



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

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



Monday 18th March 2013

Hugh's Practices at Berrick Salome (6) and Little Milton (6) on Saturday 16th March

Given that the name **Berrick** denotes the presence of barley farming here, and this coupled with the recent chill from the fringes of the weather



system nicknamed the 'Beast from the East', it could possibly be apposite to quote Robert Burns who wrote that: 'the cock may crawl, the day may daw, and aye we'll taste the barley-bree (broth)'. It is easy to surmise that warm sustenance akin to this would have been the order of the day locally for many centuries. With the early 18th century pub here (The Chequers) there would have been little chance of encountering the malt and barley blues. The church with its unforgettable timber-framed tower is set away from the village and during the time we were there was a hive



of activity in the churchyard as snowdrop bulbs were being planted for next year. The church in **Little Milton** is a relatively recent building (1844), constructed in a distinctive 14th century style, and the tower added in 1861. Nascent ringers, or those of us who remember our embryonic ringing days, will no doubt be cognisant with the exhortation to refrain from looking up when ringing as all one is likely to receive is dust in the eye, well here the advice is not to look down when nearly atop the ladder for the extent of what you will spy. The climb up the ladder is daunting, but well worth the effort. The song may state that there are "Three Steps to Heaven" but here there are 33 steps to some heavenly bells. By the end of the afternoon hopefully everyone had practiced what they had set out to, and we were inordinately grateful for the extra conductor provided by Little Milton tower, namely the lightning conductor,



as thunder and lightning briefly raged outside as we were starting some Plain Bob Minor as opposed to a polka. *Hugh Deam.*

A Branch Practice at Wolvercote (6)

On the cold, wet morning of Saturday 9th March, a group of us of all ringing abilities met up for a short practice on the delightful bells at **Wolvercote**. The relatively long draught and fairly light bells, was a little challenging for some, but it wasn't long before we were ringing everything from Plain Hunting to Cambridge Surprise Minor – enjoyed by all!

Paul Lucas.



The final details of the Outing to Cambridgeshire next Saturday 23rd March:

- 10.15am-11.15am Over (8) 13cwt
- 11.30am-12.15pm Willingham (6) 11cwt
- 12.30pm- 2.00pm Lunch at 'The White Horse', Oakington.
- 2.15pm - 3.00pm Oakington (6) 5cwt
- 3.15pm - 4.15pm Longstanton (8) 7cwt

(If you are planning to have lunch at the White Horse, can you email your food order to Hugh by next Thursday 21st March at the latest please. Their menu is on the additional page below)



Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday 23 rd March	Spring Outing to Cambridgeshire (see details above)	All Day Trip
Saturday 6 th April	Stedman Triples Practice at South Leigh (8)	10.30am-12noon
Saturday 20 th April	Freeland (6). Minor and Doubles Method Practice with the Freeland ringers.	4.00pm-5.30pm
Saturday 27 th April	Minor Method Mini-Outing to Wiltshire	
	Lacock (6) 3.00pm and Langley Burrell (6) 4.30pm (to be confirmed)	
Saturday 4 th May	Cowley (6). Practice with Cowley ringers.	6.00pm-7.30pm

Local Practice Nights

- Mondays: St Aldates (6), Garsington (6) (No Practices at the moment).
- 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)

THE 'WHITE HORSE' MENU

STARTERS:

- £2.50 - **Olives and bread**
- £4.50 - **Homemade soup** with garlic bread
- £5.00 - **Tempura king prawns** with sweet chilli sauce
- £6.00 - **Pigeon breast**, pan fried bacon, red wine and rocket
- £4.50 - **Whitebait** with chilli mayo and crusty bread
- £5.00 - **Creamy garlic mushrooms** with bread
- £5.00 - **Fried goats cheese** with cranberry sauce, salad and croutons

MAINS:

- £9.00 - **Homemade oakey burger** with chips & onion rings
- £9.00 - **Homemade beef lasagne** with garlic bread & salad
- £10.00 - **Chicken & bacon tagliatelle** with cream & brandy
- £12.00 - **Steak, Shiraz and Stilton pie** with roast potatoes & vegetables
- £12.00 - **Chicken or steak fajitas** with flour tortillas & dips
- £9.00 - **Vegetable fajitas** with flour tortillas & dips
- £9.00 - **Whole tail scampi** with chips & peas
- £9.00 - **Beer battered giant cod** with chips & peas
- £12.00 - **Pan fried sea bass** with new potatoes & grilled vegetables
- £9.00 - **Bangers & mustard mash** with peas & onion gravy
- £15.00 - **10oz sirloin steak** with all the trimmings (with peppercorn sauce - £2.00)
- £14.00 - **10oz rump steak** with mushroom & brandy sauce
- £15.00 - **Duck breast** with fresh cherry sauce, new potatoes & green beans
- £15.00 - **Bransley chops** with port & redcurrant sauce
- £10.00 - **Mushroom, cranberry and brie wellington** with home cut chips and vegetables
- £10.00 - **Porcini mushroom & spinach risotto** with garlic bread

[hugh.deam at btinternet.com](http://hugh.deam.at.btinternet.com)