



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

Produced fortnightly by Paul and Hugh, with a few contributions from other ringers

Monday 18th April 2016



(Please note: There will be no practice at Headington on Wednesday 27th April, because the ringers are holding their AGM)

Stedman Doubles Practice at Sunningwell (6) on Saturday 16th April

Despite the lack of sun in Sunningwell, 10 people turned up looking forward to practising and ringing Stedman Doubles, or even just starting to

learn the method. There were some pleasant touches from the more experienced ringers, and some good plain courses leading on to trying out singles for others. For those just starting to look at Stedman, there were some plain courses of Cloister Doubles – a very basic form of Stedman without all the slow-work. This gave some of the beginners the opportunity to practice hunting on three at the front and double dodging at the back, which was accomplished well by everyone. Our thanks go to Brenda and Brian Thomas for allowing us to use their bells. **Rachel Croft**



A Quarter Peal Morning at North Leigh and Church Hanborough

On a bright and sunny morning on Saturday 9th April saw us driving smoothly along the country roads, accompanied by the strains of Elgar's wonderful music playing in Judy's car.

North Leigh (6) welcomed us with its beautiful church, overlooking the rolling hills with sheep grazing in the sun. It was in this church that I rang my first quarter peal (on the treble) outside of Oxford, with the support of the band.

At our second destination, **Church Hanborough (6)**, I would have missed two discoveries, if Susan King, an antiquarian, had not shown me the three brass reliefs on the floor under the carpet, and the smallest of staircases inside a church that I've seen so far! This outing also



witnessed Lindsay Powell ringing two quarter peals in the same morning for the first time. Thank you, Hugh, for organizing this outing. **Kathy Xu**

Teaching Bell Handling with the Association of Ringing Teachers

On Saturday 16th April we braved the unseasonal snow and attended a Teaching Bell Handling day course run by the **Association of Ringing Teachers** at the **Kineton Ringing Centre**.

The course leader, ART chair Graham Nabb, showed us how to use a range of simple exercises that break down bell handling into its constituent parts and enable a complete beginner to advance quickly and safely to being able to ring rounds unaided. Having both arrived at Kineton feeling somewhat apprehensive and mindful of the need to get the fundamentals right, we are now filled with enthusiasm and ideas, and ready to get started putting what we have learned into practice teaching new recruits at Cowley. We would highly recommend the course to anyone who teaches, or



wants to teach bell handling. Even the experienced ringing teachers present learned something new! **Rosie Cretney and Lindsay Powell**

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam at: hugh.deam@btinternet.com or mobile: 07899-871079

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|---|---|----------------|
| Saturday 23 rd April | Practice at Freeland (6) | 4.00pm-5.30pm |
| Sunday 24 th April | Triples and Major Practice on the Simulator at Headington (8) | 3.00pm-4.30pm |
| Saturday 30 th April | Practice at Eynsham (6) with the Witney & Woodstock ringers | 10.30am-12noon |
| Monday 2 nd May (Bank Holiday) | Marston (6) Doubles and Minor Practice | 10.30am-12noon |
| Saturday 7 th May | Kidlington Outing to Banbury and surrounding towers | |
| | 10.00am. North Aston (6); 11.00am. Adderbury (8); 12noon. Banbury (10); 1.00pm. Lunch at the White Horse, Banbury. | |
| Saturday 14 th May | Practice at Clanfield (8) with the Witney & Woodstock ringers | 10.30am-12noon |
| Saturday 14 th May | Half-yearly Meeting and Striking Competition at Cowley (6) (Times below, still to be confirmed) | |
| | 2.00pm. Striking Competition; 2.45pm. Tea; 3.15pm. Meeting; 3.45pm. Informal Competition & ringing on the mini-ring. | |
| Saturday 26 th June | Practice at Chadlington (6). (Lunch is planned beforehand at the 'Café de la Post' at 1.00pm) | 2.00pm-3.00pm |
| Saturday 16 th July | Morning Outing to Berkshire. Yattendon (6); Englefield (8); | |

For more details go to the Oxford City Branch website: www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk

Any information or photographs for inclusion in **Hugh's News** please email me: paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk