



# Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

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

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015



## Roy Jones Memorial in Old Marston

*The River Cherwell wends its way through fields of green that end in hay...*

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August had dawned fine and sunny in Old Marston as a large group of Roy Jones' friends and relatives walked quietly over Mortimer Field to witness the unveiling of a plaque in Roy's memory. *Salix* was Roy's favourite tree and the plaque is placed close to the sturdy young willow planted earlier in tribute. Sharing memories verbally and in silence, we were uplifted by hearing Roy's own words in a poem he wrote when nine years old:

*In the waters fish abound  
And water lilies there are found  
The peaceful scene is more enchanting  
As above the water the mayflies are dancing*

Our spirits too were enchanted. **Judy Kirby**

*Seen in the photos are Charlie Haynes, Chairman of Old Marston Parish Council who oversaw the unveiling. Anthony Hughes, Tower Captain at St. Nicholas made a short speech detailing Roy's ringing career and legacy towards the current rehanging of the bells. The Vicar of St. Nicholas, Tony Price is pictured with Roy's wife Catherine.*

*The event was attended by many of Roy's ringing*



*colleagues, as well as the Parish Council, Parochial Church Council and youth group work, as well as family and friends. Hugh Deam*

## Roy Jones Memorial Ringing Morning at Islip (8) and Kidlington (8) – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

Since Roman times August has been imputed with lucky connotations by many, and on the last two Saturdays there has certainly been

some good fortune in the splendid weather that has accompanied the two events to mark the strong legacy that has been left us by Roy Jones. Although the list of towers in and around Oxford alone that held a special significance to Roy is as long as the longest proverbial arm, **Islip** would unquestionably have been on the list as he rang over one hundred quarter peals on the bells. His quarter peal tally at **Kidlington** was considerably lower, but nonetheless this was still an oft visited tower for him. Despite being known for his prodigious level of quarter pealing Roy was also a great espouser of passing on the baton by way of opening out the opportunities to ring and with that in mind the morning was structured to encompass all who attended. Hopefully we will reconvene at a couple or three nearby towers around this time next year. **Hugh Deam**

## Tower Restoration at Headington

Since the beginning of August, a major restoration project costing over £100,000 has started on the tower at St Andrew's in Headington. Thankfully the ringing is so far



unaffected by this work. All this has been brought about by the fact that back in the 1960s when there had been another restoration project, the builders of the day had used concrete and cement when replacing the damaged stonework, and as a result, over the years, the façade of the tower has been damaged. This 1960s stonework is to be removed and traditional stone will be replaced. The builders will also be renovating the clock on the tower. Meanwhile, ringing continues as normal, but some of the wedding photographers in recent weeks have been marginally less than happy that their traditional photographs of the happy couple standing in front of the lovely porch have had to be relocated! At this stage, no one really knows how long the work will last. **Paul Lucas**

## Dates for your Diary

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

Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Surprise Major Practice on the Simulator at Headington (8)	3.30pm-5.00pm
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Bank Holiday Practice at Chilton (6). St Clements and Little Bob Minor	10.30am-12noon
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Weston on the Green (6) Ringing up and down practice	10.30am-12noon
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	St Giles (8) Branch Practice	4.30pm-6.00pm
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Mini Outing organized by the Cowley Ringers. Great Tew (8) and one other tower - to be confirmed	
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Stanton Harcourt (6). Branch Practice with the Witney and Woodstock Branch	10.30am-12noon
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Morning Mini Outing to Aylesbury (8) 10.30am; and Chinnor (6) 12.15pm.	

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