

Look To

SEPTEMBER 2025



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Dates for your Diary

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|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Friday 12 th September | 8 Bell Practice – 14.30 – 16.00 | Great Milton |
| Saturday 27 th September | Branch Practice – 16.00 – 17.30 | Drayton St Leonard |
| Sunday 28 th September | Guild 12 Bell Practice – 15.00 – 17.00 | High Wycombe Details below |
| Saturday 18 th October (note changed from 2 nd Saturday) | 8 Bell Practice – 14.30 – 16.00 | Warborough |
| Saturday 18 th October | Tower & Belfry Maintenance Day | Wantage – details below |
| Saturday 25 th October | Branch Practice – 16.00 – 17.30 | Shabbington |

100 Club Winners

The draw took place at the Branch Practice at Towersey. The winners are :

1st Prize Catherine & John Mason, Marsh Baldon (No. 28)

2nd Prize Kate Allen, Aston Rowant (No. 50)

Towersey – Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting took place before the Branch Practice at Towersey on Saturday 23rd August. The main purpose of the meeting was to approve a change of bank account, following Santander's notification that they would be charging £4.99 a month to operate our account!

Authority was given to Branch Treasurer, Cathy Hughes D'Aeth, to open a current account with Metro Bank and to close the Santander account. Cathy and Jane Willis have visited the bank to put the paperwork in place. Hopefully the new account will be opened without a hitch!

In Any Other Business, it was agreed that £30.00 be paid to Andrew Davis to purchase paper overalls and masks to ensure a safe working party at Tetsworth tower, which maintenance work is to be undertaken by a group of volunteers.

A very enjoyable Branch Practice followed, with a good number of people in attendance. It was particularly pleasing that former ringers from the village popped into the church to say how lovely it was to hear the bells. Thank you, Morag, for your warm welcome.

South Oxon Branch ODG For contributions to Look To, please email:
secretary@southoxon.odg.org.uk

An update from Watlington and Chinnor

The ringers at Watlington have now had bells again for nearly nine months and are delighted with the results of the re-hanging. We have welcomed Sue, Donna and Anne to the band along with Richard, who started just before the re-hanging. They are now all ringing for Sunday services, have conquered the Mexican Wave and are starting to plain hunt. The rest of the band has progressed to plain hunt on seven with help from the ringers at Chalgrove and Benson. Some are now ringing the treble to plain bob and grandsire triples and others to doubles. We are now busy working out how to develop ropesight across multiple ringers all at the same time, all ringing together.

We also took part in the tower twinning for the first time and had a successful trip to Dorchester and welcomed them back at Watlington a week later. This was a good first experience for our band having all rung at Dorchester previously, either at the ringing school or while our bells were away. We thoroughly enjoyed the Dorchester cake!

Our simulator is up and running and is proving to be really useful in giving a ringer "a perfect band" to ring with. We now have it on a big screen and are experimenting with whether it can help us develop ropesight as well as rhythm and listening skills.

At Chinnor Sue Bailey celebrated her diamond wedding anniversary by ringing a quarter peal. This was the first quarter peal for Shona Black, a Watlington ringer who also attends the Chinnor practice. The Chinnor band has been fantastic in helping her get to this stage and she is the first of the current Watlington learners to achieve this milestone. It was also the first time Sue and Chris rang a quarter together despite both having learnt to ring more than 30 years ago.

St Andrews, Chinnor, Oxfordshire
Tuesday, 12 August 2025 in 39m (10-0-20 in G)
1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Shona D Black (First Quarter Peal)
- 2 Susan Bailey
- 3 Christina M Bailey
- 4 John Tchighianoff
- 5 William J Stungo (C)
- 6 Malcolm D Barker

Rung to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Susan and Richard Bailey.

Chris Bailey

12 Bell Practice – High Wycombe – Sunday 28th September

Open to all Guild members who can ring touches of Stedman Triples and want to progress to higher number method ringing. Please email depmaster@odg.org.uk for a place if you wish to attend.

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Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
TOWER & BELFRY MAINTENANCE COURSE
Wantage Church, Oxfordshire

Organised by the ODG Towers & Belfries Committee

SATURDAY 18th October 2025 - 10 am to 3 pm

Cost £5

TOPICS

- ❖ Inspection and maintenance
- ❖ Working safely in a tower
- ❖ Rope management - identifying wear points
- ❖ Guide frames
- ❖ Improving the ringing circle
- ❖ Sound control
- ❖ Improving bells – clapper alignment, odd-struckness

Please send replies to:

Anthony Williamson: ajw003tan@gmail.com

For more details of topics please contact:

Chairman; Tony Crabtree: tony.crabtree@talktalk.net (01793 784064)

Tea & coffee available. Please bring packed lunch.

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