



Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

# MARSTON UPDATE

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – edition no: 271**

Four members of the Marston band took part in the ringing during the outing organised by John Hearn on

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. The first tower was **Nettlebed** (oft visited by us previously), and which now boasts a plaque on the front wall of the adjoining hall of some interest to fans of James Bond 007 and his creator Ian Fleming, a former resident here, and whose older brother and uncle are both buried in the churchyard. The next tower was the always impressive church at **Ewelme** (pictured left) with its six bells and 18cwt tenor, providing a good challenge for ringing minor methods. Then, after a long drive across the county on what was an



exactly warm day we culminated the afternoon at **Hinton Waldrist** and **Faringdon**.

*There has been a veritable glut of quarter peals rung locally during the past fortnight.....*

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September. Marston (St Nicholas). 1260 Doubles (38m/v)**

Andrea Rowley, Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Benjamin Poole (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Headington (St Andrew).**

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles:**

Paul Lucas, Tertia Softley, Colin Taylor, Lindsay Powell, Rachel Croft (c), Stan Jakobs

Congratulations to Stan (pictured far right) on his debut quarter peal after an exemplary period of learning at **Headington**, just days prior to the move back to his native Netherlands.



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Marston (St Nicholas).**

**1260 Doubles (12m/v):**

Roy Peach, Andrea Rowley (c), Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Hugh Deam (c), Judith Kirby.

It was great to have Roy seamlessly back in harness with our quarter peal ringing after a ten year break and we as a tower are really appreciative of the reliable trebling which has contributed significantly to our returning to something approaching the numbers of quarter peals we once notched up per year, this being number 31 so far.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Oxford (St Giles). 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor:**

Austin Dunn, Craig Robertson (c), Lindsay Powell, Catherine Lane, Simon Edwards, John Pusey

Rung to wish Sara Jones well as she leaves for University in Exeter

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Bletchington (St Giles).**

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles:**

Sue Rhodes, Heather Horner, Hugh Deam, Paul Lucas, Alison Merryweather-Clarke (c), Colin Taylor

A hearty 'well done' to our good friend Heather Horner from **South Leigh**, who scored her first quarter peal on an inside bell.





**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Marston (St Nicholas). 1260 Plain Bob Minor;**

Hugh Deam, Maarit Kivilo, Julie Minch, Colin Taylor, Michael Probert, Alison Merryweather-Clarke (c),

We were pleased to be able to step in at short notice to host and provide part of the band for the final dash toward Alison and Michael's 600th quarter peal together and celebrate Michael's 70th birthday.

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Then on the following Friday a slightly reconstituted band rang another quarter peal for the same reason, this time at Bletchingtondon.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Bletchingtondon (St Giles). 1260 Doubles (4m/v) Stedman, Reverse Canterbury, Grandsire, St Anne:**

Colin Taylor, Julie Minch, Alison Merryweather-Clarke (c),  
Michael Probert, Hugh Deam, Paul Lucas

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We were delighted to welcome our good friends Alan and Marylon Coates from **St James Church (8)** in Sydney, Australia to our

Friday evening practice at Marston

last week – 15<sup>th</sup> September, during their short stay in Oxford, where Alan had been attending a conference at the university. They were regular visitors to Oxford for many years, but this was the first time we had met up since before the "worldwide interruption" of 2020.

We had our typically protean ringing session, weaving between Plain Bob variants, Stedman, Kent and St Lawrence Little Bob Minor, and even though sadly Alan is no longer allowed to ring due to a medical condition, there was plenty of opportunity to chat and catch up on things that have happened in both hemispheres, particularly

once we decamped to the Red Lion pub afterwards, where Alan enjoyed a pint of 'proper' English real-ale!

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**Upcoming Events**

**The next Oxford City Branch Practice will be on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at Iffley (6) 10.30am to 12.00noon (Please remember, that this practice is open to ringers of all abilities. We were all learners once!)**

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**Another reminder.....**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Afternoon Outing to Warwickshire and Oxfordshire towers**

**Tysoe (St Mary) (6) (12cwt). Wroxton (All Saints) (5) (8cwt). Swalcliffe (SS Peter & Paul) (6) (13cwt)**



***The full line up of the towers for our Autumn Outing is now nearly complete, with ringing commencing at Middle Tysoe at 2.00pm, followed by Wroxton at 3.30pm, and if all goes to plan we should be finishing at 5.00pm at Swalcliffe. Details of parking to be supplied nearer the time.***

***(Contact Hugh Deam for full details on 01865 247574)***