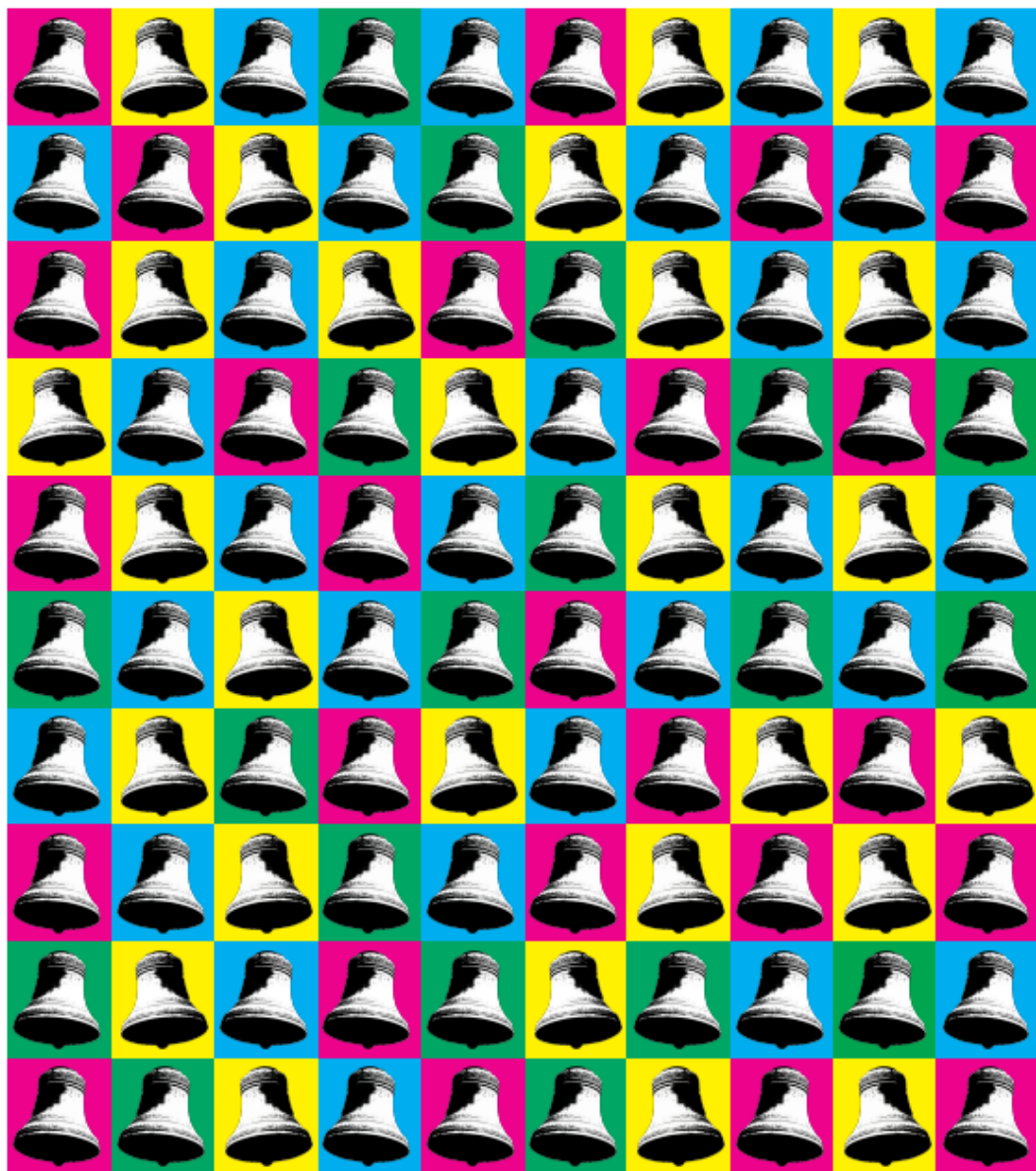


ODD BOB



Newsletter of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers website: odg.org.uk/



Winning front cover design by Rob Hine



ART Module 2F

From Rounds to Plain Hunt

Saturday 31 August 2019

SMV, Longcot, SN7 7TL



Ellie from Kirtlington being presented with her LIR Level 5 certificate



Working in pairs on an ART course



The Maids Moreton band with their LIR Level 1 certificates & teacher accreditations

What's a Module 2F?

If your new recruit can safely ring a bell and is just starting to ring rounds then this course is for you.

In some ways this stage is the hardest part of learning to ring; the excitement and rapid progress associated with (semi)-mastering bell control has passed and time on the rope can be limited if the only practice is once a week with a mixed ability band.

This is where this course helps. It introduces lots of fun exercises to help your ringer develop the foundation skills for method ringing; fine bell control, listening and ropesight. There is plenty for your new ringer to practise and measure their progress against whilst stimulating (and sometimes testing) the rest of the band. For bands who don't aspire to method ringing it gives lots of ideas for Service or wedding ringing which sound good whilst keeping the band interested.

"From Twinkle Twinkle to the Flying Dutchman – a musical masterpiece or a Module 2 course with ART?"

The Birmingham School of Bell Ringing has shown that those who spend longer consolidating foundation skills before learning methods progress more quickly later on.

Book your place on the course directly:

www.smartringer.org/public/daycourses

Or contact Lesley Belcher for more details:

lesleyjbelcher@gmail.com

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From your Editor...

Don't forget to check regularly the Guild website at odg.org.uk/ and your branch website.

In particular the EBSB Fund Raising website address is: bellfund.org.uk.

Contributions for the next issue, please, by the end of October 2019.

Rob Needham

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

As members should expect, a record of their membership is maintained on a combination of paper and computer systems. These records are used solely for the administration of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers and for notification of future events to members. They are not made available to anyone for commercial purposes. If any member wishes to inspect the records held, please contact the Guild Secretary.

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The new ODG website

When I first took on the role of Webmaster in November 2017, I was excited at the prospect of revamping the Guild website. By the time I became involved, a professional had already been recruited to do the work, so unfortunately for me, my hands would be staying relatively clean. When feedback was requested it soon became clear that the first attempt was unpopular among members. As Webmaster, I was not too pleased with the “back-end” either. After all, one of the objectives was to make the site easy to maintain, and it certainly was not.

When asked by the Master of the Guild to be honest about my opinion of the site, I was relieved to be able to openly state my dissatisfaction. A fresh start was in order.

One concern with the first attempt to revamp was the lack of faces. From what I recall, there was not a single photo of a person to be seen. For that reason, members were asked to submit photos with people enjoying themselves while taking part in ringing-related activities, and some excellent photos have been submitted and used. Updated photos of Officers have also been used (where provided).

When it came to webmaster responsibilities, updating the calendar on the existing website was a time-consuming task and the attempted revamp did little to improve this. For that reason, a Google calendar is now used, and with a little re-styling, seems to work reasonably well. Another previously inefficient task was updating the Latest News page. This can now be done in around 2 minutes. As webmaster, I am responsible for placing submitted news on the site – I rarely write the articles myself! If you have any news you would like to share, please do send it my way (webmaster@odg.org.uk) – photos are always nice too, but please remember to get permission from those in them so that we can use them on the site.

One surprising area of controversy that came to my attention during the first revamp was the inclusion of ODG peals on the website. My personal thought was why not share what is going on in the Guild. Now that the list of peals is taken directly from Bell Board with no intervention from me, the list is automatically updated (give it 4 hours to synchronise though). This could be extended to include quarter peals. Many thanks to Gary Reading for providing guidance on using Bell Board for this purpose.

The new website has been online since late March, and I'll be making improvements and adding to it continuously. This is particularly true of the documentation. The old site contained a wealth of useful information, and this should be retained. One of the difficulties with this documentation is that some of it is older than I am! To make it fit for digital distribution and viewable on a range of devices, a significant amount of re-factoring is required. For now, the documents link through from the old site; however over time, this will change. If you experience any difficulties accessing any of the documents, please do let me know.

