzzles, there was a big entry for this one. The winner was Alex Hunt from Wellington, Somerset.

- 15 It should be towed, we hear, or followed (3,4)
 21 As stall in ruins, so is the church (3,6)
 24 OK by Eve to summon up (5)
 26 Ref in peril around petty thief (8)
 29 Neat place to stow things (4)
 31 Run down and erase quietly in the middle (7)
 33 Having them screaming does put one in a state! (6)
 34 Darren's GI is confused about method (9)
 35 Shapely bun back on French island (6)
 36 Leila an' me get drunk for Monty's victory (2,7)
 38 Pretentious question? (5)
 41 Bet slum, demolished, falls down (7)
 43 Sound, wry one; plural in the tower (6)
 44 Scents hooters (5)
 46 Rock group gets old and needs dressing (8)
 47 Time's weapon cuts grass (6)
 48 Tea crates stacked for Volvo, for instance (6,3)
 53 Link broken where things are fired (4)
 54 Growl and grind in agony to produce comic (7,5)
 56 Mace method (11)
 57 Grilling Ben, unfortunately, was banned during the war (11)
 58 City which rings in first's place (5)
 60 Ugly international organisation has sense duly, lacking first half (9)
 64 Welsh one found in cadres serving (7)
 66 Flab is to be redistributed at a merry simmer (4,4)
 67 A troll and me do battle for the tower (8)
 68 Succeed in starting to ring (4,3)
 69 Uneven tracer I dodge around (7)
 71 Type found in spec I estimate (7)
 72 Rio gum chewed by Shakespearean character (6)
 75 Raise! Raise! The caravan's inside (5)
 77 Bolivian town found in moor or otherwise (5)
 78 Dose mixed inversely, you might say (4)

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Xmas Greetings

THE CHAIRMAN and his fellow directors of Ringing World Ltd. send greetings to all ringers with special thanks to those who have contributed material and supported the magazine over the last year.

ROBIN and LIZ WINCKWORTH wish all ringers a Happy Christmas and New Year "from Woking".

GEORGE, AVRIL, CLAIRE and DAVID BONHAM wish members of the Ely Diocesan Association and all their ringing friends a very happy Christmas and successful ringing in 1996.

JESSIE KIPPIN (Chandlers Ford, Hants) sends Christmas greetings to all her ringing friends.

GREETINGS FOR CHRISTMAS & THE NEW YEAR to all their friends both near and far from John and Shirley Girt. May you be blessed with peace and good fortune in the future.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS to all my ringing friends wherever they may be is the wish of Norman V. Harding.

KATHLEEN & MICHAEL BROWN send Christmas greetings to all ringing friends, and thank every one for the get well cards, phone enquiries re Michael's recent spell in hospital. Michael is beginning to pull a "Light Harrow" (Agricultural term).

NORTHANTS MIDWEEK GROUP thanks all incumbents, key holders and others who have welcomed us during 1995. P.D.W.

PATRICIA NEWTON, Master, thanks all Oxford Diocesan Guild members for their support during 1995, and sends best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

THE INTERNATIONAL LIAISON, FRED E. DUKES, sends greetings and very best wishes from the Public Relations Advisory Group, to all bellringers and their families for a joyous and peaceful Christmastide, in their respective countries.

BEST WISHES for CHRISTMAS and the NEW YEAR to all our ringing friends in the UK, British Columbia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Australia and Houston, Texas. **Bob and Helga Gerhardt**.

JOAN and DAVID THORNE send Christmas and New Year Greetings to all their ringing friends.

THE RINGING WORLD STAFF (aka "Anne the Admin") wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Birth

THRELFALL. To David and Jane a daughter Abigail Sarah Middleton born 18 November. A sister for Jonathan. 3294

Adoption

SWIFT. Peter and Maureen are delighted to announce the arrival on 10th December of their adoptive son Philip, who is one year old. 3290

Engagement

WILLGRESS/CATON. Alison and Chris are pleased to announce their engagement. Tying the knot will be May 1997 on Lundy Island.

