

MARSTON UPDATE

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Yee Hah!
Keep on
a- ringin'!

IT'S A HANDBELL STAMPEDE

We had a change of practice night this week to Tuesday for our handbells. We continued improving our touches of Plain Bob Doubles, plain courses of St Simon's, a soupcon of plain Bob Minor, and added a plain course of Grandsire into the mix. Our mid-session tune ringing consisted of The Lord Is My Shepherd, I Saw Three Ships and O Come All Ye Faithful. With the number of those wishing to keep their ringing hand in by way of handbells increasing we are trialing two evenings a week from this coming week so as to keep to six per session.



Back in the Day – Sunday, 25th September 2005 Afternoon Cotswolds Outing

This was another of our occasional Sunday outings which generally took place when there was a fifth Sunday in the month as booking towers was easier due to rural churches being less likely to be holding a service. Cold Aston was long known as Aston Blank until 1972, and is still referred to in brackets on the village signs. The five bells in the tower of the Norman church were silent for half a century until they were restored just after the millennium. The biggest headache of Sunday outings has nearly always been the advance task of securing a suitable pub for lunch, and this being the Cotswolds it was a particularly time consuming search which seemed doomed to failure until what seemed the least likely hope offered up a perfect location - Bourton on the Water. The Mousetrap Inn was located within a short walk of the touristy bustle of the village centre, yet happily fitted in our party of sixteen ringers as easily as a weekday and without being tied down to a set Sunday menu. Our tower after lunch was the 15th century church in Naunton (previously visited in 2002), which until 1992 only had three bells, but the augmentation doubled the number to six. (photos -above left Naunton, above right Cold Aston, and lower right The Mousetrap Inn)

As usual, a comprehensive description of this event is available on the Outings pages of the City Branch website.

www.oxfordcitybranch.org.uk/outings11.htm