

# ***Listening and Rhythm Workshop, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at Chilcompton.***

*Just in case you don't know what we do and why, here it is: -*

The Aims of the Course are:

- To give insights into the listening process and how to develop listening skills,
- To use practical tasks to exercise participants' listening skills,
- To develop a good sense of rhythm, to encourage interaction and sharing of ideas
- To give the impetus for further development.

We use:

- the simulator: to listen to yourself hopefully ringing rhythmically, normally the tenor to rounds but if you are brave, the treble to Plain Hunt.
- Fun rhythmical exercises to music and ringing, including foot tapping and clapping.
- A computer programme, which sets up random errors, different for hand and backstroke; after listening to the errors and much discussion, you take it in turns to correct the errors using the left and right arrows on the screen until the striking is as perfect as you can make it.

## ***Who is it for?***

- You're a recent learner;
- You came on the course when you hadn't been ringing very long;
- You've been on the course before and want a refresher;
- There is a new module you haven't done before;
- You're always being nagged to listen;
- You can't hear your bell;
- You can't feel any rhythm to help you place your bell;
- You struggle with helping your learners (and others) to listen and have some sense of rhythm;
- You want some good ideas which you can use;
- You have some good ideas you want to share.

If you recognise any of the above, this is for you and/or your fellow ringers.

**Everyone, it's not just for learners.**

Have you considered coming as a whole band: see Clover's report from a previous Workshop.

## ***Where is it and when?***

The course is at Chilcompton in the Frome Branch.

We meet at about 9.45 am starting at 10.00am and finish somewhere between 5.00 to 5.15pm. This includes an opportunity to have ring on 10 or 12 after the course finishes.

## ***For more information:***

Contact Jenny Cornwell: Text or call 07713 158472 or Tel: 01761 453641.

or email: [FromeBranch.EducationOfficer@bath-wells.org](mailto:FromeBranch.EducationOfficer@bath-wells.org)

Or: go to Frome Branch's Facebook page from where you can **pm** me.

Or: visit the Association's website: [www.bath-wells.org](http://www.bath-wells.org)

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Some comments from previous courses, written a few weeks later:

From **Graham Findley**

*"For me, the course was educational and helpful, especially once back in my home tower. I found my understanding of what was happening was increased, especially when sitting out and listening to individual bells and the striking of the whole band. Great course and very good food, tea and biscuits - thanks to the army of helpers and to you for organising it!"*

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From **Robert Crowther**

*"We owe all of you a massive thank you for everything that you put into making last Saturday's Listening Skills course so memorable and rewarding. I can definitely say that there's been a marked improvement in listening if not yet actually translated into the ringing but guess that should come with time!"*

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Comments from last year's feedback sheets.

Most enjoyable?

*Simulator and Rhythm sessions generally the favourite.*

Introduction

*Very good - the clip showing how hearing is affected by what we see was a revelation.*

Ringing with simulator

*My favourite session. This was hands-on. What a great facility. The tutors were also able to spot and advise on correcting errors in my technique.*

From the Rhythm session

*I learned about the handstroke gap. This was new to me. So, in a tower of 6 bells there are 13 'beats'.*

Correcting errors with !Strike using a computer

*Good and useful in finding which may be needed to go to bring errant bell into line.*

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From: **Clover Holland**

Date: Tue, 26 Feb 2019

From Clover's email

*Eight members from our towers of varying levels of ability came along to the training day and without exception all thoroughly enjoyed it and gained a lot from it. Less experienced members were encouraged rather than intimidated, explanations were clear and timely. The Rhythm workshop was great fun and brought home the necessity for counting, the Simulator session gave an opportunity to test our ears plus our bell handling skills and useful tips were given about how to improve our technique as well, the !Strike workshop tested our ears and our brain power to the limits. We really understood what an aural illusion was after that.*

*All in all, an excellent day. Going on a course with so many of our tower members is great in the social sense and it also means that we can work together on the many ideas that we have picked up. What a better way to create a strong team?*