

BRIDGWATER BRANCH

Net membership of the Branch has increased to 142 including 23 new members and transfers in. These new members and improvers have been well supported with training and education from our Education Officer and their own towers. Quarterly meetings have been held at North Petherton, Cossington and Puriton. Our AGM in October at Stogursey saw me elected as Branch Secretary and Keith Lane as a second assistant to the Ringing Master, but apart from that all other officers were re-elected as in the previous year. At the AGM Long Service Certificates were presented to Brian Wylde (50 years), Barbara Wylde (50 years), Valerie Stone (50 years), and Janice Harding (40 years). Certificates were also available for two members not present – John Comer (40 years) and Richard Tiley (40 years).

Monthly 6 bell practices were well attended and the monthly 8 bell practices continued in rotation around our Branch's four 8 bell towers.

The 6 bell striking competition, judged by Bernard North, was held at Cossington where teams were entered from Durleigh, Woolavington, Ashcott, Westonzoyland and Burnham. Durleigh, being the winners, went on to represent the Branch at the Association final held in the Chew Branch.

We entered a band to the 8 bell competition in the Ilchester Branch in September.

Many towers in the Branch rang in celebration of St George's day and for the birth of Prince George of Cambridge on 22nd July.

The branch coach outing into Wiltshire on 21st September was very successful.

12 quarter peals were scored during the Association quarter peal fortnight, raising £310 for the bell fund.

John Hallett