

BATH BRANCH

We have had another busy year this year in the Bath Branch. We were very pleased that a total of nine teams entered the Branch Striking Competition back in March, a huge increase on preceding years. We were also delighted when Bathwick and Bath Abbey came first and second respectively in the Association six bell competition held in our Branch in June (see separate report for details). This success was followed later in the year by a third place for the Bath team in the Association 8 bell competition.

We have also run a well received bell maintenance course (thank you Dave Kelly!) and a raising and lowering course this year. Together with '5th Monday' Branch practices at the Abbey and two lots of ringing at Wells Cathedral there has been plenty of Branch ringing going on.

The recent Association Recruitment week gave a great focus to encourage towers to open their doors and welcome in potential new ringers. Almost every tower had an open evening and we have a promising number of new learners who, no doubt, will soon be joining in with Branch activities.

I am stepping down as Secretary this year so I would like to thank everyone who has helped me in over the last couple of years and wish Sophie good luck in her new role.

Emma Longridge