

SDB Ringing Outings Survey, June/July 2017

This survey of all Sonning Deanery Branch members (on email) about their views of Ringing Outings was conducted by Rob Needham, Sec., starting in June 2017. Responses from only 12 members out of 166 was rather disappointing and we shouldn't over-react to the results. Not everyone answered every question, so respondents for a question do not always total 12.

The respondents were split equally (5 YES, 5 NO) over whether or not they usually attend Branch Ringing Outings, so at least the survey gives a balanced viewpoint. Even though half didn't usually attend, all said that they enjoyed Branch Outings.

Time constraints. 17% said our all-day outings take up too much of their time; half-day outings might be the answer (6 would probably attend them, 4 probably not).

The most significant reason for not attending outings was that they clashed with other things the respondents do on Saturdays; half said this.

Outing 'extras'. Making the outings more family oriented got a muted response; only two (17%) said they would consider attending such outings. Three times as many respondents said it would not encourage them to attend.

Similarly, including something of general interest to adults in addition to the ringing was not popular. Only half the respondents answered, and twice as many said it would not encourage them to go on an outing as those that said it would.

Standard of ringing. This is not an issue; two (17%) of respondents said they thought the standard of ringing would be too high for them and nobody thought the standard too low.

Confidence. Three (25%) of respondents said they found ringing unfamiliar bells scary (but 2 go on outings anyway); only one of the three doesn't usually attend outings.

Lack of appeal. No respondent said that ringing outings just don't appeal to them, but maybe such people would not bother to answer the questionnaire!

4th Oct. 2017

Conclusion. The most significant reason for not attending Ringing Outings was *Time Constraints*; they take up too much time or clash with other activities on a Saturday. Half-day outings were a possible answer for more than half the respondents.