

Part Branch Master's Report 2004, Janet Covey-Crump

I would like to say a big thank you to the towers which have hosted branch practices. I do feel a little awkward taking someone else's practice for them. However, with luck the local ringers benefit and it is definitely good from the social point of view as members of the branch can meet those ringers who do not have the time, inclination or confidence to attend other branch events.

I am encouraged by the fact that the ringers of Dumbleton and Alderton have organised the wedding ringing at Stanton for the last few years and are available for other ringing. They have made a lot of progress.

We have started to have some more elementary practices on the simulator at Prestbury for the "ringing rounds on bells other than your home tower" right up to the "inside to bob doubles" stage. These cannot be arranged a long time in advance because they have to be fitted in round other church activities.

The Cheltenham branch, yet again, supplied a very good number of tutors, helpers and students for both the Spring and Autumn Training Days. Well done everybody.

Philip organised the striking competition at Elkstone and we had a record number of 12 entries for the judges Andrew Middlicott and Jonathan Hughes which made us a bit late for the pudding party, kindly hosted by Mark and Catherine Davies. Charlton Kings won both the Cleeve and Banner Trophies and had been third in the Association's Croome 6 bell competition. The branch band was also third in the Penn 8 bell competition.

Cheltenham did even better in the U19s striking competition, coming second to Chippenham a "big boys band". Ours were one of the few complete bands and were organised entirely by Elizabeth Evans who arranged several practices beforehand. Her co-conspirators were Matthew Greenaway from Charlton Kings, Max Drinkwater from Leckhampton, Rachel Chadwick from the Parish and Nathaniel and Jeremy Hitchings from St. Christopher's. Well done.

We had the sort of outing I enjoy, that's because I arranged it, only four towers with an hour at each and plenty of time for lunch, very nice.

Thank you for your support.

Janet C-C
4 Nov 2004