OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD CITY BRANCH

Minutes of the Half-Year Meeting - 8th. May 2004
St. Mary the Virgin, Wheatley

1 The members stood in silence for Alec Gammon and Barry Greenaway.

2. Apologies for absence
Anthony Hughes, John Beale and Peter Baylis

3. Approval of the minutes of the A. G. M. held at Iffley.
These minutes were amended:
Item 5 – Presentation of Certificates should read Jennie BRIDGE and Sylvia STREET.
The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising
The City Branch took part in the Guild 8 Bell Striking Competition and was placed second, much to everyone's satisfaction.

5. Correspondence
The Secretary had received a letter from the Guild Honary Treasurer regarding the *Sponsored Ringing 2004* where the Branches in the Guild had raised £5,221. 33. The City Branch contributed nothing. The Secretary observed that a Branch which regularly rang the highest number of Quarter Peals should be able to make some financial contribution to the Sponsored Ring. The Ringing Master replied that it was difficult to raise sponsorship.

6. Election of New Members
Simon Chadwick Iffley
John Dowling Kidlington
Proposed by N. David Lane
Seconded by John Lonsbrough

7. Presentation of Certificates
There were no certificates to present.

8. Reports on Fund Raising Efforts
The Ringing Master said that the income from recycled cans was slowing down. The Secretary told the members that for several years she had been growing and selling plants and donating the profit to the Bell Fund. In future she would ask the Guild Treasurer to account for this as a donation from the City Branch.

9 . Approval of Candidates for Educational Courses

The Treasurer, Simon Edwards said that, potentially, money was available for two members to go to Easthampstead and tower captains should let it be known that a bursary could be applied for.

10. Non ringing social events

Roy Jones presented several ideas for social occasions:
A Christmas Dinner – the members felt that there would be insufficient support for such an event;
A Garden Party – to be held at Anthony and Lucy Hughes's home; music, raffle, garden games; £2-3.00 per head, maximum 40 people. It was agreed that there would not be any ringing.
The Chairman thanked Anthony for offering his hospitality.
Jonathan Beale promoted a Boating Trip.
A wine and cheese with bingo was suggested for the latter part of the year.

11. Any Other Business

Jonathan Beale told the members about the information in The Ringing World regarding the network for Ringing Training Conference - a worldwide crib sheet to formulate a towers' resource book.
He also expressed his plan to introduce 'Progressing Ringing' within the Branch by circulating methods to be rung at practice nights. Each tower should submit methods to be rung at practice nights and Jonathan agreed to circulate the plan and encourage support in the towers.

Bobbie May has devised a CD with information about every tower in the Guild.

Calendars – Hugh Deam has been pleased with the response to the Branch Calendar and will prepare one for 2005 as well as Christmas cards.

Hugh Deam proposes to introduce a Young Ringers Award Scheme.

Jonathan Beale will arrange a First Aid kit to be taken on outings.

Hugh Deam will organise a 'Mystery Morning' for 10th July.

Branch outing to be arranged for 9th October.

Thanks were given to the members of Wheatley for an excellent tea.

20th Nov 2004