

Issue **61**

ODD BOB

Newsletter of the



March 2001

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Information for contributors:

The next issue of '*Odd Bob*' will be distributed at the Guild Festival on
14 July 2001.

All contributions to the editor:
Mr A Rex Agg, 25 Wilton Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2DE
not later than **18 June 2001.**

Master's Mutterings

With the Millennium year over, it is now time to reflect on the activities of the past few years and to look forward to the future. In 1996 the Guild AGM agreed to mount a Millennium Project. This project has been overseen by the Millennium Working Group, which has now completed its work and has had its last meeting. At that meeting the content of the group's report was agreed and it is hoped to have this ready by the time of this year's AGM. It is clear that much has been achieved by the Project and I hope all members will find the report of considerable interest. My thanks go to all who worked so hard to achieve the success of the Project, all the members of the Working Group and all those who worked so hard at Branch and local level. I believe much has been learnt from the project and we now have the opportunity to build on those experiences. In particular, there are two matters that I hope will be addressed with some urgency.

Firstly, alongside our continued efforts to improve recruitment, we must make sure that the many new ringers we have recruited are retained and do not leave once the excitement of the Millennium has died down. A significant number of these new members are in the more mature age range. This does have implications for towers, branches and the Guild in their ways of working. The emphasis of the Guild's objectives is our role as Church workers and there are many ways in which the enthusiasm and experience of these new ringers can be used to further our work. If they feel valued, as they are, our new members will stay and help to maintain the wellbeing of the Guild.

Secondly, we have made great efforts to try to improve the ways in which we teach ringing, but we must not 'rest on our laurels'. Considering new approaches can only help to develop the quality of our training. It is important to take a pride in our teaching, share ideas and seek advice if in doubt. This is particularly so with the teaching of bell handling. Good handling is not just aesthetically pleasing; it is vital to good striking and, above all, the safety of all ringers as well as the bell installations themselves. There have been a number of workshops on this topic over the past few years and I hope the ideas discussed will quickly filter through to all involved in teaching.

One particular trend that I find rather worrying, is the emphasis sometimes put on the haste with which learners are pushed on to ringing Plain Hunt before they can handle competently. Without good bell control, progress is often slow, striking is poor and more handling faults develop. This results in frustration on the part of the learners who may become so disillusioned that they leave - (not to mention the effect on tutors and helpers). Obviously we need to keep learners' interest but there are many activities that help to develop good bell control, listening skills, rope sight and place counting which can be used before progressing to plain hunt 'proper'. Call changes with the calls made at increasing speed, dodging and place making practice, whole pull 'hunting' and hunting to 2nds or 3rds are some obvious ones. Many will have their own good ideas, so please don't keep them to yourself; communicate them to others by word of mouth or items in Branch Newsletters or *Odd Bob*. I look forward to seeing or hearing other peoples' ideas.

What of the future? As well as building on our success, we have another significant date coming up. In January 2006 the Guild will celebrate its 125th anniversary. How will this be celebrated? It will soon be time to start making plans!

John Wells

OBITUARIES

FRANCIS "GEORGE" EDMANS

17 May 1911 - 31 October 2000

Many people have been deeply saddened by the death of George Edmans who passed away peacefully on 31st October aged 89. George was born in the village of Great Horwood and lived there all his life. He became involved in village activities from a very early age. He started singing in the church choir when he was a child, joined the Great Horwood Silver Band when he was nine, and started bell ringing at the age of 10. On leaving school at the age of 14, George went to work for the village butcher. He later worked for the Electricity Board before joining the Post Office. Because working for the Post Office was a reserved occupation, George was not allowed to fight in the Second World War. Instead he worked hard to maintain the vital lines of communication, especially the secret lines to and from Bletchley Park.

George's two great loves were bell ringing and the village band. George was an active ringer for an amazing 79 years, right up until he went into hospital. He was still ringing quarter-peals earlier in the year. He rang at numerous towers around the country and taught many people to ring. George was tower captain at Great Horwood from the beginning of the Second World War right up until 1982. He still continued to teach new ringers. George joined the Guild in 1933 and was President of the Central Bucks Branch for some 20 years, until his death. With Maurice Jamieson and Miss Irving, George made the Guild banner. He also made a marlinspike for every tower in the Central Bucks Branch. He made most of these from the wood of Great Horwood's old 1616 bell frame. This was typical of George because he hated to see good wood go to waste and collected anything that might come in useful some day. George was particularly pleased that two of his marlinspikes were taken to Australia.

Around the end of the war, the bells at Great Horwood were declared too dangerous to be rung. George immediately set about raising the enormous sum of money needed to re-cast the fourth bell and to re-hang all six bells in a proper ringing circle for the first time and in a new steel frame. With the help of his sister, Molly, and one or two others George organized whist drives and dances to raise the money. It took them only five years to raise the sum needed and the bells were re-hung in 1950.

As soon as the money had been raised for the bells, George set about re-establishing the Great Horwood Village Band that had lapsed during the war. With most of the instruments having disappeared and only 10 shillings (50p) left in the Band kitty, they scraped together five old Band members, recruited new members and raised funds to get the Band going again. George loved the Band to play a nice hymn tune and a good march; music which would raise people's spirits.

George was also a keen member of the village Friendly Club as well as the Post Office Veterans. He was also an excellent gardener. Many parts of Great Horwood benefited from George's fund raising and from his participation at one time or another, including the Church and the School. George was a man of strong opinions who always made sure that he had his say, but he was also a very caring person and certainly enjoyed a good joke.

George's wife, Elizabeth, sadly died in 1978 but he leaves behind his sister Molly, his son Richard, and grandchildren Amanda and Mark. I am sure that the thoughts and prayers of all of us are with them at this sad time. George also leaves a great number of friends. We miss him terribly and we shall always remember him. The village of Great Horwood and especially the ringing chamber seem very empty without him, but as long as we keep the bells ringing and the Band playing I am sure that George would be happy.

Clare Martin

ROBERT SHERLAW-JOHNSON

1932 - 2000

Robert was a composer and musician of international standard and repute. Many of us have been privileged to hear his excellent Piano Recitals. He studied in Paris and taught at several universities before becoming a Fellow at Worcester College, Oxford in 1970, a position he held until his retirement last year.

He was a man of many talents beside music, packing more activity into one lifetime than many people can only dream of. His interests included playing the Northumbrian pipes – reflecting his northern roots – wine-making, collecting historical playing cards, and he played a mean game of croquet as some of us found out to our cost last year on the lawns of Worcester College.

Robert learnt to ring at Stonesfield in April 1995, and has been a regular and loyal member of the band ever since. Although his ringing was occasionally a case of enthusiasm triumphing over technique, he made remarkable progress, and had an outstanding understanding of the complexities of methods. He was a Branch Representative and Vice-Chairperson of the Witney and Woodstock Branch.

In the early days, his musical background did not always make it easy for him to adjust to bell ringing – for instance, pulling off in rounds initially caused him problems because, as he put it, he "was used to all the instruments coming in together"! However, like everything that he did, he persevered, determined to improve. It was not only tower bells that interested him; handbells were also a passion, to the extent of buying his own set of bells. He enjoyed ringing handbells at many functions and fund-raising events.

His desire to improve took him to different rowers, making him a familiar face not only at towers within the Witney and Woodstock Branch but also at any tower in neighbouring branches where he thought he would be able to learn something. It was on one such occasion (3rd November 2000), whilst attending Appleton practice, that he took hold for a course of Yorkshire, collapsed and died.

There was standing room only at his Requiem Mass on 10th November 2000 at Stonesfield church, reflecting the high esteem in which he was held. The service itself reflected the way Robert appeared to conduct his life: it was there to be enjoyed, regardless of the circumstances. A half-muffled quarter peal was rung prior to the service; the bells being rung open at the request of Rachael as his coffin was carried from the church. A peal was also rung at Stonesfield on 9th December 2000 as a tribute to Robert.

He was a wonderful gentleman with an abundance of energy, who lived live to the full. He will be sadly missed.

Brian Curtis and Lorna Smale

Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2000
General Fund

1999	Receipts		1999	Payments	
	Branch Subscriptions			Expenses	
£ 437.50	Banbury	£ 514.50	£ 193.50	Master / Deputy Master	£ 119.00
£ 287.00	Bicester	£ 385.00	£ 37.11	Secretary / Treasurer / Stewards	£ 37.95
£ 672.00	Central Bucks	£ 784.00	£ 66.87	Other Officers	£ 71.21
£ 465.50	Chiltern	£ 518.00	£ 369.90	Stationery and Postage	£ 443.94
£ 259.00	Chipping Norton	£ 350.00	£ 333.50	Printing	£ 479.88
£ 1,246.00	East Berks & South Bucks	£ 1,228.50	£ 1,000.88		£ 1,151.98
£ 374.50	Newbury	£ 405.50	£ 36.00	Library	£ 2.84
£ 756.00	North Bucks	£ 815.50	£ 4,669.62	Insurance	£ 3,092.71
£ 815.50	Old North Berks	£ 882.00	£ 875.00	Purchase of Guild Reports	£ 915.00
£ 315.00	Oxford City	£ 449.00	£ 1,242.00	Printing "Odd Bob"	£ 1,583.00
£ 878.50	Reading	£ 924.00	£ 60.00	Central Council Affiliation Fee	£ 60.00
£ 630.00	Sonning Deanery	£ 651.00	£ -	Purchase of Guild Badges	£ -
£ 409.50	South Oxon	£ 458.50	£ 130.00	Ringling World - Donation	£ 135.00
£ 234.50	Vale of the White Horse	£ 210.00	£ 578.60	Ringling World - Notices Account	£ -
£ 613.80	Witney & Woodstock	£ 532.00	£ 158.00	Hire of halls for meetings	£ 58.50
£ 8,394.30		£ 9,107.50	-£ 202.83	Bank Charges	-£ 304.64
£ 109.50	Non-Resident Life Subscriptions	£ 77.00	£ 458.45	Share of administrative expenses of Bell Fund	£ 380.17
£ 80.00	Sale of Reports	£ 66.50	£ -	Festival Barn Dance	£ -
£ 191.50	Sale of Badges	£ 90.50	£ 3.45	Millenium Project	£ 4,508.22
£ 3.00	Sale of Guild History	£ 15.00	£ 2,000.00	Restoration Fund	£ -
£ 916.90	Peal Fees	£ 760.34	£ 49.35	Repair of Damage (Rule 16)	£ -
£ 77.50	Donations	£ 1,684.64	£ -	Guild Festival	£ 6.25
£ -	Sale of Publicity Material	£ -			
£ 23.00	Striking Competition Fees	£ 24.00	-£ 1,262.82	Excess of Income over expenditure	£ 236.45
£ 9,795.70		<u>£ 11,825.48</u>	£ 9,795.70		<u>£ 11,825.48</u>

Balance Sheet
for the Year Ending 31 December 2000

General Fund

Balance brought forward 1 January 2000	£	8,271.88	
Excess of income over expenses	£	<u>236.45</u>	
			£ 8,508.33

Education Committee

Balance brought forward 1 January 2000	£	4,957.13	
Easthampstead Course Fees	£	5,804.50	
Less expenses	£	<u>5,405.86</u>	
			£ 398.64
Youth Training Day	£	198.00	
Less expenses	£	<u>171.77</u>	
			£ 26.23
Radley Course Fees	£	445.00	
Less expenses	£	<u>440.75</u>	
			£ 4.25
Other Courses - Fees	£	-	
Less expenses	£	<u>-</u>	
			£ -
Leaflet Sales	£	86.00	
Less Printing	£	<u>-</u>	
			£ 86.00
Balance as at 31 December 2000			£ 5,472.25

Guild Book Stall

Accrued surplus at 1 January 2000	£	266.84	
Stock at cost at 31 December 1999	£	446.14	
Stock at cost at 31 December 2000	£	<u>685.46</u>	
			£ 239.32
Sale price valuation £866.65			
Sales	£	552.67	
Donations	£	7.00	
less purchases	£	678.65	
less expenses	£	<u>2.85</u>	
			-£ 121.83
Accrued surplus as at 31 December 2000			£ 384.33

£ 14,364.91

Represented by

Cash at bank	£	13,679.45	
Cash in hand	£	-	
Stock of books at cost	£	<u>685.46</u>	
			£ 14,364.91

B.J.Gatward CPFA,MBCS
Honorary Treasurer
26 January 2001

Comments on the key points from the 2000 Accounts

Subscriptions and other income – All branches appear to have made payments for all active members. The overall increase reflects the growth in the number of members and the success of the training programmes leading up to the Millennium.

Donations – An anonymous donation towards the costs of the Millennium plaques is included.

Expenses – The expenses incurred by 'Officers' have fallen. Both 'Stationery and Postage' and 'Printing' costs have increased significantly.

Library – The expenses have been reduced by the income from the sale of shelving to the previous Honorary Librarian. A significant increase is expected next year to meet the costs of replacement shelving.

Insurance – The insurance company harmonised the insurance cover periods resulting in the payment of two premiums in 1999. The 2000 premium did increase to reflect the extra costs of the group personal accident cover for the increased number of members, together with a general overall increase in premiums.

Guild Reports and Odd Bob – The increased costs of printing the Guild Reports and 'Odd Bob' arise from a combination of increased printing costs and extra pages to report on activities. Both the Report Editor and the Newsletter Editor are to be congratulated on their ability to contain costs.

Bank Charges – Despite the low interest rates during the year, once again the bank charges have been more than offset by the interest earned on the current account, leaving a net credit position.

Millennium Project – The main costs of this project were incurred during 2000 as anticipated.

Education Committee – Although training events are costed to break even, an accrued surplus of £4,957.13 existed at the start of the year. The fee for the Easthampstead Course remained competitive but a reduction in the budgeted course costs resulted in a surplus from this event. Other events were well supported and profitable. Sales of leaflets used existing stocks, with no further printing needed during the year. At the end of the year, the accrued surplus had increased to £5,472.25.

Guild Book Stall – This is the fourth year that this item has been shown in the accounts. The maximum stock level of £1,000, set by the General Committee, has not been exceeded. Total annual sales were £552.67. The accrued surplus rose to £384.33 and will be redeployed for the benefit of Guild members.

Summary – The Guild remains financially sound with an operational surplus of £236.45 for the year. At the end of the year the total assets were £14,364.91. The General Fund account has been fully maintained by Terry Wagstaff (Assistant General Treasurer) and our thanks are due to him for this work.

Brian J Gatward – Honorary Treasurer

**The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Bell Restoration Fund
(Registered Charity No. 284053)**

Report of the Managing Trustees for the year ending 31 December 2000.

Fund Raising

The Trustees are pleased with the level of fund raising during the year, which has included donations from individuals, tower funds and P.C.C.s. Both South Oxon and Oxford City Branches have made donations from fund raising activities. Half of the net proceeds from the Witney Concert were donated to the Fund, as was the service collection from the Guild Annual General Meeting. The Trustees acknowledge with thanks a donation of £200 from the executors of the estate of the late Mr W Ivings, formally of Deddington near Banbury.

Grants

Two grants (Buscot - £475 and Cuddington - £150) were paid following the satisfactory completion of projects. On completion of work, members of the Towers and Belfries Committee carry out an inspection, and the Managing Trustees wish to record their thanks for this service.

The significant inflow of new funds enabled the Trustees to maintain the targets set for financial support towards augmentation work. The 2000 provisional grants are based on the formula agreed in 1999 (a variable percentage of the approved augmentation costs depending upon the number of bells resulting from the works: for up to 6 bells - 15%, for 6 to 8 bells - 7.5% and for more than 8 bells - 5%). A provisional grant offer of £325 was made to Weston Turville. The Trustees were pleased to be able to offer a provisional grant of £1,000 to the restoration of Chilton bells to allow regular ringing in a tower that has been unringable for many years. Both these schemes are scheduled for completion and payment in 2001.

The Trustees hope that the fund-raising for this 'raise and spend' fund will be maintained in future years at the encouraging levels of 1999 and 2000 to allow them to continue to meet the targets for grants that they set in 1999.

Investments

Investment income during the year reduced to £239.78, as the consequence of the low interest rates during the year and from the maturity of the 9.5% Treasury Stock 1999. The Trustees have reviewed their investment policy in order to maximise income whilst maintaining funds that are readily available to pay grants as they become due. The full impact of this will be visible in 2001. The value of the undated stock remained less than the face value.

Future Grants

There are no applications outstanding at the end of the year. Grant application forms are available from the Honorary Treasurer and should be returned to him when completed.

Managing Trustees:

William Butler, Derek Fowles, Geoffrey Holden, Brian J Gatward (Honorary Treasurer)

BELL RESTORATION FUND - Registered Charity No. 284053
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2000

1999 £			2000 £
	Balance Brought Forward 1 January 2000		
5479.99	Investments	5928.95	
1000.00	Loan - General Fund		
568.45	Loan - Reserve Fund	568.45	
<u>7048.44</u>			<u>6497.40</u>
10.00	P.C.C. Donations	10.00	
36.80	Donations	70.00	
61.00	Tower Donations	55.00	
	Estate of W Ivings (dec'd)	200.00	
87.60	Oxford City Branch Donations	83.10	
	South Oxon Branch Donations	96.16	
500.00	Sonning Deanery Branch Donation		
	Witney Concert - share of proceeds	144.78	
	Guild AGM Service Collection	73.64	
1000.00	Guild 2000 Donation		
<u>1695.40</u>			<u>732.68</u>
	Interest on Investments		
7.16	£205.00 3.5% War Loan	7.16	
22.58	£564.97 4% Consols	22.58	
16.62	£350.00 9.5% Treasury Stock 1999		
1.64	T.S.B. Savings Account	1.56	
280.56	Central Board of Finance Deposit	208.46	
328.56			239.76
<u>9072.40</u>			<u>7469.84</u>
	Grants		
100.00	Charlton-on-Otmoor		
75.00	Bletchington		
725.00	Longcot		
1000.00	Purley		
675.00	Wigginton		
	Cuddington	150.00	
	Buscot	475.00	
		625.00	
<u>6497.40</u>	Balance Carried Forward 31 December 2000		<u>6844.84</u>
5928.95	Investments		6276.39
568.45	Loan - Reserve Fund		568.45
<u>6497.40</u>			<u>6844.84</u>
	Represented by:	Market Value	
205.58	£205.00 3.5% War Loan	£156.00	205.58
500.73	£564.97 4% Consols	£468.36	500.73
299.31	£350.00 9.5% Treasury Stock 1999		299.31
1720.06	T.S.B. Savings Account		2429.54
3771.72	Central Board of Finance Deposit		3409.68
<u>6497.40</u>			<u>6844.84</u>

B J Gatward CPFA, MBCS
Honorary Treasurer
5 January 2001

The Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund
(Registered Charity No. 268390)

Report of the Managing Trustees for the Year ending 31 December 2000

Grants

Fourteen grants totalling some £40,400 have been paid during the year.

During the year grants were provisionally allocated as indicated below:

Brightwell Baldwin	£2,900	Iffley	£580
Brightwalton	£750	Leckhampstead	£580
Chilton	£4,750	Stewkley	£4,500
Farnham Royal	£1,300	Weston Turville	£325
Great Milton	£4,000		

In addition a grant of £150 was allocated and paid to Banbury.

Unless there are special circumstances it is currently the policy of the Managing Trustees to make grants of 15% of the estimated cost of qualifying works. If the eventual cost is materially different from that indicated at the time of application, the grant is reviewed and may be revised.

When the Managing Trustees receive notification that on-site work has been completed, members of the Towers & Belfries Committee carry out inspections on our behalf. On receipt of a satisfactory report, arrangements are then made for the payment of the grant.

Future Grants

Six enquiries have been received which may result in applications for grants.

The Managing Trustees have commented in previous reports on the increase in applications due to work associated with the Millennium celebrations. As anticipated the number of applications is reducing to the somewhat lower level of previous years.

