

## Master's Report for 2017

Following on from a fantastic 2016 for Sussex ringers and ringing: 2017 was even better. Let's hope the trend continues to even greater heights.

The start of April saw the South East Youth Striking Competition taking place at Kings Langley in Hertfordshire. Sussex had enough young ringers to enter 2 teams, one team was lead by Rachel Mahoney, and the other by Joshua Hutchinson, and the teams came first and second respectively. What an achievement, well done to both teams and many thanks to Anne Franklin and Sandra Alford for all their help and encouragement both before, and during the event.

Of course, our Young Ringers didn't stop there. This year we were only allowed to enter one team for the Ringing World National Youth Contest held in Birmingham, and Sussex standards were maintained by our young ringers coming third overall, which meant second in the method ringing teams. Congratulations to all the team, and many thanks to Sandra for being the "Responsible Adult" for the day and helping everything to run smoothly.

Sussex more senior ringers made an early start on 9<sup>th</sup> September to get to Hertford to take part in the Essex Trophy Competition. Obviously the early start worked, as our team came first. Many thanks to all the ringers who took part, and of course to Jeremy Alford for leading the team. A fantastic achievement, especially as the method was Superlative Royal. 2018 will see the Competition being held at Horsham on 8<sup>th</sup> September, and the method will be Yorkshire Royal.

A team was also entered for the Tewksbury Shield competition, but unfortunately the ringing didn't go quite as planned. Never mind – these things happen, but thank you all for taking part.

The year has thankfully seen a few volunteers come forward to help with the Administration of our Association. Julie Quinn from Cuckfield has agreed to take the minutes at the 4 main Association meetings (AGM, General Committees and Finance). Jon Spencer from Lindfield has taken over the membership database, so a lot has been taken off the secretary's hands to lighten the workload. Two other volunteers have also come forward to help ease the workload of our Treasurer, Sue Gadd. So, a big thank you to these people.

My 3 year term of office as Master of our Association is almost over, and I would like to thank you all for the support I have been given. There have of course been a few problems for me to sort out, but on the whole, I have enjoyed the last 3 years, and it wouldn't be right if I didn't thank Moya for all the support she has given me.

Graham Hills