

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Registered in England and Wales
as a Charity. No. 270036



Annual Council Meeting 2026

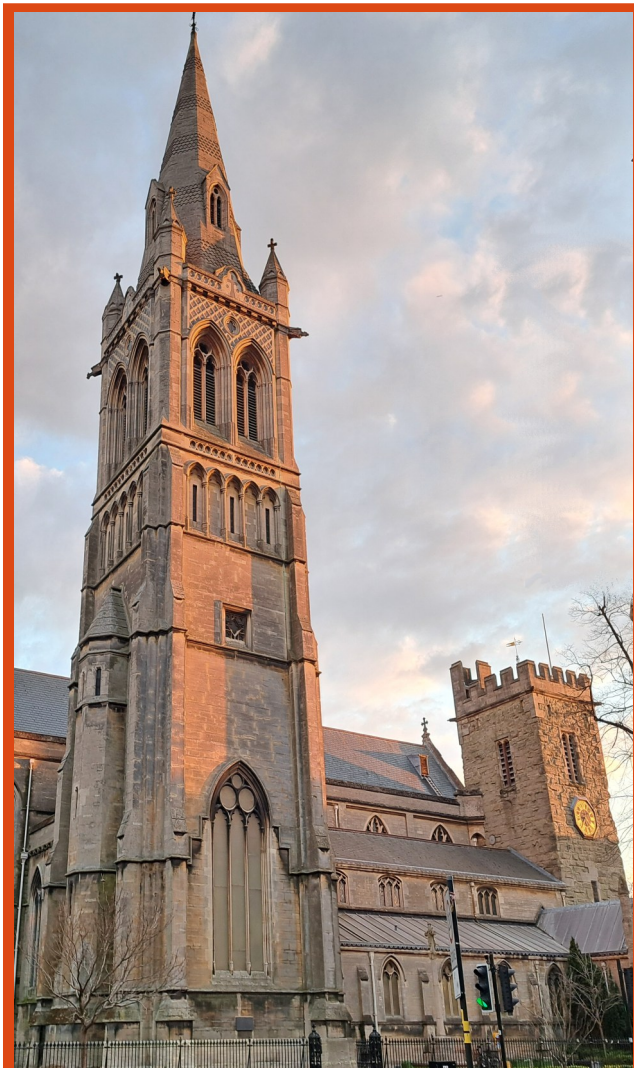
Rugby

5th September 2026

Meeting Papers

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St Andrew, Rugby

8 bells (24½cwt) & 5 bells (9-2-3)

Photo: Colin Chapman



From The President

A year ago, many of the ideas that make up Ringing 2030 existed as plans, discussions, and aspirations. Today, as you read the reports that follow, you will see something rather different: projects being delivered, new resources being launched, networks forming, partnerships growing, and a great deal of practical work taking place across the ringing community.

One of the themes that runs through almost every report is connection. Whether it is the Recruitment and Development Workgroup bringing together ringers through national briefings and the Recruit, Retain, Regain network, the Young Ringers Workgroup creating networking opportunities for young people, or the Marketing Workgroup rebuilding our ability to tell ringing's story, there is a shared recognition that the future of ringing depends on making it easier for people to find us, join us, learn with us and remain involved.



Perhaps nowhere is this more visible than in the launch of the Young Ringers Hub. Bringing together university ringing, under-18 resources, learning materials and future development pathways into a single platform has been a substantial undertaking. Supported by student honorariums and dedicated youth development resource, it represents a significant investment in the next generation of ringers and leaders.

At the same time, work has continued to strengthen the foundations on which ringing depends. The Ringing Environment work has provided practical advice to towers, clergy and church authorities while supporting research into tower dynamics and structural assessment. The History and Archive teams have relaunched the Ringing History Hub, expanded heritage collections and continued the painstaking work of preserving and making accessible the rich history of our exercise. The Dove team has delivered major enhancements to one of ringing's most important resources, improving data quality, extending functionality and laying the groundwork for future developments.

Of course, these reports are not simply a record of achievements. They are also a reminder that there is still much to do. Recruiting new ringers, developing leaders, supporting volunteers, preserving heritage, strengthening local communities and creating sustainable structures for the future remain long-term challenges.

What follows is a snapshot of that journey. It reflects the work of volunteers, staff, specialists and supporters who have contributed their time, expertise and enthusiasm over the past year. The Trustees and I would like to see more of you join in the fun. Will it be hard work? Yes, frankly, sometimes it is. It's still fun.

Tina Stoecklin,
President
Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Registered Charity No 270036

The 129th Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on
SATURDAY 5th September 2026 at 1.30pm
in The Benn Hall, Newbold Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2LN

Will members please sign the roll and be in their seats by 1.20 pm.

AGENDA

Welcome and introduction

Opening prayer

1. Application to affiliate and other changes to affiliation
2. Welcome to new members
3. Apologies for absence – must be provided in advance.
4. In Memoriam. Page 6 of the meeting papers
5. Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting. Page 7 of the meeting papers
6. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda
(Please notify the Secretary in advance, if possible)
7. Trustees Annual Report for 2025. Page 16 of the meeting papers
8. Accounts for 2025. Page 23 of the meeting papers
9. Workgroup Reports for 2025 – May 2026. See meeting papers
(Please notify the Secretary of questions in advance, if possible)
10. Ringing 2030 and Forward Plan for 2027 – Page 32 of the meeting papers
11. Ringing Census – Page 28 of the meeting papers
12. Financial update for 2026 and outline General Fund budget for 2027.
Page 33 of the meeting papers
13. Motions

Motion A

That the Rules and Standing Orders are updated so that:
subscriptions get renamed to Affiliation Fees;
Affiliation Fees must be paid by 31 March; and
give a clearer definition of when societies should calculate their membership numbers.

Proposed by: Peter Harrison – ANZAB

Seconded by: Ernie de Legh-Runciman – Ex Officio

Explanatory note:

The reasons for this change stem from the ACM moving from May to September. Back then the reasons for subscriptions/fees must be paid six weeks before the ACM made sense. But when the ACM was moved to September the final payment date was not changed. Regardless, subscriptions were still due on 1 January – this has always been the date when payments are due to be made.

There has always been some conjecture for when societies should calculate their membership numbers. The how to calculate the membership has been deliberately loosely defined, but the “when” needs some tidying up. We have suggested that societies use the due date (1 Jan) to use as a snapshot of membership numbers, or failing that at their most recent annual meeting.

Finally, we have renamed subscriptions to affiliation fees as everywhere else we refer to affiliated societies, so it makes sense to keep the language consistent.

A document showing the proposed update to the Rules and Standing Orders can be found on The Council's Website at:

<https://cccbr.org.uk/about/annual-meetings/2026-annual-meeting/meeting-papers/>

Motion B

That the Council's expenses policy be amended to include a claimable mileage allowance for car travel on Council business of 55 pence per mile, and that in the event of any future changes in the HMRC-approved mileage rate the claimable amount be altered to match those changes.

Proposed by : Robert J Perry – Truro Diocesan Guild

Seconded by: Ian P Self – Truro Diocesan Guild

Explanatory note:

At its meeting on 28 June, the Executive agreed to increase the claimable mileage rate for travel undertaken on Council business from 25 pence per mile to 30 pence per mile. However, earlier this year the HMRC-approved mileage rate, beyond which any mileage payment is deemed to be income and hence taxable, was raised from 45 pence per mile, a rate which had applied for a long time, to 55 pence per mile. While the amount of money this motion deals with is minimal in the context of the Council's total assets, it establishes a principle that the Council is willing to come into line with many other charities and voluntary groups in accepting that those who give freely of their time are entitled to have their reasonable travelling expense met up to the limit allowed by the tax authority. It is of course arguable that even at 55 pence per mile the full cost of using a car is not met, but that is probably an argument to be had with the Chancellor of the Exchequer rather than within this Council.

None of us comes into ringing, or into membership of this Council, to make money, and we all give a huge amount of time to the furtherance of an activity which gives us so much pleasure. It may therefore be the case that some of those who are entitled to claim don't, or don't claim as

much as they could. That is an individual's decision. But no-one should be deterred from using their skills to the Council's benefit by lack of means.

The motion also provides that in the event of any change in the HMRC-approved rate the amount offered by the Council is adjusted accordingly.

14. Election of Trustees: the following nominations have been received.

Office	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
President	Tina Stoecklin	Allison Devine	Zoe Bennett
Deputy President	Vicki Chapman	Eileen Butler	David Smith
Treasurer	Jason Carter	Roger Haynes	Simon Dixon

I confirm that these nominations are valid, and have met the criteria set out in the Councils Rules.

E de Legh-Runciman

Supporting statements are given in the Addendum 1 of this agenda.
Page 15 of the meeting papers

15. Appointment of Independent Examiners (2)

16. Appointment of Stewards

17. Future meetings.

- 2027 – Lichfield and Walsall Archdeaonries Society*
- 2028 – Truro DG
- 2029 – Essex Association*
- 2030 – St Martins Guild
- 2031 – Oxford DG*
- 2032 – Worcestershire and Districts Association

*Ringing Roadshow Year

18. Any other business

To be taken if time permits.
Items must be notified in advance in writing to the Secretary.
Items will not be taken from the floor.

19. Vote of Thanks

20. Meeting attendance

Ernie de Legh-Runciman – Secretary
8th August 2026

In Memoriam

The following members died between mid-May 2025 and the end of May 2026:

Paul Nichol Mounsey, Oxford University Society 1978 – 1984, attended 6 meetings, died 29 May 2025

Dr Donald Henry Niblett, Oxford University Society 1957 – 1960, Kent County Association 1978 – 1999, attended 19 meetings, died 14 July 2025

Dennis Bernard Clive, Lichfield & Walsall Archdeaonaries Society 1999 – 2005, attended 5 meetings, died 10 July 2025

Revd Canon Michael Stuart Hart, Hereford Diocesan Guild 1967 – 1969, Lancashire Association 1987 – 1992, attended 5 meetings, died 19 July 2025

Anthony James (Jim) Poynor, Leicester Diocesan Guild 1981 – 1984, attended 2 meetings, died 24 August 2025

Fr John Malcolm Hughes, Llandaff & Monmouth Diocesan Association 1990 – 2005, attended 8 meetings, died 4 September 2025

Peter James H Wycherley, Hereford Diocesan Guild 1969 – 1972, attended 2 meetings, died 3 July 2025.

Margaret Patricia Byrne, Truro Diocesan Guild 1977 – 1987, attended 7 meetings, died 22 October 2025

John Frederick Mallett Maybrey, Guildford Diocesan Guild 1964 – 1969, attended 5 meetings, died 29 November 2025

Peter John Shipton, Scottish Association 1993 – 2005, attended 9 meetings, died 18 December 2025

Revd Canon David Marlyn Hoare, Bath & Wells Association 1959 – 1960, attended 1 meeting, died 9 January 2026

Gwilym G Salmon, Bath and Wells Diocesan Association 1960 – 1967, attended 4 meetings, died 10 February 2026

John Francis Irving Turney, Hereford Diocesan Guild 1969 – 1972 & 1993 – 2004, attended 12 meetings, died 21 February 2026

John Heber Croxton, Hereford Diocesan Guild 2004 – 2019, attended 12 meetings, died 13 February 2026

Melvyn Arthur Rose, Lincoln Diocesan Guild 1978 – 1984, attended 6 meetings, died 27 February 2026

John William Nicholls, Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association 2008 – 2016, Attended 7 meetings, died 21 March 2026

Revd John Michael Stephens, Bedfordshire Association 1954 – 1955, attended 1 meeting, died 8 April 2026.

Shân Elizabeth Nash, Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild 2019 – 2022, attended 2 meetings, died 21 April 2026

Brian John Bull, Southwell Diocesan Guild 1993 – 2002, attended 7 meetings, died 30 April 2026

Anthony Rex Agg, Hertford County Association 1972 – 1981, attended 8 meetings, died 14 May 2026

Robert James Cooles, Surrey Association 1975 – 1978, Honorary member 1980 – 2010, Additional member 2010 – 2017, attended 39 meetings, died 15 May 2026

Alastair Robin Heppenstall, Lincoln Diocesan Guild 1987 – 2016, attended 26 meetings, died 19 May 2026

Alan Edwin Chantler, Peterborough Diocesan Guild 2000 – 2016, attended 11 meetings, died 28 May 2026

No members' deaths in earlier years have come to light.

**Minutes of the 128th Annual General Meeting, held in The Niagara Conference Centre, Sheffield, S6 1LU
on Saturday 6th September 2025, at 2.00pm**

The Chair was taken by the President, Tina Stoecklin.

The President asked everyone to sign the attendance roll before the start of the meeting.

The President welcomed members of the Council to Sheffield. She reminded the meeting only Fellows and representative members may vote. All membership returns and all except one subscription had been submitted on time. The Veronese Society's subscription had been received after 9th August 2025. The President asked the Council's permission to allow representatives from this society to speak and vote at this meeting. On a show of hands, this was approved.

The Rev Tony Ellis (Hereford Guild) opened the meeting with a prayer.

1. Application to affiliate and other changes to affiliation

No applications for affiliation or for any other changes were received.

2. Welcome to new members

The President gave a welcome to new and returning members (indicated in the list at the end of these minutes).

3. Apologies for absence

A number of apologies were received and are listed at the end of these minutes.

4. In Memoriam

The Rev David Everett (Suffolk Guild) read the names of the following members and former members whose deaths have been notified to The Council since the 2024 meeting:

Malcolm John Lodwick,
St David's Diocesan Guild 1981 –

1982, Kent County Association 1984 – 1990, attended 5 meetings, died 17 July 2024

Norman Richard Mattingley,
Hereford Diocesan Guild 1981 – 1994, Truro Diocesan Guild 1996 – 2019, attended 34 meetings, died 25 August 2024

David Roger McLean,
Norwich Diocesan Association 1987 – 1990, 1993 – 1996, 2002 – 2005, 2008 – 2011, attended 11 meetings, died 20 August 2024

John Weaver,
Peterborough Diocesan Guild 1990 – 1997, attended 6 meetings, died 24 August 2024

David Chambers Manger,
Kent County Association 1984 – 2008, attended 24 meetings, died 16 November 2024

Theodora Fairfax (Theo) Crowder,
Ladies' Guild 1993 – 1999, Norwich Diocesan Association 2005 – 2011, attended 12 meetings, died 31 December 2024

Brian Norman Trowbridge,
Derby Diocesan Association 1990 – 1996, attended 4 meetings, died 29 January 2025

Prof Micheal Bailey Davies,
Ely Diocesan Association 1987 – 2011, attended 24 meetings, died 20 September 2024

Derek Charles Jackson,
Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild 1980 – 1999, attended 17 meetings, died 1 October 2024

Michael John Mulvey,
Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association 1996 – 2002 attended 6 meetings, died 3 October 2024

Lucy Smith (née Allen),
Lichfield & Walsall Archdeaconries Society 1996 – 2002, attended 6

meetings, died 6 March 2025

Derek Edmund Sibson,
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths 1963 – 2025, President of the Council 2005–2008, attended 58 meetings, died 22 March 2025

Elizabeth Ann Williams (née Sadler),
Shropshire Association 2021 – 2025, attended 4 meetings, died 22 April 2025

Rev Dr Peter Newing,
Durham University Society 1984 – 2005, attended 19 meetings, died 16 May 2025

Paul Nichol Mounsey,
Oxford University Society 1978 – 1984, attended 6 meetings, died 29 May 2025

Dr Donald Henry Niblett,
Oxford University Society 1957 – 1960, Kent County Association 1978 – 1999, attended 19 meetings, died 14 July 2025

Dennis Bernard Clive,
Lichfield & Walsall Archdeaconries Society 1999 – 2005, attended 5 meetings, died 10 July 2025

Rev. Canon Michael Stuart Hart,
Hereford Diocesan Guild 1967 – 1969, Lancashire Association 1987 – 1992, attended 5 meetings, died 19 July 2025

Anthony James (Jim) Poynor,
Leicester Diocesan Guild 1981 – 1984, attended 2 meetings, died 24 August 2025

The Rev Everett then led the meeting in prayer.

5. Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

Several corrections have been notified to the Secretary before the meeting. The meeting approved these corrected Minutes and they

were signed by the President.

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

There were no matters arising.

7. Trustees Annual Report for 2024

The President introduced the Trustees Annual Report (TAR). The President introduced the current trustees.

Neal Dodge (Suffolk Guild) asked about the Council's submission to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's initiative on Intangible Cultural Heritage. He believed that invitations to submission would open by the end of this year. The President indicated that when clear guidance is available from the DCMS, the Council would move on this.

8. Accounts for 2024

Fergus Stracey (Treasurer) presented the accounts. He reported several typos have been noted. On page 24, the bottom line should read: Balances at 31 December 2024:- General Fund £145,125; Bell Restoration Fund £25,682; F Dukes International Bell Fund £82,265.

The Accounts were approved by the Executive on 25 June 2025. Duncan Walker, as Independent Examiner, had submitted an unqualified report to the Council, which was made available on the Council website.

The Treasurer also thanked Beryl Norris, Jim and Sarah Bence and the Publications team as well as Ian Self of the Friends of the Library for their work.

The Treasurer reported that the total assets of the Council, as of 31st December 2024, were £397,802. The General Fund made a loss of £16,203, primarily because of spending on Ringing 2030. The Publications team was profitable,

and the Treasurer thanked all who were involved in the handover to the new team. Friends of the Library was in deficit of £2,620, due to the move to Loughborough. One grant was paid from the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund, leaving a grant of £1,000 unpaid. 11 grants were paid from the CCCBR Bell Restoration Fund, leaving £21,750 in outstanding commitments. There are currently no funds available for new grants. T-shirt sales were slow, but the Executive are looking for new opportunities to increase sales.

Andrew Aspland (Lichfield and Walsall and Library Steward) pointed out that the Library Fund was in deficit for the year, but not overall.

Jason Carter (Gloucester & Bristol) questioned if the figures reported as a typo were not actually a further mistake. The Treasurer disagreed with this.

The Treasurer moved that the accounts be accepted, subject to the corrections. The meeting approved this by a show of hands.

9. Annual Report Workgroups for 2024

Summary slides from each workgroup were displayed, and a number of questions were received.

a) Young Ringers for Ringing 2030

Andrea Haynes (Ex-Officio) gave an update on the School Lesson Plans and their status. Primary school science plans are being worked on first. Secondary plans are "on the back burner", awaiting the response to the primary school plans. She reported that one of the Summer Honorariums is performing a gap analysis on the plans and helping to create the teaching resources that go with the plans. She asked if any members had marketing experience to help with the rollout of the plans.

The President gave a brief summary of the Wendy Piercy bequest, and how it has been used to hire three

people as Summer Honorariums to work on specific projects.

b) History and Archive

No questions have been received.

c) Ringing 2030 Recruitment and Development

No questions have been received.

d) Ringing 2030 Environment

Alison Hodge (Worcestershire & Districts) asked (via email) if the Westley Awards were to continue. Mark Ogden (Suffolk CA and WG Lead) apologised that they had not happened this year, due to other commitments, but it is intended to pursue them next year. He mentioned that there is a need for volunteers to help with the work of the Workgroups.

Mark Ogden also spoke about church closures. He asked all members of the Council to be aware of church closures and recommended that all societies should have an action plan for when a church in their area closes.

e) Technical and Taxonomy

No questions have been received.

f) Ringing 2030 Technology

No questions have been received.

10. Ringing 2030 and Forward Plan for 2026

The President introduced the documents, as a summary of the Ringing 2030 project. It was felt appropriate at this time to include the whole business plan in the papers, as this had been previously requested. There was also a progress chart, which was a snapshot of the projects at the present time. It should be noted that this was a live document and would be updated throughout the coming year.

It was noted that several projects

were struggling, mainly due to a lack of volunteer support.

The President invited questions from the floor.

Jason Carter (Gloucester & Bristol) noted that that the project was below the reserves policy and asked about the income line, specifically the £80,000 shown for 2027. The President replied that the £80,000 was based on a number of items, including the increase in affiliation fees and hopefully grant income. It was noted that the reserves policy was to be reviewed in light of comments from the Independent Examiner.

Alison Hodge (Worcestershire & Districts) asked if a summary of the requirements for Workgroup members could be published.

Ian Bucknell (Gloucester & Bristol) noted the large items in the budget were for lines of credit. and asked what the formal processes were used when lines of credit were issued. The Treasurer outlined the process, which included a formal loan agreement. A supplementary question asked if there is a limitation in terms of the amount that the CCCBR can "lend" at any one time. The Treasurer agreed this was "a good question" but said he did not know the answer. He thought there may be a limit but would need to check.

Richard Smith (Cambridge University) commented that the line of credit was shown for The South West Course, but there was no income associated with it. The Treasurer replied that it was anticipated that the course would be self-sustainable, and they would not (hopefully) be drawing on this line of credit.

Paul Wotton (Bath & Wells, Recruitment & Development Workgroup Lead) mentioned the South West Course was looking to be financially independent, so there would be no dependency on the CCCBR line of credit.

Will Bosworth (Ringing World) asked if the Council could reengage with Bell Sunday, as a vehicle to engage with the church and public.

11. The Forward Plan for 2026

The President summarised the 3 Pillars of Ringing 2030, and what was planned for 2026.

John Martin (Devonshire Guild) asked about the resources of the Mobile Belfry Trust (MBT), and with one of the assets being out of action, how many events had not been supported. The President replied this information was held by the MBT, but she understood most events had been covered. Simon Linford (St Martins Guild and MBT Trustee) added the Touring Tower would be back in action in the near future. He also mentioned that as well as the need for volunteers to help with the staffing of the belfries at events, there was a need for volunteers willing to provide a vehicle to tow the belfries to events.

Alan Regin (Ex-Officio) was asked to explain The Rolls of Honour. He explained the books and added there are over 300 names that needed to be added to the books. Dickon Love (Ex-Officio and Historical & Archive Workgroup Lead) mentioned that the new copy of Dove isn't likely in the near future. The earliest date is likely to be late 2026.

The President presented indicative projections (with the aid of a pie chart) for the finances for the near future. It was stressed these charts were not budgets, but projections on income and expenditure.

David Smith (ANZAB) asked if cash reserves were shown as income. The President explained that it was included as a source of funding for the plans.

Divid Kirkcaldy (Sussex CA) mentioned that the Publications group was now generating more income than in previous years.

John Harrison (Oxford DG) asked for clarification whether the President referred to profit or income. The President stated she meant turnover.

Tristan Lockheart (Leeds University) supported the use of paid support. The use of paid support has benefited the Council recently, and if we need to progress, we needed this help.

Will Bosworth (Ringing World) asked what the paid support will do. The President replied that it would be for marketing support and help with in recruitment enquiries.

Andrew Slade (Yorkshire) support Tristian Lockheart's view in that we need to spend some of the Councils reserves to progress our objectives.

12. Financial update for 2024 and outline General Fund budget for 2025

The Treasurer presented this item.

There were currently four Registered Small Societies. The General Fund would be in surplus by between £19,000 and £20,000 when our statutory obligations were taken into account, but spending on Workgroups and Ringing 2030 would result in a deficit for the year. The current forecast was between £1000 and £2000. This was quite a significant reduction, which was largely due to the generous legacy from Wendy Piercy.

Interest received was to be higher than budgeted, approximately £4,000 for the year, with the majority of interest coming from our investment with NS&I.

Publications had historically formed part of the annual accounts presented to this meeting, and were now using the Lloyd's Number One account administered by the Treasurer. Interest from Publications was now going into the General Fund rather than Publications.

At the time of this meeting, the SW Course had not requested the final tranche of their available loan of £7500. The Executive had agreed with the SW Course Directors that the loan would be repaid from receipts from students and helpers on the course. A further funding stream for each year appears in the Ringing 2030 progress report on page 36 and it was unknown whether or not that this would be required at all or in part.

Three honorariums of £2000 each, which had already been referred to, had been awarded to progress Ringing 2030 in areas where it had stalled. Web hosting had cost £2064 for the next two years.

Workgroups were required to provide a budget in the autumn for the following year, but these budgets were not necessarily spent for a variety of reasons, resulting in an overall surplus showing in the account when they were presented and completed.

Outline Budget for 2026

The outline budget for 2026, made in June, had been presented in a similar manner to last year.

Expenditure had been split to show our statutory or legal obligations, such as holding an ACM, insurance, looking after our historical archives etc., the remainder showed concessional expenditure for Workgroups and on Ringing 2030 various projects.

Uncompleted projects from this year had been included in the provisional budget for next year. On the whole, there would be some spending of reserves for various projects to benefit the exercise as a whole, which were either underway or would start shortly. These included Ringing 2030's projects, purchase of the new Roll of Honour Book, and the new "Dove" book.

At present, the budget for some of these were still being put together

and would be included for consideration in the autumn or subsequent Executive meeting. It was difficult at this stage to be precise about the expected cost of Ringing 2030, because, as the projects develop, the requirements become clearer. The Executive was conscious of the need to spend wisely and would look carefully at every funding request.

Other financial matters to be considered by the Executive in the months following this meeting included changing the accounting package from an Excel based spreadsheet to an online accounts package to make presentation of the accounts and updates for the Executive somewhat easier to read.

The Executive would review the expenses policy. Several people mentioned the mileage rate for use of volunteer's own vehicles for travel on behalf of the Council, currently at £0.25, was somewhat parsimonious. It was suggested we review our Reserve Policy, which is on the generous side.

We currently do not have a formal stock policy but do have a significant stock of T-shirts and Publications.

The Executive needed to investigate the move of the publications to a separate company where profits were given to the Central Council. This was because of the increase in sales in the publications which would lead to a tax liability.

It had been suggested we set aside an amount for Ringing 2030 as a designated fund to try and provide a bit more clarity on the project.

Jason Carter (Gloucester & Bristol) asked why ACM income was not shown in the budget. The Treasurer indicated that this would be a cost neutral item.

Nick Elks (Peterborough DG) mentioned that the Wendy Piercy bequest was extremely generous and asked the Council to show its ap-

preciation. He asked if there was any stipulation as to how the money was to be spent. The Treasurer stated there were no conditions in the bequest.

Peter Wilkinson (Chester DG) asked about the Council's policy on investments. The Treasurer stated he was not an investment expert and asked if there was anyone who could provide help on the matter.

Richard While (Gloucester & Bristol) asked for a commitment that paid support would not involve permanent staff, as this would involve an ongoing commitment that would last for years. The President would not give such a commitment.

13. Governance Review

Peter Harrison (ANZAB and Trustee) presented the report of the 2025 Governance Review. The review was conducted by Peter Harrison and the Honourable David Bleby. The review looked at both the Rules and the Standing Orders and proposed a number of changes. There were no financial implications in the proposed changes.

14. Motion A

Peter Harrison (ANZAB) proposed, and David Smith (ANZAB) seconded:

That the existing Rules of the Council as amended by the changes indicated in The Schedule be adopted as the Rules of the Council in lieu of the existing Rules, and that the Executive be requested to amend Standing Orders as recommended by the Review.

Peter Harrison walked the meeting through the proposed changes, as defined in the published schedule.

Peter Harrison (ANZAB) proposed an amendment, seconded by David Smith (ANZAB):

That the existing Rules of the Coun-

cil as amended by the changes indicated in The Schedule be adopted as the Rules of the Council in lieu of the existing Rules, and that Standing Orders as recommended by the Review shall be adopted as the Standing Orders of the Council in lieu of the existing Standing Orders.

The President asked for questions on the amendments.

Peter Scott (Yorkshire Ass) asked if the Executive would have a review as to how individuals relate to the Council, and when it would happen. Peter Harrison referred to Standing Order G1.2, and stated the Executive had discussed this, and it would happen in the future.

John Harrison (Oxford DG) supported the idea of future reviews and encouraged more members to take part in such reviews.

The President put the amendment to the vote. This was carried with one against and seven abstentions.

The Motion was put to the meeting, via a paper ballot. As it was a rule change, a two thirds majority of persons voting was required.

The result was 126 for the Motion, 7 against and 10 abstentions. The Motion was carried by a majority of 94%.

15. Motion B

Ernie de Legh-Runciman (Ex-Officio and Secretary) proposed Motion B, as written in the published meeting papers. This was seconded by Alistair Donaldson (Peterborough DG).

Alistair Donaldson spoke to the Motion and outlined the reasons behind it:

- Creation of a new Associate category of membership to manage

Council membership for those groups of ringers who do not collect a regular membership fee from all their members

- For Affiliated Societies, the lower membership limit being fixed at 50, removing the lower limit of 25 for overseas societies
- Allow Small Societies to send one voting member to Council meetings
- Societies wishing to apply for membership of the Council in any of the three categories of membership will have to satisfy the Council on the criteria set out in Standing Order S2
- Added an appeal process where an application for membership was rejected
- Remove the Rules requiring an annual or triennial election of Council representatives by Societies
- Annual Subscriptions (Standing Order F1) would be £1 per Affiliated Member, £0.40 per declared Associate member (negotiable); and £10 for a Small Society
- Amendment of the Rules and Stranding Orders of the Council as listed in Addendum 2 of the Agenda

Peter Harrison (ANZAB) proposed an amendment to Motion B, seconded by David Smith (ANZAB). This amendment was to align Motion B to the changes passed in Motion A above. There were no changes to the context of Motion B.

Tim Jones (Devon Ass) thanked Peter Harrison for removal of the word "smaller" from Associated Societies.

Chris Haller (North Americal Guild CR) pointed out a typo in the last point of Motion B.

The amendment was put to the meeting. This was carried with one vote against and one abstention.

- Discussion on the amended Motion B

Deryn Griffiths (ANZAB) asked for clarification on the process of a society choosing between being an Affiliated or Associated Society. The President stated that at the close of this meeting, no societies status would change, and any society wishing to become an Associated Society would have to apply to the Executive.

Brian Diserens (Central European Association) felt the Motion would benefit the CEA, but felt that the Motion should have been split into several parts.

David Smith (ANZAB), felt that the wording who do not collect a regular membership fee from all their members needed some amending.

Andrew Aspland (Lichfield & Walsall) felt they should not pay for their Honorary Life Members. The President pointed to the guidance in the Standing Orders as to how membership was counted was unchanged.

David Smith (ANZAB) proosed an amendment, seconded by Paul Wotton (Bath & Wells) that the first point of Motion B should read:

- Creation of a new Associate category of membership to manage Council membership for those groups of ringers who do not collect a regular membership fee from their members. (The word all to be removed)

The amendment was put to the meeting, and was carried, with 10 against and 1 abstention.

Chris Tennent (Worcestershire & Districts) asked about the Veronese Association. The President stated that the implementation of Motion B would allow them to register as an Associate society and would remove the exemption in the Standing Orders for a single society.

Linda Garton (Bedfordshire Association) asked about societies who only collect a life membership fee and what category would they fall into. The President reiterated that there would be no change in membership, and it was up to the society to request a change in membership category.

Jane Wilkinson (Society of Royal Cumberland Youths) expressed concern about producing another category of membership. She felt cutting down the representation of territorial societies was a bad move. She asked if this could be reviewed by the Executive. The President pointed out that this was not changing territorial society representation.

Richard Smith (Cambridge University) thanked the Executive for the consultations carried out over the past year. The Cambridge University Guild felt that youth members of University Societies should not be charged. He asked the Executive to look at this.

Tristian Lockheart (Leeds University) supported the Motion and felt that young members are very important to the Council. He hoped this would encourage more university societies to join the Council.

Paul Wotton (Bath & Wells) supported the principle of the Motion but asked about the appeals process. The President pointed out that the detail of the Motion is in the proposed Rules and Standing Order changes.

Jo Belsten (Norwich DA) pointed out Life Members were included in the calculation shown in Standing Order S1.

David Kirkcaldy (Sussex CA) asked that the Motion be put. This was accepted by the meeting.

The Motion was put to the meeting, via a paper ballot. As it is a rule change, a two thirds majority of persons voting is required.

The result was 113 for the Motion, 20 against and 10 abstentions. The Motion was carried by a majority of 84%.

16. Election of Trustees

The following have been nominated as Trustees.

Secretary:

Ernie de Legh-Runciman

Proposed by: Allison Devine

Seconded by: Eileen Butler

Trustee:

Beverly Faber

Proposed by: Jane Wilkinson-

Seconded by: Eileen Butler

Trustee:

Alison Edmonds

Proposed by: Elva Ainsworth

Seconded by: Zoe Bennett

These were elected unopposed.

17. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Duncan Walker was proposed as Independent Examiner by Jason Carter (Gloucester & Bristol) and seconded by Anthony Lovell Wood (Salisbury DG), and duly appointed.

18. Future Meetings

The following invitations had been accepted by the Executive:

2026 – Coventry Guild – Rugby
2027 – Lichfield and Walsall
Archdeaonries Society*

2028 – To be decided
2029 – Essex Association*
2030 – St Martins Guild
2031 – Oxford Diocesan Guild *

2032 – Worcestershire and
Districts Association

* – normal Roadshow year

Annie Hall (Coventry DG) gave the meeting an introduction to the events in Rugby in September 2026.

Andrew Aspland (Lichfield and Walsall) offered a welcome to Lichfield and Walsall in 2027.

Alison Hodge (Worcestershire and Districts) asked if there was a "set of instructions" as to how to organise a Council meeting. The Deputy President stated that such document now exists and is shared with hosting societies.

19. Any other business

Bob Blandan (Gloucester & Bristol) felt that every annual meeting should also host a roadshow. The Deputy President stated that a survey of exhibitors previously conducted, demonstrated they would not support a roadshow every year. Other resources were not always available to organise an annual roadshow. She did not believe that the Council membership would want a roadshow every year.

Divid Kirkcaldy (Sussex CA) supported this view, based on his experience in organising roadshows.

The President apologised that in 2024 two Workgroup leaders retired but were not presented with certificates formally acknowledging their work. The President presented a certificate to mark the retirement of Alison Hodge a Lead for Stewardship Management and Guidance Workgroup. It was noted that Chris Ridley retired at the same time from the leadership of the History and Archive Workgroup. A certificate will be conveyed to him.

The President presented a certificate and a gift to Catherine Lane to mark her retirement as a Trustee from the Executive this year.

Fred Bone (Essex Ass) asked in regard to the Robert Kilby bequest what efforts were being made to organise a peal of Stedman Caters. It was understood that an application had been received for 2026.

John Martin (Devonshire Guild)

asked if regular progress reports could be made throughout the year on the various Council Workgroups. The President replied that the Executive would action this.

Nick Elks (Peterborough Guild) asked if direct membership was still on the Council's agenda. The Treasurer replied that, in his view, the major problem would be the reconciling of funds given to the Council by member guilds. If this problem could be overcome, then we can move forward with this. The President felt this was not a major priority of the Council at present. John Harrison (Oxford DG) mentioned the history of direct membership and suggested that the Council revisit the topic.

Ian Roulstone (Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and Trustee) gave an update on the Council's safeguarding team.

Permission was sought from the Council to destroy the ballot papers used in this meeting. This was approved.

20. Vote of Thanks

John Martin (Devonshire Guild) proposed a vote of thanks:

He thanked Phillip Hall, Elaine and Peter Scott, Malcom and Helen Turner and David Spall from the Yorkshire Association for the local arrangements for the weekend.

From the Central Council, he thanked Doug Davis (booking form and data collection), Colin Chapman (programme booklets), Philip Green (printing), Dave Richards (technical), Beverley Faber (polo shirts), the Executive, especially Vicki Chapman.

