



MARSTON UPDATE

6th July 2020

Hugh Deam

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Thursday 25th June

The Central Council updated their COVID-19 ringing advice on Thursday 25th June, and as a result we obtained permission to carry out a check of our bells on Saturday afternoon. Good to report that we didn't discover anything untoward resulting from three months of mothballing, with each bell rung up and down with a view to ringing for 15 minutes the following Saturday. So, at 9.00am on the July 4th we rang 420 of Minor and Doubles. We received an immediate positive response from several locals who said that this had really given them a great fillip.



Back in the day - Saturday 7th July 2007

Besides being the opportunity to visit one of our great National Parks this was also a field day for anyone clerkly, with Lyndhurst churchyard having the "Tomb of Alice in Wonderland", this being the resting place of Alice Liddell, the eponymous inspiration for Lewis Carroll. The unassuming tombstone in the shadow of an oak tree in Minstead churchyard signifies the grave of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Two headstones for him are propped up against a wall in the ringing chamber. Prior to our first tower at Hinton Admiral we had time for some strawberry picking at a nearby pick your own farm.

Lunch was in the memorably named Snake Catcher, the pub taking its name from the most famous snake catcher of the Forest, Harry "Brusher" Mills, whose nickname actually derived from his sweeping the local cricket pitch.

Pictures and descriptions of all the churches visited are available on Oxford City Branch outings pages.

