

Sonning Deanery Branch, Business Meeting, Arborfield, 19th November 2016

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Financial update – treasurer
3. Review of Branch Practices – BRM
4. Branch Training *Note 1*
5. Young Ringer Training – training officer *Note 2*
6. Update on Guild matters by Branch Reps – Jacquie & Sue
7. Review of Hurst Show advertising and recruitment event *Note 3*
8. Officers for 2017/18 – secretary
9. 2017/18 ‘skeleton’ calendar: competitions / practices / meetings – secretary
10. Branch ringing events: e.g. outings
11. Branch non-ringing events: e.g. fundraising / quiz / dinner/ etc.
12. AOB

Notes to the Agenda

Note 1 What the Branch is doing, does it meet members’ needs, what else should the Branch be doing, how should it be organised and resourced, etc.

Note 2 What are the special needs and preferences of young ringers, what types of activity would best interest them, how should young ringers be organised and supported, etc.

Note 3 Lessons from Hurst Show:

- Well received by the public.
- Possibly better coordinate between have a go & demonstration.
- Balance between PR for ringing and attraction for the Show.
- Full cost could not be justified for annual event, but the Show organisers have offered to donate £150 towards the cost this year. This makes the total costs just over £500 all in; this includes about £100 for banner, posters and leaflets that can be reused.
- Follow up and taster sessions: 32 names in total, 7 contacts never responded, 3 passed to Reading Branch. Nine attended taster sessions; of them 1 is ringing plus 2 others who didn’t go to tasters.
- Contact and follow up would have been easier had we got full names plus phone and e-mail (legibly) at Hurst.
- Do we want to repeat the Hurst Show event next year?
- Alternative venues?
 - Hurst catchment doesn’t cover the Branch.
 - The ‘footfall’ at other known venues probably doesn’t justify the cost.
 - Are there any shows for people looking for new hobbies? Retirement day mentioned but do we want to target them?
 - There are websites listing hobby groups.