



# PRESS RELEASE

**For immediate release: 21 July 2014**

## St Paul's anniversary ap-Peal!

Dubbed the Big Foundation Anniversary Weekend, the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July was a very busy one for St Paul's Church, Wokingham.

Whilst members of the congregation were out and about in town on Saturday, the bell-ringers of St Paul's celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of the church in the only way possible ... with a peal.

A team of eight rang *5152 Berkshire Surprise Major*, composed by George Marriner and first rung at St Paul's in 1934. On one of the hottest days of the year, it took 3 hours and 5 minutes to complete. Afterwards, a smiling Kenneth Davenport (Tower Captain) commented, "Phew, it was hot up there!"

The ringers were: (1) Catherine Lane, (2) June Wells, (3) John Wells, (4) Geoffrey Cook, (5) Robert Partridge, (6) Bernard Groves, (7) Christopher Coles and (8) Kenneth Davenport (Tower Captain).

On Sunday the Bishop of Oxford, Rt Revd John Pritchard, made his first visit to the Parish to preside and celebrate the Eucharist, before which the bell-ringers rang a quarter peal - *1260 Grandsire Doubles* - involving some of the tower members and regular visitors.

Fr Richard Lamey said, "The bells are an integral part of life at St Paul's preceding and marking important parts of our worship. One cannot underestimate the amount of skill, concentration and stamina needed to perform such a function, and this all the more underlines the team's triumph on Saturday, in ringing a full peal for over three hours - a testament to Ken's leadership and his team's commitment."

The ringers were: (1) Dave Creasy, (2) Susan Davenport, (3) Lavinia Sullivan, (4) Kenneth Davenport (Tower Captain), (5) Alan Barsby, and (6) Peter Davenport.



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This was one of several events which took place on the third of four big weekends planned throughout 2014 to celebrate 150 years at St Paul's Church.

For further details on plans for 2014 celebrations, please see the website [www.stpauls-wokingham.org.uk](http://www.stpauls-wokingham.org.uk) or call the Parish Office on 0118 979 2122.

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## **Notes to Editors**

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## **Attached files**

- St Paul's logo and uses

## **Contacts**

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## **The Communications Team**

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## **The Parish of St Paul, Wokingham**

St Nicholas, Emmbrook † St Paul, Wokingham † Woosehill Church

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