Fund Raising

New money raised in 2000 amounted to £20,323 and this included a major donation. Many will remember the late Henry Lawrenson who was the driving force behind the setting up of the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund and was for many years the chairman of the Managing Trustees. He died without making a will and his relatives, who were well aware of his close interest in the Bell Fund, donated £10,000 from his estate. This has been invested in the normal manner. In recognition of his past services the Managing Trustees intend to show this holding as a separate item within the accounts.

Regular fund raising included £1,411 from the Guild Draw, £4225 from Branch donations and £595 from the Ringing Day. Donations from 18 PCCs amounted to £487 and 12 Tower funds contributed £754. Covenanted donations from individuals totalled £377.

The sponsored quarter peal ringing that is arranged during February in each Leap Year raised £1,872.67 and the shield for the highest sum raised per branch member (£2.36) was awarded

to the South Oxon Branch. The amounts raised were:

East Berks and South Bucks	£888.60
Reading	£377.57
South Oxon	£294.50
Chiltern	£175.00
Vale of White Horse	£80.50
Sonning Deanery	£56.50

The Managing Trustees again wish to express their thanks to: the organisers of the Guild Draw, June Saint and Steven Rossiter; to all those who helped to arrange the Ringing Day; and all those who have contributed to the continued success of the Fund.

Investments

Investment income during the year and available for distribution as grants was £16,208 (1999: £17,159). This reflects the overall situation with investment income reducing as the result of lower interest rates during the year. The total capital subscribed to the Fund at the end of the year was £196,405. Advice on the investment portfolio of the Fund is obtained from the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England. The investment transactions are made on behalf of the Fund by the Diocesan authorities and the market value of the investments at 31 December 2000 was not received from them in time to be included in this report.

The previously reported investment strategy is one that aims to increase the disposable income whilst minimising the effect of inflation on the investments. This remains the objective of the Managing Trustees and the investment holding will be the subject of continuing review during the coming year.

Other Business

The Managing Trustees have considered the fundraising activities associated with this fund. A number of proposals were made and these will be the subject of future discussion.

The Managing Trustees have again discussed the feasibility of increasing the percentage grant that could be made for qualifying works. Although the Managing Trustees agreed that this would eventually be possible, it was felt that in view of the current income and expenditure levels, this must still continue to be a longer term objective.

The Government announced in the Budget that from April 2000 covenanted giving would be replaced by a simpler system whereby the donor notified the recipient organisation that in future all donations from that person should be regarded as Gift Aid. Compliance with this procedure enables the recipient organisation to apply to the Inland Revenue for a refund of the income tax paid. A Gift Aid form is available from the Guild's web site. Our Treasurer will be pleased to receive such notifications.

As noted earlier in this report, members of the Towers & Belfries Committee carry out inspections of completed work on our behalf. Once again the Managing Trustees wish to place on record their thanks for this service.

Bernard Stone

Librarian's Report

I am now in possession of the library, which was delivered on Saturday November 11th 2000. I would like to express thanks on behalf of the Guild to Graham and Dorothy Clifton for transporting the library.

Thanks should also go to Philip Brown for his work during the last five years in maintaining the library. The catalogue which he arranged to be set up will be invaluable in years to come.

The books are currently contained in about 50 cardboard boxes. I am looking into buying some suitable storage units which will become part of the library, and move around as part of it. Up until now, it has been up to the librarian to install shelving in their house. Including storage facilities with the library should make it easier to move, and also potential librarians will not be put off by having to put up all the shelving.

When the books are on the projected shelving (which I hope will be by April/May 2001), they will be available for Guild members to study. Please see further editions of *Odd Bob* for updated information about this. In the meantime, the books are available for loan. Please contact me if you would like to borrow anything.

Since the library arrived, I have been spending time familiarising myself with the contents. There is a catalogued part of the library, and an uncatalogued part. The catalogued part consists of 1000+ items, mainly published books about all aspects of ringing. There are also other items such as personal ringing archives and peal books, photograph albums, Guild meeting minute books and minute books from a number of branches, newsletters, and so on.

The uncatalogued part consists mainly of unpublished papers such as financial papers, papers relating to specific events, individual photographs, old membership certificates and such items. They will need to be catalogued eventually, but it will take some time to do so.

I will report on various aspects of the library in future editions of *Odd Bob*. For the moment, I would like to seek views about how books can be easily and cheaply conveyed to those who want to borrow one. Sending a book by post would be expensive and coming to collect it would be both expensive and time-consuming. If anyone has any ideas about how books can be delivered at low cost and without too much of an organisation overhead, please let me know.

Doug Beaumont

New Year Honours

Congratulations to John Butler on the award of an MBE for services to ringing. John was Tower Captain at St Andrew's, Bradfield, Berks for many years where he maintained a thriving band. At the age of 95, he has recently moved to Devon with his daughter Rosemary Morgan. We wish him a happy 'retirement' in the West Country.

Guild Handbell Day

**Easter Saturday - April 14th, 2001
10.00 - 17.00**

St Mary & All Saints Primary School, Coley Park, Reading

This year's Handbell Day will be organised along similar lines to last year with opportunities to ring quarter peals and/or practise new methods.
If you can already ring Plain Bob Major on handbells, please come and join us.

For further details, please contact:

June Wells, 15 Lytham End, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6FG

Telephone: 0118 941 0061

E-mail: wellsej@waitrose.com

'Children in Need' Appeal

I suspect that, at the time of writing, my information is incomplete. Quarter peals for this event and peals will not all have appeared in *The Ringing World*, and have possibly not been sent on to me as part of our Millennium Events.

However, I have received information from some participants, inside and outside the Guild.

Peals were rung at Reading St Laurence: Pudsey S. Maximus, also at All Saints High Wycombe. Pudsey S. Royal was rung at Thatcham.

Quarter peals were rung at: Beaconsfield, High Wycombe, Little Missenden, Thatcham and Warborough within the Guild and also at: Birmingham (on the 16; first of Pudsey 16 ever rung on tower bells), Manchester Town Hall and Tarporley, Cheshire.

Donations came from: Abingdon, High Wycombe, Little Missenden, Milton, Reading St. Laurence (the peal fee - unspecified), Shinfield, Thatcham, Tarporley, totalling £1200 + and those are only the peals, quarters and donations that I know about. A massive 69% of this total came from High Wycombe. I suspect that those noble contributors are possibly not such good communicators as High Wycombe's tower captain! If you haven't had a mention, it would be good to know about the missing information.

In 2001 Reading is planning to ring Pudsey peals of Major, Royal and Maximus on the day of the Children in Need appeal. Perhaps the whole Guild could sponsor this mammoth undertaking?

Thank you all those, known and unknown, who took part.

Bobbie May

Results of the Best Kept Towers Competition 2000

There were only six entries this year and we delayed judging until September in the hope that more towers would come forward and enter the competition. While this is disappointing at least it meant that the judging could be finished in one day. The judges were Ralph Elmes, Len Palfrey and Nick Balshaw.

The top three towers were of extremely high standard and an example to all who visit them of what a well kept tower can and should be. It is gratifying to see how much one of them (Shiplake) has improved over the years it has been in the competition, and that Bray and Chalfont St Giles' standards have not slipped.

Stratton Audley has been out of use for a considerable number of years and it is heartening to see the bells being brought back into use. We wish them well in their endeavours and hope that they will enter again next time.

The results were 1. Bray, 2= Chalfont St Giles and Shiplake, 4. Wokingham, 5. Bicester, and 6. Stratton Audley.

Ralph Elmes (Secretary, Towers & Belfries Sub-committee)

!! WANTED !!

Printer and Photocopier Cartridges

The EBSB Fund Raising Committee has found a company who will pay charities for used (and unused) laser and ink-jet printer, and photocopier toner, cartridges, and they have agreed to pay cheques to the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund for any cartridges we collect. Please see the list of collectable cartridges.

Instead of throwing your used cartridges in the bin, please save them and give them to your branch secretary or one of your branch representatives to take to a Guild meeting.

Should you be able to collect large quantities, I will arrange collection from you.

Thank you. Please start collecting now!

Patricia Newton

Tel: 01844 352926

e-mail: newtons2@tinyworld.co.uk

*We can also collect Canon, Digital or Brother Toners Equivalent to HP, but not Lexmark compatible products. Unused cartridges that you no longer use may be worth something, and we can collect all toner cartridges from the following list marked with ** provided they have one of the following brand names: TONERFLOW, IT IMAGE, QUARTEX, PANDA, XEROX, REVIVA or SUPPLIES TEAM*

LASER CARTRIDGES

HP Series 2/3	92295A
HP Series 3si/4si	92291A
HP Series 2P/3P **	92275A
HP Series 4L **	92274A
HP Series 4V/4MV	C3900A
HP Series 4/4 Plus/4M/5/5N/5M	92298A
HP Series 5L/6L **	C3906A
HP Series 1100 **	4092A
HP Series 5P / 6P **	C3903A
HP Series 5Si	C3909A
HP Series 2100 **	C4096A
HP Series 4000 X **	C4127X
HP Series 4000 A	C4127A
HP Series 5000 X **	C4129X
HP Series 8100 **	C4182X
Lexmark (IBM) 4019/4029 **	1380520
Lexmark (IBM) 4039 Marathon	1380950
Lexmark (IBM) 4039Plus/4049/Opra L	1382150
Lexmark Optra S - non prebate	1382620/1382625
Lexmark Optra S - prebate	1382920/ 1382925
Lexmark Optra T	12A5840/12A5740
QMS 2060	QMS 2060
Compaq Pagemarq 1560	Dataproducs LZR 1560
Epson EPL5500 / Epson EPL5700	SO50005/SO50010
Epson EPL5700	SO51055 Drum
Canon FX 1 **	Fax Machine
Canon FX 2	Fax Machine
Canon FX 3 / 4 **	Fax Machine
Canon A 30	Copier Machine
Canon MP10	Canon MP10
Canon E16/E30 **	Copier Machine
Tally MT904/BT750	Laser/Fax Cartridge
Ricoh Fax 3000/Fax 2700 Type 30/Type 150	
NEC Nefax 505/515/525 and 595	Fax Cartridge
Panasonic Panafax 3313 / UF550 **	Fax Machine
Panasonic Panafax 3350 / UF585	Fax Machine
Xerox N24 / N32	Copier Machine
Oki 400E / 800 E	Drum Unit
Pitney Bowes 9600/9900	Fax Cartridge
All Fusers	Fusers