I'd like to take an opportunity to thank those who have provided photos, news, and support over the last three months.

If you have any queries or questions about the new website, please do get in touch.

Tim Hayward, Webmaster

Young Ringers Fest! Saturday 13th April 2019

While the Old North Berks branch holds little outings for young ringers each school holiday, this time we decided to be more adventurous and organise a big day out especially for young ringers in the whole Guild. Visiting Oxford was an ideal choice.

Nineteen young ringers from around the ODG and around thirty parents including some ringers met in Oxford on the chilly but sunny morning, ready to ring at seven towers in central Oxford. [See photo on back cover.] Our first two towers were the light tens at St Thomas and St Mary Magdalen. Ringing was good, ranging from rounds to plain hunt on nine to surprise major.

St Giles, just up the road had a steep stair ending with a ladder into a very crowded ringing room. We rang plain bob and grandsire triples as well as rounds and call changes.

At lunch time we had a treat! We provided our own packed lunches, but the Parish Room had lots to entertain us – firstly Daphne's wonderful selection of cakes and scones and things to drink. Then an excellent book stall with ART books that many of us hadn't seen before. Also there was the chance to ring plain hunt on handbells with some experts. But perhaps best of all, Alan Griffin had brought along his dumbbell with a competition to ring it as the tenor behind to Grandsire Doubles and to get the best score for our striking! Ten of the young ringers had a go. (Some had two goes!)

There was a longer walk to the best bells of the day, Magdalen College, where the gloomy ringing chamber is furnished with ancient leather covered sofas and some even older wooden pews. We were nervous that the worthy members of the Oxford Society who had arranged all the towers for us would not approve of the standard of our ringing. But they reassured us that we were fine and commented that they had heard much worse ringing from some of the other visiting bands who had come there!

Next there was the light eight at Lincoln College and the six at St Aldates where the prize giving was announced. Josh and Jamie won the handsome big Easter Eggs for their top scores on Alan's dumbbell. All those who completed the quiz sheet received a smaller Easter Egg, and these seemed to disappear really quickly!

The last tower was Carfax at the central cross roads of Oxford. Not all stayed to the end at 6.30 pm, but those who did enjoyed this fine, but challenging six.

Some of the comments on the day:

"I would like to thank you for the experience of ringing at new towers with new people. I thoroughly enjoyed the day"

"It improved my ringing and confidence about it"

"Thank you very much for arranging the whole trip and I will be sure to come along to anything else planned in the future."

The new Volunteer & Leadership committee (V&LC) of the Central Council is keen to promote ringing for young people. The ODG offered to hold this Ringing Festival in Oxford as a test of the concept for the V&LC. We were pleased with how well it turned out and hope it encourages similar future ventures.

Susan Read, ONB Training Officer

Odd Bob, Newsletter of the ODG, 100th edition!

I needed to look back at the first edition so borrowed the bound copy from the Guild Library; I had not realised that Odd Bob stands for **OxforD** Diocese; **Berks.**, **Oxon** and **Bucks**. And that was just the start, as I then became thoroughly immersed in the first six years' editions.

The first edition was published in March 1982, edited by Ken Darvill. Ken, among many others whose names appear regularly, has served the Guild in several different capacities and we should all acknowledge and be grateful for their faithful service to the Guild.

The editors of Odd Bob have constantly striven to improve the publication; from the original black and white, typeset format, it is now the sleek, multi-coloured and illustrated version that is familiar to us all.

Most of the Branches contributed to the first edition with 'Interesting Snippets': Jim Diserens and Derek Francis ran in the London Marathon in aid of the Bell Fund – now there's a challenge for someone!

There was chaos at Uffington on New Year's Eve when one of the ringers lost his trousers and the ringing disintegrated in mirth; that must have been some New Year's Eve party!

There was a proposal for the installation of a ring of bells in a new church in Milton Keynes – was this Downs Barn?

Bill Butler, Guild Master, contributed a potted autobiography which includes a recollection of canoeing down the corridors of his Windsor school in 1947. I now understand why there had to be a Windsor Flood Relief Scheme.

The Guild Festival was celebrated, as was usual, in Oxford with a service at Christ Church and lunch in the Great Hall. I feel sad that our Guild Festival is no longer the event that it was when held there. The Christ Church Great Hall is a superb venue for our lunch together, but it has become very expensive; wouldn't it be wonderful if the Diocese could liaise with the college and reduce the costs for their ringers? I wonder if it is worth investigating...

So, through all the intervening years of the hundred editions of Odd Bob that we have enjoyed reading there have been many, many people who have contributed their ideas, skill and time to making the publication the one that we look forward to; thank you everyone. I will not be around for the 200th edition so it is up to the next generation of Guild members to keep it going in whatever format that may be, so please keep the ideas and contributions flowing!

Catherine Lane, Guild Master

100 editions of Odd Bob

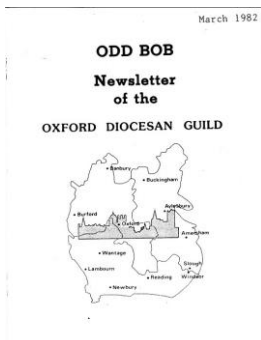
The first edition of Odd Bob was published in March 1982. The intention seems to have been to publish four editions per year, though the actual number varied between two and four per year. The matter was eventually resolved, with Issue 70 in March 2004 reporting a decision made at the November 2003 committee meeting that there should be two editions per year.

For the first few years the Editor role was called *Information Officer*. Ken Darvill of High Wycombe was the first *Information Officer* and edited the newsletter from 1982 until 1984. Daphne Pollard from Radley took over in 1985 for one year, with the post having been renamed *Publicity Secretary*. After Daphne had finished, the post was actually vacant in both 1986 and 1987, although Odd Bob continued to appear. Issue 11, June 1986 explains: "It is being produced this time by a number of Guild and Branch Officers who believe that it is an excellent way of communicating with members of the Guild". Marie Cross, also from Radley, appears to have in effect been the editor during these years. Marie formally became the editor in 1988 when the post's name settled at *Newsletter Editor* and in Issue 20, Oct. 1988, is expressly listed as such.

Marie Cross stood down in May 1994 and was replaced by Brian Curtis of Witney whose first and as it turned out, last edition as editor was Issue 43 in Autumn 1994.

John Martin of Reading took over from Brian Curtis, his first edition being Issue 44 in July 1995. He was the first editor to invite contributions to be sent in by email. He also introduced a regular contents page, though the first contents page was in Issue 41, Dec. 1993. In Issue 46 in March 1996 John Martin announced the setting up of the Guild's first website.

Rex Agg of Beaconsfield was elected newsletter editor in 1997, his first edition being no. 50 in July.

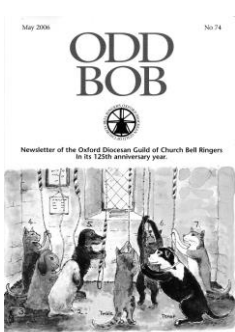


Rex was editor for 7 years, after which Lorna Curtis of Witney became editor in 2004, her first edition being No. 71 in Oct. 2004.

The current editor of Odd Bob, Rob Needham of Sonning took over from Lorna Curtis, his first edition being Issue 75 in Nov. 2006.

The first cover design of Odd Bob, shown in the photograph of the first edition, showed the outline of the 3 counties which comprise the ODG, with a central silhouette of the spires and towers of Oxford.

This lasted until Issue 43 in Autumn 1994, after which it was replaced by the bell and bell-wheel design as shown here alongside. This was replaced from Issue 71, Oct. 2004 when the new editor, Lorna Curtis, launched a colour cover version of the newsletter, with a change of design for each edition. The first ten or so were of watercolours provided by Rachael Sherlaw-Johnson, such as the one shown in the picture below for Issue 74, May 2006 [sorry, shown in greyscale, Ed.]. The first photograph on a front cover appeared in Issue 80, May 2009. Since Issue 88, May 2013, most of the front covers have been of groups of ringers.



The number of pages in the first 25 issues settled at 20-23 pages. Issue 26 had 44 pages, and since then the number has been between 28 to as much as 48 pages. The total number of pages in the whole newsletter set is estimated to be in the region of 3000 pages – representing a sizeable record of Guild and Branch activity.

The content of Odd Bob has, as might be expected, been consistent over the 100 issues: reports from Guild officers and sub-committees; directory of officers; reports from Branches; “Master's Mutterings” under various titles; Events Diary. One type of article which appears less frequently now than previously is the obituary: there were regularly three or four obituaries in editions during the 1980s and 90s, but they have become a rarity over the past few years. Data Protection was first mentioned in Issue 40, Sept. 1993 and has appeared regularly since then. The first Child protection/Safeguarding article appeared in Issue 64, March 2002 following the creation of the post of Children's Officer the previous year.

The following is a representative sample of the many articles which have appeared in Odd Bob.

- Obituary for Bill Birmingham, Issue 42 March 1994
- Obituary for Henry Lawrenson, Issue 57 Nov. 1999
- Obituary for Marie Cross, Issue 64 March 2002
- List of 33 unringable peals of bells in the Oxford Diocese, Issue 22 March 1989 – several are now ringable such as Purley, Longcot, Chilton, Black Bourton
- Dedication of the peal of bells at the Cross and Stable Downs Barn, to mark the 450th anniversary of the Oxford Diocese, article in Issue 40 Sept. 1993

- The Guild's first lady master, Pat Newton, article by Ron Thorne, Issue 23 June 1989
- The future of the branch striking competition...?, article by Stan Scott, Issue 47 July 1996, reprinted from the Sonning Deanery Branch newsletter
- And topically, an article comparing the purposes of the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund with those of the Guild Restoration Fund, by Brian Gatward Issue 41 Dec. 1993.

Doug Beaumont

Summary of ART M1 course at Kirtlington



On Saturday 16th February, Kirtlington hosted sixteen delegates and three senior members of the *Association of Ringing Teachers* (ART), led by tutor Paul Lewis, who attended the teaching of bell handling course M1.

Kirtlington was chosen for its proximity to Weston-on-the-Green, where an entirely new team of ringers was trained by instructors from the Oxford Guild (of which just over half had attended ART training) over three

months in 2018. The course, sponsored by Oxford Diocesan Guild for guild members, formed part of the concluding activities of the Weston training and was arranged by ODG's Susan Read and Lesley Belcher from ART, who with Branch Secretary Kathryn Grant co-ordinated the many training sessions at Weston and neighbouring towers.

The delegates came from as far afield as Newbury, Milton Keynes and Berkhamsted, and also locally from Bladon and Islip, bringing varied but also substantial ringing and teaching experience.

After a welcoming introduction by Katie Lane, ODG's Master, the course combined theory and practical sessions, including how people learn (learning styles), how to break down teaching complex handling skills into manageable chunks, what makes a good teacher, as well as follow-on activities after the course. The practical sessions introduced teaching handling from bell down, teaching separate strokes, putting the strokes together, raising and lowering, ringing style and how to intervene when needed. The course was well received by all delegates.

Tea, coffee, biscuits, cake and lunch were provided and much appreciated. Many thanks to the team who contributed to a successful event!

A follow-up assessment event is due to be scheduled for the delegates and their learners in the autumn, also at Kirtlington.

Steve Vickars

Towers & Belfries Committee

The Committee has met twice since the Autumn Odd Bob; in November and February at Radley church hall. At the February meeting, Mark Walker stood down from the committee after many years of dedicated service including a long stretch as Secretary. We wish Mark well and hope we will still meet from time to time to deal with belfry matters. At the same meeting, we welcomed Steve Vickars of Kirtlington to the committee.

During the last six months committee members have been very active with courses, grant inspections, TMA inspections, general advice or minor work at: Mortimer St John, Stratfield Mortimer, Kirtlington, Leafield, Letcombe Bassett, Monks Risborough, Slapton, Dinton, Stanton St John, Fernham, Ascott under Wychwood, Broadwell, Chalgrove, Berrick Salome, Cookham, Dorchester, Wheatley, Hampstead Norreys, Stoke Goldington and Shipton under Wychwood. There may be others that I have forgotten and it shows just how active the committee and its members have been.

The Committee presently has ten members (plus Guild Officers) but it would welcome new members; particularly in the East and especially the North East of the Guild. New members do not necessarily need to be “experienced” in belfry matters but must have a practical outlook, be keen & able to learn and be prepared to work as part of a team. Please contact Tony Crabtree if you are interested.

Tower Maintenance Award (TMA) inspections are completely free and there is lots to be gained from the inspection and the advice you may receive, so please get in touch if you would like a visit.

There has been one course run. This was rope splicing and management at Radley Church Hall. About twenty people attended from all over the Guild. Feedback was that the day was much appreciated (see the smiley faces in the pictures, as well as



deep concentration!). Several students booked up straight away for the next T&B course which will be at Wheatley (not Radley as originally published) on Saturday 1st June. This will cover an introduction to general maintenance, the TMA, rope splicing and management as well as identifying minor works to make useful improvements to the ringability or enjoyment of the bells.

The next course after that will be an in depth study of belfry maintenance on Friday 13th September. As soon as further dates are known, they will be published so people can get them in their diaries ready for when bookings open. Watch out for locally organised courses too.

Tony Crabtree – Chairman

Education Matters

I am delighted to report that, at its April meeting, the Education Sub-committee elected Colin Newman as Chairman. We are grateful to Colin for taking on this role and anticipate that he will give our activities renewed vigour and purpose.

Congratulations also to Lesley Belcher who has been elected Chairman of the Association of Ringing Teachers. She continues to have very hands-on involvement with courses in our area whilst now having a far wider and more demanding brief.

Just four youngsters have registered for the 2019-20 Young Ringers Award, which will run for a year until 31st March. We hope they will find the process to be worthwhile and fulfilling, but find it more than a little puzzling that so few are undertaking to submit a record of their activities and progress in ringing this time. The sub-committee continues to look at ways of increasing the appeal of this award.

Our thanks go to Lindsay Powell for running a successful Radley Course. This was her first Guild course as organiser and she received some very positive feedback, with just a few points for development which will doubtless benefit the planning and effectiveness of future courses. Jacquie Hazell, who recruited the helpers for Radley this year, has decided to stand down from the sub-committee owing to other pressures on her time. However, in a rash moment, she did undertake to continue organising the Radley helpers in the future!

The sub-committee gave consideration to a grant application, from Bray, and made a recommendation to the March General Committee meeting. Its suggestion of £333 (10% of the cost of the dumb bell and its installation) was accepted. We hope that this project will benefit experienced and new ringers alike and would remind all those considering similar educational initiatives that the Guild is willing to offer financial support.

Please could potential students and tower captains log the following course dates and look out for notices arriving via branch secretaries:

28th September Michaelmas

EBSB and adjoining branches; Stedman, Surprise, conducting

26th October Steeple Aston

Banbury and adjoining branches; Doubles, Minor, Triples, Major

2nd November Shrivenham

Grandsire Caters

30th November Aston Clinton

Plain & Little Bob Royal

Robert Newton (Education Sub-committee Secretary)

ODG 10-bell striking competition

The 2018 competition venue was Newbury with five teams taking part and ringing a touch of 240 Plain and Little Bob Royal. The Newbury ringers were our hosts for the morning and for the subsequent General Committee Meeting. We enjoyed excellent hospitality at the Church Hall which was conveniently right next to the church.

Our judges for the day were John and Hilda Ridley from Charlton Kings, Cheltenham and we thank them for travelling so far in such dreadful weather! Everything ran to time and, in fact we finished early thanks to the efficiency of

Martin Rice, Tower Captain of Newbury and Julia Deady, who marshalled the teams to their test pieces, thence for team photographs. The results were in before noon having only started at 10a.m.!

John announced that the teams would be marked on striking only and not on artistic impression with introductory rounds and end rounds to be counted. Hilda announced the placings in reverse order at the end.

Branch	Judges' Comments	Order	Placing
Old North Berks	The end of the plain bob section was very good with a good pull-off. Any mistakes were evenly distributed. Leading was good as were the lead ends.	1	Joint 2nd
Newbury	There was a clash on the initial pull-off and a mistake on the last lead of the plain bob which went on for best part of a lead, though the rhythm was impressive throughout.	2	4th
EBSB	The initial rounds were good and the Little Bob section was impressive as were the beginnings of each lead.	3	Joint 2nd
Reading	This band had the slowest pull-off and ringing. Though slow, the ringing was very good, very pleasant and consistent.	4	Winners
Banbury	Test piece was a great improvement on the practice. There were no method mistakes but there was the odd crunch. Faults were distributed throughout the ringing largely because the rhythm lacked consistency.	5	5th

The winning band from Reading are pictured in ringing order, clockwise from front right: 1 June Saint, 2 June Wells, 3 John Manley, 4 Tom Sherwood, 5 John Wells, 6 Robert Partridge, 7 Joanna Knight, 8 James Champion, 9 Colin Newman (C), 10 Doug Beaumont.



Tony Crabtree thanked the judges and made an appropriate gesture of thanks which was extended to all the members of the Newbury Branch who contributed to the efficiency of the day.

Tony Crabtree (Deputy Master)

Safeguarding Update

One of the real joys of ringing is the great diversity of the people who engage in the exercise. This includes people of all ages from the very young through to those in their twilight years, often ringing together with very little thought for the age gaps that exist. This is certainly something to celebrate but also something to preserve. Good Safeguarding practice is key in this.

The safeguarding of our young and vulnerable members is something we all have responsibility for. Completing the C0 on-line training module doesn't take long and it helps to raise awareness of the various types of abuse that can occur. This awareness is something that all ringers should endeavour to achieve.

For some of us who are tower leaders or teachers an additional level of training is required. Tower Captains are church officers so are required by the Diocese to complete the C2 face to face training, whether or not they have youngsters in the band; this also applies to those who are teaching young or vulnerable people. The courses are available through Church House and individuals can book themselves on to these. The ODG is running a C2 course at Radley on Saturday 9 November, from 10 am to noon. There are one or two places left on this. Please contact me if you would like a place.

As well as being aware of possible abuse situations it is important to know who to inform if you have concerns. Towers don't need to have a Safeguarding Officer but parishes do, so try to be aware of who this is in your parish, just in case you need them.

June Wells, Guild Safeguarding Officer

Librarian's Report

There have been 10 library enquiries since Odd Bob issue 99. These have been about:

- Date of membership for Oxford City branch member
- Information about Kathleen Holifield/Mrs A.E.Lock
- Branch rules
- Which Guild a peal was rung for on 5/11/1960
- Query about Chipping Norton branch member
- Election of Witney and Woodstock members in 1966
- Volume of Odd Bobs borrowed
- Peal fee discussions recorded in 1982 Guild minutes
- 1974 Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund rules
- Article for 100th Odd Bob.

Sorting of miscellaneous material has now been finished. A number of boxes had to be disposed of because they were too large to be of practical use. Several archive boxes now hold what was in them, and the whole set of papers is more neatly stored. The remaining task is to catalogue the contents, the eventual aim being to list in the catalogue all the material that is in the library.

The html computer code of the electronic archive needed a few loose ends tidying up to make the screens and the code behind them more consistent. This has now been finished, so I will have time to do some photographing of the documents. If anybody else feels able to spare some time to scan or photograph some documents, please let me know.

One of the enquiries reported in Odd Bob 99 was about Cholsey. A book *The Bells and Ringers of Cholsey Church*, published earlier this year, was the final product of that enquiry and of research in other sources of information. If anybody would like a copy of the book I can put them in touch with the author Barrie Charles, so please let me know.

The usual reminder, if you would like some information, or would like to visit the library or borrow a book, you are very welcome to, please let me know.

Doug Beaumont, Guild Librarian

News from the Branches

Banbury

In November the branch entered a team in the 10-bell competition, in December the carol service was held at Steeple Aston, and ringing was held at Deddington on Boxing Day and at Banbury on New Year's Day.

At the request of members, a Bob Doubles training day was held at Lower Heyford in February and attended by five members. Branch practices and advanced practices have been held regularly.

In February a joint branch practice with Chipping Norton Branch held at Hook Norton and Steeple Aston was attended by over 30 people.

A quarter peal week was held in March; seven were successful out of nine attempts.

The annual social and quiz evening was held in Tadmerton in March.

The AGM was held in April at Mollington where Lionel Smith retired as Ringing Master, having done the job for three years, and was replaced by Graham Clifton.

The membership of the Branch remains constant.

Rosemary Hemmings

Bicester

Since November we've had seven branch practices including one in December at Charlton-on-Otmoor, which is now tinged with sadness as it was the last one where Stephen Cameron (Tower Captain) rang – he died suddenly following a stroke on 15 April, aged 61, and we are all still coming to terms with the shock of this news. He was also the Senior Member of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers and, as this goes to press, a peal and quarter peals are being attempted in his memory. May he rest in peace. [*The photo from 11 years ago, shows Stephen on the left.*]



At our AGM in February we elected 11 new members and were particularly delighted to welcome three ringers to the new band in Weston-on-the-Green who have added much to the gaiety of practices where they've joined in enthusiastically at Bletchington, Islip and Kirtlington, as well as at their own practice on Thursday nights at Weston. Anyone free to join them on their still challenging bells would be very welcome!

The Branch hosted the ODG Spring Committee meeting at Kirtlington in March and the indefatigable Steve Vickars (Tower Captain) also hosted the ART M1 course when 16 delegates (including one from the branch) spent the day enhancing their teaching bell handling skills. The course was well received by all delegates.

Our April outing to Gloucestershire as well as Oxfordshire coincided with this year's warm Easter weather and churches decorated with lovely Easter flowers. The morning's three of Northleach, Sherbourne and Windrush were all challenging, whilst the afternoon's group of Taynton (what a great ringing chamber!), Fulbrook and Asthall were much easier for the wearier group of 20 ringers in total from 5 branches officially!

All of us had opportunities to extend our ringing range with rounds, call changes, plain hunt, St Clements, Stedman Triples and Kent amongst the repertoire. A very enjoyable day out – and many thanks to Richard Haseldine, joint Ringing Master, with Jeremy Adams, for organising it so well, and to those ringers and towers who hosted us. Our supporting team – only 3 this year – gave it (and the extended lunch) full marks as well!

Kathryn Grant

Central Bucks

Ringing life continues happily in the branch. Our monthly practices, focused on towers which benefit from support, were declared a success at the AGM and continue. Recently we have visited Marsh Gibbon and Winslow where local members were able to benefit from the experienced members present helping with progress in Plain Bob and plain hunting respectively. We also continue with our progressors practices, developing Stedman Triples and simple surprise major as well as a group working separately on the 'pickled egg' methods at Cuddington.

At the AGM in February, 20 new members from 11 towers in the branch were elected, and it has been good to meet these new ringers around the branch. There were no changes to our senior officers, but we did see the welcome return of Jan Robinson to the committee as branch steward, and also elected a junior steward, Cory Gibson, to give a younger perspective on the committee. The meeting was held at Long Cranston and gave a number of our less experienced ringers a chance for their first ring on 10 and for many, their first trip up a spiral to a ringing room – we do have a number of ground floor rings.

We are pleased to see the band at Hardwick improving sufficiently now to have a regular weekly practice on a Thursday, supported by members from around the branch. They also ring on the 4th Sunday for their family service, with a little branch help and the welcome support of the team rector, David Meakin. David joined other regular practice night ringers for a quarter peal on 4th May as a farewell to two very active members of the congregation, Canon Stephen and Mrs Peggy Sidebotham, moving to a clergy retirement setting in Coventry.

Aylesbury continues to flourish, with their band including many teenagers. In March a quarter peal was rung to mark the 70th birthday of their mentor and former tower captain, Sue Haines. All 5 of the teenagers took part in the quarter of Grandsire Doubles with a 4, 6 8 cover. Another 70th birthday in the branch was that of our chairman, Jeremy Pratt, for whom there was a good deal of ringing by friends that included a quarter peal of Stedman Triples at Haddenham, rung by a mainly branch band.

Other birthdays celebrated with ringing were: Edgar Skipsey turning 80 with a quarter at his home tower of Cuddington, a quarter at Bierton to mark the birthday of their tower captain, Peter Faye, and a quarter at Haddenham to mark 'round number' birthdays for 5 of their band in April! Congratulations to them all and long may they continue ringing.

Anne Pratt

Chiltern

We had several changes of branch officers at our AGM held in March and a subsequent special general meeting held in April. Phil Dobson has become Branch Chairman and Chris Potter was appointed as Training Officer, both in place of Ruth Groves who does still retain the post of Ringing Master. Mark Instone has been appointed Deputy Ringing Master. Ruth was presented with a bouquet of flowers in thanks for all her service to the Branch. The meeting also remembered Arthur White whose funeral had been held in January, a long standing ringer with his family at Aston Clinton.

Unfortunately we also learnt that the living of the team of Stoke Mandeville, the Kimbles and Ellesborough had recently been suspended, so it remains to see how, in due course, this may affect ringing at those churches. Les Floyd (tower captain of Ellesborough) also spoke about the difficulties he experienced after his PCC recently decided to save money by changing insurer from Ecclesiastical to another company that had very little idea about the specific insurance risks and cover required for ringers and ringing – a salutary tale for all towers.

Monthly branch practices, which focus on helping everyone to stretch their capabilities, are well supported, including regular visitors from our neighbouring branches of Central Bucks and the Western District of the Hertfordshire Association. Practices always conclude with a chat over tea and cakes.

Slapton's restoration and augmentation project progresses slowly. The project team are currently considering what they need to do to submit a second application to the Heritage Lottery, which requires an augmented community benefit and legacy to achieve success. The branch held a very successful fun quiz night at Slapton in January, organised by Clare and Edwina Carpenter, which was well supported by both ringers and villagers, with a truly excellent hot supper served. Over £900 was raised for the project.

Congratulations to Ellesborough which has just received a gold award under the Guild's tower maintenance award scheme; all credit to Rex Norris their steeple keeper.

The Chiltern branch looks forward to welcoming everyone at the ODG AGM being held at Great Missenden on 18 May. Our grateful thanks to those towers and their ringers in the neighbouring EBSB and Central Bucks branches who are helping us by hosting some of the open ringing on the two morning ringing routes.

Clare Carpenter

Chipping Norton

The January Branch practice was held at Chadlington and followed by a pub lunch. The ringing that morning was dedicated to David Hopewell, a local ringer, who died later that month after a long illness. He had been the branch representative for seventeen years. David's thanksgiving service was held at Chadlington in February. He was a reliable Sunday Service and wedding ringer and had helped with the restoration of Chadlington bells in 2006. He will be remembered for his sense of humour and love of golf, having often stated that he had ticked off more golf courses than towers. A quarter peal was rung at Chadlington in celebration of his life.

We also record the death in April of John Benfield, an honorary member, who had been a ringer at Chipping Norton.

There was a joint Saturday practice with the Banbury Branch in February with ringing at Hook Norton, a pub lunch at Lower Heyford and further ringing in the afternoon at Steeple Aston. More than thirty ringers took part. Thanks go to those responsible for the organisation of this.

The Branch AGM took place at Chipping Norton on 2nd March. Nigel Harrison retired as ringing master. Thanks were expressed to him for all he had done while in the post. Two joint ringing masters were elected, Mick Austin and Keith Mitchell, with Jenny Lewis as deputy ringing master. Peter Kenrick was elected as the branch representative. The other officers remain as before.

Helen Wright was elected as a member of the Guild. The election of the Revd Geoffrey Clement and the re-elections of four ringers from Leaffield and another from Chipping Norton at the January and February Branch practices were confirmed.

The Claire Tarrant Award for 2019 was presented to the twins, Jo Cook and Alison Minson. Jo has also recently rung her first quarter peal (Plain Bob Doubles), at the age of eighty-seven! Congratulations go to her. It is very encouraging that several nominations were submitted for consideration for this award again.

Special practices have continued on the third Tuesday of most months.

A tower captains' meeting was held in Holy Week and a bell was tolled in some towers in solidarity with Notre Dame on Maundy Thursday.

Work has been completed on Ascott bells but some remedial work is still required on the clock and in the clock room.

Shipton bells have been returned but, as problems have been discovered with the roof, there is a delay before ringing can recommence.

Leaffield bells are ringing again with the gift of some spare ropes from Charlbury. Further work is still required on the bells. Thanks go to all the volunteers that have helped with these projects.

Christine Harris

East Berks and South Bucks

The EBSB Christmas Social is always a most enjoyable evening, and the one organised by the Amersham ringers was no exception. Ringing on their delightful, easy-going twelve was followed by an evening of games (including a Beetle Drive where 32 branch members pitted their dice throwing and artistic skills against each other), quizzes and a scrumptious hot meal.

In the May 2018 edition of Odd Bob we reported the augmentation of Turville bells from five to six by the addition of a new treble bell donated by Michael Spracklen and dedicated to his wife, Annie. On 14th February the first peal (Plain Bob Minor) was rung on the augmented bells. What is particularly remarkable is that this was Mike's first peal attempt, at the age of 81!



The band with Annie, anti-clockwise from front left

Fourteen energetic walkers took part in the outing on Saturday 13th April that visited Ellesborough (6) then Wendover (8), with a 3 mile walk between the two towers. The pub lunch sustained us for the next 4 mile walk, mostly along the canal, to Aston Clinton (10). Ringing was supported by three others in cars and 3 locals at Aston Clinton enabling us to ring from rounds and call changes to Stedman Caters and Yorkshire Major.

A band from EBSB took part in the Guild 10-bell contest at Newbury coming joint 2nd, and High Wycombe entered the National 12-bell Contest again. Their draw in the eliminator at Leeds was tough so they were not surprised to be placed 6th. The Bucks and Berks Young Ringers travelled to Horton Kirby in Kent for SECON 2019 (South East England Contest) where they were placed 4th out of six.

Oxford Diocesan Guild

Turville, Buckinghamshire

St Mary

Thursday, 14 February 2019

in 2h 39 (7-3-11 in B b)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

1 Michael A Spracklen

2 Patricia M Newton

3 Kenneth J Darvill

4 Nicola J Turner

5 Colin M Turner

6 Robert H Newton (C)

On Saturday 16th March nearly 30 handbell ringers gathered at the home of Katharine and Graham Firman in Maidenhead to celebrate 50 continuous years of Wednesday evening ODG handbell peal ringing. Eight peals were rung including three of Bristol Maximus which involved 17 different ringers. Katharine provided lunch and a sustaining evening meal, and Pat Moore baked a celebratory cake decorated with two small handbells. A full report was published in the *Ringing World*, 12 April, p365.

Pat Newton

Newbury

The Centenary of the First World War saw many commemorations around the Newbury Branch with ringing for special morning services and also for the *Battles Over* evening slot, coinciding with the lighting of beacons across the country. There were a number of quarter peals rung, including one of Armistice Surprise Major. Several local soldiers, including some ringers, were also remembered in the appropriate way.

We hosted the ODG 10-Bell Competition at Newbury this year, with the local team coming third. The four teams were accompanied by plenty of support, allowing socialising while waiting to ring and partaking of the excellent catering laid on by the Newbury Branch ringers.

December saw the 70th anniversary of local celebrity ringer, Geoff Dodd's first peal. To mark the event, two peals were rung, the first being Double Norwich at Amesbury, as was Geoff's first peal, and the other at his home tower Highclere, in his favourite method Bristol Surprise Major.

