



Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

MARSTON UPDATE

Tuesday 9th April – edition no: 286

Andy Dunn R.I.P.

We were shocked and saddened to hear news of the passing of former Old Marston ringer Andy Dunn on

Wednesday. A prolific quarter peal ringer between 2003 and 2015, he rang 183 of his 370 quarter peals at Old Marston, although his first was at St Andrew's, Letcombe Regis in 2003 with an all Marston band. Even after giving up ringing, he continued to oversee the excellent Oxford City Branch website, which he created and constantly updated right up until recently. A website widely recognised as being a benchmark in ringing websites. Our thoughts are with all his family and friends.



After the pause in ringing to observe Holy Week, the period since Easter Day has been a cascade of open ringing around and about. Quarter peals for Easter Sunday services were rung at **Old Marston** and **St Giles**.

Sunday 31st March. St Nicholas, Old Marston. 1260 Doubles (23m/v):

Kathy Xu, Ailsa Reid (c), Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby



St Giles, Oxford. 1280 Plain Bob Major:

Marc Jones, Catherine Lane, Caroline Flockton, Lindsay Powell, Paul Lucas, Craig Robertson (c), Lindsay Powell, Stuart Flockton, John Pusey



Then in the afternoon there was a two hour window booked for ringing on the bells of **Imber** church, which is located amidst the tracts of Army

controlled land across much of Salisbury Plain. Organised by the dynamic **Witney** ringer Ruth Leatherdale, there was a split of 75 minutes of general ringing and 45 minutes for a quarter peal to be rung, with several hundred tourists in the church and exploring the



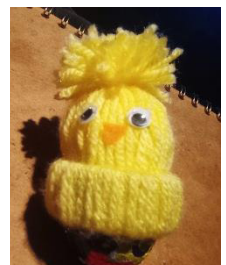
remnants of the deserted village as we rang. All the ringers were rewarded with a creme egg nestling within a fluffy corn-yellow chick cosy, courtesy of Ruth!

dynamic **Witney** ringer Ruth Leatherdale, there was a split of



St Giles, Imber. 1260 Grandsire Doubles:

Alison Merryweather-Clarke, Hugh Deam, Alison Felton, Bridget Taylor, Peter Felton (c), Ruth Leatherdale



Easter Monday saw the long established, once a year **Old Marston/Kirtlington** link-up continue with a 90 minute session on the bells, with two of the newer local ringers – Liping and Christine, and Jane from Iffley, who started last year, making the most of this opportunity.

Thank you to Steve Vickars for hosting us.



Then in the afternoon a second Easter quarter peal was rung at Old Marston.

St Nicholas, Old Marston. 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor:

Hugh Deam, Michael Haynes, Alison Felton, Michael Probert, Peter Felton, Alison Merryweather-Clarke



On Tuesday morning we had a nice jaunt out east to **Monks Risborough** – our first visit since 2004, and to

Chinnor – we were last here in 2015 – for a mini-outing, with the

precious commodity of the sun being visible in the sky, helping proceedings! We were able to provide Ruth and Dan with the chance to practise most of the Doubles and Minor methods that they are presently focussing on, plus touches of Little Bob and Stedman.



The ever reliable Village Centre in Chinnor was a well-received lunch venue, just as it had been on our previous two visits during outings.



And on Wednesday morning, there was the latest monthly daytime practice at **Bletchington**, with Plain Bob Minor and Doubles the main focus, with some Grandsire and St Simon's also on the agenda.



On Sunday 7th April, a Quarter Peal was rung at Old Marston in memory of Andy Dunn:

St Nicholas, Old Marston. 1260 Doubles 34m/v:

Tertia Softley, Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Benjamin Poole (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby

Also during the same afternoon, Marston was pleased to be able to have the **North Oxfordshire Youth Ringers** visit us for a 90 minute session, and our own Lydia had thirty minutes spare to join them in some Plain Bob Minor and Doubles.

The next edition will feature more quarter peals dedicated to the memory of Andy Dunn.

