

Web Manager's report 2021

Usage of the Branch Website over the past year has, understandably, reduced. However, despite Covid lockdown curtailing much of our real ringing activity, during 2020 the website received some 3000 individual visitors, and around 20 posts were added at regular intervals including communications from the Guild and the CCCBR. Due to the continuing process of migrating the website (containing over 60 pages, 320 posts and thousands of media items) to the ODG servers, we updated both old and new sites. We are also taking the opportunity to review certain pages, adding more content from Dove's Guide on the Tower pages. Many thanks for Gus' assistance in helping with this additional work.

In December 2020 with the help of Anthony Cole and the Guild web team, we successfully migrated the branch website from its old host on Anthony's server to the ODG servers. The old website is now to all intents and purposes, offline. We are going through final checks and fixing of broken links and retrieving missing content, expecting to complete in the next week. In addition to migration of content, we are in the advanced stages of setting up three branch distribution lists on the Guild-hosted site, for all members, officers and tower correspondents. Benefits of these include: compliance with Data Protection, the ability for individual members to amend their details and unsubscribe, as well as branch officers able to add and remove list members without the need for specialist technical intervention.

Interestingly, the Webmasters report of 2011 records that the branch attempted to migrate to the guild server at that time, so ten years later we seem to be finally about to complete the process!

Our sincere thanks go to Anthony for his generous and patient support for the branch website and distribution list for over more than a decade!

The intention is for the role of Web Manager to move fully to Gus, with Steve happy to continue to provide and assistance if needed.

Steve Vickars and Gus Bridges
8th February 2021