INK JET CARTRIDGES

HP 51629A/G **	DeskJet Black
HP 51626A/G **	DeskJet Black
HP 51633M **	DeskJet Portable
HP 51625A	DeskJet Colour
HP 51649A	DeskJet Colour
HP 51645A/G	DeskJet Black
HP C1816A	Photo-Cartridge
HP C1823A	Photo-Cartridge
HP C6614A (No.20)	HP 610C
HP C6615A	DeskJet 810 Black
HP C6625A	DeskJet 860 Colour
Canon BC01 **	Bubblejet Black
Canon BC02 **	Bubblejet Black
Canon BC20 **	Bubblejet Black
Canon BX2 **	Fax Cartridge
Canon BX3 **	Fax Cartridge
Canon BC05	Bubblejet Colour
Panasonic UG3502	Fax Cartridge
Ricoh Type 120	Fax Cartridge
Samsung M-10	Fax Cartridge
Lexmark (IBM) 13400HC **	ExecJet/ColourJet
Lexmark (IBM) 4076 (1380620) **	ExecJet/ColourJet
Lexmark (IBM) 4076 (1380619) **	ExecJet/ColourJet
Lexmark 1382050	Jetprinter 2070
Lexmark 1382060	Jetprinter 2070
Lexmark 12A1970	Jetprinter 3200/5000....
Lexmark 12A19805700 / 7000....
Lexmark 12A19907200 / Z51
Lexmark 12A1975	Optra Colour 40/50
Lexmark 12A1985	Optra Colour 40/50
Lexmark 15M0120	Jetprinter Z51
Lexmark 15M064	Fax Cartridge

News from the Branches

Banbury

Another year – another *Odd Bob*. Best wishes to all, from the Banbury Branch.

We continue to prosper up here with our membership now up to 153, the highest it has been for some years. The challenge is to maintain the enthusiasm of all these new members, make sure they make progress, and, as important as that, have fun.

Since the last report we have had our annual outing, this time to Leicester. The coach was full, we had a good day out, and all sat down together for a meal on the way home. Our thanks to Sue Burchell for her faultless organisation once again – the girl is getting quite good at it.

We continue to have regular monthly Branch practices, which are reasonably well supported, and now have weekly 10-bell practices in Banbury, which attract a loyal following.

On the social side we had a pleasant evening in the local Pudding Club, and will be combining a ride on the Millennium Eye with ringing in London in March. Finally, my wife tells me that we have just sold our 60th ticket for our Branch Dinner next month, when our speaker will be the Bishop of Dorchester.

On a sad note, we were all very sorry to hear of the death of Ron Gardner, just before Christmas. He was a loyal and long serving member of the Steeple Aston band, and much loved. A good man - we will all miss him.

Finally I have made no secret of the fact that I intend resigning as Branch Secretary at our AGM in April. I think five years is a good term of office, and it is good for any organisation that these jobs are shared round. I have enjoyed being secretary – thanks to all who have helped me and tolerated my mistakes.

Ian Rodrick

Bicester

At the time of writing this report, there is little to record beyond the fact that our practices continue to function to the benefit of those who attend.

Mention should be made of the dedication of a millennium window in Brill Parish Church on 5th November last. The Bishop of Buckingham led the dedication, and a quarter-peal was rung next day to mark the occasion. The record is as follows -

Brill, Buckinghamshire, Monday, 6th November 2000

1260 PLAIN BOB MINOR

1. Peter Olding, 2. Mavis Clarke, 3. Julie Haseldine, 4. Peter Nicholas, 5. Clifford East, 6. Andrew Haseldine (C).

To mark the dedication of the Church Millennium Window the previous day.

Our Branch Vice-President, Willy Haynes, has now completed 50 years' membership of the

Guild and, to mark the occasion, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Islip. Our congratulations and best wishes go to Willy; the record is as follows:

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Islip, Oxon (8), St Nicholas, 2 hrs 38 mins

5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES (Dexter's Var. No. 2 of Thurston's four part).

1. Charlotte Everett, 2. Mike Journeaux, 3. Clive Holloway, 4. Richard C Stevens (C), 5. David C Woodward, 6. L Roy Woodruff, 7. Simon J Cole, 8. William H Haynes.

A compliment to Willy Haynes on completing 50 years' membership of the Guild.

The Branch AGM is due to take place at Islip on 24th February and news of this event will be recorded later.

Richard Stevens

Central Bucks

Branch practices have been held at Steeple Claydon, Soulbury and Long Crendon. They were all fairly well attended.

The Branch AGM was held at Cuddington on 10th February. It was preceded by a very good service conducted by the Revd Eric Chamberlain. Peter Betts stood down as Treasurer and Phil Dunn stood down as Ringing Master. We thank them both for all their hard work during the years that they held these posts. It was proposed that the secretary and treasurer roles be combined. The proposal was accepted and I am now the holder of this post. Peter Faye is taking over as Ringing Master and Darren Washington was elected as his deputy. Phil Dunn was elected as the Branch Training officer. Our thanks go to Ed Houghton, who previously held this post, for all his hard work. All other officers remain unchanged.

Following the sad loss of our President, George Edmans, last year, it was proposed that Dick Lee should be appointed his successor. The meeting unanimously accepted this proposal.

We elected four new members at the AGM bringing our total branch membership to 229. Barry Cowper pointed out to us that this meant we were entitled to elect a third branch representative. This position remains vacant as there were no nominations at the meeting but we will be looking for a suitable candidate to fill it as soon as possible.

Ann Pedley

Chiltern

The old year ended on a high note with the installation of the new treble at Weston Turville. A keen gathering of local people greeted the shiny new bell from Whitechapel and watched with delight as it was hauled into the tower. Its "official" first ring took place on Christmas Eve, rung by Doug Walton, the tower captain, who, with his wife, presented the new bell to the tower. It was a happy fulfilment of an objective set by Doug 50 years ago when he organised the then chime of five into a new frame with six pits.

Aston Clinton held the Orchard Cup at Marsworth in October but the entry list was disappointingly small. Apart from that we had some successful meetings over the winter and a good '100 Club' draw (an annual event) at Aston Clinton.

On 10th February we held a training morning at Wendover with students from the two Missendens, Great Kimble and Wendover itself. Student objectives ranged from handling in rounds to calling touches of Stedman and all felt they benefited from the session. Many thanks to our stalwart ringing masters and all those of you who came along to assist.

All are welcome to our Branch meetings and 8-bell practices, all of which offer opportunities to ring anything from dead simple to really flashy. This year (for once!) we have published the details in this journal.

One last thing: Halton have changed their practice night to Wednesday if you would like to drop in and see them. You will be made very welcome.

Mike Davis

Chipping Norton

The Autumn Meeting was held at Wigginton. Michael Collett, a long time ringer at Burford, was elected as an honorary member of the Guild. It was also decided that the month of the AGM would be changed. The next Branch AGM will be at held at Burford on the first Saturday of April. This is to avoid the Bank Holiday weekend at the beginning of May. The format of the meeting will be shortened with the hope of attracting more of the branch membership. Later in April the Branch outing will tour the Tetbury and Dursley areas on Saturday 21st.

The Branch Ringing Master, Martin Kirk, retired as Headteacher at Charlbury Primary School at the end of 2000. He will now have more time to follow the fortunes of Manchester United!

The first Branch Practice of the year was held at Chipping Norton on 6th January. The numbers were boosted by the attendance of some members of the Four Shires ringers. The February practice at Enstone was well attended, with the ringing ranging from plain hunt to Cambridge.

Barry Andrews

East Berks and South Bucks

The Branch has continued to hold its usual full programme of events, with Branch practices, outings and social occasions. This is a summary of what has been happening in recent months:

- a half-term outing in Berkshire in October;
- a very enjoyable Christmas Social at Amersham, where about 50 members sat down to a superb meal prepared by the local ringers and a very challenging quiz: our thanks to the Amersham ringers for all their hard work;
- a post-Christmas outing to Bicester, Long Crendon and Amersham which was well supported in spite of the snow: thank you to our Branch Ringing Master, Angela Darvill, for making the arrangements;
- some sponsored ringing for the BBC 'Children-in-Need' Appeal in November,

including a peal of Pudsey Surprise Maximus at High Wycombe and two quarter peals of Pudsey S. Major at Beaconsfield and High Wycombe;

- one Branch practice (at Burnham) and two Branch Surprise practices already this year, with special methods Ashted S. Major at Chalfont St Giles, and Beverley and Surfleet S. Minor at Dorney.

Pat Moore

Newbury

Following the well-attended AGM the Branch continues to thrive, with plenty of interest in its activities. Thanks are due to Adam for his devotion to our monthly Branch practices. Our most notable practice this year was at Compton, which included most people wading 200 yards through floodwater two-feet deep to reach the church for the January practice. Branch members are undeterred by such problems and will reach the destination, come hell or high water. (The line of wellies appeared a trifle incongruous at the rear of the nave.) The practices not only improve ringing skills, but also give ringers the chance to socialise and feel part of the wider ringing community. In conjunction with Andover Branch, Adam also organises successful Surprise Major practices.

Last year, members enjoyed a day's ringing at Oxford, organised by Chris Pack. This year we look forward to the Branch outing in London on 24th March, with ringing at towers in the City during the morning followed by towers in Kensington and Putney after lunch.

The Branch is looking forward to hosting the Guild Ringing Day on 7th May – hopefully people will enjoy ringing at our towers and seeing something of our lovely villages. Also we hope that the Eight-Bell Striking Competition on the same day will be well supported. The Branch's own Six-Bell Striking Competition will be hosted by East Garston on 7th July – having relished the wonderful tea provided at the AGM, we are certain to enjoy a splendid barbecue after the contest!

We anticipate another active year, with increasing interest in Branch activities and continued progress in the exercise.

Rosemary Maslen

North Bucks

Membership has continued to grow this year and branch events continue to be generally well attended. Over the past three months we have held our usual quarterly meeting and monthly practices. The only disappointment was the December practice at Milton Keynes Village, with only a baker's dozen there. However it did provide some intense practice for the few less experienced ringers who came.

This is always a quiet period in our branch, before the programme for the next year gets under way. We have another joint practice coming up with the Luton District and a ten-bell practice at Kempston, both in March, so this will be a busy month.

Helen Stanworth

Old North Berks

I start my report by sadly announcing the death of Gilbert Corderoy on Saturday, 25th November at the grand age of 89. Gilbert received a Long Service Certificate last year for being a member of the Branch for over 70 years - a truly remarkable feat. Although he had not rung for some time at either Aston Tirrold or East Hagbourne, he will still be missed by the many ringers who knew him. A quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles - his favourite method - was rung at Aston Tirrold on 1st December in his memory. I am sure we all send our condolences to his family, especially his daughter Phyllis Brown.

The Quiz Night on 18th November was very well attended by nearly 40 members - the feast provided was fit for a king. Well done to the winners - Milton, and commiserations to the losers - the Tweenies (Hagbourne in disguise!). Jeff Powell did a grand job providing the questions, but Nick Balshaw's questions on science - did he think we were rocket scientists?! All in all it was a very enjoyable evening, and thanks go to all those who came along and provided so much delicious food.

At the Guild General Committee Meeting held on 25th November, Moulsoford was successfully transferred into the Reading Branch as from 1st January 2001.

Regarding Branch ringing on 1st January, this was held at Chilton on the new ring of six. I am sure everyone agrees they are a fine ring. Over 40 people came along to sample the bells, and there was some very good ringing. Unfortunately we had to finish earlier than planned due to an elderly local complaining about the 'noise'. I hope this will not be an ongoing problem for the Chilton ringers, but we knew it was a possibility after the bells had been quiet for so many years. I am sure we all wish Alec Samler and his team well. The dedication service was led by the Bishop of Reading, the Right Revd Dominic Walker MA, AKC on Sunday, 7th January before a packed congregation.

Shirley Haines

Oxford City

All the City Branch members wish Mark Walker a swift recovery from his accident and are looking forward to seeing him back, fit and well, at Branch events.

From his enforced rest at home Mark has prepared a précis of the article that he wrote for *The Ringing World* about the re-hanging and recasting at Headington. To fit it for inclusion in *Odd Bob* it has been cut down a bit more but it is still worth including and makes the most interesting news for our contribution to this issue:

Over a year ago it was decided that the two trebles should be recast and the third re-tuned in order to match the bells more happily, without touching the listed three back bells. All eight bells would be re-hung on new steel headstocks, the back six being of the canon-retaining type.

Graham Clifton of Whites of Appleton, Mark and several local ringers removed the bells from the tower in January 2000; ringers and members of the congregation watched the casting of the trebles at Whitechapel Bellfoundry, and the re-hanging took place in May. The first tryout of all eight bells justified all the hard work and expense - a very different ring of bells and a well-balanced eight. The Rt. Revd Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford took the Service

of Dedication on 17th September 2000.

Practices have started again and the band's progression from six to eight-bell ringing is going from strength to strength, thanks in part to the efforts of many visiting ringers whose help is vital and very much appreciated. The first peal was rung on Saturday 30th December. This was Grandsire Triples, conducted by Graham Clifton in 2 hours and 30 minutes.

An Anglo-Japanese Society, The Oxford Fureai Network, visited St. Nicholas, Marston twice in December to discover the many aspects involved in bellringing, tower bells and handbells.

The Marston ringers have their own web address at:

<http://www.stnicholas.marstonringers.faithweb.com>

Roy Jones became the first ringer to achieve 100 peals on the St. Nicholas bells on 2nd December 2000, ringing six minor methods for St. Nicholas Day. A quarter peal of seven methods was rung on Sunday 14th January 2001 as a birthday compliment to Dr. Norman Heatley, a Marston resident and the last remaining member of the team who perfected penicillin.

Kidlington ringers were very active over Christmas and New Year with ten visits to the tower and eight bells ringing every time. The old year ended by the traditional ringing out of the old, and ringing in the new; the 'True New Millennium', as the Queen's Christmas Day speech endorsed, as well as John Wells in the November issue of *Odd Bob*.

Katie Lane

Reading

Reading Branch members wish all Guild Members a very happy New Year; the purists will have been able to welcome the true Millennium!

The Novice Striking Competition was held on the second Saturday in November at Pangbourne. It gave the ringers from four towers invaluable experience of a striking competition. Congratulations to the young band from Shiplake who were worthy winners. Our thanks to Tilehurst, winners last year, who provided the judges.

We now have an established Annual Carol Service in December, which was held this year at St Giles, Reading and attended by some 70 ringers and their friends. Pangbourne handbell group played Christmas music and the service was led by the Branch choir, ably brought together by June Wells, with Ian May at the organ. Afterwards all enjoyed the customary mulled wine and mince pies, and, of course, some ringing.

The Higher Numbers practice, on the last Saturday of the year, coincided with the treacherous post-Christmas weather. Insufficient ringers turned up and the practice was cancelled. However, in marked contrast, over 30 people arrived at the January practice at Goring enabling all standards of ringing to be catered for, from rounds and call changes to surprise major.

It is sad to report that two of Burghfield's established ringers have moved from the area. This loss has reduced the viability of their band, so Monday practices have been suspended. They are optimistic that this is only a temporary measure and are actively looking for some new recruits.

On a very positive note, we offer congratulations to the five branch members who rang their first peal during the last part of the year 2000. On September 23rd, Ian Mackay (Shinfield) was part of the under-18 band who rang Plain Bob Minor at Padworth. By some coincidence the other four all rang on October 28th in their home towers: Chris Barrett (Grandsire Cinques at St Laurence, Reading), Vivien Bloundele (Plain Bob Major, Henley), Susan Matthews and Doreen White (mixed Doubles, Whitchurch)

We welcome Moulsoford (3) to the Branch from Old North Berks. The future of Ufton Nervet (4), a redundant church, has not yet been settled. New owners are currently being sought but it is understood that the retention of the bells for ringing should form part of the church's new life.

Englefield bells have been removed for work to be done on both the bells and belfry. They should be re-hung for Easter.

Vivien Bloundele

South Oxfordshire

Things have been fairly quiet in this part of the Guild over the winter. Branch Practices have continued to offer a variety of opportunities, and in December we ran a Beginners' Practice which concentrated on rounds, call changes and plain hunt. In addition, we have just embarked on a series of monthly Stedman Triples and Bob Triples practices.

An attempt to ring a peal for 'Children in Need' came to grief, but a quarter was scored instead, and the branch was able to send off £387 to the cause. During the autumn, branch members rang three date touches, at Chinnor, Aston Abbots and Cheddington - the one at Chinnor being the longest touch for Gordon Smith and Christopher Rogers.

Brightwell Baldwin bells are now out of the tower, for some tuning and work on the frame, and will hopefully be back in by Easter.

Congratulations to Aidan Cohen of Chalgrove, who trebled to his first quarter on 24th October, and rang a quarter of Bob Doubles inside shortly afterwards. Also to Peter Smith of Chinnor who rang his first quarter on 2nd December. Benji Coles rang his first quarter of Bob Minor; Jeanette Barrington rang her first of St Clements Minor; Wendy Simon her first London Minor; and Kay Tuckwell and Sue Dyke rang their first of Annable's London Minor.

Hilarie Rogers

Vale of the White Horse

The New Year began well in Shrivenham when the Sunday Service Band rang a quarter peal of Little Bob Major on January 1st. It was the first quarter in this method by the local band.

There were two notable anniversaries at Faringdon over the New Year: Jon and Kay Chamberlain celebrated their Pearl Wedding Anniversary on December 31st, and Doreen and Norman Leslie celebrated their Silver Wedding on January 3rd. Both couples met through their interest in ringing. A quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Tuesday 2nd January to commemorate both events. The band included both happy couples, Gordon

Belcher, Jackie O'Hagan and Den Leslie, and we are most grateful to Eric Sutton from Swindon for coming over to conduct the quarter which contained some excellent striking and good music. The quarter was followed by a supper for all the band in a suitably romantic candle-lit setting.

Later in January the Branch was saddened by the sudden death of Joan, Bill Mitchell's wife. Bill has been Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Branch for more years than most of us can remember and is currently Tower Captain at Uffington. Joan used to ring but in more recent years she made sure the ringers were given a good tea at the Uffington meetings. Everyone in the Branch extends sympathy to Bill.

We are pleased to report that the bellhangers have returned to Longcot and made a permanent cure to the odd-struckness of the bells, making them much easier to strike accurately.

The Branch Annual Dinner was held at the Eagle in Faringdon on January 19th. The meal was excellent as usual – we wonder how can the chef can produce such a high quality meal at such a reasonable price – and the wine flowed – though none of it was French!

As my note in the last edition of *Odd Bob* produced results, I would like to add another reminder to anyone in the area that we have a surprise practice for Evensong on the 3rd Sunday of each month. (It is the methods that are surprise – not the practice!) Details and venue from Kay Chamberlain (01367 242647). All aspiring or expert surprise ringers are welcome.

Kay Chamberlain

Mini 12-Bell Contest

On the afternoon of Saturday, the 13th of January, a mini 12-bell contest was held in Oxford. This was a fun event intended as a warm up for the National 12-bell Contest eliminators that will take place on the 24th of March. There were four teams: Guildford, High Wycombe, Oxford and Reading. One or two of these did not have available their complete bands that will compete in the National Contest, so the results were in no way to be regarded as conclusive. The touch of two courses of Stedman Cinques rung was the one that will be used in the eliminators.

The College had kindly made a comfortable room next to the Christchurch dining hall available. Tea, coffee and biscuits were provided for those who were waiting. The bells could just be heard from there, but those who wished to lend a more critical ear gathered outside below the bell tower.

