



# Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

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

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015



St Frideswide is Oxford's patron saint. Legend has it that she lived in the early eighth century, escaped from an arranged marriage by hiding in reeds by the river and fulfilled her wish to become a nun by founding a great priory, close to the southern wall of Oxford where monks and nuns praised God and cared for those stricken by misfortune, and where her name lived on for ever. It was destroyed in 1002. However, the oldest monument in Christ Church Cathedral is the Shrine of St. Frideswide in the Latin Chapel north of the chancel. In 1289, the shrine once contained the holy relics of Frideswide and was visited by countless medieval pilgrims.

St Frideswide's church is on the Botley Road and is one of only two dedicated to the saint. The enclosed southern turret contains one bell, 14", hung for chiming. It was cast by Messrs Warner and is inscribed: London 1871. In the central tower is a disused bell, 13", inscribed: Mears & Stainbank Founders 1873. There is also a modern sanctuary bell, 4½", hung for chiming. The inscription reads: VOCEM MEAM AVDIT QUI ME TANGIT.

There are other bells in our branch dedicated to St Frideswide. Where are they?



Congratulations to St Giles' ringers Victoria and Beatrice who both rang their first quarters for Evensong. Beatrice, aged 15, stepped in at 30 minutes notice and had only once before rung the tenor to a short touch!

Sunday, 1 March 2015 in 40min (14-0-1 in F#)

### 1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Victoria Rawn Wyllie de Echeverria
- 2 Andrew Dunn
- 3 Catherine M A Lane
- 4 John G Pusey
- 5 Andrew R Freer (C)
- 6 Beatrice J Z King

St Cross bells – see Hugh's News edition for Sunday 28 February can be heard at the following link.

<http://www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk/sounds.htm#stcross>.

Do you want to arrange an additional practice for a particular method on 6 or 8 bells? You may recall that I said I would be very happy to make arrangements - please email or call me: 01865 874026 [kt.catchmole at gmail.com](mailto:kt.catchmole@gmail.com)

### Dates for your diary

**Saturday 14 March** Branch Practice 1000-1130 Garsington

Hugh will be running this Branch Practice because I booked myself onto an OU course last autumn!  
Guild General Committee Meeting at Steeple Aston

**Sunday 29 March** Surprise Major Practice 1500-1630 St Giles'

Andrew Freer will run this practice because I will be in my Grandma role in Sweden, apologies for my absence!

**Saturday 28 March** Freeland Joint practice with Freeland ringers