This year’s AGM was held on Saturday 20 February at Caversfield. Although we were relatively few in number, we were able to elect 8 new members from Kirtlington, Stratton Audley and Islip.

Overall we’ve had 12 branch, and other special, practices in 8 towers this year involving an average of 12 ringers (mostly branch members and welcome visitors) at each. Thanks to Anthony Cole, our ringing master who has arranged them and all the following events - a superb outing in April by minibus ringing at 5 towers in the area east of Hereford; a rope splicing course in July for 6 members at Stratton Audley and the annual striking competition and barbecue in September at Bicester (won by Bicester) and finally a mini-tour ring in October at four of the 3 or 4 bell towers in the Branch with an afternoon on Mark Walker’s mini-ring in Wheatley.

Three Bicester Branch members made progress at the Radley course and two at the Steeple Aston one. The new Kirtlington band has been doing well with enthusiastic help from the Branch and Oxford City Branch members particularly for whom we are very grateful.

Another noteworthy event was the quarter peal in Bicester in May – first quarters for Anne Martin and Steve Vickars, and first quarter peal as conductor for Jeremy Adams.

**Oxford Diocesan Guild**

**Bicester**, Oxon

St Edburg

Monday 30 May 2016 in 44 minutes

**1260 Grandsire Doubles**

1   Anthony Cole
2   Anne Martin
3   Ron Burgess
4   Richard Haseldine
5   Jeremy Adams (C)
6   Steve Vickars

Rung on front 6
2, 6: 1st QP
5: 1st as conductor

Finally one of the Islip ringers, Celia Lowe, died in December after a long illness. She had learnt to ring relatively late in life but had been a reliable and much-loved member of the band.