



MARSTON UPDATE

5th August 2020

Hugh Deam

Compiled by Benjamin Poole
(No. 159)

Church rewiring

The rewiring of St Nicholas church has begun and the church will be closed until October, but sad to say there is a dawning realisation that tower bell ringing as we know it is at the far end of a tunnel that is likely to keep on being extended well into next year. With that in mind we have decided there is no workable option other than the adapt and survive approach of utilising our handbells to resume a weekly practice from next week, probably in our usual Friday evening slot. Although we have as extensive a set as is ever likely to be needed, we have traditionally only used them for tune ringing, primarily Christmas carols, so we will be pretty well starting from scratch trying to recreate our method repertoire.



Back in the Day - Sunday 7th August 2005 East Riding of Yorkshire

Hugh and Heather Banyard from Wheatley were up with the lark to drive to Yorkshire for a day of ringing with Roy Jones and the Wayfarers on their weeklong holiday in the county. The day started with the usual Wayfarers pattern for Sunday's, with optional ringing before morning services, so there were only a couple of familiar faces to meet up with initially as most would have already have rung on their practice nights earlier in the week. The ringing started around 9.00am at St Mary's, Beverley (34cwt) and then it was a dash across to Beverley Minster (41cwt), also with ten bells. They were both mighty buildings with impressive bells to match, all the more remarkable given than the population of the town is less than many of Oxfordshire's market towns. We met the bulk of the Wayfarers at North Cave, a pleasing 6 bell tower at 11.30am. Then it was on to Market Weighton, but this was the morning of the nail-biting climax to the Second Ashes Test at Edgbaston, the closest in Ashes history.

Those of us who adopted the "What will be, will be" approach to coping with such situations got the chance for plenty of rope time on this fine ring of eight, as those who embraced the mental torture could scarcely drag themselves away from a radio as England finally won by two runs. After lunch we moved into the realms of comedic eccentricity at Bubwith where the ringing room was replete with sideboards, tables, chairs and various other furnishings. The person letting us in was not a ringer and became nonplussed, bordering on perturbed, that we should find the need to move any of these encumbrances. Unfortunately for Hugh, at lunchtime he had been assigned to run the ringing here and thus had to take the chuntering indignation of the key holder with the best grace he could muster.