

Deputy Ringing Masters Report

Over the course of the last 12 months the branch has organised at least one and usually two events each month. These usually take the form of branch practices with an outing and striking contests thrown in for good measure.

The branch practices are generally fairly well attended with all ringers attending having a chance to attempt to ring to their level. The practices that I've been to have seen a range of methods rung that meet most people's ability levels.

At some practices there does seem to be a geographical split where towers to the west of the branch get better attendance than those in the east, it would be nice if we could level this up.

The Branch outing ventured into Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire this year, the weather was good and we had a good turnout of ringers and guests. We had a nice selection of six bell towers which suited our abilities well. A donation was left at each tower as is customary, after the collection we had £20.00 surplus that went to branch funds.

The branch held a striking contest at Islip in September, it was nice to see that most of the active towers in the branch entered at least one team. It was particularly pleasing to see the Islip team containing three teenagers come second.

I generally think that the branch has had a successful year, and hope that all of our newer ringers will continue to improve. Keep listening and concentrating on the striking.

Lastly, ringing is a hobby, so don't get stressed about it and most importantly enjoy it.

Richard Haseldine