

Towers and Belfries Rope Management and Splicing Course

Saturday 10 February 2024 - Radley Church Hall, OX14 2JN



Ringers from across the County came together for the latest Rope Slicing and Rope Management Course held at Radley, organised and run by Tony Crabtree and supported on this occasion by Philip Dobson and Richard Roberts.

Richard set the context with some general information about ropes based on his sailing experience and we were reminded of the importance of our ropes from a safety and cost perspective as well as their role in the mechanics of bell ringing.

Of course, the main event of the day centred on the actual splicing of ropes. Two main splices tend to be used – “short splice” and “long splice” – with a number of variations including “long short splices” and “short long splices”. Even so, the theory was fairly straightforward and so too was the practical side.....for most.



It turns out that rope maintenance and splicing isn't the dark art that it may have seemed at first and is very much about awareness and being prepared to have a go.

And, if needed, there is a deep well of help and guidance on all matters to do with ropes, bells, and belfries available within the Guild and other towers.

If all else fails we could, of course, turn to splicing the mainbrace but I understand that is a completely different skill.

Thank you Tony, Philip and Richard.

Alan Mordue, Standlake