









Over (8) 13cwt

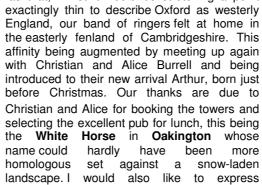
Willingham (6) 11cwt

Oakington (6) 5cwt

Longstanton (8) 7cwt

On what had the unalloyed visage of a Winter Outing as opposed to a Spring Outing, it is to the eternal credit of all those indomitable ringers who braved the snowy conditions that none could ever be considered as slugabeds on such an incommodious morning. Rudyard

Kipling's Ballad of East and West has long since become defined by it's opening line, but students of Kipling will point you to a later line as to the true purport of the poem. "But there is neither East, nor West, Border, nor breed, nor birth." So it was that, whilst it would be stretching a point



gratitude for the live traffic cameras that are available to view on the internet for providing incontrovertible evidence that the snow was nowhere near as invasive as it appeared to be on the television weather forecasts and thus saving us from calling the whole thing off at the very last moment. East Anglian churches are renowned for being ornate and rouncival having generally

been constructed and furnished at the height of the wool trade epoch, and the four towers that we rang at were no exception to that opinion, something which helped keep minds distracted from the chilly air when not actually ringing. At Longstanton church there is an eyecatching stained glass window that is a memorial to the RAF servicemen who served at the local air base during the Second World War. Due to





latter half of the 20th century. The decommissioned RAF land is earmarked for development into England's first 'eco-town', to be known as Northstowe.

That we could rally an attendance similar to last year's outing on the equivalent Saturday, when the temperature was over 70f, and drought orders were being drawn up, is indubitably encouraging! Hugh Deam.

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh at: hugh.deam at btinternet.com or Jonathan at: jonathan at cresshull.co.uk Tuesday 2nd April Advanced Practice at Headington (8) (All experienced ringers welcome!) 8.00pm-9.00pm Saturday 6th April Saturday 13th Apri Stedman Triples Practice at South Leigh (8) 10.30am-12noon ' April Branch Practice at Stanton St John (5) 6.30pm-8.00pm Saturday 20th April Freeland (6). Minor and Doubles Method Practice with the Freeland ringers. 4.00pm-5.30pm Saturday 27th April **Minor Method Mini-Outing to Wiltshire** Lacock (6) 3.00pm and Langley Burrell (6) 4.30pm (to be confirmed) Saturday 4th May Cowley (6). Practice with Cowley ringers. 6.00pm-7.30pm Saturday 11th May Branch Half Yearly Meeting and Striking Competition (venue and time are still to be arranged) **Local Practice Nights** Mondays: St Aldates (6), Garsington (6) (No Practices at the moment). **Tuesdays:** Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6). Wednesdays: Iffley (6). Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6). Thursdays: Fridays:

low flying aircraft, Oakington church was periodically closed for services in the

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