

Newsletter of the North Bucks Branch of the

Oxford Diocesan Guild

30p



Leckhampstead Church

EDITORIAL

Firstly may I appologise for any errors, neither I nor my typewriter can spell, neither do we have advanced level 'swiggle deciphering' therefore we would appreciate legiable articals.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the first edition, either with material or encouragement. I look forward to receiving next months contributions along with any construtive criticism, advice or ideas starting with a name for the newsletter, I have had a few suggestions but would welcome more.

LECKHAMPSTEAD

Unfortunately not much has been found out about these bells. They are a ground floor ring, of five in the key of F with a tenor weighing 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.. To me they seem very heavy but then I'm used to a light six.

It will be very useful to have a practice at Leckhampstead as they are quite different to most of the rings in the branch.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting the first Chairmans report for this monthly newsletter.

Things really seem to be looking up at last. We had a very lively well attended towers meeting at the Bell in Beachampton and as a result have managed to form sub-committees for Education and for Towers and Bells. I am pleased to inform those of you who did not attend that Sheila Watts has agreed to be social secretary I am sure that this will enable us to enjoy many more events outside ringing.

It was extremely gratifying to see the extremely large turnout for the learners Striking contest at Stowe, I'm sure everyone enjoyed it. My hearty thanks to the organisers and those who helped in any way.

It would seem to me that we can really get the Branch moving again, we have a good working committee now and considerable interest shown by many members. Anything is possible as is proved by the fact that one of our illustrious Ringing Masters (I don't need to say which one) has given up smoking, this must surely be the eighth wonder of the world.

I managed to survey the new bell frame at Thornborough a week or so ago and I felt I really must congratulate the people involved on a truly magnificent effort.

My thanks once again to all the Branch Officers and Members for their support.

B.R.Eglesfield

QUOTES

overheard at a recent committee meeting:

Apathy doesn't exist any-more by a
ringing master

In my old age I'm getting more discetion ??

NEW TREASURER

I'D like to introduce myself as the new treasurer,

My name is Stella Mills, and my tower is Maids Morton. I have been ringing for about three years, and although I am fascinated by ringing I haven't progressed very far. However I don't think one needs to be an expert ringer to cope with the branch finances, even though it is all juggling with figures!

The big bonus to me of being a branch officer is that it gives me the opportunity to meet so many more of you. If I can be of any assistance to any-one, please don't hesitate to contact me - my phone number is on your subscription receipt!

And for those of you who have not yet paid for 1986, -- and those who up till now have paid in arrears and have not yet paid for 1985 - I would be pleased to receive your subscriptions for 1986 in advance, of £1.60 for adults, 80p for those up to 16 years old.

With thanks,
Stella Mills, Hon. Treasurer
12, Hall Close,
Maids Morton,
Buckingham.

Tel: Buck. 815661

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD - GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The O.D.G. covers a very wide area. To assist the Officers of the Guild in the administration of the Guild each Branch elects representatives to the general committee. At the Branch A.G.M. you elected Alan Marchbank and myself as the representatives for this Branch.

We attended our first G.C.M. at Aston Clinton

on the 8th of March. This was actually two meetings - the A.G.M. of the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund and the Committee meeting itself.

Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund A.G.M.

In 1985 the fund increased by £5,675 from Investment Income and £5,400 from fund raising. Total investment income is over £50,000. Grants of £3,500 were allocated.

For 1986 £7,500 has been allocated in grants to six applications. A grant is generally determined at 15% of cost. For our Branch, Thornborough have been allocated £1,500.

Other points:

- a) would your PCC like to donate to the Bell Fund.
- b) the treasurer can arrange insurance for bell work with E.I.C. at very good rates.

General Committee Meeting

This meeting acts very much as a pre-meeting to the A.G.M. The Officers don't like surprises and hope to sort most of these out before the A.G.M.

We first stood in silence to the memory of Arthur Barker of Stoke Poges who did so much for the Guild throughout his life.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and approved there followed the usual exciting reports from the Officers and Sub-committee chairpersons.

Just a few points from these:

- a) accounts - annual income £2600, current balance £700
- b) Easthampstead course - applications would only be accepted during March. It seems that applications sent in last year tended to be ignored by some on the Education sub-comm. If you would like to go next year please keep in touch with the Branch Officers who will hopefully get better warning than this year!

- c) the Education sub-comm. have offered help to our Branch in any course organisation. We are not doing to badly ourselves though.
- d) the annual report will cost about £850 to produce. It will be sold at £1.75 per copy.
- e) peal fees remain at only 15p per rope.

We then reviewed the current Officers and accepted nominations for next year. This is quite a useful session as those no longer available were able to explain why they were giving up and we got some knowledge of the jobs done. That said most Officers were nominated for another year.

There are three open positions-- Publicity Secretary, Guild Steward for the Bucks. area, Central Council Representative. If you fancy doing one of these jobs speak up and we will happily nominate you.

The discussion about the Guild Steward and contacts made over the Tea and Chocolate Spread sandwiches shows that the officers are interested in Branch activities. We have the reputation for a rather insular nature, surely this is not true!

Please support the upcoming Guild events-- details were available at Deaconsdown and have been distributed by the secretary - there are always towers to ring at, old friends to meet and new friends to make.

Open Day	- Eicester	- May 5th
A.G.W.	- Charlbury	- May 17th
Festival	- Newbury	- July 12th

If you would like to know more about the meeting or have a subject that needs forwarding please talk to Alan and myself. If we have different ideas about what happened at the meeting I would not be surprised.

Godfrey Foat

ADVANCED NOTICE

OCTOBER

A RINGING COURSE

will be held at

EMBERTON on

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11th 1986

The course will run from about 2pm to
about 8pm and will be aimed at teaching

PLAIN HUNT
and
PLAIN BOB

Tea will be included.

More details will be available nearer
the date and advertised in the newsletter

Anyone who is interested in attending
please contact :-

ALAN MARCHBANK

Tel: MK 322549
(Great Linford)

FEBRUARY 1987

ANNUAL DINNER

It is proposed that we have an annual
dinner in February but we need to know if
members will attend such a function, please
let us know before the quarterly meeting on
31st May.

WHO'S WHO and WHERE THEY LIVE!

B.R. Eglesfield - Chairman
The Old School House
Calverton
Tel: 564668

B.D. Kird - Sec.	Stella Mills - Pres.
19 Priory Street	12 Hall Close
Newport Pagnell	Leids Norton
Tel: 614741 (home)	Buckingham
Tel; 615141 (work)	Tel: Buck. 815661

D. Phillipson - Ringing Masters	- D. Stainsby
56, Annesley Rd.	32A Bradwell Rd
Newport Pagnell	Loughton
Tel: 611455 (home)	Tel: 666492
Tel: 585858 ex.4343	

G. Foat - Branch Rep	- A. Marchbank
18 Ashfield	31 St. Giles Street
Stantonbury	New Bradwell
Tel: 313859	Tel; 320549

Fiona Maybrey - Newsletter Ed.
145 Downs Barn Boulevard
Downs Barn
Tel: 677143

QUARTER PEAL REPORTS

Newport Pagnell 30th March

ST. PETER and ST. PAUL

1260 PLAIN BOB IMOR

- 1 Sheila Watts
- 2 Hilary Barclay
- 3 Reginald G Wright *
- 4 David Manton
- 5 David Phillipson
- 6 Ronald S Barclay (C)

Rung for Easter Evensong

* First quarter

Calverton 6th April

ALL SAINTS

720 LONDON + 576 CAMBRIDGE

- 1 Nicki King
- 2 Bill Yates
- 3 Brian Gross
- 4 David J Maybrey
- 5 B Douglas Hird
- 6 Richard Yates (C)

Rung for Evensong

DOWN'S BARN BELLS

Several years ago a small church was set up on Down's Barn, in the community house, it was set up as a joint venture to serve the Anglican Methodist, Baptist and United Reformed Church members as part of the wider Eccumenical parish of Stantonbury, which includes Bradwell and Linford.

The idea was to have a building jointly between the Church and the Development Corp. that would provide a meeting place for all forms of gatherings from the pre-school play group through Sunday services to the golden oldies socials. It is this building that can be seen under construction at the end of Down's Barn Boulevard by Overstreet.

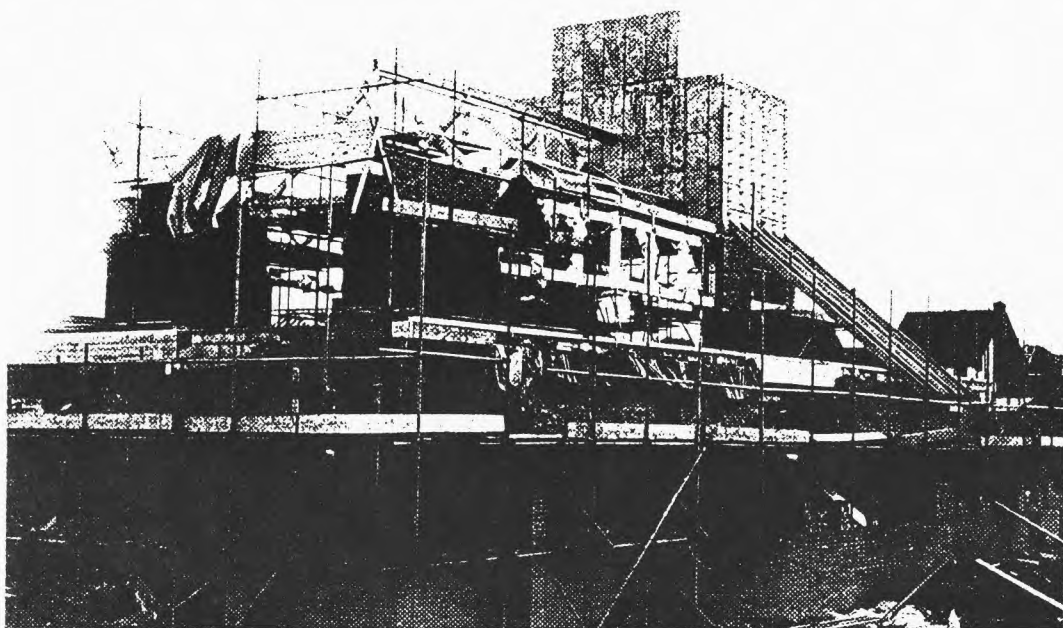
The tower comes by a slightly different route. Each estate in Milton Keynes is supposed to have its own feature by which it can be easily identified. Yes the tower is the one for Down's Barn, elected by the residents of the estate and the church members. Right from the start it has been a bell tower not just a tower. To begin with we started fund raising in a low key way as we had no idea of just what we were looking for or for when. After many lengthy and costly delays the building is now due for completion in the autumn.

Fund raising must now go into top gear - you have been warned.

At the moment the fund stands at just over £1,000, next month we hope to be able to show an increase in the figure and also give you some idea how far we still have to go!

Fiona Maybrey

The building so far, 14-4-86



The bell frame will sit ontop
of the structure that is there

DIARY OF EVENTS MAY

2nd	Learners Practice	Beckhampstead
16th	Branch Practice	Hanslope
24th	Downs Earn Bell Fund Open Day towers in Milton Keynes we hope.	
31st	Branch Quarterly Meeting	Linford/ Newport Pagnell

Outside the Branch

3rd	Peterborough D.G. Open day	South Northants
5th	Oxford D.G. Open Day and eight bell striking comp.	Bicester
17th	Oxford D.G. AGM	Charlbury
26th	Luton District Open day	
31st	Towcester Branch striking comp.	Cosgrove

June in Brief

6th	Learners Practice	
7th	Branch Striking Competition	
20th	Branch Practice	