

RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT WORKGROUP

BRIEFING UPDATE • 23 August 2026 • Ringing 2030



BELLRINGING

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH
BELLRINGERS

Ringling 2030 is reinvigorating ringing through recruitment, teaching, development and a culture of friendly success. Below are the headlines from this quarter's open briefing - held to keep the community informed and invite feedback.



ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE LAST ACM

- Regular briefings established, now shared more widely, with executive briefings following the same model.
- Southwest Ringing Course succeeded and is growing, its 2nd year has more modules, students and helpers.
- Succession planning delivered, Lucy Chandhial takes over from Paul Wotton after the September ACM.
- The Recruit, Regain, Retain (3R's) network is up and running as a genuine community of practice.



RECRUIT, REGAIN, RETAIN (3R'S)

- Launched March 2026, a cross-regional "community of practice" sharing what works (and what doesn't).
- Bi-monthly online sessions (1hr, Sunday evenings UK time), short talk plus open Q&A discussion.
- All sessions recorded; slides & video published on the CCCBR Recruitment Network webpage.
- Facebook group, WhatsApp group and mailing list open to join via the recruitment network page.
- Next event: Sunday 20 September, 8pm UK, a branch scheme for engaging new learners.**



ONLINE RECRUITMENT HUB / PORTAL

- A one-stop-shop site in development for newcomers curious about ringing, and for lapsed ringers wanting a way back.
- Led by the Technology for Ringing 2030 group, with 3R's supporting content and association contacts.
- Back-end largely built; front-end design still to come.
- Associations are being asked to confirm the right contact for new-learner enquiries - a nudge to any that haven't replied would help.



LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

- Focus on recognising volunteers (e.g. National Volunteers Week) and easing people into leadership roles.
- Pushing for clearer succession planning across the board, so volunteering has a defined "exit", not a lifetime commitment.
- Encouraging roles to be broken into manageable, time-limited chunks with mentoring/peer support.



NEW: DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

- Development has lagged behind recruitment; this work is being reinvigorated with a search underway for a new team leader.
- Aim: build a development network mirroring the 3R's model, to help ringers and tower captains find a clear path to progress after initial training.
- Central Council's role is to encourage and connect, not to dictate - filling gaps left as informal, tower-based mentoring has declined.
- Early, informal talks with the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) to avoid duplicated effort and target areas with few accredited teachers.
- Clarified in Q&A: ART accreditation is not required to teach, it's one route to good, safe teaching among several, and ART's real focus is training and mentoring teachers, not gatekeeping.



REGIONAL COURSES

- Southwest & Northwest regional courses both running well and growing; Central Council underwrites financial risk for new courses.
- A further regional course is wanted to fill geographic gaps, get in touch if your area could host one.



GET INVOLVED

- New volunteers always welcome, especially from Scotland, Ireland and Wales, currently unrepresented on the team.
- Meet the team at the Central Council weekend in Rugby, look for the recruitment & development t-shirts.
- Slides, recordings and sign-up links for both mailing lists are on the CCCBR Recruitment Network webpage.

Discussion highlight: several towers reported success building a "ringing tutors" team (post-M1) so teaching isn't reliant on one person, and by routinely inviting non-ringers (wedding parties, scouts, school groups) up for a first go, normalising informal teaching moments outside of formal courses.

Source: Recruitment & Development Workgroup Briefing Session, 23 August 2026. Full recording and slides available on the CCCBR website.