

Newsletter of the North Bucks Branch of the

Oxford Diocesan Guild

30p



Emberton Church

EDITORIAL

This is the second new newsletter,
(apologies to any who didnot receive the first)
My thanks again to those who have contributed,
it would be nice to have something from each
tower every month, you don't have to have been
to a meeting and report on that, why not share
your views about ringing or anything! Please
let me have your contributions by the 14th of
the previous month

Thanks

EMBERTON

ALL SAINTS

At Emberton we have a light six of a
little over 9cwt in the note of G, rung from
the ground floor. The details of the current
bells are as follows:-

Treble

"This Bell was placed here in memory of
Florence, wife of Campbell Hulton A.D. 1899"

John Taylor & Co. Founders of Loughborough,
Leicestershire Recast A.D. 1910

-G.F. Sams Rector

H.C. Rogers

W. Hawkin Churchwardens

Width 26" Weight 3 - 3 - 10

2nd

Revnd. Thos. Fry, Minister

John Leete

James Page Churchwardens 1839

God Save The Queen

Width 27 $\frac{7}{8}$ " Weight 3 - 2 - 25

3rd

Taylor's Founders Oxford 1839

Width 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Weight 4 - 1 - 17

4th

Taylor's Founders Oxford 1839

Width 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Weight 4 - 1 - 14

5th

W & J Taylor Bellfounders Oxford 1839

Width 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Weight 6 - 3 - 3

Tenor

"Holiness unto the Lord" Alleluia

W & J Taylor Bellfounders Oxford 1839

Width 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Weight 9 - 0 - 18 in G

The following is an extract from the "Church Bells of Buckinghamshire" by A.H. Cocks published in 1897

" Sauce : probably an eighteenth cent. bell. It used to hang outside the tower until a few years ago when it was rehung, in the

centre of the tower, out of reach, high above the other bells; and it was only by some exertion on my own part, aided by the energetic assistance of Mr. H. Booth, the sexton, a keen ringer, that I managed (in the absence of a ladder) to get within reach of it.

1714, 4 bells

Lipscomb mentions the former ring here:

1 Ave Maria

2 A modern bell

3 In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis

4 Jones Andrewe, Rector De Emberton,
Me Fieri Fecit

The treble was probably a fourteenth century bell, possibly by John Rofford; the second may very well have been at best as old as the 17th century; the inscription on the third bell was a common one during the 15th century (Johns Bell will sound for many years).

John Mordan, alias Andrew, who gave the old tenor (as well as no. 3) was presented to the Rectory of Emberton, 11th Sept. 1390, by Sir John Tyringham knt; he exchanged to this living from Gayhurst (Gothurst then). He not only gave the bells, but is thought to have completed the building of the church, and according to the inscription on his memorial brass he also gave

some very valuable books, long since lost. He died in 1410. "

The original treble of the six was originally cast by Bond of Burford in 1899, This must have been of rather special quality as it had to be recast in 1901. The rehanging of the six in a metal 'H' frame with plain bearings all round was completed by John Taylor & Co. of Loughborough on the 30th of June 1902.

Present

For some months now there have been regular practices at Emberton on tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.00 under the captaincy of Sheila Watts. Ringing has previously taken place on most major festivals by mainly imital ringers plus one or two local ringers, but on Sunday 18th May 1986 months of hard work culminated in the achievement of the main objective i.e. the commencement of regular Sunday service ringing by a largely resident band.

Initially this ringing will take place on alternate sunday mornings from 9.15 to 9.45, but it is intended to extend this to every sunday morning eventually.

If you are free on a tuesday evening please come along and sample the delights of this easy

going six; alternatively if you are available on Sunday mornings please make contact with Sheila Watts.

I look forward to seeing you at the practice to be held at Emberton on the 6th of June.

Dave Phillipson

Towers and Bells Committee Inspection
Leckhampsted on 4-4-86

Details of the Bells:

Treble	6-0-2	Jubilee Bell
		"God Save The Queen 1837 - 1897"
2nd	7-3-6	(Mears & Stainbank)
		"The Leckhampsted Church of England Medical and Benifit Club Bell 1846 - Praise The Lord O My Soul And 1896 Forget Not All His Benefits"
3rd	9-1-16	(Thought to have been cast around 1390)
		"Gaude Virgo Mater"
4th	10-3-4	(Richard Chandler)
		"Chandler Made Me 1664
Tenor	13-2-0	(Richard Chandler)
		"Chandler Made ME 1662

It would appear that the five bells were last re-hung just prior to the turn of the last century.

The bells were hung in a wooden frame which is in excellent condition . Bells 1,2,4 and 5 swing north to south and no. 3 swings east to west. The tenor is in the middle.

The headstocks are metal H section, secured to the bells by 4 bolts with the exception of the treble, which for some reason still has its canons. This is hung on the H headstock by means of timbers and straps.

The bells are rung from the ground floor and there is an intermediate chamber between ground level and the bells. Access to both the chambers is by near vertical ladders.

The bearings are plain with metal boxes with lids covering them. The sliders are conventional pivoted timber type.

The clappers on the fourth and tenor are of the Alfred Howell timber support type, the pivot being formed from two of the bell and headstock fastenings.

Bells one two and three have the clappers hung on the crown staples and are bushed by means of shaped pieces of leather. The third has been modified further so the clapper swings on an independant spindle not the crown staple.

During the course of inspection the following faults were found among the bells which require prompt action:

- 1 ALL clappers need re-brushing
- 2 The SLIDER STOP on the TREBLE requires building up to prevent the slider riding over the top of it causing the bell to turn right over.
- 3 The TREBLE is LOOSE on its HEADSTOCK. This should be tightened without delay and also possibly some modification carried out at a later date if it is found to work loose frequently.
- 4 ALL the SLIDERS should be removed, cleaned up and then rubbed with tallow to ensure free movement.
- 5 The PULLEYS need attention, possibly renewing and some of the rope holes in the floor of the intermediate chamber need to be moved slightly. At the moment there is friction from the ropes.
- 6 One of the BEARING BOXES is missing from the THIRD and should be replaced.
- 7 One of the THIRD bell support bolts has a sheared thread which should be re-cut.

Generally, any broken wire netting needs to be replaced and the tower cleaned out from top to bottom. The metal parts of the instal-

lation need rubbing down and painting with red oxide paint.

The timber should be checked for signs of woodworm, death watch beetle, dry rot etc. and treated accordingly.

The rungs on the wooden ladder need to be reinforced or replaced and a new set of ropes will be required very shortly.

B.R. Eglesfield

GUILD EIGHT BELL STRIKING COMP .

On Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 1986, eight teams assembled at the church of St. Edburg, Bicester(8, 15-0-7 in F) for the Guild 8 bell striking contest. The set piece was a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major, and the band representing this branch was drawn to ring in sixth place.

The band stood as follows:-

Treble	Doug Hird	-Newport Pagnell Branch Sec.
2	Godfrey Foat	-Newport Pagnell Branch rep. Gen Co.
3	Bill Yates	- Buckingham
4	David Ockwell	- Bradwell Downs Barn Rep.

- 5 David Maybrey - Bradwell
- 6 George Holland - Maids Morton
- 7 Barry Eglesfield- Calverton
Branch Chairman
- Tenor David Phillipson- Newport Pagnell
(C) Ringing Master

Despite efforts in the previous two weeks, I was unable to arrange a pre-contest practice and as a result the practice piece at Bicester was....., well..... let me just say that Andrew Wilby, the contest judge, was being kind when he described it as "slap about", After that we settled down and rang a very presentable test piece from which we picked up 65 faults, only 12 behind Wokingham the winning team and we finished a creditable 4th.

The full comments and works are as follows:-
North Bucks Branch - Judges Comments

Good bright piece of ringing after another slap-about practice!

Nice brisk pace - but poor roll-ups and leading led to a rather rocky effect, taking the edge off what otherwise could have been a nice piece.

All basic ingredients there, but not quite tidy enough to be really good.

Peal Time -2 hrs 56 mins

1st	53 faults	Wokingham
2nd	55	
3rd	64	
4th	65	North Bucks
5th	76	
6th	81	
7th	124	
8th	208	

My objective for 1987 is for a band from the branch to win the contest, and to put Wokingham where they belong in second place. Why should we not enter two teams? -- dare I suggest an all female team

Dave Phillipson

THREE COUNTIES RINGING FESTIVAL

BEDS - BUCKS NORTHANTS

Meeting at Olney, Bucks

SATURDAY, JUNE 21st, 1986

Ringling ; Festival Service ; Food

This is taking place in our branch so no excuses!

Newsletter Delivery.

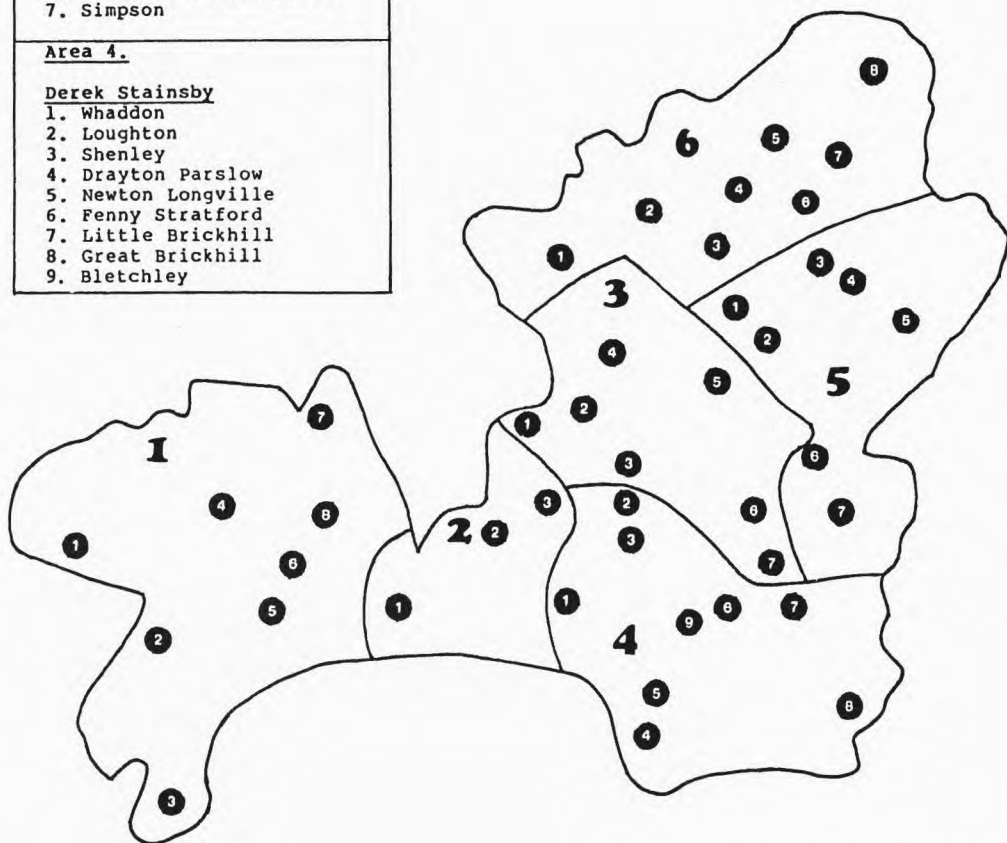
The main reason for having a Branch Newsletter is to bring up to date information to Branch members as quickly as possible.

Because the Branch is one of the largest in the Guild, it is impractical for one person alone to try to distribute the Newsletter, so six of the Branch Officers have agreed to distribute the Newsletter in the areas where they normally ring.

By allocating the areas shown on the map to specific Branch Officers, distribution is expected to take no more than one week after the Newsletter is printed. This should also mean that your tower will be visited by a Branch Officer at least once a month so if you have any problems please make use of these visits.

B. D. HIRD
Branch Secretary.

Area 1. Stella Mills 1. Shalstone 2. Tingewick 3. Twyford 4. Stowe 5. Buckingham 6. Maids Moreton 7. Lillingstone Lovell 8. Leckhampstead	Area 5. Godfrey Foat 1. Lathbury 2. Newport Pagnell 3. Sherington 4. Chicheley 5. North Crawley 6. Milton Keynes 7. Wavendon
Area 2. Barry Egglesfield 1. Thornborough 2. Beachampton 3. Calverton	Area 6. David Phillipson 1. Hanslope 2. Stoke Goldington 3. Tyringham 4. Weston Underwood 5. Olney 6. Emberton 7. Clifton Reynes 8. Lavendon
Area 3. Alan Marchbank 1. Stony Stratford 2. Old Wolverton 3. Old Bradwell 4. Haversham 5. Great Linford 6. Woughton-On-The-Green 7. Simpson	
Area 4. Derek Stainsby 1. Whaddon 2. Loughton 3. Shenley 4. Drayton Parslow 5. Newton Longville 6. Fenny Stratford 7. Little Brickhill 8. Great Brickhill 9. Bletchley	



QUARTER PEAL REPORTS

Great Brickhill

19th April

ST. MARYS

1260 mixed doubles

360 STEADMAN

360 GRANDSIRE

360 ST. SIMONS

180 PLAIN BOB

- 1 Ann Stainsby
- 2 Derek Stainsby
- 3 Brian Baldwin
- 4 Martin Petchy
- 5 David C Ockwell
- 6 Gordon Abott

This quarter was rung as a wedding compliment to Rachel (nee Butler) and Robert Lawmon married earlier that day.

PLEASE NOTE

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
&
PLAIN BOB

Tea will be included

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

ANY ONE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING

PLEASE CONTACT :-

ALAN MARCHBANK

Tel: MK 322549

QUARTERLY MEETING

Saturday 31st May 1986

Ringings:	Newport Pagnell and Great Linford	3.00 - 4.30
Service:	Great Linford Church	4.30
Tea	: Great Linford Church	5.15
Meeting:	Great Linford Church	6.00 - 7.30
Ringings:	Great Linford and Old Wolverton	7.30 - 8.30

STRIKING COMPETITION

Saturday 7th June 1986

The competition is to be held at Whaddon, starting at 5.00pm.

Any method or call changes can be rung.

For further information please contact:

B. D. Hird
19, Priory Street,
Newport Pagnell,
Bucks.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

24th May	Downs Barn Bell Fund	Open Day.
31st May	Quarterly Meeting	Great Linford
6th June	Learners Practice	Emberton
7th June	Striking Competition	Whaddon
20th June	Branch Practice	Great Brickhill
21st June	Three Counties Meeting	Olney
4th July	Branch Practice	Lillingstone Lovell