St Ambrose, Whitehall, Bristol. 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Chris G Caton (1st Q) 1, Freda P Willgress 2, Ian N Willgress 3, Robert Caton 4, Alison R Willgress 5, Judith A Caton 6, Stephen J Bateman (C) 7, Ian Russell (1st on 8) 8. 3280

Change of Address

DE KOK. Paul and Wilhelmina have moved to: Kattestaart 19, 2954 AC Alblasserdam. tel: (0) 78 6912199. Ad No 3286

HOBBS. Phil has finally surfaced in the UK and can be found living at Flat 90, 77 Manor Road, Bourne-mouth BH1 3JG (W) 01202 401141 (H) 01202 295033. All friends (old and new) welcome! 3293

JOHN HYDEN. From January 5th John's address will be 126 New Hey Road, Woodchurch, Wirral, Merseyside L49 7NH. Tel 0151-677-3541 (Home). 0151-670-0031 (Work). Ad No 3291

For Sale

COPIES OF RINGING WORLD. 1986-1994 inclusive, with three numbers missing. L S A Smith, Rugby, Warks, 01788 578202. Ad No 3284

RINGING WORLDS. 25th Oct 1985 to 31st Dec 1994 virtually complete. Free to anyone who will collect. Gildersleve, 2 Barnes Lane, Beamminster, Dorset. 01308 863067. Ad No 4302

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Association Announcement

G & B BRISTOL RURAL BRANCH. Changes to management committee. Branch Secretary: Mr Tony York, 170 Watleys End Road, Winterbourne, South Gloucestershire BS17 1QH. Tel 01454 772532. Public Relations Officer (PRO): Mrs Mary York, same address and telephone no. Ad No 1732

Tower Announcements

BEDFORD, ST PAUL. Practice on 1 January. No practice on 8 January. 4301

WHITFIELD, NORTHANTS. Dedication of new treble will take place at Evensong, 6pm on 7 January 1996. Open ringing after the service for 1 hour. 4295

Weekday Meetings and Practices

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. Notice of practices (6.30pm): Tue Jan 2 St Paul's Cathedral, Jan 9 St Mary-le-Bow, Jan 16 St Sepulchre, Jan 23 Cripplegate, Jan 30 St Paul's Cathedral. Notice of Business Meeting. Tue Jan 9, The Old Dr Butler's Head, Masons Avenue, London EC2 at 8.30pm. A.R.K. 1726

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. Midlands Area Practice: Wed Jan 3 St Martin's Birmingham (16) at 8pm. A.R.K. 1727

K.C.A.C.R. County Surprise Royal Practice at Maidstone on Wednesday January 10, 7.30pm. Methods C,Y,L,B, Clyde and Spliced. 1724

NORTHANTS MIDWEEK GROUP. Next meeting, Pattishall, Wed January 3. Special method: Kentish Delight. All welcome. P.D.W. 1466

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS. Practice, Ruddington, Friday January 5, 7.30-9.00pm. All welcome. D Stainsby, 0115 9233 506. Ad No 1730

Saturday Meetings and Practices

HERTFORD C.A. Bishop's Stortford District Practice, Saturday December 30, Sawbridgeworth (8, 24cwt), 7.30-9pm. Everyone welcome. 1725

PETERBOROUGH D.G. Towcester Branch. Saturday December 30, Practice, Stowe, 7.00-7.45 and Maids Moreton, 8.00-9.00. 0373

BATH & WELLS D.A. Bridgwater Branch. Quarterly Meeting at Westonzoiland on Saturday January 6. Bells 3pm. Service 4.30pm followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea please to Brian Wylde 01278 691362 Ad No 1736

BATH & WELLS D.A. Ilchester Branch. Practice Meeting, Sat January 6 at Somerton (8), 7-9pm. Methods of the month: Plain Bob Triples and Cambridge Major. All welcome. 1689

DERBY D.A. Derby District. Sat January 6, ADM. Ringing at Belper from 3pm followed by service, tea and meeting. Evening ringing at Breadsall. 1729

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. NE Branch. Quarterly Meeting, Saturday January 6. Ringing at St Mary's, Uffculme, 3pm. Service 4.30pm followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to G Oliver (01884 841217). Ad No 1734

ELY D.A. Ely District ADM, Saturday January 6 at Burwell. Ringing 3pm, carol service 4.30pm then tea, meeting and evening ringing. 1711

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. Northern District. Our next meeting will be at Great Dunmow on Sat January 6 with the Service at 4.30pm followed by tea and Meeting. Afternoon ringing from 3pm before service at Stebbing, and evening ringing from 7pm at Great Dunmow after the meeting. Names for tea to Alistair Donaldson on 01376 571729 by Thursday January 4 please. All welcome. 1738

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. South Eastern District. Annual District Meeting at Little Baddow on Saturday January 6. Ringing from 3pm followed by service at 4.30pm, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Names for tea to Vicki on 01245 461973 by Wed January 3. Everyone welcome. 1708

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD. Meeting, Sat January 6 at Penistone. Ringing 3-5pm. Names for tea to Rachel Latham. Evening ringing 6.30-8.30pm. 4299

HERTFORD C.A. Northern District. Sat January 6, Annual District Meeting. Ringing at Hitchin 4pm, Service 5pm followed by Tea, Meeting and further ringing. Names for Tea to Secretary on 01462 459254. Ad No 1722

K.C.A.C.R. Tonbridge District. Quarterly Meeting, Sat January 6 at Edenbridge. Bells 3pm. Service 4.30 followed by tea, meeting and evening ringing. Names for tea to Keith Wakefield (01892 823039) no later than Wed Jan 3. 1723

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. Wigan Branch Meeting, Saturday January 6 at Wigan Parish Church (ten) from 6.30-8.30pm. 1721

LEICESTER D.G. Leicester District. Saturday January 6, South Wigston (8), 6.30-8.30pm. All welcome. 1691

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. Southern District Ringing meeting, Sat January 6 at All Saints, Isleworth. Ringing 6.30-8pm followed by District Committee meeting. 1733

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION. Sat January 6, Meeting at Keele, 3.30-5pm followed by tea at Woodlands and evening ringing (6.30-8.30) at Silverdale. Names for tea by previous Wednesday (01782 750038) M. Jones. 1719

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. Guildsborough Branch. Sat January 6, Branch Annual Meeting at Guildsborough. Ringing 3.15-4.30pm and 7-8.15pm. Service at 4.30pm followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea to Dorothy Westerman 01788 822598. Ad No 1712

SALISBURY D.G.R. Devizes Branch. AGM on Saturday January 6 at North Bradley. Ringing from 3-4.30pm at the Church of St Nicholas, followed by Service. For those requiring teas please contact Mr F Slatford, tel 01225 765970. After meeting evening ringing on the 12 bells at St James, Trowbridge. 1702

SALISBURY D.G.R. East Dorset Branch. AGM on Saturday January 6 at Swanage. Ringing at Kingston, 2.30-4.00; Worth Matravers 3.15-4.15. Service at Swanage 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Evening ringing at Swanage. 1735

SUFFOLK GUILD. SE District. Sat January 6, District Practice at Sproughton, 7-9pm. All welcome. 1704

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. Sheffield & District Branch Meeting, Sat January 6 at Cathedral of St Peter and St Paul, Sheffield. Ringing 2.30-4pm and 6.30-8.30pm. Tea and Meeting 5pm. Please advise names for tea by January 3. Telephone Simon Reading 0114 2365340. Ad No 1740

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. Biggleswade District. Saturday January 13, District AGM, Blunham 3pm. Service 4.30pm. Tea and evening ringing at Eaton Socon. 1709

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. NE District Service, Tea and Annual Meeting on Saturday January 13. This will be held at St Andrew's Church, Wormingford. Ringing at Little Horkesley from 3.00-4.00pm; Wormingford 3.45-4.30pm; Service at 4.30pm and Tea and Meeting at Wormingford Village Hall at 5.00pm. Names for tea to Mrs Evelyn Reeve (01787 228014) by January 10 please. 1705

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. Preston Branch Meeting, Sat January 13 at Preston Parish Church. Ringing 3.30-5pm followed by tea, meeting and evening ringing. Names for tea to Alan Gardner 01772 254469 by Wed please. 1720

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION. Meeting, Edinburgh, Sat January 13. St Mary's (10), Surprise Royal Practice (special method Bristol) 10.30am. General ringing 12.00-1.00. Fettes College (5), 2.00-3.00. St Cuthbert's (10), 3.30 for service, tea and meeting. Evening ringing 5.30-7.30. Names for tea by Monday January 8 to Rachel Davies 0131 553 5419. Ad No 1731

SUFFOLK GUILD. NW District. Sat January 13, Quarterly Meeting at Newmarket St Mary. Ringing 2.30, Service 4.30, followed by tea, meeting and evening ringing. Names for tea to Sue Coghlan 01638 663187 by Wed 10 please 1570

SALISBURY D.G.R. Devizes Branch. Just to remind you again, and if you are interested: St James Church, Trowbridge are still holding their 12 bell practice on the third Saturday evening of every month and you are welcome to attend. 1703

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 3rd JANUARY, 1995

ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS

8.00pm

following practice, 6.30-8.00pm

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10.30	St Mary atte Bow, Bow in the Rd (8)	TQ376830
11.00	St Dunstan, Stepney (10)	TQ360816
11.30	St Mary, Rotherhithe (8)*	TQ351798
12.00	St Lawrence Jewry, City (8)*	TQ325813
12.30	Smithfield, St Bartholomew (5)	TQ318816
1.00	St Martin in the Fields (12)	TQ301805
1.30	Holborn, Holy Sepulchre (12)	TQ316815
2.00	St James Prebend St, Islington (6)	TQ322837
2.30	St Mark, Dalston (all 8)	TQ339852
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1728

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Saturday 3 February at New College

7.30 for 8pm

Tickets: £28.50/£24 (non-drinking)

Please send an SAE and a cheque payable to OUSCR Dinner Committee to Dorothy Barton, St Hugh's College, Oxford OX2 6LE

Please state seating plan preference and dietary requirements

Closing date 18th January - Tickets will be sent out after this date

1737

* * *

On Sunday 6th August, a peal was rung at Bathwick - Grandsire Caters, those taking part, with one exception, being regular Sunday ringers at St Mary's - as an 80th birthday compliment to Mr George Hawkins, of the St Michael's band, whose composition, the famous "5021", was used for the occasion. It was David Floyd's first of Caters as conductor, and his first as conductor for 30 years.

One would have thought that Quasimodo would have made some mention of this thoroughly worthy performance in the August "Bathwick Fashion". Instead of which - but I need say no more. Those who did read the farrago of irrelevant tittle-tattle have suffered enough. Those who did not, are lucky.

Fortunately, we may look forward to better things. I have it on good authority that there will be no more "Bathwick Fashions" after the present series. This means that the December edition will be the last - it seems almost to much to hope for.

QUIDNUNC

* * *

1996 is Centenary Year for St. Mary Abbots Guild, Kensington. More details later. First event a ringing day on January 20th. Phone Stephanie Pattenden for details (0171 630 5496).

HEREFORD RINGING COURSE

A THREE DAY COURSE

From Thursday, 11th April
to Sunday, 14th April, 1996

The course will consist of lectures on a wide variety of topics and a good deal of practical work in towers. There will be groups ranging from call-changes and plain hunting on three and four bells to Surprise Major.

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4292

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Note:

Volunteer helpers are also welcome/required.

1659

THE SPARSHOLT RINGING COURSE

The 1996 Course will be held over the August Bank Holiday Weekend

Friday to Monday 23 to 26 August

Details will be in *The Ringing World* around Easter

Bob Cater

3289

1996 Training Directory

The 1996 Training Directory has now been distributed to general secretaries, branch secretaries and (where known) education officers of all societies affiliated to the Central Council. The directory contains information on ringing courses, ringing centres, Education Committee seminars and equipment, and a list of society Education Officers. Further copies can be obtained (free) by sending a stamped addressed A5 envelope to Barbara Wheeler, 18 Bankside, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 1XD.

* * *

We practised over a period of one year, ringing several quarters to achieve this little "All Saints" milestone for our band. Methods rung in our quarter peal were: St John the Evangelist, St John the Baptist, St Miles, St Nicholas, St Giles, St John, St Martin, St Paul, St Leonard, St Simon and St Alban.

Withycombe Raleigh, Devon. 29 Oct, 1260 Doubles (11 m/v) "All Saints". Mary Mack 1, David Wills 2, Frank Mack 3, Brian Morrell 4, John Foster (C) 5, Lewis Foster 6. For All Saints Day. 75th in tower: 4. £1

Help

I have a small difficulty and I wondered if readers might be able to assist. A ringing colleague and I regularly take turns at driving to a distant practice. This also means that we take turns at drinking. One week he drives and I drink; the next I drive and he drinks. Last week, however, a rather unusual event occurred. I drove. We met short at the church with too few to practice. We decided to return to base so the car was plonked in the garage and we walked to my local. We both, then, had a drink.

A serious problem now confronts us for the next journey.

By the alternating rules of the game next week he should drive but neither of us should drink. The following week I would drive and we both should drink but I would be prevented from drinking unless I left the car and we got home by other means. Either I am condemned to not drinking or we will have a problem with the travel home.

