



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



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

Monday 21st March 2011



It is with much sadness that I have to inform you that David Lane died at home on Tuesday, with us by his side. He was 76. He had been suffering from cancer for many months, which he bore with great dignity and stoicism. His Funeral is to be on Tuesday 29 March at 12.00 in St John's Chapel at the Oxford Crematorium. Everyone is welcome. There will be family flowers only, but donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care and Cancer Research would be appreciated. *Katie Lane.*



A Quarter Peal to celebrate the life of Paul Foote.

L-R: Mark Walker, Richard Verrall, Paul Lucas, Jonathan Cresshull, Sue Foote, David Andrews, Katie Routh and Clare Fairbairn. We rang a well struck Quarter Peal of 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, at St Andrews Old Headington (8) on Sunday 13th March. It was a pleasure to be joined by Paul's daughter Sue, who now rings at Chieveley, near Newbury. Afterwards we were joined in the *White Hart* by ringers, Hayley Morris and Wendy Austen, where we all drank a well-deserved toast to Paul! *Paul Lucas.*



Branch Practice at Horspath (6).

An enjoyable practice was held on a lovely Spring morning in Horspath on Saturday 12th March.

A generous gesture from Bernard Masterman.

Bernard was recently featured in an *Oxford Mail* article, following his announcement that he was going to donate £27,000 of his own money towards the fund for rehanging and retuning the bells of St Giles in Oxford. I think it goes without saying that his generosity in donating such a large amount of money will be remembered by the ringers in Oxford for many years to come. *Paul Lucas.*



The Spring Outing to Milton Keynes – Saturday 19th March.

It was like going back in history when we - 17 Oxford bell ringers - rang at five Norman churches dating from the 12th century, with bells originally cast in the 16th and 17th centuries. In four of the churches we ascended narrow steep spiral stone stairways as in medieval times. Yet in each tower the experiences were unique. At **Great Brickhill (8)** the tower was shaking as we were ringing the heavy bells of total 57cwt. **Shenley Church End (6)** is a beautiful church with a chancel dating from 1150 and intact historic features, but the bells were difficult. **Whaddon (6)** had difficult ropes with long draught, an odd entry through a trapdoor but a beautiful stained glass window and a glass wall onto the nave. Lunch was at an old English pub, The Shoulder of Mutton, in **Calverton (6)** and was very good. The bells in the church were a good ring, in a generous space with a vase of plastic flowers on the centre table! Finally at **Cosgrove (6)** with a tight ringing space, but a large sunny seating alcove with a Gothic window. The bells were also a good ring. *And, what's more, this successful bell ringing day in beautiful rural England occurred on the sunniest day of the year!*



Great Brickhill.



Shenley, Church End.



Whaddon.



Calverton.



Cosgrove.

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Margaret Marsh

Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday 9th April	6 Bell Practice	Hillesden, Bucks (6) 9cwt.	10.00am
Monday 11th April	Stedman Triples Advance Practice at Kidlington (8) 21cwt.		7.30pm
Monday 16th May	Stedman Triples Advance Practice at St Giles (8) 14cwt.		7.30pm
Saturday 11th June	6 Bell Practice	Watlington (8) 24cwt.	(Time to be confirmed)
Saturday 9th July	O.D.G. Guild Festival	Details from Katie Lane: kt.catchmole@googlemail.com	

Local Practice Nights:

Mondays:	Cowley (6) (7.30-9.00), Garsington (6), (8.00-9.00), St Aldates (6) (2 nd /4 th 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 5th April)
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