

NO SLACKING!

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3Rs COMMITTEE: NEW WORKSHOP BIG SUCCESS

On the 17th March a small group of people, of which I was one, attended a 3R's workshop for those wishing to attract and retain ringers.

It was organised by the 3R's Committee and run by Jennie Paul at St Michael's Church Markfield. Right from the start it was clear that we were not going to be lectured at! It was to be a workshop and we were going to be doing the work!

Acting as facilitator, Jennie led and cajoled us through all the relevant issues, ranging from how to contact and interest potential new ringers to how to ensure that they become happy and confident members of the tower band, covering child protection, safety, teaching techniques and many other topics on the way. There was also an interesting demonstration of closed circuit TV showing how action in the ringing room translates into movement of the bell.

Progress through the topics was by open discussion, and everyone clearly felt comfortable in expressing their views and describing their experiences.



GUILD COMMITTEES
3Rs

Jennie leading from the front at Markfield Church

Everyone benefited from sharing ideas within the group, and the resulting stimulation of interest was clearly apparent.

During the session we were each presented with a 'Recruitment Pack' containing sample documents such as consent forms, press releases, appeals for new ringers, and also some very useful and comprehensive-looking stuff on teaching. The fact that much of this pre-prepared material matched closely the items raised during the discussions is a testament to the solid thinking

which must have been done by the 3R's Committee beforehand.

The whole session took an afternoon, with two refreshment breaks. It was paced just about right from my point of view. All in all it was an afternoon well-spent, stimulating and informative.

I feel sure that anyone looking to increase the numbers in their band would do well to get a place on one of these workshops. (Contact Jennie Paul, see cover!)