He also thanked all the towers who had accommodated the visiting ringers and the Yorkshire ringers who had acted as tellers and stewards, and the staff at Sheffield Cathedral and the Niagara Conference

Centre.

He also thanked Tina Stoecklin for keeping the meeting in order.

The President declared the meeting closed.

Apologies for absence were received from:

Chris Mew – Fellow of the Central Council

Barbara Wheeler – Fellow of the Central Council

Kira Chase – Ex-Officio Member

David Mattingley – Ex-Officio Member

Ian Oram – Ex-Officio Member

Rhona McEune – Barrow and District Society

Melissa Hunt – Bath and Wells Diocesan Association

David Parfrey – Bath and Wells DA

Glen Fiddy – Derby Diocesan Association

Sue Marsden – Ely Diocesan Association

Phil Bailey – Ely Diocesan Association

Daniel Stevens – Ely Diocesan Association

Jonathan Rose – Guild of Clerical Ringers

David Towell – Lichfield and Walsall Archdeaconries Society

Keith Butter – Lincoln Diocesan Guild

Christopher Sharp – Lincoln Diocesan Guild

Dorothy Hall – Oxford Society

Bob Crighton – Salisbury Diocesan Guild

Caroline Beckett – Truro Diocesan Guild

Steve Green – Southwell and Nottingham Diocesan Guild

Vicki Chase – Sussex County Association

Cath Colman – Suffolk Guild

Grace Dooley – Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild

Hayley Young – Truro Diocesan Guild

Michele Giovanni Cambareri – Veronese Associazione

Michael Church – Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild

The following members of the Council were present at the meeting, having indicated their presence by signing the roll:

Fellows: David Kelly

Ex-officio: Tim Jackson, Alan Regin, Fergus Stracey, Ernie de Legh-

Runciman, Dickon Love, Catherine Lane, Andrea Haynes

Ancient Society of College Youths:

Richard Allton, Colin Newman, Euan Thomas, Andrew Wilby

Australian & New Zealand Association: Peter Harrison, David Smith,

Deryn Griffiths*

Bath & Wells Diocesan Association:

Michael Hansford, Paul Wotton

Bedfordshire Association: Patrick Albon, Linda Garton, Richard Horne

Beverley & District Society: James Blackburn, Rosina Baxter

Cambridge University Guild: David Richards, Richard Smith

Carlisle Diocesan Guild: Jayden Milby, Duncan Walker

Central European Society: Brian Diserens

Chester Diocesan Guild: Andrew Darling, Carole Hallam, Graham Jen-

kins, Peter Wilkinson

Coventry Diocesan Guild: Annie Hall, Tracey Newbold, John New-

bold, Joy Pluckrose

Derby Diocesan Association: Andrew Hall, Susan Hall, Gill Hughes

Devon Association: Jo Tucker*, Tim Jones

Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Association: Howard Smith

Durham University Society: Phil Hughes

East Derbyshire and West Notts Association: Edward Sterland

Ely Diocesan Association: Lynne Hughes

Essex Association: Fred Bone, Mary Bone, Vicki Chapman, Martin Jones

Four Shires Guild: Jess McCarthy

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association: Bob Blanden, Ian Buck-

nell, Jason Carter, Roger Haynes, Richard While

Guildford Diocesan Guild: Jackie

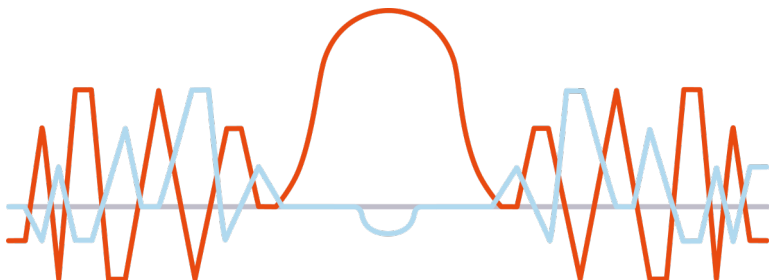
Roberts, Deb Margason-Baker

Guild of Devonshire Ringers: Harry Andrews, Charlotte Boyce, John

Martin*, Alena Wardle

Hereford Diocesan Guild: Rev An-

thony Ellis, Tyler Edwards*, Kris-toffer Perruzza*, Andrew Watkins	Elks	Jones
Hertford County Association: Stuart Brant, Geoffrey Horritt, Tony Crowder	St Martin's Guild: Richard Andrew, Simon Linford*	*New or returning member
Irish Association: Alex Nelson	Salisbury Diocesan Guild: Anthony Lovell-Wood, Julian Newman, Trish Hitchins*	The following societies were not represented: Barrow and District Society, Dorset County Association, Guild of Clerical Ringers, North Staffordshire Association, North Wales Association, Lilliputters Guild, Open University Society
Kent County Association: Neil Jones, Sue Bassett, Chris Bassett*, David Holdridge	Scottish Association: Zoe Bennett, Tina Stoecklin	
Ladies Guild: Allison Devine, Alison Everett*, Elizabeth Smit	Shropshire Association: Paul Lewis	
Lancashire Association: Beth Ingham, Andrew Kayll, Pauline Campling*, Geroge Campling*	Society of Royal Cumberland Youths: Ian Roulstone, Fraser Storie*, Jane Wilkinson	
Leeds University Society: Tristan Lockheart	South African Guild: James Champion	Attendance Figures
Leicester Diocesan Guild: Sally Brown, Carol Franklin, Steve Millington	Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Guild: Jim Crabtree, Chris Glenton, Steve Green*	Voting Associations
Lichfield & Walsall Archdeaconry Society: Andrew Aspland*, Stuart Hutchieson	Suffolk Guild: Neal Dodge, David Everett*, Mark Ogden	Fully Represented28
Lincoln Diocesan Guild: Judith Rogers, Chris Turner	Surrey Association: Paul Flavell, Kate Flavell, Noel Gibbin, Jason Hughes	Partial Represented29
Liverpool Universities Society: Martyn Bristow	Sussex County Association: David Kirkcaldy, Susan Gadd, Stephanie Pendlebury, Janice Crawford*	Not Represented9
Llandaff & Monmouth Diocesan Association: Harriet Moncrieff, Helen Phillips, Matthew Turner	Truro Diocesan Guild: Robert Perry, Ian Self	Total65
Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild: Adrian Sweeting, Angela Elliott*, Brook Hayes*	University of Bristol Society: Elva Ainsworth	Small Societies
North American Guild: Eileen Butler, Beverly Faber, Christian Haller	University of London Society: Toby Hibbert	Fully Represented3
Norwich Diocesan Association: Jo Belsten, Raymond Harwood, Mary Jones	Veronese Association: David Roskelly	Not Represented2
National Police Guild – Richard White*	Welsh Colleges Society: Fiona Hartley	Total4
Oxford Diocesan Guild: John Harrison, Lucy Hopkins Till, Tim Pett	Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild: Mike Hopkins Till, Greg Jordan*	Members attending
Oxford University Society: Craig Robertson	Worcestershire & Districts Association: Alison Hodge, James Mort, Elizabeth Tennant, Chris Tennant	Fellows1
Peterborough Diocesan Guild: Simon Dixon, Alistair Donaldson, Nick	Yorkshire Association: Barrie Dove, Elaine Scott, Peter Scott. Andrew Slade. Simon Plows	Ex-officio7
	Guild of Railway Ringers: Jin Benner	Voting Societies142
	Sheffield Universities Guild: Tam	Small Societies3
		Total153
		Ernie de Legh-Runciman Secretary Central Council of Church Bell Ringers
		24th July 2026



Addendum 1– Supporting Statements

Tina Stocelin

I have been involved in change ringing and ringing organisations for nearly 40 years, and it has been a privilege to serve as Central Council President. I am standing for a further term because I believe the Council has begun important work that now needs continuity, focus and delivery.

During my term I have been proud to nurture Ringing 2030 from a high-level strategy to deliverable projects: bringing together work on recruitment, retention, training, technology, communications and governance into a coherent programme. It has helped us turn shared concerns into shared priorities, and to encourage workgroups, associations and individual ringers to pull in the same direction.

My wider experience includes roles as Editor of *The Ringing World*, Publicity Officer for the North American Guild, Secretary of the Scottish Association, Leader of the Technology and Taxonomy Workgroup, Ringing Master at Glasgow Cathedral and Inveraray, Central Council representative since 1997, ART member and active teacher. Professionally, I work in digital project and programme management, specialising in project rescues and strategic planning.

I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue serving I feel there is still work that I can do to ensure the success of what we started.

Vicki Chapman

I have served on the Council since 2016, contributing to Public Relations and the Marketing and Recruitment & Development Workgroups before becoming Public Relations Officer, and in 2023, Deputy President. I have also held Association and District roles including Secretary, Communications Officer, Essex Course Convenor, and Education Officer, strengthening my organisational and communication skills.

I have led major national initiatives such as Ringing Remembers (2016–18) and Ring for the King (2023), coordinating PR and external partnerships to maximise engagement and impact.

As Deputy President, I have supported the Recruit-

ment & Development Workgroup, the Publications Team, and the PRO role. I relaunched the Dorothy L Sayers Society Award for young ringers, initiated development of the ringing census, and contributed to Ringing 2030 projects. I also lead delivery of the Council's ACM and roadshows and created "playbooks" and guidance to support future organisers and new CC Representatives.

Looking ahead, I aim to help deliver the next phase of Ringing 2030, expand engagement initiatives, strengthen national recruitment pathways, and support with practical tools and shared best practice. I am committed to fostering a collaborative, hands on approach that enables ringers and associations to thrive.

Jason Carter

Jason was 17 when he learnt to ring in 1993 at Moulton in Northamptonshire. Whilst in Northamptonshire he spent three years as Treasurer of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild from 2005–08. He is currently tower captain at Lydiard Tregoze, Swindon and Chairman of the Swindon branch of the G&BDA. Most of his ringing time is focused on his local band and supporting development of branch members and he is also teaching a handbell band. He became a CC Rep at the Exeter meeting in 2024.

Jason is Head of Tax at Coventry Building Society which owns the Co-operative Bank. He is a Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax Advisor with approaching 30 years' experience. If successful, he is keen to promote a more open conversation on how the financial side of ringing can support the Ringing 2030 initiative both within the Central Council but in the wider ringing community as well. He would also be very open to hearing from, and collaborating with anyone who has an interest in this area and would actively encourage anyone to come forward with their ideas.

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Registered in England and Wales as a Charity, No. 270036

Annual Trustees' Report for 2025

(Issued in 2026)

1. Legal and Administrative Information

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 Treasurer for the time being, currently 136 Milhouse Road, Plymouth, PL3 4DE. The constitution and conduct of the Council is governed by its Rules, last revised in May 2018, amended September 2025.

Trustees

The Council's Trustees during 2025 were as follows:

President	Dr T Stoecklin
Deputy President	Mrs V Chapman
Secretary	Mr E de Legh-Runciman
Treasurer	Mr F M S Stracey
Ordinary Trustee	Prof I Roulstone
Ordinary Trustee	Mr P Harrison
Ordinary Trustee	Ms B Faber
Ordinary Trustee	Mrs C M A Lane
	(until 6 th September 2025)
	Ms A Edmonds
	(from 6 th September 2025)

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 Examiner is Mr D Walker. 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 accountable 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 Workgroups

The Council has seven Workgroups: (1) Young Ringers for Ringing 2030, (2) Technology for Ringing 2030, (3) Ringing 2030 Recruitment and Development, (4) Ringing 2030 Marketing, (5) Ringing 2030 Environments, (6) History and Archive, (7) Technical and Taxonomy. Most of the work of the Council is carried out by these Workgroups. Other activities are carried out by Stewards and other volunteers who look after, inter alia, safeguarding, performance recording, equality and diversity monitoring and advice, and publications.

3.3 Membership

The Council's membership comprises Representative Members (elected or appointed by affiliated societies, associated societies and 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 those Fellows who were elected prior to 28 May 2018, may vote at an annual meeting. Applications by societies to affiliate are approved in accordance with the Rules and Standing Orders.

Progress and achievements in 2025

The Central Council in 2025 saw progress towards better financial stability, governance and membership reviews, and delivery of projects as part of the Ringing 2030 Strategy.

4.1 Key achievements

Inaugural South West Ringing Course, held in October 2025. This course offered a chance to improve ringing skills across a variety of traditions (both method ringing and Devon-style call change ringing). The course is designed to be self-funding but is supported by the Council with a series of loans to cover the start-up costs.

Relaunch of the Ringing History Hub. This redesigned website has a deep catalogue of articles and information on every aspect of ringing history and is actively updated by members of the History and Archive working group.

Inaugural Summer Honorariums – using a bequest from Wendy Piercy, we were able to fund three summer internships targeted at building the Young Ringers Hub (which was formally launched early in 2026).

Scout badge pilot in Derbyshire – the Derbyshire Scout Association offers a dedicated staged Bell-ringer Badge (Introductory, Bellringer 1, 2, and 3) to help Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers track their ringing progression. This provides a blueprint for other regional scout associations and uniformed groups.

4.2 Support for ringing organisations

Much of the regular work of the Central Council is in support of the affiliated and partner ringing organisations. These include queries to the Safeguarding team, the Noise Complaints helpline, and regular enquiries about risk assessments, insurance, and maintenance. In addition, it curates and maintains physical and digital assets such as the Dove's database, method and composition libraries and the physical Central Council library.

The Council has acquired a full set of pull-up banners, plus two feather banners featuring the bellringing branding. These are available for associations to borrow for event support. They were first used by the Kent County Association for a major awareness and recruiting event and have since been loaned to other associations.

To assist organisations in using the branding assets, and to help share good ideas, a professional Canva account has been set up with 50 licenses, and with the brand kit and social media templates pre-loaded. This was piloted in 2025, with continued development and rollout planned in 2026.

The Council has offered significant support to the Mobile Belfry Trust, including sponsoring a branded canopy and short-term loans. The mobile belfries remain a significant vehicle for spreading awareness of bellringing within the public.

The new publications group has worked hard and increased turnover in 2025 by more than 50%. This was due to active social media promotion of existing titles with a gradual programme of updating older titles with more modern branding or rewriting, supporting the public benefit of providing educational and training materials to a wide audience.

The provision of other teaching aids, such as the handling posters and 3D printed model bells has been a popular resource. These were made available via the online shop and distributed by Lucy Hopkins-Till. Branded t-shirts were also made available via the online shop and available at the Roadshow in Sheffield.

4.3 Governance and strategy

The Council is required to perform a review of governance every three years, and 2025 saw its second such review. The review resulted in some minor changes to the wording of the Rules and Standing Orders and the proposals were passed in the annual meeting in September.

The Council also created an independent review group to assess the rules around membership, with the remit to ensure the current rules are fit for purpose, and to consider a framework that made affiliation more inclusive. The proposed additional membership category was passed at the annual meeting in 2025.

Annual business plans were added to the published budgets, and a Ringing 2030 five-year business plan was also published, adding to the governance and reporting around these activities.

4.4 Changes in Personnel

At the Annual Council Meeting in September 2025, Catherine Lane retired as a Trustee. Catherine combined her work on the Council with holding the Presidency of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, one of the largest ringing organisations affiliated to the Central Council. This dual role lent insight into the needs and requirements of associations and influenced decision-making within the Executive.

The vacancy was filled by Alison Edmonds. Alison is an experienced leader and organiser, most recently leading the local organising teams for the RWN York in 2023, and the 2025 ART Conference which was based at the University of York where she works, and is pastorally and financially accountable for the whole student lifecycle (admissions to graduation) for around 1750 students across two science departments.

John Lagdon retired as Workgroup Lead for Marketing for Ringing 2030, and the vacancy was filled by Angela Elliott, who then later retired from this and the PRO role. Media queries were handled by the Deputy President, who also began to rebuild the Marketing for Ringing 2030 workgroup.

4.5 Ringing 2030

The Trustees and Executive delegate much of the work of delivering Ringing 2030 to the Workgroups, with regular progress reports from those Workgroups. Each Workgroup has an Executive Sponsor from the Trustees whose role is to ensure that activities are aligned with the Objects of the charity and that any issues and difficulties can be resolved quickly.

The focus of work continues to be in team-building to be able to sustain development of long-term multi-year projects. For projects such as School Lesson Plans to add bellringing to the curriculum, the plan has been developed and piloted, but the ability to roll this out beyond the pilot requires a slightly different team of volunteers which is still being recruited. This is a similar situation for the regional Scout badge programme, which has been successfully piloted. The recruitment project team was rebuilt during 2025, showing strong signs of progress moving into 2026.

Education and outreach as to the scope and reach of Ringing 2030 continued throughout 2025, including the publication and distribution of the five-year business plan. In addition, the new annual business plan format was launched for 2025, which clarified the impact of Ringing 2030 on resource and budget.

It continues to be the policy to devote a significant portion of the available cash reserves towards Ringing 2030 projects. Marketing and marketing assets re-

main a key target of investment, creating the library of new banners for use by ringing groups, and the development of further branded assets such as social media templates and specific banners for youth projects and publications. Investment was made for professional design support for the Young Ringers Hub and for the Lesson Plan presentations. Finally, seed capital was made available to launch the first South West Ringing Course, the success of which meant the funding was repaid.

4.6 Communications and outreach

The regular President's blog was paused partway through 2025 in order to encourage a broader range of communications from all parts of the Council. However, regular news items through the Council website continue to be fed through to local ringing associations, to the Council's social media channels. There continues to be regular articles and commentary in *The Ringing World*.

Attached to the 2025 annual meeting was a Ringing Roadshow, organised by the Deputy President. This event allows ringing businesses and organisations to demonstrate what they do to the public and to the ringing community. The Young Ringers for Ringing 2030 workgroup and the Recruitment and Development workgroup had stands at the event, in addition to Central Council publications.

Open meetings via Zoom continued to be used by the Executive and by Workgroups to share progress and seek feedback and volunteers. Notable were several meetings with representatives from University Societies, the first Recruitment Network session, and a series of open meetings to discuss forthcoming motions to change the Council membership structure.

Regular meetings continue between the President and the Chairs of *The Ringing World* and the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART). The President made a presentation to the 2025 ART Conference, as well as at the 2025 Ringing Roadshow in September, spoke at the Durham and Newcastle ringers' dinner. Trustees attended both the North West and South West ringing courses. Finally, the publications group have been active throughout 2025 by running stands at ringing meetings, including the 2025 Roadshow.

4.7 Challenges

Key vacancies in marketing. The continuing vacancy for the Marketing for Ringing 2030 workgroup lead, and similar vacancy for a Public Relations Officer was a key impediment to progressing plans for a national and international awareness campaign. The gap was plugged by continuing to make use of contracted design services through YellowYoYo, and by the Deputy

President stepping back into handling direct media enquiries. However, opportunities to capitalise on key events such as Bell Sunday or Heritage Open Days were missed. In addition, the lack of volunteer resource in this space limited the Council's ability to support the Mobile Belfry Trust in engaging with scouting and guiding jamborees and similar awareness and outreach events.

Internal communication continues to be a challenge as it has been in past years. Most of the Council's current resource is focused on outward promotion and awareness and creating the materials to support efforts by other ringing organisations.

4.8 The year ahead

To address some of these challenges, 2026 has been targeted for the recruitment of two fixed-term paid roles. These will be designed to support specific Ringing 2030 activities, accelerate progress, and energise our volunteer base. Otherwise, focus remains on making good use of the marketing investment, continuing to develop the recruitment network, the full launch of the Young Ringers Hub. At the end of 2025 was the first call for applications for the UK Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage, and a team has been put together to progress this in 2026.

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. The fund is currently closed for new grant applications.

(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 identify and review risks as they are identified, and to which they believe the Council may be exposed and take 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 and due for review in 2026.

5.6 Safeguarding

The Council's guidance on safeguarding was revised in June 2026 and is available via our website. A safeguarding policy applicable to the Council and its own activities and events was prepared in October 2021 and placed on the website. A review of both is scheduled for 2026.

5.7 Conflicts of Interest

Members of the Executive are required to complete an annual declaration of Conflicts of Interest 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. The Data Protection and wider data management policies are scheduled for review in 2027.

6. Review of Financial Activities

The accounts for 2025 show total funds at the year-end of £483,397, more than in 2024 the total then was £397,802. Restricted funds accounted for £288,901 of the total funds. Of the remaining balance the library collection & bookshelves account for £82,063 leaving available resources of £146,502. Income for the year totalled £146,654 (including publications, library & model bell sales of £24,406). Publication sales increased as result of the proactive activities of the team.

Interest received from investments decreased by £3,106 compared with the previous year which reflects on the withdrawal from investments during 2024, the moving of £85,000 into Cambridge & Counties Bank. The interest from the latter (£3,697) is due in December 2026.

Affiliation fees increased because of changing the fees to £0.40p per capita from £0.20p.

The 2025 figures include further donations for the Kilifi project totalling £120.

We received a generous legacy from the estate of Wendy Piercy which was used to pay for three internships in each of 2025 and 2026 years to enhance work on Ringing 2030.

During 2025 we received £67,648 from the estate of John Long which is to be used for additional bells in St Andrew's & St Paul's Bedford Churches. The balance of the funds to be used to provide loans for santus sacring angelus service or bourdon bells in High Anglian Churches. Any residue remaining after 21 years can be

used for general purposes of the Central Council. The Trustees are expecting the balance of the bequest in 2026.

There has been no significant fundraising during the year.

Expenditure for bell restoration grants totalled £3,450, and publication cost of sales was £7,215. Other items of expenditure include Ringing 2030 of £6,213. The total expenditure for Ringing 2030 was £34,164 over the years. It should be noted that for Ringing 2030 to be a success the Executive is reliant of the efforts of ringers at society and tower level using the resources which are being put in place by the Central Council, otherwise the monies spent will have been wasted.

£1,284 is being held on behalf of the Young Change Ringers Association.

The Council had no employees during the year but awarded three internships valued at £2,000 each. The majority of its work is carried out on a voluntary basis, for which we give grateful thanks.

It is confirmed that the Council's assets, together with the expected income for 2026, are available and will be adequate to fulfil the objects of the Council in that year. The 2026 financial estimates were approved by the Executive in December 2025, and they support the fact that the Trustees consider that the CCCBR is a going concern, i.e. that the Central Council can meet its commitments for the foreseeable future.

Of the unrestricted funds £75,000 is held in abey-

ance under our Reserve Policy, which leaves a balance of £71,502 available project expenditure, an increase of £26,491. The majority of these funds are held in interest bearing accounts and as they are drawn down the amount of interest received will be correspondingly reduced.

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

7. Membership

At the close of the Annual Council Meeting on 6th September 2025 the Council's membership comprised 4 Fellows, 13 Ex-officio Members and 199 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies and 4 small societies. Of the 203 Representative Members, 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 26th July 2026.

T Stoecklin
President





Council Organisation

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Organisational Structure

Executive and Trustees

President: Tina Stoecklin	Ordinary Trustees:
Deputy President: Vicki Chapman	Alison Edmonds
Secretary: Ernie de Legh-Runciman	Beverly Faber
Treasurer: Fergus Stracey	Ian Roulstone
	Peter Harrison

Workgroups

Young Ringers for Ringing 2030

Andrea Haynes
Ian Roulstone
Development of young ringers, ringing and leaders

Youth Development Officer:
Simon Edwards

Technology for Ringing 2030

Martyn Bristow
Tina Stoecklin
Ringing 2030 digital platform

Ringling 2030 Recruitment and Development

Paul Wotton
Vicki Chapman
Recruitment networks
Leadership development

Ringling 2030 Marketing

TBA
Vicki Chapman
External Marketing to support Ringing 2030

Marketing and Admin Officer:
Gemma Groom

Ringling 2030 Environments

Mark Ogden
Ian Roulstone
Safe and secure tower environments
Technical and leadership training
Compliance, safety and governance of towers
Advice on best practice, funding products and expertise

History and Archive

Dickon Love
Beverly Faber
Developing and managing historic and reference sources

Technical and Taxonomy

Kira Chase
Tina Stoecklin
Maintaining and publishing authoritative reference standards for change ringing

Workgroup Leader Executive Sponsor

Stewards of the Council

Dove Database

Dickon Love
Tim Jackson
Richard Smith
Historic and Archive WG
Maintenance and development of the Dove Bell Register

Bell Restoration Fund

Ian Oram
Executive/Fergus Stracey
Administration of the CCCBR Bell Restoration Fund

Fred Dukes International Bell Fund

Ian Oram
Allen Nunley
David Mattingley
Executive/Fergus Stracey
Administration of the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund

Carter Ringing Machine

James Blackburn
Historic and Archive WG
Hosting, care and maintenance of the machine

Rolls of Honour

Alan Regin
Historic and Archive WG
Maintenance of the Rolls of Honour

Library

Andrew Aspland
Sue Marsden
Historic and Archive WG
Council Librarians

Stewards
Functional Responsibility

Support Services

Public Relations:

Angela Elliot/Vicki Chapman

Performance Analysis:

Phil Barnes/T&T WG

Membership: **Secretary**

ICT: **Doug Davis/Ernie de Legh-Runciman**

Small Societies:

Ed Sterland/Secretary

Safeguarding:

Emma Jarvis, June Wells
Chris Enzor, Pam Thompson / Ian Roulstone

External Liaison:

Simon Linford/Ernie de Legh-Runciman

Publications:

David Kirkcaldy, Jim & Sarah Bence/Vicki Chapman

UNESCO Senior Stakeholder:

Ian Sterritt/Alison Edmonds

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS - Registered Charity Number 270036
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	General Fund £	John Long Bequest £	Bell Restoration Fund £	F Dukes International Bell Fund £	Publications Fund £	Library Fund £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income and Expenditure									
Incoming Resources									
Affiliation fees		13,942						13,942	6,935
Legacies without restrictions	8.3	12,216						12,216	
Legacies with restrictions	8.6		67,648					67,648	
Subscriptions from friends of Library							1,228	1,228	1,160
Interest receivable	7	3,895		684	2,606		527	7,712	10,818
Sales of publications, books and CDs						21,193		21,193	14,910
Sales of T Shirts		1,577						1,577	805
Sales of Model Bells & Posters						1,208		1,208	
Stock written back									41
Donations to Kilifi, Kenya	8.1			120				120	120
Donations to new Roll of Honours Ledger									730
Other donations	8.4	80		100			250	430	1,100
AGM Weekend		7,380						7,380	3,067
SW Course Loan Repayment		12,000						12,000	
Young Change Ringers Association									12
		51,090	67,648	904	2,606	22,401	2,005	146,654	39,698
Resources expended									
AGM Weekend		9,052						9,052	6,114
Workgroup expenses	9.1	1,945						1,945	3,265
Ringling 2030 Workgroup Expenses	9.2	6,213						6,213	7,138
Grants for bell restoration	10			3,450				3,450	12,550
Cost of publications sold						7,215		7,215	3,473
Model Bells & Posters						1,057		1,057	
Recruitment Leaflets		83						83	78
Publications Re-branding						354		354	
Library maintenance							140	140	131
Advertising						174	110	284	670
Storage and distribution						2,500	312	2,812	1,666
Stationery, postage and telephone						3,846	452	4,298	3,315
Insurance		3,050						3,050	2,989
Stock written off and disposed of									1,941
Bank Charges							86	86	62
Paypal charges		74				578		652	417
SW Course Grant									5,000
SW Course Loan		12,000						12,000	248
Mobile Belfries Trust Loan		11,200						11,200	
T Shirts for resale		1,985						1,985	8,013
Wearebellringing Shopify Website									498
New Website Hosting – 2 years		2,064						2,064	
Depreciation – Library Collection							1,552	1,552	1,584
Depreciation – Bookcases (2024)							2,000	2,000	2,000
Sundry expenses						137		137	
		47,666	–	3,450	–	15,861	4,652	71,629	61,152
Net incoming resources before transfers		3,424	67,648	(2,546)	2,606	6,540	(2,647)	75,025	(21,455)
Revaluation of Library Collection									
Transfers between funds		23,066			3	(12,500)		10,569	
Net movement in funds		26,490	67,648	(2,546)	2,609	(5,960)	(2,647)	85,594	(21,455)
Balances at 31 December 2024		145,126		25,682	82,265	29,570	115,160	397,803	419,257
Balances at 31 December 2025		171,616	67,648	23,136	84,874	23,610	112,513	483,397	397,802

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS - Registered Charity Number 270036
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	General Fund	John Long Bequest	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes International Bell Fund	Publications Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets									
Tangible assets									
Investments at cost		157,444	67,648	17,777	79,131			322,000	232,000
Library Collection							76,063	76,063	77,615
Library Bookcases (2024)							6,000	6,000	8,000
Total fixed assets		157,444	67,648	17,777	79,131	-	82,063	404,063	317,615
Current assets									
Stock	9.3	5,981				4,585		10,566	11,275
Debtors and prepayments		745		79	187		145	1,156	3,646
Cash on short term deposit and at bank		7,681		5,280	5,556	19,992	30,305	68,814	68,024
Total current assets		14,407	-	5,359	5,743	24,577	30,450	80,536	82,945
Current liabilities									
Creditors – amounts due within one year		(235)				(967)		(1,202)	(2,757)
Net current assets		14,172	-	5,359	5,743	23,610	30,450	79,334	80,188
Total assets less current liabilities		171,616	67,648	23,136	84,874	23,610	112,513	483,397	397,802
Funds									
Unrestricted		146,502						146,502	120,011
Unrestricted – designated		24,384				23,610		47,994	53,954
Restricted		730	67,648	23,136	84,874		112,513	288,901	223,837
Total funds		171,616	67,648	23,136	84,874	23,610	112,513	483,397	397,802

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

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. The Education Courses Fund and Publications Fund are unrestricted designated funds. The Bell Restoration Fund, the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund and the Library Fund are maintained for restricted purposes.

5. **Transfers between funds**

£10,569 has been transferred from Publications to the General Fund.

6. **Tangible assets and intangible assets**

The major tangible assets of the Council are the Investments in National Savings Income Bonds, Cambridge & Counties Bank and the Library Collection. The Library Collection was valued at a replacement cost of £95,000 in 2014 by Roger Barnes of Church Green Books. 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 a reducing balance basis 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.

The long term loan of £8,500 to the Keltek Trust was repaid by the Trust during 2019 and is now included in the assets of the Bell Restoration Fund.

7. **Interest receivable**

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

National Savings Bonds	£ 7,185
Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Deposit account	£ 527

Amounts received were lower than 2024, reflecting the withdrawal from investments in the previous year.

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 £120 in 2025, bringing the total now available to £1,497. Gift Aid is still to be claimed.

8.2 **Ringling Remembers**

The remaining balance, at 31 December 2025, of the Ringling Remembers Grant of £11,236 is held with general balances for future related work. None of this grant was used in 2025

8.3 **Other Donations – Ringling 2030**

During the year a bequest of £12,216.25 was received from the estate of Wendy Piercy. The executive was advised that there were no restriction on how this was to be used. It was, therefore, decided to put it towards the cost of summer honorariums for 2025 and 2026, promoting Ringling 2030

8.4 Other Donations – Bell Restoration

During the year a donation of £100.00 was received from CAF, which was allocated at the Treasurer's discretion

8.5 Other Donations – New Roll of Honour Ledger

No donations were received during the year and the balance of £730 is carried forward.

8.6 Other donations – John Long

We received £67,648 from the estate of John Long, a ringer in Bedford, more information on this bequest can be found in the review of financial activities in the Trustees Annual Report.

9. Workgroup Expenses**9.1 Workgroup Expenses**

Total workgroup expenses amounted to £1945 across all activities, an increase from 2024. Of these expenses the Executive accounted for £1,459

9.2 Ringing 2030 Workgroup Expenses

The total Ringing 2030 workgroup expenses during the year was £6,213 of which Yellowyoyo accounted for £1,104 and Bobcat Distribution accounted for £1097.

9.3 Wearebellringing.co.uk T Shirts & Banners

The remaining stock at the year end was £5,981. The shopify website has been closed

10. Grants paid

During the year, the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund did not pay any grants.

There are one outstanding grant commitment, with £9,632 available for new schemes.

During the year, the Bell Restoration Fund awarded no new grants. Two grants totalling £3,450 were paid to Hatherleigh (£1,700) and Compton Dando (£1,750). Outstanding commitments total £18,300. The fund remains closed for new grants.

11. Charitable commitments

There is one grant of £1,000 awarded but not yet paid by the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund, and fourteen grants totalling £18,300 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 £1,497.

12. Publications fund

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

13. Designated Funds in General Fund

These comprise:

Ringing Remembers Grant	£11,236 For recruitment
Rolle Legacy	£2,362
Young Ringers	£1,284 For use by YCRA
Robert Kilby legacy	£9,502 For 1st peal in Stedman Caters

14. Restricted Funds in General Fund

These comprise:

New Roll of Honours Ledger	£730
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15. Payments to trustees

There were no payments to Trustees, except for the reimbursement of expenses in the course of their duties as members of the Executive.

16. Emoluments of employees

The Council had no employees during the year. However, three short term internships were awarded during the year.

Additional Notes not comprising part of the accounts

Investment Account – NS&I –**Interest Received Monthly**

General Fund	£59,943.90
Bell Restoration Fund	£17,777.07
Fred Dukes Bell Fund	£79,130.96
Publications Fund	£12,500.00
John Long Legacy	£67,648.07

Lloyds Bank Account (No 1)

£13,767.58

Comprising

General Fund	(£14,540.41)
Bell Restoration Fund	£2,692.94
Fred Dukes Bell Fund	£5,558.84
Robert Kilby Legacy	£9,502.20
Publications	£10,554.01

Cambridge & Counties Bank –**Interest received Annually**

General Fund	£85,000.00
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Lloyds Bank Account (No 2)

£1,284.16

Comprising

Young Ringers (YRCA)	£1,284.16
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Reserve Policy (to close the Charity) £75,000.00

CCLA Short Term Deposit Account –**Interest received quarterly**

General Fund	£884.99
Bell Restoration Fund	£2,584.46

Robert Kilby Memorial Peal

In 2017 the Central Council received a legacy from Robert M Kilby to support the ringing of Stedman Caters – specifically for the Council to organise 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>)

Peals were also rung in 2019 for the Coventry Diocesan Guild, in 2021 for the Yorkshire Association, and in 2022 for the Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

Applications are invited from societies for future peals (mail to secretary@cccbr.org.uk).



BELLRINGING



The Ringing Census

The Ringing Census 2026 – Giving every tower and every ringer a voice

In support of Ringing 2030, especially the intention to be recruiting significant numbers of new younger recruits, we want to undertake a new census to give us a current view of ringing. In short, we need to know how many ringers we have and a bit about what they are doing and how they feel about it.

If this sounds familiar, it's because it is. There were efforts to put together a Ringing Survey at the start of Ringing 2030, and a pilot was run with very interesting data. This is an effort to revive this on an international scale.

However, this isn't just waking up that Survey. For the past few months a small team have been looking at past surveys, what worked well and what didn't, including the rich data gathered by the Ringing Trends Committee, and have designed a fully digital census that is repeatable, allowing us to continue to benchmark ringing activity.

Much like the 1988 ringing survey, the 2026 Census will happen over the course of one week, and will ask ringers to describe their ringing activities in that week. **Participation in the survey is entirely voluntary**; however, the more ringers who participate, the more accurate will be our count.

