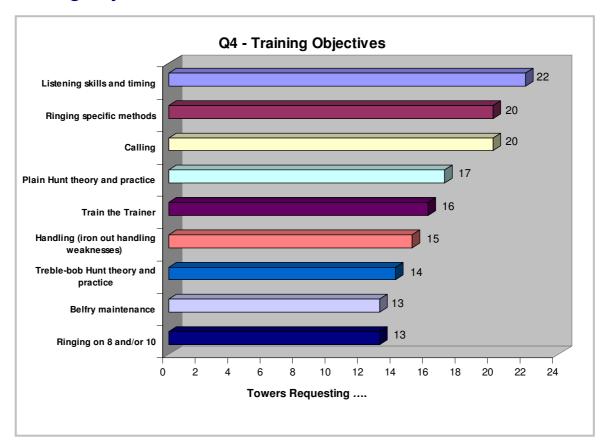


1. Overall Response

- The questionnaire was responded to by 27 tower captains or their deputies.
- All those completing the questionnaire indicated that the District should run a Training Programme.

2. Training Objectives

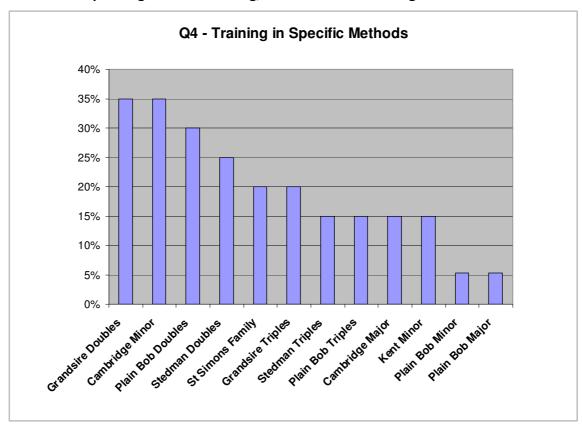


- The most requested training was Listening Skills and Timing, which was considered important by almost 90% of those responding to this question (20 towers).
- This was followed by Calling (80% of responses), Specific method training (80%), Plain Hunt (68%), and Train the Trainer (64%).
- Other training objectives were also considered important by many towers, with each of the other objectives considered important by at least 13 or more towers.



3. Method Objectives

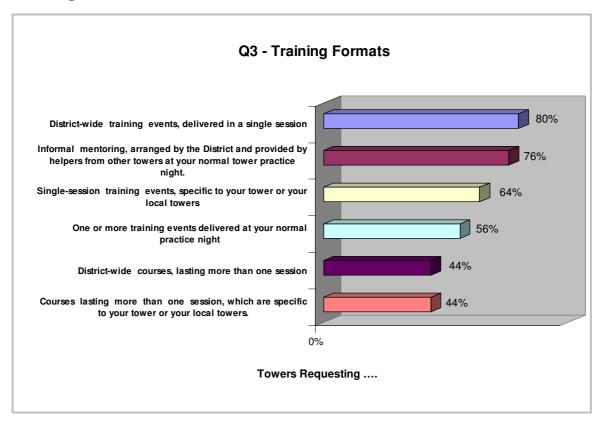
• Those requesting method training, favoured the following methods :-



- Interest was distributed across a wide range of methods.
- There was no clear consensus. Grandsire Doubles and Cambridge Minor, the most requested methods, were favoured by only a third of those responding.



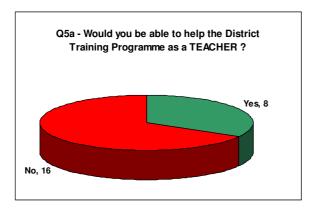
4. Training Formats

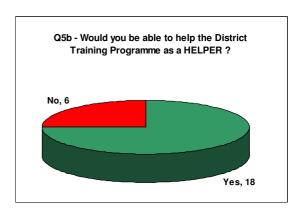


- The most popular format remains single session District-wide training events, which were favoured by 80% of those responding (20 towers).
- There was also demand for more intensive coaching for individual bands, through informal mentoring and single session events specific to individual towers.



5. Training Support

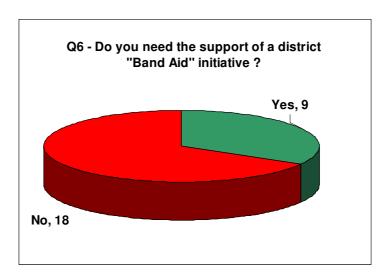




5.1. Key Findings

• Eight towers were able to offer teachers/trainers and all but six volunteered helpers.

6. "Band Aid"



- Only nine towers expressed an interest in a district "Band Aid" initiative.
- Those expressing an interest had differing needs, with some requesting help for regular practice nights and others needing support for specific ringing initiatives, such as quarter peal attempts.
- A number of towers indicated that a higher priority was to build or augment an
 existing team with new ringers, so as to create a sustainable band for future training.



6.2. Band Aid - Survey Comments

We have been requesting this for some time. We do have some support from neighbouring towers, but which are located outside the District (e.g. Greenwich and Bermondsey), but these resources are limited and we would like to recruit and train more ringers during 2016. Help teaching bell handling in intensive lessons for the first few weeks, then rounds, call changes and kaleidoscope would be appreciated, as would help teaching plain hunt/plain bob for those who we recruited last year.

Though I like the idea of Band Aid, in practice it's always felt a bit awkward to use - especially as the practices I go to tend to have erratic attendance making it hard to be sure that the right people would turn up on a Band Aid night. I'd far rather cultivate semi-regular mutual support with nearby ringers and strengthen practice nights more sustainably that way.

There is interest in the parish to establish a local team of ringers, but the limiting factor is the availability of teachers to teach bell-handling, and especially helpers to teach rounds and call-changes etc. We plan to do some recruitment later this spring/early summer and to work with Christchurch Isle of Dogs and All Saints Poplar. St Dunstan's Stepney is also close by. Several of the people that ring with us at the other Docklands towers are attending an ART Module 2 course at Barnes on 9th April and a Module 2 course at St Clement Danes on 21 May. They will be available to help, although we need to find experienced teachers to help mentor them.

We also plan to use some of the prize money from our success in this year's ART awards (see RW of 25th March) to launch an initiative to recruit some young ringers, and I will forward an outline of our plans.

Help with all this would be very much be appreciated and would benefit the District and Association by adding new members, who can then participate in events.

Newer ringers from other towers slightly further away e.g. Bow, St George's, South Hackney etc. could also benefit as we are quite accessible by public transport. Setting up something akin to the Birmingham School of Bellringing in this area would make a real difference in the long term to quite a few of the District's towers.

My 'tower' consists of me + 3 on call changes and 1 learning to handle. The 3 are ready to learn hunting.

Helpers to ring focused sessions on a Sunday evening, being c.720 changes of one method for one person needing to learn/gain confidence in the method.



7. Survey Questions