In February, our Quarter Peal Week was the usual success with a number of first quarters, first in method etc, followed by the annual Branch Dinner which was enjoyed by all attending.

Our AGM in March heralded a few changes – namely, the Ringing Master's role, which has become quite a challenging role owing to the enthusiasm and diligence of Di Bridle, the outgoing RM. This activity has been met with the tasks being shared out three ways. There are now two monthly practices: one a general practice, and the other of Surprise Major. We also hold a monthly daytime outing and pub lunch event, all of which have become popular and well supported activities, each now having its own organising officer.

Earlier this year, Lambourn's bells were dismantled for inspection, revealing cracks in four of the bells requiring weld repair. Hence the Lambourn ringers are now engaged in fundraising to allow the repairs to be made, and the bells brought back into action as soon as possible. As summer approaches we look forward to an active season with our Branch Outing, which this year takes us into rural Wiltshire, along with our 6-Bell Striking competition in July at St Mary's Shaw.

Mark Robins

North Bucks

From Shelia Blenkhorn of Hanslope: Following a long programme of fund raising, Whites of Appleton are finally due to commence work in mid July on the eight bells at Hanslope and the project is expected to take 3-4 months to complete. The bells, complete with all new fittings, will be lowered down the tower and hung in a new frame. All the bells will be retuned, with the exception of the tenor which is to be left as a maiden bell.

Brian Baldwin

Old North Berks

ONB Branch's social event for 2018 was a skittles evening held in Radley Village Hall in November. This was another opportunity for branch members to show how lively and competitive they really are when divided into teams. There were two matches with a welcome break for fish and chips and Daphne's famous sticky toffee pudding in between. £137 was raised during the raffle and this has been allocated to branch restoration projects. Thanks go to Daphne for organising the food and also to her ringers at Radley for making such an enjoyable time for everyone.

New Year's Day 2019 ringing with refreshments was held at North Moreton and there were over thirty attendees. Thanks go to Beryl Jones and all her helpers for the excellent refreshments, which included jacket potatoes with chilli through to delicious cakes. This was a good start to the New Year and a fun event for the Branch.

In March we held our six-bell striking competition and AGM at Sutton Courtenay. The competition was once again reasonably well supported with four teams entering. Thanks go to our judges, Keith Osborne of Ashford, Kent and Bill Stungo. They said that they had heard some good ringing with very few method mistakes. On this occasion Abingdon were triumphant and were awarded our branch striking competition winner's trophy. They will represent ONB at the Guild's six bell competition in October.

The restoration project at Steventon has almost been completed. The ground floor ring of six bells has been very successfully rehung by Whites of Appleton. The only thing left to do is to install the brand new rope guide, which should make the bells much easier to ring. The project has been funded by generous donations from the village and people who had been married in Steventon, by the ODG and ONB Branch, and by a £5,000 donation from the organisers of the Truck Festival, which is held nearby every summer.

All scheduled branch practices have taken place, with improvement in attendance at the evening monthly practices, especially from newer ringers who have stayed on after the earlier learners' practices. There is still a need to increase attendance at these practices from the wider branch membership, which would provide even better learning opportunities. It seems that our newest members are more inclined to venture out than the more established membership. The afternoon and Surprise practices continue to be well supported and successful in their aims.

Susan Read, our Training Officer, continues to organise events for our younger ringers. These take place during the school holidays and have included a week's ringing club in Abingdon, a quiz and handbell ringing, refreshments and party games, and cooking in the Thame Barns centre. On Saturday, 13th April there was a Ringing Fest in Oxford, an all-day event booked with the help of the Oxford Society for all the young ringers from the ODG plus a group of young ringers from Gloucestershire.

We recently held a 'mini' outing for our afternoon ringers, when we rang at three towers, Warborough, Chalgrove and Dorchester Abbey, and had an excellent pub lunch at the White Hart in Dorchester. In July we will have our full day outing to various towers in a location not yet specified by Philip Roberts, with a pub lunch and afternoon tea. This will be followed in the evening by a barbecue at the home of Stuart and Naomi Gibson.

Gill Loyd

Oxford City

[No article received; Ed.]

Reading

[No article received; Ed.]

Sonning Deanery

Derek Titford, who has been Tower Captain at Waltham St Lawrence since 1997, has recently stood down and, as he puts it in an article for the Parish Magazine, 'passed the position/baton/keys/ropes over to Jacquie Hazell'. Thank you to Derek for all the work that he has put in to keep the tower ringing, and congratulations to Jacquie on her new role.

At the AGM on 16th February, 17 new members were elected to the Guild; the Branch also had two returning members. All the Branch Officers remained in post, but the Training Officer position remains unfilled, and continues to be covered by Chairman John Harrison.

The SDB 6-bell striking competition was held at St Mary's, White Waltham on 27th April, and attracted 7 bands, including two bands of young ringers. The competition was won by All Saints, Wokingham. Congratulations to all who took part.

The ART *Loddon Hub* has continued to be very active, with Vinni Sullivan organising a number of quarter peal attempts at various towers within the Branch.

In November 2018, Karen Daffey of Sonning, Allison Leigh and Ann Thompson of Waltham St Lawrence achieved Level 1 of *Learning the Ropes*; Imogen Reason of Wargrave reached Level 2 and Holley Wakeling of Waltham St Lawrence achieved Levels 2, 3 and 4.

In February 2019, Nick Willson, Stephanie Milner, Keith Milner, Jeremy Carpenter and Duncan Kendall, all of Hurst, achieved Level 1.

In March 2019 Ellie Andrews of Sonning, and Joseph Godfrey of Twyford reached Level 2, and in April 2019, Katie Thomas of Sonning and Alexander Nicolai of Wargrave also reached Level 2. Congratulations to them all.

St Nicholas, Hurst is back to regular practices on a Monday evening as a result of the learners recruited through the *Ringin' Remembers* programme. All are progressing well at the practice and have reached Level 1 of *Learning the Ropes* (above), supported by Graham Slade, Vinni Sullivan and Simon Farrar.

St Mary's Wargrave has recently had work done on its bells by Taylor's of Loughborough, and after a break of around 1 month is now back to ringing as usual.

Attendance at the Young Ringers practices arranged by Rob Needham and run by Nigel Mellor and Steve Wells, has been generally good, and it is encouraging to know that there are now a number of young learners within the Branch and that they are progressing well at their individual towers.

Sue Portsmouth

South Oxon

Our Branch offers a multitude of opportunities to ring outside of one's own tower. Monthly branch practices continue to be well supported. In September, Hilarie Rogers and John White organised a 10-bell practice at Abingdon, supported by helpers from outside the branch and attended by branch members of all abilities. A good time was had by all. Alternating monthly Surprise Major and Surprise Minor practices continue to attract a good number. Attendance at monthly afternoon Doubles practices alternating between Grandsire and Plain Bob has been sporadic – with better attendance noted in the summer than the winter! A new schedule is being considered.

We have seven towers taking part in *Tower Twinning*. Members of the towers meet regularly for joint practices to ring and socialise. We are grateful to Hilarie for organising *Tower Twinning*, and for her dedication to training activities in general.

Aston Rowant are taking succession planning seriously – at their Christmas service they rang hand-bells with pupils from Year 6 of their local primary school! A great introduction for youngsters. Aston have rung several quarter peals in the last few months celebrating a range of occasions from A-level results to “big birthdays”, wedding anniversaries and the births of grandchildren.

Several towers have attracted new members over the past year. Eight were elected to the Guild (and one re-elected) at our AGM in February. Benson has helped with teaching two new ringers from Brightwell Baldwin – recruits from *Ringin' Remembers*. They are very proud of Izzy, who was part of the victorious ODG team in the RW National Youth Striking competition.