The judges were Rod Pipe and David, his son. David opened the adjudication proceedings with a humorous reference to the remarks made at last year's National 12-bell finals. This was a disclaimer, to the effect that David Hull would not be responsible for any comments made by the judges. He said that he and his father had problems agreeing who was to be chief judge, but that there was no disagreement about the results.

Rod Pipe, whilst accepting that the bells were not all that easy to ring, commented that the ringing, though it was all of a reasonable standard, lacked the sparkle that was expected of the very best 12-bell bands. He said they had been able to hear all the ringing clearly from where they were in a first floor room, but only with the window open with

an icy gale blowing in. The ringing was all fairly brisk, with the fastest team (Reading) ringing at 3:16 peal speed, and the slowest (High Wycombe) at 3:23. Team number 3 (Oxford) had an unfortunate trip near the start, after which their ringing took some time to settle. He then gave the results in reverse order, as follows:

<i>Team</i>	<i>Rang</i>	<i>Faults</i>
Guildford	Fourth	120
Oxford	Third	94
High Wycombe	First	88
Reading	Second	70

Afterwards, there was a social evening for those who cared to stay. We thank the Christchurch authorities for kindly making the bells and rooms available, the two judges for giving us their time, and the Oxford ringers for their work in organising the event.

Jim Diserens

Points From Peals

Congratulations to the Guild under-18 band who rang a peal of Minor at Padworth. It was jointly conducted by Daniel Sandham and Loren Clifton and for three of the band, Sarah Dalley, Charlott Griffen and Ian Mackay, it was their first peal. Rosalind French was the sixth member of the band. Daniel wrote an interesting and full account of the peal which was published in *The Ringing World*.

Also, first peal congratulations to Susan Matthews, Doreen White, Vivien Bloundele, Danielle Brotherston, Faith Newall and Michael Lilley.

Few ringers can claim that their first peal was a 12-bell peal. Christopher Barrett can as his first was a peal of Grandsire Cinques at Reading.

A peal was rung on 22nd January 2000 at Northleigh to celebrate the life of Edward D Patching (1914 - 1999).

A peal was rung at Witney as a wedding compliment to Anthony Cole and Sarah Dale, married at Ducklington.

Jennie Town, from Northallerton Yorkshire, rang in a Guild handbell peal of Bristol Royal which was rung to congratulate her daughter, Katie, and the Master of the College Youths, Paul Carless, on their engagement.

A new method was named Juror Surprise Major in recognition of Tony Peake's excuse for not ringing in the peal.

The first peal on the bells since augmentation was rung at Charlton-on-Otmore. By ringing the treble to the first peal on the six, William Haynes follows the footsteps of his father, who rang the treble to the first peal on the five.

A peal at Caversham was rung in thanksgiving for the life of Valerie Hart.

The first peal on the bells since rehangng and augmentation was rung at Cuddington.

David Burbidge has rung 100 peals of Surprise Major.

Peals at Ashcott (Somerset) and Henley were rung as a compliment to the Great Britain Mens coxless four on winning Gold at the Sydney Olympics, enabling Steve Redgrave to win Gold at five consecutive Olympics and becoming the first man to achieve this feat in an endurance event.

Many peals were rung in memory of Jennifer Butler who died on 23rd September 2000. They included a handbell peal of Grandsire Caters which was her favourite method.

Bernard Groves has conducted 1000 tower bell peals and Donald Carter has conducted 500. Richard Stevens has rung 450 peals for the Guild. Graham Firman and Bernard Groves have rung 200 handbell peals together. Ann Bethell has rung 400 peals, and David Lane has rung 500 peals for the Guild.

The 600th peal on the bells was rung at Hughenden.

A peal at Liss was rung as a tribute to Simon Wood, Liss Tower Captain, who was killed in the Paddington rail crash a year ago.

A peal at Radwinter, Essex was a 70th birthday compliment to Ian Critchton.

A number of peals were rung to the memory of Peter Border who rang many peals with the Guild during the late 1980s and 1990s.

A belated retirement farewell was rung to Revd Richard Hughes, 43 years in the ministry and 21 years as Rector of St Mary the Virgin, Whitchurch-on-Thames and St John the Baptist, Whitchurch Hill, Oxon. The band consisted of five Whitchurch-on-Thames ringers.

Geoff Dodds from Highclere, and a regular ringer in Guild peals, had his 75th birthday marked by a peal at West Wycombe.

A peal at Soulbury was the first peal on the bells. It was rung in memory of George Edmans of Great Horwood, former chairman of the Central Bucks Branch and Honorary Life Member of the Guild, who died on 31st October 2000.

By ringing a peal of Uga at Thatcham, Barry Fry has completed the Surprise Royal alphabet for the second time. And the following day Bobbie May completed the Surprise Royal alphabet just once.

A peal at High Wycombe of Pudsey Maximus was sponsored in aid of 'Children in Need'. It was also rung with best wishes to David Moore who was unable to ring following an accident. There were also sponsored peals of Pudsey at Reading (Maximus) and Thatcham (Royal).

A peal at Beaconsfield was rung as a compliment to Claire Edwards on her graduation.

By the 30th November Colin Turner had rung 200 peals in 2000 and this was the tenth consecutive year that Colin had rung 200+ peals. (It's good to have a hobby!)

A peal at Chiswick was rung to welcome Lewis Bayzor, grandson of Monica Trow.

A peal at Chalfont St Giles was rung in memory of 'Young' George Swift by some of his lady friends.

A peal at Waltham Abbey was rung as a wedding compliment to John Saint and Mandi Preddy. It was rung on the 40th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Zimbabwe Guild.

Bob Crocker has rung 100 peals at Highclere and circled the tower 12 times.

A peal at Ascott-under-Wychwood was rung to celebrate Christmas and to commemorate Martin Kirk's retirement from teaching after 18 years as Headteacher at Charlbury Primary School.

A peal of Cambridge Major was rung at Brightwell in thanksgiving for the life of Roger Heyworth who learnt to ring there.

On 30th December the first peal on the bells of Headington was rung since rehanging by Whites of Appleton.

A peal at Kirtlington was rung immediately prior to the licensing service of Alan Garrow as Duty Priest in the Akeman benefice.

Graham Firman, Peal Secretary

STOP PRESS

Millennium Scrapbook

This is the last call for your contributions to be included in the Millennium Scrapbook!

Record your activities for posterity! Don't delay — Do it today!!

Stories or reports of your Millennium ringing and relevant associated activities, ideally supported by stunning photographs, should be sent to Bobbie May (*see Guild Officers - Public Relations for contact details*).

Publication

THE RINGS & CHIMES OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CHURCHES.

A definitive compilation of the smaller rings and chimes in the county.

P&P £10.00 from Mr J E Hearn, 26 Dean Close, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 3NS.

Guild Directory and Information

The OBJECTS of the Guild as set out in the Rules are as follows:

- (a) the encouragement of the attendance of its members both at service ringing and at public worship;
- (b) the recognition of the position of ringers as Church workers;
- (c) the recruitment and training of new ringers, so that there may be regular service ringing in all the towers within the Diocese where the bells are ringable;
- (d) the promotion of interest in the care of all the bells within the Diocese; and
- (e) the promotion of the art of change ringing.

In order to help carry out these objects the Guild provides a variety of services as follows:

Education

In addition to the Easthampstead ringing course held in September, ringing courses will be arranged both at branch and tower level. These can be one-day courses or a series of evening sessions. Help or advice is also offered on recruitment or teaching bell handling. Contact Mr Mike K Till (*see Education Sub-committee listing*).

Library

The Guild maintains a comprehensive Library from which books may be borrowed. For details contact Mr Douglas J Beaumont (*see Guild Officers - Librarian*).

Books for sale

A travelling bookstall will be found at General Committee meetings and the main Guild meetings; it may also be available at some branch meetings. Books cover a popular range from elementary change ringing to the history of change ringing, tower maintenance and the history of bells.

Exhibition display material

Display material, together with the necessary stands, is available for tower open days, public libraries etc. A full list of the material can be found in 'Odd Bob', July 1991, page 36. Contact Mrs Bobbie May (*see Guild Officers - Public Relations Officer*).

Towers and belfries

The Towers and Belfries Sub-committee exists to help your tower with any problems which you might have with your bells, their fittings, sound control or the tower itself. We can – with the help of the Education Committee – arrange a maintenance course for your area or, on a smaller scale, show you what you should be doing to maintain your own tower. Contact Mr Richard C Stevens (*see Towers and Belfries Sub-committee listing*).

The Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund

The Bell Fund provides grants towards bell restoration. Any donations or assistance in fund-raising will help this objective. Contact Mr Brian J Gatward (*see Guild Officers - General Treasurer*).

The Oxford Diocesan Restoration Fund

The Restoration Fund is separate from the Bell Fund and may provide grants in support of augmentation schemes. Any donations or assistance in fund-raising will help this objective. Contact Mr Brian J Gatward (*see Guild Officers - General Treasurer*).

