# Bicester Branch

This year’s AGM was held on Saturday 22 February at Kirtlington, where we elected 3 new members from Kirtlington, and Ludgershall. Later in the year we hosted the Guild Ringing Day with striking competition in Islip, and our own Branch striking competition (18 ringers) with barbecue in September which was won by the team representing Ludgershall.

During the year, the Cole family moved to the Highlands of Scotland – a great loss for the Branch given the enthusiasm and contribution made by all of them to ringing and social events in the Branch. Despite that our Branch Practices have continued with varying degrees of support but plenty of enthusiasm particularly shown by the new ringers at Kirtlington. Four members of the Branch have taken part in the Guild training days in the year which they’ve enjoyed.

Piddington ringers rang for the 2017 BBC Music Day in memory too of Wendy Taylor who died in February. During April, Jeremy Adams, our Branch Ringing Master, arranged an outing in the Witney and Woodstock Branch area. Following on from two first quarters last year, a further two members of the Branch rang their first quarters in 2017.

Kirtlington, Oxfordshire

St Mary

Saturday, 9 September 2017 in 40m (16cwt)

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles**

1 Judith Vickars

2 Kathryn Grant

3 Jeremy Adams

4 Ron Burgess

5 Hugh Deam (C)

6 Steve Vickars

Rung to celebrate the recent completion of Lottery funded structural and internal works at St Mary's, Kirtlington

First quarter peal – Treble

Bletchingdon, Oxfordshire

St Giles

Sunday, 8 October 2017 in 39 mins (8–0–1 in A)

**1260** **Plain Bob Doubles**

1 Katherine A Stonham

2 Ellie Seddon

3 Jonathan Cresshull (C)

4 Joanna E Knight

5 Steve Vickars

6 Alison T Merryweather-Clarke

First quarter peal: 2

We now have an active Facebook page ‘Bellringers of Kirtlington, Bletchingdon and environs’, in addition to the website, and an email list of 36 ringers to try to keep communication effective within and beyond the Branch.