



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News!



(Produced fortnightly by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas. All contributions are welcome.)

Monday 28th June 2010.

Ringling Trip to the Itchen Valley, Hampshire. L-r: Judy Kirby, Roy Jones, Bernard Masterman, Donna Murphy, Paul Kimber, Hugh Deam, Christian Burrell, Steve Everett and Paul Lucas.

"A pastel backdrop of a Summer's day amidst the verdant valley that exists between the clear shimmering waters of the Itchen and Test rivers has long been desirous perfection for countless anglers and painters, but one would suspect that you can also safely add bell ringers with an aesthetic eye and keen ear to that list on the evidence of our all too brief sojourn here.

That the fashion conscious Victorian London glitterati, newly liberated by the bicycle and later

the car, adjudged this area as a favoured destination, is still easy to see today, with earlier Georgian opulence in both house and garden. Several of the villages and towers that we visited have connections with the highest powers in the land from many centuries before. Avington being a case in point, in that this was a favoured lodging for Charles II and his mistress Nell Gwynne during his visits to Winchester. The pub where we enjoyed lunch, was bedecked with photographic evidence of how Twyford looked at the beginning of the 20th century. The six sets of bells we encountered during the day were the epitome of eclectic, starting with a campanile in a garage and ending at one of the loudest rings that we have come across for a goodly while." *Hugh Deam.*

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 1st July

'Aunt Sally' Evening

Red Lion at Wolvercote. 8.00pm - after ringing.

Free to take part. £3 if you require sandwiches and chips. For more information, email Donna Murphy: donna.murphy@admin.ox.ac.uk or phone: 01865-379018. Please come along. The more the merrier!!

Saturday 10th July

The Branch 'Pudding and Dessert Evening' is back ON again!

St Nicholas Church Hall, Marston. 6.30 – 9.00pm. All you can eat for £4, or £2 if you supply a pudding of your own!

For full details of all the above events, contact Hugh Deam on: 07899-871079, or email: hughdeam@btinternet.com

Saturday 14th August.

Trip on the 'Venturer' Narrow Boat - 9.30am-5.00pm.

If you would be interested in another trip later in the year, then email me (address below), or call me on 07778-834334.

Saturday 25th September

Shiplake (8)

The Guild's Michaelmas Training Course.

Full details from Katie Lane on 01865-874026, or email: kt.catchmole@googlemail.com

Local Practice Nights:

Mondays:

Cowley (6) (7.00-9.00), Garsington (6), (8.00-9.00) St Aldates (6) (2nd/4th week)

Tuesdays:

Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).

(Headington has an **Advanced Practice** from 8.00–9.00pm on the **first** Tuesday of each month. Stedman Triples and beyond! The next one is on **Tuesday 6th July.**)

(Kidlington has an **Advanced Triples Practice** from 7.45–9.00pm on the **fourth** Tuesday of each month. The next one is on **27th July.**)

Wednesdays:

Iffley (6).

Thursdays:

Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8), Stanton St John (5).

Fridays:

Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.45-7.45)

Note: Most Practices start at 7.30pm, but before turning up, check the details of the Ringing Times, Tower Captains and Correspondents, by going to the Oxford City Branch website:

<http://www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk>

Any information or photographs for possible inclusion in *Hugh's News* (subject to space available), please email me: paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk



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