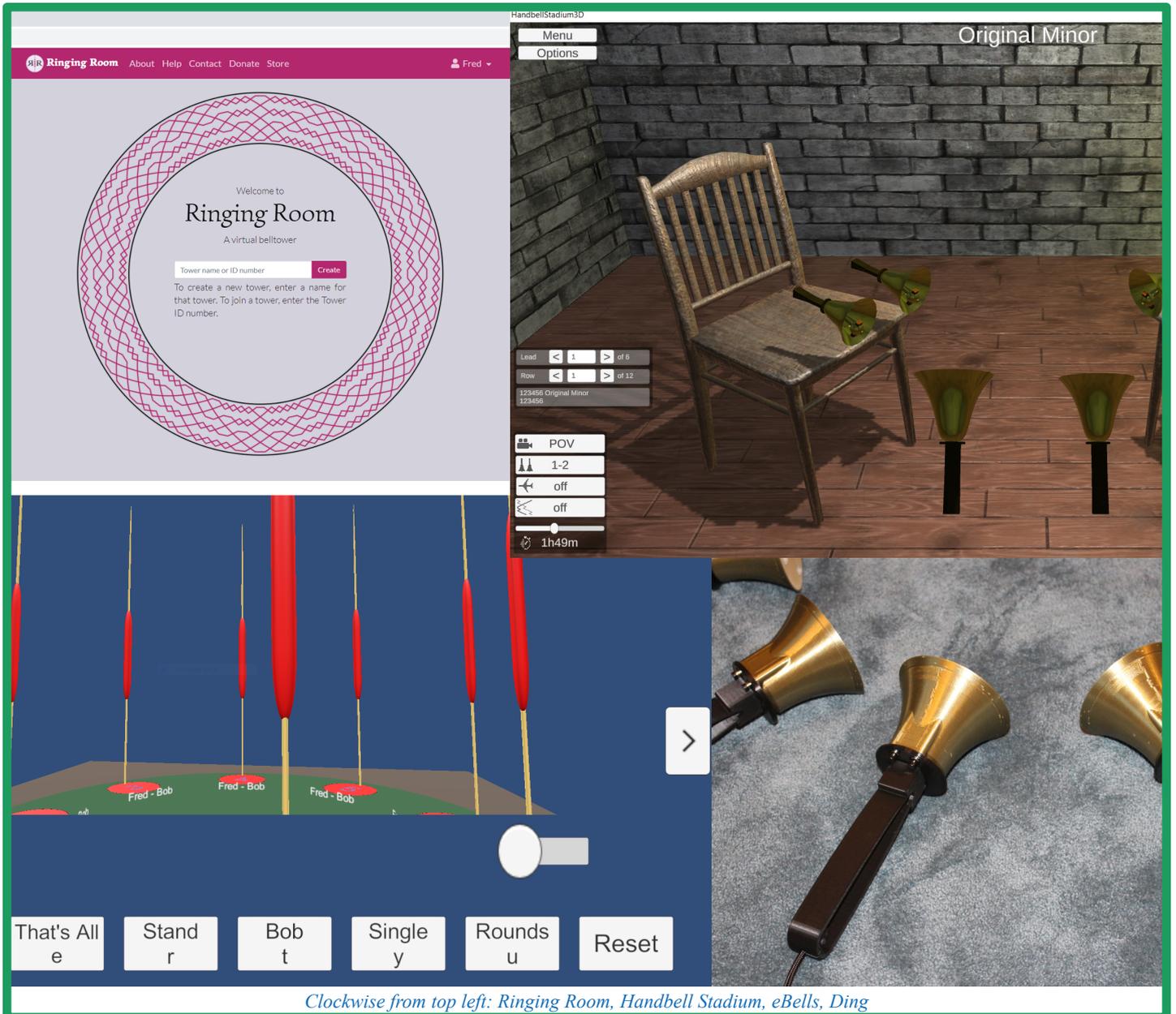




THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS



2021 Annual Meeting Papers

From the President

This Annual Meeting comes at a time when ringing is gradually getting back to normal for the vast majority of ringers. Ringing activities in our various countries have been closely aligned to the approach of our governments to the pandemic, so for some there has been virtually no ringing for 18 months, whereas for others the impact of the pandemic on ringing has been relatively minor. What we are all waking up to though is a very different ringing landscape, undoubtedly with fewer ringers at a time when we were already worried about recruitment and the age profile of ringers anyway.

Often it takes a sudden jolt or outside influence to kick start activity that really needed to happen anyway – the formation of that tower cluster, new tower leadership, a recruitment campaign, maybe even taking up handbell ringing! In just one of the bands with which I ring regularly, one ringer has had a ‘reassessment of their priorities’ which did not include ringing, one couple is too cautious to do any ringing at present, another couple have changed their work and moved away. But all the youngsters have got better and stronger – it will be different, but the future can be bright if we reach for the lights.

If you are a ‘glass half full’ sort of person like me, it is easy to find things that are better than they were before, and these are largely around our relationships with our partners and with each other. Our relationship with the Church in England is immeasurably stronger, and this has also been found by many associations whose relationship with their Diocese has become closer. Negotiations with all our respective churches have served to highlight the contribution we make to the life of the Church, and the absence of the sound of bells has also made many communities realise that they miss us.

There have also been great efforts made by ringing societies to keep their members active and interested. Those who have made the most efforts will be reaping the rewards, possibly with renewed enthusiasm of some members, and the challenge of translating online method ringing progress onto the end of the rope! Some individuals have shone brightly, and their enthusiasm has rubbed off and helped motivate others.

The Executive and Workgroups have been very busy too. Benefitting I suppose from having a bit more time on our hands, there has been a remarkable amount of work done, which you will hopefully appreciate on reading the various reports. The members of the Covid Guidance team deserve special mention I think – Phil Barnes, Mark Regan, David Pouncey and I have developed, negotiated, and delivered guidance in a changing and not always consistent environment. The quiet support of many of our societies has been much appreciated and kept us going through some very difficult times.

There aren’t any great debates to be had at this September’s meeting or earth-shattering motions to be voted on. The Executive and Workgroups are getting on with their jobs, following the guidance set out in the Strategic Priorities that were published 18 months ago and repeated on page 5. Those Strategic Priorities have not changed much although some have become more pressing. In particular our first Priority, which is to “Find alternative long-term sources of recruits who have the potential to be good ringers”, is even more important, and we are probably going to have to work harder on it. Also in a similar way on the other priorities, such as trying to make sure ringers don’t hit barriers to progress. Fortunately our Workgroups have all attracted additional volunteers so we can get even more work done in the exciting year ahead.

After consultation we have decided between us all that a Direct Membership Organisation is not the way to go, which means that our affiliated societies, all the guilds and associations which you represent, are going to continue to be the organisations that try to make ringing what we want it to be.

One interesting thing though that has come from our consultation on direct membership is that a group of young ringers have decided they do want a single membership structure to bind them together. The nascent Young Change Ringers Association is being built on a belief that what is needed is a national organisation that respects their individual groups, but most importantly puts in place a mentoring structure so that they look after each other. This has the support of all of us and it will be interesting to see how it develops.

Let’s hope that this is the last time that we are forced to meet together virtually rather than face to face. Let’s hope that we recover quickly from the effects of the pandemic. And let’s hope that we can all go away from this meeting feeling that we can play our part in making ringing better.

Simon Linford
President
Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Registered Charity No 270036

The 124th Annual Meeting of the Council will be held by video conference (Zoom) on Saturday 4th September 2021 at 10.30 am.

Members will be sent the registration link by email. Members need to register in advance by entering their name, society, and email address. This will enable you to vote. Registration will close at 5 pm on Friday 3rd September.

The Zoom session will be open from 10.15 am so you will be able to join at any time from then on, and ideally before 10.25 am.

AGENDA

Welcome and introduction.

1. Opening prayer.
2. Application(s) to affiliate.
3. Welcome to new members [\(p.6\)](#).
4. Apologies for absence.
5. In Memoriam.
6. Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting [\(p.7\)](#).
7. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
8. Annual Trustees' Report for 2020 [\(p.13\)](#).
9. Accounts for 2020 [\(p.16\)](#).
10. Annual Report of the Executive and Workgroups for 2020 – May 2021 [\(p.18\)](#).
11. Executive and Workgroup updates for May – August 2021.
12. Forward Plan for 2022.
13. Financial update for 2021 and outline General Fund budget for 2022 [\(p.39\)](#).
14. Election of Trustees: the following nominations have been received; supporting statements are given in Appendix A of this Agenda [\(p.5\)](#):

<i>Office</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Treasurer	Fergus Stracey	Alena Wardle	Hayley Young
Ordinary Trustee	Phillip Barnes	Colin Newman	Doug Davis
Ordinary Trustee	Clyde Whittaker	Phillip Barnes	Nick Elks
15. Election of Independent Examiners (2):

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Caroline Stockmann	Fred Bone	Doug Davis
16. Governance Review.

17. Motions.

- (A) *That the Council's Rules and Standing Orders be amended as indicated below to allow for the possibility that only one Independent Examiner will be elected.*

[Supporting statement: Whilst it will always be preferable for two Independent Examiners to be elected, the Council is now probably alone amongst ringing charities in specifying that two examiners be elected each year. One of our Examiners, who had served as such since 2005, retired in 2020 and there may not be sufficient competent and willing volunteers amongst future Council members. In practice the work of examining the Council's accounts has been shared, not duplicated, with most of the examination carried out by one person. The whole examination could be carried out by one examiner and allows a single examiner an easier 'sign off' of the examination, having undertaken all of the work themselves.]

That Rule 6.1 b) (2) be amended to read:

the statement of accounts of the Council for the year ended 31 December previous, together with the report of the Independent **Examiner or Examiners** thereon;

That Rule 6.1 c) be amended to read:

to elect **up to** two Independent Examiners;

That Standing Order F4.1 be amended to read:

Up to two Independent Examiners shall at each Annual Council Meeting be elected from amongst the Council's Representative Members for a term of one year.

That Standing Order F4.3 be amended to read:

An Independent Examiner acting alone after consultation with the Trustees or the Independent Examiners acting together shall have power to employ the services of a professional accountant at the expense of the Council in pursuit of their duties.

Proposed by Michael Church (Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Derek Harbottle (Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association).

- (B) *Capturing substantive Executive decisions.*

[Supporting statement: The Executive regularly reports to members on decisions it has made. Some decisions result in formal Policies or changes to Standing Orders, which are published and kept up to date with a central register. Other decisions, even those that will remain in force until modified or countermanded by some other decision, are only recorded in the Executive meeting notes and it would be necessary to go back through the notes of all previous meetings to check what decisions if any are still in force. It would help transparency if there were a published list of substantive decisions that remain in force (akin to the list of Policies).]

That the Executive be encouraged to publish and maintain a list of its decisions that are currently in force.

Proposed by John Harrison (Oxford Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Ruth Marshall (Scottish Association).

18. Future meetings.

2022 meeting: the Deputy President will report.
2023: An invitation has been received from the Suffolk Guild.

2024: An invitation has been received from the Guild of Devonshire Ringers for 2024.

19. Any other business.

Please notify items in advance.

Mary Bone
Secretary

Appendix A Supporting Statements

Phillip Barnes

Ordinary Trustee

I offer myself for re-election as a member of the CC Executive.

Since joining the CRAG team and delivering the report in 2017 I have strived to make the Central Council a body that is effective and relevant to the challenges and opportunities facing ringing today. I have used my professional background as a medically-qualified board level director both to contribute new ideas and to provide challenge when plans may need modification.

There is no doubt that our era will be divided into pre-COVID and the “next normal”. We don’t know what that next normal will be but a forward thinking Council, focusing not only on the present but also on the long term health of ringing will be needed to coordinate and guide our efforts to achieve it.

In terms of the here and now, apart from the work on COVID risk, I am the Executive Sponsor for one workgroup and have additionally been leading work to expand the CC Performance Analysis. This now includes quarter peals and will provide better data on the “grass roots” health of change ringing to inform the work which is focused on providing opportunities for ringers to progress.

Clyde Whittaker

Ordinary Trustee

A Council Member since 2016 Clyde first contributed to the PR team, working on “BBC Music Day” and initiating the relationship with DCMS which led to “Ringing Remembers”. A member of the CRAG committee, for whom he wrote a number of supporting papers, he then co-ordinated the task of rewriting the Council’s rules, adopted at Lancaster in 2018.

On joining the Executive he formed and led the team which delivered the Council’s new-format conference and roadshow at Goldsmiths in 2019. He has continued to work on governance, writing Council policies on Privacy, Conflict of Interest and the Application of Funds. He consulted on changes permitting small societies to register with the Council (adopted 2020) and has since supported the President on initiatives with CCT and SCIE.

A ringer since 2010, he is an active supporter of MCA-LDG, serving as its Training Officer until 2021.

A teacher by training, Clyde spent most of his working life in the IT industry, latterly as technology director of a finance company. He currently serves as Treasurer of Hampstead’s Neighbourhood Forum and Secretary of Nadder CLT, a charity promoting community-led housing. He is a trustee of a hospital radio charity in Surrey.

Strategic Priorities 2020 and beyond

1. Find alternative long term sources of recruits who have the potential to be good ringers

We can no longer rely on the church to supply us with recruits, particularly youngsters, and we have to work harder to attract and retain them.

2. That no ringer should hit a barrier to their own progression

If a ringer wants to progress, they should always be able to find a pathway that helps them, although it will probably not just be at their own tower.

3. The pursuit of excellence in everything we do

The pursuit of high quality performance is something that binds together all the different strata and styles of ringing. To achieve this we need the best possible ringing environments, organisation and leadership.

4. The sound of church bells remains part of our cultural soundscape and is appreciated and understood

The sound of church bells is quintessentially British, although it exists more widely. When people hear bells it should

not only remind them of the presence of the church, but they should recognise and appreciate the skill involved.

5. The pursuit of method ringing is not the only measure of success for a ringer

No one should feel a failure if they do not do method ringing. All ringers are valued.

6. The Church continues to value our contribution

We must retain the Church’s goodwill in order to continue to have access to their bells.

A series of articles explaining these in detail appeared in *The Ringing World*: issue 5685 (10 April 2020) p357; issue 5686 (17 April 2020) p387; issue 5687 (24 April 2020) p407; issue 5689 (8 May 2020) p454; issue 5690 (15 May 2020) p489; issue 5691 (22 May 2020) p508. An updated version may be found on the Council’s website at ccbr.org.uk/strategic-priorities-2020-and-beyond/

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers 2021

- Fellows:** John Baldwin, William Butler, Alan Frost, David Kelly.
- Ex-officio:** Mary Bone, Alan Glover, Tim Jackson, Paul Jopp*, Simon Linford, Dickon Love, David Mattingley, Allen Nunley, Ian Oram, Bill Purvis, Mark Regan, Alan Regin, Christopher Ridley, Fergus Stracey.
- Ancient Society of College Youths:** Richard Allton, Tom Hinks*, Colin Newman, Andrew Wilby.
- Australian & New Zealand Assn:** Peter Harrison, David Smith. One vacancy.
- Barrow & District Society:** Peter Limage.
- Bath & Wells Dio. Assn:** Paul Feast*, Michael Hansford, Matthew Higby#, David Parfrey, Charles Pipe-Wolferstan.
- Bedfordshire Assn:** Patrick Albon, Linda Garton, Richard Horne.
- Beverly & District Society:** Rosina Baxter*, James Blackburn.
- Cambridge Univ. Guild:** David Richards, Richard Smith*.
- Carlisle Dio. Guild:** Christine de Cordova, Duncan Walker.
- Chester Dio. Guild:** Carole Hallam, David Jones, Tom Nestor, Peter Wilkinson#.
- Clerical Ringers' Guild:** Revd Jon Rose.
- Coventry Dio. Guild:** Annie Hall, John Newbold*, Joy Pluckrose. One vacancy.
- Derby Dio. Assn:** Glen Fiddy*, Andrew Hall, Susan Hall, Gill Hughes.
- Devon Assn:** Tim Jones, Joanne Tucker.
- Devonshire Guild:** Lynette Costello, Lynne Hughes, James Kirkcaldy*, Alena Wardle*.
- Dorset County Assn:** Revd Christopher Renyard*.
- Durham & Newcastle Dio. Assn:** Howard Smith, Barbara Wheeler. Two vacancies.
- Durham Univ. Society:** Phil Hughes.
- East Derby & West Notts Assn:** Edward Sterland.
- East Grinstead & District Guild:** Kate Wills.
- Ely Dio. Assn:** Philip Bailey, Sue Marsden, Paul Seaman, Daniel Stevens.
- Essex Assn:** Fred Bone, Paul Bray, Helen Bridgman, Vicki Chapman, Martin Jones*.
- Four Shires Guild:** Matthew Kemble, Chris Povey.
- Gloucester & Bristol Dio. Assn:** Mark Davies, Simon Edwards*, Derek Harbottle, William Nash, Richard While.
- Guildford Dio. Guild:** John Couperthwaite, Jackie Roberts. Two vacancies.
- Hereford Dio. Guild:** Colin Ward. Three vacancies.
- Hertford County Assn:** Stuart Brant, Tony Crowther, Geoff Horritt, Margaret Horritt.
- Irish Assn:** Robert MacDonald, Don McLean, Michael Pomeroy.
- Kent County Assn:** Phillip Barnes, Douglas Davis, Caroline Stockmann, Jennifer Thomas*, Nick Wilkins.
- Ladies Guild:** Rosemary Hemmings, Alison Williams, Jan Wyatt.
- Lancashire Assn:** Sam Brook, Cate Gardner, Beth Ingham, Andrew Kayll. One vacancy.
- Leeds Univ. Society:** Rebecca Harrison*.
- Leicester Dio. Guild:** Lianne Brooks, Carol Franklin, Steve Millington, Arthur Rees.
- Lichfield & Walsall Archd. Society:** Stephen Askew, Stuart Hutchieson, David Towell.
- Lincoln Dio. Guild:** Philip Green, Chris Sharp, Chris Turner. One vacancy.
- Liverpool Univ. Society:** Martyn Bristow.
- Llandaff & Monmouth Dio. Assn:** Matthew Turner, John Vesey. One vacancy.
- Middlesex County Assn. & London Dio. Guild:** Sonia Field, Robert Lewis, Adrian Udal, Clyde Whittaker.
- National Police Guild:** John Cousins.
- North American Guild:** Bruce Butler, Eileen Butler, Beverly Faber, Christian Haller.
- North Staffordshire Assn:** Jan Hine, Tim Hine. One vacancy.
- North Wales Assn:** Antony Diserens, Beverley Furniss.
- Norwich Dio. Assn:** Raymond Harwood, Katie Wright. Two vacancies.
- Oxford Dio. Guild:** John Harrison, Lucy Hopkins Till, Graham John, Alan Marchbank, Tim Pett. One vacancy.
- Oxford Society:** Dorothy Hall.
- Oxford Univ. Society:** Craig Robertson.
- Peterborough Dio. Guild:** Simon Dixon, Nick Elks, Jane Sibson, David Westerman.
- St Agatha Guild:** Anne Bray.
- St David's Dio. Guild:** Chris Hughes.
- St Martin's Guild:** Richard Andrew, James Ramsbottom.
- Salisbury Dio. Guild:** Tom Garrett, Max Knight, Anthony Lovell-Wood, Julian Newman, Vicki Rowse.
- Scottish Assn:** Ruth Marshall, Tina Stoecklin.
- Shropshire Assn:** Paul Lewis, Ann Williams*.
- Society of Royal Cumberland Youths:** John Loveless#, Ian Roulstone, Derek Sibson, Jane Wilkinson.
- South African Guild:** James Champion.
- Southwell and Nottingham Dio. Guild:** Jim Crabtree, Anne Sladen. Two vacancies.
- Suffolk Guild:** Chris Birkby, Cath Colman*, Neal Dodge, Stephen Pettman.
- Surrey Assn:** Kate Flavell, Paul Flavell, Noel Gibbin*, Jason Hughes.
- Sussex County Assn:** Alison Everett, Sue Gadd, David Kirkcaldy, Rob Lane, Stephanie Pendlebury.
- Swansea & Brecon Dio. Guild:** David Katz.
- Truro Dio. Guild:** Robert Perry, Ian Self, Hayley Young*. One vacancy.
- Univ. Bristol Society:** Imogen Brooke, Patrick Wheeler.
- Univ. London Society:** Anne Hughes.
- Veronese Assn:** Michele Giovanni Cambareri, David Roskelly.
- Winchester & Portsmouth Dio. Guild:** Michael Church, Mike Hopkins Till, Adrian Nash, Shân Nash, Allan Yalden.
- Worcestershire & Districts Assn:** Kathryn Cocks, Alison Hodge, James Mort, Chris Tennant*.
- Yorkshire Assn:** Robert Cater, Barrie Dove, Simon Plows, Elaine Scott, Peter Scott.

If any member would prefer to be known by a different name, would they please contact the Secretary.

New member: *
Returning member: #

21 July 2021

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Minutes of the 123rd Annual Meeting held by video conferencing (Zoom) on Saturday 5th September 2020 at 10.30 am.

Present

Fellows: John Baldwin, Alan Frost.

Ex-officio: Mary Bone, Alan Glover, Tim Jackson, Simon Linford#, Dickon Love*, David Mattingley, Louise Nightingale, Allen Nunley, Mark Regan*, Alan Regin, Chris Ridley#, Andrew Smith.

Ancient Society of College Youths: Richard Allton, Colin Newman, Leigh Simpson, Andrew Wilby.

Australian & New Zealand Assn: Peter Harrison, Christopher O'Mahony, David Smith.

Bath & Wells Dio. Assn: Jay Bunyan, Michael Hansford, Charles Pipe-Wolferstan.

Bedfordshire Assn: Patrick Albon, Linda Garton, Richard Horne.

Beverley & District Society: James Blackburn.

Cambridge Univ. Guild: David Richards.

Carlisle Dio. Guild: Christine de Cordova, Duncan Walker.

Chester Dio. Guild: Carole Hallam*, Graham Jenkins*, David Jones, Tom Nestor.

Clerical Guild: Revd Jon Rose*.

Coventry Dio. Guild: Annie Hall, Joy Pluckrose.

Derby Dio. Assn: Andrew Hall, Susan Hall, Gill Hughes.

Devon Association: Joanne Tucker*.

Devonshire Guild: Lynne Hughes, Fergus Stracey.

Durham & Newcastle Dio. Assn: Howard Smith, Barbara Wheeler.

Durham University Society: Phil Hughes.

East Derbys & West Notts Association: Edward Sterland.

Ely Dio. Assn: Philip Bailey, Sue Marsden, Daniel Stevens*.

Essex Assn: Fred Bone, Paul Bray*, Helen Bridgman*, Paul Cammiade, Vicki Chapman.

Gloucester & Bristol Dio. Assn: Mark Davies, Derek Harbottle, Richard While*.

Guildford Dio. Guild: John Couperthwaite, Jackie Roberts.

Hereford Diocesan Guild: Colin Ward.

Hertford County Assn: Stuart Brant, Tony Crowther, Geoff Horritt, Margaret Horritt.

Irish Assn: Don McLean, Michael Pomeroy#.

Kent County Assn: Phillip Barnes, Douglas Davis, David Grimwood, Caroline Stockmann, Nick Wilkins*.

Ladies Guild: Rosemary Hemmings, Alison Williams, Jan Wyatt.

Lancashire Assn: Sam Brook*, Cate Gardner*, Beth Ingham.

Leeds University Society: Naomi Calvert.

Leicester Dio. Guild: Carol Franklin, Steve Millington, Arthur Rees.

Lichfield & Walsall Archd. Society: Stephen Askew*, Stuart Hutchieson, David Towell*.

Lincoln Dio. Guild: Philip Green, Christopher Sharp, Christopher Turner.

Liverpool Universities Society: Martyn Bristow.

Llandaff & Monmouth Dio. Assn: Matthew Turner.

Middlesex County Assn & London Dio. Guild: Sonia Field, Robert Lewis, Adrian Udal, Clyde Whittaker.

National Police Guild: John Cousins.

North American Guild: Bruce Butler, Eileen Butler, Beverly Faber, Christian Haller*.

North Staffordshire Assn: Jan Hine, Tim Hine.

North Wales Assn: Antony Diserens, Beverley Furniss.

Norwich Dio. Assn: Katie Wright.

Oxford Dio. Guild: John Harrison, Lucy Hopkins Till, Graham John, Timothy Pett.

Oxford Society: Dorothy Hall*.

Oxford University Society: Craig Robertson*.

Peterborough Dio. Guild: Simon Dixon, Nick Elks, Jane Sibson.

Guild of St Agatha: Anne Bray.

St Martin's Guild: Richard Andrew, James Ramsbottom.

Salisbury Dio. Guild: Tom Garrett, Anthony Lovell-Wood, Julian Newman, Vicki Rowse*.

Scottish Assn: Ruth Marshall, Tina Stoecklin.

Shropshire Assn: Paul Lewis*.

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths: Ian Roulstone*, Derek Sibson, Jane Wilkinson.

South African Guild: James Champion.

Southwell and Nottingham Dio. Guild: Jim Crabtree, Anne Sladen.

Suffolk Guild: Chris Birkby, Neal Dodge.

Surrey Assn: Kate Flavell, Paul Flavell, Jason Hughes#.

Sussex County Assn: Alison Everett, Sue Gadd*, David Kirkcaldy, Rob Lane, Stephanie Pendlebury.

Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild: David Katz.

Truro Dio. Guild: Robert Perry, Ian Self.

Univ. Bristol Society: Imogen Brooke, Patrick Wheeler.

Univ. London Society: Anne Hughes*.

Veronese Assn: David Roskelly.

Winchester & Portsmouth Dio. Guild: Michael Church, Michael Hopkins Till, Allan Yalden.

Worcestershire & Districts Assn: Kathryn Cocks*, Alison Hodge, James Mort*.

Yorkshire Assn: Robert Cater#, Barrie Dove, Simon Plows*, Elaine Scott*, Peter Scott*.

[* — new member; # — returning member]

The Barrow & District Society, Dorset County Association, East Grinstead & District Guild, Four Shires Guild and the St David's Diocesan Guild were not represented.

The Chair was taken by the President, Simon Linford, who welcomed all members to the

meeting. He especially welcomed John Baldwin, Fellow and Dove Master, and wished Tony Crowther, Hertford County Association, a happy birthday. The President advised members wishing to speak on the procedure and reminded them to give their name and that of the society they represented. He informed members that the proceedings were being live streamed to the Internet and were also being recorded to assist with the Minutes. The President reminded members to declare any relevant conflicts of interest. The President explained how the electronic voting system would operate during the meeting. He noted that, according to the Rules, only representative members were able to vote.

1. Opening Prayer

Revd Canon David Grimwood, Kent County Association, led members in prayer.

2. Applications to affiliate

The Secretary, Mary Bone, reported that an application had been received from the Guild of Clerical Ringers. A letter signed by both the President and Secretary of the Guild confirmed a membership of 102 as at 1 June 2020; that the purpose of the Guild is to promote the ringing of bells; and that the Guild undertook to abide by the Council's Rules and Decisions. The application was put to the vote and approved (95% in favour; 3% against; 2% abstentions). The President welcomed Revd Jon Rose to the meeting as the representative of the Guild.

3. Welcome to new members

The President gave a warm welcome to new and returning members (indicated by * and # respectively in the list of those present).

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from David Kelly (Fellow), Ian Oram (Ex-officio, Steward of the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund), Peter Limage (Barrow & District), Tim Jones (Devon Assn), Chris Povey (Four Shires Guild), Lianne Brooks (Leicester DG), Ken Davenport (Oxford DG), Stephen Pettman (Suffolk Guild), and Adrian and Shân Nash (Winchester & Portsmouth DG). Further apologies were presented from John Vesey (Llandaff & Monmouth DA).

5. In Memoriam

The Secretary read the names of the following members and former members who had died since the last meeting: Melvyn Hiller (Salisbury DG 1972–1975, Kent CA 1975–1981); Arthur Fidler (Devon Assn 1969–1971); John Barnes (SRCY 1969–2016, Life Member 2016–2018, Fellow 2018–2019); Norman Mallett (Guild of Devonshire Ringers 1961–1972); David Willis (Additional Member 2011–2017, Guild of Devonshire Ringers 2017–2019); George Pipe

(Honorary Member 1961–1979); R Roger Savory (Winchester & Portsmouth DG 1965–1975 and 1978–1980); Andrew Stubbs (ASCY 1975–2008, Life Member 2008–2018, Fellow 2018–2020); John Foot (Liverpool University Society 1981–1987); Revd Richard Dorrington (Shropshire Assn 1975–1979); Eric Sterland (East Derbys & West Notts Assn 1967–1969); Prof Ronald Johnston (Australia & New Zealand Assn 1975–1979, Yorkshire Assn 1984–1993, Ex-officio 1993–1996, Honorary Member 1996–1999; Vice-President 1990–1993, President 1993–1996); Roland Backhurst (Bath & Wells DA 2006–2019); Geoffrey Dodd (Winchester & Portsmouth DG 1972–1978). Members kept a period of silence in memory of these members and former members.

(The minutes, reports and accounts were published with the Central Council Meeting Papers on 7th August 2020. The relevant page numbers are shown against each item.)

6. Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting (pp7–11)

The Minutes were approved on the proposal of Christopher O'Mahony and seconded by Doug Davis. Jason Hughes requested that voting numbers at this meeting be reported as well as percentages. The Minutes were approved nem con (87% (117) in favour; 13% (17) abstentions).

Anthony Lovell-Wood reported that he had been unable to vote via his connection to the online meeting and queried if other members were similarly affected; the technical assistance team undertook to investigate.

7. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

No member wished to raise any matter.

8. Annual Trustees' Report for 2019 (pp11–13)

The President introduced the formal annual report of the Council to the Charity Commission for 2019 and noted that it had been approved by the Trustees on 17 May 2020. He invited the Secretary to comment on and update the report. The Secretary noted that a section on risk assessment had now been included and reported on changes to the membership figures in paragraph 7: there were 4 Fellows, 14 Ex-officio members, 170 representative members and 29 vacancies. With the addition of the Clerical Guild 66 societies were now affiliated to the Council. The Society of Sherwood Youths had given formal notice in June of disaffiliation, the reasons being the direction of Council activity and the cost of affiliation to a Society without an annual membership fee. The Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild was now only entitled to one member. The Secretary noted the names of a number of members with long service who had stood down prior to the meeting: Jeremy Cheesman (Surrey Assn

1981–2020); George Dawson (Society of Sherwood Youths 1968–1981; Southwell & Nottingham DG 1981–2020); Ernie de Legh-Runciman (Lancashire Assn 2002–2020); Graham (Ben) Duke (Hertford CA 2002–2011; SRCY 2011–2020); Alan Ellis (North American Guild 1999–2008; Honorary / Additional member 2008–2011; North American Guild 2014–2019); Andrew Howes (Salisbury DG 1989–2020); Catherine Lewis (Kent CA 1999–2020); Chris Mew (Surrey Assn 1969–1982; Coventry DG 2008–2020; President 2014–2017); Angela Newing (University of Bristol Society 1975–1987; Honorary 1987–1990; Gloucester & Bristol DA 1990–1993 and 1996–2020); Beryl Norris (Guildford DG 2002–2020); Helen Perry (Truro DG 1996–2008 and 2014–2020); Richard Wallis (Surrey Assn 1996–2020); Mervyn Way (Devon Assn 1993–2020); Peter Wilkinson (Chester DG 1999–2004 and 2005–2020); Robin Woolley (Society of Sherwood Youths 1993–1999; Southwell & Nottingham DG 2002–2017; Society of Sherwood Youths 2017–2020). She concluded by urging societies to elect members to fill the vacancies: the Executive wished to be held to account and wanted members who would participate and contribute to the Council's strategic direction and work. The President proposed that the members receive and adopt the Annual Trustees' Report; this was seconded by Philip Green and approved nem con (96% (128) in favour; 4% (6) abstentions).

9. Accounts for 2019 (pp14–16)

The Treasurer, Andrew Smith, presented the Accounts and noted that the Independent Examiners had issued an unqualified report. The Accounts had been approved by the Trustees on 17 May 2020. He thanked the Independent Examiners for their work, particularly Jeremy Cheesman who had now retired after serving as an Independent Examiner since 2005; he additionally thanked Ian Self (Library) and Beryl Norris (Publications) for their contributions. The Treasurer reported that the Council had total assets of £435,446 at 31 December 2019. The General Fund made a small surplus of £873. Publications made a surplus of £5,934 and the Library incurred a small deficit for the year of £484. The Bell Restoration and Fred E Dukes funds paid out previously committed grants. He stated that there was no proposal this year to vary the current affiliation fees, as the Council needed to determine its future membership structure over the coming year and only then would it be prudent to propose a future affiliation fee structure.

The Treasurer proposed that the members receive and adopt the 2019 Accounts; this was seconded by Michael Church and approved (96% (131) in favour; 1% (1) against; 3% (4) abstentions).

10. Annual Report of the Executive and Workgroups for 2019 (pp17–37)

The President drew attention to two highlights of the year: the reception for ringers hosted by the US Ambassador and the new style of

the annual meeting and mini-Roadshow held at Goldsmiths in September. The Secretary apologised to Chris Turner whose name had been again omitted from the list of those working on the peals analysis. John Harrison suggested that, as the annual meeting was now held in September, the reporting year should in future end in May.

The President proposed adoption of the report of the Executive and workgroups for 2019. This was seconded by Allan Yalden and approved nem con (95% (126) in favour; 5% (6) abstentions).

11. Executive and Workgroup updates for January–August 2020

The President stated that the work of the Executive would be included in the next item on the agenda.

Stewardship & Management: Alison Hodge, workgroup leader, reported on major items of work in 2020: much preparatory work on risk assessments for a limited return to ringing during the Covid-19 pandemic; changes in workgroup membership; articles in *The Ringing World*; a presentation at the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) conference in March; advice and guidance in response to enquiries; and the introduction of Microsoft Teams to improve the group's working practices. Alison highlighted the second Westley Award for those new to tower bell maintenance which had been presented to Sue McClaughry of Calstock.

Volunteer & Leadership: the workgroup leader, Timothy Hine, reported on presentations at the ART conference (see pp30–31 of the meeting papers); the development of work on recruitment and retention of ringers, reflected in a number of articles in *The Ringing World*; a renewed focus on lapsed ringers; and the move to online presentations and workshops with associations. He noted that the fifth series of the *Education Column* was now being published. Work was in hand on proposals for new residential courses and the role of ringing centres was being re-visited. The group was keen to engage non-members with particular skills in its work. Tim responded to questions and comments on courses from Fred Bone, John Harrison and Robert Cater. He expressed his gratitude to the former Education Committee and the materials which they had produced, much of which had been deposited in the Council's Library, and hoped that future courses would become self-sustaining. Jane Wilkinson supported work on lapsed ringers and looked forward to future reports on this. Philip Green, who declared an interest as printer of Council publications, suggested that the *Education Column* articles should be published as booklets; Tim Hine confirmed that the author, David Smith, had this in hand and it was intended that publication would be by The Ringing World Ltd. Kate Flavell commended the joint working with ART and stressed that this should continue. The President noted that he held regular meetings with both ART and the Ringing World.

Young Ringers — Universities and Colleges: Ian Roulstone, workgroup leader, updated

members on work since this group was established in May 2020. He referred to the importance of student ringing as mentioned in the Council's Strategic Priorities and acknowledged the work done by Jacqui Brown in establishing the universityringing.org website. He noted that work would not be restricted to universities and their ringing societies as colleges of higher education also had important student populations. The group intended to work closely with the Northern and Southern universities associations and to promote student ringing at the Ringing World National Youth Competition (RWNYC). Ian also hoped to work closely with ART and he proposed that the ART award for a university society be reviewed as only a limited number of university societies had applied during the time the award had been available. He concluded by saying that there were still opportunities for student ringing during the Covid-19 pandemic as universities and colleges would prefer to support structured student activities in a safe environment. Tina Stoecklin commented that handbell ringing had a role during the pandemic; she suggested that university societies be offered assistance in starting handbell ringing. Jim Crabtree stated that there was a definite role for local ringing societies to play in reaching out to student ringers in areas without a university ringing society; for instance, open days could be organised at suitable local towers during Freshers weeks. Richard Allton urged the group to work also with the alumni ringing societies; these had an important role in maintaining societies as the number of resident student ringers fluctuated. Bruce Butler encouraged the group to be international in scope: there were a number of US universities with rings of bells. Alison Hodge reminded members of the constraints affecting official student societies and welcomed local initiatives to support student ringing.

Historical & Archive: the workgroup leader, Chris Ridley, highlighted the importance of historical information both in promoting ringing to the public and in supporting the Central Council's own work. The group was currently engaged in reviewing its priorities; activities would focus on making data available, exploiting the strengths of the Council's Library, and biographies and Rolls of Honour work. Chris invited those interested in the group's work, or with specialist knowledge in particular areas, to contact him.

Communications & Marketing: Louise Nightingale, workgroup leader, reported that the group had re-aligned its activities to reflect the Council's updated Strategic Priorities. Planned publicity campaigns for VE Day 75 and VJ Day 75 had been halted due to the pandemic; the group had focused instead on ways to keep ringers retained and engaged during the pandemic and had increased its social media activity. Work on marketing insights to inform publicity materials and communications had begun. The group had trialled short virtual interviews, initially lasting 120 seconds; this had now changed to 240 seconds in the light of experience. Louise asked anyone willing to offer video editing skills to contact her. She also mentioned a proposal to create an image library — a repository of high quality approved images.

Senior Stakeholder Liaison: the workgroup leader, Mark Regan, reminded members of the group's purpose: to establish contact and build relationships with people who can influence bellringing and its future. Key relationships would be with the Church of England, government departments, amenity groups and major funders such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The group currently had 5 members, including himself. Most work since May had been with the Church of England Covid recovery team. There were also plans for trial training sessions for new clergy in the Worcester diocese. Mark stated that ringing was a performing art with a long history and formed part of the cultural heritage. The group further intended to develop contact with dioceses in view of the reviews of church infrastructure and possible future church closures. Mark concluded by urging ringers to write to their MPs and bishops stressing that ringing formed part of the country's cultural heritage and landscape. Fred Bone requested advice on the content of such letters. Andrew Wilby subsequently pointed out that MPs do not respond well to mass mailings; any such letters should emphasise the local context. Robert Perry and others welcomed the work done by the recovery team in ensuring that ringing had restarted; there had been a positive reaction by members of the public to hearing bells again. Robert asked if it was known how many towers were now ringing? The President stated that perhaps one third of churches were open again. Alison Hodge suggested that Council representatives could conduct surveys in their areas and that ringers could be allocated to open churches. David Katz reminded the group of the different jurisdictions in which ringing operated; it was not restricted to the Church of England. Adrian Udall queried whether it was appropriate for the Council to instruct ringers not to ring in certain circumstances. Both the President and Mark Regan commented on the difficulties of providing suitable advice and guidance, and the President added that it was helpful if ringers were also PCC members. Jane Wilkinson pointed out that diocesan secretaries were in many cases more useful contacts than the bishops. The Revd Jon Rose offered his services to the group.

Technical & Taxonomy: Graham John, workgroup leader, highlighted work in two areas: the Framework for Method Ringing and the Dove database. The group were working on minor improvements and clarifications to the Framework, including a new performance norm which would have covered reporting of the peal of Stedman Triples at Adelaide in June 2019 (a successful peal but failed long length) and categorisation of performances by ringing style, eg tower bells, handbells, key presses, etc. A draft of this second version of the Framework would be issued for comment before the final version was submitted to the Council Executive for approval. Work on the review of extension processes had now been deferred to 2021. There had been major progress on the new Dove database, especially since Dickon Love had joined the team as an additional Dove steward, with tower level data now transferred to the new system. Development work would now focus on pNBR data (proto National Bell Register) and when complete this would remove reliance on

the legacy system developed and maintained by John Baldwin over many years. Graham particularly thanked Richard Smith, Tim Jackson and Dickon Love for their work on the new database. Peter Scott commented that, as a result of the Framework, some call-change ringing was now within its scope; Graham replied that this could best be covered in a separate document with input from call-change practitioners in Devon. Robert Perry added that call-change ringing was widely practised in Cornwall with many intricate patterns being rung. Dorothy Hall suggested that work on key presses as a ringing style should distinguish between tower and handbell style, for example on Ringing-Room, and Graham undertook to investigate this with the team.

Young Ringers — Schools & Youth Groups: the workgroup leader, Colin Newman, reported on initial activity in several areas: Scouts: plans were being developed for a series of staged badges which could be rolled out nationally; Guides: an approach had been made about a potential partnership; contact had been made with the Boys and Girls Brigades; schools: lesson plans were being collated which could be delivered by non-ringing teachers; achievement goals were being defined for different levels of attainment for the gold, silver and bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards; and the group was liaising with ART who had applied to be a Duke of Edinburgh activity provider. Colin added that the group then aimed to build an online searchable resource portfolio; to define and develop awareness materials, including a youth-focused promotional video; extend a school engagement strategy; and prepare a number of "how to" guides. Sue Gadd spoke as a Duke of Edinburgh award scheme leader: she suggested that ringing could be more successful in engaging with young people as a volunteer activity rather than as a specific skill, where there was a great deal of competition. Anne Hughes asked about handbell ringing in schools; Colin replied that this was on the group's agenda. The President added that even younger students could participate in this and also requested that experiences from outside England and the UK be shared with the workgroup. Annie Hall stressed that having ringing teachers was a key factor in school access and engagement; work had already been done with ART and she urged the group not to duplicate this. Beverley Furniss commented that church youth groups should also be included.

The President thanked all the workgroup leaders and members for their work as volunteers for ringing and the Central Council.

12. Forward Plan for 2021

The President introduced this item, mandated by the new Rules adopted in 2018 (rule 6.1 b) (3)). He highlighted five main areas of activity during 2020 and for work during 2021: ringing recovery in the Covid-19 pandemic; taking forward proposals from the 2017 CRAG report; workgroup re-organisation; strategic priorities; and some other initiatives. On ringing recovery he mentioned proposals to reduce the required distance between ringers and to move

towards local risk assessment. Andrew Wilby supported the Council's work on ringing recovery and noted that in recent years ringing had been increasingly seen as secular, whereas it was in fact a church activity taking place in buildings owned by the churches. Ringers should engage with their clergy and parishes as future decisions on possible church closures, and loss of rings, would be taken locally. Nick Wilkins suggested that more ringers could be kept involved with their bands if they also rang for midweek services. The President stated that CRAG proposals on direct membership, reducing the size of the "Council of Representatives", and branding would be considered with a view to bringing firm proposals to the 2021 meeting. A number of consultation meetings would be arranged, first with a number for Council members and then with further groups of ringers. The President reminded members that the original workgroup structure was always intended to be flexible; new groups were planned to focus on marketing, recruitment, new ringers and breaking down barriers to progress. This would affect the current work of both the Communications & Marketing and Volunteer & Leadership workgroups. A support group was also proposed; this would include an assistant or membership secretary as well as those working on quarter peal analysis and events management. The President highlighted the sixth of the Strategic Priorities (see p37 of the meeting papers) on relations with the Church; the pandemic had shown that it was vital to have strong contacts at both local and higher levels. He noted that there had been much good publicity when ringing resumed. On other initiatives, the President mentioned Mobile Belfry 2.0, new ringing courses, development of the Dove database, research on women in ringing, the "cast of 1,000" proposal to engage experienced ringers regularly to aid others' progress, and an enhanced focus on call-change ringing. In reply to a question from Peter Scott, he confirmed that the Executive was committed to reviewing all workgroups every 2 years. Carole Hallam suggested that the CRAG proposals might well be affected by the pandemic: the Council's priority should be on ringing and its recovery.

13. Financial update 2020 and outline General Fund budget for 2021

The Treasurer introduced this item, mandated under the new Rules, and referred members to p38 of the meeting papers. He pointed out that the left part of the table showed a comparison between the agreed budget and current projection for the General Fund for 2020; an underspend of around £1000 was predicted, due to restricted activity as a result of the Covid pandemic. Council meeting income and expenditure was predicted to be minimal as the meeting was being held by video conference. Interest rates were currently stable at around 1%. The second part of the report gave a view of an outline General Fund budget for 2021. Formal approval by the Executive would be required at their November 2020 meeting, noting that there are

potentially some exciting projects coming to fruition which were likely to impact on the outline figures.

14. Election of Trustees

President — Simon Linford, who had been proposed by Nick Elks and seconded by David Smith, was the only nominee. He was declared elected.

Deputy President — David Kirkcaldy, who had been proposed by Kate Flavell and seconded by David Grimwood, was the only nominee. The President declared him elected.

Treasurer — Fergus Stracey, who had been proposed by Lynne Hughes and seconded by Ian Self, was the only nominee. The President declared him elected.

The President thanked Andrew Smith, retiring Treasurer, for all his work during the past 3 years (applause).

15. Election of Independent Examiners

Caroline Stockmann had been proposed by Fred Bone and seconded by Doug Davis. There being no other nominations, the President declared her elected.

Michael Church pointed out that the phrase "up to two" Independent Examiners in the supporting statement (see p6 of the meeting papers) was incorrect: the Council's Rules specified 2 Independent Examiners and the Executive would be able to appoint another Examiner to fill the vacancy. Caroline Stockmann clarified her statement; the Executive had considered proposing a change to the Rules and Standing Orders to permit only one Independent Examiner to be elected but had decided against this in the circumstances of an electronic meeting. For many years the examination work had been divided between the two Examiners with one working on Publications and the other examining all other accounts and papers. Caroline considered, in the light of her experience, that it was excessive and unnecessary for two examiners each to do all the work.

16. Governance Review

The President reminded members of the text of Standing Order G1, which required a review of the Council's rules, standing orders and governance and an assessment of the transfer of powers of representative members to individual members. The review was mandated to commence in May 2019 and to be held every 3 years; the current review would conclude in 2022. External assessment of the Council's governance was still under consideration. The President, supported by Michael Church, noted that the number of Independent Examiners required would be part of the review. Michael Church additionally referred to the background to the current rule; it had been considered appropriate that there should be more than one Examiner elected from the membership to examine the Council's own accounts.

17. Motion

Before inviting Clyde Whittaker to propose the Motion, the President asked the meeting to consider if it was appropriate to debate this in a meeting held by video conference or whether the item should be deferred until such time as the debate could be held in person. Andrew Wilby suggested that the arguments for and against the motion should be heard before any procedural motion was put. Jane Wilkinson considered that it was difficult to hold a proper debate via video conference and that it should be deferred; she proposed that the question of deferral be now put to the vote. Peter Scott commented that although the matter had been raised in *The Ringing World* this was a difficult time for consultation; it would be valuable to consider the fundamental issues raised over a longer period. Both Douglas Davis and James Ramsbottom stated that the motion could be debated well via video conference. Robert Lewis referred to the President's earlier comments on the CRAG proposals and the size of the Council: as passing the motion would increase the size of the Council these items should be considered together. Phillip Barnes declared a conflict of interest as chairman of the Kent County Association and seconded Jane Wilkinson's proposal that the question be put. Accordingly the motion as proposed by Jane Wilkinson and seconded by Phillip Barnes:

That the Council prefer discussion of Motion A to be deferred to a future year

was put to the vote.

The motion was lost (30% (42) in favour; 67% (93) against; 3% (4) abstentions). The President declared that Motion A would now be presented and debated.

(A) Clyde Whittaker proposed:

That with effect from the close of the 123rd Council Meeting on 5th September 2020:

1. Rule 1.1 (Definitions) is amended as follows to define a Registered Small Society, its Annual Subscription and Society Contacts:

1.1. The following new definitions are INSERTED:

Registered Small Society: A bell ringing society which appears on the Council's Register of Small Societies in accordance with Rule 4.

Small Society Representative: A non-voting member appointed to represent a Registered Small Society in accordance with Rules 5.7 and 5.8.

1.2. The following existing definition is REPLACED as shown below:

Annual Subscription: A subscription defined by Rules 4.10 or 4.11.

1.3. The following existing definition is REPLACED as shown below:

Society Contact: The contact of an Affiliated Society or Registered Small

Society, whose details have been notified by that society to the Secretary, and to whom notices to that society in connection with the Council's business shall be sent.

2. To set out the terms governing the admission of Registered Small Societies, the following rules are INSERTED after Rule 4.4 (and subsequent rules re-numbered accordingly):

Registered Small Societies

4.5 Subject to Rule 4.8 any bell ringing society whose application has been approved under Rules 4.6 and 4.7 shall be listed on the Council's Register of Small Societies.

4.6 Applications from smaller bell ringing societies to become Registered Small Societies shall be made to the Secretary accompanied by a certificate signed by at least two of the society's officers confirming that:

- a) its Society Membership is less than 75 (25 in the case of societies operating wholly outside the British Isles);
- b) its purpose is to promote the ringing of bells by a group or association of bell ringers; and
- c) it undertakes to abide by the Council's Rules and Decisions.

4.7 A bell ringing society making an application under Rule 4.6 shall be entered on the Council's Register of Small Societies on such date as the Executive shall determine provided that the society's application has been approved in accordance with the Standing Orders.

4.8 A society shall be removed from the Register of Small Societies if:

- a) it becomes an Affiliated Society; or
- b) its Society Membership rises above 100; or
- c) any Annual Subscription due under Rule 4.11 is more than 12 months in arrears; or
- d) a Motion to remove the society's registration is agreed by a majority of Representative Members present and voting at a Council Meeting; or
- e) a decision to remove the society's registration is made by the Executive in accordance with the Standing Orders; or
- f) a request to remove the society's registration is given to the Secretary by at least two of the society's officers.

4.9 An Executive Decision made in accordance with Rule 4.8e) shall cease to have effect unless ratified by Resolution at the first Council Meeting thereafter.

3. To provide for the additional Rules shown above, the reference to "Rule 4.5" in existing Rule 4.4 b) is AMENDED to "Rule 4.10".

4. To empower the Council to set an Annual Subscription for Registered Small Societies, the following new rule is INSERTED before Rule 5:

4.11 Where determined by the Standing Orders, each Registered Small Society shall pay an annual subscription, which shall become due on 1st January and shall

be of such sum as may be stated by the Standing Orders in relation to that society's registration.

5. To permit one person from each Registered Small Society to participate in Council Meetings (in a non-voting capacity), the line "Small Society Representatives;" is INSERTED after Rule 5.1a) so that Rule 5.1 reads as follows:

5.1 The Council shall consist of the following members:

- a) Representative Members;
- b) Small Society Representatives;
- c) Individual Members enrolled or appointed as may be determined by the Standing Orders; and
- d) the Council's Trustees, Stewards and Workgroup Leaders, who shall be ex-officio members.

6. To set out the arrangements by which representatives of Registered Small Societies are appointed and retire, the following rules are INSERTED after Rule 5.6 (and subsequent rules renumbered accordingly):

Small Society Representatives

5.7 Each Registered Small Society shall be entitled to send one Small Society Representative to attend each Council Meeting provided that no later than six weeks before that meeting's date:

- a) where determined by the Standing Orders, that society's Annual Subscription for the year in which the Council Meeting takes place has been received by the Treasurer; and
 - b) its Society Membership has been notified to the Secretary.
- 5.8 Subject to Rule 5.7:
- a) a Registered Small Society may register or amend the name and contact details of its Small Society Representative at any time by giving notice to the Secretary; and
 - b) each Small Society Representative shall be deemed appointed from the point at which their name is confirmed in accordance with these Rules, and shall remain appointed until the Registered Society notifies the Secretary of a change.

7. As a Registered Small Society may not also be an Affiliated Society the line "it becomes a Registered Small Society; or" is INSERTED after Rule 4.4a) so that Rule 4.4 reads as follows:

4.4 A society shall cease to be an Affiliated Society if:

- a) its Society Membership falls below 50 (25 in the case of societies operating wholly outside the British Isles); or
- b) it becomes a Registered Small Society; or
- c) its Annual Subscription under Rule 4.10 is more than 12 months in arrears; or
- d) a Motion for disaffiliation is agreed by no less than two-thirds of Representative Members present and voting at a Council Meeting; or

e) notice of disaffiliation is given to the Secretary by at least two of the society's officers.

Annual Subscription for Registered Small Societies

That in accordance with Rule 7.13 and with effect from the close of the 123rd Council Meeting on 5th September 2020, the Council APPROVES an Annual Subscription of £20 for each Registered Small Society.

Admission Criteria for Registered Small Societies

That the Council NOTES the detailed admission criteria for Registered Small Societies, approved by the Executive on 26th July 2020 and published in Edition 4 of the Standing Orders, which following approval of this Motion will become effective on 1st November 2020.

Clyde explained that the Motion introduced an associate status for societies with fewer than 75 members. The principles governing this would be laid down in the Rules while the detailed admission process would be covered in new parts of the Standing Orders. He listed 8 criteria for success: does the scheme achieve its stated objectives; has there been sufficient consultation; are the controls over admission sufficient; have the interests of affiliated societies been protected; is the scheme compatible with CRAG objectives; is it resilient; is it future-proof; and have the alternatives been considered. Clyde then examined each of these criteria in turn. He stated that the proposal would make the Council more representative, would allow continued association with the Council by smaller affiliated societies with declining membership and that recommended improvements made during the consultation process had been incorporated. He went on to point out that the Standing Orders would provide clear admission criteria; a two-month period of notice of registration and powers to remove a registration would be introduced. A registered small society would be able to elect a representative to attend Council meetings but these representatives would not be able to vote. The scheme complemented the CRAG objective of individual membership and would not adversely affect the aim of Council meetings becoming shorter and more effective. Clyde remarked that Council members would retain effective oversight of the provisions. He concluded by showing that the scheme met all the above criteria and added that it would be included in the governance review due to conclude in 2022.

Linda Garton, seconding the Motion, referred to her original opposition to the proposal (*The Ringing World*, 10 July 2020, p676), her subsequent letter (*The Ringing World*, 24 July 2020, p730) and the reasons why she now supported the motion and had agreed to second it. Linda mentioned that the scheme contained provisions to protect the interests of existing territorial societies. She supported Clyde's remarks on continued association with the Council by societies with declining membership. Linda hoped that smaller territorial societies such as Singapore and more university societies would apply to register and take their part in Council deliberations.

During Linda's remarks an amendment to the motion was displayed on screen:

That the Council APPROVES Motion A on the Agenda Paper, as modified by amendments 1 and 2 below:

1. The third part to the Motion (the paragraph headed "Admission Criteria for Registered Small Societies" is REPLACED with the following paragraph:

"That the Council notes the Executive's intention to conduct a further review of the proposed Standing Order S2.1b before its introduction and in particular:

TO REPLACE the expectation that a small society has implemented a Safeguarding Policy meeting the Council's requirements;

WITH the expectation that a small society has Safeguarding arrangements that reflect local best practice for the jurisdiction(s) where that society operates."

2. The following fourth part is appended to the Motion:

"That the Council notes the Executive's intention to review the success of the scheme for Registered Small Societies established by this motion and to report to Council as part of the Governance Review scheduled for 2022 in accordance with Standing Order G1.1."

Fred Bone raised a point of order: who had proposed and seconded the amendment? Linda Garton clarified that she and Clyde Whittaker had proposed and seconded this amendment. Fred Bone pointed out, supported by Jane Wilkinson (past President), that amendments should be discussed and voted upon once put to the meeting. Clyde Whittaker referred to Standing Order C3.1: the proposer and seconder were able to amend their own Motion. Jane Wilkinson accepted this but added that the amendment was produced after the earlier consultation period had closed; it should therefore be debated and voted upon.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.04 pm for the annual meeting of The Ringing World Ltd; it resumed at 3.45 pm.

The President stated that Standing Order C3.1 did indeed allow the proposer and seconder to amend their motion. He then invited questions on the motion; there would be time after these for more general comments.

Beverly Faber queried that no minimum membership number for a small society was given. Clyde Whittaker replied that the clear criteria in the proposed Standing Orders required a small society to be properly organised with a written constitution; its status and membership would therefore be open to scrutiny. Fred Bone asked if there should be automatic transition arrangements for existing affiliated societies and whether the previous Decision H on Ringing Alliances had been considered as an alternative. Clyde responded that the rule and standing order changes proposed allowed societies with changing membership numbers time to react to their circumstances and plan accord-

ingly. Small societies which increased their membership would have to apply to affiliate to the Council and it was appropriate that all societies should have to apply. He added that the previous Decision H did not allow representatives of alliances to participate in Council proceedings. Linda Garton endorsed this response: the arrangements would give small societies a choice. Richard Allton asked about dual representation of UK-based societies. In reply, Linda Garton noted that the proposals contained provisions that small societies should not frustrate the activities of other societies; she added that different societies had distinctive characteristics. The President commented that the proposals would enable better representation of those currently unrepresented. Robert Lewis referred to the statement that the existing affiliation structure remained unmodified; this was not the case as the participation of small society representatives would impact the ability of voting members to hold the Executive to account during the limited time of an annual meeting. Robert suggested that a separate meeting might be held for small society representatives. Andrew Wilby remarked that, although there might well be multiple representation of individual ringers, they were elected to represent their societies. He then asked if any market research had been conducted to establish how many small societies might wish to apply. Clyde Whittaker replied that a number of small societies had shown interest in the proposal but no research had been done. If approved, the proposals would provide an opportunity for more societies to engage with the Council if they so wished. Clyde hoped that more university societies would take up this option. Tina Stoecklin suggested that the proposals did not go far enough: the Council should be open and inclusive but the proposed measures were not sufficiently inclusive and contained higher barriers to entry than was the case for affiliation; all membership criteria should be examined. Jim Crabtree supported Tina's comments but held that the motion was a first step towards greater inclusion. Peter Scott considered that there should be mutual regard between large and small societies and that a new joint enterprise should go forward involving all ringers, in keeping with the spirit of radical reform in the CRAG report. Peter concluded by saying that the motion provided a small step in the right direction and should be supported.

The President put the motion, as amended above, to the vote. It was approved (76% (100) in favour; 21% (28) against; 3% (4) abstentions). The President thanked Clyde and Linda for their work on this.

18. Future meetings

The Deputy President, David Kirkcaldy, outlined initial plans for the 2021 meeting. A provisional booking had been made to hold the meeting in St Mary's Nottingham. No arrangements would be made for a roadshow but practical sessions for local ringers could be arranged at short notice if circumstances permitted.

No invitation had as yet been received for 2022.

Jane Wilkinson pointed out that there had in fact been no opportunity for comments, as opposed to questions, on the motion at item 17.

Attendance

The table is appended below.

19. Any Other Business

(a) The Secretary thanked Fred Bone for again typesetting the annual meeting papers and Colin Chapman for the image on the front cover.

(b) The Secretary urged members to notify any changes in their contact details promptly and to check that their association contact was receiving Council emails.

(c) The Secretary noted that the nomination deadline in 2021 would be six weeks before the meeting. Nominations would be required for Treasurer, two Ordinary Trustees and two Independent Examiners.

(d) The Secretary reminded members of the procedure now in force since the adoption of the new Rules in 2018: an annual membership return was required and this plus the formal notification of a society's membership numbers and payment of the affiliation fee must be received six weeks before the meeting — members would not be able to speak or vote at the meeting if these had not been received by the deadline.

Votes of Thanks

The President thanked Colin Newman for all his assistance with the organisation and running of this meeting held by Zoom video conferencing.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 4.27 pm.

Summary of Attendance

	Members		
	Societies	Present	Absent
Fully represented	29	71	–
Partly represented	32	73	21
Not represented	5	–	5
	66	144	26
Fellows		2	2
Ex-officio Members		12	2
		158	30

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Annual Trustees' Report for 2020

1. Legal and Administrative Information

1.1 Charity

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers ("the Council") was founded in 1891 and is a registered charity, no.270036. Its address is that of its Secretary for the time being, namely 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, CM21 9DB. The constitution and conduct of the Council is governed by its Rules, last revised in May 2018, amended September 2020.

1.2 Trustees

The Council's Trustees during 2020 were as follows:

President	Mr S J L Linford
Deputy President	Mr D Kirkcaldy
Secretary	Mrs M Bone
Treasurer	Mr A G Smith (to 5 September)
	Mr F M S Stracey (from 5 September)
Ordinary Trustee	Dr P R J Barnes
Ordinary Trustee	Ms A M Everett
Ordinary Trustee	Mr D L Smith
Ordinary Trustee	Mr C R Whittaker

At the Annual Meeting held by video conference on 5 September Mr S J L Linford was elected for a 3-year term. Mr D Kirkcaldy was re-elected for a 3-year term. Mr F M S Stracey was elected to complete Mr A G Smith's term expiring in September 2021.

1.3 Principal Agents and Advisors

The Council's bankers are Lloyds Bank plc, Butler Place Branch, 1 Butler Place, Westminster, London, SW1H 0PR. Its Independent Examiners are Mr J D Cheesman (to May 2020) and Ms C A Stockmann. Its insurers are Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, Benefact House, 2000 Pioneer Avenue, Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4AW.

2. Objectives and Activities

2.1 Charitable Objects (as defined in Rule 3.2):

To advance the practice, heritage and appreciation of bell ringing as an enjoyable mental and physical exercise and unique performing art for the public benefit of both church and community, in particular but not exclusively by:

Communications and Relationships

- a) encouraging the growth and public appreciation of bell ringing;

- b) representing the interests of bell ringing and ringers through promoting the development of strong relationships with the church, stakeholders, the media and others outside the bell ringing community;
- c) facilitating communication and cohesion amongst ringers and bell ringing societies to assist ringers in supporting each other and achieving their bell ringing objectives;
- d) using its efforts to foster the continuing recruitment and retention of ringers;

Learning and Development

- e) promoting excellence in ringing by encouraging relevant technical and leadership training;

Stewardship and Management

- f) encouraging sources of funding, products, expertise and facilities to support ringing and the availability of bell installations;
- g) sharing, promoting, and advising on best practice relating to the maintenance and improvement of bell installations and training facilities;
- h) promoting best practice relating to statutory compliance, safety and governance in relation to ringing;

Technical and Taxonomy

- i) defining and publishing technical standards in bell ringing;
- j) encouraging research and innovation in the advancement of bell ringing, its methodologies, tools and technologies;

Historical and Archive

- k) promoting the availability and appreciation of historic resources, publications and artefacts relating to the heritage of bell ringing and the role of individual ringers.

2.2 Public Benefit

The public benefits from the following areas of activity of the Council:

- (i) the promotion of public worship by the ringing of church bells;
- (ii) the preservation of the tradition and heritage of change ringing;
- (iii) the encouragement and promotion of high standards of ringing;
- (iv) the provision of financial and specialist knowledge in the support of belfry repairs and maintenance;
- (v) the provision of guidance and specialist knowledge with regard to health and safety, safeguarding, noise control, data protection, fire risk assessment and insurance matters, as they relate to ringers and ringing;
- (vi) the preparation and publication of educational and training materials.

3. Structure, Governance and Management

3.1 Executive

The Executive is responsible to the members, through the annual meeting, for the general running of the Council. It holds regular meetings during the year and is in contact by electronic means between meetings. Executive members, who are also the trustees, are directly elected by the members. They retire in rotation and are limited to a maximum of six years on the Executive unless the members resolve otherwise at an annual meeting. The Executive appoints the workgroup leaders and individual Executive members act as sponsors for workgroups.

3.2 Working Groups

The Council has eight workgroups: (1) Volunteer and Leadership; (2) Historical and Archive; (3) Communications and Marketing; (4) Stewardship and Management; (5) Technical and Taxonomy; (6) Young Ringers – Schools and Youth Groups; (7) Young Ringers – Universities and Colleges; (8) Senior Stakeholder Liaison. Most of the work of the Council is carried out by these workgroups.

3.3 Membership

The Council's membership comprises Representative Members (elected or appointed by affiliated societies); Small Society Representatives (elected or appointed by Registered Small Societies); the trustees, stewards and workgroup leaders who shall be ex-officio members if not otherwise members; and Fellows. Only Representative Members and Fellows (elected prior to 28 May 2018) may vote at an annual meeting. Applications by societies to affiliate are approved at an annual meeting. Applications to become a Registered Small Society are approved in accordance with the Rules and Standing Orders.

4. Progress and Achievements in 2020

2020 has been a remarkable year in ringing history throughout the world. The novel coronavirus that emerged in China at the start of the year, with only passing interest elsewhere at first, had by the end of March brought normal life pretty much to a halt in all territories in which we have rings of bells. Lockdowns started, churches closed, and a long sullen silence descended over communities so used to hearing the sound of church bells. For the first time since the start of the Second World War, the Council President had to send an announcement out to all ringers that ringing had to stop. This was a devastating blow for bell ringers, not just deprived of their core purpose of calling people to worship, but of many ringers' principal social activity.

The Council quickly assembled a small team to develop an understanding of what the virus meant for ringing and how ringing

might be adapted to be done safely. Trustees Simon Linford and Phillip Barnes (a recently retired Medical Director) were joined by Mark Regan of the Senior Stakeholder Liaison Workgroup and engaged with the 'House of Bishops Recovery Group' of the Church of England charged with giving advice to the Church. Advice was developed that enabled a limited return to ringing, with social distancing and time limits, when lockdown restrictions were limited in the summer. The joy of ringing normally for Christmas was short-lived, with lockdown following and continuing into 2021, with ringing not getting back to anything like normality until the middle of 2021.

Eight months of 2020 therefore had no meaningful ringing for the majority of bell ringers in the world, although ringers in Australia and New Zealand, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, where infections stayed low, did manage to maintain some normality.

Ironically, the pandemic enabled the Council to develop new and strong relationships with key people in the Church of England which it had not had before. Likewise, many of the Council's affiliated societies have developed closer ties with Church leaders locally or in their country and also with their members. Societies that have maintained contact with their members, providing regular online ringing and training, have weathered the storm, and in some instances even got stronger. These new relationships put us in a stronger position to manage some of the challenges that lie ahead particularly in terms of the impact the pandemic has had on the acceleration of church closures.

Just before the suspension of ringing the Council was about to launch a major recruitment campaign in association with the Churches Conservation Trust, which sees bellringing as a strategically important activity in its churches. That relationship is getting stronger at a time when an increasing number of churches with bells are heading into their care. The Council also welcomes the affiliation of the Guild of Clerical Ringers which has changed its constitution in order to help with strengthening the relationships between ringers and the Church.

So many of the activities and initiatives of the Council have stalled as a result of the suspension of normal ringing activities, but perhaps just as remarkably many continued. Some workgroups, released from the need to actually go ringing, were even busier than usual, continuing to develop services, give advice, and recruit new members.

At the start of the year, the Executive released its new Strategic Priorities, to guide strategy and activities in 2020 and beyond:

1. Find alternative long term sources of recruits who have the potential to be good ringers
2. That no ringer should hit a barrier to their own progression
3. The pursuit of excellence in everything we do
4. The sound of church bells remains part of our cultural soundscape and is appreciated and understood

5. The pursuit of method ringing is not the only measure of success for a ringer
6. The Church continues to value our contribution.

Progress has been made on all of the Strategic Priorities throughout the year. Initiatives that continued included a six-round YouTube competition that engaged ringers in creating and showcasing videos of ringing, particularly bringing competition call change ringing into the spotlight; the 'Cast of 1000' project, intended to provide more opportunities to ringers to make progress in surprise major ringing, was launched online; Dickon Love has joined as a Dove Steward and has delivered a technological step-change in *Dove's Guide* capacity and features. One of the current strengths of the Council is the number of ringers who are volunteering to take on roles outside just Members.

Covid restrictions prevented the Council from having a physical face-to-face AGM, which had been planned to be in Nottingham in September. A number of affiliated societies had already held their AGMs successfully using the Zoom platform, and this was used by the Council, ably supported by Colin Newman running the technical support behind the scenes. There were 158 attendees, and many members said it was at least as effective as a physical meeting, and better in many ways. It certainly provided a forum in which more members were able to speak and present their views. The main piece of non-routine business was the passing of a motion to allow a new form of affiliation for smaller bellringing societies, intended to give the Council broader representation for instance from small university societies and young ringers' groups. These 'Registered Small Societies' can now join with fewer than 75 members, attend the AGM, but not vote.

The Council Executive has tackled one outstanding recommendation from the CRAG review and that is that the Council considers some form of direct membership of the Council. Three Trustees, Simon Linford, Alison Everett and David Kirkcaldy, held 15 consultation events all via Zoom, including nearly 200 ringers including many representative of affiliated societies. Some of the sessions were with young ringers and those at university. These were completed by the end of the year, and although they raised a number of issues that the Council and its affiliated societies should consider in terms of how things can be done better, there was no consensus on how any form of direct membership could be achieved, despite a majority of consultees seeing benefit in it. One very positive outcome of the consultation was that young ringers saw value in a single membership organisation for them, and a small group of young ringers has been formed to take this proposal forward in 2021.

The President's Blog, published fortnightly, has become a valuable and popular channel for connecting the activities of the Council with the wider ringing population. It exploits all the media channels the Council

has available to it, and has done much to raise the profile of the Council. The Council has been using its media channels more and more, with regular news stories promoted by its workgroups.

Our Safeguarding team has been expanded and we now have two very experienced Safeguarding Officers, Dave Bassford and Ann White. Unfortunately they have been quite active dealing particularly with problems generated by injudicious use of ringing social media.

The lack of a physical AGM removed the major item of expenditure from the Council's finances which means they remain very healthy, as we have reported in Section 6 here.

The Trustees of the Central Council are confident that progress and achievements will continue to be made across all the Council's stated Objects.

5. Statement of Policies

5.1 Reserves

- (i) **General Fund** – the balance on the General Fund is invested to produce income which, together with member societies' affiliation fees, provides sufficient funds to support the work and activities of the Council. The balance also facilitates cash flow and enables the development of new projects and initiatives. The Trustees have agreed that a minimum of £75,000 needs to be kept as a reserve in the general fund. This is in order to cover three years of overheads, provide adequate cash flow and give a reasonable level of contingency against any unforeseen financial risks. This fund is unrestricted.
- (ii) **Education Courses Fund** – the balance provides cash flow to enable the Volunteer and Leadership Workgroup to run various training courses; in general the costs are recouped from attendees. This is an unrestricted designated fund.
- (iii) **Bell Restoration Fund** – the balance is fully allocated to bell restoration projects and paid on satisfactory completion of the work. Grants are made in proportion to the types of applications received and in accordance with priorities agreed by the Council and reviewed annually. Members approved an increase in the maximum possible grant to £2,000 in May 2018. This is a restricted fund.
- (iv) **Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund** – Grants from the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund are made in accordance with the terms of Mr Dukes' legacy. Grants are awarded from the interest on the legacy and reviewed annually. This is a restricted fund.
- (v) **Publications Fund** – the balance represents the stock of publications held and a cash balance to facilitate the production of new titles and the reprinting of existing publications. This is an unrestricted designated fund.

(vi) **Library Fund** – this fund represents the value of the library as well as sundry income items and is restricted to use for the benefit of the library, which is maintained for use by Council members and affiliated societies.

5.2 Investment

Funds are invested in low risk investments and bank accounts. The need for regular income from investments is considered important to support the work of the Council.

5.3 Investment and Borrowing Powers

The Trustees have the power to invest money and adopt such measures as seem to them necessary in the interest of the Council. They do not have any power to borrow money, except by Council resolution.

5.4 Risk Assessment

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which they believe the Council may be exposed and have taken steps to minimise and manage those risks.

The Council's banking deposits are fully protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Expenditure is only incurred on receipt of relevant supporting documentation and proof of service delivery. Bank statements are electronically available to the Treasurer. The Treasurer provides a financial update to each Executive meeting, highlighting financial issues that need to be brought to the Executive's attention.

5.5 Expenses

Updated guidance on expenses was approved by the Executive in November 2019.

5.6 Safeguarding

The Council's guidance on safeguarding was revised in June 2019 and issued to soci-

eties and members. A safeguarding policy applicable to the Council and its own activities and events was prepared in January 2020 and placed on the website.

5.7 Conflicts of Interest

A revised policy was approved in June and came into effect on 1 October 2020. Members of the Executive are required to complete an annual declaration which is available to the members.

5.8 Data Protection (GDPR)

The guidance note on data protection was last reviewed in January 2018. A privacy notice is available on the website.

6. Review of Financial Activities

The accounts for 2020 show total funds at the year-end of £457,812, of which £259,748 is in restricted funds. Income for the year totalled £47,740 (including legacies of £25,000 from John Barnes and £50 in memory of John Collier both for bell restoration, together with publications and library sales of £8,927). The main expenditure was for grants for bell restoration of £5,550, and publication cost of sales of £5,848. The pandemic has resulted in a reduction in the sales of publications and corresponding reduction in the cost of sales.

The 2020 figures include further donations for the Kilifi project totalling £120.

No significant fundraising activity has been carried out during the year.

The Council had no employees during the year. All of its work is carried out on a voluntary basis.

It is confirmed that the Council's assets, together with the expected income for 2021, are available and will be adequate to fulfil the objects of the Council in that year. The 2021 financial estimates were approved by the Executive in October 2020 and they support the fact that the Trustees consider that the CCCBR is a going concern, i.e. that the Cent-

ral Council can meet its commitments for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have included considerations of the impact of the pandemic in both the short and long term within their conclusions.

Although the pandemic has had a huge impact on ringing as described earlier in the report, in terms of risk assessment there is a positive financial impact to the CCCBR. Longer term risks such as fewer ringers as we return to ringing tower bells are being addressed by some of the initiatives described in the report.

On reviewing the financial controls, aside from changes already mentioned, they are consistent with prior years.

7. Membership

At the close of the Annual General Meeting on 5 September 2020 the Council's membership comprised four Fellows, 14 Ex-officio Members and 170 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies. Since then two Ex-officio Members have retired; one Representative Member has become an Ex-officio Member, and one further Ex-officio Member has been added. Five Representative Members retired and their vacancies were filled. We regret to record the death of Jay Bunyan, a Representative Member for the Bath & Wells Diocesan Association since 2005. Subject to any further changes, at the start of the 2021 Council meeting there will be four Fellows, 14 Ex-officio Members and 177 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies. There are 22 vacancies.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees on 15 May 2021.

S J L Linford
President

Robert Kilby Memorial Peal

In 2017 the Central Council received a legacy from Robert M Kilby to support the ringing of Stedman Caters – specifically, the Council organises a peal of Stedman Caters each year with the band containing at least one ringer for whom it is the first peal of Stedman Caters. The first peal was rung for the Leicester Diocesan Guild at St Mary de Castro,
Leicester on Saturday 27 October 2018

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1252159>.

The 2019 peal was rung for the Coventry Diocesan Guild at St Mary's Warwick on Saturday 21 December 2019

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1315812>.

Applications from societies for future peals
(mail to secretary@cccbr.org.uk)
will be invited when peal ringing is again possible.

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Registered Charity Number 270036

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	General Fund	Education Courses	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund	Publications Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Expenditure									
Incoming Resources									
Affiliation fees		7,960						7,960	8,000
Other income		859						859	1,848
Subscriptions from friends of Library							1,374	1,374	1,444
Interest receivable	7	1,667		353	915	49	29	3,013	3,324
Sales of publications, books and CDs						6,689	2,238	8,927	25,889
Sales of jigsaw puzzles and prints									211
Sales of training video/dvd		10						10	17
Stock written back						226		226	566
Donations to Kilifi, Kenya	8			120				120	120
Gift Aid				30			92	122	136
Sale of PDF's									105
Library sundry Income							3	3	
Other donations				25,050			76	25,126	8,844
Council Meeting									10,768
		10,496	-	25,553	915	6,964	3,812	47,740	61,272
Resources expended									
Council meeting		309						309	15,701
Workgroup expenses	9	1,512					38	1,550	1,660
ART conference		500						500	1,943
Council and other committee costs						10		10	
Ringling Remembers project costs								8	71
Recruitment leaflets		8						8	61
Cost of publications sold						3,887	1,961	5,848	14,144
Cost of jigsaws									25
C'church Cath NZ - project cost									6,069
Library maintenance							829	829	388
Equipment costs							29	29	
Grants for bell restoration	10			4,550	1,000			5,550	19,225
Advertising						2,223	85	2,308	2,283
Storage and distribution	12					2,500		2,500	2,500
Stationery, postage and telephone		29					771	800	766
Insurance		2,466				377		2,843	2,856
Project Costs							26	26	
Depreciation - Library Collection							1,717	1,717	1,753
Depreciation - shelving							106	106	106
Paypal charges						130		130	371
Sundry expenses		313						313	343
		5,137	-	4,550	1,000	9,127	5,562	25,376	70,265
Net incoming resources before transfers		5,359	-	21,003	(85)	(2,163)	(1,749)	22,365	(8,993)
Transfers between funds									
Net movement in funds		5,359	-	21,003	(85)	(2,163)	(1,749)	22,365	(8,993)
Balances at 31 December 2019		160,787	1,950	38,462	79,726	32,131	122,391	435,446	444,439
Balances at 31 December 2020		166,146	1,950	59,465	79,641	29,968	120,642	457,812	435,446

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities.

2. Accounting policies

The accounts have been drawn up in accordance with the going concern, accruals, consistency and prudence concepts.

2.1 Incoming resources

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Donations, grants and legacies are accounted for as soon as the Council is notified of the legal entitlement and the amount due.

2.2 Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

Grants are accounted for when paid over.

3. Consistency

The accounts are prepared on a consistent basis with the previous year and in accordance with the accounting policies.

4. Funds

The General Fund is unrestricted and includes designated funds raised and held for a particular purpose.

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Registered Charity Number 270036

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	General Fund	Education Courses	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund	Publications Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets								
Tangible assets								
Investments at cost	162,092		30,777	79,131			272,000	272,000
Library Collection						84,147	84,147	85,864
Library shelving						318	318	424
Total fixed assets	162,092		30,777	79,131	-	84,465	356,465	358,288
Current assets								
Stock					6,645	1,279	7,924	8,634
Debtors and prepayments	2,590		30	92		150	2,862	2,943
Cash on short term deposit and at bank	3,519	1,950	28,658	418	23,499	34,748	92,792	67,995
Total current assets	6,109	1,950	28,688	510	30,144	36,177	103,578	79,572
Current liabilities								
Creditors - amounts due within one year	(2,055)				(176)		(2,231)	(2,414)
Net current assets	4,054	1,950	28,688	510	29,968	36,177	101,347	77,158
Total assets less current liabilities	166,146	1,950	59,465	79,641	29,968	120,642	457,812	435,446
Funds								
Unrestricted	165,737						165,737	160,378
Unrestricted - designated	409	1,950			29,968		32,327	34,490
Restricted			59,465	79,641		120,642	259,748	240,578
Total funds	166,146	1,950	59,465	79,641	29,968	120,642	457,812	435,446

Notes to the accounts continued

The Education Courses Fund and Publications Fund are unrestricted designated funds.

The Bell Restoration Fund, the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund and the Library Fund are maintained for restricted purposes.

5. Transfers between funds

No amounts have been transferred between funds.

6. Tangible assets and intangible assets

The major tangible assets of the Council are the Investments in National Savings Income Bonds and the Library Collection. The Library Collection is valued at a replacement cost of £95,000. The revaluation was undertaken by Roger Barnes of Church Green Books as at 31 December 2014. The policy now is to revalue the collection every twenty years, but keeping the policy under review. It is being depreciated for accounting purposes at 2% on the reducing balance per annum. An asset register is maintained for other tangible assets. The policy is to treat assets of an individual cost up to £1,000 as fully depreciated in the year of purchase.

The major intangible asset of the Council is the copyright of *Dove's Guide*.

7. Interest receivable

Interest, in a continued climate of low interest rates, was received from –

National Savings Bonds	£2,920
Central Board of Finance of the Church of England	
Deposit account	£76
Other	£16

Amounts received were lower than 2019.

8. Donations and grants received**8.1 Kilifi, Kenya**

Donations have been received in respect of Kilifi, Kenya, for ropes and a training project. These are included in the Bell Restoration Fund as a restricted item and, together with any related gift aid, amounted to £150 in 2020, bringing the total now available to £807.

8.2 Bell Restoration

During the year the Bell Restoration Fund received two donations totaling £25,050, the larger of these being £25,000 from the estate of the late John Barnes.

8.3 Ringing Remembers

The balance, at 31 December 2020, of the Ringing Remembers Grant of £15,606 is held within general balances for future related work.

9. Workgroup Expenses

Total workgroup expenses amounted to £1,550 across all activities, a reduction

from 2019. Of these expenses the Executive accounted for £423.

10. Grants paid

During the year, the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund paid one grant totaling £1,000. There is one outstanding grant commitment, with £2,308 available for new schemes.

During the year, the Bell Restoration Fund awarded no new grants. Eight grants totaling £4,550 were paid. Outstanding commitments total £22,200.

11. Charitable commitments

There is one grant of £2,000 awarded but not yet paid by the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund, and twenty one grants totaling £22,200 awarded but not yet paid by the Bell Restoration Fund. There is also a charitable commitment to Kilifi bell restoration in respect of the balance of donations received but not yet paid amounting to £807.

12. Publications fund

Storage and distribution costs of £2,500 was paid to a Council member.

13. Payments to trustees

There were no payments to Trustees.

14. Emoluments of employees

The Council had no employees during the year.

CCCBR 2020 Executive Report

This report forms part of the formal Executive Report to Council, which is required, together with the detailed workgroup reports, in accordance with Rule 6.1 (b). It covers the activities for what turned out to be very different and challenging times. The Executive have met on a regular basis mainly online, although fortunately we did manage to hold one in person meeting in February. (See quarter peal report p.38.)

In June 2020 the Executive approved a new Conflict of Interest policy. At the same meeting the resignation of Doug Hird as Historical & Archive Workgroup leader was accepted and Chris Ridley was appointed to replace him. To support our Strategic Priorities three new workgroups were formed in May: one each concentrating on young ringers and university ringing. The third one is a Senior Stakeholder group and as the year progressed this proved to be a particularly useful move giving us direct communication at a high level with the Church of England. The following were appointed respectively as workgroup leaders: Colin Newman, Ian Roulstone and Mark Regan. In November the Executive accepted the resignation due to pressure of work of Louise Nightingale as Communications & Marketing Workgroup leader, a post she had held since its inception; it was agreed that Simon Linford would carry out this role until a successor was found. At the same meeting Carol Franklin was appointed Membership Secretary, and members of the Bell Restoration Fund panel were also appointed.

At the beginning of 2020 everything seemed to be business as usual and two useful events were held; both of these were arranged by our Volunteer and Leadership Workgroup in conjunction with the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART). The second was in mid-March just before the country went into its first lockdown and all ringing was stopped. All of our activities were then switched to being online, as was ringing in general. Our contact with the House of Bishops' Recovery group via the Senior Stakeholder group has been extremely useful in developing guidance for ringers through the various phases of lockdown and has meant that good lines of communication have been put in place; it now means that the Central Council is seen by the Church as the place to go when dealing with ringers and we have a good working relationship with them. In order to support ringers in what have been unusual times we formed a partnership with ART to develop a 'Survival & Recovery

Group'. This has proved useful to spread good ways for ringers to keep in touch and attempt to keep everyone interested whilst not being allowed to ring. This group has met regularly and has arranged various online presentations; we have 140 Recovery Champions signed up and hope that this can be a useful resource when moving to more normal times in 2021. One project that continued was work on the Cast of 1000, an initiative to give opportunities for ringers to advance to Surprise Major ringing and beyond. Of course this also had to go online but attracted over 200 ringers to 80 practices using Ringing Room.

Like the Cast of 1000 other work was started to support our Strategic Priority that no ringer should hit a barrier to their own progression; this was on the subject of why female ringers are less well represented at the more advanced levels of ringing and leadership.

Again in order to try and keep ringers' interest a YouTube video competition was run; this led to some very good entries in the different monthly categories. The overall winners emerged as a group of handbell ringers from Cornwall. Their Grandsire Triples was truly mesmerising!

Following on from the success of our new format Annual Meeting weekend in 2019 we had hoped to visit Nottingham in 2020, but unfortunately this was not to be and along with many others we were forced to hold the meeting via video conferencing. Andy Smith (Treasurer) announced that he would be standing down. This was after three years in post, including one prior to the adoption of our new structure. Fergus Tracey was elected to the post to serve the last year of his term; both the President (Simon Linford) and Deputy President (David Kirkcaldy) were re-elected for a further three year term. We discussed the proposal to allow Small Societies to register; the Executive saw this as being another small step in the reform process making the Central Council more representative and inclusive; when put to the vote this proposal was accepted.

Being unable to do any physical ringing gave us the opportunity to concentrate on three areas of work that had not been completed since our new structure was approved at Lancaster in 2018. These concerned setting up a direct membership organisation, reducing the number of representative members, and branding; we held a series of consultation events during October and Novem-

ber. These were very useful and have given us some direction as to what further reforms should be carried out or not as is the case. One spin-off from these discussions was that a group of young ringers commenced work on a new young ringers' organisation; whilst this has been supported by the Central Council it will be independent of it.

Work has also been undertaken on a number of administrative functions. At the beginning of 2021 we implemented Microsoft 365 fully for major parts of our work, including our official email contact. An Equality and Diversity Policy has been developed and put in place; work on a full Risk Assessment document is continuing. Via our high level contact with the Church Buildings Council the Dove database has now been accepted by them as the true resource record of bells in churches and will be used by them in the future. This has been made possible by the Dove team and the developments they have introduced.

In addition to this there have been various changes within individual workgroups and we have made changes to our safeguarding team. During the year we have been working even more closely on projects with ART. In addition we have had outstanding support from the Ringing World. During the year we have continued meetings with the Church Buildings Council, Historic England, the Churches Conservation Trust and Ecclesiastical Insurance amongst others. These have proved beneficial and going forward should bear fruit in developing good working relationships.

As can be seen from this, and the full workgroup reports, even though (or perhaps because) we could not ring as normal there has been an awful lot of work being undertaken during the period covered by this report. Therefore, on behalf of the Council, the Executive would like to pay tribute and express their thanks to the many who have generously given of their time and effort to help improve bell ringing; a great deal has been achieved in what has proven to be a very challenging time.

SIMON LINFORD (President)
 DAVID KIRKCALDY (Deputy President)
 MARY BONE (Secretary)
 FERGUS TRACEY (Treasurer)
 PHILLIP BARNES (Trustee)
 ALISON EVERETT (Trustee)
 DAVID SMITH (Trustee)
 CLYDE WHITTAKER (Trustee)

Performance Analysis

The Peals Analysis

We have recorded a total of 1427 peals rung in 2020 and published by *The Ringing World* via BellBoard up to January 31st 2021, of which 790 were on tower bells, 626 on handbells, 10 on distributed platforms and 1 using a simulator. The revised total for 2019 is 4533 (as shown in the table below), an increase of 36 over that published in the last year's report. Full details are included in the methods table that accompanies this report. The figures for the last five years are shown in the table below from which it can be seen that the 2020 total has been dramatically affected by the COVID pandemic and the lockdown ban on ringing

	Tower bell	Hand bell	Simulated	Distributed	Total
2020	790	626	1	10	1427
2019	3750	780	3	0	4533
2018	3895	758			4653
2017	3890	846			4737
2016	4033	880			4913
2015	4134	826			4960

The Oxford Diocesan Guild is the leading affiliated society this year with 86 peals, closely followed by the Yorkshire Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths. The leading society for handbell peals in 2020 was again the Oxford D.G. with 59, while second place Ancient Society of College Youths rang 51. Please see separate tables for details of peals rung for each society and by method / method type.

Two major factors have affected the production of this report. Firstly, the ceasing of updates to peals.co.uk in October has meant that the reports provided from that data were no longer available. Our thanks here are recorded to Bill Hibbert for the work he did in setting those up after *The Ringing World* was left the site by William Hall. Secondly, the adoption of the Framework has determined that BellBoard is considered publication, although we would still encourage sending for inclusion in *The Ringing World*.

The data are now taken from BellBoard via the API and then some data normalisation takes place. This does allow some analysis to be performed on quarter peals, which can be seen after the peals.

Record peals

There were no Record peals rung in 2020.

Leading Towers

Usually, the towers where 10 or more peals were rung in the year are listed. In this unusual year there were only 3 towers that managed that. Therefore, this year we provide a list of the towers where 5 or more peals were rung.

- 15 Sproxtton
- 11 Milton
- 10 Meldreth
- 9 Huntsham
- 8 Leeds, Cath S Anne; Portsmouth, St Agatha
- 7 Dordrecht; East Huntspill, Little Orchard Tower
- 6 Bristol, St John on the Wall; City of London, St James Garlickhythe; City of London, St Magnus the Martyr
- 5 Bradford Peverell; Keele, Woodlands; Oxford, St Thomas the Martyr; Rotherham

Due to the pandemic, there have been some unusual locations for handbell peals to comply with the social distancing regulations. Below are those where 5 or more were rung.

- 106 Reading, 26 Redlands Road
- 27 Bromley, 10 Wharton Road; Tilehurst, 15 Lytham End
- 15 Little Eaton, 5 Brooks Hollow; Wilmslow, 9 Hawthorn Lane
- 14 Bacton, 2 Pretyman Avenue
- 13 Willingham, 53 Covent Garden
- 12 Chester, 46 Green Howards Road
- 11 Godmanchester, The Old Post Office; New Alresford, Jubilee, New Farm Rd
- 10 Sydney, Eastwood, 4 Spencer St
- 9 Bosham, Little Creed Cottage, Green Lane; Lower Broadheath, Greencroft House
- 8 Brimpton, Brambles; Foxborough, MA, 22 Creighton Ave; Great Hockham, Manor Cottage
- 7 Aston Rowant, The White House; Bridstow, 4 Bannutree Cottages; Peterborough, 5 Woodfield Road
- 6 Bristol, 55 St Martin's Road; Chester, 18 Queen St; Great Longstone, The Vicarage; Poynton, 2 Adlington Close; Sheffield, 22 Kingsley Park Avenue; Westerham, Squerryes Park; Awbridge, The Clock House (Linkway)
- 5 Bridstow, The Garden Room, 4 Bannutree Cottages; Campton, 17 Gravenhurst Road;

Northallerton, 19 The Green, Romanby; Oxford, Grandpont Nature Park

First pealers and firsts as conductor

42 people rang their first peal in 2020, which given the year we have had is not a bad number. 34 of these firsts were rung before the first lockdown came into effect, meaning 8 others managed to ring their first peal after March (6 on hand bells, 2 on tower bells).

It is a similar story with first peals as conductor. Six people conducted their first peal in 2020, with four of these doing it before the first lockdown and two after it on handbells.

Given the effect of COVID-19, comparisons with 2019 are impossible, however we noted that a similar number of people (34 and 4) rang or conducted their first peal in the first two and a half months of 2019.

Corrections to the 2019 Analysis

As the 2019 Analysis was produced using different criteria, it is not possible to provide corrections.

However, the amended methods analysis for 2019, albeit produced using the new method, is shown in the 'Analysis of Peals by Method...' table, which forms part of this report.

The Felstead Project

During 2020 the work of maintaining the accuracy of the Felstead database has continued, the number of additions and corrections once again being well in excess of 200. Over half of these have been due to researches made by John Eisel, Colin Turner and Neil Bennett. Andrew Craddock continues his valuable work of adding all new peals as they are published and has also found a number of errors as he has extended the scope of his PealBase site to earlier years. Alan Glover has again been very helpful in answering a number of queries by reference to materials in the Library. Progress is still being made in adding *Bell News* and *Ringing World* references to the entries, which has resulted in several dozen other errors being corrected. Possibly owing to the restrictions on practical ringing, leaving more time available for checking records, there has been an increase in the number of other people notifying additions / corrections and gratitude is expressed to all who have contributed in any way to the accuracy of the database.

Analysis of Peals by Society 2020

Society	Tower					Hand												Simulator			Distributed			Grand Totals									
	5	5/6	6	7	8	9	10	11	11/12	12	Total	4	5	5/6	6	7	7/8	8	9	10	11	11/12	12		Total	8	Total	6	8	10	Total		
Ancient Society of College Youths	0	0	4	1	6	2	3	1	0	9	26	0	0	0	9	1	30	1	7	2	0	0	0	51	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	78	
Australian & New Zealand Association	1	0	3	2	3	0	1	0	0	1	11	0	1	0	1	1	0	5	1	0	1	0	0	10	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	22	
Barrow & District Society	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Bath & Wells Diocesan Association	1	0	10	0	25	1	3	1	1	3	45	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
Bedfordshire Association	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Beverley and District Ringing Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Cambridge University Guild	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Carlisle Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Chester Diocesan Guild	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	20	0	10	0	5	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38
Coventry Diocesan Guild	0	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
Derby Diocesan Association	0	0	1	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	6	1	4	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	
Devonshire Guild	0	0	9	1	10	0	5	0	0	3	28	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	
Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Association	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Ely Diocesan Association	1	0	2	0	21	0	1	1	1	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	
Essex Association	0	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association	0	0	3	2	9	1	1	1	1	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	
Guildford Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	2	7	0	3	0	0	1	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	
Hereford Diocesan Guild	3	0	2	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7	0	3	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	
Hertford County Association	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	
Kent County Association	1	0	18	0	8	1	1	0	0	1	30	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	14	0	4	0	1	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	
Lancashire Association	2	0	4	0	18	1	4	1	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	
Leicester Diocesan Guild	0	0	1	0	8	0	2	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	
Lichfield & Walsall Archdeacons Society	0	0	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	
Lincoln Diocesan Guild	0	1	7	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	
Liverpool Universities Society	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	
Llandaff & Mornmouth Diocesan Association	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	
Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
North American Guild	0	0	0	2	5	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	3	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	
North Wales Association	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Norwich Diocesan Association	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	
Oxford Diocesan Guild	1	0	6	0	18	0	1	0	0	1	27	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	27	0	21	0	5	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	
Oxford Society	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	
Oxford University Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Peterborough Diocesan Guild	0	0	4	1	6	0	2	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	0	0	2	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Scottish Association	0	0	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
Shropshire Association	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	0	0	3	1	10	2	5	1	1	6	29	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	33	
Southwell and Nottingham Diocesan Guild	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	
St David's Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
St Martin's Guild	0	0	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	
Suffolk Guild	1	0	6	0	19	0	1	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	
Surrey Association	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Sussex County Association	0	0	1	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	7	0	5	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	
Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
University of Bristol Society	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
University of London Society	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild	0	0	7	0	9	2	1	0	0	1	20	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	2	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	
Worcestershire & Districts Association	0	0	1	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
Yorkshire Association	0	0	20	2	23	3	12	0	0	4	64	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	78	
Totals:	14	1	142	25	302	17	60	9	2	34	606	7	5	0	85	4	1	200	2	65	4	0	14	387	1	1	1	0	2	996			
Non Association	0	0	4	1	10	2	1	4	1	8	31	1	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	5	0	0	1	18	0	0	1	4	0	5	54		
Unaffiliated Societies	1	0	43	1	83	2	13	4	0	6	153	3	3	4	94	2	0	87	1	19	0	1	7	221	0	0	1	1	1	3	377		
Grand Totals:	15	1	189	27	395	21	74	17	3	48	790	11	8	4	182	6	1	295	3	89	4	1	22	626	1	1	3	6	1	1427			

Analysis of Peals by Method and Change on Year

	Tower			Hand			Simulated			Distributed			Grand Totals		
	2020	2019	+/-	2020	2019	+/-	2020	2019	+/-	2020	2019	+/-	2020	2019	+/-
Fourteen and Septuples	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1
Sextuples	0	2	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-2
<i>Maximus</i>															
Bristol Surprise	8	60	-52	8	16	-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	76	-60
Spliced Surprise	10	18	-8	3	12	-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	30	-17
Cambridge Surprise	11	40	-29	1	4	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	44	-32
Spliced	9	36	-27	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	37	-28
Yorkshire Surprise	7	24	-17	1	4	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	28	-20
Kent Treble Bob	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Spliced Treble Dodging	1	9	-8	1	5	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	-12
Other	2	34	-32	4	18	-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	52	-46
Maximus	48	221	-173	22	64	-42	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	285	-215
Cinques and Maximus	3	13	-10	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	13	-9
<i>Cinques</i>															
Grandsire	2	5	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	-3
Stedman	14	73	-59	4	9	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	82	-64
Plain Bob	0	2	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-2
Other	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Cinques	17	80	-63	4	9	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	89	-68
<i>Royal</i>															
Cambridge Surprise	14	71	-57	21	29	-8	0	0	0	1	0	1	36	100	-64
Yorkshire Surprise	14	63	-49	12	24	-12	0	1	-1	0	0	0	26	88	-62
Bristol Surprise	8	65	-57	7	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	70	-55
Spliced Surprise	7	33	-26	4	13	-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	46	-35
Kent Treble Bob	0	0	0	11	24	-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	24	-13
Lincolnshire Surprise	2	9	-7	9	14	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	23	-12
Plain Bob	0	6	-6	6	9	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	15	-9
London No 3 Surprise	3	33	-30	2	9	-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	42	-37
Albanian Surprise	2	5	-3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	7	-2
Spliced	0	3	-3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
Triton Delight	3	7	-4	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8	-5
Spliced Treble Dodging	3	9	-6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	-6
Swindon Surprise	2	13	-11	1	5	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	18	-15
Other	16	121	-105	10	28	-18	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	149	-123
Royal	74	438	-364	89	163	-74	0	1	-1	1	0	1	164	602	-438
Caters and Royal	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1
<i>Caters</i>															
Grandsire	10	57	-47	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	58	-45
Stedman	11	61	-50	0	3	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	64	-53
Plain Bob	0	2	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-2
Other	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1
Caters	21	121	-100	3	4	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	125	-101
<i>Major</i>															
Spliced Surprise	55	242	-187	50	46	4	0	0	0	3	0	3	108	288	-180
Yorkshire Surprise	30	166	-136	46	56	-10	0	0	0	1	0	1	77	222	-145
Plain Bob	10	32	-22	48	53	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	85	-27
Bristol Surprise	31	159	-128	22	27	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	186	-133
Cambridge Surprise	27	109	-82	19	33	-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	142	-96
Kent Treble Bob	1	2	-1	29	40	-11	0	0	0	1	0	1	31	42	-11
Superlative Surprise	10	34	-24	7	16	-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	50	-33
London Surprise	9	49	-40	5	6	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	55	-41
Lincolnshire Surprise	4	19	-15	9	10	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	29	-16
Double Norwich Court Bob	6	33	-27	6	6	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	12	40	-28
Other	212	1026	-814	54	89	-35	1	1	0	1	0	1	268	1116	-848
Major	395	1871	-1476	295	382	-87	1	2	-1	6	0	6	697	2255	-1558
Triples and Major	0	5	-5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	-4
<i>Triples</i>															
Grandsire	9	42	-33	1	2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	44	-34
Stedman	12	68	-56	3	17	-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	85	-70
Plain Bob	2	10	-8	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10	-7
Other	4	7	-3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	7	-2
Triples	27	127	-100	6	19	-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	146	-113
<i>Minor</i>															
Surprise	76	323	-247	11	23	-12	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	346	-259
Minor 2m or more	30	129	-99	41	44	-3	0	0	0	2	0	2	73	173	-100
Treble Dodging	14	57	-43	41	27	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	84	-29
Spliced Surprise	33	134	-101	15	8	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	142	-94
Plain Bob	7	24	-17	37	17	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	41	3
Spliced Treble Dodging	5	27	-22	9	3	6	0	0	0	1	0	1	15	30	-15
Cambridge Surprise	11	28	-17	3	8	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	36	-22
Delight	1	7	-6	8	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	11	-2
Plain	2	2	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	4
Spliced Delight	5	22	-17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	22	-17
Other	5	22	-17	13	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	25	-7
Minor	189	775	-586	182	137	45	0	0	0	3	0	3	374	912	-538
Doubles and Minor	1	7	-6	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	7	-2
<i>Doubles</i>															
Grandsire	3	6	-3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	7	-2
Stedman	0	6	-6	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	-4
Plain Bob	0	4	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	-4
Other	12	71	-59	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	71	-55
Doubles	15	87	-72	8	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	88	-65
Minimus	0	1	-1	11	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	2	9
Grand Totals	790	3750	-2960	626	780	-154	1	3	-2	10	0	10	1427	4533	-3106

First peals in methods on Tower Bells.

January		
1	5088 Twenty Twenty D Major	Trent Valley A
2	5040 St Blaise Society A Major	S Blaise S
2	5120 Yattendon S Major	Yorks A
4	5040 Aragog A Major	Lincoln DG
7	5040 Epiphany A Major	V Evesham S
7	5024 Bridgford Treble Place Major	S&N DG
8	5096 January A Major	Lincoln DG
8	5120 Xiquena Castle S Major	B&W DA
9	5100 Namelessnesses A Major	B&W DA
16	5100 Yeehaw Junction A Major	B&W DA
17	5056 Arden S Major	Trent Valley A
17	5152 MMD S Major	Leicester DG
19	5056 Upper Stoke D Major	Trent Valley A
21	5040 Palisade A Major	S Mary Abbots G
21	5152 Doubtful Sound S Major	Devonshire G
24	5040 Kite A Major	S Blaise S
28	5088 Holsworthy A Major	Devons Soc
29	5040 Zone Point A Major	Lincoln DG
30	5088 Brexit Derangement Syndrome D Major	B&W DA
31	5152 Goshawk S Major	B&W DA

February		
4	5152 Normanton S Major	S&N DG
4	5056 Walcot D Major	S Blaise S
5	5070 Ribble Valley A Major	Yorks A
5	5152 Treecreeper S Major	Yorks A
5	5040 Zzyzx Springs A Major	Lincoln DG
6	5130 Llanerch A Major	Llan & Mon DA
17	5040 Lazarus Rattle A Major	B&W DA
19	5120 Sparrow S Major	Yorks A
19	5040 February A Major	Lincoln DG
20	5120 Worlebury S Major	B&W DA
21	5120 Ashley D Major	Peterboro DG
25	5080 Easby S Royal	Trent Valley A
28	5088 Kestrel D Major	B&W DA
29	5040 Quinten A Major	S Blaise S
29	5040 Islip A Major	S Blaise S

March		
3	5088 Yarwood Green S Major	Yorks A
5	5040 St Piran Bob Triples	Peterboro DG
5	5032 Zowerswopped A Major	B&W DA
7	5040 Grundisburgh A Major	Lincoln DG
11	5152 Gibside S Major	Lincoln DG

First peals in methods on Handbells

January		
2	5152 Queenswood S Major	Hereford DG
8	5040 Champion Dragon D Royal	Oxford DG
22	5184 Melrose S Maximus	G St Cuileain

February		
9	5056 Brocklesby D Major	Lincoln DG
11	5120 Ruckhall S Major	Hereford DG
16	5056 West Bridgford D Major	Lincoln DG
23	5152 Rowlands Gill D Major	Lincoln DG

March		
3	5152 Sellack S Major	Hereford DG

July		
14	5088 Shepperton S Major	G St Cuileain

August		
10	5040 Berlin S Royal	Oxford DG
11	5056 Sproxtton S Major	Hereford DG
23	5120 Dreamship S Major	ANZAB

October		
9	5056 Havant S Major	NAG
9	5184 Colnbrook S Major	G St Cuileain
12	5040 Kindynos D Maximus	G St Cuileain
22	5088 Claybrooke S Major	G St Cuileain
24	5040 Erin Doubles	Sussex CA
28	5040 T'owd Tup S Royal	G St Cuileain

November		
2	5152 Reading Abbey S Major	G St Cuileain
17	5024 Chertsey S Major	Non

Quarter Peals Analysis

For many years Alan Buswell produced an analysis of quarter peals rung focusing on geographical areas and producing counts for each county (or country) and the leading tower for each. The ringing community has very good reason to be most grateful to him for his hard work.

This is the first year that an analysis of quarter peals rung during a year has been made as part of a broadening of the performance analysis and we have used the available data from BellBoard. We have again made an analysis by county but are aware that different submitters may ascribe the same tower to different counties. We have tried to standardise these where possible! We have also limited analysis of methods rung to a simple analysis by stage this year but hope to provide more detailed data in the future. It should be noted that, since the analysis is based on BellBoard data, the comparative numbers provided for 2019 do not match those provided in Alan's final report.

It is also the first year that online performances have been rung in significant numbers. This has proved possible due to the innovations in online ringing, most notably Ringing Room and Handbell Stadium. In terms of analysis the huge variety of locations where individual ringers have been based makes a sensible geographical breakdown impractical, so all such performances have been categorised as "Distributed". We have also not separated out Distributed performances where ringers rang single bells from those where some or all ringers rang two. There were sufficient performances where there was a mixture of single and double handed ringing to show that the boundary is blurred. Overall, there were just under 1,000 Distributed performances rung during 2020, 14% of the total.

There were a total of 6519 performances of between 1250 and 4999 changes published, including eight of greater than 2500 changes (of which one was on tower bells and 7 in hand).

As with peals, the numbers have been affected by the pandemic, there having been approximately a third of the number from 2019. The number of tower bell quarters fell to almost zero after lockdown restrictions in late March, and the next tower bell quarter in a UK church was not until July 19th – but a band from a single family. The majority of tower bell quarters from April onwards were either on mini-rings or outside the United Kingdom. The most sig-

nificant changes are the number of Distributed quarters at just under 1000 (14% of those rung) and a 55% increase in the number of handbell quarters, despite all the restrictions. Of the handbell quarters, a significant proportion of the increase was quarters of Minimus.

It is also of interest that the distribution of the stages of Distributed quarters bears a stronger resemblance to that of handbell rather than tower bell quarters. The proportion of Distributed quarters of Doubles was only 8%, compared to 31% of tower bell quarters, while only 2% of Distributed quarters were of Triples as against 11% of tower bell quarters. The proportions of quarters of Minor and Major were very much higher (45% and 33%) for Distributed performances than for tower bell quarters (27% and 18% respectively).

There were, in addition, 34 performances published where some of the bells "rung" were controlled by software. These have not been analysed further in this report although we appreciate that some were personal achievements for the (human) ringers involved.

The analysis of quarter peals will develop over time and we will be particularly dependent on accurate submission of data via BellBoard. In the meantime, we would welcome feedback from ringers about what they might value in terms of analysis of quarter peals.

RICHARD ALLTON
ALAN BALDOCK
PAUL CAMMADE
CHRISTOPHER TURNER
DEREK SIBSON

Publications

No new titles were published during the year and only four titles were reprinted: *Towards Better Striking*, *Ringing Circles*, *Manual of Belfry Maintenance* and *One per Learner*.

Twenty four titles are available for download free of charge: *Ringing Basics for Beginners*, *Doubles and Minor for Beginners*, *Triples and Major for Beginners*, *Learning Methods*, *Method Splicing – Practical Hints*, *Understanding Place Notation*, *Conducting Stedman*, *Tower Captain's Handbook*, *One way to Teach Bell Handling*, *Teaching Beyond Bell Handling*, *Beginners Guide to Change Ringing on Handbells*, *Change Ringing on Handbells*, *Giants of the Exercise Vol 2*, *A J Pitman Biography*,

Analysis of Quarter Peals by Stage

	Tower		Hand		Sim Sound		Dist. 2020	Grand Totals	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019		2020	2019
Two	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	5	2
Singles	48	34	1	3	0	0	1	50	37
Singles & Minimus	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	4	0
Minimus	86	157	434	86	1	0	36	557	243
Minimus & Doubles	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Doubles	1132	4830	28	24	6	0	80	1246	4854
Doubles and Minor	8	24	1	0	0	0	1	10	24
Minor	1007	4322	609	403	6	22	433	2055	4747
Triples	423	2131	13	20	1	0	16	453	2151
Triples & Major	6	4	0	0	0	0	1	7	4
Major	681	3216	558	480	3	7	315	1557	3703
Caters	127	587	9	13	0	0	9	145	600
Caters & Royal	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Royal	131	524	109	99	0	0	49	289	623
Cinques	34	170	6	3	0	0	2	42	173
Cinques & Maximus	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Maximus	67	258	7	12	0	0	24	98	270
Sextuples	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sixteen	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grand Totals	3756	16267	1779	1147	17	29	967	6519	17443

Analysis of Quarter Peals by County / Country 2020

	Tower		Hand		Sim Sound		Dist. 2020	Grand Total	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019		2020	2019
Asia	0	2	1	0				1	2
Aust & NZ	247	444	67	61				314	505
Bedfordshire	34	136	7	0				41	136
Berkshire	71	308	104	69				175	377
Buckinghamshire	43	220	9	6	1			53	226
Channel Is	84	114	33	19				117	133
Cambridgeshire	122	542	109	44		4		231	590
Cheshire	61	247	62	30	1	1		124	278
City & Greater London	142	699	2	6				144	705
Cornwall & Is of Scilly	15	128	21	15				36	143
County Durham	47	160	46	30				93	190
Cumbria	20	86	10	1	5	1		35	88
Derbyshire	83	387	41	27	1	11		125	425
Devon	67	476	104	64				171	540
Dorset	81	432	26	15	1			108	447
East Riding of Yorks	35	143	24	54	1			60	197
East Sussex	57	319	77	13				134	332
Essex	116	499	18	11				134	510
Europe	16	84	1	10				17	94
Gloucester & Bristol	290	1015	30	12				320	1027
Greater Manchester	16	75	0	1				16	76
Hampshire & I of Wight	131	532	63	135				194	667
Herefordshire	64	261	16	11				80	272
Hertfordshire	107	370	31	11				138	381
Ireland	4	23	1	0				5	23
Kent	184	1044	102	39				286	1083
Lancashire & I of Man	16	148	1	4				17	152
Leicestershire	49	199	51	1				100	200
Lincolnshire	115	480	21	14				136	494
Merseyside	17	56	1	7				18	63
Mid and W Wales	32	108	2	2				34	110
Middlesex	15	52	13	3				28	55
North America	34	183	25	53				59	236
North Wales	14	84	2	0	3	5		19	89
Norfolk	83	397	39	5		2		122	404
North Yorkshire	71	338	13	8	1			85	346
Northamptonshire	25	208	11	1				36	209
Northumberland, T & W	26	89	2	9				28	98
Nottinghamshire	49	277	76	92				125	369
Oxfordshire	127	479	226	120				353	599
Rutland	3	33	2	1				5	34
Scotland	7	118	16	43				23	161
Shropshire	67	293	51	0		3		118	296
Somerset	294	1151	50	13				344	1164
South Wales	29	200	32	17				61	217
South Yorkshire	18	152	12	9	1	1		31	162
Staffordshire	57	225	18	5	1			76	230
Suffolk	99	526	21	4	1	1		121	531
Surrey	62	275	8	10				70	285
Warwickshire	51	258	1	2				52	260
West Midlands	65	241	13	1				78	242
West Sussex	44	230	29	16				73	246
West Yorkshire	33	197	7	3				40	200
Wiltshire	40	241	11	13				51	254
Worcestershire	77	283	20	1				97	284
"In transit"	0	0	0	6				0	6
Multisite	-	-	-	-	-	-	967	967	0
Grand Totals	3756	16267	1779	1147	17	29	967	6519	17443

Stocklist at December 31st 2020

Title	Sales to 31 Dec 2020	Stock at 31 Dec 2020
New Ringers Book	126	484
Beginners Handbook	43	29
Towards Better Striking	22	3
Raising and Lowering	34	155
Ringing Jargon Made Easy	25	41
Beginners Grandsire	20	158
Beginners Plain Bob	37	101
Doubles and Minor for Beginners	0	5
Ringing Circles	207	1032
Ringing Basics for Beginners	11	13
The Learning Curve Vol 1	0	0
The Learning Curve Vol 2	3	117
The Learning Curve Vol 3	3	109
The Learning Curve Vol 4	3	138
Listen to Ringing CD 1/CD2	8/8	8/16
Beginners Guide to Change Ringing on Handbells	33	38
Change Ringing on Handbells	7	1
Standard Eight Surprise Major	12	56
Service Touches	16	29
A Tutors Handbook	2	103
One Way to Teach Handling	0	0
Teaching Beyond Bell Handling	1	127
Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles	3	22
Kaleidoscope Ringing	16	144
Teaching Unravelling	6	17
Starting a New Band	8	21
Teaching Tips	6	64
Manual of Belfry Maintenance	116	173
Towers and Bells Handbook	10	51
Organising a Bell Restoration Project (2016)	13	15
Sound Management	4	25
Splicing Bellropes	24	160
On This Day	19	22
Change Ringing History Vol 1/Vol 3	7/4	96/119
Centenary History of the Central Council	2	53
Giants of the Exercise Vol1/Vol2	5/3	135/11
A J Pitman Biography	7	90
Dove's Guide 11	60	187
Belfry Offices	9	22
Judging Striking Competitions	9	31
DVDs	4	0
One per Learner	694	2823
Follow-on Book	205	12
Exercise Book	50	332
Method Leaflets	30	230
Bell Club Cards	45	455
Badges	160	403
20 Questions & 19 Answers	40	346

The following titles are available for download free of charge: Ringing Basics for Beginners, Doubles and Minor for Beginners, Triples and Major for Beginners, Learning Methods, Method Splicing – Practical Hints, Understanding Place Notation, Conducting Stedman, Tower Captain's Handbook, One way to Teach Bell Handling, Teaching Beyond Bell Handling, Beginners Guide to Change Ringing on Handbells, Change Ringing on Handbells, Giants of the Exercise Vol 2, A J Pitman Biography, Starting a New Band, Organising an Outing, Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles, Collection of Plain Minor Methods, Treble Dodging Minor Methods, Handbook of Composition, Collection of Stedman Compositions, Collection of Grandsire Compositions, Collection of Ten Bell Compositions, Collection of Twelve Bell Compositions.

Starting a New Band, Organising an Outing, Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles, Collection of Plain Minor Methods, Treble Dodging Minor Methods, Handbook of Composition, Collection of Stedman Compositions, Collection of Grandsire Compositions, Collection of Ten Bell Compositions, Collection of Twelve Bell Compositions.

The volume of sales fell very sharply but the best sellers, all with reduced numbers, were: *Dove 11, New Ringers Book, Ringing Circles, Manual of Belfry Maintenance*, and the whole *Sherbourne Teaching Aids* range. These were the same best sellers as in 2019.

No meetings were held during the year but the usual large number of telephone and email conversations took place. Bulk discounts were offered in March and advertisements were again placed in a number of Association reports.

The income from sales fell sharply to £6,690 from £23,800 and expenditure exceeded income by £2,160. The value of stock held rose slightly to £6,650 and at year end the total cash available fell by £2,600 to £23,500. The fund remains well able to finance any likely future work. Discounts continued to be available for all bulk orders.

The people delegated to manage the Council's publications business and to operate the Publications Fund during the year were:

JOHN COUPERTHWAITTE
PHILIP GREEN
MICHAEL HANSFORD
BERYL NORRIS
BARBARA WHEELER
JAN WYATT.

Safeguarding

Since their appointment by the Council in 2020 the Safeguarding Officers have dealt with a steady stream of comments and requests raised by individuals and by guilds.

The bulk of these enquiries has been the seeking of information and advice by guild safeguarding leaders when putting together their guild policy documents.

A feature of Covid 19 and lockdown has been the rise of online ringing. An incident led to an urgent effort to put together some safeguarding guidelines for online ringing. Dave Bassford gathered together a working group of interested ringers, including several young ringers, and the impressive result of their work has already appeared in *The Ringing World*.

The Safeguarding Officers were pleased to be invited to deliver a presentation on safeguarding to a joint St Martin's Guild/ CCCBR Wednesday evening event in November.

On a less positive note, recent months have been dominated by the unpleasant side of social media. While rarely reaching the threshold for becoming a safeguarding issue, any bullying within ringing is to be deplored, victims should be supported and perpetrators called to account. The Safeguarding Officers, however, do not accept that the responsibility for this should rest solely with them and the Council President! Everyone in ringing should be playing their part in changing the culture in ringing away from this behaviour being acceptable or someone else's problem.

Other initiatives include establishing a relationship with the Social Care Institute for Excellence, facilitated by Clyde Whitaker and Mark Regan. A very useful Zoom discussion took place with Simon Bayliss from SCIE in March and we are about to embark upon a shared piece of work to produce a number of simple flow documents to support the Safeguarding Officers and affiliated societies safeguarding leaders to understand what advice the CCCBR can offer with regard to safeguarding and bullying and online behaviour. In addition, we will create an organisation and officer profile for CCCBR volunteers offering safeguarding advice and a recommended code of conduct on bullying and online activity. The final documents will be approved by the CCCBR Trustees and SCIE will provide us with confirmation that all documents are fit for purpose. We expect this to demonstrate to church and other organisations, if and where necessary, that ringers have robust

processes in place when dealing with these important issues.

A useful introductory meeting with Deborah McGovern of the Church of England's National Safeguarding Team took place in early June. Amongst a number of areas discussed was the continuing effort to reinforce the fact that ringing is distinct (both in terms of physical environment and organisation) from other volunteering roles and attracts non-churchgoers, and that the CCCBR is anxious to develop closer links to the NST to ensure the needs of bellringers are taken into account at an appropriate point in decision-making.

It would also be helpful if the Church could be more consistent when applying rules to all bellringing societies and bands wherever they are in the UK. The new Church of England safeguarding training framework has raised concerns regarding which levels are relevant in the ringing context.

Following on from the meeting with SCIE where a suggestion was made that we consider self/peer audits of safeguarding within guilds, a draft audit tool has been prepared. It is hoped to be able to roll this out when a forum for guild safeguarding leaders can be established.

The Safeguarding Officers are humbled by the volume of work completed by Chris Mew before he handed over. Chris was very supportive during the handover period and released a mountain of paperwork in the summer for review and safekeeping. It is therefore with some trepidation that a review of the Council's own safeguarding policy, originally completed by Chris, is being undertaken. There has been little change to national or church legislation and guidance but it is important that we regu-

larly ensure that the policy document accurately reflects current issues.

Finally, the CCCBR website now has a safeguarding tab on the home page which should mean that the safeguarding information is more easily accessible.

ANN WHITE

Bell Restoration Fund Grants panel

The panel was appointed at the Executive meeting held on 21st November 2020. Its task is to review grant applications to the Fund and provide recommendations for approval by the Trustees.

Prior to their appointment the panel members had familiarised themselves with the workings of the Fund and reviewed the existing criteria for grants; in particular they recommended that grants should be available for 3 years, in view of the disruption to the industry and the difficulties for fundraising as a result of the pandemic.

Applications to the Fund were invited in *The Ringing World* issue of 11th December 2020, with a closing date of 28th February 2021.

Shortly after the closing date details of all the 37 applications were circulated to the panel. Following discussion by members recommendations for grants to all the parishes were submitted to the Executive and approved at its meeting on 28th April. A list of grants will be published once all the offers of grants have been accepted.

CHRIS BIRKBY
KEITH BROWN
PETER KIRBY
IAN ORAM (Fund Administrator)



Communications & Marketing Workgroup

The Workgroup had been investigating a number of initiatives to promote bell ringing to a wider audience and improve communications amongst ringers. These included:

- working with an agency to consider rebranding materials to appeal to different audiences via segmentation.
- a photo repository to support media requests.
- exit questionnaires to re-engage with lapsed ringers to understand their reasons for giving up and what could be done to win them back.
- a series of very short video interviews with not-so-famous ringers to find out

their motivation and how they progressed.

- updating weblinks to and from other websites.

The YouTube video contest drew in lots of good quality, interesting videos of ringing and are available on the Council's channel at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmJrg8h0wm_qLSzfUUhijjsnQ7QtNExkP

Louise Nightingale, Workgroup Leader, stood down at the end of 2020 and Simon Linford temporarily took the reins. The last Communications & Marketing Workgroup meeting took place in February 2021 with the members and activity being split between the Volunteering & Leadership

and the newly formed Public Relations workgroups.

Thank you to the Workgroup members for their contribution over the last year:

LOUISE NIGHTINGALE – Workgroup Leader
BRUCE BUTLER
EILEEN BUTLER
VICKI CHAPMAN
NEAL DODGE
PHILIP GREEN
ALLEN NUNLEY
JAMES RAMSBOTTOM

VICKI CHAPMAN & SIMON LINFORD
JUNE 2021



Public Relations Workgroup

A new Public Relations Workgroup, evolved from the Communications & Marketing Workgroup, was established in March 2021. Our scope is:

To promote the Council and bell ringing to the ringing community and general public, by:

- Supporting the Council's Executive and volunteers to share information with the ringing community and via the media;
- Exploiting opportunities to promote bell ringing in the media;
- Managing the Council's media contacts, responding to media queries and writing/promoting press releases, articles and other information for publication/broadcast;
- Monitoring bellringing stories in the public domain, sharing stories of interest with Council officers and the bell ringing community;
- Offering guidance to society PR officers, including on the handling of social media;
- Maintaining a suite of PR materials;
- Maintaining and implementing the Council's policies regarding publicity and ringing for public events;
- Supporting Council officers in dealing with the media as part of crisis containment.

It was important to get a good group of enthusiastic people together who have had experience with PR activities across the UK and internationally and I am really pleased that those I approached accepted the invitation to join the Workgroup. Our current membership is listed at the end of this report.

We held our first meeting on 3rd April 2021, joined by Simon Linford as Workgroup Sponsor, which was mostly an introductory session, getting to know a bit about everyone in the group, their background and the unique skills they bring. We identi-

fied a list of events in the coming couple of years that may require PR support to promote so we can start to pull ideas and resources together. Some of these may still be impacted by any lockdown or other restrictions that may be in force at the time. Members of the group have skills in social media, graphic design and producing publicity materials as well as having track records of fantastic promotional activity in their local areas.

Ringling for the death of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh was supported by providing guidance on what should be rung when, and giving interviews to local and national press. We are currently reviewing our Operation London Bridge guidance based on what we learned from this.

At the end of May we launched a photograph competition. The Central Council is often asked by the media and others for images of bells, bell ringing, churches and so on for news articles, magazines and websites. We currently do not have a library of suitable, contemporary images. By launching a competition covering a variety of topics over the coming months, we will have a fantastic repository of good quality images that can be used. We are extremely grateful to Mark Elvers who has supported this project with the installation of the website plug-in that allows photos to be uploaded. You can see the current gallery at <https://cccbr.org.uk/competition/>.

In June the Workgroup piloted a discussion forum platform which the Central Council will be rolling out as opportunities to connect on specific subject matters. The forum is open to anyone with an interest in that subject to share advice and ask questions. Please let me know if you are interested in joining our discussion boards.

The NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers Day on 5th July 2021 provided an opportunity for us to show appreciation and remembrance, and it is hoped that this will become an annual event.

A number of opportunities have so far been identified throughout 2021/22 for PR support and the group are offering support as required. Of course, 2022 sees the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen and will be a cause for bell ringing celebrations across the Commonwealth.

Longer term projects include:

- Bells on Sunday – supporting additional recordings and promoting this BBC Radio 4 slot;
- PR Matters Day v2.0 – a day of talks and workshops to support PR activity;
- Bell Sunday – an annual day recognised by the Church for all things bells. We are working with the Guild of Clerical Ringers to bring this about;
- Publicity materials and guidance;
- Britain's Favourite Bell Ringers competition, a chance for your town/village to nominate you for a national prize.

We are conscious of the international reach of bell ringing and look for opportunities to reach out and include activities overseas and would welcome participation in our Workgroup to represent these areas.

If you have an interest in, or can offer support to, any of our activities we would love to hear from you; you can contact me at pro@cccbr.org.uk

VICKI CHAPMAN — Central Council
Public Relations Officer/Workgroup
Leader

BRUCE BUTLER — North America (and
international)

EILEEN BUTLER — North America (and
international)

NEAL DODGE (social media) — Suffolk

SUSAN HALL (graphics) — Derbyshire

MATT JEROME — Young Change

Ringers Association

JANE MCCUTCHAN — Truro

MARTIN MELLOR — Scotland

PHILLIP ORME — Bells on Sunday



Senior Stakeholder Liaison Workgroup

Introduction

Simon Linford and the CCCBR Executive asked me to form this group. The idea is based on developing ongoing relationships with people and organisations who have influence in our bellringing world. We had talked about the need for advocacy for some time. The catalyst was the pandemic.

Bellringing cannot isolate itself from its stakeholders. Recent suggestions that bell-

ringing should divorce itself from the Church are naïve. The Church owns nearly all the bells upon which we are dependent. The Church has stakeholders too, and the Church is certainly struggling with money and its buildings. Collaboration is the best option. Key people need to know that bellringing is a performing art which in turn is part of our cultural heritage. If we hide behind thick stone walls, we will fail. The more people who know about our amazing

art the stronger will be our position. The range of stakeholders who can influence ringing and church buildings is big. We are at the first base camp of a very tall mountain.

Who is in the group?

Following a notice in *The Ringing World*, Nigel Herriott and Robert Sulley contacted me and offered to help. I asked

Chris Pickford and Michael Royalton-Kisch to join the group. Their combined professional experience, volunteer status in the wider church, and contacts in related organisations are considerable and much valued. One feature of our activity has been collaboration with other workgroups. We have quietly got on with our work.

Covid

In March 2020, the Church of England and other organisations with bells shut down and ringing stopped. It is easy to stop things and much harder to start them up again. The first thing we had to do was to find out who was making the decisions. Our friends at Church House put us in touch with Mark Betson and Brendan McCarthy who became the Bishops' Covid Recovery Group. Mark is the Rural Churches Officer, and Brendan the Church's adviser on ethics. Simon Linford, Phil Barnes, David Pouncey and I are in regular contact with them. We have interpreted Government legislation and Church of England (CofE) guidance into guidance for ringing. The idea was to safely enable as much ringing as possible during the pandemic.

This strategic relationship will be important after the pandemic. Covid presented the opportunity to change our relationship with the CofE and establish new and meaningful dialogue. The sound of bells will tell everyone there is a church at the heart of their community and that the Church is open for business.

The University of York's Centre for Christianity and Culture recently published a report about the effect of Covid. One headline grabs the attention: over 75% of non-church goers want access to a church in their community. If churches can play a vital role in Covid recovery, so can bell-ringing. See <https://churchesandcovid.org/report>

First steps

Once ringing had stopped fears were expressed about Covid causing a wave of church closures. Zoom meetings were held with Historic England, the Church Buildings Council, the CofE Covid Recovery Group, and the Victorian Society. Although we all share concerns about the future of many of our church buildings, two things became immediately clear. It is a long process and a complex process to close a church, and Covid had not caused anything. It has speeded up things which would have happened anyway. Please read the Bishop of Worcester's report published in 2015:

http://www.hrballiance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/church_buildings_review_report_2015.pdf.

It is worth pointing out that, of the 16,000 churches in the CofE, only about 5,500 have five or more ringable bells. Statistically there is only roughly a one in three chance of a closure which would affect

ringers, should that ever happen. However, there is real concern for bells, frames, and fittings for rings of four or less in rural settings. There is likely to be an accelerated pace of urban closures, where there have already been many losses. Many will be of significant historical or archaeological importance. Covid has made us more aware of this issue. Dialogue with these stakeholders is ongoing.

Do not be prescriptive!

Listening to others' views of ringing is always interesting. Even some clergy still believe all we do is flick a switch. It is good to have the Clerical Guild taking an active role supporting ringing with their peers.

There is support, hostility, indifference, and many misconceptions. However, we can cultivate support. Stakeholders knowing that bellringers are real people in the real world is sometimes a revelation.

One regular thread in our conversations is the importance of bells helping to keep churches open and being a tool for Church recovery. We have put Mark Betson in touch with some guilds and associations for diocesan collaboration. This is work in progress.

Two important groups are the DAC bell adviser community and the wider national DAC community. Simon Linford and I will be presenting at the national DAC chairs and secretaries conference in September. It is good to be asked to contribute to these events.

The Dove database

A meeting, held with David Knight and James Miles from the Church Buildings Council and Chris Pickford and Dickon Love, made a breakthrough in the collection and administration of bells, fittings and bellframe data. Dove will hold the data for collaborative use by everybody and the Dove team has worked swiftly towards effecting the necessary changes. We would like to thank John Baldwin, George Dawson and many others who paved the way for this important breakthrough. The recognition of their work by the CBC and the amenity groups is important. This is work in progress. Chris Ridley's help has been invaluable.

Big Ideas

The Big Ideas Company (BIC) worked with the CCCBR on the successful Ringing Remembers campaign. The SSLG was asked to contribute to ideas for recruiting new ringers in 2022. Working with Colin Newman's Young Ringers Workgroup, we planned to beta test Jason Hughes' lesson plans in all subjects for years 5, 6 and 7 using ringing as a common thread. The lessons were recently taught at Kempsey Primary School and Christopher Whitehead Language College. Non-ringing teachers delivered ringing related content across

multiple subjects. We are looking at ideas to roll this out in 2022. Again, this is work in progress.

One by-product of our conversations with the BIC was young ringers taking part in the National Holocaust Memorial Project. An online workshop facilitated by the BIC enabled young ringers and some adults to paint stones which will form part of the memorial which will be built in central London.

Safeguarding

Following the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) safeguarding audit at Worcester Cathedral, it was clear that SCIE did not have much knowledge of how ringing works. SCIE are employed by the CofE to audit all its dioceses and cathedrals. We connected SCIE with the CCCBR Executive who quickly established a meaningful relationship. Part of our remit is to make appropriate connections and we are pleased to see collaboration between SCIE and the CCCBR.

The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT)

The CCT recognise the value of ringing to the churches in their care. Simon Linford's contacts with the CCT resulted in a Zoom meeting to see how ringers, guilds, associations and DACs can help in the vesting process. This is another example of connecting people.

Cultural heritage

The silence of bells across the UK and ringing countries overseas has been noticed by the public. Their sound is part of the cultural landscape.

The next phase of our work is to establish a dialogue with the Arts Council and UNESCO. The objective is to get ringing recognised as a performing art and intangible cultural heritage. This will require lobbying related organisations including the Government's DCMS and getting recognition and support from our main stakeholder – the CofE.

Summary

I would like to thank Nigel, Robert, Chris and Michael for their hard work and advocacy. We have received ideas and support from ringers and non-ringers who have an interest in our performing art. The stakeholders with whom we have spoken want to continue a meaningful dialogue. Cross-working and collaboration with other CCCBR workgroups is effective and productive. There will always be a lot to do, and it will be serious fun doing it.

MARK REGAN – Workgroup Leader



Stewardship & Management Workgroup

Introduction

The Stewardship & Management Workgroup has now existed formally for three years. Our activities have continued but, as for most organisations, veered slightly from those planned to support the urgent requirements as the Covid 19 pandemic emerged. Initially our emphasis was offering advice on risk assessments for ringers and towers as churches were closed then partially re-opened during the various phases. Latterly, we have been supporting the joint ART / CCCBR “Ringing Recovery Convention” online events held during May 2021. In parallel, we continue to update and expand the range of advice on the CCCBR website and in *The Ringing World*. We have also provided help by responding individually to a wide range of specific enquiries from ringers and churches. Some of these are relatively straightforward, while others lead to extensive work for members and others with appropriate specialist knowledge, in the background.

The Workgroup met (virtually) in September and December 2020 and April 2021, otherwise maintaining activities using electronic means even more than in previous years.



Members of SMWG at the virtual meeting held using “Teams” on 9th April 2021

Westley Award

After the success of the first Westley Award in 2019, we decided to go ahead with the 2nd Westley Award for Church Bell Maintenance in 2020 despite the constraints imposed as a result of Covid. We were very pleased to receive 8 applications, including one from a female applicant and 7 in the under 25 age group. The winner was Sue McLaughry for her leadership and involvement in the Calstock bell restoration project in Cornwall. Four runners up were also highly commended by the judges. The winner’s prize money was again kindly donated by Westley Group. With the prevailing circumstances, the cheque and most certificates were sent by post; one runner up was presented with his certificate, with appropriate social distancing, when an opportunity arose.

Sue subsequently gave an informative and amusing presentation about her total involvement in the restoration project at Calstock, Cornwall.

The 2021 Westley Award is open for applications as this report is being prepared.

Tower movement studies

A major piece of work that has been underway for several years has been a theoretical study of tower movement, undertaken by Gordon Breeze. At a talk to the St Martin’s Guild on 3rd February 2021, he presented some of the latest developments and how his understanding could be used in practice in towers.

Events and activities

With all face to face events halted, the Workgroup teamed up with the St Martin’s Guild to offer talks jointly in the series organised by the Guild. These included presentations from the Workgroup on tower environments, Tom Westley on his company’s work on bell casting, Dave Bassford and Ann White on safeguarding, as well as those mentioned above by Sue McLaughry and Gordon Breeze.

The CCCBR Executive formally appointed individuals nominated by the Workgroup as members of the Bell Restoration Fund Grants Panel. This panel now reports formally to the Trustees of the CCCBR. Members of SMWG also revised the forms relating to the operation of the CCCBR Bell Restoration Fund and Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund to enable more web-based information to be available about applications and awards from the funds.

In 2020, a grant of £1,000 was awarded from the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund to St Peter’s Anglican Church, Richmond, New South Wales. The project is to install a peal of 8 bells, tenor 3.5cwt, in a new frame with all new fittings. Six of the

bells have been donated. The church already has a tower, built in 1841, with one chiming bell which will be retained in use. In early 2021 a grant of £1,000 was made from the fund to St Philip’s Eastwood, New South Wales.

Applications to the CCCBR Bell Restoration Fund were invited in *The Ringing World* in December 2020. 37 awards were made and a report will be prepared for publication in *The Ringing World*.

One member of the Workgroup was a member of the team that undertook the “women in ringing” study, co-authoring one article in *The Ringing World* (issue 5716) in November 2020. He is now developing a policy on diversity for the CCCBR.

Members of the Workgroup have maintained links with other organisations relevant to ringing such as major insurers, Churches Conservation Trust, Church Buildings Council, and represented the CCCBR at a heritage presentation held at Taylors Bell Foundry. The Workgroup also had a stand and gave a presentation at the ART conference near Derby in March 2020 – one of the few last gatherings of ringers in 2020.

During the period, members of the Workgroup piloted setting up the new CCCBR Microsoft 365 account. This is enabling central storage and working together throughout the CCCBR, particularly at a distance and on different time zones. For the longer term, this system is being structured to ensure retention and hand-over of records and information more readily than traditionally has been the case with changes of membership.

The group is also working with the CCCBR Webmaster and Technical & Taxonomy Workgroup to set up software “networking” tools for ringers widely. This aims to enable ringers with similar interests to discuss topics with each other.

The most significant pieces of work underway in the Workgroup are the revision of the advice offered on the CCCBR website by the Workgroup. Rather than the booklets and short guidance notes offered previously, we recognise that ringers and churches now expect to find information on line, whether on larger computers or on small screen devices. We are therefore working to establish suitable formats and styles for these, preferably also with a print option available. We are gradually (re-)drafting information to cover most of the “Topics” in the three “Theme” areas addressed by the Group – Tower Infrastructure, Tower Operation, and Major Projects. <https://cccb.org.uk/about/workgroups/stewardship-and-management/>



Josh Richardson with his parents and church members after his presentation (Photo by Nigel Hodge)

Plans for 2021-2022

Like most ringers, we hope to be able to return to some face to face events in the near future when it is safer for us to do so. We will continue to use electronic fora, simply because of the geographic spread of our membership and activities.

Our major activities will be based on providing more advice that is accessible online, virtually and in occasional topical articles in *The Ringing World*. We will continue to respond to individual enquiries, and hope also that the “networks” being set up will enable more ringers to discuss and get to know others with similar interests.

In particular, we hope to introduce more people, not only ringers, to “what goes on upstairs” in a tower. We recognise that it is usually church authorities (incumbents, church wardens and PCCs or their equivalents) who own and have the formal responsibility for most bells and their installation. Often they have had few opportunities to gain much awareness of when bell installations are not in as good a condition as they could be, or how they may get assistance to improve matters.

Discussions are at an early stage with the Associazione Suonatori di Campana a Sistema Veronese (a society affiliated to the CCCBR, with one of their Representatives in the Workgroup) about adding Veronese bells to Dove.

During this report period, we have welcomed several new members and we take this opportunity to thank all members of the Workgroup for their significant contribu-

tions during 2020-21. In particular, we note the passing of Roland Backhurst, who had also been a long standing member of the former Towers and Belfries Committee and contributed significantly to the *Manual of Belfry Maintenance*, and Jay Bunyan who died only 6 months after resigning from the Group. Jay had provided helpful advice for many years through the Bell Restoration Committee, especially after John Barnes’ passing in October 2019. We also thank others who are not full members of the group but who provide specialist advice using their knowledge as professionals and / or voluntary activities.

- PATRICK ALBON (Resigned April 2020)
- ROLAND BACKHURST (Deceased July 2020)
- JOHN BERESFORD (Joined April 2020)
- CHRIS BIRKBY (Joined April 2020)
- KEITH BROWN (Joined April 2020)
- JAY BUNYAN – Major Projects Theme Leader (Resigned September 2020)
- TONY CRABTREE
- KEN DAVENPORT (Resigned September 2020)
- ALAN FROST
- ALISON HODGE – Workgroup Leader smLead@cccbr.org.uk
- PETER KIRBY
- JAMES KIRKCALDY (Joined January 2021)
- DAVID MATTINGLEY (Resigned May 2021)
- CHRIS MEW (Resigned March 2020)
- JULIAN NEWMAN
- ALLEN NUNLEY

- AVELINE PEREZ DE VERA
- SIMON PLOWS (Joined April 2020)
- PHILIP PRATT (Joined April 2020)
- CHRIS POVEY
- DAVID ROSKELLY – Tower Infrastructure Theme Leader smInf@cccbr.org.uk
- CHRIS SHARP
- ROBIN SHIPP – Workgroup Secretary smSec@cccbr.org.uk
- NICK WILKINS (Joined April 2020)
- PETER WILKINSON (Resigned July 2020)
- PETER WOOLLAM
- ALLAN YALDEN
- VACANT – Tower Operation Theme Leader smOps@cccbr.org.uk
- VACANT – Tower Projects Theme Leader smPro@cccbr.org.uk

We will welcome new members to the Workgroup – it is no longer a requirement to be a member of the CCCBR. Please contact the Secretary, Robin Shipp. In particular, we would like assistance with the following specific activities:

- Video compilation, event organisation, web presentation, social media
- Deputy Secretary – Workgroup organisation
- Restoration projects – community engagement
- Financial matters – fund raising, grants, VAT, gift aid, charity accounts (ideally people with current qualifications, if possible).

Technical & Taxonomy Workgroup

Significant progress has been made in the last year on the Dove database, composition collections, implementation of Microsoft 365, and drafting of version 2 of the Framework for Method Ringing, while the pandemic necessitated some adjustments to priorities such as delaying the start of the extension process review so that individuals could focus on innovations in online ringing.

The Workgroup has been expanded with the addition of a new project team in April 2021 to work on the objective of ‘Securing the future of key services and data valued by ringers’.

Methods

There continues to be a considerable appetite to ring and name new methods even with severe restrictions to tower bell ringing in particular. 683 methods were added to the CCCBR Methods Library ([meth-](https://ods.cccb.org.uk)

ods.cccb.org.uk) in weekly updates, bringing the total number of named methods to 22,557 at the end of 2020.

Following agreement on an expanded place notation syntax for jump changes, 13 rung jump methods have been added to the Methods Library, although these have not

been included in the ‘all methods’ XML collection yet to give time for software authors to update their systems.

Two new Dynamic methods (rule-based like Dixon’s Bob Minor) have been rung in the early part of 2021: Reverse Dixon’s Bob Minor and Oxford Badger Bob Minor.

	Methods	Compositions	Dove	ICT
Services	Methods Library	Composition Collections	Dove Website	Council Website
	Articles & Publications	Articles & Publications	Dove’s Guide	Council IT Infrastructure
	Help & Advice	Help & Advice		Event Support
	Framework for Method Ringing			
Projects	Framework Version 2	The Ultimate Collection	New Dove Database	Office 365 Migration
	Review of Extension Processes	Doubles Variations and Calls Library	Website Enhancements	Secure the Future
			Mobile Phone App	not started active complete

We are considering how to record these on an interim basis, as a standard notation for recording such methods has not yet been developed.

The Workgroup's methods panel has answered various method-related questions received via email at methods@cccbr.org.uk and also discussed and agreed any actions when issues have arisen in the naming of new methods. Its members have also responded directly to questions posed on ringing email lists, social media and in *The Ringing World*.

Framework for Method Ringing

Work on version 2 of the Framework for Method Ringing began in April 2020 and continued throughout the year. The draft was completed in April 2021 and, as of the time of writing (May 2021), we are about to start the ringing community consultation.

Once the consultation has been completed, feedback will be incorporated into v2 as appropriate. The Central Council Executive will then perform a final review, and once happy, they will implement it with a 3-month notice period, in accordance with Central Council Rules.