The Ringing Census 2026 is an effort to better understand the current state of ringing — not simply by counting numbers, but by building a clear and honest picture of who is ringing, where, and how the community is changing.

The aim is straightforward: **to gather the information needed to support, sustain and grow ringing for the future**. By establishing a reliable baseline, the census will help identify gaps, highlight opportunities, strengthen bids for funding and resources, and ensure that towers and associations are properly represented in future planning.

At its heart is a shared message:

If we want the future of ringing to improve, we first need

an honest picture of where we are today.

What information is needed?

The census will collect a carefully balanced set of information to support meaningful analysis while remaining proportionate and easy to complete.

Key areas include:

- Participation levels and number of ringers
- Tower and location details
- How often people ring and the type of activity
- Limited demographic information, such as age and gender.

This information will provide the foundation for understanding trends, supporting recruitment and retention, and shaping future initiatives across the community.

How the census will work

Participation will take place through a simple, online survey, designed to be quick and accessible across devices. The process will be supported by a coordinated communications campaign using email, social media, and existing ringing networks.

A key feature of the approach is **local support**. Volunteer **enumerators** will help encourage participation, answer questions, and support towers in completing the survey.

The emphasis throughout is on making involvement as straightforward as possible, so that every tower has the opportunity to take part.

Timeline and key stages

The census will be delivered through a structured campaign across the year and current planning indicates:

- Summer: awareness building and recruitment of volunteers
- Late September–October: training and preparation
- Early November: pre-contact with towers
- **Mid-November: census collection week** (core activity period)

Supporting the census

The success of the census depends on support from across the ringing community.

Enumerators – Volunteers will work with a group of towers to:

- Encourage participation
- Make contact ahead of the census
- Provide practical help where needed
- Follow up during the census period

Data analysis support – Following the census, volunteers with data skills will be invited to help:

- Analyse results
- Identify trends and insights
- Support reporting and future planning

This is a significant opportunity for the community to contribute directly to shaping its future.

Data protection and trust

Protecting participants' data is a central priority.

The (CCCBR) will act as the data controller, with structured safeguards in place. These include:

- A formal assessment of data risks
- Clear privacy information for participants
- Secure storage and controlled access to data

Data minimisation and, where possible, anonymisation for analysis

The census is designed to be transparent, responsible, and focused solely on benefiting the ringing community.

Working together

The Ringing Census is being delivered by a central project team led by Vicki Chapman (CCCBR Deputy President), supported by colleagues including Gemma Groom (communications), Elva Ainsworth (survey design), Mark Ainsworth (data and analysis), and Tina Stoecklin (CCCBR President) (data governance), alongside a wider network of volunteers.

Looking ahead

The Ringing Census is more than a data collection exercise — it is a collective opportunity. By taking part, towers and individuals help ensure that future deci-

sions are based on real understanding, not assumption.

Every response matters. Every tower counts.

Together, the ringing community can build a clearer picture — and a stronger future. Look out for further information and how you can get involved.

Vicki Chapman
Deputy President





Dorothy L Sayers Society

Award 2026



The rejuvenation of the Dorothy L Sayers Society (DLSS) Award marks a renewed and forward-looking commitment to recognising young leadership within the bellringing community. This refreshed award builds on its historic foundations while introducing a more inclusive and accessible approach. Open to individuals under 18, and explicitly welcoming group applications, the award recognises leadership in its broadest sense—from technical excellence to teaching, organisation, and community-building.

A key enhancement has been the inclusive submission process. Applicants were able to submit either a written application (up to 500 words) or a short video, ensuring accessibility for different communication styles and enabling a wider range of candidates to participate. This change has significantly broadened engagement and allowed diverse expressions of enthusiasm, commitment, and leadership.

The reinstated award has proved highly successful, attracting an “outstanding and inspiring field of entries” that demonstrated both strong participation and exceptional quality. Submissions highlighted not only personal achievement but also a deeper commitment to sustaining and growing the ringing community.

Entries reflected a “vibrant and thriving future for bellringing,” showcasing young people who are actively teaching, organising events, rebuilding bands, and supporting others. The breadth and depth of applications underscored the success of the more inclusive format and the relevance of the award in today’s context.

Applications were assessed using a structured scoring framework, with judges awarding ratings and providing detailed feedback across criteria such as leadership, dedication, skills, and proposed use of funds. The judging panel, chaired by the CCCBR Deputy President, with two members of the DLSS Executive, ensured a consistent and transparent process, enabling fair comparison across a strong and diverse field.

Special Mentions

The strength of the field was such that several entries were recognised with special mention. These candidates demonstrated notable enthusiasm, contribution, and future potential.

Amber Weaver was recognised for “thoughtful and inclusive leadership in supporting and developing young ringers,” while Edith Allen, Lana Page, Liz Ffrench-Lynch and Immy Oliver were commended for an “enthusiastic submission demonstrating engagement and encouragement within a group context.” Alongside these, a number of other high-scoring applications showed creativity in outreach, mentoring, and community engagement, further highlighting the depth of emerging talent.

Shortlisted Candidates

Francis Gilruth



Francis demonstrated exceptional leadership and technical excellence, describing how he “*led the rebuilding of a band that was significantly depleted following Covid*” and developed it into a group capable of advanced Surprise Minor methods. The panel recognised him for “exceptional leadership in rebuilding and transforming a tower band while achieving an impressively high personal standard of ringing.” Judges further described his leadership as “exceptional,” highlighting his ability to rebuild, teach, and inspire while maintaining a very high personal standard.

Daniel Holmes à Court

Daniel’s application stood out for its scale and originality. He explained, “*I have organised multiple things and also built a mini ring,*” illustrating his wide-ranging initiative. The judging panel praised his



“remarkable organisational leadership, including a wide range of events, projects, and innovative initiatives promoting ringing.” His work demonstrated exceptional initiative, communication, and project management across numerous community-focused activities.

Luca Greenslade

Luca was shortlisted for his consistent and impactful leadership across multiple areas of ringing. He described running practice nights and developing local standards, noting his role in helping bands progress from call changes to method ringing. The panel recognised him for “outstanding leadership in running practices, organising ringing opportunities, and captaining and developing young ringers.” Judges highlighted his strong mentoring approach, organisational ability, and commitment to expanding opportunities for others.

And the winner is...

The three shortlisted candidates have been invited to attend the CCCBR Annual Council Meeting (ACM) in September 2026, where the winner will be formally announced. This event will provide an opportunity to celebrate their achievements alongside the wider ringing community.

The winner will receive the £500 Dorothy L Sayers Society Award, which can be used to further their development through training, travel, or equipment—ensuring continued growth and contribution to the future of bellringing.

Congratulations to all those who sent in applications, especially to those mentioned and shortlisted.

Vick Chapman

Deputy President – Chair of the DLSS Award Panel





Ringling 2030 Progress Report

A year in progress for Ringling 2030

2025 was the year that addressed the 'gap between strategy and implementation', and each of the three pillars are showing significant traction on planned projects.

There were some significant challenges, for instance, the need to completely rebuild the Marketing for Ringling 2030 workgroup. This was a process started in 2025, and continues through 2026, and we are picking up and reviving projects that had to be postponed.

In looking at this and other key delivery challenges within the Youth-oriented projects, we trialled our Summer Honorariums, using a bequest from Wendy Piercy. These were task-based, paid internships designed to give early career experience and help us progress with key projects. This trial gave us a clear indication that targeted paid placement can not only speed up the pace of change but also energise the surrounding volunteer base.

The results were a revamp of the excellent University Ringling website, which now forms one part of the newly launched Young Ringers Hub. In addition, professional presentations and branding were added to school lesson plans, ready for a further trial.

Details of projects and plans are in the individual workgroup reports and what follows is a high level summary of the overall state of play for each Pillar.

Pillar One – Marketing

The updating of existing marketing assets project has been picked up again and with occasional support from YellowYoYo, these are gradually being replaced and made available to ringers. Social media templates and association access to branding via the Council's new Canva is a start to making these assets more accessible and true sharing of good ideas.

The schools and uniformed groups outreach continue to progress. The School Lesson Plans project has a well-defined product and a couple of successful trials. It will need new and different volunteers to promote uptake of this product and create a sustainable means to deliver them. A successful completion of a scout badge trial in Derbyshire has given us a basic playbook that is under development, and the newly hired Youth

Development Officer has focused a lot of time in this space.

With the support of a Marketing and Admin Officer, we are able to plan for an international awareness campaign in September 2026, based on themes of Heritage, and around heritage open days or similar. In the meantime, short form video content is being developed and released through social media channels.

We still need a better structure in place to support associations with their marketing. Many pieces are in place, but not pulled together into a structured package. The marketing and recruitment portal is still delayed.

Pillar Two – Recruitment and Development

The survey of ringling, a necessary benchmark to understand the effectiveness of Ringling 2030, has been revived. The Trustees invested in our own copy of the questionnaire software, making this exercise a repeatable census. The (entirely voluntary) online questionnaire goes live in November.

The recruitment network has instigated a series of informative open meetings, which have been well received and is taking the network to a level of engagement beyond names on a spreadsheet.

Design work has started on a Youth Development Pathways project, which will continue through 2026 and 2027.

Pillar Three – Environments

The Young Ringers' Hub, incorporating University Ringling, has been launched, with further development planned through 2026.

Engagement with structural engineers at the University of Birmingham continues, resulting in a Summer Honorarium to support research into tower movement.

Following up on the work on Changing Churches continues to progress slowly and would benefit from a few more people to help collate a guidance and support package for associations to help with their decision making. This is another piece that will require a wide consultation.



Financial Update 2026 and indicative General Fund Budget for 2027

Purpose of the report – To inform Members of the current financial position for 2026 and to give an outline to the 2027 General Fund budget.

1. Introduction

This report gives Members –

- a) A summary of the current financial position across all funds for 2026 and
- b) Gives an indication of the 2027 General Fund budget, prior to formal and more detailed consideration by the Executive in the autumn of 2026.
- c) The report shows the statutory obligations of the Charity's expenditure and a summary of the other expenditure.

This type of report is presented as part of the enhanced governance arrangements now being followed by the Council. The accounts for 2025 are shown elsewhere in the meeting papers.

2. Financial Update 2026

At the time of writing, the Council is halfway through its 2026 financial year. The Executive approved the following General Fund budget for 2026 in December 2025 and it is set alongside the current projection of actual income and expenditure for 2026 below.

	2026 Budget Agreed 12/2025	2026 Budget Revised 30/6/2026
Income	£	£
Affiliated Societies	32,450	32,900
Associated Societies	850	500
Small Societies	60	80
Interest Receivable	5,600	5,700
Donations and other income	1,340	250
Legacies		
Merchandising Income	1,500	
Total Income	41,800	39,430
Expenditure		
Statutory Obligations		
ACM Costs	3,450	3,450
Insurance	3,005	3,005
Executive	1,500	3,500
Employment Costs		20,650
Technical & Taxonomy	3,825	3,825
Bank/Paypal Charges	100	100
Total Statutory Obligations	11,880	34,530

Workgroup & Ringing 2030	£	£
Expenditure		
History & Archive	2,000	2,000
Public Relations	250	250
Senior Stakeholder Liaison	500	500
MBT Loan	4,000	4,000
Shopify	1,000	255
 Ringing 2030		
Young Ringers	38,200	28,200
Recruitment & Development	19,900	4,000
Environments	2,800	2,800
Technology	3,000	2,000
Young Ringers	1,400	1,000
Total Workgroup & Ringing 2030 Expenditure	81,050	45,005
 Excess Expenditure over Income	 (51,130)	 (40,105)
 Balance of General Fund at 01/01/2026	 146,502	 146,502
 Balance of General Fund at 31/12/2026	 95,372	 106,397

The actual Unrestricted General Fund balance brought forward of £146,502 was approximately £2,500 lower than previously estimated when the budget was set. The budget was set on the assumption that expenditure would exceed income for the year.

The engagement of two part time employees has increased the Statutory Obligations and correspondingly decreased the Ringing 2030 workgroup expenditure.

No repayments have been received in respect of the loan to the Mobile Belfries Trust which is to be repaid within three years from receipts. The Mobile Belfries Trust are providing the Executive with up to date information on a regular basis.

The Shopify website was costing money and as a result it was closed down.

Interest from The Publications Bank Account has been assumed into the General Fund as per the Executive meeting notes of 26 March 2025.

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. Currently, there are no funds available for new 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. No new grants have been awarded this year.

The John Long Bequest for additional bells in St Andrew's & St Paul's Bedford Churches. The balance of the funds to be used to provide loans for sanctus sacring angelus service or bourdon bells in High Anglian Churches. Any residue remaining after 21 years can be used for general purposes of the Central Council.

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 surplus for the year has been amalgamated into the Lloyds Bank Account and the Nat West Account is being closed.

3. Indicative 2027 General Fund Budget

Prior to formal consideration, amendment and approval by the Executive in autumn 2026 the following is presented to Members for information.

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS General Fund – Outline Budget 2027

Income	£
Affiliation Fees	
@ £1.00p per capita	32,920
Associated Societies	500
Small Societies	80
Interest receivable	6,000
Donations & Other Income	500
Total Income	40,000
Expenditure	
Statutory Obligations	
AGM Costs	6,500
Insurance	3,750
Executive	2,000
Public Relations	250
Technical & Taxonomy	1,250
Website Hosting (2 years)	2,500
Employment Costs (3 months)	6,900
Total Statutory Obligations	23,150
Workgroup & Ringing 2030	
Expenditure	
Historical & Archive	500
Senior Stakeholder Liaison	500

	£
Ringling 2030	
Youth Ringling	23,200
Recruitment	
& Development	5,000
Environments	5,000
Total Workgroup & other	
Expenditure	57,350
 Excess Expenditure over	
Income	(17,350)
 Estimated Balance of	
General Fund as at 01/01/2027	106,397
 Estimated Balance of	
General Fund as at 31/12/2027	89,047

Whilst the anticipated budget for 2027 shows an excess expenditure over income due mainly to the anticipated expenditure on Ringling 2030. The budget shows that, when taking into consideration the statutory obligations only, a surplus is achieved. The estimates provided for Ringling 2030 will be more detailed when the budget is set by the Executive in the autumn of 2026. Additionally, some of that expenditure may be carried forward to the following years.

The Insurance will increase in 2027 as a result of the additional costs for employers liability.

The outline budget for 2027 shows the employees not being re-engaged at the end of their contracts. This will be reviewed in greater detail at the Executive budget meeting.

The overall assumption is that for 2026 & 2027 expenditure will exceed income leaving the Council a balance of £89,047 at 31 December 2027 to carry forward to future years. Taking into consideration the reserves policy, of £75,000, this leaves £14,047 available for project spending.



The Coventry Spires



Ringling 2030 Environments

Business as Usual activities

During the year, we have continued to provide advice for ringers, clergy and church authorities. I am grateful to Nina Bryne and Susan Healy who continue to respond to enquiries and complaints around bell noise. In the last twelve months they have responded to ten enquires. In addition, there was an enquiry re the proposed sound control at Christchurch cathedral in New Zealand, thanks to Mike Banks who is providing some advice.

My thanks also go to David Roskelly and James Kircaldy for their ongoing support in handling general enquires.

There has been limited updates to the online publications, however the existing content has been shared with the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association for their members and the CCCBR publications site now has links to the online content.

There are also plans to trial some automated extracts of the online content in pdf format, so that they can be printed off when online reading isn't practical e.g. in the bell chamber.

Anyone who is interested in contributing to any of the documents, please contact me.

Members of the CCCBR Executive and Mark Ogden held their annual meeting with Ecclesiastical Insurance in June.

Ecclesiastical continue to insure most of the churches with bells, although nation-wide pastoral reorganisation and church closures are leading some churches to insure elsewhere. There have been no significant or worrying claims in the last year. Numbers of claims relating to ringing and ringers remain low. Ecclesiastical Insurance continues to operate its Risk Advice Line, available to church

members, with a current policy, to field queries about risk management.

Westley Award

Thanks to the generosity of Tom Westley, it has been possible to restart the "Westley Award" this year.

It is pleasing to note that there have been several nominations for this award, especially as it recognises the contribution made by those who have recently engaged in bell and belfry maintenance. The award will be presented at the AGM.

Church Closures

Thanks to the work started by Alison Hodge and Simon Linford, awareness of the potential closure of churches is now reasonably good. The next challenge is the "so what" as there are costs associated with moving and storing bells. Realistically the CCCBR cannot get involved in all discussions on what to do with bells at risk, however, to help local societies, the aim is to produce a check list of things to consider, once it is known that a church is at risk of closure. This will build on the work originally done by the Redundant Bells Committee. Given that it is not possible to get a faculty once a church closed, a key focus will be to ensure that societies have an opportunity to do preparatory work ahead of any closure.

Professional Engagement

We have continued to work with Birmingham University on there Tower Dynamics initiatives. This has the potential to help more accurately determine the risks associated with any observed structural problems. The hope is that this will reduce unnecessary expensive work and give a more informed view on whether it is safe to ring.

Their work to date was presented at the Diocesan Bell

Advisors conference in Carlisle and was well received.

The University are now offering a cost recovery service to analyse tower dynamics using the latest technology and models. Given the cost of some of the underlying technologies this is likely to be of interest to a wider audience.

To help further this work the CCCBR has agreed a Summer honorarium to help further develop the techniques and models on a local tower.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the workgroup over the past year and who have provided specialist advice from their knowledge as professionals and / or voluntary activities.

Please contact me if you may be interested in helping the Workgroup in any way.

Mark Ogden



Ringling 2030 Recruitment and Development

Overview

Much has been achieved this year. The Ringling 2030 Business Plan, published in the 2025 CCCBR Annual Council Meeting report and available on the CCCBR Website, has provided clarity and direction to our work. We have identified specific activities that relate to our scope of work and ways of working that map to the initiatives listed in the Business Plan. We have mapped those to the relevant purposes set out in the CCCBR rules to our efforts accords with the CCCBR's mandated role. We have then progressed those activities.

