

# MARSTON UPDATE

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 – edition no: 244



On Friday 21st October we fielded a band of six to ring prior to the interment of Garth Porter who learnt to ring at Marston in the 1960s along with his brother Len. Even some half a century after leaving the Oxford area he was continuing to call in on our Friday practices a couple of times a year. The morning band comprised Benjamin, Judy, Kathy, Maarit, Colin and Hugh. Mention must be made regarding the generosity of Garth's daughter Miriam, who not only presented us with a seemingly Thank You card, but also provided us with muffins and macaroons for our efforts.



In the evening we rang a quarter peal, with the ringers on the middle four bells all having rung with Garth on numerous occasions across the years. After the quarter we were joined by Len and Mary Porter for a group photo.

**1260 Doubles (8m/v):**

**Grandsire, Plain Bob, April Day, Reverse Canterbury, Clifford's, St Nicholas, St Simon's, St Martin's**

Colin Taylor, John Pusey, Paul Lucas, Mark Walker, Hugh Deam (c), Michael Haynes

It was great to be able to have a full-scale ringing outing to go on again, with the weather being glorious for the outing organised by John Hearn to towers in North Oxfordshire and South Warwickshire. Even though we had visited all the towers on our outings before it really was of no consequence as they were all well worth revisiting, especially the chance to ring Plain Bob Minor on the imposing 29cwt six of **Lower Brailes**, which we didn't have a



band for on our previous visit. There was also Plain Bob Royal and a touch of Grandsire Caters at Banbury. The first tower of the day was **Horley (St Etheldreda)**. Rung from the ground floor, they have installed guides since



our previous visit, to good effect. The interior of the church is also well worth surveying, with exemplary medieval wall paintings and a pulpit decorated in depictions of the life of St Etheldreda, plus numerous other diverting fixtures. The church is constructed of local Hornton ironstone, along with many of the cottages in the village, and was displaying its golden sheen on a sunny morning. Just outside the church gate was a reminder that this was actually autumn rather than summer with a sole field mushroom in its pomp surrounded by fallen leaves.



The following day we rang our third successful quarter peal in October prior to morning service. Well done to Judy for ringing her first multi-method quarter peal on an inside bell since we returned from the cursed Covid. Sunday 30 October **1260 Doubles (8m/v):** Kathy Xu, Ailsa Reid (c), Judy Kirby, Michael Haynes, Hugh Deam (c)

**Upcoming Events**

**Saturday 5 November. 10.30am City Branch practice at Iffley**

**Saturday 5 November. 2.30pm - 3.45pm North Hinksey (6) St Lawrence, combined practice with Marston**

**Saturday 19 November 2.30pm - 3.45pm Cowley (6) St James, combined practice with Marston**