



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

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



Monday 21st January 2013

Stop Press! News came through last Friday from Charlotte Everett announcing the safe arrival of her great-granddaughter – Janna (8lb 8ozs), born to Damaris and Jack in the early hours of Friday morning. Mother and baby are both doing well! As you can imagine Steve and the rest of the Everett family are over the moon! Many congratulations from all of us! *Paul.*



Branch Practice at Witney (8)

Despite the bitter cold easterly wind there was a warm welcome for the 13 ringers (one nipped off early before the photo was taken!) attending the **Witney and Woodstock Branch** practice held at St Mary's, Witney on Saturday 12th January. A variety of doubles, triples and major methods were rung including Cambridge and touches of Stedman, with plentiful guidance and encouragement for those learning from the more experienced ringers in the group. An enjoyable morning was had by all. *Julie Minch.*

A Pleasant Evening at the Bethells!

The 60th year of the St. Nicholas Society of Bell Ringers at Marston was celebrated in style with a soiree at the Manor House thanks to the inordinate generosity of the Bethell family, whose son John is one of our ringers. A truncated practice was attended by most of our newer recruits as well as our long-standing members and visitors and immediately followed by a highly sociable gathering that was graced by our Vicar since 1990, Rev. Tony Price and his wife Alison. The exemplary food and drink on offer bestowed the gathering with a still more memorable flavour. *Hugh Deam.*



A Brand New Bell at Kidlington!

A new bell has been installed in **St Marys, Kidlington** Tower on New Year's Eve..... but not quite like that! This bell is a working model made by one of our ringers, Phil Sampson. It's an authentic bell and comes from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry and swings in a frame made from **Meccano!** The headstock and wheel are also Meccano, and the stay, made of ash, comes from an old broken full size stay. The wheel is actually two wheels joined together to give it more stability. The Meccano parts are almost as old as Phil (!) and he really hopes that you will pop up to a Tuesday practice at Kidlington and have a quick ring on his model bell and a longer ring on the full sized ones. (Could this be a first for Meccano?) *Ron Burgess.*



Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh on at: [hugh.deam at btinternet.com](http://hugh.deam.btinternet.com) or Jonathan at: jonathan at cresshull.co.uk

Saturday 26 th January	10 bell Practice at St Thomas, Oxford (10) 11cwt	6.30pm-8.00pm
Saturday 2 nd February	Stedman Triples Practice at Woodstock (8) 12cwt	10.30am-12.00noon
Tuesday 5 th February	Advanced Practice at Headington (8) 7½cwt	8.00pm-9.00pm
Saturday 9 th February	Branch Practice Headington (8) 7½cwt	10.30am-12.00noon

(This Practice will include a short Finance Meeting)

Local Practice Nights

- Mondays:** St Aldates (6), Garsington (6) (No Practices at the moment),
(The Garsington bells are hopefully going to be available again in April after re-hanging. More news to follow)
- 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 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 at hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk)