

Sonning Deanery Branch
NEWSLETTER
January 2006

Oxford Diocesan Guild
of Church Bell Ringers

Fundraising event for Sonning Deanery Branch

The St. Andrew's, Sonning band is planning to organise a fund-raising event to swell the branch funds. You may have come across this idea before - you buy a quiz sheet of questions, and send off your completed answer sheet to be entered in a draw. The first correct entry out of the hat receives the prize, which we hope to be able to present at the 6-bell striking competition in April.

We assure you that the questions will be a lot easier than those at the Sonning Quiz Night last October! So please support our venture, which will increase the funds available for any tower in the branch that might need support. The quiz sheets should be available to buy at your tower during the next two months - look out for them.

Pam & Andrew Elliston, Rob & Pauline Needham

Branch AGM

The branch AGM will be held at Sonning on the 18th February 2006. The planned schedule is;

Ringing - Sonning	2:45pm to 3:45pm
Service	4:00pm to 4:50pm
Tea	5:00pm to 5:30pm
Meeting	5:30pm
Ringing - Twyford	7:30 onwards if sufficient ringers interested.

Wokingham St. Paul

Progress has been rapid since the bells arrived at the end of November.

On Wednesday 21st December, the Bell Hangers returned to the Tower and fitted the ropes. Very essential when you want to ring.

Later that day Tower members were able to try and hear the bells for the first time. I don't think anyone was disappointed. We had b

A Tale of Two Towers

Throughout most of 2005 the two towers in Wokingham were covered to a greater or lesser extent with scaffolding and plastic weather sheeting.

December finally saw both towers shrug off the last of the scaffolding and reappear from their cocoons metamorphosed into beautiful new towers (or is that waxing just a little too lyrical?)...

In the case of St.Pauls the cleanup needed to erase the evidence of the fire and repair of the damaged stonework has left the tower and spire stonework looking pristine and clear of the normal grime that previously blackened it.

The clean stonework really stands out and the new oak doors look fantastic.

While the changes to St. Pauls are really limited to restoring its original appearance, those to All. Saints are much more radical.

The traditional embedded stone facing which was causing so many problems has been replaced by a plastered finish in an off white color combined with the original stone cornering.

Personally I was quite surprised by the appearance of the tower when I first saw it. I guess the change from the previous appearance was more different that I could have imagined. However I now find that the appearance is beginning to grow on me and is certainly distinctive.

CC

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Sonning Deanery Branch Practices and main events, 2006 and 2007- Planned.

Date	Tower	Time	Confirmed?
2006			
March 18 th	Warfield	7.30pm	Yes
April 22 nd	White Waltham– 6-bell Striking Competition followed by Branch Practice	4.00 – 6.30pm 6.30 – 8pm	Yes
May 20 th	Sandhurst, St. Michael	7.30pm	
June 17 th	Barkham (with strawberries & cream)	5.00 – 8pm	Yes
July 15 th	Sonning	2.45pm	Yes
August 19 th	Arborfield (and picnic)	11.30 – 12.30pm and 1.30 – 2.30pm	
September 16 th	Easthampstead – 8-bell Striking Competition followed by Branch Practice	4.00 – 6pm 6.00 – 7.30pm	
October 7 th	Guild 6-bell striking competition heats at: Waltham St. Lawrence & Shottesbrooke	Afternoon	
October 7 th	Guild 6-bell striking competition final at: Finchampstead	Late afternoon	
October 21 st	St. Pauls, Wokingham	7.30pm	Yes
Sat. 4 th to Sun. 12 th November	Quarter peal week		
November 18 th	All Saints, Wokingham – Committee Meeting followed by Branch Practice	5.00 – 7.30pm 7.30 – 9pm	
December 16 th	Binfield (with mince pies, etc.)	10am – 12 noon	
December 28 th	Branch Ringing Outing	TBA	
2007			
January 20 th	Hurst	10am – 12 noon	
February 17 th	Wargrave – Ringing, Service, Tea, AGM followed by Branch Practice	3.00pm to 7.15pm 7.30 – 9pm	

Please note a number of these events are yet to be confirmed.

Rob Needham, Joint Branch Secretary

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Quarter Peals

Sunday 16th October 2005
All Saints Wokingham

1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1. Sue Davenport
2. Simon Farrar
3. Katie Tutchter
4. Christopher P Cole
5. Ken Davenport
6. Steve Smith
7. John Harrison
8. Jon Tutchter (C)

For evensong. Also 18th birthday
complement to Katie Tutchter.

Friday 21st October 2005
St John The Baptist, Shottesbrooke

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Colin Ede
2. Lesley Graves
3. Jacqueline Hazell
4. Richard Hazell
5. Caroline Andrew (c)
6. Robert Packer

To Commemorate the 200th Anniver-
sary of Nelson's Victory at the Battle of
Trafalgar.

First in Tower, Treble.

Quarter Peals

Sunday 23rd October 2005
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berks

1260 Plain Bob Triples

1. Ken Baker
2. Pam Elliston
3. Diana Kidson
4. Joyce Vernon
5. Andrew Elliston
6. David Willis
7. Michael Dane (C)
8. Keith Vernon

For Evensong
To celebrate the 200th anniversary of
the Battle of Trafalgar

Sunday 13th November 2005
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berks

1260 Grandsire Triples

1. Ken Baker
2. Pam Elliston
3. Brian Snell
4. Andrew Elliston
5. Michael Dane (C)
6. Jo Knight
7. Robert Partridge
8. Keith Vernon

Rung half muffled for Remembrance
Sunday. 50th quarter this year 2

Sunday 6th November 2005
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berks

1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

1. Andrew Elliston
2. Brian Snell
3. Diana Kidson
4. Joyce Vernon
5. Pam Elliston
6. Ken Baker
7. Michael Dane (C)
8. Keith Vernon

For Evensong
1st in method 3
50th Quarter this year 6
850th Quarter 7

Sunday 13th November 2005
St. John The Baptist, Shottesbrooke

1260 Reverse Canterbury Bob Doubles

1. Roger Martin
2. Richard Hazell
3. Jacqueline Hazell
4. Derek Smith
5. Simon Smith (c)
6. Robert Packer

Rung Half Muffled For Remembrance
Sunday

Quarter Peals

Sunday 27th November 2005
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berkshire

1260 Plain Bob Triples

1. Pam Elliston
2. Diana Kidson
3. Ken Baker
4. Joyce Vernon
5. Andrew Elliston
6. Peter Kemm
7. Michael Dane (C)
8. Keith Vernon

For Evensong.
A Birthday compliment to 8 (also his
50th quarter this year)

Sunday 18 December 2005
St. John The Baptist, Shottesbrooke

1380 St. Simon's Bob Doubles

1. Roger Martin
2. Lesley Graves
3. Jacqueline Hazell
4. Simon Smith (c)
5. Derek Smith
6. Richard Hazell

For the service of Nine Lessons and Car-
ols

Sunday 4th December 2005
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berkshire

1260 Doubles (600 Grandsire, 660 Plain
Bob)

1. Diana Kidson
2. Brian Snell
3. Pam Elliston
4. Cyril Crouch
5. Michael Dane (C)
6. Ken Baker

For Evensong

Sunday 18th December 2005
Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst

1260 St Nicholas Place Doubles

1. Fiona Sherren
2. Genine Leslie *
3. Derek Palmer
4. Simon Paterson
5. Janet E. Menhinick (c)
6. Michael Sherren +

* 1st in method
+ Circled Tower

For Christmas

Quarter Peals

Thursday 29th December 2005
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berkshire

1260 Plain Bob Minor with cover

1. Brian Snell
2. Diana Kidson *
3. Pam Elliston
4. Rob Needham
5. Andrew Elliston
6. Michael Dane (C)
7. Ken G Baker
8. Andrew Elliston

* 50th quarter in 2005

Saturday 31st December 2005
Binfield

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1. S.G. Scott
2. Margaret Bearne
3. Pam Elliston
4. Sue Davenport
5. K.R. Davenport (C)
6. P.J. Davenport

90th Birthday compliment to John
Rance (25.12.1915) father of 4 and
grandfather of 6

When the above quarter was arranged in
was hoped that John Rance would be
able to ring, however recent health prob-
lems prevented this. This quarter was
the final celebration, the birthday hav-
ing begun its celebrations with a Peal at
Easthampstead on 23rd December, the
actual birthday (25th) and a party on
27th December.

Sunday 8th January 2006
St. Andrew's, Sonning, Berkshire

1260 Reverse Canterbury Triples

1. Alison Clayton
2. Ken G Baker
3. Brian Snell
4. Rob Needham
5. Pam Elliston
6. Andrew Elliston
7. Michael Dane (C)
8. Keith Vernon

Sunday 8th January 2006
Immaculate Conception Sandhurst

1320 St Simons Doubles

1. Fiona Sherren
2. Genine Leslie
3. Michael J. Sherren
4. Derek Palmer
5. Janet E. Menhinick (c)
6. Graham C. Steele

Rung to mark the 125th Anniversary of
the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell-
ringers founded on 17th January 1881

Chairman	Sue Davenport	47 Brookside, WOKINGHAM, RG41 2ST	0118 978 6554 chairman@sdb.odg.org.uk
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Forthcoming Events

Saturday	21st January	Branch Practice	Wargrave	4:00PM
Saturday	18th February	Branch AGM	Sonning	2:30PM