Chalgrove and Dorchester have also attracted several new ringers over the past year, but sadly Dorchester has lost two of their stalwarts. Frank Norman died peacefully at home during December. He had rung with Dorchester for 36 years, and after his service the tenor bell was tolled nine times (for a man) plus 87 (one for each year of his life) while the cortege made its way to the cemetery. 91 year old Alf Cooper passed away during March. Alf was for some years a member of Benson before returning to live in Dorchester. His last ring was for a wedding in May 2018.

During November, several churches in the South Oxon branch hosted a party of touring ringers from Philadelphia during November. The relationship was fostered following a visit to the USA by Margaret Coombe (Chalgrove). Margaret had hoped to ring at Trinity Church, New York, but unfortunately Trinity is closed until 2020 for major renovation work. However, undeterred, Margaret travelled to Philadelphia to ring with the Philly Ringers. It was here that the invitation was issued! After ringing in South Oxon, our American visitors moved on to Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Essex, completing their tour on Armistice Day in Kent, ringing at 50 towers in just over a week!

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our Branch Outing in May to five Cotswold churches.

Jane Willis

Vale of the White Horse

Vale ringers wholeheartedly supported the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Armistice on 11th November 2018. With new recruits and returning ringers enthused by the *Ringling Remembers* campaign swelling the numbers; all but one of our towers rang at least once during the day. Ringing ranged from quarter peals and call changes to firing, rounds and helping villagers to chime tower bells and turret bells. Several towers managed to ring for all three occasions – the morning Remembrance service, again at 12:30pm for *Ringling Remembers*, and at 7:05pm as part of the Battle's Over initiative.

The Branch AGM was held at Shrivenham in March. Revd Norma Fergusson led a service of Songs of Praise, and the local ringers kept everyone well supplied with tea and cakes. All the officers were unanimously re-elected for another year. Four recently elected members were welcomed to the Guild and presented with membership certificates.

Zoë Williams hosts the Badger's Handbell Ringers group which grew out of the beginners' handbell method ringing course she and Joe Norton ran last year. Zoë has M.E. and has spent most of the past 29 years in bed. She learnt how to plain hunt some years ago, eventually progressing to ringing two 'handbells' to method using Abel on her laptop, and ringing is now a big part of her life. Zoë conducted her first quarter peal in December 2018, ringing 5-6 to Plain Bob Minor. Although not physically able to ring tower bells, she has tried full circle ringing on the Stallpits Mini Ring. Recently she and Joe formed a plan for her to conduct a quarter peal on tower bells. Although conducting from outside the ringing circle is not allowed, a single bell can have more than one ringer. An additional long tail end was spliced onto the tenor rope at Longcot, and with Joe ringing the bell and Zoë as 'strapper', she conducted a quarter of Plain Bob Minor on 7th April. The Longcot tenor only weighs 8cwt, so this may have been the lightest bell ever strapped to a quarter!

Zoë would be interested to hear from others who have used adaptations and techniques to make their ringing possible; whether due to disability, injury, geography, or other circumstances. Her email address is BadgersHandbells@gmail.com.

Lucy Laird

Witney and Woodstock

[No article received; Ed.]

Andrew Goldthorpe

Points from Peals

The total number of peals recorded to date this year is 86 compared with 70 in the same period last year.

Firsts: A number of firsts have been recorded as ringers of all ages have made progress. Congratulations to all concerned.

First Peal: David G Middleton, Michael A Spracklen

First in hand: Lindsay Powell, Rosanna Cretney, Craig M Robertson

First as conductor: Thomas R Sherwood

First TB in hand as conductor: Colin G Newman

First Surprise: Thomas Blomley

First Spliced in hand: Daniel J Page

First in hand on inside pair: Anna E Sherwood

First on 12: Sophie L Martin

First on 12 in hand: Daniel J Page

First Maximus: Thomas R Sherwood

Personal Milestones: Significant milestones recorded since the last report include:

Nicholas J Clarke and Timothy G Pett, Robert A Partridge and Timothy G Pett (100 together), E John Wells (800 on handbells), E John Wells and June D Wells (1,400 together), Kenneth R Davenport (1,500), June D Wells (1,700), Robert H Newton (3,000 and 1,500 in hand).

Most methods: (Surprise Major 8) Sophie L Martin, (Plain Royal 8)

Kenneth R Davenport, Marcia L Dieppe, Timothy G Pett, E John Wells, June D Wells, (Surprise Royal 10) Janet E John

Completes Delight Major alphabet: Janet E Menhinick

Events: Peals were rung for the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul, Easter, and the 1st on the bells following augmentation to 6, Turville; 1st on the bells following augmentation to 8, Great Brickhill; also tower dinner day Wokingham All Saints.

The first peals in the methods of Maryland Surprise Maximus and Osiris Surprise Maximus were rung for the Guild.

Personal events: Peals were rung for the birthdays of Pat Moore, Hamish O'Mahony (21), and Janet E Menhinick (70).

In memoriam: Ringers, friends and family members remembered were:

Maureen Sherwood, Chris Rowson, Ivor Trueman, and Arthur J White.

Ken Davenport, Peal Secretary

Paying Peal Fees electronically

If you would like to pay peal fees electronically, instead of sending in cheques, then please contact the peal secretary (peals@odg.org.uk) to obtain the details. Thank you.

Stuart Gibson

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Diary of Events for 2019

Some of these dates may change, so you should check the odg.org.uk web site for diary updates on an ongoing basis.

TBC To Be Confirmed	AGM Annual General Meeting	AP Advanced Practice
BP Branch Practice	EP Elementary Practice	HY Half Yearly Meeting
QM Quarterly Meeting	RCP Ringing Centre Practice	SC Striking Competition
SM Surprise Major	SP Surprise Practice	CM Committee Meeting

MAY 2019

Mon 6	Guild	Ringling Day	North Bucks	All day
Mon 6	Guild	Eight-Bell Contest	North Bucks	Afternoon
Wed 8	Bicester	BP	Middleton Stoney (6)	7.30 – 9pm
Wed 8	ONB	BP	Cholsey (8)	8.00 – 9.30pm
Sat 11	South Oxon	Branch Outing	TBC	Whole Day
Sat 11	EBSB	SP	Chalfont St Giles (8)	7.00 – 9.00pm
Sat 18	Sonning	BP	Wokingham, St Paul (8)	10.30 – 12.00
Sat 18	Guild	AGM	Great Missenden (8)	All day
Tues 21	Bicester	SP Little Bob Minor & Grandsire Triples	Bicester (10)	7.30 – 9pm
Wed 22	ONB	BP	North Moreton (6)	2.00 – 3.30pm
Sat 25	South Oxon	BP	Shabbington (6)	7.00 pm
Sat 25	EBSB	BP	Denham (8)	10.30 – 12.00

JUNE 2019

Mon 3	Bicester	BP	Kirtlington (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed 5	ONB	S Mjr/Royal	Appleton (10)	7.45 - 9.15
Fri 7	Newbury	BP	Chieveley (8)	19.30 – 21.00
Fri 7	CN	BP	Taynton (6)	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 8	EBSB	6-bell SC	Turville (6)	5.00 – 7.30pm
Sat 8	CBB	BP	Hardwick (6)	7.00 - 8.30
Tues 11	ONB	BP	Wantage (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Sat 15	Chiltern	BP	Langley Marish(8)	9.30 – 11.30
Wed 19	W&W	BP	Stonesfield (6)	19:30 – 21:00
Wed 19	Bicester	Plain hunt/ Grandsire	Bletchinghamdon (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Thur 20	VOWH	BP	Shellingford (6)	19.30 - 21.00
Sat 22	EBSB	BP	Penn (6)	7.00 – 9.00pm
Tue 25	Banbury	BP	Steeple Aston (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed 26	ONB	BP	Childrey (8)	2.00 – 3.30
Thu 27	W&W	BP	Black Bourton (6)	19:30 – 21:00

