



Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

MARSTON UPDATE

Monday 19th February – edition no: 282

The Oxford City Branch AGM on Saturday 3rd February, was hosted by the ringers at Horspath who also laid on a delicious tea during the afternoon. The raffle raised £32.00 which will go towards Branch funds.

There were a couple of changes to the committee, with the Officers for the coming year listed below:

Chairman - Simon Edwards

Vice Chairman - Paul Lucas

Ringling Master - Craig Robertson

Secretary - Geraint Jones

Treasurer – Peter Spain

and Branch Representatives - Lindsay Powell and Elizabeth Mullett

Advance Notice: The “Guild Ringing Day” is to be held on **Monday 3rd May**, and will be at towers in the **Oxford City Branch**, plus several other neighbouring towers in the Branch, so as to achieve a full itinerary.

The following day after the AGM on 4th February, there was a focussed practice held at **Old Marston** for a group



of ringers from a variety of towers, who were eager to fast track their St Simon's, Plain Bob Minor and St Clements. We very much appreciated the extra helpers who joined us and ensured that very little work had to be restarted, and consequently we were able to also fit in a few other method requests, including Oxford Treble Bob.

Straight after that practice, we rang a quarter peal for Evensong, which included, amongst its method variations, *Candlemas* (Eynesbury with Old singles), given it was the appropriate Sunday.

St Nicholas, Old Marston: 1260 Doubles (38m/v):

Ruth Leatherdale, Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Steve Davies, Hugh Deam (c), Dan Neal



At their practice on the Tuesday evening of 6th February, the **Kidlington** ringers bade farewell to Marinu Leccia (*third from the left*) who has now left Oxford for the other city of Spires and Academe – Cambridge! We had the pleasure of organising his first quarter peal back in December (*see Update issue 277*) and he will doubtless be scoring many more in the near future.

The latest Daytime ‘Doubles Practice’ at **Bletchington** was held the following day on 7th February, with Andrea and Hugh from **Old Marston** being amongst the helpers. This time some of the students stepped up a level to St Simon's and Plain Bob Minor.



On Saturday 10th February, several Oxford towers were visited by a quarter peal band primarily from the Cheltenham area, where the bells of **Kidlington, Old Marston, Stanton St John** and **Iffley** were the chosen **City Branch** bells to be rung on. Their quarter peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor at Old Marston came directly after lunch at the **Victoria Arms** on the banks of the River Cherwell at the top end of the village, which they reported lived up to the endorsement we gave it when they asked our advice on possible lunch venues here at the time of requesting the use of our bells!

The following day, quarter peals were rung at **St Giles**, and **Headington**.

Sunday 11th February. St Giles, Oxford. 1344 Spliced Plain & Little Bob Major:

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



St Andrews, Headington. 1260 Doubles 17m/v:

Tertia Softley, Jane Hedges, Colin Taylor, Maarit Kivilo (c),
Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby

Four of our Old Marston band were pleased to be invited to ensure a full band for the quarter peal, celebrating the appointment of the Vicar of Headington, Father Darren McFarland - as an honorary Canon in the Diocese of Oxford.

On Tuesday 13th February, whilst many were marking Shrove Tuesday with a myriad of ways to serve a pancake, we were able to enjoy a particularly busy day of ringing at three towers in **South Oxfordshire**, thanks to the services of some wonderful ringing friends.

Firstly, a quarter peal on the impressive six bells at **Chalgrove**, where Ruth Leatherdale stepped up to her first part conducting of a quarter, with Dan Neal covering meticulously on the 16cwt tenor. Then, at

Brightwell Baldwin, Laura, in only her fourth quarter peal, and a day before her 13th birthday, did us proud, covering our quarter peal, with her mother Tracey ringing inside. We had a splendid lunch at the Waterfront Cafe, on the east bank of the River



Thames at **Benson**, which we last frequented on our previous ringing trip here back in 2015. We were joined by three more of our ringing friends for a general ring on the eight bells of **St Helen's** straight after lunch.

St Mary's, Chalgrove. 1260 Doubles 7m/v:

Andrea Rowley, Alison Felton (c), Ruth Leatherdale (c),
Peter Felton (c), Hugh Deam (c), Dan Neal

St Bartholomew's, Brightwell Baldwin.

1260 Doubles 3m:

Alison Felton, Michael Probert, Tracey Cooper,
Hugh Deam (c), Peter Felton (c), Laura Cooper

To complete the half-term quarter peal ringing, on Friday 16th February, Lydia conducted the St Simon's,

St. Martin's and All Saints part of our quarter peal at **Bletchington**, the day after her celebrating her 12th birthday.

Afterwards it was ice-creams all around at the **Milk Shed** at Weston on the Green!

St Giles, Bletchington. 1260 Doubles 11m/v:

Judith Kirby, Lydia Poole (c), Steve Vickars (c),
Alison Merryweather-Clarke (c), Hugh Deam (c), Jane Hedges

Upcoming Event

**If you're interested, there is a mini-outing next
Saturday, 24th February, with three towers:**

10.00am Weston Turville (6); 11.30am Wendover (8); and at 2.30pm Ellesborough (6).

All welcome. For further information, please contact Hugh Deam

