



# Oxford City Branch Hugh's News



Produced fortnightly by Paul and Hugh, with a few contributions from other ringers.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014

## I was astonished to notice the short paragraph below in an article in the latest Ringing World!

Points from Peals (rung in 2013), by Andrew Craddock, Ringing World on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2014, page 160: "John G. Pusey rang peals with 6 'first pealers' during 2013. This was at least two more than anyone else." Who were the six? They were: Isaac O'Shea & David Thomas, both from Abingdon on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013; Matthew Malek, St Giles on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013; Stephen Everett, St Giles on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013; Wilfred Lewis & Edmund Mottershead, both OUSCR members, on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013. *Please accept your shares of the credit for this achievement!*

**John Pusey.**

### Frances Kirwan DBE

In the 1970s **St Giles** taught young people for the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. Among them was Frances Kirwan, (pictured on the left in the blue skirt, after a quarter peal on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1977) who has had a distinguished career as a mathematician. This was recognised in the 2014 New Year Honours when she was made a Dame. Her friends say that she was appointed to replace Dame Edna Everage who is retiring! **Dermot Roaf.**

*(You may be able to spot a few other 'famous faces' if you look carefully! Paul.)*

### A Surprise Major Practice at Woodstock (8)

There was a very well attended practice at **Woodstock** on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February where we rang 'wall to wall' Cambridge Surprise Major - especially for people like me who are still struggling to learn it! There were enough people around to act as 'minders' - people who could stand behind and give us guidance when we inevitably went wrong! Thanks very much to Alison Merryweather-Clarke for organizing and running the practice - and you never know, after a few more practices like this one, we should be able to ring quarter peals of Cambridge Major!

**Paul Lucas.**



### Branch Practices at Headington (8) and Cowley (6) on 15<sup>th</sup> February

Having endured what has been dubbed "the winter of perpetual autumn", it would have been perfectly understandable had the attendance at our two practices been adversely affected, especially given that we were amidst the last squalls of a particularly tempestuous weather system, but ringers are clearly resilient and we had an excellent turnout at both **Headington** (16) and **Cowley** (15). Rather in keeping with the snowdrops and celandine that carpet the churchyard at Cowley at present, there were numerous harbingers of burgeoning ringing to come throughout the day. **Hugh Deam.**

### Thame Guild Training Day

On 1<sup>st</sup> February I attended the guild training event in Thame. The morning was comprised of theory sessions, covering issues such as recruitment, the training needs of new recruits and whether their needs varied according to age, the experiences of tutors in the ITTS scheme, and the importance of developing training of a high quality throughout branches and towers. In the afternoon, we moved on to a practical session. This involved trying out things such as ringing from the inside, facing outwards, some kaleidoscope ringing exercises, and then some methods which were considered particularly useful to people developing their ringing, such as Ashford Little Bob. The event was particularly geared towards people involved in Branch level training, and although some of the exercises were far beyond my capabilities, it nevertheless gave me some really useful exercises and pointers to take back to **Cowley**, my home tower. **Lindsay Powell.**

### Dates for your Diary

Full details from Hugh Deam at: [hugh.deam at btinternet.com](http://hugh.deam.at.btinternet.com) or phone: 07899-871079.

<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Advanced Practice at Kidlington (8). All experienced ringers welcome.</b>	7.30pm-9.00pm
	<i>(Note: The Kidlington ringers have changed their Advanced Practice from the 25<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) to 18<sup>th</sup> for this month only)</i>	
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>Kidlington (8). General Method Ringing with the Kidlington ringers.</b>	10.30am-12.00noon
	<b>Cassington (6). General Method Ringing with the Cassington ringers.</b>	*3.00pm-4.15pm
	<b>Freeland (6). Mostly Minor Method Ringing with the Freeland ringers</b>	*4.30pm-6.00pm
	<i>(*space is limited in these ringing chambers, so (other than local ringers) please confirm your intention to attend in advance.)</i>	
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>South Leigh (8). Stedman Triples Practice (hosted by Witney &amp; Woodstock Branch)</b>	10.30am-12.00noon
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Iffley (6). General Ringing with the Iffley ringers.</b>	10.30am-12.00noon
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>Spring Outing to Wiltshire.</b>	

**10.00am. Royal Wootton Bassett (8), 11.00am. Lyneham (6), 12.15pm. Lydiard Tregoze (6), 2.30pm. Lydiard Millicent (6).**  
*There are two minibus seats still available for the outing as we have now upgraded to a 17-seater rather than the original 15-seater. There is also now a fifth tower confirmed for the outing, Purton (8). We also hope to have lunch details by the next newsletter. **Hugh Deam.***

### Local Practice Nights

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

For more details go to the Oxford City Branch website: [www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk](http://www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk)

Any information or photographs for inclusion in **Hugh's News** please email me: [paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulclucas@hotmail.co.uk)

