



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News

Produced fortnightly by Paul, Jonathan and Hugh, plus contributions from other ringers.



Monday 15th July 2013

A Branch Practice on the recently rehung Garsington Bells.

On Saturday 13th July, on the hottest day of the year so far, the evening views across Oxfordshire from the Garsington churchyard were truly stunning, with clear views across to Wittenham Clumps and beyond. The six bells of **Garsington** have recently been rehung in new fittings by **Whites of Appleton**, and it is safe to say that what used to be a rather lumpy and odd-struck ring of six are now barely recognisable, and produced some very steady and fluent ringing, even when the heat was getting the better of us! *Jonathan Cresshull.*

Oxford Revisited!

For the hardened onco-tourist, timing the seasons is important. One does not choose, for example to winter in Chicago, or to attend summer meetings in Athens. Timing an English summer, however, requires more than merely consultation of a calendar. It's one of those occasions when it's better to be lucky than smart. So it was for the second successive year when I enjoyed a perfect summer day for the Oxford City Branch outing to Hampshire on June 29th. This was the high point of my 10-day visit to Oxford – the first of two this year – in which I was again welcomed by Hugh, Roy and many members of the Branch, especially the Old Marston ringers. Not content with one success, the weather was again superb for a mini-outing to **Hillesden** (*'the Cathedral in the Fields'*)



on June 30th. It is a pleasure to record my thanks to all who made this yet another welcoming and productive visit: 8 new towers and five quarter-peals are only the statistical bare bones of a thoroughly delightful experience. *Alan Coates.*

Mini Outing to Hillesden.

Somewhere before the X-Factor and the era of frankenbiting, the urban dictionary made do with the "wow-factor", and despite bearing no resemblance to the avant-gardist origins of the term, the stunning church at **Hillesden** and its glorious surrounds most assuredly possess a merit and majesty that imprints itself into the memory of any visitor without need of recourse to viral marketing campaigns or twitpics. Unarguably the fine weather can add a gloss to proceedings, but on a weekend of visiting some exceptionally located towers Hillesden's "Cathedral in the fields" proved a fitting finale. *Hugh Deam.*



The Leatherhead Ringers Outing to Oxford.

I joined no less than 19 ringers from the **Leatherhead** area who descended on Oxford for a visit on Saturday 6th July. Their itinerary, which had been arranged by Clyde Whittaker and Michele Winter, took them to **St Aldates, St Mary Magdalen, Lincoln College, Magdalen College, Christ Church, St Thomas** and **Carfax!** Quite a mammoth trip for them, especially as temperatures were in the high 20s, and there were vast numbers of tourists everywhere! At lunchtime we all had an excellent meal at the Chequers in High Street. Most people thought that the highlight of their day was the ringing of lovely 'newly restored' bells at Magdalen – which was a first for me too! Everyone agreed that the trip had been a great success! *Paul Lucas.*

Philip Armstrong's First Quarter Peal.

At **St Thomas the Martyr, Oxford** on 30th June, 1260

Stedman Doubles: Jonathan Cresshull (C) 1, Hazel M Rothera 2, Dorothy G Hall 3, Catherine M A Lane 4, Katherine A Stonham 5, Philip J Armstrong 6. *Congratulations to Philip (top left in the picture).*

Jonathan Cresshull



Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh at: [hugh.deam at btinternet.com](mailto:hugh.deam@btinternet.com) or Jonathan at: [jonathan at cresshull.co.uk](http://jonathan@cresshull.co.uk)

Saturday 3rd August

Wednesday 7th August

Saturday 31st August

Surprise Major & Stedman Triples Practice at Woodstock (8)

Advanced Practice at Headington (8)

General Practice with the Ringers at Kidlington (8).

10.30am-12.00noon

8.00pm-9.00pm

11.00am-12.15pm

Local Practice Nights

Mondays:

Tuesdays:

Wednesdays:

Thursdays:

Fridays:

St Aldates (6), Garsington (6)

Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).

Headington (8), Iffley (6).

St Giles (8), Wolvercote (6), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).

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](mailto:paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk)