

Published August 1997

IN TOUCH

The Quarterly Newsletter of the North Bucks Branch
of
The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers



NORTH BUCKS BRANCH GOES EAST

Quarterly Meeting at Great Brickhill Saturday 6th September 1997

- 3.30 Ringing
- 4.30 Service
- 5:00 Tea
- 5:45 Business Meeting
followed by Evening Ringing

Names for tea to Hugh Butler (01525-261663), by **Wednesday 3rd September**

Your Branch Officers for 1997/8 are listed below, please keep "In Touch" with us.

Chairman

Doug Hird 01908-614741 19 Priory Street, Newport Pagnell. MK16 9AF

Secretary

Helen Stanworth 01280-814172 11 Valley Road, Linden Village, Buckingham. MK18 7BW

Minute Secretary

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Assistant Ringling Master

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Editorial

Thank you to all the people who gave favourable comments on my first attempt at producing In Touch, it is quite a challenge!

I must also thank everyone for the contributions that have been made for this issue, it has made life a lot easier to put the newsletter together and I hope you all enjoy the articles that I have included. But please do not stop there, my supply is nearly all used up so more stories of ringing outings and holidays will be most welcome.

The next edition of "In Touch" should be distributed at the beginning of November. Please submit any articles or information, to the Editor, by the closing date :-

OCTOBER 5TH

"In Touch" is published by the editor on behalf of the officers of the O.D.G. North Bucks Branch. Any view expressed in "In Touch" is that of the author and copyright resides with the individual authors.

From The Chair

Ring in 2000

Now that the wedding season is calming down, we can start to think about normal ringing for a change. What are we going to do with our Saturday afternoons now? Well, there are a few Branch meetings to be attended. It is worth turning up if only to make sure that we don't spend all of the funds on someone else's project just before you submit a request for a grant.

Well, that takes care of one Saturday. What about the rest? The main aim of the Branch is to make progress. To improve the quality of the ringing, and to increase the number of ringers. We can make progress on both of these just by making use of a few Saturday mornings.

Perhaps we need a few targets. Nothing impossible, of course. How about:

1. One peal attempt every month (not per member, but within Branch) until the end of the year,
2. Every band to ring one quarter peal before the end of the year,
3. 10 completely new ringers to become members at the December meeting.

With almost 200 members, it shouldn't be too hard finding people to help, but if anyone is short of a ringer or two, call a Branch officer. We have quite full address books.

Doug Hird

GUILD MILLENNIUM PROJECT FROM ROGER EVERSON - BLETCHLEY

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers is mounting a Millennium Project which is aimed at:

- Recruiting, training and retaining as many new ringers as possible before the year 2000
- Responding to the National plan to have all bells rung at 12 noon on January 1st 2000
- Considering our role as church workers and renewing our commitment to the ringing of our bells as an integral part of the worship of the Church.

Bishop Richard has expressed his support for this ambitious project and the Guild is planning a number of courses on recruitment and training as well as appropriate publicity and support.

What does this mean for us?

We are pleased to support all aspects of the Millennium Project and look forward to 'ringing in' the year 2000.

We currently have a small band of regular ringers, now mainly made up of younger less experienced ringers as we have lost some experienced people for various reasons and now need to build up the band. We do need help on practice nights to help these learners get on. If you can help then why not come along to a practice night -Mondays 7:30 - 9:00 pm or ring Paul Faithfull on 01908 379025.

Finally did you know according to an old edict in one church, bell ringers must refrain from wearing hats or spurs while in the ringing chamber.

ODGCBR North Bucks Branch Quarterly Meeting 7th June 1997

Chairman's Welcome

Doug Hird welcomed all those present to the 1st quarterly meeting.

Competition Results

The judges were Nigel William and Jim Linel. Nigel emphasised that they had aimed for consistency despite the stress of the job! Marking was for faults.

Band 1 (Gt Linford) Doubles. Once started the ringing was good but faults in patches and a batch at the end (32.25)

Band 2 (Shenley) Doubles. Steady throughout. Slightly slow. (21.25)

Band 3 (Buckingham A) Minor. Faster paced and pleasant to listen to. Well controlled. Good patch half way through but some erratic leading. (18.75)

Band 4 (Downs Barn) Doubles. Rather choppy. Penalised by taking more than 40 rows beforehand. Mess in middle but good recovery. (48.75)

Band 5 (Loughton) Doubles. Nice ringing. Better paced and pleasant to listen to. Got better in second half. (14).

Band 6 (Buckingham B) Call changes. A little bit choppy, but keep at it and listen to all of the row not just adjacent bells. (80).

In memoriam

Mr Hurdman at Shalstone has passed away since the last meeting. Doug spoke to him a few months ago about how the Branch could help the ringing in his village.

Apologies for Absence

John Wells (Guild master)

Hugh Butler

David and Rosa Bardwell

Jim and Audry Lambert

Jill Joyce

Alex Titley

David and Fiona Maybury

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of previous meeting were accepted. (Proposed by Richard Stanworth seconded by Bill Yates). All in favour.

Matters Arising

No matters arising.

Election of New Members

4 new members. All accepted without dissent.

Tower	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Lillingstone Lovell	John Nicholas	Chairman	-
Lillingstone Lovell	Keith Everitt	Chairman	-
Maids Moreton	Shirley Webb	David Goodger	Bill Yates
Loughton	Jonathan Waters	Derek Stainsby	Barry Smith

Officers Reports

Secretary

The Branch calendar is now confirmed up to the end of the year.

Ringling Master

The Branch took part in the Guild 8 bell competition and finished fourth. A Ringing school had been advertised for the 5th July. No nominations as yet. If people won't come then we maybe we need to offer to go to them. People may be reluctant to come out to a school but would be happy for some support, especially with learners.

Guild 10 bell competition is coming up. A few people still needed so if you have 10 bell experience please see Richard. Annual interbranch against Towcester still needs lots of people. All standards. 26th July (18.00).

Plans for ringing special methods at Branch practices. At least one will have no special method to encourage the less experienced ringers to come out and meet other people and ring on different bells. This is the only way the progress. With that in mind we may change the special methods in order to encourage progress even though they have been published in "In Touch".

Treasurer

Doug Hird in the absence of David Bardwell read the Treasurer's report.

BUILDING SOCIETY ACCOUNT - As at 06/06/97 it stands at credit of £1198.10 (Comparison to last year - credit of £1124.81)

GENERAL ACCOUNT STATUS FOR THE YEAR - For the period 01/01/97 to 06/06/97 the account shows a credit of £539.90. (Comparison to last year - credit of £499.04)

SUBSCRIPTIONS - £881.50 received to date from 139 Adults, 28 juniors plus 6 non-subscription paying members gives total 173 members from 24 towers

Subscriptions for 100 members to the value of £350.00 has been paid to the Guild to date.

RINGING WORLD ACCOUNT - As of 06/06/97 the Branch records stand at £26.08 subject to correct counting of lines printed. Periodic checks with the Ringing World statements are done to ensure the figures match. The Ringing World was notified of some errors in their accounts. This has been corrected and both Branch and RW figures now agree.

IN TOUCH - Donations currently stand at £92.50. Current expenditure stands at £58.80 (Printing costs).

The production of In Touch is recognised as a cost to the Branch but any additional donations to help cover the production costs will always be a welcome.

INCOME FOR GUILD BELL FUND - This money is currently raised through raffles held at the AGM and Quarterly meetings. Currently for 1997 at the AGM £28.00 has been raised

The detail requirements for the 100 Club, proposed to replace the raffle, has been making progress but unfortunately very slowly. Brian Newman has volunteered to help and there have been a number of discussions on a way forward. A proposal will be put to this meeting for discussion.

Guild reps

No report. A good start was made. A brief report appeared in "In Touch".

Millennium Progress Report

Doug Hird. Last Saturday went to meeting organised by Guild. Speaking about how to use the media for recruiting. Rep from every branch. What is already going on is very effective and is actually ahead of the church in many areas. He will be writing this up for next "In Touch". There isn't much else at the moment. It is important to co-ordinate the use of the media to get an even coverage.

Doug O'Neale suggested that a home page on CompuServe could be set up by those members who have one with a pointer to the appropriate page.

Forthcoming Events

Hillsden is the next branch practice. RS said that they are well worth a visit as there is now a ringing gallery and the bells are quieter.

2nd August. Joint meeting with Beds. Afternoon tower Bromham (also worth a visit) 15.30 followed by a picnic at Bromham Mill. Evening ringing is planned for Chichely (not yet confirmed). Everyone is encouraged to turn out.

Water festival at Gt Linford. Not strictly ringing but well worth visiting. There will be some ringing events including a handbell peal

Church fete at Shenley on 5th July. Tower will be open and bells will be visible.

Flower festival at Loughton 21st and 22nd at Loughton also gardens open.

12th July Guild festival, see notice. Would like to see as many of the Branch as possible especially as it is close.

Under 18 striking competition. 28th June. Contact Alex Titley or Gareth Grayson. Hope to send in 2 bands this year.

AOB

Please return all monies and counterfoils by the 20th June.

David Joyce made a plug for Rosa (editor of "In Touch"). Please could you send in material for her. She is feeling a little bit lonely and would appreciate as much information as possible.

100 Club proposal. Talked about at officers meeting. There are legal difficulties if the tickets are sold to anyone outside the membership. Sorting out the legalities is proving difficult. We have already wasted approx 6 months. At last OM decided to present to branch the idea that we only sell to paid up members at present. If we don't then there is a registration charge and a renewal fee and the management is rather more difficult. It would not be possible, for example to have a large prize at the end of the year.

It was suggested that we start locally and then extend if we feel suitable. Alan Marchbank suggested that the officers should produce a short proposal which is sent to each tower and the tower caption discusses it with the band. The result could be returned (even if nil). At the next quarterly this could then voted upon. Proposed by Alan Marchbank and seconded by Doug Hird, motion was passed without dissent. Advantage of this is "buy-in" by all towers as they will feel involved. This must really be sorted out by the September meeting. David Joyce pointed out that this is very successful in the central Bucks branch. However, they have a very compact branch and collection of money is easier.

Votes of Thanks

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Alan Marchbank and the Gt Linford band for one of the best teas for a long time. Thanks also to Rev Peter Worthen for a very good service and to Barry for playing the organ as only he knows how.

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed with the drawing of the raffle, which raised £33.

FAR FAR AWAY

From the 23rd March to the 5th April 1997, a party of 24 pupils from Ousedale School in Newport Pagnell went to Russia (Oh, I must not forget Rebecca Millam of Emberton). It was an 8 day tour beginning with Moscow and then North to St Petersburg. Please note: the following views are mine only, Rebecca may have a different perception. I felt that Moscow, although beautiful around and within the wall of the Kremlin, seemed more run down and in a sorrowful state than the City of St Petersburg. The people have also, and I will stress this, forgotten how to smile. Maybe it is because we were tourist's and they are just not used to tourism. The hotel although basic was comfortable. It is a country steeped in history and has a stunning collection of art and valuables belonging to Kings, Queens and other magnate people. Within the walls of the great Kremlin is the Great Bell (see picture on the front).

It was cast by two Russian brothers I F and M I Motorin on 25 November 1735 in Moscow. It weighs a massive 202 tonnes and has a 22ft diameter and is 20ft high. Its sound bow is 24 inches thick. The bell was cast in a pit which caught fire in 1737. The Russians tried to cool the bell with water but the heat change resulted in the crack which weighs 11.5 tonnes. The bell has stood unrung since 1836 with the fragment alongside.

An overnight train took us to St Petersburg, most definitely a nicer place, the buildings were preserved better and the people looked at you more? The hotel was stunning. An English comparison. Take London, knock down all of the new buildings, eliminate the grass, all of it, keep the old buildings like Harrods and Hamely's, add a touch of flaking green, yellow, peach and blue paint, make everybody drive a Lada and wear funny hats and we will get there! It was not a bad holiday, just cold.

Gareth Grayson



RINGING WORLD ROAD SHOW

We wondered if it would be worth the trip to this highly advertised event – each tower had been circulated with details by the Guild and it had been mentioned over several months in the Ringing World. However, the Saturday dawned bright and sunny, so we set off up the motorway to Arden School at Knowle in the West Midlands. It was fortunate that we got there early, as we had a good chance to see the stalls and try our hand at the various attractions before the rest of the ringing community turned up.

There were second-hand ringing books, posters, ringing software, Foundry displays, handbells, ropes, sweatshirts, Central Council displays, muffles, teaching videos, Steve Coleman and his ringing books, Ringing World staff to name but a few. Talks were scheduled throughout the day on various topics like Tower Management, the Millennium

project, etc. Famous people also glimpsed included Godfrey Foat, Ron Snack and Barry Smith!

One of the greatest attractions to us was the mini-ring. It was a ring of eight very small bells hung in a wooden frame – an interesting experience in bell handling! We achieved some plain hunt and would have tried more had it not been for the large crowd of interested ringers waiting to have a go. Another attraction was what can only be described as ringing bicycle wheels.

Various towers around the area were open for general ringing, but we made for the Devon Call Change exhibition ringing at a nearby 8 bell tower. This was a real treat to watch and listen to.

The event was well supported, and a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Let's hope the Ringing World repeats it soon.

Sheila Watts & Sheila Ware



I was once asked, while on a training course, to introduce myself to the rest of the group and tell them something about myself that they were unlikely to know. This was excuse enough to introduce one of my favourite topics into the conversation and I asked them to guess what it was and it went something like this:-

My hobby is something that I can do alone but is better don in a team
It takes practice to get it right
If you like history there's something in it for you
If you like maths you'll find it fascinating, but you only need to be able to count
It's for any age from nine to ninety and is a healthy thing to do
If you like music you'll like to do this
When you do it a lot of people will know about it
It has a spiritual value and is a form of service
It has a language all of its own
And it is, of course, very enjoyable.

You will of course have no problem in guessing what I'm talking about and it wasn't long before someone on the course piped up your a bellringer! There followed on later in the day such questions as; how long do you have to chase sally before you catch her? and who is bob anyway?

The more serious point is that for those of us with small Bands to attract new ringers, especially with the millennium approaching with the aim to have all church bells rung at 12 noon on January 1st 2000, it does mean finding that point of interest that first attracts church members and providing the support and encouragement for them to stick with it.

St. Mary's has lost some more experienced teenagers, for various reasons, and now relies on its newer teenage members and so we encourage visiting ringers, as an extra one or two experienced people makes a great difference to practice nights and helps to bring on the newer ringers so we in turn can offer support when we are able.

Finally I was talking to a visiting lady after one Sunday morning service who said she did enjoy the bells, which I took as a compliment for myself and the rest of the Band who had rung that morning - then came the parting comment "yes they were nice, are they electronic?!"

Roger Everson

Ringling Schools

Unfortunately we did not receive any nominations for the Ringling School planned for the beginning of July. Surely there is someone in the branch who wishes to progress with the basic methods. As you all seem reluctant to come to a ringling school then perhaps we can help you by bringing

the ringling school to you. Initially we have approached the tower captain of a tower where we think a concentrated session on a Saturday afternoon will benefit the band. This will be arranged once a date can be found when the tower and band are available.

Is your band struggling ? Not quite got enough on a practice night to ring Bob Doubles ? Then this might be the way for your band to progress.

If you think this approach will benefit your band, then get your tower captain to contact the Ringling Master and we will try to arrange a ringling school at your tower, or one nearby. Don't expect it to happen immediately. There are only so many Saturdays when we can get experienced help together to help out with this type of training.

More information can be obtained from Richard Stanworth, 11 Valley Road, Linden Village, Buckingham MK18 7BW or call 01280-814172

Branch Striking Competition

We just about managed to dodge the rain at Great Linford. Six teams entered, which is the best entry we have had for a number of years. Our thanks to Nigel Williams and Jim Linnell from the Towcester Branch for judging the competition and giving us their comments on the ringing.

The bands were required to ring at least 20 rows of rounds followed by 240 rows of either a method or call changes. The judges' comments on each band were generally encouraging and are summarised here -

Band 1 (Great Linford) rang doubles. The faults came in patches with rather a lot towards the end.

Band 2 (Shenley) rang doubles. The ringing settled down towards the second half of the piece. It was fairly steady throughout, although a little slow.

Band 3 (Buckingham A) rang Cambridge minor. This was a faster pace than the first two bands. It was pleasant to listen to with a good patch about half way through. Sometime the leading was a little erratic.

Band 4 (Downs Barn) rang doubles. This was a little choppy and the band penalised themselves by ringing more than 40 rows of rounds before going into changes. They recovered well from trips.

Band 5 (Loughton) rang doubles. This was a nice piece of ringing. It had a bit more pace and was quicker than the other bands ringing doubles.

Band 6 (Buckingham B) rang call changes. This was a little bit choppy and was clearly an inexperienced band. Some sections of the ringing settled down nicely. Keep at it and keep listening.

The result was then given out as follows

1	Loughton	14 faults
2	Buckingham A	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ faults
3	Shenley	21 $\frac{1}{4}$ faults
4	Great Linford	32 $\frac{1}{4}$ faults
5	Downs Barn	48 $\frac{3}{4}$ faults
6	Buckingham B	80 faults

Congratulations to Loughton who go forward to represent the branch in the guild competition on 4th October. Well done also to Shirley Webb in the Buckingham B band who took part in her first ever striking competition; she has only been ringing for about six months.

Guild Bell Fund Draw

Helen Stanworth

We raised £70.00 within the branch for the Bell Fund Draw and this has been sent to the promoter.

Thank you to all concerned for your efforts.

Branch Practices

At the monthly branch practices we try to visit, over time, all the ringable towers in the branch and to cater for all ringers in the branch. These practices are for ALL ringers in the branch to get around, try different rings of bells, ring with other ringers, try new methods, improve ringing of

methods already known. The special methods, when chosen for a practice, are to provide a focus for those ringers who wish to try something new or consolidate a method. These special methods are not rung to the exclusion of the standard things normally rung at branch practices. We will always ring rounds, call changes, plain hunt, Grandsire, Plain Bob if required by anyone attending a practice, as well as anything else requested (within reason !). Come along and join us. Branch practices are a chance to practice those methods that you never manage at home as you always seem to be just one short.

Guild Eight Bell Striking Competition

A band representing the branch went to Warborough in Oxfordshire to compete in this event on the May Day Holiday Monday. The band were (L to R on photo)

Richard Stanworth, Bob Winstanley, Bill Yates, Roy Keeves, Doug Hird, Ann Fletcher, Peter Tribble, and Andrew Spencer. We should have been the fourth band to ring but as one team had dropped out we were third to ring. The bells were a little odd struck and took a while to get used to. We were improving all the time and the second half of our test piece was better than the first half. Had it been a peal we might have done much better ! We finished fourth equal out of the eight teams which took part, much better than our placing last year. Many thanks to the band for taking part.

The full result was as follows (The test piece was marked out of a maximum of 448 points)

1st. Reading, St Laurence and St Mary	371 faults
2nd. High Wycombe	368
3rd. Old North Berks Branch	340
4th. = North Bucks Branch	327
= East Berks South Bucks Branch	
5th. Chiltern Branch	324
6th. Reading Branch	321
7th. Tilehurst	303



Guild Ten Bell Striking Competition

This year we were able to enter a band in this competition held at Amersham on Saturday 12th July, the same day as the Guild Festival. The band who took part were Doug Hird, Andrew Spencer, Richard Hazeldine, Ron Snack, David Joyce, Jill Joyce, Alan Marchbank, Roy Keeves, Barry Eglesfield, and Richard Stanworth. The band finished in 4th place with 225 faults.



Under 18 Striking Competition

After our success in last year's competition we tried hard to get a band together again for this year's competition on Saturday 28th June. The venue this year was the light six at Marston.

We were only able to field four ringers this year, due to other commitments by our younger members. These were Lottie Everson, Gareth Grayson, John and Catherine Stanworth. Len Porter, the organiser rounded up a couple of other ringers to make up our team. They were Louise Coe and Peter Davenport. Gareth was conductor of the band and decided that our best plan was to ring call changes. The team were fourth to ring and did at least as well as the teams that had gone before them. Our team found the bells a little tricky to ring, particularly Gareth, as the ringing room had a very low ceiling and at the very first back stroke got his hand stuck in the rope hole in the ceiling ! The team that won were clearly a lot better than the rest, but as no faults were announced, we don't know how close we came to those above us.

The result was

- 1 Sonning A
- 2 Wycombe
- 3 Sonning B
- 4 North Bucks
- 5 Duclington
- 6 Bloxham

Well done to those who took part. They enjoyed themselves, which was the main thing.

Snippets

We also attempted a quarter peal at Buckingham on the evening of Evelyn and Peter's wedding. Seven of the band were present at the appointed time. Who was missing ? - Our Tower Captain who was attending the reception. He eventually arrived in very jolly mood with David and Sheila Goodger. We ascended the tower and commenced an attempt at Yorkshire with our senior member on the treble.

However he seemed unable to hold his bell up sufficiently to get above sixth place. After two attempts at this our Tower Captain's son deemed him incapable of continuing and Dave stood in his place. The method was changed to Stedman and off we went again. It was not our night. Just after the second part end this fell to pieces (as Stedman does) and we adjourned to the Wheatsheaf, there to drink the health of the bride and groom and wish them every happiness in their life together

Robert George, who rang his first quarter peal for Evelyn and Peter's wedding, has been ringing for about five years now. He attends the Slated Row School for those with learning difficulties in Wolverton, just opposite Holy Trinity. His class have a half day out each week and visit various places of interest, or of particular interest to one of the class. In the last week of June they visited St Edmund's Maids Moreton so that they could see where Robert goes bellringing every week. Several of the ringers were able to meet them and explain all about bellringing and, along with Robert, give a short demonstration of change ringing. At the end of the demonstration Robert was presented with a first quarter peal certificate which he was able to show off to his class mates. The highlight for the rest of the class was a chance to chime a bell, particularly when they all managed this and one of their teachers couldn't make a sound!

PEALS & QUARTERS

QUARTERS

Cross & Stable, Downs Barn

9 February 1997

1260 Grandsire Triples

- 1 Gareth Grayson
- 2 Nigel Williams
- 3 Nicola King
- 4 William Yates
- 5 David Maybery
- 6 Andrew Spencer
- 7 Doug Hird (C)
- 8 Jon Hill

Buckingham

11 February 1997

1287 Grandsire Triples

- 1 Peter Nicholson
- 2 James Linnell
- 3 Ann Fletcher
- 4 Michael Tinsley
- 5 William Yates
- 6 Christopher Bulleid
- 7 Richard Yates (C)
- 8 David Goodger

An engagement compliment to Peter Nicholson & Evelyn Timony. Also for Peter's 50th birthday.

Cross & Stable, Downs Barn

Abergele, Clwyd

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 9th March 1997

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Catherine Stanworth
2. Helen Stanworth (First inside)
3. David Stanworth
4. Peter Prike
5. Richard Stanworth (C)
6. John Stanworth (First away from treble)

First together 1, 2, 5, 6

For the baptism of Sian Elizabeth Vaughan Stanworth, by her father, uncle (and godfather), aunt, two cousins and guest at the baptism

Loughton, All Saints

6 April 1997

2/120 & 1/240 Grandsire 6.5 Plain Bob

- 1 Loraine Brookman
- 2 John Brookman
- 3 Bob Winstanley
- 4 Barry Smith
- 5 Derek Stainsby (C)
- 6 Terry Brown

1st quarter 6th. Rung to celebrate the Golden Wedding Anniversary of

Les and Joan Parker, members of the local congregation.

4 April 1997

All Saints, Loughton

720 Kent Treble Bob & 540 Plain

Bob

- 1 Frank Daniels
- 2 Ann Stainsby
- 3 Bob Winstanley
- 4 David Stainsby
- 5 Barry Smith
- 6 Derek Stainsby

This was rung to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of George and Lilian Amar, parents of 2. George learnt to ring at Woughton in the 1920's and has done most of his ringing at Bedford. However, when he moved to Shenley Church End 5 years ago he came to All Saints Loughton to ring, but sadly ill health has now put a stop to that.

18 April 1997

St Andrews, Gt Linford

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Doug O'Neale
- 2 Tine Marchbank
- 3 Alan Marchbank (C)
- 4 Godfrey Foat
- 5 Ron Snack
- 6 Ros Tyrrell

First away from cover for 1. Rung Half muffled in celebration of the life of Margaret Catchpool a friend and supporter of the Gt Linford ringers whose funeral was here today.

5th May 1997

St Mary's, Shenley

1260 Plain Bob Minor

- 1 Becky Fawcett
- 2 Ann Stainsby
- 3 J Brookman
- 4 E Fawcett
- 5 B Smith
- 6 D Stainsby (C)

10th wedding anniversary compliment to 1 & 4. 70th birthday compliment to Frank Daniels

HANDBELL QUARTERS

16 Ashfield, Stantonbury

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1-2 Alan Marchbank
- 3-4 Godfrey Foat (C)
- 5-6 Ron Snack

A birthday compliment to HM Queen

Maids Moreton

St Edmund

Saturday 10th May 1997

1260 Doubles Plain Bob &

Grandsire

1. Helen Stanworth
2. Andrew Spencer
3. William Yates (C)
4. Richard Stanworth
5. David Goodger
6. Robert George (First Quarter)

Prior to the marriage of Evelyn Margaret Timony & Peter John Nicholson

Maids Moreton

St Edmund

Saturday 10th May 1997

1260 Doubles Grandsire

1. John Stanworth
2. Ann Fletcher
3. William Yates (C)
4. Gerald Kingston
5. David Goodger
6. Michael Tinsley

Immediately following the marriage of Evelyn Margaret Timony & Peter John Nicholson

St James the Great, Hanslope

1 June 1997

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

- 1 Carole Harmer
- 2 Alan Cozens
- 3 Natalie Green
- 4 Richard Haseldine
- 5 Ian Thompson
- 6 Phil Haslam
- 7 Roy Keeves
- 8 Jonathan Griggs (C)

Rung in memory of Elizabeth Rose Simons of Hanslope aged 94, mother of Shirley Cozens. Also for Sunday Service. First method for 5.

Other Events Within and Without the Branch

This section is intended to bring you information about some other ringing events, that are not organised by our own Branch or Guild. This information is not kept as complete or up-to-date as our own Branch diary, so please keep an eye on Odd Bob and The Ringing World. If you wish to check before attending, or want to know further details, please contact the following people :-

Olney - A Monday evening 8 bell practice is run by Roy Keeves (01908-510105) from 7:30 to 9:00 each month. There is a core of regular attendees, but new faces are always made welcome. Methods rung range from Rounds to Surprise Major, with a special method sometimes being chosen in advance.

Central Bucks Branch - Mark Sellin (01296-392175).

Towcester Branch - Bill Yates (01280-814937).

Wellingborough Branch - John Holmes (01933-405169).

Bicester Branch - Simon Cole (01869-247525).

Northampton Branch - Mrs Dorothy Stopps (01604-890638).

Bedford District - Eddie Lambert (01234-363513).

Luton District - David Adams (01582-868534).

Date	Time	Event details	Location
Fri 1st August	7:30	Bicester Branch Practice	Ludgershall
Sat 16th August	7:30	Towcester Branch Practice	Eastoin Neston
Mon 1st September	7:30	Bicester Branch Practice	Bicester
Sat 20 Sept		Towcester Guild 8-Bell Contest	Cottesbrooke
Tue 7th October	7:30	Bicester Branch Practice	Islip
Sat 11th October	All Day	Towcester Branch Outing	S Oxfordshire
Sat 1 November	2:00 - Late!	Towcester Branch Training Afternoon & Quiz	Roade/Stoke Bruerne
Wed 5th November	7:30	Bicester Branch Practice	Middleton Stoney
Sat 22nd Nov	7:00	Towcester Branch Practice	Heyford/Bugbrooke
Sat 6th Dec	7:30 for 8:00	Towcester Branch Dinner	Maids Morton
Thu 4th December	7:30	Bicester Branch Practice	Kirtlington

Godfrey Foat has compiled a list of Open Days and Guild AGM's which may be of interest to anyone who is planning an event that ought not to clash.

Remember that a comprehensive list of meetings is published regularly in the Guild "Odd Bob" and some are advertised in the Ringing World as well. The information about our neighbours can only be published here in "In Touch" if someone lets us know - **if you have any details (or corrections), please contact the editor.**

If you visit our neighbours' events, please let them know about our branch and encourage them to visit us.

Don't forget all of the local tower practices in our branch each week. If you visit any of these events, why not take along another member of your local band ? However, it would be courteous to check with the organiser before taking an entire band along !

ODG North Bucks Branch Diary

Date	Time		Event details	Location
Sat 2nd August			Picnic Meeting with Bedford Branch	
		*	Ringling	Chicheley
Fri 15th August	7:30		Branch Practice Special method = Norwich S Minor	Stowe
Sat 6th September	3:30		Quarterly Meeting	Great Brickhill
Fri 12th September (to Sun 14th)			Guild Ringing School	Easthampstead
Fri 19 September	7:30		Branch Practice No Special Method - All Welcome	Woughton
Sat 4th October			Guild 6-Bell Striking Contest	Banbury Branch
Fri 17th October	7:30		Branch Practice Special method = Cambridge S Minor	Clifton Reynes
Sat 8th November	2:00		Ringling School	TBA
Fri 21st November	7:30		Branch Practice Special method = Grandsire Doubles	Tingewick
Sat 6th December	3.30		Quarterly Meeting	Shenley
Fri 19th December	7.30		Branch Practice Special Method = Ipswich S Minor	Lavendon
1998				
Fri 16th January	7.30		Branch Practice Special Method = Stedman Triples	Buckingham
Fri 20th February	7.30		Branch Practice Special Method = Little Bob Minor	Stoke Godlington
Sat 7th March	3.00 4.00	*	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	Tyringham Newport Pagnell
Fri 20th March	7.30		Branch Practice Special Method = Lincolnshire S Major	Downs Barn

Any event marked with * was awaiting confirmation when this list was prepared, if a more recent list is unavailable then please check with the Secretary for the current situation before attending.

Rounds, Call Changes, Plain Hunt, Plain Bob & Grandsire will always be available at Branch Practices. The special methods are intended to be a focus for the more advanced method ringing.

The Branch Mini Ringing Schools are specially tailored for a very small number of pupils to get intensive, high quality, training in one basic method. Please write to the Ringing Master if you wish to be considered as a pupil for a future school or are interested in different types of school.