Guild Officers for 2000 - 2001

Master	Mr E John Wells	15 Lytham End, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks RG31 6FG (0118 941 0061)
Deputy Master	Mr Ken R Davenport	47 Brookside, Wokingham, Berks RG41 2ST (0118 978 6554)
General Secretary	Mr Barry W M Cowper	Avondale, 45 Longfield Drive, Amersham, Bucks HP6 5HE (01494 725566)
General Treasurer	Mr Brian J Gatward	Grangewood, Mill Lane, Calcot, Reading, Berks RG31 7RS (0118 941 3097)
Assistant Treasurer	Mr Terry Wagstaff	6 Firs Close, Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 4LH (01296 641755)
Librarian	Mr Douglas J Beaumont	184 Kidmore Road, Caversham, Reading, Berks RG4 7ND (0118 946 1714)
Report Editor	Mr John F Payne	53 Walker Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 2QU (01628 624490)
Newsletter Editor	Mr A Rex Agg	25 Wilton Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2DE (01494 675517)
Peal Secretary	Mr Graham G Firman	7 Laburnham Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4DB (01628 636484)
Public Relations Officer	Mrs Bobbie May	4 Halfacre Close, Spencers Wood, Reading, Berks RG7 1DZ (0118 988 4172)
Membership Secretary	Mr John F Payne	53 Walker Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 2QU (01628 624490)
Website Manager	Dr Timothy G Pett	20 St Amand Drive, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 5RQ (01235 526033)
Guild web site		http://www.oxford.anglican.org/odg/
Guild Stewards	Mrs Sally Austin	16 Austins Way, Hook Norton, Oxon OX15 5LQ (<i>Banbury, Chipping Norton, Witney & Woodstock</i>)
	Mr N Jim Diserens	10 Queens Avenue, Wallingford, Oxon (<i>Old North Berks, Reading, South Oxon</i>) OX10 0NB (01491 824504)
	Mr Mark Walker	29 Villeboys Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3XR (<i>Bicester, Newbury, Oxford City</i>) (01235 536159)
	Mr David M Joyce	4 Woad Lane, Great Linford Village, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK14 5HE (01908 667025) (<i>North Bucks, Central Bucks, Chiltern</i>)
	Mr Colin Fowles	127 Meadfield Road, Langley, Slough, Berks (<i>EBSB, Sonning, V of the W H</i>) SL3 8HY (01753 671507)

Six General Committe members

Mr Graham Clifton	Mr A (Tony) Crabtree	Mrs Wenda Fowles
Mr W (Willy) Haynes	Mr Brian Newman	Mrs June Wells

Central Council Representatives

Mr W (Bill) Butler	8 The Waverleys, Thatcham, Newbury, Berks RG18 3EZ (01635 826799)
Mr Mike K Till	53 Bath Road, Thatcham, Berks RG18 3GF (01635 827957)
Mr John A Harrison	2 Murdoch Road, Wokingham, Berks RG40 2DA (0118 978 5520)
Dr Timothy G Pett	20 St Amand Drive, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 5RQ (01235 526033)
Mrs Patricia M Newton	The White House, Plowden Park, Aston Rowant, Watlington, Oxon OX9 5SX (01844 352926)

Mr Ken R Davenport

(see Guild Deputy Master)

Guild Trustees

Mr W (Bill) Butler

Mr Derek Fowles

Mr T Geoff Holden

(see Central Council Representatives)

10 Lynden Close, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 2LB
(01628 629538)

Crispins, East End, North Leigh, Witney, Oxon OX8 6PX
(01993 881 624)

Financial information

Subscriptions

Resident members £5.50 per annum

Non-resident life members £5.50

Peal fees

30p per person per peal

Annual report

£2.50 + 50p packing and postage

Badges

£1.50 each

Guild History

£3.00 per copy

Branch Secretaries

Banbury	Dr Ian Rodrick	Silverdale, Weeping Cross, Bodicote, Oxon OX15 4ED (01295 253817)
Bicester	Mr Richard C Stevens	Dellow, Blackthorn Road, Launton, Bicester, Oxon OX26 0DA (01869 243920)
Central Bucks	Miss Ann Pedley	18 Rochester Place, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8QZ (01296 586316)
Chiltern	Mr Mike C J Davis	1 Rookwood Way, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 0DF (01494 891312)
Chipping Norton	Mr Barry Andrews	26 Little Lees, Charlbury, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 3HB (01608 810933)
East Berks & South Bucks	Mrs Patricia Moore	1 Elmwood Park, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 7EP (01753 890477)
Newbury	Mrs Rosemary Maslen	18 The Strouds, Beenham, Reading, Berks RG7 5NW (0118 971 3824)
North Bucks	Mrs Helen Stanworth	11 Valley Road, Linden Village, Buckingham, Bucks MK18 7BW (01280 814172)
Old North Berks	Mrs Shirley Haines	26 Chapel Way, Childrey, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9UU (01235 751624)
Oxford City	Mrs Katie Lane	Catchmole Cottage, 12 High Street, Wheatley, Oxon OX33 1XX (01865 874026)
Reading	Mrs Vivien Bloundele	71 St Mark's Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1LP (01491 573 489)
Sonning Deanery	<i>Vacant</i>	
South Oxon	Mrs Hilarie Rogers	4 High Street, Drayton St Leonard, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 7BA (01865 890163)
Vale of the White Horse	Dr Clare Knock	17 Damson Trees, Shrivenham, nr Swindon, Wilts SN6 8BB (01793 782152)
Witney & Woodstock	Mrs Rachael Sherlaw-Johnson	Malton Croft, Woodlands Rise, Stonesfield, Nr. Witney, Oxon OX8 8PL (01993 891318)

Education sub-committee

Chairman	Mr Mike K Till	53 Bath Road, Thatcham, Berks RG18 3GF (01635 827957)
Secretary	Mr Mike C J Davis	1 Rookwood Way, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 0DF (01494 891312)
Members	Miss Marie R Cross	6 Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3PQ (01235 520868)
	Mr Alan J Griffin	Rosebank, Bloxham, Banbury, Oxon (01295 720359)

Mr John A Harrison (see Central Council Representatives)
 Mrs Patricia M Newton (see Central Council Representatives)
 Mrs June Wells 15 Lytham End, Tilehurst, Reading Berks RG31 6FG
 (0118 941 0061)

Mr Peter Day Polgraines, Faringdon Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QY
 (01865 862671)

Miss Barbara Payne Polgraines, Faringdon Road, Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9QY
 (01865 862671)

* Mr E John Wells (see Guild Master)
 * Mr Barry W M Cowper (see Guild Secretary)
 # denotes co-opted member; * denotes *ex officio* member

Guild educational leaflets

1. Rope splicing
2. Bibliography
3. Plain Hunt to Bob Doubles
4. Maintenance
5. Running a one-day course
6. Sound control
7. Stedman
8. Grandsire
9. Bob calling for beginners
10. Handbell ringing
11. Eight Doubles methods
12. Surprise Minor: Cambridge to London, Part 1 (Cambridge)
13. Surprise Minor: Cambridge to London, Part 2 (Building on Cambridge)
13. Surprise Minor: Cambridge to London, Part 3 (London) *Parts 2 & 3 form a single leaflet*
14. Plain, Little and Double Bob Minor and Plain Bob Major

Price: 50p per copy or £5.00 per set of 14 titles (all plus postage and packaging) from Mrs Patricia M Newton, The White House, Plowden Park, Aston Rowant, Watlington, Oxon OX9 5SX (01844 352926). Cheques payable to *Oxford Diocesan Guild* please.

Education committee - course titles

Plain Hunt	10-bell methods
Plain Bob Doubles	Towards better conducting
Grandsire Doubles	Towards better striking
Stedman Doubles	Raising and lowering in peal
Doubles and Minor	Tower leadership (seminar)
Plain Bob Minor	Computers and simulators in ringing
Cambridge Minor	Rope splicing
Triples methods	Tower maintenance (by T&B committee)
Stedman Triples	Handbell ringing (methods)
Plain Major methods	Listening
Surprise Major methods	Bell handling on video

Towers and belfries sub-committee

Chairman	Mr Richard C Stevens	Dellow, Blackthorn Road, Launton, Bicester, Oxon OX26 0DA (01869 243920)
Secretary	Mr Ralph A Elmes	Phoenix Cottage, Nuffield, Oxon RG9 5TE (01491 641874)
Members	Mr Nick Balshaw	3 The Crescent, East Hagbourne, Didcot, Oxon OX11 9JY (01235 815452)
	Mr John Blackall	2 Aplin Road, Bedgrove, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 9BT (01296 27930)
	Mr Graham J Clifton	Stedman Cottage, Middle Aston, Oxford OX6 3PZ (01869 347273)
	Mr A (Tony) J Crabtree	4 Stallpits Road, Shrivenham, Swindon, Wilts SN6 8BG (01793 784064)
	Mr John C Davidge	Rowallan, Back Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks HP8 4PD (01494 873325)
	Mr Peter G Davies	Narrogin, Longworth Road, Charney Bassett, Wantage,

	Oxon OX12 0ET (01235 868646)
Mr W (Willy) Haynes	2 Brinsmore House, Oddington, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 2QZ (01865 331303)
Mr Alan J Marchbank	6 Broadway Avenue, Giffard Park, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK14 5QF (01908 611434)
Mr Len Palfrey	62 Horseshoe Road, Pangbourne, Reading, Berks RG8 7JL (0118 984 2698)
Mr Mike Shakespeare	19 Park Close, Kirtlington, Bicester, Oxon OX5 3HR (01869 350180)
Mr Bernard J Stone	3 Bell Close, Grove, Wantage, Oxon OX12 7NH (01235 766673)
* Mr E John Wells	(see Guild Master)
* Mr Barry W M Cowper	(see Guild Secretary)
* Mr Brian J Gatward	(see General Treasurer)
	* denotes <i>ex-officio</i> member.

