



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



(Produced fortnightly by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas. All contributions are welcome.)

Monday 21st February 2011



Branch Practice at St Andrews, Headington (8) on Saturday 12th February.

This Practice included Methods from Plain Hunting up to Stedman Triples and Bob Major. Unfortunately 3 attempts at Cambridge Major went 'pear-shaped'! The Practice was well-attended, so thanks to all who came along! *Paul Lucas.*

During the Practice, a short business meeting took place. The accounts were presented by the Treasurer, Matthew Malek, and, after the acceptance by the independent examiner, were ratified by the members. Four new members were elected: Damaris Everett from Headington; Laura and Jonathan Bayliss from Wheatley, and Barbara Payne also from Wheatley. These members were proposed by Katie Lane and seconded by Paul Lucas. James and Marika Hazeldine from Wheatley, and Peter Nicholas from Brill were welcomed to the City Branch. It was agreed that £500 from branch funds would be donated towards the work scheduled for the re-hanging of St Giles' bells. This was proposed by Katie Lane, seconded by Roy Jones and agreed, *nem con*, by all those members present. *Katie Lane*

A Training Morning.

On Saturday 5 February, I attended a Training morning at Thame (8), organised on behalf of the ODG for branch representatives. The most popular topic during the opening discussion session was the perennial problem of how to teach rounds ringers the combination of skills required for change-ringing. Later, we moved to the tower, and attempted some unusual and challenging exercises: Rounds with all of the band facing outwards, or with the odd-numbered bells ringing backstrokes and evens ringing handstrokes. 'Kaleidoscope ringing' - all sorts of combinations of pairs of adjacent bells dodging, making places, or long places (four blows at a time). 'Bayles Doubles' - a variation of Plain Bob Doubles, with each lead extended by the treble lying in 5ths for four blows instead of two, while the 2nds place bell turns round in



fourths; as a consequence, e.g. the fourth dodges in 4-3 down every time the treble leads, giving a learner a chance to practice the same piece of work much more frequently than usual, in a single practice touch. *John Pusey.*

(Right: A lead and a bit of Bayles Doubles)

1 2 3 4 5
2 1 4 3 5
2 4 1 5 3
4 2 5 1 3
4 5 2 3 1
5 4 3 2 1
5 3 4 2 1
3 5 2 4 1
3 2 5 1 4
2 3 1 5 4
2 1 3 4 5
1 2 4 3 5
1 2 3 4 5
2 1 4 3 5
2 4 1 5 3

6 Bell Branch Practice at Iffley (6).

The event was exceptionally well attended with sixteen ringers in all across the morning. Plain Courses of several Minor methods such as Kent, Little Bob and Reverse Canterbury, plus touches of Plain Bob Minor and Single Oxford were successfully completed for the first time by those who put in their requests. The Cambridge was acceptably well struck. *Hugh Deam.*

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam on 07899-871079, or email: hugh.deam@btinternet.com

Saturday 26th February

Trip to Bedfordshire. (Experienced Ringers only)

Felmersham (8) 20cwt

10.30am

Lunch at The Bell, Odell.



Harrold (6) 13cwt

11.45am

Carlton (6) 9cwt

2.30pm

Saturday 12th March

6 Bell Practice

Horspath (6) 5cwt. (To be confirmed – check with Hugh)

10.30am

Saturday 19th March

Spring Outing to the Milton Keynes area.

1.30pm - Lunch at the Shoulder of Mutton, Calverton.



Great Brickhill. St Marys (8) 14cwt.

10.00am

Shenley, Church End. St Marys (6) 17cwt

11.15am

Whaddon. St Marys (6) 14cwt.

12.30pm

Calverton. All Saints (6) 10cwt.

3.00pm

Cosgrove. SS Peter and Paul (6) 11cwt.

4.15pm

Saturday 5th April

6 Bell Practice

Hillesden, Bucks (6) 9cwt.

10.00am

Saturday 11th June

6 Bell Practice

Watlington (8) 24cwt.

(Time to be confirmed)

Local Practice Nights:

Mondays:

Cowley (6) (7.30-9.00), Garsington (6), (8.00-9.00), St Aldates (6) (2nd/4th week only).

Tuesdays:

Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).

(Headington has an **Advanced Practice** from 8.00–9.00pm on the **first** Tuesday of each month. Stedman Triples and above. The next one will be on **Tuesday 1st March**)

Wednesdays:

Iffley (6).

Thursdays:

Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8), Stanton St John (5).

Fridays:

Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.45-7.45)

Note: Most Practices start at 7.30pm, but before turning up, check the details of the Ringing Times, Tower Captains and Correspondents, by going to the Oxford City Branch website: www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk

Any information or photographs for possible inclusion in **Hugh's News** (subject to space available),

please email me: paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk