

Frome Branch Secretary's Report

Yet another fairly quiet and uneventful year. Membership has remained static and attendances at quarterly meetings have again been on the relatively low but consistence side. It is heartening that many towers in the branch still maintain Sunday service and practice night ringing.

The branch provided the ringers for two services at Wells Cathedral, a quarter peal of Bristol Surprise Royal in April and some general ringing in September where several members experienced for the first time, the challenging Cathedral bells.

In the 6 bell striking competition held this year at Templecombe, Chilcompton were narrowly beaten into 2nd place by Preston Plucknett. More significantly, the branch retained for the second year, the Len Derrick Trophy in the 8 bell striking completion at Butleigh.

Jenny Cornwell, our branch Education Officer has carried out some outstanding work with various courses throughout the year. This, I am sure will in the long term be of great benefit to the ringing in general and to the branch in particular.

Ending on a sad note, we were all shattered with the death on the 24th August of Ted Chivers. He had been a member of the tower at Chilcompton since 1939. He was a person who loved his ringing, a good friend to all who knew him and was admired not only in the Frome branch and our Association, but throughout the country. He is very sadly missed. May he rest in peace.

Ray Haines