



# Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



Produced fortnightly by Paul, Jonathan and Hugh, plus contributions from other ringers.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2012

## Branch AGM held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November

The Branch AGM was hosted by St. Giles this year; this lively event was very well attended by both long-standing members and new inductees. We began with an hour of ringing which was, for some, their first time experiencing the rehung St. Giles bells. Quite a difference from the "old" bells! After the post-ringing service, conducted by the retiring Canon Anthony Ellis from Kidlington, a lovely selection of tea and snacks were generously provided by a team of volunteers from the congregation. The meeting itself commenced with a few words of remembrance said for our recently deceased members, Clive Holloway and Bob Benstead. We then welcomed an impressive number of new people to the branch - 18 ringers were elected to new memberships! Finally, we welcome our new committee members: Roy Jones has stepped down as Deputy Chairman, following years of service too numerous to count; he will be succeeded by Paul Lucas, our long-time editor of Hugh's News. Also, Jonathan Cresshull was elected as a second Ringing Master. He will serve alongside Hugh Deam in the coming year.

*Matthew Malek - Treasurer*



## A couple of pictures of Anthony Ellis's last night having a drink with the Kidlington ringers at the Kings Arms!



It's always a bittersweet occasion when a ringer who has contributed so greatly to a tower and a branch over a lengthy period moves on to pastures new, and so it is with the departure of Canon Anthony Ellis of Kidlington who is imminently to retire and move to Herefordshire. His tenure as Branch Chairman was characterised by his meticulously adept handling of meetings and ability to bring these conclaves to an end bang on time yet still having allowed all who wished to have their say, indeed a hard trick to pull off, but something which he did time and again. The ringers of the Oxford City Branch will miss Anthony, but I'm sure will, to a man and woman, wish him every beneficence in the future.

*Hugh Deam*

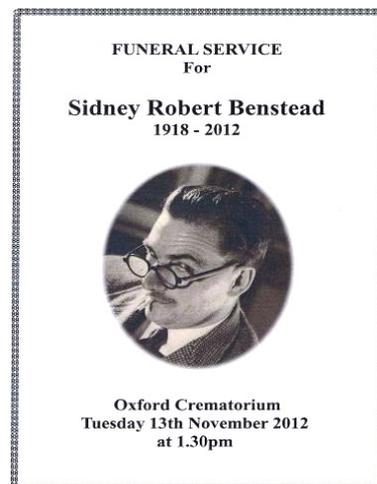
*(Thanks to Donna Murphy for the photographs!)*



## Bob Benstead's funeral held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Oxford Crematorium

Katie Lane, Sheila Browne, and I attended Bob Benstead's funeral at the Crematorium on 13<sup>th</sup> November, so we can say that the Branch was represented. The service was taken by Rev. Andrew Bunch of St Giles. The note in the last issue of Hughs News described Bob as a ringer at St Giles, and he rang 70 quarter-peals at St Giles between 1980 and 2004. However, he was in fact a member of the band at St Aldates for rather longer, having been taught to ring there before the war, and after the wartime ban ended in 1943, he continued ringing at St Aldates until he transferred to St Giles in the early 1980's. The only full peal he rang, according to Pealbase, was of Grandsire Doubles at St Aldates on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1962.

*John Pusey*



## Ringer's Learning Books

For your information... It was announced at the AGM that Katie Lane now has a new supply of the Ringer's Learning Book. If you require any, you can contact Katie on: 01865-874026 or email: [kt.catchmole@googlemail.com](mailto:kt.catchmole@googlemail.com)

*Paul Lucas*



## Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh on: 07899-871079, or email: [hugh.deam@btinternet.com](mailto:hugh.deam@btinternet.com)

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

Ringers' Quiz Night at Wolvercote Church Hall  
Branch Practice at Wheatley (6) 9cwt  
Advanced Practice at Headington (8) 7½cwt

8.00pm-10.00pm  
10.30am-12noon  
7.30pm-9.00pm

## Local Practice Nights

**Mondays:** Garsington (6), (No practices for the time being. Bells due to be rehung), St Aldates (6).  
**Tuesdays:** Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).  
**Wednesdays:** Iffley (6).  
**Thursdays:** Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).  
**Fridays:** Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.45-7.45).

For full 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)