I concluded in my 2025 report that "Achieving the Ringling 2030 Recruitment and Development Workgroup' objectives can only be done in concert with other ringing organisations". To do this, we have established an outreach programme of briefings and networking to encourage best practice sharing and to improve visibility of our activities. Alongside these, existing activities continue to provide support to ringing.

Regular planning meetings have been held to promote an integrated approach and progress actions. These are well supported by the team leads for: Development (Lucy Hopkins Till); Recruit, Retain, Regain,

(Bob Blanden & Steph Pendlebury); Leadership Education (Lucy Chandhial) and Regional Courses (Haley Young), and by Jude Deakin who provides the essential administrative support to the workgroup.

Specific Activities

The wider ringing community has been engaged via a series of online briefings and the establishment of the first of a number of ringing community networks. To date (31 May 26) the following briefings have been held: Recruitment and Development (16 Nov 25), Recruit, Retain, Regain team establishment (8 Feb 26) and Volunteering and Leadership role development (17 May 26). We have been learning from experience how best to promote and hold these briefings. These briefings are now being publicised using a wide range of communication channels and have attracted engagement by around a 100 ringers around the world to each of these Sunday evening (UK time) briefings. The attendance has been such that we have moved to a webinar format, replacing the online meeting approach initially used. Meeting recordings and slides have been made available via the 'Briefings' tab on our CCCBR webpage:

<https://ccabr.org.uk/about/workgroups/recruitment-and-development/>

As well as providing visibility of our work, these briefings have elicited valuable shared insights. These have included presentations from various contributors talking about local initiatives that address Recruitment and Development. On the 3R's (Recruit, Retain, Regain) front they helped engage ringers in the 3Rs network.

The 3R team's Recruitment Network Launch was held on 15th Mar 26 with a second meeting on 31st May 26. Recording of these and are to be found on the 'Recruitment Network' tab on our CCCBR webpage. This networking activity should provide a large informal group of helpers to provide ideas and contacts to further recruitment. This will also facilitate the operation of the universal marketing and recruitment portal.

An insight from the Volunteering and Leadership briefing on the 17 May was the perception that getting into volunteer roles is easier than getting out of them. Employing a flexible networking approach may garner more helpers than the volunteer CCCBR workgroup member model.

As reported on last year the CCCBR supported the inaugural South West ringing course was held at Millfield School, Somerset in October 2025. I was going to write on how successful it had been, but Will Bosworth's write up on pages 456 and 457 of Ringing World of the 22 May 26 makes that completely redundant. All I wish to do is to echo his words of appreciation to all the organising team, not forgetting the tutors, helpers and students who made the event so memorable. Of course, the same needs to be said of the North West course which is now firmly established at Borwick Hall, Lancashire in August each year.

Our usual work supplying development aids such as model bells and advice posters continues.

Plans

There is always more that could be done. A key element of providing the energy and drive to achieve more is succession planning. This is a vital part of my workgroup leaders' job, demonstrating to potential volunteers that there is an exit strategy, other than

just walking away, to their roles. My term of office expires in September 2027, finding a replacement is well underway with a plan for a gradual handover this autumn. Succession plan for other roles, particularly the team lead roles are kept under review.

A development network, along the same lines as the recruitment network is needed to address the challenge of set by the CCCBR's started charitable object of "promoting excellence in ringing by encouraging relevant technical and leadership training". It will need to engage a wide range of interested individuals and organisations. Sound development pathways led by able ringers are needed. Without then we risk spending considerable effort recruiting ringers and teaching them to handle, only for them to withdraw from ringing because of a lack of progress opportunities and poor ringing experiences.

Ringing 2030 objectives talked of two new regional courses one of which, the SW course, has been established. These courses form part of the development infrastructure we need. We plan to identify regions where such courses are not currently available and seek suitable ringers in those regions and encouraged them to run them. As with the NW and SW courses the CCCBR can provide loans to get such courses up and running. To be clear, we do not see Regional Courses as the sole answer to ringing's development opportunity challenges. They provide intensive training weekends that support the ongoing work of the numerous enthusiastically led local training centres, affiliated societies and, importantly, individual towers.

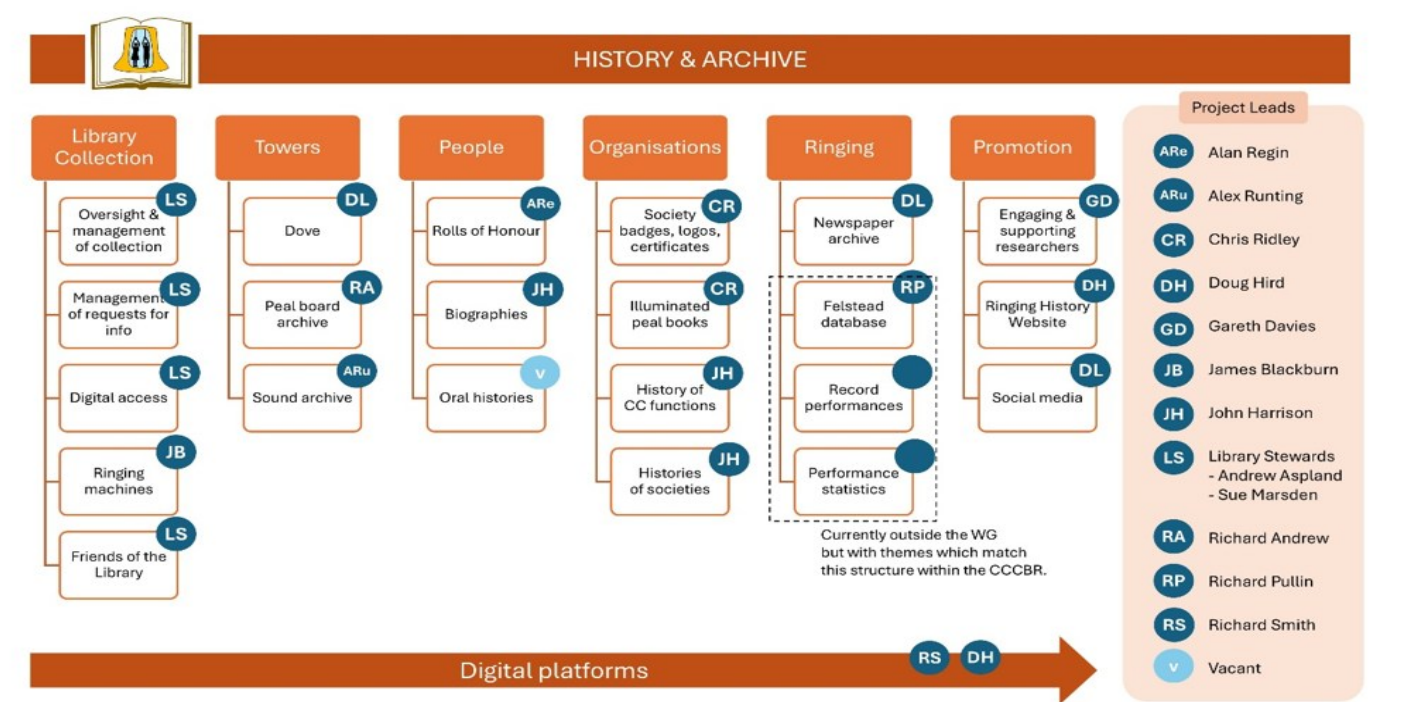
Paul Wotton

Ringing 2030 Recruitment and Development Workgroup Leader



History and Archive

The structure of the group remains unchanged following the review last year, although there is scope for a further review as the projects evolve. The key achievements have been the relaunch of the **Ringing History Hub**, the transition of the Friends of the Library to the **Library Stewards** (although volunteers are sought to assist them in this), a visible start of the transition of the **Peal Board Archive** to BellBoard and its subsequent expansion, and the extension of functionality and data in **Dove** to support a new printed edition. This is in addition to the quiet but significant work by the teams in **Biographies** and **Rolls of Honour** to supplement the vast amount of data already collected.



1. Library Collection

Library

	Andrew Aspland, Sue Marsden – Library Stewards (librarysteward@cccbr.org.uk)
	The Library Stewards are responsible for (a) oversight and management of collection, (b) management of request for info (c) digital access, (d) Friends of the Library newsletter and administration.

(i) Library Collection

The arrangements with the Loughborough Bellfoundry Trust to house the library collection continue to

work well, and parties of ringers are introduced to the archives and library as part of their guided tour.

We were pleased to be able to accept the very special archive of Norman Smith into the library collection during the year. This fascinating collection of papers, memorabilia and physical aids to composing show the workings of a great mind before computer technology was readily available. It is 60 years since the iconic 23-spliced was first rung and we have tantalising clues – a ticket to the Whalley Golf Club Dinner (inspiration for the method name) and Norman Smith's 1966 Ringers Diary showing the various attempts in the build up to success on 31st December that year.

Andrew continues to maintain the collection of annual reports and other periodical publications. We have several newly bound volumes now on the shelves with more to come in the next year. Associations gener-

ously send him copies of their reports and have been helpful in filling some recent gaps with Covid and the library move contributing to those gaps. We welcome Associations to become Friends of the CCCBR Library which helps cover the cost of the binding.

(ii) Library Collection Enquiries and Loans

We have been able to answer an increasing number of enquiries. The ability to provide digital photographs of relevant material, to answer questions relating to the holdings of the library and to point enquirers to other digital archives has diversified the way in which we can respond.

(iii) Friends of the Library

The last Friends newsletter and essay was distributed at the CCCBR meeting in early September and this helped considerably with the costs of postage.

Ian Self has now stepped down as treasurer to the friends, and we are enormously grateful for the work he has done. A successor is needed so if you or someone you know could keep accounts and maintain a database then please let us know.

Friends have been generous in their giving this year, though frustrations with paying electronically (and the long name of the bank account) have made this process more difficult than anticipated. Our financial situation will stabilise once the backlog of binding and other costs associated with the new home of the library have been accounted for.

Ringling Machines

	James Blackburn – Carter Ringing Machine Steward (james.blackburn@cccbr.org.uk)
	Provision for the hosting, care and maintenance of the Carter Ringing Machine and to seek opportunities to make it as widely known and appreciated as possible.

The Carter Ringing Machine is safely at Taylor’s. There are a few additional items of work to be done to support the exhibit, such as the preparation of a user guide to the machine, photographs and a video. Completion of these have be deferred to the forthcoming year owing to personal circumstances.

2. Towers

Dove

	Dickon Love, Tim Jackson, Richard Smith – Stewards of the Dove Database (dove@cccbr.org.uk)
	Responsible for the hosting, care and maintenance of the Dove database. To seek opportunities to make the Dove database as widely used and appreciated as possible.
	Neal Dodge, Ryan Faulkner-Hatt, Kye Leaver, Tim Pett (Dove Clerks) Scott Orr, Chris Pickford (Dove Consultants)

The year has seen a larger focus on completing datasets to drive the production of the next printed edition. This has included the introduction of life-cycle events for rings and compilation of lost rings, each of which has required significant data input as well as development. This has been in addition to the processing of large numbers of daily edits and the maintenance of the data and its quality. We have continued to drive quality using development to minimise inconsistencies and running projects to pick out inaccuracies. However there has also been room to prepare for an extension of scope and work with *The Ringing World* to use Dove as a window to the peal board archive. Our newer team members are embedding into the way Dove works and actively contributing.

(i) Key achievements

Listed buildings status



Back in 2013, a request came from the Church Buildings Council via the CCCBR Committee for Redundant Bells to include listed building grades against each CofE building with a ring of bells. We quickly determined that it would be beneficial for us to also store the individual list entry numbers, and to extend this to other areas of the British Isles. This allows our readers to access further information on the building in a single click. Tim Jackson has been working on this long-term data collection project using existing data sets where possible and undertaking individual research for the rest. This work is now complete, with future updates expected to

be triggered by changes and additions rather than filling in the gaps.

Ring construction



In preparation for later work on the life-cycle events in rings of bells, the concept of 'construction event' has been introduced, marking the point where a ring is deemed to have been created. This required us to define what we mean by a ring and at what point re-modelling constitutes a new ring. In most cases the construction date is obvious from the dates on the bells, and these events have been bulk uploaded into the database. In other cases – particularly when rings are created from various second-hand bells – these events have had to be entered manually. This latter process is ongoing.

Towers which no-longer hold rings



To generate the lists of lost rings in the next edition of the book, Dickon has been entering their details into the database along with information on the bells themselves where known. There are approximately 550 such towers where rings have either been destroyed, transferred or scrapped. As of 1st Jun there are still about 100 towers outstanding. While this information is not yet visible to the public – as further development is required for the front end of the database – it will in due course. We are indebted to the Keltek Trust for sharing their information, and to publications by Nick Bowden and others who have also been collecting lost ring data.

Transferred rings, change of ring type and augmentations



Following the work on construction events, Dove can now hold information on other events in the lifecycle of a ring, specifically if it is transferred from one tower to another, or converts from one ring type to another (such as from a chime to full-circle), or if the ring is augmented/reduced. Again, these

data will support the relevant sections in the next printed edition. Dickon has now entered information on all augmentations/reductions since 2003 from records carefully collected by Tim Jackson.

Peal boards



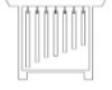
To support the wider H&A Peal Boards Project, Dove now accesses information from BellBoard to retrieve images of peal boards that have been uploaded there, and details of the associated performances. We are indebted to The Ringing World and BellBoard Teams for the co-operation that has made this possible. If you want your peal boards to appear, please create a BellBoard entry for the performance and attach the photograph. If the relevant performance is already there, either ask the person who originally uploaded the entry to attach your photograph or use the Add Photo feature in BellBoard making it clear which performance this relates to. Data are shared between the two systems overnight so updates in one won't instantly appear in the other.

Church in Wales towers



Ryan Faulkner-Hatt (with assistance from Dickon) has now collected data from all the Church in Wales churches from George Dawson's 'National Bell Register', together with data for churches vested in the 'Friends of Friendless Churches'. This is due to be imported during the coming months. Dove doesn't have the same relationship with the Church in Wales as it does with the Church of England, but it is hoped that the presence of this resource will assist heritage decisions in both jurisdictions.

(ii) A few coverage statistics (as at June 2026)

	Collections	1-Jan-25	1-Jan-26	±	1-Jun-26	±
	All full-circle rings	7,937	7,943	+6	7,947	+4
	(At least 3 bells)	7,131	7,129	-2	7,130	+1
	(Of which lightweight)	139	134	-5	137	+3
	Carillons	21	21	+0	21	+0
	Chimes	7,394	7,492	+98	7,514	+22
	Display sets	63	76	+13	112	+36
	Insecure display	38	42	+4	43	+1
	Ancillary sets	1,765	1,842	+77	2,076	+234
	Total	17,218	17,416	+198	17,713	+297
	Empty towers (not yet public)	43	59	+16	147	+88
	Lost collections (not yet public)	136	172	+36	336	+164
	Bells	1-Jan-25	1-Jan-26	±	1-Jun-26	±
	Standard	63,252	63,778	+526	66,350	+2,572
	Hemispherical	256	260	+4	260	+0
	Tubular	1,152	1,187	+35	1,227	+40
	Fragments	48	53	+5	54	+1
	Total	64,708	65,278	+570	67,891	+2,613
	of which destroyed	451	548	+97	1,525	+977
	Bellframes	1-Jan-25	1-Jan-26	±	1-Jun-26	±
	Frames	9,593	9,967	+374	10,164	+197

(iii) Future work to take place in the next year

The focus for the next year will be the production of the new printed edition (12th Edition). Our target is to use data from a point in 2026. We also look to:

- Complete the entry of **lost rings** and bells in the **Church in Wales**;
- Consider extending the scope to bells in **Scotland** and the **Roman Catholic church**;
- Record **events related to individual bells**, e.g. tuning, welding, canon-removal, transfers.
- Data in Dove continues to underpin work with the Bells Committee of the Church Buildings Council and the new framework regarding **bells listed for preservation**.

(iv) The Dove Team

The team continues to be led by **Dickon Love**, with **Tim Jackson** and **Richard Smith** as Dove Stewards.

It is with both gratitude and appreciation we note the retirement of **Tim Pett** as Dove Steward and from the Central Council. Tim has served in this role since 2017 and in that time has been part of the team overseeing the move to the new database, contributing to design and testing. Once the new database was launched, he processed the majority of newly submitted updates from the ringing community. As at 1st June he had processed 25,643 database updates relating to about 10,993 individual towers, with the first of these on 24 Feb 2020. It is also particularly welcome news that Tim will continue to work with the team processing updates, so will very much remain in the forefront of Dove activities. Thank you Tim for your commitment over the past decade and all you’ve done to make Dove what it is.

Richard Smith is the Lead Developer. They are assisted by Dove Clerks: **Neal Dodge**, **Kye Leaver** and **Ryan Faulkner-Hatt**. **Doug Davis** maintains the *DoveTickets* software that organises the practicalities of passing updates to the team. **Chris Pickford** acts as a consultant on bellframes and many items historical, and **Scott Orr** (Secretary of the Carillon Society of Great Britain and Ireland) leads on carillons.

Our thanks go to everyone who contributes to Dove with new and amended data, be they members of the bell industry, bell advisors throughout the country, or simply individuals clearly passionate about interacting with and enriching this important resource.

Peal Board Archive

	Richard (richard.andrew@cccbr.org.uk)	Andrew
	Establish a database of peal boards to contain photographs and other ancillary information that can be used to provide interest to those who like to browse what hangs on ringing room walls and provide information on analysis on e.g. old peal boards, peal boards erected for certain occasions, etc.	
	Jim Bence, Cath Coleman	

Over the past year, members of the Peal Board Recording Project have continued to load received photos to the group’s peal boards database, although progress has not been as good as hoped for, as all members of the group have had limited time for this task due to other commitments.

A steady stream of peal board photos has continued to be received from various parts of England, particularly from areas such as Gloucestershire, where Pat Halls has done a lot of work in coordinating the sending of photos to us. Significant numbers of photos have also been received from notable towers like Nottingham, St Mary and towers in Chippenham. Offers to supply peal board photos have recently been received from towers in Herefordshire, and also the Wirral area of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

Since May last year, the team has collectively loaded just over 150 peal board photos to our database, so that overall, we have now loaded 667 peal board photos recording 732 peals in all. However, there are still a significant outstanding number of received photos still to be loaded, which will be tackled as and when time and resources permit.

In addition to the peal board photos loaded direct to our database, there are also a significant number (probably well into the hundreds) loaded to BellBoard and linked to performances, and also set an indicator to ‘Allow sharing with the Central Council’s peal board database’. The BellBoard team has started making changes to introduce a new way to collect and access these peal board photos. It is already possible to go to a tower entry in the Dove database and click on a new ‘View peal boards on BellBoard’ link which will then show the user all the available peal board photos for that tower, with links to associated performances. We look forward to establishing closer links between BellBoard and the H&A peal boards database to allow additional data on individual peal boards to be included.

Once these changes have been made, we should have a clearer way forward for the project, and then hopefully be able to make greater inroads into the outstanding number of peal board photos waiting to be loaded

Sound Archive

	Alexander Runting (runtingaw@live.com), Phillip Orme
	Establish an archive of sound recordings of rings of bells.

Following initial development on the Dove database to upload sound recordings of ringing in different towers, testing has led to the conclusion that a better technical solution can be found. The development work to implement this solution has yet to be completed.

We are pleased that Phillip Orme has assessed the recordings he has in the ‘Bells on Sunday’ collection and we are poised to import these once the main development has been completed. We are equally pleased that Phillip has agreed to maintain this on an ongoing basis in parallel with his work with the BBC.

The recording of individual bells such as might be used for Wavanal analysis is considered out of scope for this project.

3. People

	Alan Regin – Steward of the Rolls of Honour (rollsofhonour@cccbr.org.uk)
	Provision for the hosting, care and maintenance of the Rolls of Honour and search for opportunities to make the Rolls of Honour as widely used and appreciated as possible.

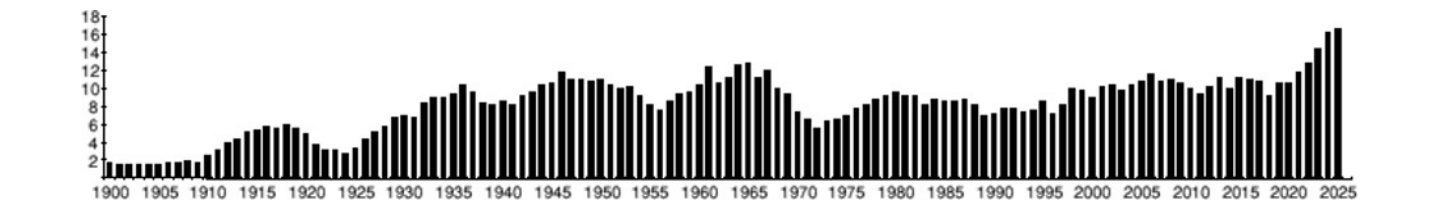
Rolls of Honour

There are currently 1,745 ringers remembered in the Great War Rolls of Honour including 29 that have been added in the past twelve months. The WWII Roll of Honour remembers 399 ringers, 1 has been added in the past twelve months. A large number still need to be added to the handwritten rolls, but it is hoped this can be undertaken in due course. We are most grateful to Yvonne Cairns and Annie Davies who assist hugely with family history research, and we would also like to thank Chris Turner and Keith Butter, both Lincoln Diocesan Guild, who have assisted in verify some of the new finds. Many of those remembered have had their background information enhanced and it is hoped that much of this additional information can be added to the Rolls of Honour website over the next twelve months.

Biographies

	John Harrison (biographies@cccbr.org.uk)
	To collect information of interest on ringers from the past and make available to the public for browsing and to researchers to support their activities.
	More team members sought

The main aim of biographies work is to enhance the



growing collection of information about the lives of former ringers available from the Ringing History Hub at: history.cccbr.org.uk. It holds references to nearly 14,000 people with 80 – 100 added in an average year. The content includes CC biographies, Prolific Peal Ringer articles, Published obituaries, Ringers killed in war, Tributes (courtesy of ASCY) and Author Biographies (courtesy Whiting Society) and some online society obituaries.

For deceased Council members not covered by any of the above we use information submitted by the member or readily available from other sources to create a basic record. We are currently working through a backlog of these cases from previous years.

The former Biographies Committee used to research and write up the lives of notable ringers but we no longer have the resources to do that and the access we provide to published obituaries now meets much of the need.

We would welcome offers from anyone interested in biographical work or from any society or individual that has online material of biographic interest and would like it to be linked from the indexes on the ringing history website. Please contact John Harrison biographies@cccbr.org.uk for more information.

We aim to record the deaths of all members or former members of the Council. The numbers vary each year but the trend has been upwards in recent years. In 2026 there were 12 before the end of may, which pro-rata for the whole year would be the highest so far.

4. Organisations

Society Badges, Logos & Certificates

	Chris Ridley (chris.ridley@cccbr.org.uk)
	Establish an archive of the ringing society badges, logos and certificates together with a digital archive of their photographs, not confined to members of the CCCBR. To make the archive accessible to those taking an interest.

The archive continues to be maintained and added to under the expert curation of Chris Ridley. This is all accessed from the Ringing History Hub.

5. Ringing

Newspaper Archive

	Dickon Love (dickon@lovesguide.com)
	Establish an archive of newspaper extracts related to ringing, towers and ringers. To make the archive accessible to those who like to simply browse and those looking to conduct research on ringing, towers and ringers
	Chris Ridley

The archive is in place of newspaper extracts by John Eisel covering the period 1647 to 1845, which is a significantly larger collection of extracts than the material already published (around 40% more than previously published in the 5 volumes of Order and Disorder). Whilst the PDFs are currently searchable, the plan is to fully index these records so that they can be accessed either through *Dove* or the biographies pages of *Ringing History*. We are grateful to John for allowing this to be added.

Digital Platforms

Ringing History Hub

	Doug Hird (doug.hird@cccbr.org.uk)
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The principal portal for information gathered for this workgroup aside from *Dove* is found at <https://history.cccbr.org.uk> and is maintained by Doug Hird. During the year, the entire website has been reformatted to terms of layout and presentation to reflect ever changing modern trends and compatibility with new device and format requirements. It has also been rebranded the “Ringing History Hub”.

Work has also taken place to enhance the connections with *Dove*, and *Dove* can now be used to access peal board pictures and biographies. Further work is taking place to capture all the relevant links.



Marketing

Over the period from late 2025 to June 2026, the Marketing Workgroup has been reconstituted and developed into a more structured and effective body supporting the *Ringling* 2030 initiative. The group has progressed from limited capacity to clearer direction and increasing momentum.

Following the departure of Public Relations Officer Angela Elliott due to personal workload commitments, the workgroup experienced a gap in communications leadership. This prompted an early focus on rebuilding coordination and clarifying ownership of outward communications, including consideration of appointing a communications lead.

A key milestone was the open meeting on 18 January 2026, led by the President and Deputy President. This session established the strategic context for marketing and public relations, emphasising coordinated activity at national and local levels, and the importance of making bell ringing more accessible through effective communication and engagement. It also initiated the rebuilding of the workgroup by encouraging volunteers to support a reformed national marketing function and deliver a coordinated awareness campaign for Ringing 2030.

This call generated strong interest, with individuals offering support and helping establish a broader, including international, base of engagement.

As workgroup sponsor, Vicki Chapman set about reestablishing the group. Early 2026 activity focused on reconvening members and those who expressed interest at the January session, restating purpose, establishing communication channels, agreeing a regular meeting cycle, and clarifying the group's role in recruitment, brand awareness, and inclusive engagement.

With these foundations in place, the workgroup refined its strategic priorities. A consistent focus has been broadening participation, particularly addressing under-representation among those aged 20–40. This includes shifting the narrative to present bell ringing as a social, community-based activity with wellbeing benefits.

The January session also provided clarity on the distinction between awareness and recruitment, highlighting the importance of awareness-building for sustainable growth. This has informed a more balanced campaign approach.

A major strand of work has been the redevelopment of marketing materials. Existing resources were identified as outdated, leading to a structured redesign focused on clearer messaging, modern visual identity, and alignment with current branding. This includes more diverse, people-focused imagery. New leaflets are expected shortly, while existing materials continue to be distributed, thanks to John Harrison.

The Council's Canva account provides branded templates, with licences available to Associations on request. Contact gemma.groom@cccbr.org.uk to discover more.

The workgroup has also explored ways to reach new audiences, emphasising engagement through community networks and encouraging ringers to share personal stories. Challenges remain, including accessibility issues and limited reach of current communication channels.

A significant step forward was the appointment of Gemma Groom as Marketing and Administration Officer in May 2026. This strengthened capacity and enabled a more coherent digital strategy focused on storytelling, community connection, and engagement across platforms such as Instagram, YouTube, and Facebook, and exploring others.

Gemma's role also supports planning for a ringing census, and coordinated campaigns such as Heritage Open Days following the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage application, while ensuring alignment between wider messaging and local delivery.

Overall, the period reflects recovery, consolidation, and growing ambition. By June 2026, the workgroup is operating with greater coherence, stronger coordination, and clearer strategic frameworks, supported by renewed participation. It is now better positioned to contribute to the long-term success of Ringing 2030.

To build on this momentum, we warmly encourage anyone with enthusiasm, relevant expertise, or technical skills—whether in marketing, communications, digital content, data, or storytelling—to join the Marketing Workgroup. Fresh ideas and practical contributions are key to progressing our ambitions, and new members will play an important role in shaping and delivering impactful initiatives for the future.

vicki.chapman@cccbr.org.uk
Ringing 2030 Marketing Workgroup Executive Sponsor



Young Ringers for Ringing 2030

1 Introduction

The Young Ringers for Ringing 2030 workgroup have been really busy since May 2025. We have started to deliver the benefits of the projects we're leading and have a plan to get the remaining projects over the line and move the workgroup on to a more "business as usual" stage.

Progress was really helped by the engagement of the 2025 Summer Honorariums, some of whom you met in Sheffield, who supported the content development and build of the Young Ringers Hub and progressed the school lesson plans project.

2 Progress from May 2025 to May 2026

The [Young Ringers Hub – Young Ringers Hub](#) website is now live and consists of four sub sites – University Ringing, Under 18s, a Library of information and resources for young ringers and leaders and a Development Pathways site.

[UniversityRinging](#) has been launched and has replaced the excellent site previously developed by Jacqui Brown. The site is complete apart from the Resources section and the 2026 Summer Honorariums are working through the actions to complete this in time for the new term. The content of the Resources section was informed by the Survey conducted last year by Adrian Sweeting.

The site includes a comprehensive list of active societies, with contact details, socials, Bellboard links, websites, maps and photos. There is also a list of other societies that welcome young ringers where there isn't a student society, along with their contact details. It also has a neat feature, whereby if you search for somewhere that isn't listed, you'll get a "contact us" message which will be directed to the workgroup.

To create this resource, we looked at the top 150 plus educational establishments by enrolment and made sure that all of these were covered by one of the entries.

The workgroup will reach out to societies to make sure that details are kept up to date as part of its business-as-usual role.

The site also includes a section on learning to ring and a detailed events section, which chronicles the NUA and SUA as far back as 1960!

The U18 Ringing site is now live and contains details of all the youth groups, plus association contacts where youth groups don't exist. There's quite a lot of work to do on this to complete the various sections, which include why ring / learn to ring, competitions, schools, uniformed groups and information for parents / carers. This will be carried out by the 2026 Honorariums. *Note that the RWNYC will remain a standalone competition with its own rules, website etc with links to / from the YRH.*

The U18 site will also host the school lesson plans, bell club playbooks and other useful materials. We're also working with Derbyshire ringers and scouts to build on the work they have done and roll this out nationally.

We now have Josephine Leggett on board as Youth Development Officer, which is fantastic and has been a game changer for the workgroup.

3 Plans for May 2026 to May 2027

We have two new summer honorariums on board from June to September 2026. A lesson learned from 2025 was to have a really detailed set of tasks for them and enable them to hit the ground running in June. We have a detailed action plan and handovers are taking place in June between them and the existing team. Thanks to Lucas Williams, Oliver Bennett and Nikolai Komar for the really great work you have done and welcome to Clara Waller and Oliver Townson.

We will be launching the YRH site shortly after the RWNYC. We will get the landing page ready for this and as much of the other sites as possible, with further development continuing after the launch.

We have some great YRH leaflets that we're distributing at the National 12 bell contest on 20th June and at the RWNYS on 4th July (including via the medal bags). It is designed so that it doesn't become out of date, as changes are made the YRH and links to the website. It has a QR code that takes you to the YRH, plus has details of the YRH and dedicated University Ringing socials. We'll make these available to print at home or via a printing company as part of the launch.

The key things we'll be working on over the summer and beyond are as follows:

- Completion of University Ringing
- Completion of the Under 18s site
- Roll out of the uniformed groups playbook and badge sponsorship proposal
- Marketing and roll out of school lesson plans
- Bell club playbook roll out
- Population of the Library with new and existing materials / links
- Customisable DofE fliers
- Social media plan
- Sustainability plan for the YRH

We will pick up the Development Pathways piece as the next big initiative, once the YRH is launched. The objective of this is to create the infrastructure, focussed on existing centres of excellence, to enable opportunities to develop young ringers and plug the leaky pipeline of young ringers. We're scoping this at the moment, using experience from initiatives such as Cast of 1000 and the Young Change Ringers Association to inform how we do this. We will produce some proposals and invite feedback and ideas.

We are also looking for new people to joining the workgroup.

Andrea Haynes is stepping down as workgroup lead at the end of 2026 after two and a half years in the role. There will be some outstanding project work to deliver, but the main focus of the new WG lead will be to manage the transition into business as usual and make sure that the YRH is maintained.

We are also recruiting for a replacement Youth Development Officer, as Josephine Leggett has secured a job in the field that she studied for her Masters. Con-

gratulations Jose! The role is being advertised in June and will be an 8-month fixed term part-time contract.

4 Summary

- We've achieved a lot with some really good and dedicated people
- We've still got a lot to do
- We are very short of volunteers to support the workgroup

Please contact us if you are interested in supporting us or have any updates or information that could be useful, via the YRH [Contact – Young Ringers Hub](#) or direct to YR@cccbr.org.uk

Andrea Haynes

Workgroup Lead

Andrea.haynes@cccbr.org.uk





Publications

The last twelve months has again seen sales at a very high level for our titles, both existing ones and some new offerings. This was also boosted at the 2025 annual meeting weekend and roadshow with book sales of a total value of almost £2000. Some of those titles that were beginning to look old fashioned have now been updated. Most recently one title, Learning Methods, that had only been available as a download has been put back into print in a more modern looking format. The majority of this work has been carried out by Jim Bence with assistance from Laura Kang Ward.

Jim and Sarah Bence have continued in their role of management and distribution of our stock. Other improvements have been made by them in dealing with our publications including how and where we advertise. This has managed to reach a new and wider audience of ringers interested in purchasing books. There are more new titles currently in the pipeline, being worked on by different authors, and it

is hoped that at least some of these will be available later in 2026. One item, that in the past, we have had difficulty sourcing is model bells; a supplier has now been found by Lucy Hopkins-Till and these are available via the online shop. In addition, some online offerings from other workgroups may be moved to a central location in the online shop.

The distribution is still with Royal Mail but this is always under review, especially given the ever rising cost involved and in some cases the slow delivery. Thanks are due to those mentioned above for all their hard work during the year, especially Jim and Sarah Bence who have managed to keep stock and distribution under control even through a protracted house move.