Diary of Events for 2001

*	Subject to confirmation	SC	Striking Competition
BP	Branch Practice	HY	Half Yearly Meeting
SP	Surprise Practice	QM	Quarterly Meeting
EP	Elementary Practice	AP	Advanced Practice
SM	Surprise Major	AG	Annual General Meeting

MARCH

			General Committee Meeting - Great Missenden	
Sat	10	Guild		
Sat	10	Central Bucks	BP	Padbury 6.30 - 8.30
Sat	10	EBSB	SP	Beaconsfield 7.00 - 9.00
Sat	10	Reading	BP	Theale 7.00 - 9.00
Sat	10	Oxford City	BP	Oxford, St Giles 7.00 - 8.30
Sat	10	Witney & Woodst.	BP	South Leigh
Fri	16	North Bucks	BP	Thornborough 7.30
Sat	17	Chiltern	BP	Mentmore
Sat	17	North Bucks	SP	Bletchley (joint with Luton Branch) 7.30
Sat	17	Old North Berks	AG	Drayton (with SC)
Mon	19	Banbury	BP	Deddington 7.30 - 9.00
Sat	24	EBSB	BP	Stoke Poges 7.00 - 9.00
Sat	24	South Oxon	SC	Chinnor
Wed	28	North Bucks	AP	Kempston 7.30
Sat	31			Ringling World Roadshow - Keele University
Sat	31	EBSB	BP	Wraysbury* 7.00 - 9.00
Sat	31	Reading	AP	St Laurence, Reading (higher numbers)* 7.00 - 9.00

APRIL

Wed	4	Banbury	BP	Banbury 7.30 - 9.00
Wed	4	Bicester	BP	Charlton-on-Otmoor 7.30 - 9.00
Wed	4	Chiltern	AP	Great Missenden
Fri	6	Newbury	BP	Shaw
Sat	7	Guild		Radley Course
Sat	7	Bicester		Branch outing - Gloucestershire
Sat	7	Chipping Norton	AG	Burford 6.00 - 7.00
Sat	14	Guild		Handbell Day - Reading
Thur	19	Old North Berks	BP	Letcombe Regis 7.30 - 9.00

Fri	20	North Bucks	BP	Bradwell	7.30
Sat	21	Banbury	AG	tbc	
Sat	21	Central Bucks	BP	Swanbourne	6.30 - 8.30
Sat	21	Chiltern	BP	Ivinghoe	
Sat	21	Chipping Norton		Branch outing - Stroud area	
Sat	21	Oxford City	BP	Sutton Courtenay	7.00 - 8.30
Sat	21	Reading	BP	Henley	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	21	Witney & Woodst.	BP	Stonesfield	
Fri	27	North Bucks	SC	Beginners competition - Emberton	7.30
Sat	28	EBSB	AG	Bray	
Sat	28	South Oxon	AG	Berrick Salome	2.30

MAY

Tues	1	Chiltern	AP	Stoke Mandeville	
Wed	2	Banbury	BP	Banbury	7.30 - 9.00
Thur	3	Bicester	BP	Bletchington	7.30 - 9.00
Fri	4	Newbury	BP	East Ilsley	
Sat	5	Chipping Norton	BP	Swerford	7.30 - 9.00
Mon	7	Guild		Ringin Day/Eight-bell SC - Newbury Branch	
Fri	11	Bicester	SC	Islip	7.30 - 9.00
Sat	12	Central Bucks	BP	Granborough/North Marston	6.30 - 8.30
Sat	12	EBSB	SP	Iver	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	12	Oxford City	HY	Wolvercote	7.00 - 8.30
Sat	12	Reading	BP	Nettlebed	7.00 - 9.00
Wed	16	Old North Berks	BP	Aston Tirrold	7.30 - 9.00
Thur	17	Banbury	BP	Adderbury	7.30 - 9.00
Fri	18	North Bucks	BP	Stowe*	7.30
Sat	19	Guild	AG	AGM - Kidlington	
Sat	19	Chiltern	BP	Cheddington	
Sat	26	EBSB	BP	Chesham	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	26	South Oxon	BP	Great Haseley	7.00 - 9.00

JUNE

Fri	1	Bicester	BP	Ludgershall	7.30 - 9.00
Fri	1	Chiltern	AP	Aston Clinton	
Sat	2	Chipping Norton	BP	Hook Norton	7.30 - 9.00
Sat	2	North Bucks	QM	Great Linford* (with SC)	3.30
Sat	9	Central Bucks	SC	Aston Abbotts	5.30
Sat	9	EBSB	SC	Lane End*	
Sat	9	Oxford City	SC	North Hinksey (six-bell SC)	7.00 - 8.30
Sat	9	Reading		Branch outing	
Mon	11	Old North Berks	BP	Long Wittenham	7.30 - 9.00
Fri	15	North Bucks	BP	Wavendon	7.30
Sat	16	Chiltern	BP	Little Missenden	
Sat	23	EBSB	AP	Slough	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	23	South Oxon	BP	Great Milton	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	30	EBSB	BP	Hughenden	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	30	Oxford City	SC	Under-18 SC - Marston	7.00 - 8.30
Sat	30	Reading	AP	St Laurence, Reading (higher numbers)*	7.00 - 9.00

JULY

Mon	2	Bicester	BP	Brill	7.30 - 9.00
Mon	2	Chiltern	AP	Bledlow	
Sat	7	Chipping Norton	BP	Leafield	7.30 - 9.00
Sat	7	Oxford City	BP	St. Thomas', Oxford	7.00 - 8.30
Sat	7	Newbury	SC	East Garston (six-bell SC/BBQ)	
Sat	7	Reading	BP	tbc	

Tues 10	Old North Berks	BP	East Hendred	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 14	Guild		Guild Festival - Kirtlington	
Sat 14	Central Bucks	BP	Quainton	6.30 - 8.30
Sat 14	EBSB	SP	Winkfield	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 21	Chiltern	BP	Great Kimble	
Sat 21	Oxford City	BP	Kidlington	7.00 - 8.30
Sat 28	EBSB	BP	Old Windsor	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 28	South Oxon	BP	Towersey*	7.00 - 9.00

AUGUST

Wed 1	Chiltern	AP	Great Missenden	
Sat 4	Chipping Norton	BP	Shipton-under-Wychwood	7.30 - 9.00
Tues 7	Bicester	BP	Souldern	7.30 - 9.00
Wed 8	Old North Berks	BP	Letcombe Bassett/Sparsholt	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 11	Central Bucks	BP	Little Horwood/Mursley	6.30 - 8.30
Sat 11	EBSB	AP	Amersham	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 11	Oxford City	BP	Garsington	7.00 - 8.30
Sat 11	Reading	BP	Shiplake	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 18	Chiltern	BP	Weston Turville	
Sat 25	EBSB	BP	Turville/Hambleden	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 25	South Oxon	BP	Aston Rowant*	7.00 - 9.00

SEPTEMBER

Sat 1	Chipping Norton	BP	Charlbury	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 1	Reading	HY	Englefield (with six bell SC)	tbc
Tues 4	Chiltern	AP	Stoke Mandeville	
Wed 5	Bicester	BP	Middleton Stoney	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 8	Guild	SC	Ten-bell SC - Thatcham	
Sat 8	Central Bucks		Branch outing	
Sat 8	EBSB	SP	Penn	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 15	Chiltern	BP	Ellesborough	
Sat 15	Old North Berks	HY	Sutton Courtenay	
Sat 15	Oxford City	BP	Horspath	7.00 - 8.30
Sat 22	EBSB	BP	West Wycombe*	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 22	South Oxon	BP	Watlington	7.00 - 9.00
Fri 28	Guild		Easthampstead Course (to 30 Sept.)	

OCTOBER

Thur 4	Bicester	HY	Stratton Audley	7.30 - 9.00
Fri 5	Chiltern	AP	Aston Clinton	
Sat 6	Guild	SC	Six-bell SC - EBSB Branch	
Sat 6	Chipping Norton	HY	Churchill	7.00 - 8.30
Mon 8	Old North Berks	BP	Steventon	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 13	Central Bucks	SC	Wingrave (Orchard Cup)	2.30
Sat 13	EBSB	HY	Fulmer (with SC final)	
Sat 13	Newbury	AG	Bucklebury	
Sat 13	Oxford City		Branch outing	
Sat 13	Reading	BP	St Laurence, Reading	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 13	South Oxon		Branch outing	
Sat 20	Bicester		Branch outing	
Sat 27	EBSB	BP	Boyne Hill	7.00 - 9.00
Sat 27	South Oxon	HY	Little Milton	7.00 - 9.00

NOVEMBER

Fri 2	Bicester	BP	Kirtlington	7.30 - 9.00
Sat 3	Chipping Norton	BP	Ascott-under-Wychwood	7.30 - 9.00
Mon 5	Chiltern	AP	Bledlow	
Thur 8	Old North Berks	BP	Harwell	7.30 - 9.00

Sat	10	Central Bucks	BP	Winslow	6.30 - 8.30
Sat	10	EBSB	SP	Great Marlow*	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	10	Reading	BP	Mapledurham (with novice SC)	tbc
Sat	17	Chiltern	BP	Stoke Mandeville	
Sat	17	Oxford City	AG	Wheatley	
Sat	24	Guild		General Committee Meeting - Chipping Norton B.	
Sat	24	EBSB	BP	Horton	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	24	South Oxon	BP	Brightwell Baldwin	7.00 - 9.00

DECEMBER

Sat	1	Chipping Norton	BP	Kingham	7.30 - 9.00
Mon	3	Bicester	BP	Bicester	7.30 - 9.00
Wed	5	Chiltern	AP	Great Missenden	
Sat	8	Central Bucks	BP	Bierton	6.30 - 8.30
Sat	8	EBSB	BP	High Wycombe (with Christmas social)	
Sat	8	Oxford City	BP	Iffley	7.00 - 8.30
Sat	8	Reading		Carol service, Purley	6.00 - 9.00
Fri	14	Old North Berks	BP	Appleton	7.30 - 9.00
Sat	15	South Oxon	BP	Benson	7.00 - 9.00
Sat	15	Chiltern	BP	Aston Clinton	
Fri	28	EBSB		Post-Christmas outing	
Sat	29	Reading	AP	St Laurence, Reading (higher numbers)*	7.00 - 9.00

The Ringing Roadshow

Keele University

Saturday 31 March 2001

10.30 am to 5.00 pm

- Seminars/discussion groups
- Towers open for ringing
- More than 50 exhibitors

Free admission - come and go as you please

Watch The Ringing World for full details

EASTHAMPTSTEAD

2001

3-DAY RESIDENTIAL RINGING COURSE

**FRIDAY 28th - SUNDAY 30th SEPTEMBER
2001**

Lectures and practical ringing for all standards from Plain Hunt to Surprise Major including Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob Doubles; Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Surprise Minor; Grandsire, Stedman and Erin Triples; Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Surprise Major.

Optional lectures and practicals include bell handling, maintenance, rope splicing, change ringing on handbells, raising and lowering in peal, ringing with a simulator, computers in ringing, learning a method and conducting.

Cost £140 (inclusive of VAT @ 17.5%)

Full details and application forms are now available.

To request an application form please send a large stamped addressed envelope to the course organisers:

John and June Wells
15 Lytham End, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire RG31 6FG
(0118 9410061)

In the event of the course being over-subscribed, priority will be given to Guild members who return their application forms before the end of May. Places may still be available after the end of May; please telephone for information.

(Ringers under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult)