



Oxford City Branch



Hugh's News



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

Monday 10th December 2012

This will be the last edition before Christmas, so 'Season's Greetings' to all our readers! The next edition will be in 2013.

Branch Practice at Wheatley (6) on 1st December

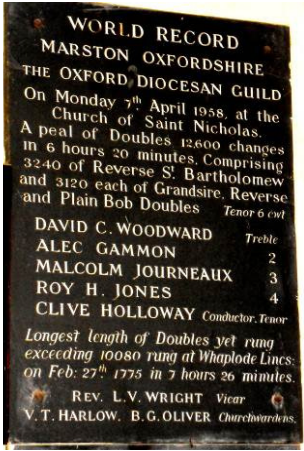


Many thanks go to the ringers of Wheatley for the use of their bells on a sunny but frosty December morning. Unfortunately, we only met five, so were unable to make full use of the six bells available, but still managed to ring some Stedman Doubles on the back five before retiring gracefully to the Queen's Head in Horspath for lunch and to sample the excellent Shotover Porter. Please do remember that Branch Practices are open to ringers of all standards - even those that are just learning to handle a bell - and that support at all levels is always appreciated. It is a great opportunity for all branch members to ring together and to make progress with things that may be difficult in your own tower.

Jonathan Cresshull

A prequel to the Cathedral Eulogy for Clive Holloway, by Roy Jones

Clive Holloway spent his early life in Old Marston before moving to Oxford where his parents managed pubs. He lived in Chalgrove, and rang there before moving to Garsington. As a baby Clive had an eye problem which gave him monocular vision, which did not prevent him from being involved in many activities. He was a Scout, rising to be a patrol leader, a member of the youth club, a keen cyclist and swimmer. He was a member of St Nicholas choir in Marston before being enticed into the ringing chamber. He was taught to ring by Alec Gammon and Roy Jones, and became a member of a call change band. After visits to Wolvercote and tuition in Bob Doubles from Tom Bowles, Mike Harding and Horace Mair, Clive became part of the band which rang the first recorded quarter peal on the St Nicholas bells. Having been exposed to Alan Pink's Doubles Collection, he developed a talent for conducting and a thirst for Method ringing, which led to Clive conducting the record Doubles Peal at Marston. He rang at St Ebbe's with the Charlie Coles group before being invited by Walter Judge to ring at the Cathedral to which he could walk or cycle and then go to other Oxford towers. Long sequences which kept bells in a certain order on higher numbers than six bells helped Clive to ring Methods well and hastened his move to eight, ten and twelve bell ringing. I don't remember Clive teaching anyone to ring but he was an understanding and supportive tutor to those who handled a bell well in learning to ring Method. He did ring at a few three and four bell towers when helping the Marston band to restore towers or resurrect a defunct band. Clive did much to encourage City ringing, and he will be greatly missed. *Roy Jones*



Special Practice at Iffley (6) on Saturday 24th November

The weather may have taken an inexorable turn for the worse as the day wore on, but the same couldn't be said for the ringing, as only one of the dozen or so rings that we had needed to be restarted, with some exemplary Stedman, Plain Bob and Little Bob Minor, St. Clements and Cambridge during an hour or so of deed rather than need. *Hugh Deam*



Wolvercote Ringers Quiz 29th November

If you see a room full of people with furrowed brows probably a fair chance that there is a quiz going on. The art of Quizzing has become quite de rigueur of late, requiring almost slavish researching and refreshing on toponyms, the periodic table, Greek and Norse Mythology, and



the Top Ten Lists of Everything that was ever Anything. So it was comforting that if Wolvercote quiz nights were crosswords then they would be of the Coffee-Break variety rather than The Times crossword, all much more fun really. Such was this evening, chatty, informal and enhanced by copious vittals served up in the stellar manner that Wolvercote always manages so as to take the mind off the cold night outside. *Hugh Deam*

Dates for your Diary

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

Tuesday 8th January 2013	Advanced Practice at Headington (8) 7½cwt	8.00pm-9.00pm
Saturday 12th January	Branch Practice at Witney (8) 16cwt	10.30am-12.00noon
Saturday 2nd February	Stedman Triples Practice at Woodstock (8) 12cwt	10.30am-12.00noon

Local Practice Nights

- Mondays:** Garsington (6), (No practices for the time being. Bells due to be rehung), 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) (6.30-7.30).

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