

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

<http://odg.org.uk/>

Odd Bob – Printed May and November - Next Issue May 2017

1 Education Committee

[Courses](#) catering for a wide range of needs

Basic method ringing (Radley and Steeple Aston),
More advanced method ringing (September (Michaelmas)
Ten bell ringing (Last one, Feb 4th, Aston Clinton)

Next course, **Radley, 8th April 2017**. Although the poster advises that application must be made by 1st February, it may still be worth applying. (They considered cancelling the previous courses due to lack of numbers). Ringing criteria has been more closely defined this year as stays were broken at previous courses. New ringing criteria attached at end of this report.

An award scheme for [young ringers](#), will run again this year, for 2017/18. If you are under 18 on 1st April 2017, please consider taking part.

Michaelmas Training day – Saturday 30th September 2017
Steeple Aston course - Saturday 28th October, 2017.

The education committee are keen to hear of other training needs. Contact the Chairman or Secretary of the Education Committee*

2 The **Guild AGM** will be held at Tilehurst, near Reading on Saturday 20th May, 2017
Arrangements are in hand for the following:

- A challenge to visit as many towers as possible
- A mini ring
- Workshops for methods and tunes on hand bells
- Splicing workshop
- Lunch

Last years AGM Activity day was excellent, and included a tour of Whites of Appleton premises and its mini ring, Simulator and dumb bell at Buckland (Buckland is worth a visit just to see its fantastic mosaics), a marvellous lunch and handbells, as well as numerous towers being open.

All members are encouraged to attend the AGM, and activities.

3 The **Festival** in Oxford was poorly attended last year.
The Master's feedback question for the March General Committee meeting will be:

Do we still need the Festival in its current form?

4. Safeguarding Policy.

A draft Safeguarding Policy has been produced by the Guild. However, more items are to be added. It will be discussed with the Diocese at a meeting in February 2017, so the Guild will defer approval of the policy until the March General Committee meeting. There is an article on safeguarding in the November 2016 Odd Bob.

5 Library review

A trial electronic archive is underway. If you are able to help, or provide feedback, please contact the Librarian (Doug Beaumont). * Help is required with the design in the first instance.

It was proposed that some professional help will be employed for the more delicate items. Information about the trial archive is contained under the link on the home page 'Trial Archive - Information and discussion points'. at <http://www.archives.odg.org.uk/>

6. There has been difficulty getting enough teams for the **8 bell striking competition**, possibly because it is held on the May Bank Holiday. There was discussion about moving the date, perhaps to be on the same day as the Spring General Committee meeting in March, (although the date is now set for 2017).

If you have any suggestions for improving the turnout at the 8 bell striking competition, please contact the Master* and she will take it to the F&GP committee.

7. Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2017 will remain as last year

- | | |
|---|----|
| a) Resident ringing Members & Associate Members | £8 |
| b) Non-resident Ringing Members | £8 |

Peal fees 50p per rope

*Contact email addresses for Guild officers are on the ODG website

<http://odg.org.uk/officers.php>

Officers tab

Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Education Committee

Ringling Criteria for the Radley Course

To ensure the safety of the students, helpers and tutors on this course a standard of ringing competence and understanding is required.

While we try to make sure that all of the bells we use are suitable for teaching, they may be much lighter or heavier than the bells in your home tower, there may be steps or ladders to access the ringing room, the length of the draught may be much longer or shorter than you are used to, and there may be any number of other peculiarities to deal with. For this reason, we ask that you are able to ring a bell competently and confidently on your own, and you should ideally have experience of ringing a range of different bells, including bells in other towers, so that you are not impeded in your progress and can take full advantage of the tuition provided on the course.

All students must be members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and therefore regular Sunday service ringers.

The tower Captain or Tower ringing Tutor should fill in the ringing ability section on the application form giving their name to this.

If the student is under 18 a permission to ring form needs to be filled in and this will be forwarded on receipt of the application. A parent or an appointed responsible adult needs to be present on the course. This could be a helper.

This criteria will also help the tutor to plan the course as they will be aware that the student understands these requirements.