

GLASTON BRANCH

2013 has been a busy year for the Glaston Branch, with events arranged for every month.

The year began with our quarterly meeting and Quiz night in January. Despite the heavy snow, dedicated members braved the elements to ring the bells at Croscombe, before five teams enjoyed putting their general knowledge to the test at Dinder Village Hall.

The branch six bell striking competition preceded the meeting in April, which took place at Baltonsborough. This was narrowly won by Wells 'B', with Glastonbury 'A' only ½ a fault behind in second place. The Glaston Branch was later represented in the Association eight bell striking competition in September, achieving a very respectable 4th place.

In June, a cycle outing was organised within the Taunton branch. The ringing began at West Buckland, then cyclists and drivers alike enjoyed taking in the countryside between Bradford-on-Tone and Rockwell Green. The outing was very well attended.

Our summer meeting and barbeque, hosted by Jackie and Richard Bowditch in their beautiful garden at North Wootton, was a great success. Thanks to Richard's wonderful campanile at Great Orchard, our members enjoyed combined ringing with relaxing in the garden, enjoying the fine summer's evening.

Our branch AGM took place at Holy Trinity, Street, following a service and excellent tea. Long service certificates were presented to Robert G Lampert (60 years), and Brian J Mountjoy (40 years).

The eight bell practices held on tower practice nights have worked well this year and the ten bell practice at Wells Cathedral was particularly well attended in May.

The training afternoons which were split into advanced six bell and basic six bell method sessions proved to be successful, enabling much progress to be made with the support of experienced ringers.

The Diary of Ringing has continued to be most useful for members as a reminder of events planned and attendance has been good this year. The majority of towers have been represented by members' attendance at events held throughout 2013.

Thanks must go to everyone who has made this year so successful and enjoyable, through arranging and supporting the various events throughout the branch. Finally, I should like to extend my personal thanks to all who have supported me in my first year as Branch Secretary.

Alison Warner