



Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

MARSTON UPDATE

Tuesday 23rd April – edition no: 287

On Saturday 6th April, we took our travelling set of hand bells to the first Marston Community Market of the



year, which brought together several village groups – the WI and playgroups etc. plus local crafters such as an artisan baker and a fruit presser amongst other stalls. Thanks to a variable weather forecast we not only were allocated an inside berth, but also benefitted from being



located in the entrance hall, which resulted in considerably more people having a go at ringing various tunes, some with a view to making ringing hand bells a regular pastime.

On Friday 12th April, the bells were rung at **St Lawrence, North Hinksey** prior to the funeral of Susan Robinson (right) who was a former ringer at the tower during the 1970s and 80s. Three of us from **Old Marston** joined four local ringers to ensure that all six bells were rung.



On Saturday 13th April, four City Branch ringers – Colin Taylor, Susan King, John Pusey and Hugh participated in the ringing outing, organised by John Hearn, to four towers, including the 12-bell tower of **Leighton Buzzard** in Bedfordshire, along with three towers in Buckinghamshire, consisting of the heavyweight six at **Wing**, plus the recently augmented six at



Slapton, and the fantastic eight at **Great Brickhill**. Slapton churchyard is notable for having a small herd of sheep within its boundaries, but unfortunately they were in the far corners on Saturday rather than grazing around the pathway!



Also on that Saturday, the annual **Radley Course** was held at various locations around our area, and for the first time in a number of years, **Old Marston** was one of the towers utilised, along with **Horspath** and **Garsington**, hosting the Plain Bob Minor group during a very highly successful day, thanks to all the hard work by Lindsay Powell, and all the teachers.

On Sunday 14th April, there were quarter peals rung at **Old Marston** and **Iffley**.

St Nicholas, Old Marston. 1260 Doubles 25m/v:

Roy Peach, Jane Hedges, Hugh Deam (c), Maarit Kivilo (c), Martin King, Judith Kirby
Rung for the Resurrection Sunday morning service.

St Mary's, Iffley. 1260 Doubles 4m:

Mary Carroll, Susan King, Maarit Kivilo, Martin King, Steve Davies (c), Hugh Deam

Also, the ringers at **Headington** rang a quarter peal to the memory of Andy Dunn, the former webmaster of the Oxford City Branch website.

St Andrew's, Headington.

1260 Grandsire Doubles:

Annika Everett, Malcolm Fairbairn,
Clare Fairbairn, Steve Everett,
Paul Lucas (c), Adam Diesel

*This was the first quarter peal for
Adam. Well done Adam!*



Following on from the notice of the passing of Andy Dunn in the previous *Update*, we received the following message from our good ringing friend Alan Coates in Australia:-

*"Very sad to hear of the death of Andy Dunn, I have many warm memories of him during my visits to Oxford."
(Alan Coates, St James, Queen Square, Sydney)*

Alan and Andy rang five quarter peals together in Oxfordshire towers between 2005 and 2012, plus they rang together on several outings organised by Roy and Hugh.

(This photo on the right was taken in 2010)



Sunday 21st April.

St Giles, Oxford. 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major:

Austin Dunn, Alison Felton, Marc Jones, John Pusey,
Craig Robertson (c), Sara Jones, Steve Everett, Peter Felton

First quarter peal in method at the first attempt for Marc.

In the afternoon, we held another 'focused' practice at **Old Marston**, with a variety of methods tailored to our visitors. Plain and Little Bob Minor, St Simon's, All Saints, Grandsire, and Plain Bob Doubles for Jane from **Iffley** to progress her trebling skills. We also fitted in a bit of Ashford Little Bob Doubles with a view to an upcoming date touch quarter peal attempt.

*Straight after the practice we rang a quarter peal, which was to the
memory of Joan Rees (2nd January 1941 – 10th March 2024)
mother of Andrea.*



St Nicholas, Old Marston. 1260 Doubles (32m/v):

Andrea Rowley, Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Steve Davies, Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby