

Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

MARSTON UPDATE

Monday 27th February 2023 – edition no: 254

Two quarter peals at **Bletchington (6)** and **Marston (6)** on the afternoon of 19th February both succeeded. The bands comprised ringers from City Branch towers (including Marston) and beyond.

Bletchington: 1260 Doubles (5m/v)

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

Marston: 1260 Cambridge Surprise & St Clement's College Bob Minor. Hugh Deam, Michael Haynes, Sara Jones, Michael Probert, John Pusey, Alison Merryweather-Clarke (c)



On Wednesday 22nd February, four City Branch ringers helped out at the morning practice at **Bletchington**. Clare from Headington, plus Michael, Judy and Hugh from Marston.

A Report from Steve Vickars: Sixteen ringers came to our Doubles Daytime practice at **Bletchington**, where an excellent supply of helpers enabled us to provide strong support, both within the ringing team and also through extra standers to help our improvers. Our band of improvers was therefore able to practise plain courses of Bob Doubles and Grandsire Doubles, touches of Bob Doubles, as well as brushing up on their tenoring. A big thank you to all our helpers who made it all possible. After a plain course of Cambridge Surprise Minor for our helpers, we got a full band of students to ring a plain course of Bob Doubles before we finished with the obligatory photo-shoot and lower on six.



Having been unavailable to accept her Guild Membership certificate at the recent City Branch AGM, our youngest ringer, Lydia Poole (aged 11) was presented with it, along with her First Quarter Peal certificate, by her brother Benjamin during our Friday evening practice. *Many congratulations to Lydia!*

The turnout for our latest Combined Practice – this time at **Cowley, St James (6)** on Saturday afternoon hearteningly increased once again, with 19 ringers attending – including

four from Cowley – being an amalgam of new ringers right through to the vastly experienced.



Sad news to report from Stanton St John is that Edgar Litt passed away on Friday. A ringer for over 70 years, especially known for teaching at Horspath and Stanton St John, he never lost his passion for the art. (More about Edgar in the next Update)

Upcoming Events:

Saturday 4th March. Branch Practice at **St Giles, Oxford (8)** 10.30am – 12noon

Saturday 25th March. Afternoon Outing – First tower 2.00pm **Chearsley (6)**, then 3.15pm **Thame (8)** (t.b.c.), 4.45pm **Great Haseley (6)**

(Please contact Hugh if you would like to come on this trip.)