



# Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

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

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2014

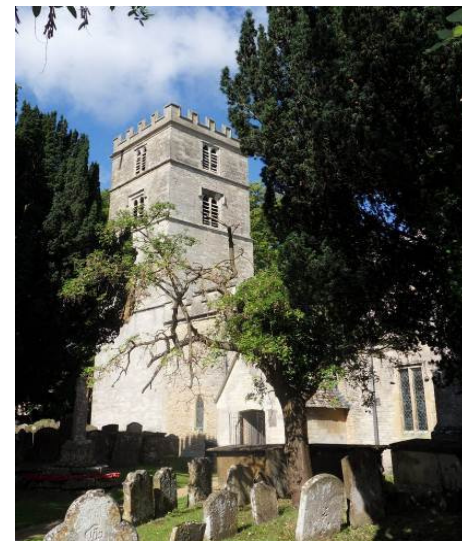


## General Ringing Practice at Yarnton (6)

The weather was kind to us as we arrived at the lovely 12th century church of St Bartholomew in Yarnton on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August !



The Church has remarkable treasures including many wonderful stained glass windows which were collected by Alderman Fletcher at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and date from many periods. The glass in the Spencer Chapel is of the 17<sup>th</sup> century and is said to be the biggest collection of painted armorial glass in the diocese. Fletcher also presented the octagonal font in the nave, obtained from the church of St Michael and is probably 12<sup>th</sup> century. The ring of 6 was installed by the influential Sir Thomas Spencer who also built the Chapel and Tower and owned the Manor House which has recently been sold. Only one of the bells has been reset since that time, and all,



except the second bell have this inscription on it, Sir Thomas Spencer, Knight and Baronet, Lord of this Manor, gave me, 1620. The bells were retuned in 1987 by the Whitechapel Foundry, London, and the following year were rehung by Whites of Appleton. The bells are heavier than the normal bells which we ring around the Oxford Churches, but were a pleasure to master. We rang some Bob Doubles and Steadman, and a few call changes. We left in good form and still in good weather having enjoyed this quiet area that used to be one of the main routes into Oxford. **Ginger Andrews**

## Two Cowley 'Firsts' !

The occasion of **Cowley** ringer, Lindsey Powell's 50th birthday was marked by a quarter peal of Plain Bob Doubles. Not only was this Lindsay's first quarter on an inside bell, but also a first quarter peal for Charlotte Furneaux. Post-quarter celebrations took the form of a bottle of fizz and a delicious cake baked by Lindsey's husband, Chris!

*Treble. Charlotte Furneaux (1st quarter peal), 2. Hugh Deam (c), 3. Susan King, 4. Lindsey Powell (1st quarter peal on an inside bell), 5. Judy Kirby, Tenor. Colin Taylor. **Hugh Deam***

## A Practice at South Leigh and a Quarter Peal at Weston on the Green this weekend

During what is traditionally a period when ringing takes something of a lacuna, the combined resources of Witney & Woodstock and Oxford City Branch ringers meant a busy weekend ensued. The session on Saturday morning at **South Leigh (8)**

provided the opportunity for a first foray for most concerned into ringing Middlesex Triples. Besides various Triples methods there was time for Doubles also, thus ensuring everyone benefitted from the practice. Sunday lunchtime saw a quarter peal on the recently restored bells at **Weston on the Green (6)**. Some of the band had to resort to makeshift ear defenders, namely rolled up pieces of tissue, such is the proximity of the ringing chamber to the bells! For future reference, plans are afoot to ameliorate this problem. This quarter peal had special resonance for the band as the attempt on May 1st had to be abandoned due to the ill health of Roy Jones. At the time it was decided that we would reconvene for a quarter here, and as Roy had already booked this date earlier in the year it was entirely apposite that we honour the booking and ring in his memory. **Hugh Deam**

## Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Iffley (6) Method Ringing Practice with the Iffley ringers

10.30am-11.45am

Freeland (6) Graduated Practice with the Freeland ringers

4.00pm-6.00pm

*(Plain Hunt/Plain Bob – 4.00-4.30. Grandsire/St Simon's/Bob Minor – 4.30-5.00. St Clement's/Beverley/Cambridge – 5.00-6.00)*

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August

Marsh Gibbon (5) General Afternoon Ringing

2.00pm-3.30pm

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September

Ringing Roadshow at Newbury Racecourse (see update above)

All Day

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September

Morning Practice at Burford (8)

10.00am-11.15am

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September

Cowley (6) Ringing Practice with the Cowley ringers

4.30pm-6.00pm

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October

Half Day Outing

*(Stoke Mandeville (8) 10.00am, Haddenham (8) 11.30am. Lunch at The King's Head Haddenham. Another Tower t.b.c. 2.15pm)*

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@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk)