



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



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

Monday 3rd March 2014

City Branch Ringer Basil Townsend celebrates 90 years in style

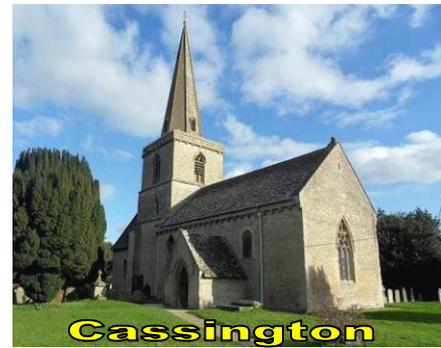
Saturday 22nd February was a bright, blustery, spring-like day, which was perfect to celebrate Basil Townsend's 90th birthday. Basil was taught by his uncle to ring at **St Mary's, Garsington** in 1969, while he was working at the Rover Works in Cowley. Basil quickly became an enthusiastic, energetic member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and City Branch in particular, and gave his local towers and bell-ringing colleagues support and friendship over very many years. He held many posts of responsibility within the City Branch, being Chairman, Secretary and Representative and long-term tower captain at Garsington. When the proposal was put forward to do some substantial work on St Mary's bells, it was Basil who played a major role in enabling it to go ahead. It was a great pleasure to celebrate Basil's 90th birthday by ringing the first peal on the rehung bells. Despite the chilly wind Basil was able to come to the church and listen to the last extent. There was a splendid lunch party afterwards where Basil's family, including grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends, neighbours and the peal band gathered and continued to enjoy the very special celebrations for a much respected and appreciated ringer. **Katie Lane.**



Branch Practices at Kidlington (8), Cassington (6) and Freeland (6)

Although the tagline "Super Saturday" derives from Christmas retailing in the United States, it became adopted in this country during the 2012 London Olympics, and indeed this particular Saturday went by the same slogan across much

of Europe as they held their Eurovision Song Contest heats. So it was that we embarked on our own ringing Super Saturday, encompassing three distinctively different practices across the day, with a revolving cast of 30 ringers, and whilst not quite as finely honed as the Olympians, the effort and potential would surely have come closer to the podium status of what was unfolding in Sochi than in Eurovision. On a day that felt like the first day of Spring the sun shone from **Kidlington** in the morning, through to late afternoon at **Freeland**, with several keen newer ringers benefitting from the day and some older hands availing themselves of



Cassington

the opportunity to ring at a tower so close to home which had been silent for so long. **St. Peter's in Cassington**, has indelible links to Oxford as a result of its medieval ties to the priory of St. Frideswide, now Christ Church Cathedral, with much of its fabric and decoration thanks to Lady Elizabeth Montacute who was a great benefactor of the priory. Having been classed as unringable for several years the bells were re-hung last year and returned to the tower in late October during a celebratory weekend. From those who had never been afforded the opportunity to ring these bells and the few who had rung here many moons ago (and remembered what hard work they used to be!) there was unanimity that the re-hang has provided the village and the ringing community with a sublime set of bells. **Hugh Deam.**



Kidlington



Freeland

Stedman Triples Practice at South Leigh (8)

On 1st March, on a lovely spring-like day, we gathered for a very productive Stedman Triples practice at **South Leigh**, with Alison Merryweather-Clarke in charge once again! Most of us there struggle with Stedman Triples, as it tends to go wrong very easily – which it did quite often on this occasion! It's just a question of 'practice makes perfect' – eventually! **Paul Lucas.**

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam at: hugh.deam.at.biinternet.com or phone: 07899-871079.

Saturday 8th March	Iffley (6). General Basic Ringing with the Iffley ringers.	10.30am-12.00noon
Wednesday 12th March	Advanced Practice at Headington (8) All experienced ringers welcome.	8.00pm-9.00pm
	<i>(This Practice has been postponed for a week because it's Ash Wednesday on 5th March, and there is a service in the church)</i>	
Thursday 13th March	Advanced Practice at St Giles (8) All experienced ringers welcome.	7.30p-9.00pm
Saturday 22nd March	Spring Outing to Wiltshire.	
	10.00am - Royal Wootton Bassett (8) 19cwt, 11.00am - Lyneham (6) 14cwt, 12.15pm - Lydiard Tregoze (6) 11cwt, (1.15pm - Lunch at 'The Sun' at Lydiard). 2.30pm - Lydiard Millicent (6) 6cwt, 4.00pm - Purton (8) 20cwt.	

