



MARSTON UPDATE

2nd May 2021

Hugh Deam

Compiled by Benjamin Poole
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Our 200th Update is coming up in a fortnight and we would be happy to feature any photos or items you may have (from whichever tower you ring at) whether it be historical or regarding how your tower is approaching the prospect of starting up again.

News from our good friend Alan Coates of Sydney, Australia who is bidding a sad farewell to ringing.

I had another cardiac arrest a couple of weeks ago, my sixth overall and fourth whilst ringing. This time I had just sorted problems conducting a touch of Bob Minor. No lasting effect apart from a couple of minor fractures, but I have to give up ringing (and driving). I will miss both, but I do plan to work on the simulator with my most recent learner, who has done well to resume after the COVID lay-off, and is ready to move on to plain Hunt and simple methods. Sydney towers are now ringing normally on all bells without the need for masks to be worn.

Best regards to all the Marston ringers and friends in the Oxford area.



Alan pictured far left and his wife Marylon centre front row on our Sunday afternoon ringing at Chadlington in 2016.

Back in the day - Sunday 29th April 2007 Afternoon Outing to Towers along the Ridgeway

On a sunny late Spring day we rang at a trio of six bell towers, Yattendon, Hampstead Norreys (see Issue 163) and Compton Parva, with lunch at The Bell in Aldworth (see Issue 163). During the afternoon we managed to fit in our usual mixture of Cambridge, St Clements, Plain Bob and Grandsire, the bells at Compton being particularly suited for fluency in method. Although generally referred to as merely Compton, the affix is sometimes used to differentiate it from several other villages of the same name. The earthworks of an Iron Age hillfort known as Peterborough Castle are still visible on Cow Down close to the village. The church, dedicated to St Mary & St Nicholas, was rebuilt in 1850, but the tower survives from the 13th century, with all of the bells cast in 1775, the tenor weighing 9cwt.

