



# Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

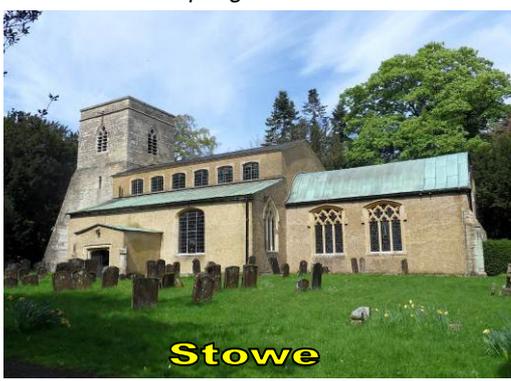


Produced fortnightly by Paul and Hugh, with a few contributions from other ringers

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014

## A Ringing Trip to Stowe and Lillingstone Lovell on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

It would probably not be amiss to dub this season as a "Wordsworth Spring" such has been the luxuriant riot of colour across Eden's blissful wilderness so as to foster inspiration and imagination. Many a poet of renown or no could hardly fail to give of their best amidst the throngs of birds lodged in their shady nests and flowers spread across glades and verdant crests. As the sun shone it was as if the gloom and clam that shrouded the country just twenty four hours earlier were of a world away. Although now a National Trust property, many of the wonders within **Stowe**, (lakes, monuments and gardens) are available to ringers to view once they have



Stowe

wended their way through the grounds to the parking for the church behind the school. The landscaping of the gardens here was Lancelot Capability Brown's first commission, and as we approached the 13th century church it was easy to envisage why so many European monarchs and leading writers and philosophers spent time here during the 18th and 19th centuries. If the myriad attractions of the gardens were not enough, the church contains many facets, niches and memorials of note itself, with the bells being well worth visiting in themselves. **Lillingstone Lovell** may not possess the kudos of Stowe but is a demure gem in its own right, with an oft restored, but sensitively so, church, abutted by the original 13th century tower and its distinctive



The 'Wheatsheaf'



saddleback roof. The bells, unusually being in the minor key, were augmented to a set of six in 2011. As the twin Lillingstone villages have been devoid of a pub for many years since, we lunched at 'The Wheatsheaf' in Maids Moreton nearby and enjoyed an excellent lunch at a pub that has successfully gone back to the future offering scampi, chicken, or chicken in the basket meals alongside the more conventional fare. **Hugh.**



Lillingstone Lovell

**A Branch Practice at Garsington (6)**  
In what proved a brief but worthwhile Easter Monday diversion, those who held worries about the difficulty of the bells at Garsington tower had their fears allayed during an hour long practice that ended just before the traditional Bank Holiday downpour. Although the half-yearly meeting scheduled to be held here on Saturday 10th May will not now be happening, the Branch Striking Competition will still go ahead on that day, but in the morning starting at 10.30am. Please note there is still time for towers to enter a team. **Hugh.**



### Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam at: [hugh.deam at btinternet.com](http://hugh.deam.btinternet.com) or phone: 07899-871079.

Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Advanced Practice at Kidlington (8) All experienced ringers welcome.	7.45pm-9.00pm
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	General Ringing at Cowley (6) hosted by the Cowley Ringers.	4.30pm-6.00pm
<b>(The minimum requirement for those attending is knowledge of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles please)</b>		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May (Bank Holiday)	Specific Methods Practice at Chilton (6).	10.30am-12noon
<b>(Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob Minor and Little Bob Minor)</b>		
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Advanced Practice at St Giles (8) All experienced ringers welcome.	7.30pm-9.00pm
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Basic Skills Mini-Outing to Latton (5) 10.30am-11.15am and Broad Blunsdon (8)	11.30am-12.30pm
<b>(Call Changes and Plain Hunting upwards. This is open to all ringers from rounds upwards, but please email Hugh to let him know you are coming.)</b>		
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	General Ringing at Headington (8), with the Headington Ringers	11.00am-12.15pm
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Mini Outing to Lane End (6) 10.30am-11.30am and Turville (5) 12noon-1.00pm.	

### Local Practice Nights

- Mondays: St Aldates (6), Garsington (6)
- Tuesdays: Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).
- Wednesdays: Headington (8), Iffley (6).
- Thursdays: St Giles (8), Wolvercote (6), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).
- Fridays: Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.30pm-7.30pm).

For more details go to the Oxford City Branch website: [www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk](http://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)