**Bicester Branch Web Manager’s Report February 2020**

26 articles have been submitted to the website in the past year, including reports for each branch practice, branch outing, striking competition, focussed practices and training courses.

Last year we introduced a “Contact us” form to the website, which has been useful to potential new ringers and by visiting bands wishing to book visits to towers in the branch.

**“Lies, damn lies and Statistics”**

Since the introduction of a plugin for visitor statistics in February 2019 this tool shows that on average the branch site has had about five visitors per day. The daily average fell below that number between July and December 2019, but has since picked up, possibly as a result of more frequent updates.

After the home page the most popular posts and pages have included the Bicester Branch Outing April 2019 (45 visits), the Striking Competition (35 visits), the Special Practice at Souldern in October (31 visits) and the report of the ART Module M1 course at Kirtlington (31 visits).

Of the tower pages, Brill appears to be most popular with 119 hits with Charlton with 56 hits.

Of the web browsers that visitors use, Chrome, unsurprisingly, is the most popular (60%), Gecko/Mozilla with 23% and Firefox 12%. Most visitors arrive via a Google search or bookmark (75%), a link on Facebook (23%) or from the ODG site (7%).

**Branch Web Site Hosting**

We have been indebted to Anthony Cole for several years for hosting the Bicester Branch website and maintaining the distribution lists and calendar.

Work is now under way to set up the new branch website on the ODG server, with a test site established and being further developed. I have been in contact with the ODG Web Team to establish a new set of distribution lists for officers, towers and branch members, which will allow us to directly maintain the lists and keep them current, also to hold more distribution lists for particular groups within the branch.

I would expect the new Branch site to be launched by the summer of 2020.

Steve Vickars