



Old North Berks Branch Newsletter

No: 153

June 2019



Wednesday afternoon outing —24th April 2019

In this issue: Editorial 2, Chairman's Report 2, Secretary's Report 3, Ringing Masters' Ramblings 4, Tower Talk 5, New Years' Day 2019 photos 13, ONB 10-bell Striking Competition Band photo 14, Young Ringers' Outings 14, Young Ringers' Fest 17, Branch Ringing School LTR1 Course 19, LTR2 Certificate presentation 20, ART Awards 20, ART Module 2F Poster 21, Clock Puzzle 22, Presentation of Striking Competition Trophy 23, Quarters 24, Peals 25, Branch Outing Programme 28, BBQ Poster 29, ONB Branch Programme 30, ONB Website 31, Contact List 31, Copy date for the next issue 31, Striking Competition Team photos 32.

Editorial

Welcome to the Summer 2019 issue of the Branch Newsletter.

There's quite a variety of interest in this issue, hopefully you will find something to enlighten or entertain you.

Firstly, may I welcome the sixteen new members from the branch who have been elected to the Guild since the last newsletter.

The weather has been kinder so far this year compared to last and there have been quite a few events going on involving branch members.

Congratulations to the branch teams in both the 10 bell and 6 bell striking contests held to date. The branch team in the Guild 10 bell contest came joint second and in the Guild 6 bell contest the Wallingford team also came second.

Under Susan Read's guidance the branch has again been recognised by ART, receiving a Highly Commended Certificate for Excellence in Recruitment or Retention (of learners). Accounts of the various events Susan has organised this year are included in this newsletter.

Other significant events include the first peal of Spliced Surprise Minor in 41 methods rung by an all ladies band at Milton on 5 February. Another celebration at Milton involved a significant birthday for Nicola (I'll leave it to Colin to divulge how significant).

Congratulations to Polly for scoring her first quarter peal.

A big thank you to all our contributors, please keep sending articles in, they're what make the Newsletter and include pictures if you can, as these always add to the interest of the newsletter.

My best wishes to all for the coming season, we're looking forward to hearing about your escapades in the next edition!

Ian Minns

Finally, a thought to leave you with:
If at first you don't succeed, redefine success.

Chairman's Report

It was good to see such a great turnout at the New Years day ringing at All Saints, North Moreton, followed by lunch and Philips Roberts' legendary raffle. Branch practices continue monthly with great organisation from our joint ringing masters. Thank you Richard and Philip for your efforts. If you have not been please try to go along to a branch practice, all ringers are very welcome.

It has been pleasing to hear that many towers in the branch joined the call from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York, for all cathedrals and churches across England to toll a bell for 7 minutes at 7pm on 18th April, as a mark of solidarity following the devastating fire at Notre Dame Cathedral.

We now look forward our next social event, the Summer ringing outing and barbeque, on Saturday 13th July. I hope you continue to enjoy the rollercoaster of spring weather we are having. I have noticed that the Oak is out before the Ash, which when following the traditional weather saying "When Oak is out before Ash then we are in for a splash". I am no Michael Fish, so don't blame me if we are soaked or scorched!

Rob Nickless

Secretary's Report

New Year's Day 2019 ringing with refreshments was held at North Moreton and there were over thirty attendees. Thanks go to Beryl Jones and all her helpers for the excellent refreshments, which included jacket potatoes with chilli through to delicious cakes. This was a good start to the New Year and a fun event for the Branch.

In March we held our six-bell striking competition and AGM at Sutton Courtenay. The competition was reasonably well supported with four teams entering. Thanks go to our judges, Keith Osborne of Ashford, Kent and Bill Stungo. They said that they had heard some good ringing with very few method mistakes. On this occasion Abingdon were triumphant with a score of only 14 faults, and were awarded our branch striking competition winner's trophy. They will represent ONB at the Guild's six bell competition in the EBSB Branch in October.

At our AGM, once again we had no changes to our branch officers. Richard Loyd and Philip Roberts indicated that this would be their last year as Joint Ringing Masters, so it is time to start thinking of who would like to take their places. So far this year there have been sixteen new members from seven towers elected to the Guild.

The restoration project at Steventon has almost been completed. The ground floor ring of six bells has been very successfully rehung by Whites of Appleton. The only thing left to do is to install the brand new rope guide, which should make the bells much easier to ring. The project has been funded by generous donations from the village and people who had been married in Steventon, by the ODG and ONB Branch, and by a £5,000 donation from the organisers of the Truck Festival, which is held nearby every summer.

All scheduled branch practices have taken place, with improvement in attendance at the evening monthly practices, especially from newer ringers who have stayed on after the earlier learners' practices. There is still a need to increase attendance at these practices from the wider branch membership, which would provide even better learning opportunities. It seems that our newest members are more inclined to venture out than the more established membership. The afternoon and Surprise practices continue to be well supported and successful in their aims.

Susan Read, our Training Officer, continues to organise events for our younger ringers. These take place during the school holidays and have recently included a quiz and handbell ringing, refreshments and party games, and cooking in the Thame Barns centre. On Saturday, 13th April there was a Ringing Fest in Oxford, an all-day event booked with the help of the Oxford Society for all the young ringers from the ODG plus a group of young ringers from Gloucestershire.

We recently held a 'mini' outing for our afternoon ringers, when we rang at three towers, Warborough, Chalgrove and Dorchester Abbey, and had an excellent pub lunch at the White Hart in Dorchester. Although there were fewer attendees than usual, everyone had an enjoyable time. In July we will have our full day outing to various towers in a location not yet specified by Philip Roberts, with a pub lunch and afternoon tea. This will be followed in the evening by a barbecue at the home of Stuart and Naomi Gibson. This is always a great event for the Branch and I encourage you to attend.

Gill Loyd

Ringling Masters' Ramblings

All scheduled branch practices have taken place, with improving attendance at the evening monthly practices, especially from newer ringers in the LTR2 group. It would be nice to see more from the wider branch membership, which would provide even better learning opportunities. It seems that our newest members are more inclined to venture out than the more established membership! The afternoon and Surprise Major practices continue to be well supported and successful in their aims.

Tower practices appear to be generally healthy with relatively few towers being 'silent' but some would benefit from either local recruitment or support from neighbouring towers. Of particular note is the success of Aston Tirrold who have produced a team from absolute zero, and who now ring regularly for practice and Sunday services. Well done to Chris Hawker and all at the Astons. Other towers are also recruiting and training new ringers with some very creditable retention rates and successes.

The ONB team was awarded equal second place in the Guild 10 Bell striking competition, held at Newbury in November. This was an excellent achievement for a team drawn from around our branch towers, and who do not practice regularly together. The Wallingford 6 bell team once again represented the branch at the Guild competition at North Marston with 10 of the 15 ODG branches taking part. Another excellent result was achieved by being placed second against some very stiff competition. Thank you and well done to everyone who took part in both competitions, you represented the ONB magnificently.

Many thanks go to John Napper for hosting our branch competition, AGM and tea at Sutton Courtenay. Our judges from Kent were very impressed with our efforts, especially the call change team from Abingdon who recovered so magnificently from a rather dubious 2 minute practice session! Sarah's post practice pep talk must have had a magical effect! We wish the winning Abingdon team every success in this year's Guild competition.

Of course it is not just about the ringing, and it is great to report how well attended the social events such as the skittles and New Year ringing has been. The social atmosphere is an essential ingredient to recruiting and retaining our ringers.

The branch continues to restore our bells to tip top condition, with projects currently underway or in readiness at Steventon, Long Wittenham, Letcombe Bassett, Sparsholt and potentially others in the longer term. We look forward to improvements at these towers and the consequential local recruitment and training opportunities that come with bells in good condition.

One final tip, an important safety recommendation from the ODG is to provide emergency lighting in ringing chambers and the belfry in case of power cuts. If this is not already installed in your tower, and money is not readily available to provide this, you might think about providing some wind up torches as a possible solution. The photo shows this solution at Cerne Abbas during a recent visit there. Thank you to all members who continue to support the branch practices and ringing activities.

And no Ramblings would be complete without one or two of Philip's famous jokes....

Two politicians were having an argument. "There are many ways of making money", says the first. "But there is only one honest way". "And what is that" asks the second. The first replies, "I had a feeling you wouldn't know".

and

No matter who you vote for, the Government always seem to get in.

Richard Loyd and Philip Roberts



TOWER TALK

Abingdon

In February we had a wedding workshop at St Helen's when couples planning to get married there are shown around the church and the tower including the bells. This was an opportunity for us to explain bellringing to them and give them a short demonstration. We never know whether this has had the desired effect but we do have a few weddings to ring for this year. We also had the opportunity to show a group of Guides the bells and to give them all a chance to pull a bell for a few minutes.

We had our annual tower dinner towards the end of March and this year we went to Denman College in Marcham. Twenty-one people sat down to an excellent meal and we were pleased to be served by two of the Marcham ringers. Thanks are due once again to Margaret Brock for her efficient organisation and to Gillian Pett for helping to secure the venue.

The AGM of the Abingdon Society of Bellringers took place early in April in St Nicolas church, ably chaired by the St Helen's Rector, Charles Miller. There were no changes to the significant officer and committee roles and so the same people remained in post. All the jobs that need to be carried out were discussed and many of these have been outstanding for over a year. At the Rector's suggestion it was decided to have a standing committee of the officers to oversee progress during the year.

Abingdon ringers played their part in showing solidarity with the people of France following the disastrous fire at the Notre Dame cathedral. The tenors at St Nicolas and St Helen's were tolled at 7 pm on April 18th and a clip of this can be heard on the Abingdon blog at <https://www.abingdonblog.co.uk/?p=22395>.

Tim Pett

Blewbury

We are lucky to have a good number of ringers and also some regular visitors who make all the difference for our learners and more experienced ringers alike. We usually get a good turnout and have had as many as twenty people in the tower on a practice night.

At the end of last year we celebrated Christmas in an unusual way with a tropical beach themed dinner – grass skirts and all! In January, many of us went on the Churn Benefice outing, ringing the bells at all but one of the benefice churches and at two guest towers: this year, Brightwell and Cholsey. February saw snow and a Friday practice cancelled; but by the time Easter came along in late April we had a magnificent sunny day and a great turnout for our annual duck race.

We have now passed the halfway mark towards our fundraising target for the new bell-themed stained glass window in Blewbury tower. Thank you to all who have supported us with donations or by coming to our events. We held a chilli lunch in January and Rob Nickless' talk "The Fascinating World of the Honey Bee" in April was a sell-out event. Our artists have now started work on the window and we hope to see it installed later this year.

Christine Kowalczuk



Chilton

Chilton has been busy trying to recruit more ringers. We welcomed the Radley Course in April and in May Debbie Greenfield came over to toll the tenor on Maundy Thursday Evening starting at 7pm for 7 minutes to express our sympathy with the people of Paris where the roof of the cathedral of Notre Dame had been burnt down.

Our Chilton photographer, Frank Dumbleton came round to photograph her and she invited several people to come and watch. The photo is now on the church Facebook page. We are hoping a Chilton resident who came to watch will return to learn to ring when Debbie gets back from holiday.

Kate Crennell

Cholsey



Albert died on 5th January 1919 due to

Commemoration of the life of Albert Smith, a Cholsey Bell-ringer who died in 1919.

injuries sustained during the First World War; his Gravestone is in Cholsey Churchyard. On 5th January 2019 we held a short service at the graveside conducted by Andrew our vicar; this was followed by an extent of Grandsire Triples half muffled. The Ringers were: Rose Noorduijn, Colin Davis, Monika Juergens, Mary Friskney, Duncan Reed, Jenny Jeskins, John Collins and Chris May.

One of our ringers, Barrie Charles, has written a book about Cholsey entitled **The Bells and Ringers of Cholsey Church**, which we have published to help raise funds for the Church. We held an Open Day on 23rd March to coincide with the launch of the book. The day attracted fifty-one visitors, which was very pleasing, and we have gained four new recruits who are currently learning to ring.

A number of copies were also sold at the Branch meeting. If anyone else would like a copy, cost £6.99, please contact Barrie on www.bjc.me.uk, or me Jenny Jeskins at jennyjeskins@btinternet.com. All profits are going to the Friends of Cholsey Church.

We welcome any ringers wishing to improve their Basic Ringing Skills. Wednesday evenings 8-9pm.

Jenny Jeskins

East Hagbourne

On Sunday 31st December, New Years Eve, ringers gathered at the tower for 23:30 ready to ring out the old year and ring in the New Year. We rang the bells for about 20 minutes and then Janet Corderoy conducted a short service of thanksgiving. We sang a hymn and there was a reading and some prayers. Thank you goes to Janet for doing this for us. We then wished all our fellow ringers and visitors a happy new year. The tenor bell was tolled and this was followed by firing the bells several times, this is a custom in Hagbourne tower. Firing involves all the bells striking at exactly the same time; it causes the tower to move quite a lot hence it is only done once a year but makes an incredible sound.

Jill cancelled her ringing course that had been advertised in the magazine as there had been so few applicants. However, Jill decided to offer to be in the tower on a Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30 during February just in case anyone was still interested. On the first Tuesday night in February at

6:30 six potential ringers turned up to have a go, two adults and four youngsters. What a lovely surprise. They all had a go at ringing the backstroke, with the aid of an experienced ringer, and also chatted about the bells and had a go on some handbells. We think that they all enjoyed it as they came back the next week for more!

The tower held its AGM on Tuesday 28th February.

Following the dreadful fire at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris the Archbishops of Canterbury and York were encouraging, where possible, all cathedrals and churches across England to toll or ring their bells for seven minutes around 7 o'clock in the evening on Thursday 18th April, as a mark of solidarity following the devastating fire. This was quite short notice for several members of the team but some of our younger members, Daniel, Matt and Thomas were keen to do this and rang the bells at St Andrew's on this occasion, well done boys and thank you.

We rang the bells on Easter morning at 07:30 for the 08:00 service, unfortunately there were not enough ringers capable of ringing a quarter peal but we did have enough ringers in the tower to ring all eight bells. We also rang at 10:00 for the 10:30 service and we had 10 ringers in the tower which was lovely. As usual the church looked beautiful for Easter.

Our group of learners are progressing well and we have acquired yet another young member and possibly another adult. Well done Jill!

Our Kimber Memorial Meal is booked for the end of May, this is where we all have fun, a nice meal and drink and play a silly game in memory of one of our past ringers Tony Kimber.

Shirley Goss

Harwell

Our large group of learners continue to make progress and ring regularly for Sunday service so much so that at the AGM at Sutton Courtenay 7 were proposed as Guild members. We also have 3 guild members who have moved to the village and are now Harwell members.

As I write this, I noticed that the scaffolding has returned to the tower in readiness for the postponed rendering of the west side of the tower. This means that from next Thursday (9/5/19) Harwell practices will be at Chilton starting at 7:30pm. It is anticipated that we will be ringing again at Harwell in July.

A man went to the doctors dressed in a tutu, a diving mask and flippers. Doctor, he says, I'm worried about my brother!

Philip Roberts

Letcombe Regis

On Sunday, November 11th 2018, seven members of our team (Caroline, Christine, Toni, Sophie, Lily, Matthew and Anne) took part in the commemorative ringing to mark the Centenary of the Armistice in 1918. There was no service at our church that morning so (the bells having previously been muffled and left up) we were able to pull off directly after the Silence and ring half muffled from 11:02 until 11:35 for Remembrance, and then rang open from 11:45 until 12:15 for Thanksgiving and Peace. We rang a variety of call changes including a course of Devon call changes (sixty on thirds) during each session. Unfortunately Henry and George could not be with us owing to other commitments. However, on March 9th 2019, George (13) played his part by planting a Rowan whip at the Commemorative WW1 Tree Planting on the Millennium Green. He

was the youngest person attending the ceremony and has particular links to WW1 through a cherished family photograph of his Great Grandfather.

In addition to our normal Sunday Service ringing and practices we hosted visitors from Winchester on October 27th and a group of American ringers on November 4th. The Branch Ringing School came to our tower on Saturday, March 29th, and five of our band enjoyed and benefited from ringing with Susan and some of her students. Lily is in the process of working towards her Bronze level Duke of Edinburgh's Award. We will miss Henry and Sophie during the summer as they are on 'exam leave' for A Level and GCSE exams.

Anne Williams

Long and Little Wittenham

I agreed with our bell ringers and Tower Captain that I would take on the responsibility for fund raising to restore and refurbish the bells at St Marys Church. I was then invited to attend a meeting of the PCC in March 2018 to discuss the state of the bells, and the urgent need to get a restoration and refurbishment project underway. I was given the go ahead to start the fund raising on behalf of the PCC and bell ringing team. Because there was an existing project in the church to build an extension with a toilet with access for people with disabilities and to put a servery in the church, I suggested that we would not expect the members of the PCC to be involved at this stage.

With great support and advice from the team and from Richard Loyd, a lot of paper work and grant forms filled in, the fund now stands at £18,000.

The project cost from Whites of Appleton is just over £30,000 plus recoverable VAT so we are well on the way, and I'm still waiting to hear from two other grant giving charities, and currently have two more applications to complete.

Following the quinquennial inspections in both Churches, fairly substantial work is needed in both buildings and the suggestions from Rev. Sue Boys is that applications for grants to some charities for the bell restoration should, where possible, be linked to other ongoing projects which will result from the inspections. I will liaise closely with the Secretary of the PCC on this. I am very conscious of the time restriction on some of the grants, so will try to push ahead with a village appeal and look for other sources of funding.

If anyone has any suggestions for funding sources, please let me know!

I'm writing this in beautiful Yorkshire (should have done it earlier) so I don't have all the information about visiting teams etc, but will update this next time.

It's onwards and upwards with 'Save our Bells – an ap'peal.

Julia Sargent

Milton

Nothing out of the ordinary to report apart from a couple of special peals. On the 5th of February a band rang the first all ladies peal of Spliced Surprise Minor in 41 methods, there was some excellent ringing. This was the 15th most liked ever performance on Bellboard, retaining top spot for almost a fortnight.



L-R: Cynthia Howell, Stephanie Warboys, Nicola Turner, Pauline McKenzie, Lucy Warren & Sue Marshall.

February 23rd saw a peal to celebrate Nicola's 60th birthday. There was a gathering in St Blaise church (as a Community Space) that evening attended by many friends (both ringers and non-ringers). The highlight of the evening was the cake specially made by Cynthia Howell, which had decorations representing various places of significance and events through those 60 years.



The birthday cake – in case you are wondering why Newtownards is on the signpost, that is where Nicola was born.

Colin Turner

Radley

As the holiday season is approaching, numbers will no doubt fluctuate but Thursday practices and Sunday ringing continue to be well supported with visitor(s) from Sunningwell most Thursdays.

I tolled the tenor for 7min at 7pm on 18th April following the request from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in solidarity with Notre Dame following their devastating fire.

The clock in the ringing chamber, which has not worked for a number of years, has been refurbished and is working again. Thanks to Mark Walker for arranging this. The clock repairer suggested that the clock is rather rare as he has only seen one other like it in his forty years career.

Again some of us cooked and served the evening meal for the Radley Course on 6th April.

Daphne Pollard

Steventon

Great news....the refurbishment work on the running gear of the bells and clappers has been completed and we were able to have the bells ringing again on Easter Sunday morning – thanks to all those who came to ring. As expected, the bells were much easier to ring and there were lots of favourable comments from members of the congregation. We are fortunate in Steventon in that everyone seems to love to hear the bells ringing (regardless of the quality of the striking).

The work wasn't without difficulties, the headstocks on the five and six had to be taken away to have the clapper bolts drilled out which caused some delay and presumably extra cost. Huge thanks for the volunteer labour from Robert, Nick, Charles and Frank which will have reduced the cost a little and to Whites for fitting us in. Nick's pork pies went down well as did my flapjack (recipe adapted from one on the back of a Scott's Porridge Oats box).

We are still waiting for the installation of the rope guide, Whites have said that should happen soon.

Many thanks to Nicola for orchestrating the whole process.

Fortunately, and literally just in time, the request for bell tolling for Notre Dame coincided with the completion of the work, Jack and I shared the task.

Claire Ward



Claire with the refurbished wheels and clappers (photo by Jeanette Davey)

Sunningwell

Bells are rung each Sunday morning and very rarely are there insufficient ringers to ring all six bells. Some of the band are shown in the image below. Due to other commitments, there are no additional weekly practice sessions, but ringers who are in need of them avail themselves of the hospitality of neighbouring towers, in particular the regular Thursday evening practices at Radley, and also, in the case of the novices, by participating in the LTR (Learning The Ropes) sessions arranged by Susan Read. These latter are especially useful as they give participants experience in towers with bells of different weights and drafts. In the same context, it may be noted that Sunningwell is a frequent venue for both experienced ringers performing peals and for novices as part of LTR sessions, and there have been a number of such events since the last issue.

The tower felt privileged to participate in the Centenary Remembrance by ringing half-muffled, of great significance as three Sunningwell ringers were among The Fallen (Frederick Joseph Champ, 27 May 1916 in France; Alfred Edmund Cripps, 25 October 1915 in France; James Thomas Honey, 15 November 1918 in France).

The Tenor bell was tolled for 7 minutes at 7pm on 18th April by Derrick Stevens, in sympathy for the fire disaster at Notre Dame in Paris (image below).

Mike Wykes



Some of the Sunningwell band.



Derrick tolling the Tenor.

Wantage

We have continued to ring for the majority of Sundays, and on a few occasions have been able to ring methods.

We have been fortunate that an experienced ringer, Sarah Macdonnell, has moved into the Wantage/Grove area and is now a regular ringer at Wantage. She has made a big difference in the methods we are now able to ring and we do not have to say so often 'if only we had one more ringer'!

A new Vicar was appointed to Wantage and his Institution Service was conducted by the Bishop of Dorchester. We rang a quarter peal on Sunday, 17th March to welcome Fr Philip Wells and his family to the Wantage Parish and rang various call changes before the service on Monday 18th March.



We are very grateful to Richard and Gill Loyd, Joe Norton and Liz Woodhouse for their continued visits to Wantage which enable our experienced ringers to ring Stedman, Cambridge Major etc.

Graham Stoter

Dave Endacott celebrated his 83rd birthday on 19th March and cake was had by all after the practice.

New Year's Day Ringing 2019 – North Moreton



'Bishop Cliff' with teacosy won in the raffle used as a 'mitre'.

ONB 10-bell striking competition band (November 2018)



ONB did really well again, coming joint second (with EBSB) to the winners Reading Branch.

Young Ringers Outing (Radley – 2nd January 2019)

We try to fit in a young ringers' outing in every school holiday. It's always difficult to find a date in the Christmas holiday – too busy before Christmas, family's go away between Christmas and New Year and after New Year we are lucky if we can fit in one day before all the young ringers go back to school.

We met at Radley. It has a light ring of six bells, rung from a generously sized balcony at the west end of the church. We were glad to have thirteen ringers under the age of twenty plus six adult ringers and four parents, two of whom ring. It was quite crowded! The youngsters did most of the ringing, ranging from rounds to Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles.

We split the young people into two groups. Half of them went to the Church Room next door where they enjoyed trying a variety of table top games including Jenga, Dominoes, Connect 4, Rummikub and card games. The other half rang carols on handbells. Then refreshments including Daphne's famous lemon drizzle cake and pizzas were served, before the two groups swapped activities for another half an hour. There was a lot of hilarity, with the construction of a miniature stonehenge out of dominoes. And Paul took some lovely photos.

It was a good way to spend the last afternoon of the school holidays!

Susan Read



Young Ringers Outing (Thame – 20th February 2019)

Young Ringers on TV!

The outing was organised and we knew that eight young ringers were going to meet us at the church in Thame for some ringing and then to do some fun cooking with one of the mums. Then that morning the phone rang – Channel 5: Please could they come and film our young ringers that afternoon? We rang the tower correspondent who agreed to be there early to let the TV people in.

We had to phone each of the families and check no-one minded their child appearing on TV. Quite the reverse – all the parents were pleased! The young ringers were mostly thrilled, but one or two were a little uncertain about the prospect of being interviewed on TV.

Four of the young ringers were from the ONB branch, two from Oxford City and one each from Bicester and Reading branches.

We met at St Mary's Thame, quite a light ring of eight (11 cwt) with a large ringing chamber and lots of windows. It turned out there were only two TV people – an interviewer and a cameraman. He had already taken some good shots of the bells themselves with one being rung.

The interviewer wanted to speak to each of the young ringers whilst the others rang. We ended up ringing just rounds for most of the hour of ringing booked because we were all so interested to see what the TV people did. The most hilarious time was at the end when the interviewer was trying to speak to camera and summarise things whilst the young ringers rang round him. We must have put him off because he kept having to ask for a retake as he fluffed his words and we all giggled. In the end he gave up and added his final statement as a voiceover at the editing stage.

The two minute item was shown on the 5pm C5 news – before some of us even got home! It may be seen on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/4UTCm0ryMRw>

After such an unusual ringing session, we walked to the Thame Barns Centre where Sandra was ready to mastermind the production of several different dainty foods by the young ringers. We made bell shaped cheese scones, apple pie lollies and rocky road cakes. And Paul took some lovely photos.

Our branch has organised a young ringers' event for each of the school holidays since 2012. But being on TV was a first for us!

Susan Read



Young Ringers Fest! (Oxford, Saturday 13th April 2019)



The group outside Carfax Tower

While the Old North Berks branch holds little outings for young ringers each school holiday, this time we decided to be more adventurous and organise a big day out especially for young ringers in the whole Guild. Visiting Oxford was an ideal choice.

Nineteen young ringers from around the ODG and around thirty parents, including some ringers, met in Oxford on the chilly but sunny morning, ready to ring at seven towers in central Oxford. Our first two towers were the light tens at St Thomas and St Mary Magdalen. Ringing was good, ranging from rounds to plain hunt on nine to surprise major.

St Giles, just up the road, had steep stairs ending with a ladder into a very crowded ringing room. We rang plain bob and grandsire triples as well as rounds and call changes.

At lunch time we had a treat! We provided our own packed lunches, but the Parish Room had lots to entertain us – firstly Daphne’s wonderful selection of cakes and scones and things to drink. Then an excellent book stall with ART books that many of us hadn’t seen before. Also there was the chance to ring plain hunt on handbells with some experts. But perhaps best of all, Alan Griffin had brought along his dumbbell with a competition to ring it as the tenor behind to Grandsire Doubles and to get the best score for our striking! Ten of the young ringers had a go. (Some had two goes!)

There was a longer walk to the best bells of the day, Magdalen College where the gloomy ringing chamber is furnished with ancient leather covered sofas and some even older wooden pews. We were nervous that the worthy members of the Oxford Society who had arranged all the towers for us would not approve of the standard of our ringing. But they reassured us that we were fine and commented that they had heard much worse ringing from some of the other visiting bands who had come there!

Next there was the light eight at Lincoln College and the six at St Aldates where the prize giving was announced. Josh and Jamie won the handsome big Easter Eggs for their top scores on Alan’s dumbbell. All those who completed the quiz sheet received a smaller Easter Egg, and these seemed to disappear really quickly!

The last tower was Carfax at the central cross roads of Oxford. Not all stayed to the end at 6.30 pm, but those who did enjoyed this fine, but challenging six.

Some of the comments on the day:

“I would like to thank you for the experience of ringing at new towers with new people. I thoroughly enjoyed the day”;

“It improved my ringing and confidence about it”

“Thank you very much for arranging the whole trip and I will be sure to come along to anything else planned in the future.”

The new Volunteer & Leadership committee (V&LC) of the Central Council is keen to promote ringing for young people. The ODG offered to hold this Ringing Festival in Oxford as a test of the concept for the V&LC. We were pleased with how well it turned out and hope it encourages similar future ventures.

Susan Read



Amilie Wymer and Alan Griffin with his ‘dumbbell’



Branch Ringing School LTR1 Course

The Branch Ringing School LTR1 (Handling) course (9 Mar – 6 Apr 2019) has been going really well with up to five learners coming to each of the six Saturday lessons. The course has been successful from another point of view: It has given two new teachers of ringing a lot of mentored experience of teaching new learners, meaning they will probably become ART accredited teachers of ringing quite quickly. The photo shows Helen (from Abingdon) learning with Mark Vincent, Nick Forman teaching Robin Jones and Alexa learning with Jeanette Davey at St Helen's, Abingdon.

Nick Forman from Dorchester attended the ART course to teach experienced ringers to become teachers of handling in April. I am currently mentoring him. He has brought two new learners from Dorchester to the Branch Ringing School. Mark Vincent from Harwell had taught ringing to some extent before attending the ART course but has learned some new approaches to teaching handling.

The other photo is Jenny Jeskins presenting David Over of Cholsey his Learning the Ropes Level 1 certificate at Cholsey on Wednesday, 20 March 2019. David learned to ring with the Branch Ringing School and at Cholsey and is a valued member of the Branch Ringing School LTR2 (Foundation Skills) group who visit a different practice night each week to further their experience of ringing.

Susan Read



LTR2 Certificate Presentation at New Year's Day Ringing 2019 at North Moreton



L-R: Susan, Mike, Jackie, Paul

ART Awards – ONB Highly Commended

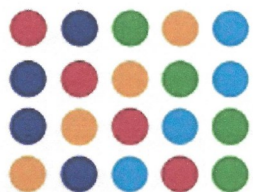
At the ART conference Award Ceremony (during the weekend 9/10 March), we heard that ten applications had been made for the Award for Excellence in Recruitment or Retention (of learners). The Old North Berks Branch of the ODG was runner up and received a Highly Commended Certificate for the work done by the Branch Ringing School.

Please see the ART web site for a description of the Branch Ringing School and a photo:

<http://ringingteachers.org/recognition/2019-winners/old-north-berks-branch>

Susan Read





ART Module 2F From Rounds to Plain Hunt

Saturday 31 August 2019

SMV, Longcot, SN7 7TL



Ellie from Kirtlington being presented with her LtR Level 5 certificate



Working in pairs on an ART course



The Maids Moreton band with their LtR Level 1 certificates & teacher accreditations

What's a Module 2F?

If your new recruit can safely ring a bell and is just starting to ring rounds then this course is for you.

In some ways this stage is the hardest part of learning to ring; the excitement and rapid progress associated with (semi)-mastering bell control has passed and time on the rope can be limited if the only practice is once a week with a mixed ability band.

This is where this course helps. It introduces lots of fun exercises to help your ringer develop the foundation skills for method ringing; fine bell control, listening and ropesight. There is plenty for your new ringer to practise and measure their progress against whilst stimulating (and sometimes testing) the rest of the band. For bands who don't aspire to method ringing it gives lots of ideas for Service or wedding ringing which sound good whilst keeping the band interested.

"From Twinkle Twinkle to the Flying Dutchman – a musical masterpiece or a Module 2 course with ART?"

The Birmingham School of Bell Ringing has shown that those who spend longer consolidating foundation skills before learning methods progress more quickly later on.

Book your place on the course directly:

www.smartringer.org/public/daycourses

Or contact Lesley Belcher for more details:

lesleyjbelcher@gmail.com

Puzzle for you: Where are these towers with clocks in the ONB

The clock mechanism is usually inside the church tower where it could easily be heard and sometimes seen by the labourers working in the local fields. The early clocks were copied from astronomical clocks and use only one bell, they strike the hours with a clock hammer, which has to be pulled off before the bells can be raised for change ringing. Others strike on the hours and play tunes on the quarter hours thus needing several clock hammers for the notes in the tune.

Here are photos of some ONB towers, can you guess where they are?

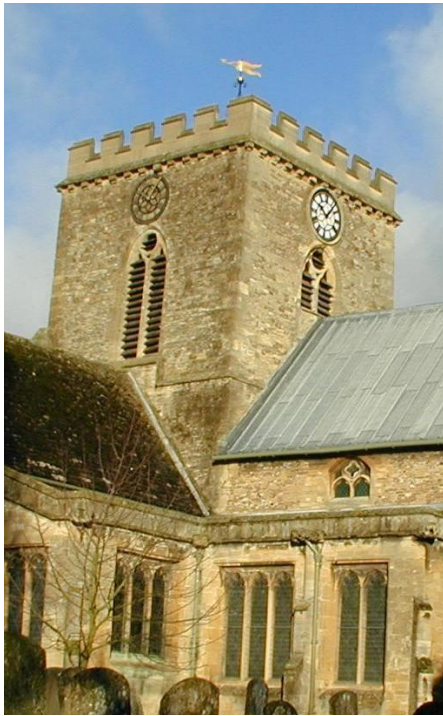
Kate Crennell



A: Clock without any external face.



B: Clock with one face with only one hand.



C: Tower with clock with two faces each with two hands which can play tunes on the quarter hours as well as strike the hours.



D: Tower with 2 different clock faces.

Answers will be given in the next issue.



Presentation of Striking Competition Trophy to Abingdon

QUARTER PEALS

Milton, 6 June 2018. **1264 Plain Bob Major:** Nicola Turner 1, Daphne Pollard 2, Rachel Morrish 3, Maureen Tarbox 4, Philip Roberts 5, Colin Turner 6, Tim Pett 7, Charles Morrish (C) 8. On the anniversary of the death of Gunner H. Thornton Drake, killed in action this day 1917 and buried in Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery, Belgium. (Great Uncle of 3.)

Abingdon (30 St Amand Drive), 15 November 2018. **1264 Plain Bob Major:** Comp. Joe Norton: Tim Pett 1-2, John G Pusey 3-4, Joe Norton (C) 5-6, Susan E M Read 7-8.

Abingdon, St Helen, 18 November 2018. **1260 Grandsire Triples:** Daphne Pollard 1, Jeanette Davey 2, Susan Read 3, Tim Pett 4, Mark Cooke 5, Brian Read 6, Isaac O'Shea (C) 7, High Bishop 8. Rung for the Service of Licensing of Gwen Bevington as a Lay Minister.

Harwell, 2 December 2018. **1260 Plain Bob Doubles:** Polly-Mirren Cockburn 1, Daphne Pollard (C) 2, Lyn Small 3, Claire Ward 4, Janette Roberts 5, Debbie Greenfield 6. 1st Q – 1. Rung to commemorate the centenary of women's suffrage 1918-2018.



Appleton, 8 December 2018. **1320 Kent Treble Bob Royal:** Andrew R Aspland 1, Celia J K Stanworth 2, Louise C Palmer 3, Philip A Butler 4, Benjamin D East 5, Claire C Nicholson 6, Matthew B Johnson 7, Bjørn E Bradstock (C) 8, David A C Matthews 9, Simon D G Webb 10.

Abingdon, St Helen, 9 December 2018. **1260 Plain Bob Doubles:** Susan E M Read 1, Willow Gathergood-Dains 2, Josh Ball 3, Jonathan Norton 4, Joe Norton (C) 5, Sarah Barnes 6. First inside: 2. Rung in celebration for the life of Martin Wright (1969-2018)

East Hendred, 12 December 2018. **1260 Minor (2m):** Susan Read 1, Sarah Barnes 2, Sophie Martin 3, John Pusey 4, Tim Pett (C) 5, Isaac O'Shea 6. With the band's best wishes to Mark Walker on his birthday.

Abingdon, St Helen, 23 December 2018. **1280 Superlative Surprise Major**: Comp. Ian R Fielding: Jonathan Franklin 1, Peter Heritage 2, Simon Yarrow 3, Brian Read 4, Matthew Franklin 5, Tim Pett 6, David Thomas 7, Isaac O'Shea (C) 8. Rung for the Carols by Candlelight service.

Abingdon, St Nicolas, 24 December 2018. **1300 Plain Bob Doubles**: Comp. Father Christmas: Willow Gathergood-Dains 1, Isaac O'Shea 2, David Thomas (C) 3, Joseph Gillett 4, Josh Ball 5, Sophie Martin 6. First as cover: 6. First on the treble: 1. Rung by a 21 and under band of Abingdon ringers. A Christmas themed quarter with Christmas themed calls for the Crib Service.

Appleton, 24 December 2018. **1250 Cambridge Surprise Major**: Jenny A Dyer 1, Sarah J Ockwell 2, Barbara H Payne 3, Michele Winter 4, Alan M Eyles 5, Peter H M Day 6, Bernard J Stone 7, David C Ockwell (C) 8. For Christmas, rung before the Carol Service.

Abingdon, St Helen, 3 February 2019. **1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor**: Susan Read 1, Hugh Bishop 2, Brian Read 3, Sarah Barnes 4, Tim Pett (C) 5, Isaac O'Shea 6. For evening service.

Wantage, 17 March 2019. **1260 Plain Bob Triples**: Celia Leeson-Cox 1, Teifi Walters 2, Liz Woodhouse 3, Sarah Macdonnell 4, Dave Endacott 5, Graham Stoter 6, Joe Norton (C) 7, Duncan Francis 8. Rung to welcome Fr Philip Wells and his family to the Wantage Parish.

Appleton, 10 April 2019. **1259 Grandsire Caters**: Sarah Ockwell 1, Barbara H Payne 2, Michele Winter 3, Sylvia M Harrison 4, Jenny A Dyer 5, Andrew J Dyer 6, Rosanna Cretney 7, Michael J Harrison (C) 8, David C Ockwell 9, Peter H M Day 10. In memory of Stephen F White (1955 - 2019) a former ringer at this tower on the day of his funeral.

PEALS

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 26 November 2018, 2h33, **5040 Leamington Priors Alliance Major**: Cynthia E Howell 1, Nicola J Turner 2, Robert J Crocker 3, Beryl R Norris 4, Michael J Dew 5, Colin M Turner 6, Peter G C Ellis (C) 7, Peter Bridle 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 2 December 2018, 2h35, **5068 Xray Alliance Major**: Nicola J Turner 1, Cynthia E Howell 2, Charlotte A Boyce 3, Colin M Turner 4, John C Sheppard 5, Timothy G Pett 6, Richard L Thumwood 7, John R Martin (C) 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 16 December 2018, 2h35, **5096 Justicetown Alliance Major**: Timothy G Pett 1, Cynthia E Howell 2, Colin M Turner 3, Nicola J Turner 4, Beryl R Norris 5, Peter Bridle 6, Robert J Crocker 7, John R Martin (C) 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 17 December 2018, 2h40, **5130 Oswaldtwistle Alliance Major**: Nicola J Turner 1, Richard L Thumwood 2, Cynthia E Howell 3, Peter L Furniss 4, Colin M Turner 5, Simon L Edwards 6, Peter G C Ellis (C) 7, Robert J Crocker 8.

Milton, 20 December 2018, 2h34, **5160 Marple Alliance Major**: Cynthia E Howell 1, Richard L Thumwood 2, Robert J Crocker 3, Helen J Piper 4, Timothy G Pett 5, Michael J Dew 6, Bernard F L Groves (C) 7, Peter Bridle 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 29 December 2018, 2h40, **5056 Cambridge Surprise Major**: Colin M Turner 1, Estella J Haynes 2, John C Sheppard 3, Cynthia E Howell 4, Edward A S Walker 5, Peter Bridle 6, Timothy G Pett 7, Nicola J Turner (C) 8. First of Surprise, 2 & 5. First on 8: 5.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 1 January 2019, 2h32, **5040 Raunds Alliance Major**: Alan M Eyles 1, Charlotte A Boyce 2, Cynthia E Howell 3, Nicola J Turner 4, Robert J Crocker 5, Peter Bridle 6, John R Martin (C) 7, Colin M Turner 8.

OXFORD SOCIETY, **St Helen, Abingdon**, 5 January 2019, 3h6, **5040 Cambridge Surprise Royal**: Comp. Roger Baldwin: Nicola J Turner 1, Michele Winter 2, Emma J Rouse 3, Rachel Titmuss 4, Isobel L Fray 5, Christine C Darby 6, Rebecca Gingell 7, Emma Stanford 8, Patricia M Newton (C) 9, Claire F Roulstone 10. First peal of Royal: 3, 5 & 8. Rung to mark the centenary of the first peal rung for the Oxford Society by a lady, Mrs A. E. Lock, in this tower on 28th December 1918. This performance is linked to the event Oxford Society – Centenary of Mrs A E Lock peal.

OXFORD SOCIETY, **Milton**, 5 January 2019, 2h41, **5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major**: Lorna Curtis 1, Nicola J Turner (C) 2, Jennifer A Dyer 3, Michele Winter 4, Catherine M A Lane 5, Janet E Menhinick 6, Rosanna Cretney 7, Claire F Roulstone 8. Rung to mark the centenary of the first peal rung for the Oxford Society by a lady, Kathleen Lock, on 28th December 1918.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 13 January 2019, 2h41, **5184 Aipe Delight Major**: Cynthia E Howell 1, Nicola J Turner (C) 2, Richard L Thumwood 3, Susan E Marshall 4, Timothy G Pett 5, Michael J Dew 6, Colin M Turner 7, Alan M Eyles 8.

OXFORD SOCIETY, **Appleton**, 19 January 2019, 2h49, **5040 Cambridge Surprise Royal**: Comp. by Anon: Bernard J Stone 1, Michele Winter 2, Connie M Tongue 3, Timothy G Pett (C) 4, Christine C Darby 5, Isobel L Fray 6, Craig M Robertson 7, John G Pusey 8, David C Ockwell 9, Stuart F Gibson 10. First in method: 3 & 7. Circled the tower: 4. Rung to mark the centenary of the first peal rung for the Oxford Society by a lady, Kathleen Lock, at St Helen's Abingdon on 28th December 1918. Kathleen (née Holifield) learnt to ring here, was the first lady to ring a peal here in 1915 and her ashes are buried here in the family grave. This performance is linked to the event Oxford Society — Centenary of Mrs A E Lock peal.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 27 January 2019, 2h38, **5100 Stoke Poges Alliance Major**: John C Sheppard 1, Colin M Turner 2, Nicola J Turner 3, Charlotte A Boyce 4, Alan M Eyles 5, Timothy G Pett 6, John R Martin (C) 7, Peter Bridle 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 3 February 2019, 2h34, **5088 Lessness Surprise Major**: Cynthia E Howell 1, Nicola J Turner (C) 2, Alan M Eyles 3, Beryl R Norris 4, Colin M Turner 5, Peter Bridle 6, Richard L Thumwood 7, Susan E Marshall 8. For the Patronal festival.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 5 February 2019, 2h32, **5040 Surprise Minor (41m)**: Cynthia E Howell 1, Stephanie J Warboys 2, Nicola J Turner 3, Pauline C McKenzie 4, Lucy A Warren (C) 5, Susan E Marshall 6. The first peal of 41 Surprise Minor rung by an all ladies band.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 17 February 2019, 2h35, **5152 Cori Celesti Surprise Major**: Charlotte A Boyce 1, Nicola J Turner 2, Richard L Thumwood 3, Colin M Turner 4, Timothy G Pett 5, Peter Bridle 6, Susan E Marshall 7, John R Martin (C) 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Drayton**, 23 February 2019, 2h37, **5088 River Severn Surprise Major**: Charlotte A Boyce 1, Claire F Roulstone 2, Colin M Turner 3, Susan E Marshall 4, Richard L Thumwood 5, Robert J Crocker 6, John R Martin (C) 7, Peter G C Ellis 8. A 60th birthday compliment to Nicola Turner.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 23 February 2019, 2h33, **5184 Sixtieth Surprise Major**: George Unsworth 1, Nicola J Turner 2, Cynthia E Howell 3, John R Martin 4, Richard L Thumwood 5, Robert J Crocker 6, Peter G C Ellis (C) 7, Colin M Turner 8. A 60th birthday compliment to Nicola Turner.

APPLETON SOCIETY, **Appleton**, 2 March 2019, 2h58, **5091 Stedman Caters**: Comp. By John Hyden: Andrew Haseldine (C) 1, Michele Winter 2, Julie A Haseldine 3, Andrew J Dyer 4, Simon L Edwards 5, Christine C Darby 6, Bernard G North 7, David C Ockwell 8, Stephen H Stanford 9, Bernard J Stone 10. For the 201st anniversary of the bells.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 10 March 2019, 2h37, **5024 Bristol Surprise Major**: Colin M Turner 1, Nicola J Turner (C) 2, Alison J Molyneux 3, Richard L Thumwood 4, Alan M Eyles 5, Susan E Marshall 6, Claire F Roulstone 7, Ian Roulstone 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 17 March 2019, 2h36, **5130 Hughenden Alliance Major**: Nicola J Turner 1, Alan M Eyles 2, Charlotte A Boyce 3, John C Sheppard 4, Susan E Marshall 5, Richard L Thumwood 6, Colin M Turner 7, John R Martin (C) 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 25 March 2019, 2h34, **5184 Spitsbergen Delight Major**: Isaac J O'Shea 1, Colin M Turner 2, Nicola J Turner (C) 3, Timothy G Pett 4, John C Sheppard 5, Alan M Eyles 6, Richard L Thumwood 7, Peter Bridle 8.

BRISTOL SOCIETY, **St Helen, Abingdon**, 30 March 2019, 3h15, **5042 Bristol Surprise Royal**: Comp. J M Thurman: Ian P Hill 1, Julian O Howes 2, Cameron A Waters 3, Philip D Moyse 4, George M Salter 5, Peter L R Hayward 6, Jonathan D Storey 7, Simon A Bond (C) 8, Matthew D Dawson 9, Gareth L M Lawson 10. A 60th birthday compliment to Rebecca Cox.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 7 April 2019, 2h36, **5152 Oxford Castle Surprise Major**: Alison R Williams 1, Susan E Marshall 2, Cynthia E Howell 3, Charlotte A Boyce 4, Nicola J Turner 5, Colin M Turner 6, Richard L Thumwood 7, John R Martin (C) 8.

ST BLAISE SOCIETY, **Milton**, 12 April 2019, 2h31, **5184 Salvador Delight Major**: Timothy G Pett 1, Nicola J Turner (C) 2, Colin M Turner 3, Cynthia E Howell 4, Peter Bridle 5, Alan M Eyles 6, Robert J Crocker 7, Claire F Roulstone 8.

ONB Branch Outing

Saturday 13th July 2019

09:30—10:30	Dunstable , (8) (23-2-15) (T) tbc Priory Church of St Peter (Postcode: LU5 4RS / OS TL021218)
10:45—11:45	Ivinghoe , (6) (15-0-0) (T) St Mary the Virgin (Postcode: LU7 9EW / OS SP945161)
12:00—13:30	LUNCH — The Globe Inn, Linslade (Postcode LU7 2TA) Menu to follow
13:45—14:45	Linslade , (8) (9-3-3) St Barnabus (Postcode: LU7 2NR / OS SP912249)
15:15—16:15	Whitchurch , (6) (12-3-18) (GF) St John (Postcode: HP22 4JY / OS SP802208)
16:00—16:30	TEA Whitchurch?
16:45—17:45	Quainton , (8) (17-1-26) (GF, T) Holy Cross and St Mary (Postcode: HP22 4AP / OS SP749201)

Free Prize Draw for attendees!

Lunch choices to philip.roberts@sky.com or 01235 861409
by *Saturday 6th July*

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

Old North Berks Branch

Barbecue & Croquet



*Join in the fun after the Branch Outing
on*

**Saturday, 13th July 2019
from 7.00pm**

At the home of Stuart and Naomi Gibson

***The Croft
Milton Hill***



(A4130 between A34 Didcot exit and Rowstock)

**£10.00 each (payable on the day)
All proceeds to branch funds**

All names to Gill Loyd by Friday, 5th July please



**Telephone: 01235 850459
Email: gillianloyd@gmail.com**

Please note:

Soft drinks will be provided, please bring your own alcohol

ONB Branch Programme for 2019

Please make note of the varied start and finish times which are designed to mirror local requirements for practices. The Surprise Practices are intended for all levels of Surprise ringing and we particularly welcome branch members who wish to learn Cambridge major from minor standard. Please contact Richard Loyd if you would like to be added to his email reminder list for the Surprise practices.

Wednesday, 5th June – Surprise Royal/Major Practice – Appleton (10) (7.45–9.15pm)

Tuesday, 11th June – Branch Practice – Wantage (8) (7.30–9.00pm)

Wednesday, 26th June – Branch Practice – Childrey (8) (2.00–3.30pm)

Saturday, July – Branch Outing and Barbecue

Wednesday, 24th July – Branch Practice – Radley (6) (2.00–3.30pm)

Wednesday, 7th August – Surprise Major Practice – Goring (8) (7.45–9.15pm)

Wednesday, 14th August – Branch Practice – Sunningwell (6) (7.30–9.00pm)

Wednesday, 28th August – Branch Practice – Brightwell (8) (2.00–3.30pm)

Thursday, 12th September – Branch Practice – Wallingford (10) (8.00–9.30pm)

Wednesday, 25th September – Branch Practice – Steventon (6) (2.00–3.30pm)

Wednesday, 2nd October – Surprise Major Practice – Milton (8) (7.30–9.00pm)

Wednesday, 9th October – Branch Practice – Cumnor (8) (7.30–9.00pm)

Wednesday, 23rd October – Branch Practice – Harwell (8) (2.00–3.30pm)

Saturday, November – Social evening – Quiz and Supper

Tuesday, 12th November – Branch Practice – Brightwell (8) (7.45–9.15pm)

Wednesday, 27th November – Branch Practice – Chilton (6) (2.00–3.30pm)

Wednesday, 4th December – Surprise Major Practice – Harwell (8) (7.30–9.00pm)

Monday, 9th December – Branch Practice – Drayton (8) (7.30–9.00pm)

Wednesday, 11th December – Branch Practice – Blewbury (8) (2.00–3.30pm)

Old North Berks website

The Old North Berks website can be found at www.onb.odg.org.uk. The website is a valuable tool providing up to date information and a means of contacting the branch officers and the towers within the branch. It should be the first port of call for details about branch events. Why not visit it now and add it to your favourites. If you spot any incorrect or missing information then please contact the webmaster at webmaster@onb.odg.org.uk.

Or would you like to include something on the website. Why wait for the Branch Newsletter to report a special event in your tower. Maybe there has been a special birthday or a first quarter or you have been on a tower outing. Just email the webmaster with the details and maybe a photo. Let's hear about these events as they happen.

Newsletter Editor:	Ian Minns ✉ 2 Little Howe Close, Radley, Abingdon OX14 3AJ 📧 newsletter-editor@onb.odg.org.uk	☎ 01235 200972
Branch Chairman:	Rob Nickless ✉ 43 Meadow Way, Didcot OX11 0AX 📧 chairman@onb.odg.org.uk	☎ 01235 510479
Branch Secretary:	Gillian Loyd ✉ Dornie Lodge, Besselslea Road, Blewbury OX11 9NW 📧 secretary@onb.odg.org.uk	☎ 01235 850459
Branch Treasurer:	Stuart Gibson ✉ The Croft, Milton Hill, Abingdon OX13 6BD 📧 treasurer@onb.odg.org.uk	☎ 01235 820491
Joint Ringing Master:	Richard Loyd ✉ Dornie Lodge, Besselslea Road, Blewbury OX11 9NW 📧 ringing-master-1@onb.odg.org.uk	☎ 01235 850459
Joint Ringing Master:	Philip Roberts ✉ Highfield, The Winnaway, Harwell, Didcot OX11 0JG 📧 ringing-master-2@onb.odg.org.uk	☎ 01235 861409
ONB Website:	🌐 www.onb.odg.org.uk	

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for copy for the next issue in December 2019 is 22nd October 2019. But please don't wait until then, send your news, pictures, and quarters in as they happen.

Published by the Old North Berks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild

STRIKING COMPETITION TEAMS



Abingdon 'B' - The Winners



Wallingford



Abingdon 'A'



Blewbury