

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is often difficult to produce an accurate figure for our membership. The Treasurer's report shows the number of subscriptions received but does not allow for duplicate payers (those who wish to appear under more than one branch) and late payers. As honorary archivist, Michael Horseman maintains membership records going back for many years so I have used his 2012 figures as they show individual members and movements rather than subscriptions received. These show an increase of 7 names in the report (computer total + duplicates) and 21 on the computer over 2011:

Branch	Names in report	Existing members	New members	Re-elections	Computer (people) total	Difference = duplicates	Lapsed or died
Axbridge	219	208	9		217	2	13
Bath	164	132	22	10	164		7
Bridgwater	132	122	4	1	127	5	7
Cary	206	194	9	1	204	2	22
Chew	248	222	19		241	7	14
Crewkerne	107	94	8	2	104	3	9
Dunster	147	132	14	1	147		12
Frome	165	152	9	1	162	3	14
Glaston	102	93	8	1	102		7
Ilchester	187	171	6	4	181	6	17
Taunton	228	190	35	3	228		24
Non res. HLM	1	1			1		
Total	1906	1711	143	24	1878	28	146

As a member of the association, you do not need to be re-elected when you move to another branch. Some branches do not appear to be aware of this and persist in re-electing existing members which further complicates numbers. Members leaving the association area can transfer to non resident status (without further payment) provided they notify their Branch Secretary who in turn notifies me. Again, there is no requirement for any election.

Can I make a request for Branches to keep the Membership Secretary in the picture - I frequently pick up new members from Newsletters and deaths from in memoriam quarters in the Ringing World. I was notified of 146 new members last year against an actual total of 167 (including re-elections). New members are entitled to a Welcome Pack but if I don't know someone has been elected, I can't send this out.

JAY BUNYAN