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MARSTON UPDATE

Saturday 18th February 2023 – edition no: 253

Another Combined Practice at Iffley (6)

Our most recent combined Saturday practice was hosted by the Iffley ringers on Saturday 4th February, with an encouraging turnout of 18 ringers of all ages from **Iffley, Marston, Headington** and several other towers, meaning that a wide spectrum of ringing was covered – from called changes, all the way through to Cambridge Surprise Minor. Our next combined practice is imminent, on Saturday 25th February at **Cowley, St James (6), starting at 1.30pm.**

Ringers of all abilities are welcome!

Snowdrop Weekend at Cowley

The plants themselves have no doubt been flowering during the interim, but last Saturday, 11th February was

the first chance for the **Cowley Church Snowdrop Weekend** to fully bloom again since 2020, with ringing heralding the start of proceedings. With the assistance of fellow ringers from **Iffley and Marston,**

there was a full band to ring quite a lot of Grandsire and a soupcon of Plain Bob Minor, whilst the early visitors gathered in the church for tea, coffee and cake. Although the weekend is a celebration of the carpet of snowdrops in the churchyard, the proliferation of Aconites which are attendant should also be fully noted.

An Afternoon Outing to Buckinghamshire

On **Saturday 25th March**, we will be holding our first multi-tower outing since 2019, with an afternoon outing to three towers relatively adjacent to our Branch, which should hopefully be a gentle reintroduction to the many beneficial aspects of ringing at different towers on the same day.

Although not all of the towers are as yet confirmed, we are definitely booked in for ringing at **Chearsley, Bucks (6) (9cwt)** (our first tower at 2.00pm – photo on the left), a tower which is one of the very few within a 45 minute drive of Oxford that we haven't as yet visited as part of an outing.

There will be more information to follow in the next Update.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday 25th February: Combined Practice at **Cowley, St James (6)** 1.30pm - 3.00pm

Saturday 4th March: City Branch Practice at **St Giles, Oxford (8)** 10.30am – 12.00pm

Saturday 25th March: Afternoon Outing to Buckinghamshire.

1st tower – **St Nicholas, Chearsley (6) 9cwt** 2.00pm. (Still to be confirmed – **Thame (8) (11cwt)** 3.15pm, **Shabbington (6) 5cwt** 4.45pm)

Saturday 1st April: Outing to Northamptonshire/Leicestershire

Orlingbury (6) (10cwt) 12.00pm, **Isham (6) (9cwt)** 1.30pm, **Brampton Ash (6) (11cwt)** 3.00pm, **Market Harborough (10) (18cwt)** 4.30pm

