



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



(Produced fortnightly by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas. All contributions are welcome.)

Monday 8th August 2011

The Final Evening's Ringing at St. Giles, Oxford (8) before the rehang of the bells.

We gathered last Sunday 31st July to ring at St Giles before the evening service. It was the last ring before the construction works began to retune and rehang the bells. It was a joyful evening of ringing, with thirteen ringers present. I asked John Pusey, Tower Captain how he felt about it...

"Well it's all about the Phoenix, the ashes and then rising again. As we rang for the last time I felt a little sad. I just hope the band won't split up and defect to another tower in the interval".

After ringing the bells down we went to The Royal Oak for a beer, and topics and logistics were discussed - such as the initiation health and safety morning for the helpers, what colour should the sallies be, should we digitally record the whole process, should we have a dress code for the tower, and maybe initiate a 'Frequent Ringer Programme' with bonus points and prizes and of course what to do with the infamous carpet....

"Burn it" said Simon. "Bury it" said Andy. "Remove and clean it" said Bernard "and put it back in the tower"! "Cut it up and give a piece of it to each benefactor according to the size of the donation" said Margaret, Simon and others... "Donate it to the Pitt Rivers Museum" says Philip. "Hold an auction with bidding for the sallies and the carpet as souvenirs" said Steve... "Print an image of the carpet on t-shirts for ringers to wear in the tower" said John... "Only on a t-shirt" said David! And so on. And it was a jolly send off to the bells on their journey out of St Giles church for the adventure of a lifetime - well one of them, for they have lived a long time....



Margaret Marsh.

Scaffolding has already been put up outside the tower at St Giles. On Mon 1st August, builders started opening up the bell-chamber window, through which the bells will be removed; and the bells will actually be removed via the external scaffolding on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th August (photo-opportunities!) by Whites of Appleton, who will be responsible for the rehang. All eight bells are to be retuned at Whitechapel, and if all goes smoothly, the bells should be back in use early in November. Meanwhile, other neighbouring towers are likely to see more than usual of visitors from St Giles at practices and on Sundays.

We would still welcome further donations but are probably now within about £2,000 of the estimated total of £56,000 required. *John Pusey.*

LAMPET ARMS MENU

Soup of the Day	£4.00
Baguettes:	
Tuna, Bacon, Cheese, Ham, Sausage	£3.50
Cod, chips and peas	£8.50
Chilli con Carne	£7.50
Lamb Shank	£11.50
Beef & Ale Pie	£8.50
Gammon Steak with egg, chips and peas	£10.50
Rump Steak	£11.50
Chicken Kiev with chips and peas	£7.50
Jumbo Sausage, egg, chips & beans	£7.50
¼lb Cheeseburger, chips & peas	£7.50
Salmon Crumble in white wine sauce with salad or chips	£7.50
¼lb veggie burger, mixed veg or chips & peas	£6.50
Jacket Potato with Cheese or Tuna (prices vary)	
Portion of chips	£1.50
Onion rings	£1.00

North Oxfordshire Mini Outing Sunday 21st August

Tadmarton St Nicholas (6) 11cwt 12.30pm

Lunch at the Lampet Arms 1.15pm

Hanwell St Peter (6) 7cwt 3.00pm

We will be met at Tadmarton and deployed to a 'designated' parking area, as parking is not permitted on the road. Also, please can you decide in advance what you would like from the Lampet Arms menu (right), and let me know? *Hugh Deam.*



Michaelmas Training Day on Saturday 17th September

Although the closing date for applications is now past, there are still a few places left in the Surprise Minor group. Please could you pass this information on to anyone in your branch who may be interested, and ask them to email Katie Lane: kt.catchmole@googlemail.com as soon as possible! *Hilary Rogers*

Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam on 07899-871079, or email: hugh.deam@btinternet.com

Sunday 21st August

Saturday 3rd September

Tuesday 6th September

Saturday 10th September

Saturday 8th October

Mini outing to North Oxfordshire - See details above.

St. Mary Magdalen (10) 10cwt. Caters and Royal Practice. 6.30pm-7.45pm

Advanced Practice at Headington (8) 7½cwt 8.00pm-9.00pm

Garsington (6) 9½cwt. Six-Bell Practice. 10.30am-11.45am

Iffley (6) 10cwt. Six Bell Method Practice. 10.00am-11.15am

Local Practice Nights:

Mondays:

Cowley (6) (7.30-9.00), Garsington (6), (8.00-9.00), St Aldates (6) (2nd/4th week only).

Tuesdays:

Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).

Wednesdays:

Iffley (6).

Thursdays:

Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8) (out of action until November), Stanton St John (5).

Fridays:

Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.45-7.45)

Note: Most Practices start at 7.30pm, but before turning up, check the details of the Ringing Times, Tower Captains and Correspondents, by going to the Oxford City Branch website: www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk

Any information or photographs for inclusion in *Hugh's News* (subject to space available), please email me:

paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk