

May - June '89

IN TOUCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH BUCKS BRANCH
OF

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS



A WORD (OR TWO) FROM THE SECRETARY

Well here we are again almost half way through the year - doesn't time fly when you're having fun !

You will remember that at the AGM I was asked to look into the office of President within the Branch organisation and determine if this is an ex-officio office occupied by the Archdeacon of Buckingham.

Well a quick delve into the minute books of the past and the Guild and Branch Rules seems to have brought the answer. In essence there is no Guild rule that requires a Branch President to be elected. In the past this Branch has elected a President who has always been the Archdeacon, but the last time this was done was 1984 !

At the next Quarterly Meeting the Officers will make a recommendation on the way forward on this subject, and it would be useful to have your feelings.

The Branch Dinner was well supported again this year - thaks you all who made it most enjoyable. Next year we hope to go to the Grand Union in Buckingham (on the recommendation of the Buckingham ringers) on February 14th - book the date now.

Further on I'm sure you will find a full report on the Beginners Striking Contest however can I say well done to Godfrey and his victorious band of ringers and "thank - you" to Anthony and Bill for the use of Stowe bells.

Looking forward what delights do we have to come?

The next Quarterly is at Milton Keynes Village the first at this venue for many years I should think; the Six bell contest at Maids Moreton on June 10th - no excuses based upon the 'go' of the bells accepted; and the ODG Oxford Festival. A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO SEE MORE OF THE GUILD AND JOIN IN WITH THE EVENING SOCIAL EVENT.

AM

BELLS 200

SPECIAL EVENT

The PCC & the Bellringers of St Marys' Gt Brickhill are holding a two day festival to mark the 200 th anniversary of the casting of the bells by W & T Mears in 1789.

The tower will be open for visiting ringers from 1400 to 1830 on Saturday 8th & 1100 to 1700 on Sunday 9th July.

On Saturday 8th at 1930 the Launton Handbell Ringers will be performing for us.

Also there will be static displays and refreshments and the Manor grounds are being opened.

Hugh Butler Tel: 052 526 663

Education

By the time this edition of In Touch is published two short courses will have been run by the branch officers.

The first, back in January, was an introduction to Plain hunt held at Great Linford. Members from Milton Keynes, Wavendon, Emberton and Bradwell were able to have a go at Plain hunt with a band of willing helpers from other towers.

The second, an introduction to Bob Calling/Conducting, was held at Bradwell at the request of, and primarily for the local band.

Doug Hird is developing a Tower Maintenance course, which may end up as more than one session, including visits 'upstairs'. The planned date is June 24th, ask Doug for details.

The date of September 16th has been reserved for a Plain bob/Plain hunt formal course. We will arrange towers and helpers depending on the numbers who wish to attend, and what level they request. Please let any of the Officers know of your interest in this session by the end of June.

There have been a couple of requests for a 'How to teach beginners' session. We hope that this can be run with help from the Guild Education Committee, if you are interested please let one of the Officers know as soon as possible.

Finally If you want to be taught something special (plain hunt to orion maximus) then let us know. We will try to find someone to help.

Branch Education Sub Committee
G Foat, T Davis, A Marchbank, D Hird, S Watts

BEGINNING RINGING AT 50.

A move from Canterbury to Olney and a new job caused me to consider taking up a new hobby as well. Living within the sound of the Olney bells I decided to find out more about ringing and so had my first lesson, of many, from Charles Knight and was soon hooked on this new pastime.

During the last year I have been constantly amazed at how much there is to learn, often difficult but always enjoyable. Many people have been very patient in explaining things which seem simple once understood (call changes still cause the occasional problem). There have been times of despair and times of great satisfaction such as when ringing at a wedding for the first time, and the embarrassment of having to be rescued after missing the sally.

I would like to thank everyone with whom I have rung for their welcome to the branch and their patience with me. Particularly my thanks go to the members of Olney tower who started me off and Emberton who have always made me so welcome and taught me so much. Newport Pagnell deserves a special word of thanks as I seem to have set a record for doing something wrong every time I ring there.

Maybe one day I shall progress past plain hunt but even if not it has been, and is, a marvellous hobby even at my advanced age. Ringing for church services becomes an important part of my Sunday routine and practice nights are a great challenge.

Sheila Ware.

Newport Pagnell??

Quarter Peal

18 December 1988 1260 Grandsire Doubles

1. Nicola Ramsay first attempt
2. Christine Murphy
3. Gillian P Watson first Grandsire
4. B D Hird
5. G L Foat conductor
6. D Manton

Oxford Diocesan Guild - North Bucks Branch

Quarter peal week 26th March to 2nd April 1989

The branch held its second quarter peal week over the Easter period, with the aim of attempting a quarter peal in each of the 39 towers in the branch with five or more ringable bells, (and one with only three). Arrangements for the quarters were made by a number of co-ordinators, and I'd like to thank them for all their hard work.

In the end, a total of 31 quarters were successful, with 10 failures. Only five towers did not have a quarter peal arranged. The other five losses included Shalstone where two attempts were made to ring mixed doubles but in both attempts a rope broke in the 8th extent, and Haversham where we met one short (you can't ring much with only two of you)! Bradwell scored two quarters, with everyone in the tower ringing at least one quarter in the week, the second attempt was very nearly lost as someone came in to do some work in the church involving the use of an electric drill, which didn't aid concentration. Simpson's quarter was strictly outside the week, but couldn't be attempted earlier due to work on the tower.

For those of you interested in boring statistics, a total of 99 people were involved, no-one ringing more than eight. Sixteen 'firsts' of some kind were scored, including six first quarters.

Everyone I asked afterwards seemed to have enjoyed themselves, and some were even suffering from withdrawal symptoms.

A big thank you to everyone who helped in any way. It looks like this will now be an annual event, starting with Easter weekend so book the date now. Who knows, next year we may manage to get the other ten as well.

Name the Church Competition

The picture below shows a church somewhere in North Bucks, can you identify it?

Fill in the form below and give it with £1.00 entry fee to either

Doug Hird, Andy King or Dave Maybrey. The winner will be announced at the September quarterly meeting and will win £10.00.

Name.....
Home Tower.....
I think the mystery Church
is at.....

Proceeds to
The Downs Barn Bell Fund



BEGINNERS STRIKING COMPETITION

STOWE. APRIL 14th. 1989

The Chairman, Sheila Watts, opened the proceedings with a welcome to all, and especially to Milton Keynes on their first visit. It was also a first for many since the augmentation to six bells. Thanks to Bill Yates for allowing the use of the tower. The trophy to be competed for was then shown, a handsome tankard to be called The Chairmans Tankard and donated by the past Chairman, David Phillipson, and the present Chairman. The judges were then introduced.

Chris. Pickford of St. Pauls, Bedford, who gave general comments on how they had done the judging, looking for even beat/rhythm, any discrepancies, good leading and quick correction of faults. 1 mark was given for slight error and 2 for clashes.

Andrew Keech of All Saints, Kempston then gave comments on each team stressing that the event was one to enjoy and all had done well. All teams rang rounds except Emberton who chose the more difficult test piece of call changes.

NEWPORT PAGNELL -- good ringing but some clips and more signs of nerves in the second half. 31 faults.

MAIDS MORETON team 1 --treble rather slow, need to adjust pace more quickly. 55 faults.

MILTON KEYNES -- leading sometimes needed attention, second chased the treble but the team did well and did not panic. 69 faults.

EMBERTON -- nervous start but soon settled down. Changes were good, a very capable band, welcome to visit Kempston! 39 faults.

MAIDS MORETON team 2 -- leading was rather quick and there were many clips and a few clashes! 90 faults.

A sixth team took part and was placed first, this was to be expected as it was made up of the "experts"! The final result was first Newport Pagnell, second Emberton and Maids Moreton (team 1) third.

Many thanks to Alan and Godfrey for organising the event, Andrew for stewarding and the judges for their helpful comments.

Sheila Ware.

Adonation of £15.50 was made to Stowe

BEGINNERS STRIKING COMPETITION

STOWE. APRIL 14th. 1989

Teams taking part:

NEWPORT PAGNELL.

1. Sheila Ware
2. Christine Murphy
3. Malcolm Parsons
4. Nicola Ramsay
5. Gerald Ramsay
6. Godfrey Foat

MILTON KEYNES.

1. Brenda Eastaff
2. Victoria Eastaff
3. Patricia Gifford
4. Terry Smith
5. Malcom Parsons
6. Godfrey Foat

MAIDS MORETON. (team 2)

1. Bill Yates
2. Michelle George
3. Karen Tones
4. Pam Thompson
5. Fred Thompson
6. David Goodger

MAIDS MORETON. (team 1)

1. Bill Yates
2. Pam Thompson
3. Fred Thompson
4. Johnathan Humbert
5. George Holland
6. David Goodger

EMBERTON.

1. Sheila Watts
2. Fiona Lewis
3. Justine Bendelow
4. Rebecca Lewis
5. Celia Lewis
6. Lawrence Bendelow

THE EXPERTS.

1. Bill Yates
2. Doug. Hird
3. Andrew King
4. Christine Marchbank
5. Lawrence Bendelow
6. George Holland



Godfrey Foat recieves the Chairmans' Tankard from the judges at Stowe

Newport Pagnell Sunday 26th March 1280 Plain Bob Major 1. Nicola Raseay 2. A. Osborne 3. Sheila Watts 4. Christine Murphy 5. D. Mantion 6. B.D. Hird 8. D. Phillipson (c) On Easter Sunday. A farewell to Fr. Wright leaving for West Sloagh. 1st on eight: 1	Stowe Sunday 26th March 1260 Steadman Doubles 1. W.A. Yates 2. T.M.B. Lewis 3. A.J. Lloyd 4. R.W. Yates (c) 5. G.W. Holland 6. D. Goodger For Easter, also to welcome Henry Russell Drage, born 13/3/89, Grandson of J. First in method: 3	Loughton Sunday 26th March 1296 Cambridge S. Minor 1. A.G. Harrison 2. P. Stainby 3. Caroline R. Davis 4. R. Watkin 5. R.W. Winstanley 6. T.M. Davis (c) For evensong. First of treble bob: 1	Bradwell Sunday 26th March 1260 Grandsire Doubles 1. G. Bignall 2. Rebecca Fawcett 3. Jenny M. Brookman 4. E.L. Fawcett 5. D.J. Mayhew (c) 6. B. Newman For Easter morning service	Emberton Sunday 26th March 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. Sheila Watts 2. L. Bendelow 3. D. Warren 4. Christine Murphy 5. S.L. Foot 6. D. Phillipson (c) For Easter, and a belated welcome to Richard Crocker	Stoke Goldington Sunday 26th March 1260 Doubles (S a/v) 1. Christine Abbott 2. D. Warren 3. W. Newby 4. R. Kewes 5. C.J. Knight (c) 6. G. Abbott For Easter Sunday morning service	Great Brickhill Sunday 26th March 1260 Grandsire Doubles 1. P. Faithfull 2. R.W. Winstanley 3. Sue Beckley 4. B. Stainby 5. B.D. Hird (c) 6. W. Butler First quarter: 3
Woughton-on-the-Green Monday 27th March 1260 Grandsire Doubles 1. Angela Gibb 2. M. Story 3. Zoe Story 4. Catherine Luck 5. B.M. Baldwin (c) 6. S. Head First quarters 1, to welcome Catherine to Woughton	Lavendon Monday 27th March 1260 Doubles (3 a) 1. Jo Smith 2. Sally Admitt 3. Ann Clifton 4. B. Clifton (c) 5. J. Peach 6. J. Lay First inside: 2	Tyringham Monday 27th March 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1. L. Bendelow 2. P. Haslam 3. Wendy Bolwell 4. Christine Marchbank 5. A. Marchbank (c)	Old Wolverton Tuesday 28th March 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1. Lyn Bentley 2. A.G. Harrison 3. Deborah D.H. Watson 4. F.W. Myrard 5. M.R. Niswan (c) 6. M.S. Capocci First quarter: 1	Twyford Tuesday 28th March 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. F.G. Edmans 2. D. Goodger 3. P. Nicholson 4. W.A. Yates 5. R.C. Stevens 6. B.W. Holland (c) First in method: 3	Whaddon Wednesday 29th March 1260 Spliced Plain & Little Bob Minor 1. Caroline R. Davis 2. Anne Stainby 3. D. Stainby 4. F.R. Daniels 5. T.M. Davis (c) 6. R.W. Winstanley	Stony Stratford Wednesday 29th March 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. Wendy Price 2. Rebecca Fawcett 3. M.S. Hooton 4. Jill Eales 5. M. Eales 6. G.E. Green (c) 7. P. Eales 8. P. Keene First quarters: 2 & 5
Milton Keynes Village Thursday 30th March 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. Sheila Watts 2. L.J. Bendelow 3. A.M. King 4. D. Stainby 5. T.M. Davis (c) 6. B.D. Hird For the branch treasurer's birthday	Hanslope Thursday 30th March 1344 Plain Bob Triples 1. Sheila Blenkhorn 2. Carole Huxter 3. A. Cozens 4. M. Gray 5. E. Kingston 6. R. Kewes 7. R. Haseldine (c) 8. C. Todd First quarter: 1, First inside: 2	North Crawley Thursday 30th March 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. Ann Gilbert 2. Sheila Watts 3. L.J. Bendelow 4. M. Gilbert 5. C.J. Knight 6. B.D. Hird (c)	Drayton Parslow Friday 31st March 1320 Minor (3a) 1. H. Butler 2. Caroline R. Davis 3. G.L. Foot 4. Deborah D.H. Watson 5. R.W. Winstanley 6. T.M. Davis (c) Most methods: 4	Shenley Friday 31st March 1260 Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles 1. F.W. Myrard 2. Anne Stainby 3. F. Daniels 4. A.G. Harrison 5. D. Stainby (c)	Buckingham Friday 31st March 1260 Grandsire Triples 1. M. Tinsley 2. G.W. Holland 3. H. Nickerson 4. A. Roberts 5. W.A. Yates 6. G.E. Green 7. R.W. Yates (c) 8. P. Nicholson	Bradwell Friday 31st March 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. Rebecca Fawcett 2. Jenny M. Brookman 3. F.W. Myrard 4. M. Petchey 5. E.L. Fawcett 6. A.M. King (c) First minor as cond.
Tingewick Thursday 30th March 1260 Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles 1. D. Goodger 2. P. Nicholson 3. W.A. Yates (c) 4. A. Roberts 5. G.W. Holland	Lillingstone Lovell Thursday 30th March 1260 Doubles (3 a/v) 1. P. Nicholson 2. D. Goodger 3. W.A. Yates (c) 4. A. Roberts 5. G.W. Holland	Fenny Stratford Saturday 1st April 1300 St. Clements and Little Bob Minor 1. T.M. Davis (c) 2. B.D. Hird 3. A.G. Harrison 4. F.W. Myrard 5. D. Stainby 6. R.W. Winstanley	Great Linford Saturday 1st April 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1. Christine Marchbank 2. T. Gibson 3. Rae Weatherall 4. J. Randall 5. A. Marchbank (c) 6. Ros Tyrrell First inside: 4	Sherington Saturday 1st April 1260 Doubles (6 a/v/p) 1. D. Stainby 2. C.J. Knight 4. M. Gilbert 5. G.L. Foot (c)	Calverton Sunday 2nd April 1296 Cambridge S. Minor 1. Jo Neville 2. Deborah D.H. Watson 3. Ruth Stokes 4. C. Stokes 5. B.D. Hird 6. B.R. Eglesfield (c) First Treble Bob: 1, First Cambridge: 2	Thornborough Sunday 2nd April 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1. R. Goodyer 2. Jo Neville 3. B.D. Hird (c) 4. M. Hooton 5. W.A. Yates
Blotchley Sunday 2nd April 1280 Cambridge S. Major 1. Caroline R. Davis 2. Anne Stainby 3. Samantha Hayes-Bradley 4. A.M. King 5. R. Watkin 6. D. Stainby 7. R.W. Winstanley 8. T.M. Davis (c) For Evensong	Malds Moreton Sunday 2nd April 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1. W.A. Yates 2. D. Goodger 3. P. Nicholson 4. L. Gibson 5. A. Roberts 6. G.W. Holland (c) For the Christening of Megan Lewis, daughter of Tim and Sarah.	Slapson Monday 3rd April 1440 Plain Bob Minor 1. Margaret Harrison 2. S. Head 3. B.M. Baldwin (c) 4. Catherine Luck 5. P. Cannon 6. M. Story				

TOVER

CONTACT

BEACHAMPTON	Mrs J. Nevill, 7, Main St, Beachampton	(MK) 566937
BLETCHLEY	Mr. P. Faithfull, 220, Whalley Drive, Bletchley	(MK) 79025
BRADWELL	Mrs. C. Abbott, The Spinney, Bradwell Village	(MK) 318019
BUCKINGHAM	Mr. P. Nicholson, 11, Giffard Pl, Page Hill,	(0280) 814201
CALVERTON	See Stony Stratford	
CHICKLEY	Mr. Robertson, Brickyard Cottages, Bedford Rd,	(023065) 371
CLIFTON REYNES	Mr. M. Davis, Newton Lodge, Clifton Reynes	(0234) 711082
DRAYTON PARSLOW	Mr. F. Houndslow, (029672) 707	
EMBERTON	Mrs. S. Watts, 28, Gravel Walk, Emberton	(0234) 711113
FENNY STRATFORD	Mr. P. White, 63, Windsor St, Bletchley	(MK) 642826
GT. BRICKHILL	Mr. H. Butler, The Post Office, Gt, Brickhill	(0525) 26663
GT. LINFORD	Mr. A. Marchbank, 109 Bradwell Rd, Bradville	(MK) 321564
HANSLOPE	Mrs. J. Haseldine, 15, Castlethorpe Rd, Hanslope	(MK) 510895
HAVERSHAM	Mr. J. Randall	(0604) 863054
LAVENDON	Mr. B. Clifton, 67, Castle Rd, Lavendon	(0234) 712774
LECKHAMPTSTEAD	Mr. Pentland, Steadwell house, Leckhamptstead	(02806) 303
LILL, LOVELL	Mr. Valentine, 20 Dove Close Buckingham	(0280) 816360
LOUGHTON	Mr. D. Stainsby, 32A Bradwell Rd, Loughton	(MK) 666492
MAIDS MORETON	Mr. G. Holland, 10, The Pightle, Maids Moreton Bucks	
MILTON KEYNES	Mrs. P. Giffard, 2, North End Ho, M.K. Village	(MK) 665439
NEWPORT PAGNELL	Miss. C. Murphy, 42, High St, Silsoe, Beds	(0525) 61408
NEWTON LONG'LE	Mr. J. Clarke, The Old Rectory Drayton Rd, N.L.	(MK) 75794
NORTH CRAWLEY	Mr. V. Parker, 12, Folly Lane North Crawley	(023065) 226
OLD WOLVERTON	Mr. M. Niano, 35 King Edward St, New Bradwell, MK	(MK) 321011
OLNEY	Mr. C. Knight, 18, Bridge St, Olney Bucks,	(0234) 713719
SHALSTONE	Mr. C. Mullineux, Brook House, Shalstone	(0280) 704963
SHENLEY	See Loughton	
SHERINGTON	Mr. D. Williams, 1, Church End, Sherrington	(MK) 611946
SIMPSON	See Woughton O-T-G.	
STK, GOLDINGTON	Mr. D. Warren, 8, Town End Crsnt, Stoke Gldtn	(090855) 416
STONY STRATFORD	Mr. M. Hooton, 4, Blenheim Ave, Stony St'ford	(MK) 565380
STOVE	Mr. V. Yates, 4, Bannerlands, Dadford Bucks	(0280) 814937
THORNBOROUGH	Mr. D. Goodger, 3, Backstreet, Thornborough	(MK) 812976
TINGEWICK	Rev. Willmott, Tingewick Rectory Buckingham	(02804) 273
TYFFORD	Mr. E. Herring, 4, Hampden Villas, Poundon Oxon	(08697) 671
TYRINGHAM	See Haversham	
WAVENDON	Mrs. R. Davis, Abundance Nurseries, Walton Rd	(0908) 583016
WESTON U'WOOD	See Stoke Goldington	
WHADDON	Mrs. B. Brown, 4, Ladyhead Close, Whaddon	(MK) 502470
WOUGHTON O-T-G.	Mr. B. Baldwin, 28, Passmore Woughton	(MK) 670579

UPDATED 4/05/89.

OFFICERS OF THE NORTH BUCKS BRANCH - 1989/90

CHAIRMAN	Mrs. Sheila Watts, 28 Gravel Walk, Emberton, Olney, Bucks. MK46 5JA Tel: 0234-711113 0908-653214 (work)	
SECRETARY	Mr. Alan Marchbank, 109 Bradwell Road, Bradville, Milton Keynes. Tel: 0908-321564	
RINGING MASTERS	Mr. Godfrey Foat, 18 Ashfield, Stantonbury, Milton Keynes. Tel: 0908-313859	Mr. Tim Davis, 3 Longleat Court, Great Holm, Milton Keynes. 0908-563298
TREASURER	Mrs. Sheila Ware, 33 Westcott Way, Favell Green, Northampton. NN3 3BE Tel: 0604-24829	
GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Mr. Andrew King, 29 Lennan Drive, Crownhill, Milton Keynes. MK8 0AR Tel: 0908-560817	Mrs. Christine Marchbank 109 Bradwell Road, Bradville, Milton Keynes. 0908-321564
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Miss Ros Tyrrell, 23 Frankston Avenue, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes. Tel: 0908-561307	