



Produced by Hugh Deam and Paul Lucas

MARSTON UPDATE

Wednesday 31st May 2023 – edition no: 264



Last week, via John Pusey, from **St Giles, Oxford**, we received some good news from Paulina Fishman, who moved back to Melbourne Australia, back in September 2017 after her time ringing with us in Oxford. (see *Marston Update 10, 6th September 2017* and *Marston Update 111, 27th August 2019*). She and her partner, Yilei now have a baby boy, who has been named Marcus. Since returning to Australia she has completed her doctorate and is now teaching corporate law at Deakin University in Melbourne.

On Saturday 27th May, we held our second Afternoon Outing of 2023, to three towers adjoining those we visited back in March, this time fitting in **Shabbington (6)**, which we were unable to ring at in March, due to building work in the church. We managed to fit in a goodly number of different methods during our allotted time, from Plain Bob and Grandsire, to Double Oxford, Stedman and Cambridge. We were delighted to welcome Ruth Leatherdale from **Witney** for her first time with us on a multi-tower outing, and she has kindly compiled a report on how the day panned out:

"This was my first attendance on an "Afternoon Outing" arranged by Hugh. Ringing at three towers, with the welcome support of fellow bell ringers, and not forgetting an impeccably behaved Hector, made for a complete



success on a beautiful May afternoon. The first tower - **Little Milton**, having first ascended the long (to me) ladder, were a lovely set of 6 bells. The second - **Great Milton**, a set of 8, directly next door to Le Manoir, had the addition of unwittingly ringing for a wedding taking place in the grounds of the hotel.

After a pause in the ringing to allow the ceremony to take place, we continued. Hopefully the bride and groom appreciated our efforts, and the unexpected bells at their ceremony!



The third - **Shabbington**, was a 6 bell reverse/anticlockwise ring. Being someone who is now starting to grapple with "inside bells/work" this tower totally emphasised the need to "know your place", and also to check the towers in the Doves guide beforehand!

Thanks to everyone for their encouragement and support."

Ruth Leatherdale



On the following day, the afternoon was particularly busy at **Old Marston** with two quarter peals. The 1.30pm quarter peal was, amongst its other dedications, an early wedding anniversary celebration for the conductor, Alison and her husband Neil.

Sunday 28th May. 1280 Little Bob, and Plain Bob Minor

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

The latter quarter peal at 5.00pm preceded the Confirmation Service,
which was led by the Bishop of Oxford.

Sunday 28th May. 1260 Doubles (29m/v): Judith Kirby, Ailsa Reid
(c), Jane Hedges, Maarit Kivilo (c), Hugh Deam (c), Michael Haynes



Then on the morning of the Monday Bank Holiday, we held an open morning of ringing for any City Branch ringers who were looking to get their eye in on our bells prior to next Saturday and the striking competition.

Upcoming Events

Our next Outing is planned for either Saturday 29th July, or Saturday 19th August (provisional dates)

Intended towers are **Swalcliffe (6)**, **Tysoe (6)** and possibly **Shenington (5)**.

The central focus of the Outing is intended to be Tysoe, a large village just over the border into Warwickshire.



The church tower houses a set of six bells, with a 12cwt tenor. This is a tower that we have not visited for an outing before. Having been there recently for a recce, you can see that there is much of interest on the inside and outside of the church.



Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

invites Resident Guild Members to the Guild
Festival to be held in Oxford on 8th July 2023

Ringling Times

11:00 Eucharist
Service at the
Cathedral

The Master's Garden
in Christ Church will
be available for picnics
after the service

With thanks to the
Oxford Society for their
hospitality

Magdalen College (10) 0900–1000
Christ Church Cathedral (12) 0930–1045
St Thomas (10) 1330–1430
St Ebbs (8) 1400–1500
St Giles (8) 1430–1530
Lincoln College (8) 1500–1600
New College (10) 1600–1700
St Mary the Virgin University Church (6) 1715–1815
Carfax Tower (6) 1730–1830

Also, don't forget **Saturday 8th July – The Guild Festival** at
the Oxford city centre towers.

Starting at **9.00am at Magdalen College (10)**.

A great chance to ring on bells normally unavailable to ringers
outside of the University!

