



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

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



Monday 4th February 2013

Damaris and Janna!



As announced in the last edition, Steve Everett's daughter, Damaris has just given birth to a little girl called Janna!

In some of their first pictures that Steve has just sent me, you can see great granny, Charlotte Everett and granny Aneka, as well as Damaris and baby Janna - all doing fine! *Paul Lucas.*



Branch Practice at St Thomas, Oxford (10) 11cwt



The recent snow may have thawed, but when we met at **St Thomas** for a branch practice on Saturday 26th January, we were still desperate to keep warm, huddled around the heater in the centre of the ringing room! Our newest ringers had a chance to ring rounds on ten bells for the first time, and they all agreed that the bells, which were recast and rehung over a period of around four years during the early 90s, sounded "absolutely lovely". One of the advantages of a ring of ten is that it gives you several sets of bells to practice on. A bob-course of London Surprise Minor on the back six (bells 5-10) had a slow pace, allowing plenty of thinking time for those that had just been ringing at North Hinksey. When the seasoned ringers had a go at ringing Spliced Surprise Minor, they rang the front six (bells 1-6), to take advantage of the speed and agility of the lighter bells. A steady touch of Stedman Triples on the back eight (bells 3-10) settled into a really good rhythm, and some people even forgot that they could no longer feel their toes. The next branch practice will be held at **Headington on Saturday 9th February at 10:30am**. Watch this space for further news of Branch ringing events, which we are planning to hold on the second Saturday of every month. *Jonathan Cresshull.*

Beginners Practice at Islip (8) 8cwt

We may have lost our first battle for close proximity parking due to a large Anglo-Saxon/Norman battle training "living history" re-enactment by Militias de Bec in the recreation ground behind the church, but once we had become ensconced within the ringing chamber of St. Nicholas church, we were able to make our own small contribution to recalling "Regia Anglorum" (Kingdoms of the English) in this village where Edward the Confessor was born and baptised. Our grateful thanks are



due to the Islip ringers for the use of their bells for a very useful session for several of our ringers for whom this was either their first experience of ringing on eight bells or only their first or second rung at away from their home tower. *Hugh Deam.*

Stedman Triples Practice at Woodstock (8)

On Saturday 2nd February, there was another very well organized Stedman Triples Practice at **Woodstock**, lead by Alison Merryweather-Clarke, in which those of us who are a little lacking in the experience of ringing Stedman, gained valuable experience learning how to ring Plain Courses, as well as touches with Bobs and Singles! *Paul Lucas.*



Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh on at: [hugh.deam at btinternet.com](http://hugh.deam.btinternet.com) or Jonathan at: [jonathan at cresshull.co.uk](http://jonathan@cresshull.co.uk)

Tuesday 5th February	Advanced Practice at Headington (8)	8.00pm-9.00pm
Saturday 9th February	Branch Practice at Headington (8)	10.30am-12.00noon
	<i>(This Practice will include a short Finance Meeting)</i>	
Saturday 16th February	Branch Practice at Iffley (6) (Plain Hunt up to Minor)	12.30pm-1.45pm
	Branch Practice at Cowley (6) (Call Changes, Plain Hunt and beyond)	2.00pm-3.30pm
	<i>(If it is your intention to attend, please let me know, listing the two methods or ringing positions most useful to you i.e. Plain Hunt, Grandsire, etc - Tenoring behind, Trebling to Method or Conducting. Hugh.)</i>	
Saturday 23rd February	Branch Practice at Eynsham (6) (Doubles and Minor)	2.00pm-3.30pm
	Branch Practice at Freeland (6) (Call Changes, Plain Hunt and beyond)	4.00pm-5.30pm
	<i>(Both ringing chambers are relatively small so an early response if you intend to come would be appreciated!)</i>	
Saturday 23rd March	All day Spring Outing to Cambridgeshire	
	(Towers confirmed so far:- St. Mary, Over (8) 13cwt, St. Mary & All Saints, Willingham (6) 11cwt, All Saints, Longstanton (8) 7cwt.)	

Local Practice Nights

Mondays:	St Aldates (6), Garsington (6) (No Practices at the moment).
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) (6.30-7.30).

For more details go to the Oxford City Branch website: 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)