

# Chew Branch Striking Competition 2026

It was decided at the 2023 AGM that there would be a branch striking competition to promote better striking and to encourage wider participation by bands or individuals within the branch.

The 2026 competition will take place at **Publow** (tenor 21-0-16) during the afternoon of **Saturday 16th May** starting at 2.30pm. Parking is available on the opposite side of the bridge to the church. Teas will be provided during the afternoon.

There will be three categories, with a trophy to be awarded to the top tower team in each category:

- Tower bands ringing doubles or minor,
- Tower bands ringing call changes,
- Mixed bands ringing call changes. This category is intended for towers that have insufficient ringers to make a team of six, yet have some individuals who would like to participate.

## Rules

- The order of ringing will be drawn at the start of the competition.
- Up to two minutes' practice will be allowed for each team immediately prior to the test piece, after which the bells are to be stood.
- The treble will be rung for two or three whole pulls to signal the start of the test piece.
- All the rounds and the test piece will be judged.
- A failure to set any bell will not be penalised.

## Test Piece

The test piece will consist of either:

120 changes of Doubles or Minor, with repeated plain courses being permitted,

or

a minimum of five minutes of rounds and call changes during which every bell except the tenor must be brought down to lead.

## Band Composition

- A band representing a tower must consist of at least **four** members who normally ring together at that tower for most practices or Sunday services.
- If a tower has fewer than six members available, a maximum of two external ringers who have a connection with the tower can be included.
- A ringer may ring in a maximum of two teams that represent a tower.

## Other

- In the spirit of fair competition, call change teams must contain at least one ringer who is not able to ring changes in the competition.
- A maximum of two teams per tower will be allowed.
- Ringers should not ring the same bell more than once.
- Mixed bands will be made up by the Ringing Master and Deputy during the afternoon.