

Look To FEBRUARY 2026



Dates for your Diary

Saturday 14 th February	8 Bell Practice	Watlington – 16.00 – 17.30
Saturday 21 st February	Oxford Ringing School - ART - Association of Ringing Teachers Teaching Course - Module 1, Teaching Bell Handling	The Abbey Church, Dorchester on Thames. 09.30 – 17.00 See poster below
Saturday 28 th February	Branch Practice 15.00 followed by a service, tea, and the AGM	Shabbington, ringing at 15.00 AGM will not commence before 17.00
Friday 13 th March	8 Bell Practice	Great Milton – 14.30 – 16.00
Saturday 28 th March	Branch Practice	Brightwell Baldwin, 16.00 – 17.30
Saturday 28 th March	ODG Towers and Belfries Maintenance Course. See poster below	Tetsworth Church – OX9 7AL 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

100 CLUB WINNERS

Sixty-four people are taking part in the 100 Club this year – a small reduction on last year. From January to November there will be a first prize of £15 and a second prize of £10. In December there will be three prizes - £20, £15 and £10. We will have to do a serious recruitment drive for 2027!

The January draw took place at the Branch Practice in Chalgrove and the winners are as follows:

- 1st Prize - No. 54 Japh Slaney, Marsh Baldon
2nd Prize - No. 61 Catherine and John Mason, Marsh Baldon

South Oxon Branch ODG - Annual General Meeting

will be held on Saturday 28th February 2026

at St Mary Magdalene Church, Shabbington, HP18 9HQ

Ringing at 3pm will be followed by the service at 4.00 pm. Refreshments will be served after the service. The AGM will not commence before 5.00 pm

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM held 22nd February 2025 AGM and EGMs held on 23rd August 2025 and 25th October 2025
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report and approval of accounts
5. Donations
6. Secretary's Report
7. 100 Club report
8. Branch Representatives' Report
9. Ringing Master's Report
10. Election of Officers :
 - a) Chairman
 - b) Vice Chairman
 - c) Secretary
 - d) Treasurer
 - e) Ringing Master
 - f) Deputy Ringing Master
 - g) Branch Representative
 - h) Branch Representative
 - i) Newsletter Editor
 - j) 100 Club
 - k) Webmaster
 - l) Independent Examiner
 - m) Branch Spokesman – Guild Scrutiny Committee
11. Election of new members and presentation of First Quarter Certificates
12. Lesley Belcher – ODG Comms Officer
13. Any Other Business
14. Date of next AGM – Saturday 27th February 2027

Nearer to the date of the AGM, a link will be circulated to the Branch Newsletter which will include reports from each tower, and Branch Officers' Reports. Printed copies will be available for collection on the day.

TEAS

We are very grateful to Karen Pile for making the arrangements for us to hold the AGM at Shabbington. Karen is planning to provide sandwiches and cakes and to help her with quantities please let her know by **TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY** if you would like to order a tea. Please reply direct to Karen's email -

pile.karen@outlook.com

CAKES

I am sure Karen would be grateful to anyone who could bake a cake for the tea. If you can help out, please let Karen know by emailing her at the above address. Thank you!

BRANCH PRACTICES 2026

We have had to make changes to the programme of Branch practices for 2026 for the months of June and July. The updated list for the year is as follows:

24th Jan - Chalgrove
28th Feb - Shabbington (AGM)
28th Mar - Brightwell Baldwin
25th Apr - Ewelme
23rd May - Warborough
27th Jun - Benson
25th Jul - Chinnor
22nd Aug - Tetsworth
26th Sep - Thame
24th Oct - Dorchester
28th Nov - Little Milton

All practices will run from 16.00 – 17.30.

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

TOWER & BELFRY MAINTENANCE COURSE

Tetsworth Church, Oxfordshire, OX29 7AL

Organised by the ODG Towers & Belfries Committee

SATURDAY 28th March 2026

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.

Oxford Ringing School – Association of Ringing Teachers

Teaching Course - Module 1, Teaching Bell Handling

About this course:

Suitable for those who already teach bell handling and want to update their skills AND for those who have never taught anyone to handle a bell. Module 1 provides you with the skills and techniques necessary to take a ringer from their first lesson to having competent bell control.

You will learn through a mixture of practical and classroom sessions:

- How to teach a skill
- How to break down bell handling into easy stages that the new ringer can master
- About different learning types and how to adapt your teaching for them
- The benefits of intensive teaching

The practical sessions will give you plenty of time to practise your new skills in a safe environment. Working in pairs you will also have opportunity to hone your observation skills and get feedback on your feedback.

After the course it is important that those who attend should get practice at teaching ringing with a mentor present to help them to observe and to help them remember the important points. Oxon Ringing School provides an excellent environment where new teachers can gain confidence as teachers of ringing, be assessed and become accredited with ART.



Event Details

Event Start	Sat 21-Feb-2026 09:30
Event End	Sat 21-Feb-2026 17:00
Capacity	15
Registration Closes (Cut-off)	Fri 07-Feb-2026 12:00
Event Fee	£30 per attendee + £20 local donation to cover lunch, refreshments and tower donation.
Event Prerequisites	You must be a bell-ringing teacher (or would-be teacher) aged 14 or over. You must have sufficiently good bell control to be able to inspire confidence in others and an ability to comfortably raise and lower a bell.
Location	The Abbey Church of St Peter and St Paul, Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxfordshire

Interested?

View the ART website	Home - bellringing.org
Register on the Events module	https://events.bellringing.org/en/events/courses/teaching-course-module-1-dorchester-abbey-dorchester-on-thames-oxfordshire
Organiser:	Susan Read, 07941 580468, mail@37steps.uk

South Oxon Branch ODG

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