JULY 2019

Mon 1	W&W	BP	Bampton (8)	19:30 – 21:00
Tues 2	Bicester	BP	Launton (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Tues 2	CN	BP	Enstone (6)	7.30 - 9.00
Fri 5	Newbury	BP	Shaw (6)	19.30 – 21.00
Tue 9	W&W	BP	Alvescot (6)	19:30 – 21:00
Sat 13	CBB	BP and social	East Claydon (6)	5.30 - 7.00 onwards
Tues 16	VOWH	BP	Uffington (6)	19.30 - 21.00
Thur 18	Bicester	Grandsire/ Kent TB Minor	Kirtlington (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Sat 20	EBSB	BP	Stoke Poges (8)	7.00 – 9.00pm
Sat 20	Chiltern	BP	Ivinghoe (6)	9.30 – 11.30
Sat 20	Chiltern	BP	Ivinghoe (6)	9.30 – 11.30
Wed 24	ONB	BP	Radley (6)	2.00 – 3.30
Thu 25	Banbury	AP	Deddington (8)	7.30 – 9.00

AUGUST 2019

Fri	2	Bicester	BP	Caversfield (5)	7.30 – 9.00
Fri	2	Newbury	BP	TBC	19.30 – 21.00
Fri	2	CN	BP	Burford (8)	7.30 - 9.00
Sat	3	W&W	BP	Woodstock (8)	10:30 – 12:00
Wed	7	ONB	S Mjr	Goring (8)	7.45 – 9.15
Sat	10	CBB	BP	Drayton Parslow	7.00 - 8.30
Wed	14	ONB	BP	Sunningwell (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Sat	17	EBSB	BP	Winkfield (6)	2.00 – 4.00pm
Sat	17	W&W	BP	Combe (6)	10:30 – 12:00
Sat	17	Chiltern	BP	Edlesborough (6)	9.30 – 11.30
Tue	20	Banbury	BP	Adderbury (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed	28	ONB	BP	Brightwell (8)	2.00 – 3.30
Wed	28	W&W	BP	Stanton	19:30 – 21:00
				Harcourt (6)	

SEPTEMBER 2019

Tues	3	CN	BP	Little Compton (5)	7.30 - 9.00
Wed	4	W&W	BP	Ducklington (6)	19:30 – 21:00
Fri	6	Newbury	BP	Yattendon (6)	19.30 – 21.00
Sat	7	Bicester	Striking competition/ BBQ	Islip (8)	6.00 – 10.00
Thur	12	VOWH	BP	Coleshill (6)	19.30 - 21.00
Thurs	12	ONB	BP	Wallingford (10)	8.00 – 9.30
Sat	14	CBB	Outing by public transport	London	all day
Tues	17	Bicester	Grandsire/ PB Doubles	Brill (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Fri	20	W&W	BP	North Leigh (6)	19:30 – 21:00
Sat	21	EBSB	BP	Amersham (12)	11.00am – 1.00pm
Sat	21	Chiltern	BP HY	Little Missenden (6) + ½ yearly meeting	9.30 – 12.30
Wed	25	ONB	BP	Steventon (6)	2.00 – 3.30
Thu	26	Banbury	AP	Horley (6)	7.30 – 9.00

OCTOBER 2019

Tues	1	Bicester	BP	Islip (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed	2	ONB	S Mjr	Milton (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed	2	CN	BP & meeting	Shipton-u- Wychwood (8)	7.00 - 8.30
Fri	4	Newbury	BP	Aldermaston (8)	20.00 – 21.00
Sat	5	W&W	BP	Langford (6)	10:30 – 21:00
Wed	9	ONB	BP	Cumnor (8)	7.30 – 9.00
Sat	12	EBSB	Lorna Newton SC & HYM	Hughenden(TBC)	5.00 – 8.00pm
Sat	12	CBB/Chiltern	Orchard Cup SC	Aston Abbotts	2.30 draw
Tues	15	Bicester	Rev Canterbury/ PB Minor	Souldern (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed	16	VOWH	BP	Buckland (8)	19.30 - 21.00
Sat	19	EBSB	BP	Hambleden (8)	2.00 – 4.00pm
Sat	19	Banbury	Half Yearly at Banbury	Bodicote (8)	2.30 – 3.15
				Banbury (10)	3.30 – 4.30
Wed	23	W&W	BP	Standlake (6)	19:30 – 21:00
Wed	23	ONB	BP	Harwell (8)	2.00 – 3.30
Thu	31	W&W	BP	South Leigh (8)	19:30 – 21:00

NOVEMBER 2019

Fri	1	CN	BP	Asthall (6)	7.30 - 9.00
Sat	2	EBSB	SP	Burnham (8)	7.00 – 9.00pm
Wed	6	Bicester	BP	Bletchington (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Thu	7	W&W	BP	Cassington (6)	19:30 – 21:00
Fri	8	Newbury	BP	TBC	19.30 – 21.00
Sat	9	CBB	BP	Soulbury	7.00 - 8.30
Tues	12	ONB	BP	Brightwell (8)	7.45 – 9.15
Sat	16	EBSB	BP	Slough (10)	2.00 – 4.00pm

Sat	16	Banbury	BP	Somerton (8)	11.15 – 12.15
				Lunch at the Bell, Lower Heyford	
Sat	16	Chiltern	BP	Lower Heyford (6)	1.45 - 2.45
Mon	18	VOWH	BP	Aston Clinton (10)	9.30 – 11.30
Thur	21	Bicester	SP	Faringdon (8)	19.30 - 21.00
				Weston-on-the- Green (6)	7.30 – 9.00
Wed	27	ONB	BP	Chilton (6)	2.00 – 3.30



Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

Preliminary notice

2019 TEN BELL COURSES

One Day Courses organised by the Guild Education Committee

Saturday 2nd November, 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

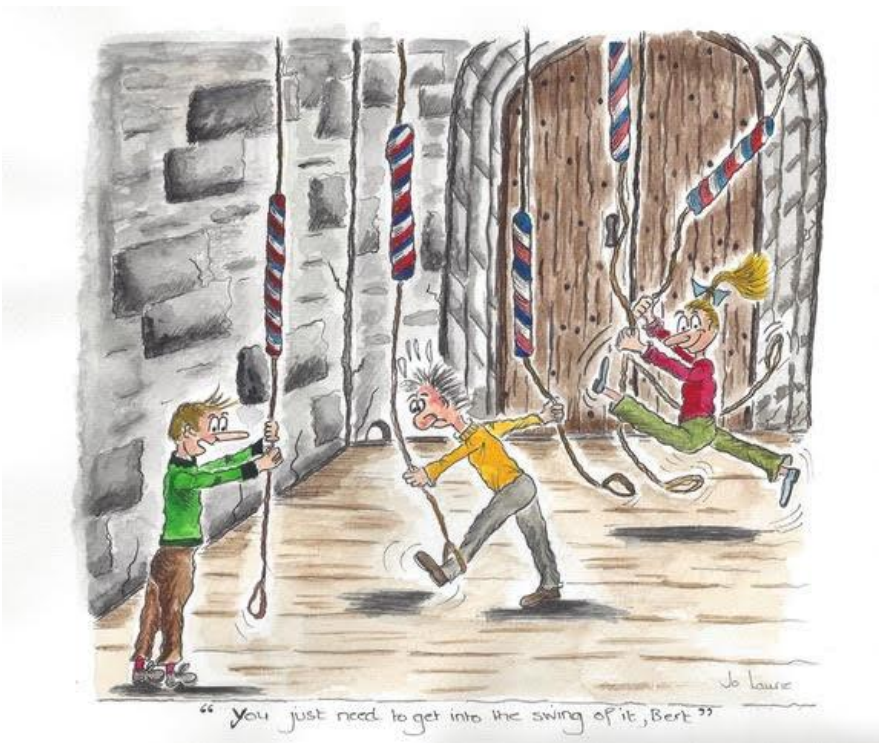
at St Andrew, Shrivenham

Method: Grandsire Caters

Saturday 30th November, 10.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

at St Michael and All Angels, Aston Clinton

Methods: Plain and Little Bob Royal



Runner up cover design by Jo Laurie



Young Ringers Fest – Oxford, April 2019