The main areas of change proposed are as follows. These are all subject to change depending on the results of the consultation:

- The 'Adelaide Amendment': Added a norm that 'The Performance was not part of a failed longer attempt' (section 6.C.2 n). In the further explanation for 6.C.2 we've noted that this does not apply to false starts, or attempts such as long lengths that are called round early.
- Added defined terms and performance reporting requirements that cover the new forms of ringing that emerged during the pandemic (Ringing Room and similar). The goal of the Framework in this area is not to rule in, rule out, or otherwise pass judgement on different types of method ringing, but to ensure that readers of performance reports are clear about what was rung, and how, so they may form their own opinions. We are coordinating with The Ringing World to ensure these performance attributes can be entered into BellBoard in a user-friendly manner (many already can be).
- Method naming: We've proposed that the length requirement for naming a new method should be standardized as a quarter peal or longer. Previously, new methods on fewer than 7 bells were also able to be named by ringing just one extent. With the increase in 3 and 4 bell ringing where an extent represents very few changes, a quarter seems more

commensurate with the privilege of naming a new method. Most bands already adopt this approach.

- Also on method naming, we are proposing that methods are only named and added to the Central Council Methods Library when rung in a performance by an all-human band.
- Appendix A has been expanded to include the proposed notation for jump changes; Appendix C to include the '+/-' leadhead code system (e.g. Cambridge is +2, London is -1, etc); and Appendix J contains a table of false course heads.

We will, of course, be guided by feedback from the consultation on any of these proposals.

In addition to the above, there are other smaller changes that are mainly in the category of wordsmithing and seeking to improve clarity. A full table of changes, together with a 'redline' comparison of v1 and v2 can be found at <https://framework.cccbr.org.uk>.

We have three areas of work planned for a subsequent version of the Framework, though no timeline for this has yet been set:

- A review of the Framework's extension processes, starting by documenting existing extension anomalies in the Methods Library; identifying shortcomings in processes and documentation; proposing improvements; and developing tools that could bring a better appreciation and practical application of method extension to a wider audience.
- Refine the recommended set of Unicode characters used in method names to ensure that names can be properly displayed in common fonts.
- Improve the Framework website so that it is easier to use on small screen devices (i.e. smartphones).

Compositions

2020 saw much reduced demand for compositions in line with severely limited opportunities for performance. The group continues to be available for enquiries via the compositions@cccbr.org.uk email address. Over the past twelve months, there has been little call for compositions to be provided, but a small number of composers continue to submit compositions for publication via this route. These are all published on Composition Library. As in previous years, the group contributed a selection of date touches for inclusion in the *Ringing World Diary*.

The principal focus of the group remains the collation of compositions onto Composition Library. The collection has risen by a further 8,000 entries and now contains in excess of 45,000 compositions.

Significant collections that have been completed in the Library this year include the *Collection of 12+ Bell Compositions*, the *Collection of Grandsire Compositions*, and a number of historic collections including *Ropesight*, *The Ringers' Handbook*, and *Change Ringing* (Wilson). Other collections, including *Collection of Principles*, and *Collection of Double Norwich Compositions*, are ongoing. The group continues to link compositions used when methods are first rung provided these details are available. Conductors of such performances are encouraged to publish compositions used.

A major upgrade to Composition Library in February 2021 added support for mixed-stage and variable cover compositions, and support for jump methods and compositions was added in May 2021. Some back-filling of collections has taken place since then, with the number of mixed stage compositions (259) continuing to rise. Variable cover and jump compositions are less popular (39 and 5 respectively). Of particular note is the collection of Triples and Major compositions collated by Mark Eccleston that accompany his series of *Ringing World* articles on the subject. The upgrade also saw changes to the way some compositions of Stedman and Erin were handled, with the team helping with some manual fixes to published compositions required in a few hundred cases.

Richard Pullin has led the group's outreach work. His *Ringing World* puzzles, "Permugrams" and "Groovy Groups", both aim to introduce concepts useful in composition. Richard has also contributed other articles to *The Ringing World*, presented a St Martin's Guild Zoom talk on Birmingham composers of the 19th Century, and is working on a series of YouTube tutorials for budding composers.

Kira Chase recently joined the group. Kira is also a member of the Women in Ringing group. With the latter's analysis of the relative lack of female conductors and composers, we look forward to a package of work which bridges these two groups.

Peter Hinton continues to provide the team with expertise and the Exercise with his comprehensive website on Doubles Variations. While this has not yet been formalised into a definitive Central Council Library of Doubles Variations and Calls, it does represent the work in progress.

Stewards of the Dove Database

Considerable progress was made during 2020 to create the new database to house and process Dove data, to transition the data from the old system to the new, and to create new process structures for

maintaining data going forward. In May 2020, the Executive appointed Dickon Love to be Dove Steward with overall responsibility for leading the Dove programme and he put in the structures to manage activities going forward. The year has seen reliance on the old database come to an end, a host of new features introduced through the new database and website, an increase in the scope of the towers and bells to be included in the Dove Bell Register, a new ticketing system to manage the distribution of processes of updating and quality assurance, and new members of the wider Dove team to bring in valued expertise.

Moving to the new database

Development reached the point in August when tower level information was transferred from the old to new systems. There then followed a period where bell, frame and project information was maintained in the old system while tower information was maintained in the new. In December, progress in development allowed the bell level information to be transferred and maintained in the new system. With the decision to suspend updates to frames and the introduction of a manual system to maintain information on projects, this marked the end of the reliance on the old system for live updates. The maintenance of projects information was incorporated into the new system in March 2021, while at the time of writing (June), the development regarding frames is still in progress.

Dove Tickets

A piece of software called “OS Tickets” (known in the team as Dove Tickets) was implemented. Dove Tickets allows more than one Dove Clerk to update the new system with additions and amendments, storing all the correspondence from contributors, and acting as a simple workflow management tool for quality control purposes.

Additional features

As the programme evolved, new features were introduced, either as quick pieces of interesting information, or as part of the development of best database practice. These include:

- A structured audit trail of changes, which can be supplemented by comments (either visible or “behind the scenes”).
- Different collections of bells within a tower are now identified separately, be they a ring, a chime, a carillon, a set of

tubular bells, a clock chime, etc. An important level of organisation.

- Structured organisation of the Additional information (flags) section against these collections.
- It is possible to search on a church’s status such as abbey, cathedral, priory church, etc.
- Standardised the recording of practice nights to cover unusual arrangements.
- More than one url can be shown.
- Names of individual bell collections and individual bells are given.
- The hanging style of a bell is recorded (full-circle, swinging, dead, unhung).
- The shape of a bell is recorded (e.g. standard, tubular, hemispherical).
- Separate searches can be made on towers, bells or founders.
- The result of searches can be presented on a map, or in a download, or in the abbreviated “county list” form. The map icons have been revised.
- The website design has been modernised and now works better on a wider range of devices such as tablets and phones. This is particularly useful now that the iOS Dove app is no longer available or supported.
- Projects are associated with “events” in the lifetime of a ring, be it an overhaul, transfer of bells, change of ringing style or even destruction.
- Data exchange with Felstead inserts the number of peals into a particular tower’s page.

Expanding the scope of Dove

Traditionally Dove has covered just towers with rings of three or more bells. This was extended to UK carillons (June 2021) and is being expanded to include one and two bells hung for full-circle ringing. In February an agreement was reached with the Church Buildings Council (CBC) of the Church of England concerning the future collection and maintenance of data on bells and bellframes in their jurisdiction. To support their interest and advice regarding church fixtures, they established their own database, part of which involved the recording of details of bells and frames. Since ringers have also been collecting information on other bells in the UK through George Dawson’s work, rather than have these two groups building and maintaining separate registers with the same information, the CBC has agreed to use Dove as its primary source of data and has provided data to assist in its enrichment. Therefore bells in over 7,000 further places are primed for publication in Dove. There are plans to extend the scope of Dove further to lost rings, mini-rings and possibly Veronese bells.

Future development

This is planned in the following areas:

- Completion of the new designs to capture frame information;
- Literary references (building on those already collected by John Baldwin);
- Extension of information on founders.

Popularising the data

As well as the plans to engage ringers by allowing them to record their tower visit activities, a group of students from University College London are using the data to support their data science projects. The Dove Facebook page has been resurrected and a Twitter account has been set up.

The Dove Team

The team has expanded considerably. As well as Dove leader, Dickon Love, the other Dove Stewards are Tim Jackson and Tim Pett. Colin Turner is a Dove Clerk. Scott Orr (Secretary of the British Carillon Society) is the consultant and Dove Clerk for carillons. The development team is led by Richard Smith, assisted by David Giles and Gareth Lawson. Doug Davis stood down as a Dove Steward but continues with the technical support of Dove Tickets. John Baldwin maintained and updated the old Dove database throughout 2020 until we were able to move away from this in December.

ICT

Microsoft 365

The migration to Microsoft 365 was completed in December 2020. This provides the Executive and workgroup members with collaborative tools, shared work areas, and the ability to send and receive email using cccbr.org.uk mailing addresses, shared mailboxes and distribution lists.

Website

Mark Elvers looks after the day-to-day running of the main website and has made numerous improvements and changes on behalf of the Executive and workgroups. Dorothy Hall carried out a review of the website and provided a number of recommendations that are being implemented. The hosting of the website, regular backups and our DNS services are provided using Azure with the majority of the cost funded from Microsoft’s sponsorship scheme for non-profit organisations. The website saw a 12-fold increase in traffic following the

death of the Duke of Edinburgh, and its capacity was increased for a number of days to cope with the additional demand.

Event Support

The 2020 AGM was held via Zoom. Our thanks go to Colin Newman who was both technician and facilitator on the day for both the Central Council AGM and the Ringing World AGM.

Special Interest Group Forums

We are evaluating some Forum software with a view to providing a platform for special interest groups to ask questions and discuss matters of mutual interest. For example, forums could be established for the officers of affiliated societies to share best practice, such as treasurers, webmasters, ringing masters, report secretaries, training or safeguarding officers. Other examples include forums for steeplekeepers and tower captains.

Technology Innovation

2020 saw a number of significant technical innovations during lockdown that helped many ringers keep in touch, practice, and even expand some of their ringing skills. Examples include Ringing Room, Muster, Ding, Wheatley, Handbell Stadium and eBells. Many of these will be extremely valuable in supporting training and development after a return to normal ringing.

The Central Council and ART have been active in endorsing and supporting the introduction of these innovations, and some members of the T&T Workgroup have been involved in their development, necessitating the rescheduling of some Workgroup activities that had been intended to commence in 2020/21.

eBell Sponsorship

eBells are realistic electronic handbells that can ring with Abel, BelTower, Handbell Stadium, Ringing Room, Muster or Ding. Over 700 eBells have been sold since their launch in October 2020.

ART and the CCCBR launched an initiative to subsidise the purchase of eBells for ringers under the age of 25 (bringing the

price including P&P down from £97 a pair to £25 a pair). Generous donations funding the scheme were received from The Whiting Society, the eBells partnership and a number of individual donors. 37 younger ringers have benefitted at the time of writing.



A pair of eBells sponsored by The Whiting Society

A number of affiliated societies have also initiated their own eBell loan or subsidised purchase schemes for their members who would like to learn or improve their handbell ringing.

The Cast of 1000 initiative was expanded to ensure that our young ringers with eBells have opportunities to ring them with more experienced handbell bands.

Securing the Future

A new project team has been established in April 2021, led by John Martin, to start work on one of the objectives that the Workgroup set itself on its inception, but did not have the resources until now to start work on, namely to:

Secure the future of key services and data valued by ringers, by:

- identifying what existing services, whether provided directly by the Council or not, are important to ringers;
- taking steps to provide assurance that appropriate measures are in place to protect data and software, ensure continuity of service, and provide succession for the future;
- offering hosting for independent developer's web sites, source code and data archives;
- offering to act as provider of last resort in the event that a developer is unable to continue providing a key service.

The new team is currently planning a programme of work. Once the approach has been established, more information on this topic will be disseminated through *The Ringing World* and other channels.

Workgroup Members and Contributors

Workgroup Leader tlead@cccbr.org.uk	Graham John
SERVICES	
Methods methods@cccbr.org.uk	Tim Barnes – team leader, Adam Beer, Mark Davies, Graham John, Robin Woolley
Compositions compositions@cccbr.org.uk	Simon Bond – team leader, Peter Hinton, Graham John, Andrew Johnson, Kira Chase, Richard Pullin, David Thomas
Dove dove@cccbr.org.uk	Dickon Love – Dove Steward & team leader, John Baldwin, Doug Davis – Dove Steward, Scott Orr – Dove Clerk & carillon consultant, Tim Jackson – Dove Steward, Tim Pett – Dove Steward, Richard Smith – tech lead, Colin Turner – Dove Clerk, Michael Williams – mini-ring consultant
ICT ict@cccbr.org.uk	Doug Davis – team leader, Mark Elvers, Andrew Hall, Dave Richards, Leigh Simpson, Matt Thewsey, Colin Newman, Dorothy Hall
PROJECTS	
New Dove Database	Tech Lead: Richard Smith Software: David Giles, Peter Harrison, Gareth Lawson, Leigh Simpson Dove Stewards: Dickon Love, Doug Davis, Tim Jackson, Tim Pett
Framework Version 2	Tim Barnes – team leader, Mark Davies, John Harrison, Graham John, Don Morrison, Philip Saddleton
Office 365 Migration	Doug Davis, Allen Nunley
Securing the Future	John Martin – team leader, Owen Battye, Roger Lawson, John Thurman



Volunteer & Leadership Workgroup

Introduction and background

Original aims – The Volunteer and Leadership team has many possible areas to work on depending on current demands and the resources available. In the list of interests below, the first three themes have received most attention:

- Recruitment & Retention of ringers
- Educational developments
- Support (includes 2021 Recovery work)
- Resources (develop website content & workshop/talk materials)
- Leadership.

Need for flexibility – the Workgroup has adapted well to operating completely online. Not only V&L internal operations but also services have had to be provided by virtual means for more than a year. Your Workgroup leader is also grateful for the cooperation shown throughout by members of the group and our partner organisations. This was particularly useful in adapting to the opportunities offered by the Recovery initiative.

There is a general view that many of these moves have been positive and represent improved ways of working for the future.

Recruitment and Retention

Matt Lawrence – leader, Steph Pendlebury, Deb Margason-Baker, Hayley Young, Paul Lewis, Sonia Field

Background – The Workgroup has a Recruitment and Retention (R&R) sub-group. They initially developed and promoted the workshop that had already been produced with ART and piloted in leading up to the 2020 ART Conference. Further ‘virtual’ sessions were held with the Shropshire Association, Truro DG and the North American Guild.

Options for delivering the workshop are: (1) DIY for Towers / Districts / Branches / Associations / Guilds to run, with support (an introductory Zoom / Skype call) from our R&R group prior to the workshop; (2) the workshop will be included in the ART portfolio of workshops.

We are working with ART to identify and train a pool of R&R workshop leaders. To support the delivery of the workshops we were already looking to develop a network of local R&R ‘workshop champions’ who will monitor and report on what local activity any workshop has encouraged and provide people a nudge if required.

Keen to get the workshop delivered to as many people as possible, the team produced a ‘virtual’ version. See also notes be-

low about the R&R team contribution to resources for recovery and talks at the Recovery Convention.

Ringling World articles – So far we have published five Recruitment and Retention articles. We are looking to write some more. Under consideration are: (1) The importance of developing a network of good quality teachers to support recruitment and retention activities; (2) Lapsed ringers – what we can learn from the ART study and how we can encourage lapsed ringers back.

Recruitment and Retention Facebook Group – This group went live during mid-2020. We have posed a series of questions to encourage debate and highlight good practice. It was instrumental in starting a number of constructive conversations and led to us gaining a new member for V&L.

Educational developments

The Education Column – David Smith

No new articles have been published in *The Ringling World* since the end of Series 5, *Progressing through methods*, which ran from June to December 2020.

A first draft of Series 6 has recently been completed, but a lot more work is needed before this is ready for publication. There's also the feeling that it should not be published until ringing has well and truly resumed – so expect this series to start appearing later this year. We have not yet settled on a title, so there's no need for a spoiler alert!

The Covid crisis and the great reduction in ringing have also meant a delay in the publishing by *The Ringling World* of the first four series as sets of printed sheets. These have been completed, with many additional pages of support material, but again publication will not proceed until most towers are back in action. So that's something else to expect later this year.

NW residential course – Andy Ingham

Since the convening of the group in July 2020, we have met a number of times. We have a provisional venue, date(s), area, and we have our topic.

We are aiming to provide a course to cover the ‘twilight zone’ between the ‘red’ and ‘blue’ zones: a level slightly higher than a usual training course, and above what the NW local associations currently provide. The venue is an education campus in the Lancashire Heartlands, just north of Preston. A date in summer 2022 has been selected. While many of the organisers are LACR members, the leader has pitched this regionally and beyond.

Online Q&A forum / Composition – Alex Byrne

This forum was suggested by Simon Linford. The focus areas for people to submit questions would be: (1) methods, (2) composing and (3) conducting. A small team of ‘experts’ will provide answers in an as-far-as-possible-non-technical-and-accessible manner.

In early work, the leader put a draft forum in place. Subject to IT resources, this can undergo formatting tweaks before test-runs and then publication. The team will size according to demand.

Support for CCCBR and partner activities

Recovery

October 2020 saw a joint CC / ART project begin and the formation of the Survival & Recovery Steering Group, on which Matt Lawrence and Vicki Chapman played key roles.

We are indebted to Annie Hall (Covenentry Guild) who took the lead on much work with the Recovery Champions. Annie joined V&L for some sessions and most of our members became Recovery Champions. An obvious idea was to involve the people in the V&L Recruitment and Retention group. The team agreed to support a survival / recovery project with the sort of R&R ideas they were already developing.

R&R agreed to write materials for the online toolbox.

Online Recovery Convention Steph Pendlebury and Sonia Field presented the session *Attracting and keeping ringers*, assisted in preparation by others in the R&R team. Hayley Young took a group through an informal but enjoyable session of online beer tasting.

Ringling Centres – Nich Wilson

We define a ‘ringling centre’ as any tower or group of towers, or any group of ringers, that offer development opportunities for ringers whether bespoke or as part of an established practice.

The plan is to create a list of ‘ringling centres’ that can be accessed online from various existing websites such as CCCBR, BellBoard (Ringling World) and ART. Appearing on the list is free and informs the ringling community of development opportunities. That is, it will help answer the developing ringer’s question “Where can I go to learn ... ?”

We are working with ART to ensure consistency and alignment.

The plan is to create a ‘test’ list/database with circa 10-15 centres to test the concept and the types of data items that we will need to collect.

We continue to operate the Bell Ringing Centres Facebook group and hope that aspiring learners and teachers can benefit from this information exchange, bringing attention to the offers of enterprising individuals, ART and the associations. We appreciate the continued contribution of former member Maureen Frost.

Resources

See particularly the section on Recruitment & Retention.

Leadership

The team has recently been joined by one experienced member who is willing to

help write material on leadership. We intend to work with partners, including the Stewardship & Management Workgroup and ART.

Membership (May 2021):

LESLEY BELCHER
 BRUCE BUTLER
 EILEEN BUTLER
 ALEX BYRNE
 VICKI CHAPMAN
 SONIA FIELD
 TIM HINE – Workgroup Leader
 ANDY INGHAM
 MATT LAWRENCE
 DEB MARGASON-BAKER
 COLIN NEWMAN
 STEPH PENDLEBURY
 PHIL RAMSBOTTOM – to Jan 2021

NICH WILSON
 PAUL WOTTON
 HAYLEY YOUNG

Associate members:

AJ BARNFIELD – to April 2021
 MARIANNE FISHER – to Jan 2021
 MAUREEN FROST – to June 2020
 LUCY HOPKINS TILL
 MIKE HOPKINS TILL
 GEOFF HORRITT
 DON MCLEAN
 GRAHAM NABB – to July 2020
 LUCY NAISH – to May 2021
 JAMES RAMSBOTTOM

Young Ringers – Schools & Youth Groups Workgroup

The Schools and Youth Groups Workgroup was formed in 2020 to work on item one of the “Strategic Priorities for 2020 and beyond”. The goal of the group is “To establish new long term sources of recruits from schools and youth groups” with the aim of realising an increase in younger people taking up ringing as a long-term activity.

At the time of writing, there are 6 members of the Workgroup:

COLIN NEWMAN – Workgroup Leader
 JASON HUGHES
 JENNIFER THOMAS
 ARTHUR REEVES
 MARK PLACE
 NICH WILSON

Over the past year, the team has been looking at ways we may be able to engage with schools and youth groups on a national basis and has also started to produce a set of strategies to help bands engage with their local youth groups which, when complete, will be available for all to use via the CCCBR web site.

It would be fair to say that sometimes it has been difficult to engage effectively with the various organisations, all of whom have had their own problems to deal with during the Covid pandemic; however, good progress has been made and things are becoming easier as we gradually return to normal.

Schools: A set of lesson plans across multiple subjects has been produced for Primary School years which will hopefully be trialled in a couple of schools in Worcester in June. These lesson plans are designed to fit on the school curriculum and be delivered by non-ringing teachers. These will be followed up by a further set of les-

sons for the early years of Senior School, which is the age group from which we would ideally like to see most new recruits. It is envisaged that at the end state of this project there will be sets of lessons which can be delivered by a school to targeted year groups, over a period of a week ending with a visit to a local tower to engage in some more ‘hands on’ activities. The possibility of including a mini-ring at the school to support the week is also being assessed for feasibility.

In addition to the project above, other work is underway to produce other materials that can be used by schools for enrichment activities and after-school clubs, which can be delivered with the support of ringers or again by non-ringing teachers. Supporting documentation is being produced for both teachers and ringers, which we are hopeful can include video footage of the activities being delivered by others.

Youth Groups: After a rocky start engaging with some of the groups, positive contacts have now been established in most of the big organisations such as Scouts and Guides. We are working with the Guide Movement to resurrect the ‘Bluebells Challenge’ originally created in memory of Alison Regan. It is hoped this can be updated, relaunched, and publicised later this year. Within the Scout Movement we have unfortunately just missed their 3-year cycle of badge reviews. However, we do plan to be ready for the next cycle when we will be aiming to introduce a set of staged ringing badges, the first of which can be attained in one evening. In the meantime, it has been identified that there have been some regional ringing related initiatives within the Movement which we

may be able to use in the short term rather than just waiting three years. We are working to understand how these can be taken and rolled out nationally as Scouting starts to take off again.

A Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme sliding scale of progress is at the final stages of review which aims to provide some suggested paths to measure and assess progress of candidates seeking one or more of Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. This scale covers tower bell ringing, method ringing, call changes as well as other aspects of ringing such as tower/bell maintenance and organising.

Contacts have been established in many other organisations such as Young Farmers, Boys/Girls Brigade and so on, which are being followed up to understand what ringing related things could enrich their activities.

Further Plans: In addition to the completion of the above activities which will provide a set of materials for use by ringers across the country to engage with and inspire potential young ringers, the group also plans to look at other opportunities for publicity to young ringers including promotional videos including platforms such as YouTube, TikTok and Instagram, television and radio exposure and placement in national youth publications.

Although not directly the responsibility of this group, it is deemed essential to help those who need it by providing some guidance on how to prepare for an intake of young ringers and how to make suggestions on how to retain them, rather than have them drift off to the myriad of other activities that draw on the time of a young person today.

Young Ringers – Universities & Colleges Workgroup

It is difficult to envisage a more unfortunate time – ahead of a pandemic – to establish a Workgroup to cater for university and college (U&C) ringers. Indeed, the past year has seen virtually no ringing activity undertaken by university and college societies. However, given the likely adverse impact of the pandemic on ringing in general, it is fortunate that the CC has established a Workgroup to focus on U&C ringing.

Virtually all higher education programmes moved to online teaching and learning, with the result that most students have felt “Zoomed out”, and their appetite for online ringing has been limited. Nevertheless, the U&C Workgroup has not been idle.

The Workgroup seeks to act as an umbrella for various hitherto established groups and resources, working to ensure that such initiatives and opportunities are known among the wider ringing community, especially among those younger ringers destined for a few years in higher education (a time when many ringers are, regrettably, lost to the Exercise). The website UniversityRinging.org, created by Jacqui Brown, is already a one-stop-shop for anyone wanting to know what’s on where in terms of U&C ringing. Jacqui has used the lull in activity this year to ensure mailing lists and contact details are up to date, as we shall certainly be making good use of these when ringing opens up again.

ART is very keen to help with U&C ringing initiatives, and offered online handbell tuition this year. Sadly the uptake was minimal, but it was clear that this was due to the fact that it entailed more hours on the internet for already weary students. Discussions will take place in the near future with a view to positioning ART, and the opportunities it offers, at the forefront of the U&C recovery programme in 2021–22.

Two important matters arose during and after discussions at this year’s CCCBR AGM. Firstly, with the adoption of the motion to offer registration to the Council for small societies, it will be good to have students represented more widely at this level in the future. The SUGCR (Southampton) have taken up this opportunity and we shall encourage more U&C societies to register. Secondly, it was pointed out that, post-pandemic, territorial societies and U&C groups in the same locality should be encouraged to engage with one another, as this will surely lead to a win-win situation in terms of mutual support.

Although not exclusive to the U&C agenda, one initiative has taken its first steps forward this year and is intended to help with recruitment of young ringers in the future. The idea is to exploit the theory of change ringing as part of an enrichment programme for the new specialist sixth form maths schools, currently being established by the Department for Education. Pupils at these schools take Maths and Further Maths at A Level, together with a third

subject, and undertake project work designed to deepen a student’s knowledge of mathematics and its applications. Preliminary discussions with the head teachers at King’s College and Exeter maths schools have concluded that the mathematics of ringing would provide excellent material for project work (undertaken by individuals, or by small groups of students). The U&C Workgroup has brought together a small group of well-known pioneers of modern composition and ringing theory with a view to creating projects for inquisitive 16–18-year-olds. The specialist schools will work closely with other schools in their area, and we anticipate that enrichment materials will eventually be disseminated far and wide.

Although there have been very few opportunities this year for the Workgroup to engage in a hands-on way with initiatives, the Workgroup Leader is grateful to Imogen Brooke, Naomi Calvert and Emily Hall for informal discussions and for expressing their willingness to help in the future; and to Jacqui Brown for sharing her expertise and experience in setting up UniversityRinging.org. The U&C Workgroup will participate in the RWNVC in September 2021, raising awareness of “ringing after A Levels”, and hopefully this will herald the start of a brighter year for U&C societies up and down the country – and abroad too!

IAN ROULSTONE – Workgroup Leader

Historical & Archive Workgroup

Since June 2020, the Workgroup has met as a group four times to agree and report back on activities. In addition, separate topic specific meetings have been held by appropriate members. Because of Covid restrictions all meetings have taken place virtually.

The activities of the Workgroup were reviewed in the autumn of 2020 and a revised set of activity priorities agreed. This resulted in Workgroup members joining sub-groups to take forward specific initiatives. A further development at the end of December 2020 was the transfer of activity on peal and quarter peal records led by Richard Allton and Alan Baldock to a new central group. As such the regular peal analysis for 2020 is reported elsewhere. Although Bill Purvis stood down as one of the Ringing Machine Stewards in September 2020, he continues to provide his expert knowledge on both the Carter and Cummins machines. Both Linda Georgiades and

Ian Self who administer the Friends of the Library formally joined the Workgroup at the end of December 2020. Our work programme is ambitious and we would be pleased to hear from anybody with specialist skills and interests to help us take forward these initiatives.

Belfry artefacts

Main areas of research

Peal Boards
Historical photographs

Sub-Group participants

Richard Andrew
(Co-ordinator)

Gareth Davies
Sue Marsden

Contact details

richard.andrew@cccbr.org.uk

This work is still at the planning stage in terms of determining what our scope of activities should be. Current plans are initially to concentrate on recording details of peal boards as this is potentially a large task on its own.

We have considered whether to record just historic or noteworthy peal boards or whether to cast the net wider. If we were just to record historic peal boards, then issues arise as to what criteria we should use for determining whether a peal board is historic or noteworthy, such as the quality of the peal board itself and the significance of the peal it records. In some respects, it may be better to be less restrictive and record them all in one visit. Some towers may already have made a record and are willing to share the data. There may also be further items of interest to capture details of (e.g. photographs, boards recording other performances, ringing memorabilia) that might usefully be recorded at the same

time. We also need to decide whether to simply take a photographic record or make an additional written record in case not all the details are clear from the photograph. The principles to adopt are still being worked through.

Given the potentially large scope of the task, it may well be better for us to ask for volunteers from various associations, perhaps by contacting branch/district secretaries and asking them to arrange for volunteers who have access to good cameras and can photograph peal boards in towers in their areas. Local ringers would be better placed as regards knowing which towers have peal boards which are worth photographing. The work will further need to take account of the work of the digital record review (see below) as well as links to the Felstead peal database and BellBoard. All of this will require detailed planning.

Biographies

(i) Rolls of Honour

Main areas of research

Rolls of Honour

Sub-Group participants

Alan Regin
(Rolls of Honour Steward)

Contact details

rollsofhonour@cccbr.org.uk

The Rolls of Honour are now made up of three handwritten books; the original Great War Roll contains 1,195 names of which two are known to be duplicates, the second Great War Roll contains 173 names and there are currently 287 newly found names that are to be added to the second book. The World War 2 Roll contains 300 names (three of these are in fact the same person), and there are 86 newly found names to be added – a new WW2 book will be needed to accommodate the new names. Many of the new names were found by research of digitised newspapers undertaken by the late David Willis and this work has been continued by the Steward as new newspapers are added.

Over the past months Zoom talks have been given by the Steward to members of the St. Martin's Guild, Guild of Devonshire Ringers, Leicester Diocesan Guild, Truro Diocesan Guild, Middlesex County Association, Worcester Cathedral Guild, Alton & Petersfield branch of the Winchester & Portsmouth Guild, St Peter Mancroft Guild and South Walsham virtual practice, explaining more about the Rolls of Honour with each talk tailored to the listening audience.

Further work has been undertaken to add to the information available about each casualty. The intention is hopefully to add a CCCBR Roll of Honour website in due course. Yvonne Cairns of Jesmond, Kathryn Pearce of Bradoc and Beverly Faber of Stamford CT have continued to give valuable assistance with family history research. I am grateful to Doug Davis and Andrew Hall for their help with loading information onto the website.

(ii) Biographies

Main areas of research

Ringer biographies
Obituary Index
History CC Committees/Workgroups
History ringing societies

Sub-Group participants

John Harrison
(Co-ordinator)

Richard Andrew
Simon Aves
Ian Self
David Underdown

Contact details

biographies@cccbr.org.uk

Work continues to record and make accessible information about the lives of ringers. There are currently 962 biographic records on the web, of which 8 have been added in the last year. A further 61 are awaiting production. While work continues, progress is limited by available resources. Willing recruits are always welcome to assist with this work – please contact John Harrison.

The Obituaries Index lists well over 9,000 ringers with references to published obituaries and other tributes in *Bell News* and *The Ringing World* between 1880 and 2000. For entries up to 1970 (the latest the journals are on the web) the index now provides direct links to the PDF copy of the week containing the original article. In due course we expect to extend this to more recent editions of *The Ringing World* and to early periodicals such as *Church Bells*.

We are exploring the possibility of an integrated online resource of information about ringers' lives to include biographic records, the mini biographies of war casualties published up to 2018, Prolific Peal Ringer articles and links to published obituaries.

The following members and former Council members died in 2020:

- George James Wilgress Pipe, Honorary member 1961–1979, attended 12 meetings, died 3 Mar 2020.

- Rudolph Roger Savory, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild 1965–1975, 1978–1980, attended nine meetings, died 13 March 2020.
- Andrew Nicholas Stubbs, Ancient Society of College Youths 1975–2008, Life Member 2008–2018, Fellow 2018–2020, attended 43 meetings, died 2 April 2020.
- John Keith Foot, Liverpool University Society 1981–1987, attended six meetings, died 22 April 2020.
- Rev Richard Bryan Dorrington, Shropshire Association 1975–1979, attended four meetings, died 10 May 2020.
- Eric John Sterland, East Derby & West Notts Association 1967–1969, attended no meetings, died 23 May 2020.
- Prof Ronald John Johnston, Australia & New Zealand Association 1975–1979, Yorkshire Association 1984–1993, Ex officio 1993–1996, Honorary member 1996–1999, Vice-President 1990–1993, President 1993–1996, attended 14 meetings, died 29 May 2020.
- Roland Charles Backhurst, Bath & Wells Diocesan Association 2006–2019, attended 13 meetings, died 27 July 2020.
- Geoffrey Kenneth Dodd, Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild 1972–1978, attended five meetings, died 3 September 2020.
- Ivor Robert Nichols, Chester Diocesan Guild 1980–1983, attended three meetings, died 5 September 2020.
- David Kingman, Peterborough Diocesan Guild 2002–2006, attended four meetings, died September 2020.
- Colin Alfred Tester, Kent County Association 1969–1972, attended two meetings, died 21 November 2020.

The following members and former Council members died at the beginning of this year (i.e. up to 1 May 2021):

- George Stedman Deas, Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Association 1981–1984, attended no meetings, died 14 January 2021.
- Ronald Ducker, Beverley & District Society 1967–1972, attended five meetings, died 19 January 2021.
- Jennifer Margaret (Jay) Bunyan, Bath & Wells Diocesan Association 2005–2021, attended 16 meetings, died 14 March 2021.
- Philip George Morgan, Hereford Diocesan Guild 1964–1965, attended one meeting, died 17 March 2021.
- Alan Frederick Ellis, North American Guild 1999–2008, Honorary member 2008–2010, Additional member 2010–2011, North American Guild 2014–2019, attended 17 meetings, died 7 April 2021.

Digital platform for the Council's historic archive resources

Main areas of research

H&A Workgroup website
Data infrastructure

Sub-Group participants

John Harrison
(Co-ordinator)

Doug Hird
David Underdown

Contact details

john.harrison@cccbr.org.uk

Historical information about the lives of ringers is currently split between the main website and a temporary website at bell-ringinghistory.org.uk/. Work is in hand to determine the most effective way to integrate this information into an effective historic resource under the 'xxx.cccbr.org.uk' domain. The aim is to provide improved access for ringers and non-ringing historians to the historic resources of which the Council is custodian. This will involve a substantial database and web pages designed to optimise performance. The choice of database, server, etc are still to be agreed with the IT team.

Facilities will also be provided to enable effective access and search of the Council's other historic assets including the Library and various artefact collections.

Historical research and Dissemination of Information

Main areas of research

Ringling in wider historical perspective
Engaging/supporting new researchers
Website et al as source of information
Promotion of ringing through use of historical data

Sub-Group participants

Gareth Davies
(Co-ordinator)

John Harrison
Sue Marsden
David Underdown

Contact details

gareth.davies@cccbr.org.uk

As well as curating and creating historical information, the Workgroup believes it important to facilitate wider access to it: to encourage ringers to become more aware of ringing history and to help non-ringers become more aware of ringing. As such we can play a supporting role to PR initiatives at both national and local level.

The Workgroup is in discussion with the Loughborough Bellfoundry Trust about supporting some of its outreach activities by contributing to a possible series of talks.

Library collection and Friends

Main areas of research

Books and archives

Sub-Group participants

Alan Glover
(Library Steward)

Contact details

librarian@cccbr.org.uk

Main areas of research

Friends of the Library

Sub-Group participants

Linda Georgiades
Ian Self

The Library has been particularly busy this year with over 100 queries answered by the end of April, while 13 items have gone out on loan. Sales of *Order and Disorder* and the various DVDs have totalled almost £650 and a further £30 was received as donations. Additional Library items have been bound. John Eisel completed his compilation of ringing extracts covering the years 1839 to 1869 from *The Era* and these were printed and bound and are also now available on a searchable DVD.

In the *Newsletter* for the Friends of the Library we asked the Friends for their

Central Council Publications Price List 2021

New Ringer's Book	£10.00	Listen to Ringing 2 (live) CD	£9.00	Splicing Bell Ropes Illustrated	£4.00
Beginner's Handbook	£2.50	Beginner's Guide to Change Ringing on Handbells	£2.50	*On This Day	£15.00
Towards Better Striking	£1.50	Standard Eight Surprise Major	£6.00	Change Ringing History, Vols. 1 & 3 only	each £5.00
Raising and Lowering	£2.00	Service Touches	£1.50	Centenary History of the Central Council	£5.00
Ringling Jargon Made Easy	5 for £1.50	A Tutor's Handbook	£4.50	Giants of the Exercise	£5.00
Beginners' Grandsire	£1.50	Teaching Unravelled	£3.00	Giants of the Exercise II	£5.00
Beginners' Plain Bob	£1.50	Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles	£1.50	An Unassuming Genius – the Life and Times of A. J. Pitman	£5.00
Ringling Circles – A Guide to Basic Methods	£4.00	Kaleidoscope Ringling – A Change Ringers Alternative to Called Changes	£2.50	*Dove's Guide (11th ed)	£15.00
The Learning Curve Vol. 2: 2002-2003	£3.00	Teaching Tips	£4.00	Judging Striking Competitions	£3.50
The Learning Curve Vol. 3: 2004-2005	£3.00	Manual of Belfry Maintenance	£12.00	Belfry Offices	£3.00
The Learning Curve Vol. 4: 2006-2007	£3.00	Towers and Bells Handbook	£10.00		
Ringling Basics for Beginners	£2.50	Organising a Bell Restoration Project	£4.00		
Listen to Ringling 1 CD	£8.00				

*Sherbourne Teaching Aids

*One-Per-Learner book
*Follow-On book
*Ringers Exercise book

} Pack of any five

£5.00

*Bell Club Pack

cards & badges for 4 learners
any 4 badges or cards

£10.00
£2.00

*20 Questions & 19 Answers

20 for £3.50

*Easy Stages Grandsire & Plain Bob Doubles leaflets

any 10 £2.00

Bibliography available on www.cccbr.org.uk

All prices incl. p&p, cash with order, from: CC PUBLICATIONS, Mrs B Wheeler, 2 Orchard Close, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 1XE (Cheques to CENTRAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS please)

or email to: barbara@ccpublications.plus.com

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Overseas orders must be paid in Sterling – please contact for detailed costs as extra postal charges will vary with size of order.

views on the suggestion that the Friends' funds should be made generally available to support projects in the wider Historical and Archive Workgroup. The responses covered the whole range of possibilities but there were a few Friends who were strongly against this idea. The three people involved in running the Library and Friends held a virtual meeting with Chris Ridley and decided to maintain the status quo with the funds. We have a number of projects under active consideration, including the publication in some form of further historical newspaper extracts and having the E J Osbourn manuscript in the British Library scanned and made more widely available. This contains much historical material which is not available elsewhere.

Recordings

Main areas of research

Bells
Oral histories

Sub-Group participants

Volunteers sought

Contact details

chris.ridley@cccbr.org.uk

Although the Library Collection holds some vinyl records this is an area that might usefully be further expanded. Key issues are:

- How best to capture and store recordings in a digital age. This might well flow from the work being taken forward by the digital platform sub-group.
- Find the resources to take forward such an initiative given that existing Workgroup members are already committed on other activities. We would always welcome help from anybody who has an interest and time to help on this.

Ringling artefacts

Main areas of research

Ringling machines

Sub-Group participants

James Blackburn
(Ringling Machines Steward)

Bill Purvis

Contact details

james.blackburn@cccbr.org.uk

Although retiring as a Ringling Machine Steward, Bill Purvis has been busy writing up a set of operating instructions for the Carter ringling machine. This is now complete pending a visit to Loughborough to take some accompanying illustrations for

the manual. Preliminary discussions have been held with the Loughborough Bell-foundry Trust over the location of the machines as part of the development of the museum there.

While work on the various existing and proposed collections has continued no additional updates to the existing digital information has appeared in the past year. This is the result of awaiting the outcome of the digital platform review (i.e. how best to store and present digital information in a consistent and compatible format that allows linkage of related areas in future).

Main areas of research

Library collection of Society Badges

Sub-Group participants

Alan Glover
(Library Steward)

Contact details

librarian@cccbr.org.uk

Main areas of research

Membership certificates
Society Logos
Historical prints
Illuminated peal books

Sub-Group participants

Chris Ridley
(Co-ordinator)

Contact details

chris.ridley@cccbr.org.uk

The catalogue of the collection of Association badges has been rewritten and expanded to include the welcome addition of the Tim Wooding collection.

Work on the society membership certificate write-up has been completed and will hopefully be made available on the website soon.

Further work on creating collections of digital images of society and other ringling related logos, historic ringling prints and attractive illuminated peal book entries continues. Some areas have already been completed. Consideration on how these might best be made available as an information source will be taken forward over the coming year.

We will be considering what other examples of historic ringling artefacts might usefully be captured as a digital resource.

Other activity

(i) Listing of Bells

Following a meeting between members of the Senior Stakeholder Liaison and His-

torical & Archive Workgroups a paper was prepared for the Church Buildings Council (CBC) Bells Committee suggesting a review of the existing historical basis for listing bells and bell frames. The current criteria were thought to be too narrow in that they did not:

- Encompass at least some of the criteria now routinely used for listed buildings (i.e. evidential, aesthetic and communal values) as well as the historic significance;
- Allow for the listing of aesthetically significant modern rings of bells;
- Look at rings of bells as a whole rather than merely as individual artefacts;
- Bring the criteria for bells in line with those for other artefacts for which the CBC maintains lists.

The outcome was agreement with the CBC to set up a small sub-group to initially review the criteria adopted for listing bells/rings of bells, with bell frames undertaken in a later phase of the project given the greater complexity attached to the latter subject. Nominations are to be sought for appropriate membership of the review group with CCCBR input as appropriate.

(ii) Ringling World DVDs

Alan Glover, Paul Johnson – a former member of the Library Committee, who undertook a lot of the original *Ringling World* scanning work – and Chris Ridley have been in discussion with Will Bosworth on behalf of The Ringling World about taking forward making a full set of *Ringling Worlds* (i.e. 1911 to date) digitally available direct from The Ringling World itself as a composite package.

CHRIS RIDLEY – Workgroup Leader

Pimlico, Greater London, St Saviour
Saturday, 15 February 2020 in 47m (7–1–20 in G)

- 1344 Plain Bob Triples
- 1 Timothy C Hine
 - 2 Alison M Everett
 - 3 Simon J L Linford (C)
 - 4 Alison Hodge
 - 5 Mary Bone
 - 6 Neal T Dodge
 - 7 B Douglas Hird
 - 8 Andrew G Smith

First inside: 2. Rung after a Central Council Workgroups meeting



Financial Update 2021 and Outline General Fund Budget for 2022

Purpose of the report – To inform Members of the current financial position for 2021 and to give an outline to the 2022 General Fund budget.

1. Introduction

This report gives Members –

- A summary of the current financial position across all funds for 2021 and
- Gives an outline to the 2022 General Fund budget, prior to formal and more detailed consideration by the Executive in the autumn of 2021.

General Fund – Budget agreed by Executive and Current Projection for 2021

	2021 Budget	2021 Budget Revised 30/6/21
Income	£	£
Affiliation Fees	7,920	7,920
Small Societies Registration Fees	200	60
Interest receivable	20	20
Donations and other income	1,000	500
Total income	9,140	8,500
Expenditure		
Council meeting	2,000	500
ART conference / sponsorship	500	500
Workgroup net expenditure (*see below)	5,510	7,435
Ringing Remembers project costs	0	0
Insurance	2,500	2,700
Sundry expenses	550	550
Total expenditure	11,060	11,685
Excess of (expenditure over income) / income over expenditure	(1,920)	(3,185)
Balance of fund – 1st January 2021 – actual figure now shown	166,146	166,146
Balance of fund – 31st December 2021	164,226	162,961
*Workgroup net expenditure		
Executive	600	3,585
Technical and Taxonomy	1,000	1,000
Communications and Marketing	1,000	500
Historical and Archive	100	100
Volunteer and Leadership	1,960	1,000
Stewardship and Management	750	750
Young Ringers	100	500
Total	5,510	7,435

This type of report is presented as part of the enhanced governance arrangements now being followed by the Council. The accounts for 2020 are shown elsewhere on the agenda.

2. Financial Update 2021

At the time of writing, the Council is around halfway through its 2021 financial year with the pandemic still severely curbing ringing activities. The Executive approved the following General Fund budget for 2021 in autumn 2020 and it is set alongside the current projection of actual income and expenditure for 2021 below.

The actual General Fund balance brought forward of £166,146 was greater than previously estimated when the budget was set due, principally, to the inactivity resulting from the pandemic. The budget was set on the assumption that expenditure would exceed income for the year.

Actual income and expenditure is currently projected to overspend the budget by approximately £1265 due, principally, to the expenditure on safeguarding.

A legacy of £11,302.84 has been received from the estate of Mr P Rolle which has been allocated as designated funds (i.e. outside of General Funds), the use of which is yet to be decided.

The Council also operates a number of other funds, namely –

The Bell Restoration Fund where grants are awarded within available funds to local restoration schemes.

The Fred Dukes International Bell Fund where grants are awarded within available funds and in accordance with the wishes of the Will of the late Fred Dukes.

The Education Fund where designated funds are available for suitable education courses.

The Library Fund which is expected to make a modest surplus for the year.

The Publications Fund which is expected to make a modest surplus for the year.

3. Outline 2022 General Fund Budget

Prior to formal consideration, amendment and approval by the Executive in autumn 2021 the following is presented to Members for information.

The Executive, currently, don't know the scale of the 2022 Council meeting but that in itself it will be budgeted to break even.

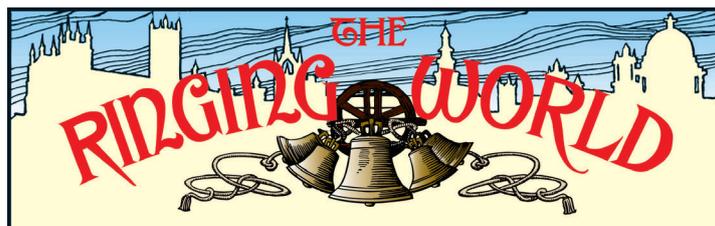
The overall assumption is that expenditure will exceed income, leaving the Council with a balance of £161,301 to carry forward to future years. When the years affected by the pandemic & subsequent recovery (2020, 2021 and 2022) are considered as a whole, income will be expected to have exceeded expenditure by approximately £500.

The Executive will need to give further consideration to workgroup activities and other projects, particularly in the context of 'Ringing Recovery', which is likely to lead to some significant variations to the illustrative budget for 2022.

FERGUS STRACEY,
CCCBR TREASURER,
JULY 2021

General Fund – Outline Budget 2022

	2022 Estimate	Notes / Assumptions
Income	£	
Affiliation fees	7,920	198 members x £40
Small Societies Registration Fees	200	
Interest receivable	20	Assume interest rates still minimal
Donations and other income	500	Prudent assumption
Total income	8,640	
Expenditure		
ART conference / sponsorship	500	Assume continued support of ART
Workgroup net expenditure	6,000	
Insurance	2,800	Similar to 2021
Sundry expenses	1,000	Broad estimate
Total expenditure	10,300	
Excess of (expenditure over income) / income over expenditure	(1,660)	
Balance of fund – 1st January 2022	162,961	Assumes 2021 overspent
Balance of fund – 31st December 2022	161,301	



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