



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News!



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

Monday 23rd August 2010

Boats, Bells and.... Rain! Adventures on the Venturer!

Nick and Ginny Boyes, Jon, Janice and Christopher Beale, Steve and Aneka Everett, David Ingrouille, John Pusey, Heather Banyard, Margaret Marsh, Donna Murphy, Richard Bennett and Paul Lucas – take to the water!



"On Saturday 14th August, fourteen bell ringers (and a few non bell ringers!) embarked on a narrow boat journey on the Oxford Canal and the Thames, or Isis. We experienced the legacy of an Industrial past, before the railways and the



automobile – a long epoch of social history – by looking at the archaeology of canals, cuts, locks, bridges, tow-paths and also glimpses of a present day lifestyle of canal leisure activities. The visual experiences on the trip were very diverse. Among the interesting sites were the ruins of 13th century Godstow Nunnery – abandoned at the Reformation, and the old Paper Mill at Wolvercote. In Oxford we glided under bridges at Jericho, Osney and Grandpont. Meanwhile, on board we enjoyed good food and wine! Handbells were rung and songs were sung with Steve Everett on guitar! We stopped at the Isis Pub in Iffley, and while sitting in the garden, we were hit by a dramatic thunderstorm! Some indulged in an ale or two, and then it was back to the Venturer for the return journey of rain and sunshine... and of course more songs and more handbells!



It was a wonderful outing. Many thanks to Paul for organizing it!" *Margaret Marsh.*

(On the way we encountered the bizarre sight of a boat load of Vikings - probably intent on rape and pillage!)

Dates for your Diary

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

Saturday 4th September.	Branch Practice	Yarnton (6) 22cwt	10.00am
	(The Yarnton bells are heavy, and not for the faint hearted!! Only come along if you think you can cope with them!)		
Saturday 11th September	Branch Practice	Wotton Underwood (6) 10cwt	9.30am
Saturday 18th September	Morning Trip to Wiltshire.	South Marston (6) 12cwt.	10.00am
		Broad Blunsdon (8) 5cwt	11.00am
		Castle Eaton (6) 7cwt.	12.30pm

Saturday 25th September. Shiplake (8) The Guild's Michaelmas Training Course.

Full details from Katie Lane on 01865-874026, or email: kt.catchmole@googlemail.com

Sunday 3rd October Iffley (6) **Sunday morning ringing will be from 10.30–11.00am for this week only.**

Saturday 23rd October Autumn Outing to West Sussex. (More details and times to follow)
Easebourne (8) 11cwt, Lodsworth (6) 6cwt, (Lunch at the Horse Guards Inn, Tillington), Tillington (5) 6cwt, Northchapel (6) 3cwt.

Local Practice Nights:

Mondays: Cowley (6) (7.00-9.00), Garsington (6), (8.00-9.00), St Aldates (6) (2nd/4th week).

Tuesdays: Headington (8), Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).
(Headington has an **Advanced Practice** from 8.00–9.00pm on the **first** Tuesday of each month. Stedman Triples and beyond! The next one is **Tuesday 7th September.**)
(Kidlington has an **Advanced Triples Practice** from 7.45–9.00pm on the **fourth** Tuesday of each month. The next one is **tomorrow, 24th August.**)

Wednesdays: Iffley (6).

Thursdays: Wolvercote (6), St Giles (8), 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:

<http://www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk>

Any information or photographs for possible inclusion in **Hugh's News** (subject to space available), please email me: paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk