



Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



Produced fortnightly by Paul, Jonathan and Hugh, with a few contributions from other ringers
Monday 30th September 2013

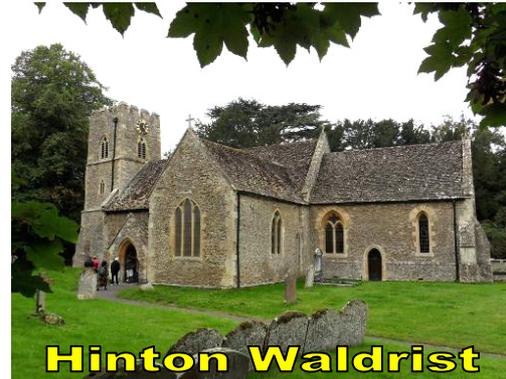
Mini Outing to Stanton Harcourt (6) and Hinton Waldrist (6) on Saturday 28th September



Even as the curtain is primed to descend on the excursions of our repertory company of ringers for another year it was apt that we should visit **Stanton Harcourt** where famed 18th century poet, Alexander Pope conducted part of his translation of *Homer's Iliad* in the manor house adjacent to the church, the tower of this house being known as 'Pope's Tower'. As we rang in the church a mere few strides away from where part of the epic cycle of heroic hexameter was construed, we were in Stanton Harcourt's own epic circle, namely the gargantuan ringing chamber of St. Michael's tower, a room so large for a six bell tower that ringing could



Stanton Harcourt



Hinton Waldrist

become all Greek for you should concentration waver. If the first act recalled Ancient Greek heroism and tragedy, then the second act at **Hinton Waldrist** was an evocation of English history to stiffen the sinews, Mary de Bohun, wife of Henry IV being brought up here, and their son Henry V often visiting the castle that stood here close to the church. As the church was being garlanded for Harvest Festival so, even at the turning of the tide, the ringing was bountiful on exquisite bells. As Shakespeare nearly scribed it – 'Should that the whole year be ringing holidays to peal would be as tedious as to work, but when they seldom come then they would wish for some'. **Hugh Deam.**

Farewell to Adam!



The **Headington** ringers rang a quarter peal of Plain Bob Major for Adam Rebeck (in the red shirt) to wish him good luck for the start of his University life up in Durham. He had also rung another quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at St Thomas, Oxford earlier in the day. Formerly at Magdalen College School, Adam will be reading History. He has been a valued ringer at Headington and around Oxford for some time now, and we will all miss him. I'm sure our loss will be the Durham ringer's gain! **Paul Lucas.**

General Ringing Practice at Wootton (6) with the local ringers

The beautiful **Wootton-by-Woodstock** on Saturday 21st September, saw those of us who are learning, have a great practice on Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Doubles, along with good old Plain Hunt. Ringing in the country is a treat for us. The



interior of the church tower features an unusual tapering wooden surround for the pendulum of the church clock. The tilted floor added an interesting situation for the ringer of the second bell who unwarily steps backwards after ringing to find herself running backwards into the wall behind! A minor disappointment was the transparent plastic folder hanging on the wall, apparently bulging with Cadbury's chocolates, which turned out only to be full of empty wrappers! **Kathy Xu.**

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](mailto:jonathan@cresshull.co.uk)

Wednesday 2 nd October	Advanced Practice at Headington (8)	8.00pm-9.00pm
Saturday 5 th October	General ringing at Waddesdon (6) 9.30am, and Quainton (8) 10.30am	
Sunday 6 th October	Mini-Outing to Chastleton (6)	2.30pm-3.30pm
Saturday 12 th October	Branch practice at Horspath (6)	6.30pm-8.00pm
Saturday 9 th November	Oxford City Branch AGM at Headington	(times to be confirmed)

Local Practice Nights

Mondays:	St Aldates (6), Garsington (6)
Tuesdays:	Kidlington (8), Horspath (6).
Wednesdays:	Headington (8), Iffley (6).
Thursdays:	St Giles (8), Wolvercote (6), Stanton St John (5), Cowley (6).
Fridays:	Old Marston (6), Wheatley (6), North Hinksey (6) (6.30pm-7.30pm).

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)