

CHANGE RINGING FOR THE FUTURE

REPORT ON BREAKOUT GROUPS LONDON REGION

A. What's working well in your area?

Working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster of towers helping/supporting each other ▪ Cooperation with other towers in the borough 	
Training and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ITTS ▪ Concentrated 'open invitation' days eg 4 x 1hour on consecutive Saturdays have worked well in our village, but could be repeated in London towers ▪ Individual towers are trying to attract recruits and more importantly to have arrangement in place to get them trained properly ▪ Focused concentrated training courses ("learn to ring in a week") sometimes linked to local events ▪ Basic training at some towers is very good ▪ Training days 	
Meetings/ practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ District practices on a tower practice night ▪ Focused practices with a specific purpose ▪ Special practices for more advanced ringing ▪ Individual practice sessions ▪ Specific practice Surprise Major 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enthusiastic people on board ▪ Inclusive – opportunities to run towers, call touches etc ▪ Individual towers with strong tower captains have good bands ▪ Plenty of opportunities for quarters and peals for those prepared to seek them out ▪ Opportunities for advanced ringing ▪ Having an active social life that also includes non-ringing events to ensure it's not elitist ▪ Moving from 6 to 8-bell ringing 	

B. What's NOT working well in your area?

Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ District/association officers do not acknowledge there is a problem – the same few people attend practices/meetings ▪ Lack of committee 	
Meetings/ practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commitment - we need to inspire our ringers that regular practice is beneficial 	
Recruitment/ training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encouraging learners to travel to other towers to enhance their repertoire ▪ Need to find and organise for many more trainers and people to organise ringers and ringing ▪ Quite a few have attended ITTS but not followed through – support from associations needed 	x 2
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Too many silent/near silent towers ▪ A lot of tower captains don't accept they need help ▪ Towers with no competent/engaging leader ▪ Some polarisation between high and low level ringing ▪ Experienced ringers want to ring Surprise, not teach beginners (x2) ▪ Charmborough ring is only used once or twice a year in London – could be used much more to recruit new ringers ▪ Age! ▪ Repetition of the same old things ▪ Association not the same all over – London towers in the North, rural towers in the South 	x 2 x 3 x 3

C. What cross-boundary initiatives are happening near you?

Working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Almost nothing at present – considerable scope to do more given public transport links ▪ Not enough – people don't like crossing borders for ringing – only for quiz nights! ▪ Barnes/Fulham working together ▪ A little cross [river?] assistance in London – done occasionally eg ringing for weddings 	
Contests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ London 12-bell contest ▪ London striking competitions 	x 2
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New learners attending Essex Course ▪ Opening district training to other districts ▪ UK10/UK11 etc (overseas annual trips to UK) 	
Private initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unofficial talking by ringers who are on the border ▪ Slowly, inviting towers from other districts to join us ▪ London carol service and social event ▪ Quite a lot – but mostly at a personal level 	

Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Old codger type, midweek practices ▪ ASCY USA tours ▪ Flexibility to accommodate abilities ▪ Targeted and specific eg method ▪ Inter-district joint quarter peal days ▪ “Ring around the [?]” – annual trip for all local bands to ring at the other church ▪ Attending practices at other London towers ▪ Members from CYs and Cumberlands visit UK ▪ ASCY has helped at Middlesex practices 	
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D. What are the cross-boundary opportunities in your region?

Working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hard to say – no obvious enthusiasm ▪ Many opportunities but often barriers exist and groups don't mix ▪ Encourage thriving bands to filter out and help others of eg similar age groups ▪ Don't know – few if any are advertised ▪ To work with rural societies to give them a taste of uni practices ▪ Need Lewisham and SW Essex - and N&E Middlesex & N Surrey - to work more closely together 	
Contests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Striking competition 'friendlies' ▪ Striking contests 	
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ringing fodder to support training ▪ Joint society initiatives in promotion of ringing, training recruits, teaching the various aspects of leadership and providing funding ▪ Training – people learning ringing at different towers ▪ ITTS ▪ Tower captain courses 	
Young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is surely an opportunity for the London Diocese to engage with active young (eg UL) bands 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarters ▪ Joint practices – specific methods, specific ages, social events ▪ Simulator ▪ Mini-ring ▪ It helps if the boundary isn't too far away! ▪ Peals ▪ Local conferences ▪ Shared success experiences 	X 3