

## TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT REPORT

The two-day Association ringing course returned in October this year, following a break in 2016. As always this proved very popular and courses were held on Developing Method Ringing Skills, Getting to Grips with Grandsire, Plain Bob Doubles and Starting Surprise. These provide the opportunity for intensive training with expert guidance from the course tutor and helpers. Students progressed well in a fun, relaxed learning environment. Thanks to Anne Franklin for organising such a successful event and for all the tutors and volunteers who helped the students achieve so much.

Handbell ringing is becoming more popular again and thanks to Hamish McNaughton and his helpers for running another hugely successful handbell training day. All levels were welcome from beginners to Surprise ringing. In fact, it was so successful, two further days are planned for 2018.

ART has arrived in Sussex - Southover has hosted the first ever ART (Association of Ringing Teachers) course for Sussex and another has followed since. The ART approach is to 'break the stages of learning to ring into small steps'. The first course was 'Teaching Bell Handling' and the second 'Teaching from Rounds to Plain Hunt'. These new styles of teaching are now being seen in towers across Sussex and positive feedback being heard. Both courses were fully booked and more are planned for 2018. Thanks to Clare Cullen and Matthew Jones for getting the ball rolling.

All Districts have been holding training events throughout the year – sometimes specific courses, sometimes a morning or an evening set aside for a certain task. We know the demand is out there, please do get in touch with one of your Committee members or District Secretary if there is anything you would like.

Congratulations to our Sussex Young Ringers who continue to achieve amazing things. Two teams were entered into the South East Youth Striking Competition held at Kings Langley in Hertfordshire, coming first and second! This bode well for the RWNYS held in Birmingham and indeed they excelled again, getting through their heat to the final and coming joint 3<sup>rd</sup> overall out of 19 teams. They are great ambassadors of the Association!

Congratulations must also go to the 'Adult' team who won the Essex Trophy Striking Competition held at All Saints, Hertford. Superlative No 2 S Royal was the competition method, not easy at all. The competition is being held at Horsham in 2018 with the test piece being Yorkshire S Royal – can we make it two in a row?

2017 saw the launch of the nationwide Ringing Remembers campaign which aims to recruit 1400 new ringers in honour of the 1400 people from the bellringing community who lost their lives in World War I. It is hoped that the new recruits will be able to participate in the 2018 Armistice Day commemorations and some have already come forward in Sussex. The campaign provides a great focus for gaining new ringers in your tower. Ideas and resources can be found at [scacr.org/learning-training/ringing-remembers](http://scacr.org/learning-training/ringing-remembers).

This is a fantastic time to join in with Training & Recruitment. Please let Sandra know at [secretary@scacr.org](mailto:secretary@scacr.org) if you'd like to be involved, in any way, however small. We are always looking for fresh ideas.

Sandra Alford