It could be argued that, as we both had a drink last week neither of us should drink next week. Does this mean that we should, therefore, both drive? This seems wasteful and also unfair as I would have then driven two weeks on the trot. If we both drive next week the following week will be even more difficult as it will then be no ones turn to drive and we shall not get there at all. What then should we do? Drink I suppose. We would seem to be locked into a pattern, on this argument, of one week both driving and the next week not going at all. I would still have an excess week of driving owing. This could be put right by my colleague driving down alone. He would not then have a drink. I would not go out drinking alone so the next week it would be my turn to drive but it would be both our turns to drink so the problem would not be resolved.

If he drives next week I will have drunk on two consecutive weeks and so, to be fair, my colleague should drink on two consecutive weeks but that will mean me driving an excess week which will not be fair on the driving count.

With the benefit of hindsight I now realise that I should not have had a drink last week but I did and there now no going back. Can anyone help solve this seemingly intractable problem?

A.J.B.

* * *

Around the time of Remembrance Day the Western District are usually to be found at Redbourn for their District Meeting, and this year it was on the day itself. A damp and grey afternoon, but nevertheless, many hopeful and eager faces appeared in the ringing room at 2 o'clock ready for the learners' practice. These practices have been particularly useful in encouraging the newer ringers to visit a tower other than their own, and also in getting them to stay to at least some of the general ringing and the tea afterwards. Today there were several learners who had not been to a District event before, and they all acquitted themselves very well, especially the 'miniature ringers' who had to use two boxes (luckily they did not suffer from vertigo!)

From three o'clock onwards, the rest of the District began to arrive, as eager as the learners had been to test their skills, although one of the special methods, Double Court, seemed to prove particularly testing. The Norwich and the Westminster were much easier! Grandsire and Double Oxford were tried for the first time by some, and other basic methods consolidated by others. The service touch was a truly exciting concoction of Norwich and Original, which went like a dream once we had established what sort of singles we were going to use!

The service was taken for us by the vicar, the Rev John Pedlar, while Gareth Bennett, a ringer from Northchurch, played the organ for the three hymns. Afterwards we fell upon tea in the Transept Hall, where there were plenty of egg sandwiches and flapjacks to sustain us. County President Len Luck, paying us a welcome afternoon visit was called upon to chair the business meeting before driving off to Great Amwell (such is the lot of a president!). Members were reminded of the Surprise Major Practice, the Quarter Peal Day and the proposed new format for the six-bell striking competition, while Apsley End proved to be particularly lucky, as two of their members walked off with both Draw Card prizes.

Evening ringing was curtailed by an hour, finishing at seven o'clock instead of eight, to enable members to get themselves installed in the hall ready for the Quiz Evening. This is always a popular event, and makes a good fundraiser – this year it was to be the District Bell Fund which benefited. Eight teams pitted their wits over the next three hours, stopping only to feed their brains with soup, apple pie and ice cream (we will not mention the many cans and bottles which were brought in, but most of them were not Carling Black Label!) Eventually the marks on the scoreboard showed a dead heat between two teams, something which does not happen often, but when the Marathon was taken into account, the team from Hemel Hempstead was shown to be a clear winner, with Little Gaddesden second. Everybody went home determined to bone up on yet more useless information for next year. Many thanks must go to Reg and Val for putting together the questions, and also to those in the kitchen for ministering to the inner man. Here's to next year!

PENNY WATSON.

* * *

The Engineering and Research section of the *Times* of 29th November carried an article on high performance materials entitled "a bell too perfect to ring the changes". The rather extraordinary claim was made that "bells rely on imperfections for their individual resonances" and that they have to be tuned mechanically to put some of these back in.

BELLS of LONDON

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1996



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Why Tenor?

Yes Mrs. Longridge (R.W. p.1245) when discussing bells and bellringing with non-ringing friends, I too have been asked why the bell of the lowest pitch is referred to as the tenor and not the bass bell. I have explained (rightly or wrongly) as follows:

"The Little Oxford Dictionary" defines "tenor" as, "prevailing course or direction: general purport" as well as the usual reference to the singing voice, which I suppose can be translated to mean that the tenor, being the heaviest bell, is the one which must set the speed and rhythm of the ringing. As my grandfather used to say, "Treble starts the race but tenor sets the pace".

DENNIS GREENWOOD

Huddersfield

If – (with apologies to R.K.)

If you can keep your place when all about
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can strike your blows when all are out,
But make allowance for their crashing too;
If you can dream and pay heed to the Master,
If you can watch the other ringers' quirks
While meeting with the treble and the tenor
And not betray your thoughts by knowing smirks;

If you can make the bob and spot the single,
Nor lose track of each lead and course and touch
When ropes give way, and tower-sway makes necks tingle,
And visitors converse too loud, too much;
If you, when someone bursts in at the minute
Before your quarter's done, can still look mild,
Then get *The Ringing World*, for you'll be in it,
And – which is more – you'll get your peal, my child!

A.H.

Blue Lines

(With apologies to Flanders and Swann)

"After all, you could read a whole book about playing Mozart's Horn Concerto and still have trouble getting your embouchure right!"

"Getting into Bob Doubles"
by Steve Coleman.

I once had a whim and I had to obey it
To look up Bob Doubles and give it a go –
I looked at the line and I wanted to ring it
In spite of the others who kept saying "No!"

To learn Plain Bob I had to get hold of Steve
Coleman's book –
I found Plain Bob and was a bit of a devil to ring.

I'd fret and frown
At "ups" and "Downs",
Until it all went round and round.

Oh, the hours I used to spend
And hope that I'd get it all right in the end.

But that was yesterday – first thing today I
looked in the usual nook.
There was the book but the "Plain Bob" bit was
missing.

All the pages were torn –
Every chapter on ringing Plain Bob was gone
Oh, where can it all be?
What a bind! Now I find
I just cannot remember the blue line.

Who took "Plain Bob?"
I'll bet an ecu
That it was you,

Knowing I'd asked for a quarter and wanted to
ring it,
Afraid of my talent for ringing Plain Bob.
Whoever it was I can certainly say it,
He's going to end up with a bob on his nob.

I've lost "Plain Bob" – I know it was in the book
yesterday.
I've lost "Plain Bob", lost "Plain Bob", lost
"Plain Bob" – robbed!
I need it for this morning or else it is going to be
rather a flop.

I know a nasty beast whose party piece
Is singing about a French horn
Gone away – gone away. Is it he that has took it
away?
It is making me so forlorn, waking to find that
my "Plain Bob's" gone.

I shall say it again – I – want – my – "Plain –
Bob" – back!
I have forgotten all I ever knew.
Without "Plain Bob" I'm feeling sad and very
blue – – – –

Oh – – – –

I asked for this quarter and wanted to ring it,
Displaying my talent for ringing Plain Bob,
But now that I look in my Steve Coleman Book
It is only to find I've been robbed.
I asked for this quarter, I wanted to ring it, but
somebody stole my "Plain Bob"
I asked for this quarter, I'm longing to ring it,
but somebody stole my "Plain Bob".

The others are all still in bed.
They'll very soon wish they were dead.
I'll ask to ring Grandsire instead – SO THERE!
WILLIAM WILLANS.

Composition Review

5,080 8-Spliced Surprise Royal by Maurice J Thurmott

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Contains 680 each Cambridge, Lincolnshire (N) and London; 640 each Pudsey, Superlative and Yorkshire; and 560 each Bristol and Wootton Rivers, with 122 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Not hugely musical (46 combination rollups) but otherwise a very satisfying composition indeed, replacing the worst of the "standard 8" with an elegant newcomer (Wootton Rivers), plenty of changes of method and never the same work above the treble for more than three successive leads. Excellent!

Old Bailey



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On-Site Maintenance

I have often thought it to be a considerable shame when peals or quarters are lost due to mechanical failure. Some comments made by a reverend gentleman the other day made me think of a solution.

What we need are some site maintenance teams at each tower. These teams would not only look after all the day to day maintenance requirements in between spells of ringing they would also be on hand should an emergency occur or if the bells should require some attention during ringing.

No longer should it be a problem if a plain bearing should run dry during a peal as one of the engineers could lubricate the offending item without a pause in the ringing.

If, during a long length, the frame should need tightening it could be attended to although some work could prove a little tricky.

Some special techniques would need to be developed to replace broken clappers as the bell pauses at the top of its swing, or to fit a replacement rope, should the original break, and drop it through floors and guides into the hands of the waiting ringer within one whole pull. Thought would need to be given to how to replace broken gudgeons or wheel spokes.

Perhaps some of the technical experts of the exercise could produce some learned articles on this topic for our edification.

A.J.B.

THURSDAY IS



COMIC DAY!



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This unusual picture of St. Paul's Cathedral from the Founder's Arms, was taken by Nicholas Green on VE Day. The Founder's Arms, which sits in semi-isolation on the banks of the Thames, is often frequented by the University of London Society, whose 50th Anniversary it is this year.