

MARSTON UPDATE

Monday 26th September 2022 – edition no: 241

On Sunday 28th August Judy and Hugh were pleased to ring in a quarter peal at Bletchingdon which was the first on an inside bell for teenager Fred Mills, currently ringing at Bladon.

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Judy Kirby, Hugh Deam, Gordon Smith, Steve Vickars (c), Fred Mills, Alison Merryweather-Clarke

Even in the years BC (*Before COVID*), the first weekend of September would have qualified as being busy. First we rang for a wedding on Friday afternoon, then concurrently on Saturday

morning, a well-attended Oxford City Branch Practice was held at St Nicholas whilst a group of us were just down the road with our handbell set at the Open Morning celebrating the 60th anniversary of the village hall and library, then in the afternoon we rang the church bells for



a service of thanksgiving, and on Sunday we rang for evensong.

Marston is unusual in that its' village hall isn't prefaced by the name of the village, with Mortimer Hall recalling the longest serving vicar of St Nicholas church, Rev. John Mortimer. At the end of proceedings, a special cake commemorating the 60th anniversary was cut and shared around the assembled group.

We are very grateful to South Leigh and Bletchingdon for making it possible for us to hold our scheduled visits for 'open to all' practices during the mourning period for the Queen. Both practices

were enthusiastically received by their local ringers and consequently progress in method and rope-sight was made. It was an added bonus that our good friend Charlotte Furneaux was down in Oxford on the first weekend and she got the opportunity to ring on the South Leigh bells for the first time, and our newest ringer, Lydia got her first ring on the Bletchingdon bells the following Saturday.

