



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

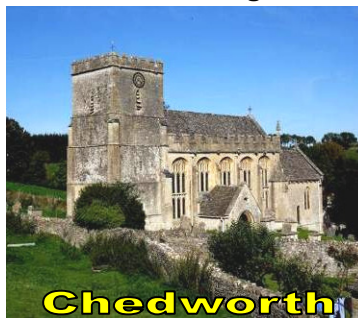
Produced fortnightly by Paul and Hugh, with contributions from other ringers.

Monday 24th September 2012



Mini Outing to Chedworth and Withington on Saturday 22nd September.

These are two of the lesser known beauty spots of the Cotswolds in the valley created by the River Coln and River Churn, and they were looking at their most resplendent on such a sunny day. Chedworth Roman Villa is one of the best-preserved such sites in England and the



Chedworth



Withington

village was abounding with tourists as we arrived. Both churches and their sets of bells were equally memorable, making the ringing all the more enjoyable, with **Chedworth (6)** having a working water-wheel at the foot of its churchyard and **Withington (6)** having a lake adjacent to its perimeter. I think the photos alone should give ample evidence as to the radiance of these two villages. *Hugh Deam.*

Doubles to Minor Practice at Hatherop (6) 7cwt on Sunday 16th September.



Although there has been a settlement here since pre-Norman times, **Hatherop** in Gloucestershire is primarily an early Victorian 'model' village with its parish church of the same period tucked away amidst Hatherop Castle School, a 17th century style of castle converted into a school during the 20th century. The bell-ropes in the ringing chamber fall in a semi-circle and were conducive to our minor method ringing. *Hugh Deam.*



Sarah Wheeler rings with the Ruabon ringers.

Sarah (in the orange t-shirt), is a recent recruit at **Iffley**, and was in mid-Wales last week, where she joined the band at **St Mary's Church in Ruabon (6) 11cwt**, for their practice night. They rang Plain Hunting on 5, Plain Bob Doubles and call changes. She said they were very friendly and welcoming, which goes to prove that if, as a beginner, you should never be afraid to 'try out' the local band of ringers when you're on holiday! Most bands will welcome you – whatever your ability! *Paul Lucas.*



A Strange Piece of History –

Bellringers sometimes ring for strange reasons!

On Wednesday 29th August, dedicated Sydney ringers rose early and travelled to **St Philip's at Church Hill (8)** to ring the bells to comply with the provisions of a bequest. This bequest was to perpetuate the memory of a certain Mr Charles Moore, Mayor of Sydney and Parliamentarian who died in 1895, and left to the bellringers a gift of dividends from certain stock. The stipulations of the bequest was the annual chiming (at the exact hour of his birth on the 29th August each year between 6am and 7am) of the 'Old Hundredth' - the old hymn - to be pealed seven times each time for one verse of the composition. So once more the bequest was carried out. The reward is no longer financial for the bellringers but for thousands of commuters on their way to work it was a more joyful start to the day! *Margaret Marsh.*



Another update on the City Branch Autumn Tour on Saturday 20th October 2012.

St Margaret's, Parliament Square (10) 26cwt
St James, Garlickhythe (8) 9cwt
St Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge (12) 26cwt.
Southwark Cathedral (12) 48cwt.
St George Borough (8) 14cwt.

Parish Church of the Houses of Parliament within the grounds of Westminster Abbey. 'The Royal Jubilee Bells'. (The bells from the floating belfry during the pageant).

The order of towers may change – although timing is expected to be between 10am and 5pm. More details nearer the time. Tower donations are expected to be in the region of £1.00 per tower per person. Ringers under 18 years must have a responsible adult to accompany them. If you are interested in coming along, please email Andy Dunn at: dr.andy.dunn@gmail.com. This is a Branch Outing to which all competent bell-handlers who can ring call-changes and above are invited. Most of the towers should have a call change session, during which those who are not used to ringing on higher numbers of bells will have a chance to ring.

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh on: 07899-871079, or email: hugh.deam@btinternet.com

Tuesday 2nd October	Advanced Practice at Headington (8) 7½cwt	8.00pm-9.00pm
Saturday 20th October	All Day Branch Outing to London. (Details above)	
Saturday 24th November	6 Bell Method Practice at Iffley (6) 10cwt	12.15pm-1.30pm

Local Practice Nights

Mondays: Garsington (6), (no practices for the time being), St Aldates (6).
Tuesdays: Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).
Wednesdays: Iffley (6).
Thursdays: Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).
Fridays: Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.45-7.45).

For full 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