Local Practice Nights

Mondays:	St Aldates (6), Garsington (6)
Tuesdays:	Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).
Wednesdays:	Headington (8), Iffley (6).
Thursdays:	St Giles (8), Wolvercote (6), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).
Fridays:	Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.30pm-7.30pm).

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@hotmail.co.uk

Note: There are 2 extra pages below with the Menu for 'The Sun' at Lydiard Millicent

(If you're having lunch with us, please let Hugh know what you would like to eat by Wednesday 19th March – at the latest!)



Bistro Menu

Sun Inn Classics

Homemade Chilli Con Carne, Rice or Chips Topped with Cheddar Cheese, Garlic Bread £7.95

Homemade Purton House Free Range 3 Egg Omelette with Dressed Salad.

Choose one Filling: Cheese, Ham, Tomato, Mushroom, Red Pepper £6.95

Extra Fillings 75p each

Hand Carved Fresh Wiltshire Ham, 2 Purton House Free Range Eggs with Chips £6.95

Warm Salad Nicoise: Flaked Tuna, Green Beans, New Potatoes, Olives, Boiled Egg, Capers and Anchovies on Mixed Leaves, Mustard Dressing £7.95

Smoked Chicken and Asparagus Salad with Pine Nuts set on Salad Leaves, French Dressing £7.95

Goat's Cheese Salad, Sun Dried Tomatoes, and Toasted Pine Nuts, Mixed Leaves, Drizzled with Balsamic Syrup £6.95

Sun Ploughman's: Wiltshire Ham or Cheddar Cheese, Mixed Salad, Pickled Onion, Branston Pickle, Apple and Crusty Baguette with butter £7.95

Filled Crusty Baguettes (White or Granary) served with Homemade Coleslaw, Salad Garnish and Crisps £6.50

Choose from one of the following fillings:

Cheese and Pickle

Tuna & Cucumber, Ham, Tomato and Mustard

Roast Chicken, Brie and Cranberry Sauce

Prawn Marie Rose and Salad Leaves £7.95

Steak and Onion £8.95

Freshly Baked Jacket Potatoes with Dressed Salad £6.50

Choose from one of the following fillings:

Baked Beans & Cheese, Chilli & Cheese, Prawn Marie Rose, Tuna Mayo and Red Onion

Spicy Nachos with Tomato Salsa and Melted Cheese £3.50

(with Chilli Beef and Melted Cheese) £5.00

Sun Inn Specials

Starters or Snacks

Chefs Homemade Soup of the Day, Crusty Bread £3.95

Eggs Benedict – Toasted Muffin, Ham, Poached Eggs, Hollandaise Sauce

One Muffin, £3.75

Two Muffin, £5.50

Crispy Fried Whitebait, Dressed Salad and Aioli £4.95

Red Onion and Goats Cheese Tartlet, Tomato Chutney, Balsamic Glaze £5.75

Pan Fried Sweet Chilli King Prawns, Sesame Seed Salad, Mustard Dressing £6.50

Duck Liver & Orange Pate, Beetroot & Horseradish Relish, Crusty Roll £5.50

Main Courses

Cajun Marinated Fresh Chicken Fillet, Chips or Wedges, Salad Garnish £8.95

Homemade 60z Beef Burger, Bacon and Cheese,
Chips or Wedges, Salad Garnish £8.50

Grilled Fresh Scottish Salmon Fillet, Dressed Salad, Roasted New Potatoes, Hollandaise Sauce £11.50

Chefs Homemade Fishcakes, Dressed Salad, French Fries, Redcurrant and Chilli Jam £9.95

Fresh Local Sausages of the Week, Mustard Mash or Chunky Chips, Green Peas, Onion Gravy £9.95

5oz Gammon, Chunky Chips, Onion Rings, Peas, Fried Egg or Pineapple £7.25
(10oz Steak £14.50)

5oz Rib-Eye Steak, Chunky Chips, Onion Rings and Peas £8.95
(10oz Steak £17.50)

Tagliatelle tossed with Roasted Vegetables in a Tomato and Basil Sauce, Parmesan and Garlic Bread £9.25