

risingringers

NEW GUILD GROUP: YOUNG RINGERS NEWS!

THE GUILD risingringers

The risingringers is a brand new idea to bring together young ringers from across the Guild and to have a good time!

I have only been ringing for a few months now, and am just getting to grips with the easier methods. But I would be nowhere near this stage if I had not attended the "Rising Ringers" meetings. The format of them is wonderful - experienced ringers demonstrate and offer advice to newcomers to bell ringing. It was extremely daunting for all involved on the first meeting in Shawell Church, Lutterworth on March 17th. Most of us hadn't met each other before, and yet no-one felt embarrassed by their ringing ability. People took it in turns to ring, under the guidance of experienced ringers, such as Tony Parker and Terry Iliffe, and for those not ringing, there was a quiz on handling a bell. By the end of the morning I, and I am sure that others too, felt a lot more confident about ringing, and also ringing in front of more advanced ringers, which is always a daunting experience.

The next time we all met again was at the Oadby Ringing Centre, surprisingly enough based in Oadby on April 13th. Yes, it was a Friday, but no-one from our group suffered as a consequence! The bells at Oadby, for those who don't know, are tied, so that you can make as many mistakes as you

like, and not upset the local residents. The bells are attached to a simulator which provides the noise that you would normally hear. This was a very different experience, and once you got accustomed to it, really enjoyable. There was also a camera connected to a monitor in the ringing room, displaying what was going on in the belfry, which was a valuable experience and helped everyone to understand how a bell rang. Whilst Ed White added to the "Rising Ringers" ringing expertise in the ringing room, Andrew Young took another group downstairs to take part in a more light-hearted activity with bell plates, to make people visualise the orders that bells take in a method - confusing, but good fun - especially when it got faster and more complex!

The most recent "Rising Ringers" meet took place at the picturesque church of Kings Norton. To start the evening, the ringers first got to witness a Carillon in action, operated by Tony Parker, which was very interesting, and then after a further trek up the spiral staircase, we were given a first hand experience of watching how a bell rings. The tied bell was rung by Rob Parker whilst John Cook explained what was going on. After these wonderful demonstrations, the "Rising Ringers" finally got down to

business and started ringing. The main lesson was "Plain Hunt", as most of us were at that stage. These lessons were interspersed with the odd parent having a brief go at ringing. There was a large number of skilled ringers present, on hand to give help and advice to those who were in need. Amy, Roland and John Cook, The Parker family, The Iliffes and many more stood by those ringers who needed help and steered them in the right direction. Once an evening's ringing was over, those who wanted to went to the local pub, The Fox and Goose in Illston, for refreshments. It was a very good end to a very good evening. So I'm sure that I am not the only one who eagerly awaits the next "Rising Ringers" event. I would like to finish by thanking all of those involved in these events, because out of their own generosity and also their own time, have gone out of their way to help less able ringers to improve. I am sure that I am not the only one who can say that my ringing has definitely improved as a result!

If you have any young ringers at your tower or are a young ringer yourself, we want to hear from you! Please contact Tony Parker on (0116) 2596 221, John Cook on (0116) 2477 935 or email risingringers@leicesterddg.org.uk for more information!

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