



Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

MARSTON UPDATE

Saturday 1st July 2023 – edition no: 266

The Witney and Woodstock Branch Striking Competition

The Saturday following the **Oxford City Branch** striking competition, our neighbouring Branch in **Witney and Woodstock** held their own competition at **Bladon (6)**, where Hugh assisted Steve Vickars from the **Bicester Branch** with the judging. For many years, the Witney and Woodstock Branch have also run a call changes competition alongside the method competition, thus encouraging more towers to take part. After what had been a hotter than ideal day, an assailing thunderstorm had conveniently just rolled on by, so everything could be set fair to sit just beyond the resting place of Sir Winston Churchill to listen to the bells. Both competitions were won by the band from **Church Hanborough** and Steve is pictured right presenting the trophy to Zoe White.



The following day, on 11th June, quarter peals were rung at **St Giles (8)** and **Old Marston (6)**. Congratulations to Andrea Rowley for moving on up to ringing inside and part conducting our quarter peal at Old Marston. Also congratulations to Sara Jones for conducting her first dual method Doubles quarter peal at St Giles.

Sunday 11th June.

Old Marston (St Nicholas) 1260 Doubles (14m/v)

Kathy Xu, Maarit Kivilo (c), Andrea Rowley (c), Benjamin Poole (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby

St Giles - 1260 Doubles (2m) Grandsire, Plain Bob

John Pusey, Craig Robertson, Sara Jones (c), Simon Edwards, Paul Lucas, Geraint Jones



The following Sunday, on June 18th, our morning service quarter peal included a couple of variants not used here since the 1960s – **Old and Norfolk**, and the inclusion of **Golden Bob** for the first time by an Old Marston band, and this also enabled Kathy Xu to make an impressive leap in her method variations in a quarter.

Old Marston (St Nicholas) - 1260 Doubles (21m/v)

Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Kathy Xu, Benjamin Poole (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby

Later that morning, Hugh was in a band that rang a quarter peal at **Bletchingdon (6)**, with this being only the second occasion trebling for Christine and the first tenoring for Ruth.

Bletchingdon (St Giles) - 1320 Doubles (3m/v) Plain Bob, April Day, Grandsire

Christine Redford, Hugh Deam, Colin Taylor, Alison Merryweather-Clarke, Steve Vickars (c), Ruth Leatherdale



The following Sunday on June 25th, what was scheduled to be a Plain Bob Minor quarter for service had to be switched to Doubles due to one of the band dropping out with barely an hour's notice, but even with next to no preparation time we still managed to rack up 32 method variations. Grateful thanks to Kathy for stepping in at such short notice.

Sunday 25 June

Old Marston (St Nicholas) – 1260 Doubles (32m/v)

Kathy Xu, Ailsa Reid (c), Maarit Kivilo (c), Benjamin Poole (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby



On the Wednesday evening of 28th June, Judy and Hugh were pleased to be part of the band at **Bletchington (6)** that saw Mandy Jones, from the neighbouring tower of **Weston on the Green (6)**, score her first quarter peal, ringing the tenor to Plain Bob Doubles.

Afterwards there was Prosecco and cake to celebrate the event!

Wednesday 28th June

Bletchington (St Giles) – 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Teresa Carter, Judith Kirby, Jeremy Adams, Hugh Deam,
Steve Vickars (c), Mandy Jones

A Note for ringers visiting us at St Nicholas.

For the next six weeks, work is being carried out inside St Nicholas church adjacent to the main porch entrance



at the front of the church. As there is likely to be scaffolding in place in that area, we have been asked to enter via the vestry door which is located at the right rear of the church. Bear left at



the front porch entrance and carry on clockwise around the church and adjoining vestry until you reach the vestry door. Once you're in the vestry, head straight through the door on your left into main body of the church.

Upcoming Events

Saturday 8th July - Guild Festival in Oxford

**Please note:- An extra tower has been added to the list of towers for that day.
St Mary Magdalen is now to be available from 9.30am.**

0900 - 1000: Magdalen College (10)

0930 – 1030: St Mary Magdalen (10)

0930 - 1045: Christ Church (12)

1330 - 1430: St Thomas (10)

1400 - 1500: St Ebbes (8)

1430 - 1530: St Giles (8)

1500 - 1600: Lincoln College (8)

1600 - 1700: New College (10)

1715 - 1815: St. Mary The Virgin University Church (6)

1730 - 1830: Carfax Tower (6)

Saturday 29th July – Quarter Peal Day at towers to be arranged by Hugh – full details to follow.