DAVID KIRKCALDY

Pub Title	Opening stock	New stock deliveries	Total stock	Total sales	Remaining stock	Item Value	Total Sales Value
A Tutor's Handbook	45	0	45	3	42	£4.50	£13.50
Badge Blue	83	0	83	62	21	£0.95	£58.90
Badge Green	49	0	49	47	2	£0.95	£44.65
Badge Gold	72	0	72	47	25	£0.95	£44.65
Badge Red	70	0	70	62	8	£0.95	£58.90
Beginners Grandsire	58	0	58	19	39	£4.50	£85.50
Beginners Handbook	16	0	16	11	5	£5.25	£57.75
Beginners Plain Bob	75	0	75	22	53	£4.50	£99.00
Beginners Stedman	88	0	88	25	63	£4.95	£123.75
Beginners guide to Bobs and singles	94	0	94	27	67	£4.95	£133.65
Beginners guide to Better Striking	103	0	103	16	87	£4.25	£68.00
Bell Club inc badges 4 for	85		85	5	80	£13.00	£65.00
Bell Club Cards only 10 for	304		304	75	229	£7.50	£562.50
Belfrey Prayers for the church year	80	0	80	11	69	£4.95	£54.45
Change Ringing History Vol 1 NLA	0		0	0	0	£5.00	£0.00
Change Ringing History Vol 3	8		8	3	5	£5.00	£15.00
Dove's Guide	106	0	106	31	75	£17.00	£527.00
Easy stages plain bob grandsire Leaflets 5 for	30	400	430	80	350	£5.00	£400.00
Follow-on-Book 5 for	466	0	466	86	380	£7.75	£666.50
Giants of the Exercise Vol 1 ("Vol 2)	17		17	0	17	£5.00	£0.00
Kaleidoscope Ringing	6	0	6	6	0	£4.50	£27.00
Manual of Belfry Maintenance	37	100	137	46	91	£14.00	£644.00
Model Bells	0	0	0	30	-30	£65.00	£1,950.00
New Ringers Book	198	0	198	73	125	£13.95	£1,018.35
One-per-Learner 5 for	1958	0	1958	0	1958	£7.75	£0.00
Orange & Lemons Print	21		35	2	33	£8.00	£16.00
Posters CCCBR		0		56	-56	£7.50	£420.00
Pitman"	15	0	15	0	15	£7.50	£0.00
Raising and Lowering	92	0	92	26	66	£5.50	£143.00
Ringing Circles	366	0	366	58	308	£5.95	£345.10
Service Touches	40	0	40	18	22	£4.95	£89.10
Splicing Bell Ropes	31	264	295	24	271	£5.75	£138.00
Will You Call a Touch Please Bob	73	0	73	17	56	£5.95	£101.15
20 Questions	115	300	415	140	275	£7.50	£1,050.00
Total	4801	1064	5879	128	4567		£9,020.40



Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Team is sponsored by Ian Roulstone as CCCBR Trustee with team members June Wells, Chris Enzor, Pam Thomson and Emma Jarvis. The Team has a monthly virtual safeguarding meeting. In these meetings the Team, in response to members' concerns, has continued to look at the area of safeguarding training, specifically in relation to the Leadership Pathway requirement and its relevance to ringing. In February 2026, Sean Augustin (Chester Diocesan Safeguarding Officer) was invited to attend a meeting to discuss a model for safeguarding training for ringers developed in Chester Diocese. This has led to a dialogue between the Safeguarding Team and two senior members of the National Safeguarding Team (NST): Willma King (Learning and Development Manager) and Ian Bowles (Senior Caseworker). Three key issues for discussion have been put to the NST:

1. Safeguarding and the peripatetic nature of ringing

Ringers do not only ring in their home towers, or indeed in towers in the same Diocese. They attend ringing activities and training within their own Guilds and Associations, and national events. Ringers arrange outings to different towers beyond those within their own Guild or Association. We believe that any safeguarding risks or concerns associated with these activities can be managed.

- Can you support the CCCBR in developing a model that is acceptable to the NST that supports such activities?

2. Ringers and the PSO

For safeguarding guidance, ringers are expected to consult their PSO, as would any other volunteer within their parish church.

- Bearing in mind the peripatetic nature of ringing, how should ringers work with PSOs to ensure safeguarding measures are applied effectively and consistently?

3. Leadership Training

Many of our members are concerned that the Leadership Training has little bearing on their role as a Tower Captain/Ringing Master.

- How can the CCCBR best work with the NST to ensure both the content and delivery of safeguarding training is more ringer specific?

The Team continues to update information on the CCCBR website, having uploaded the following documents:

1. Key Contacts
2. Safeguarding Organisation (including Council's Safeguarding Organisation and Council's Safeguarding Terms of Reference)
3. Information for Diocesan Safeguarding Teams
4. Maintaining a Safe Environment in the Belfry for Young People
5. Safeguarding Policy and Procedures Documents
6. Permission to Ring Form
7. Policy Guidance on Photography, Video and Audio Recording

The Team has set up and continues to monitor a Safeguarding Forum (as part of *Ringling Forums*) for Association and Guild Safeguarding Officers to disseminate information and promote discussion. Emails to the Safeguarding Team continue to be monitored and responded to, often signposting the sender to appropriate local advice, as the Safeguarding Team does not engage with the resolution of individual cases.

We have established a working relationship with the Church in Wales Provincial Safeguarding Team, who have assisted in providing helpful comments on some key documentation. They had already taken on board some material produced by the CCCBR designed to make their higher level safeguarding training more relevant for ringers. We are presently exploring establishing similar links with the Church of Scotland.



Technical & Taxonomy

Methods: Framework Formatting

Graham John is working to separate the substantive content of the Framework from its presentation format. Under this approach, the content would be maintained in a single structured format, such as XML, and then rendered through different interfaces depending on the intended output – for example, as a PDF, a desktop website, or a mobile optimized version.

A comprehensive review of the extension portion of the Framework is planned as the next major effort. The current plan is to prepare for this review to be undertaken in 2027, given the anticipated level of effort and availability. The review is expected to require several hundred hours to complete.

Other Business

Other current work remains largely business as usual, including responding to inquiries regarding methods, providing guidance on extensions, and addressing method naming conventions. As of July 2026, the Framework includes more than 25,100 methods, and CompLib contains more than 85,000 compositions. In addition, there are several early-stage project ideas that require further development and prioritization by the T&T Workgroup.

Kira Chase
Technical and Taxonomy WG Lead



Technology for Ringing 2030

Despite some conflicting priorities and reduced resources, efforts have been made to get the Ringing Recruitment portal back on track.

Research on the ringing journey has been updated to consider the wider context and experience. The new marketing lead will be working with local contacts going forward.

Content has been created to describe Bell Ringing and its skill, by the RRR group, and this has been incorporated into the site. An engagement portal is to be deployed for the summer to capture the enquiries, and follow their journey.

Other projects are under consideration but as yet not resourced.

Martyn Bristow—Technology for Ringing 2030 WG Lead



Bell Restoration Fund

Until new income is received by the Fund, there is no work required of the Panel as a whole.

In the meantime the Fund Administrator continues to deal with enquiries for assistance and progresses payment of approved grants.

Chris Birkby, Keith Brown, Peter Kirby, Ian Oram (Fund Administrator)



Performance Analysis

The Peals Analysis

We have recorded a total of 3756 peals rung in 2025 and published by The Ringing World via Bellboard up to March 31st 2025, of which 3038 were on tower bells and 717 on handbells. There was one using simulated bells. There were no peals recorded using distributed technology. The overall total has increased slightly from 2024. The figures for the last few years are shown in the table below from which it can be seen that whilst 2021 total was dramatically affected by the COVID pandemic and the lockdown ban on ringing, recovery has continued and numbers are now heading towards the levels from before COVID. Full details are included in the methods table that accompanies this report.

	Tower Bell	Hand Bell	Simulated / Distributed	Total
2025	3038	717	1 + 0	3756
2024	2908	675	0 + 3	3586
2023	2992	637	0 + 0	3629
2022	2646	732	0 + 0	3378
2021	826	740	0+10	1576
2020	791	626	1+10	1428
2019	3750	780	3+0	4533
2018	3895	758		4653
2017	3890	846		4737
2016	4033	880		4913

The Ancient Society of College Youths is the leading affiliated society with 352 peals, followed by the Yorkshire Association with 219 peals, and the Oxford Diocesan Guild with 173. The leading society for handbell peals in 2022 was the Guild of St Cuileain with 109, followed by the Oxford Diocesan Guild with 73, the Chester Diocesan Guild with 64 and the Ancient Society of College Youths with 63. Please see separate tables for details of peals rung for each society and by method / method type.

Once again the data has been taken from Bellboard via the API and then some data normalisation takes place. This does allow some analysis to be performed on Quarter Peal, which can be seen after the peals.

Record peals

There was one record peal rung in 2025.

Leading Towers

This year the report returns to showing the towers where 10 or more peals were rung in the year.

- 44 Huntsham
- 43 Sproxtton
- 37 City of London, S James Garlickhythe

- 33 Leeds, Cath S Anne
- 30 Lundy Island
- 22 Uffculme, The Piglet Ring
- 20 City of London, S Magnus; Milton; Thirkleby
- 17 Birmingham, Cath S Philip; Oxford, S Thomas the Martyr
- 16 Awbridge; Bishopstoke; City of London, S Mary le Bow
- 15 Burton Latimer; City of London, S Michael, Cornhill; Coseley; Meldreth; Ston Easton; Worcester, S Martin;
- 13 East Huntspill, Little Orchard; Kingsteignton, The 'LB' Campanile; Wadenhoe
- 12 Dordrecht, 't Kloekhuys; Terling; Worcester, All Saints
- 11 Bristol, S John on the Wall; Edgbaston; Middleton; Rothwell (Northants)
- 10 Belper; Bristol, Cath; Dordrecht (Grote Kerk); Keele, Woodlands; Liverpool, Pier Head; Saltby; Tulloch, Ringing Centre; Worcester, Cath

Handbell peals have had a small decline compared to 2024, and these are the locations where 10 or more have been run:

- 67 Reading, 26 Redlands Road
- 38 Hitchin, 2 Orchard Road
- 29 Bosham, Little Creed Cottage, Green Lane; Tilehurst, 15 Lytham End
- 27 Poynton, 2 Adlington Close
- 21 Bacton, 2 Pretymen Avenue
- 20 Willaston, 14 Park Road
- 16 Fleet, 20, Burnside; Whimble, 17 Bramley Gardens
- 15 Kidlington, 245 Wilsdon Way; Northallerton, 19 The Green, Romanby
- 14 Aston Rowant, The White House; Cambridge, 102 Mawson Road
- 13 Tewkesbury, 23 Grayston Close; Willingham, 53 Covent Garden
- 11 Godmanchester, The Old Post Office; New Alresford, Jubilee, New Farm Rd; Peterborough, 5 Woodfield Road; Southampton, 60 Liverpool Street
- 10 Pimlico, St Saviour

First pealers and firsts as conductor

146 ringers rang their first peal in 2025. This is 41 more than the low point in 2024 and hopefully a sign of stabilisation.

There were 6 new conductors in 2025, a very significant drop compared to 2024 (36).

Report of The Steward of the Felstead Database

Since last year's report 25 newly discovered peals have been added to the Felstead database and 32 existing peals amended. (These are all prior to 1990 – anything after 1989 is dealt with by my esteemed colleague Drew Craddock.) These numbers are down on last year's, which is predominantly due to a current backlog caused by a house move in June. I plan to get fully up to date in August and am grateful to all contributors for their patience.

When making corrections to peals it is inevitable that the overall peal total will be affected for some towers. Some peals are withdrawn if found to be

false or – in more unusual cases – turn out to have been rung somewhere else. So was the case at St Mowden's, Burton-on-Trent, where a peal of Double Norwich dated 25th February 1892 had to be removed from Felstead as it turned out to be a transcription error for a peal at St Giles-in-the-Fields on the same page of *Bell News*. Similarly, a peal originally given under Ashted (02.07.1890) had to be changed to Carshalton, as did a peal at Redenhall (14.06.1880) which was actually rung at Kenninghall. Accuracy should always beat emotional pride, and it's worth bearing in mind that the 100th peal being celebrated at your home tower... may not be!

A newly discovered peal at Aston-on-Trent dates from as recently as September 1949. A few other 20th century peals were discovered and added, from Shotesham, Hartest, Bramfield, Chediston and Pettistree.

My thanks to all contributors.

First peals in methods on Tower Bells.

- January
- 1 5056 Oakham D Major Peterboro DG
 - 2 5184 Eveski S Major Worcs & Dist
 - 8 5024 Charnmouth D Major Yorks A
 - 11 5120 Gotham S Major Trent Valley A
 - 12 5088 Daybrook D Major Trent Valley A
 - 18 5088 Brachioradialis S Major S Olaves S
 - 19 5040 Octoginta TP Minimus Lincoln DG
 - 25 5056 BUSCR S Major Birmingham US
 - 25 5152 Storm D Major Bath & Wells DA
 - 26 5040 Trim A Major ANZAB
 - 28 5092 Wallgate A Royal Trent Valley A
 - 29 5152 Wollaton Park D Major Lincoln DG
 - 31 5152 Derwent Valley D Major Lincoln DG

- February
- 1 5152 Settle D Major Yorks A
 - 7 5040 Murrayville D Royal Peterboro DG
 - 8 5040 Oxford TP Singles Barrow & D S
 - 15 5040 East Haddon Bob Doubles Peterboro DG
 - 15 5040 Tewin S Royal Derby DA
 - 16 5040 Allexton TP Minimus Lincoln DG
 - 19 5152 Bensham D Major Lincoln DG
 - 25 5040 Framland TP Royal Trent Valley A

- March
- 8 5096 Yatton A Major Yorks A
 - 15 5040 Syndale Farm S Royal Nonsuch Assoc
 - 16 5040 Hougham TP Minimus Lincoln DG
 - 19 5152 Blackhill D Major Lincoln DG
 - 25 5040 Jordanhill S Royal Trent Valley A
 - 26 5152 Benfieldside D Major Lincoln DG

- April
- 6 5040 DCXCIX TP Minimus Lincoln DG
 - 9 5152 Wallington Hall D Major Lincoln DG
 - 13 5042 Southern Cross S Maximus ANZAB
 - 22 5076 Railsgate A Royal Trent Valley A
 - 30 5024 Waldershaigh D Major Yorks A

- May
- 6 5152 Moxadrinks S Major Peterboro DG
 - 8 5152 V E 80 S Major Bath & Wells DA
 - 9 5024 Liberation Day S Major G&B DA
 - 18 5040 Swinstead TP Minimus Lincoln DG
 - 21 5040 Coleshill A Major Lincoln DG
 - 29 5136 Smeg S Maximus St James G

June					
6	5104 Gospelgate A Royal	Peterboro DG	17	5012 Roch Valley A Major	Lancs A
7	5152 Silver Wedding D Major	Bath & Wells DA	18	5024 Carolina Reaper TB Major	Derby DA
11	5040 Pondsbury S Royal	Lundy IS	21	5040 Fawltly Towers TB Minimus	Lincoln DG
14	5080 Breadsall S Royal	Derby DA	22	5056 Felix D Major	Devonshire G
16	5152 Bishop Sophie D Major	Coventry DG	24	5040 Gentian A Major	Lincoln DG
18	5088 King's Castle S Major	Bath & Wells DA	26	5056 Zetland Road S Major	S Michaels S
21	5100 Nicene Creed A Major	Chester DG			
22	5152 Mystic Cave D Major	ASCY	October		
24	5148 Zeagate A Royal	Trent Valley A	7	5040 Mosstown A Major	S&N DG
29	5040 South Luffenham TP Minimus	Lincoln DG	15	5152 Castle of Comfort S Major	Bath & Wells DA
July			19	5040 Wheelie Bin TP Minimus	Lincoln DG
2	5152 Seaham D Major	Lincoln DG	22	5152 Bywell D Major	Lincoln DG
5	5012 Bulwell A Major	S&N DG	31	5024 Yarnfield Green D Major	Ely DA
16	5024 St Silas D Major	Lancs A	November		
20	5040 Moon Day TP Minimus	Lincoln DG	1	5152 All Saints Day S Major	Oxford DG
23	5040 Allendale A Major	Lincoln DG	9	5040 Ode of Remembrance TP Minor	Peterboro DG
25	5040 Mincinglake S Royal	Devonshire G	12	5152 Chester Le Street D Major	Lincoln DG
26	5056 New Balderton S Major	Around R	14	5070 Esh Winning A Major	SRCY
August			16	5040 Princess Gwenllian TP Minimus	Lincoln DG
2	5088 North Curry S Major	Bath & Wells DA	26	5152 Anfield D Major	Lincoln DG
3	5040 Lyndon TP Minimus	Lincoln DG	December		
6	5152 High Marley Hill D Major	Lincoln DG	1	5024 Semicentenary D Major	SRCY
10	5184 Monken Hadley D Major	S Olaves S	3	5152 Ponteland D Major	Lincoln DG
16	5056 Hillside D Major	S Northants S	5	5040 Cheaney S Royal	Peterboro DG
17	5040 Holbeach TP Minimus	Lincoln DG	6	5152 South Carolina S Major	NAG
20	5096 Bardon Mill A Major	Lincoln DG	10	5152 Blaydon D Major	Lincoln DG
20	5024 Peace D Major	Bath & Wells DA	20	5184 North America S Major	Peterboro DG
28	5012 Drone Valley A Major	Trent Valley A	23	5076 Rivergate A Royal	Trent Valley A
29	5088 Royals Green D Major	Ely DA	28	5040 Chugga Chugga Choo Choo TP Minimus	Lincoln DG
September			31	5088 Clare Park S Major	Bath & Wells DA
3	5152 Silk Willoughby S Major	Lincoln DG			
10	5040 Ovingham A Major	Lincoln DG			
17	5152 Beamish S Major	Lincoln DG			

First peals in methods on Handbells

January		
16	5088 Gallowtree Gate S Maximus	Oxford DG
February		
13	5040 Indesit S Maximus	Oxford DG
March		
18	5056 Tuesday S Major	G St Cuileain
25	5088 Neodymium S Major	G St Cuileain
April		
27	5088 Queensbridge D Major	G St Cuileain
28	5040 Higgledy Piggledy TP Minimus	Sheffield UG
28	5040 Single Court PI Minimus	Sheffield UG
28	5040 Double Court PI Minimus	Sheffield UG
May		
1	5040 Uruk-Hai S Maximus	G St Cuileain
August		
29	5088 Xenolite S Major	Yorks A
October		
2	5090 Chiltern Turbo S Maximus	ASCY
December		
22	5120 Scary Canary S Major	G St Cuileain
24	5152 Zigongosaurus S Major	G St Cuileain

Record peal on Tower Bells

August		
25	15009 Spliced Caters and Royal (6m)	SRCY

Quarter and Half Peals Analysis

The available data from BellBoard have been used to make an analysis of Quarter Peals and Half Peals, using the same basis for classification in our analyses as previously.

We have this year sought to make the analysis by region more robust by linking them better to areas covered by territorial and other societies. This is to provide better data for leaders in societies. Some of the counties / county groupings used previously have multiple territorial societies covering them. Conversely, some single societies cover several regions. The principal example of the former is the Greater London area. The territorial associations that cover Greater London are based on the historic (pre-1889) counties, so we have reverted to using these counties (i.e. Essex, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey and the City of London) as the basis for presentation.

As before, the data presented relate only to method ringing performances and (as in previous years) exclude those where at least one “bell” was rung by a computer rather than a human, those which were tolled or chimed and call-change performances of quarter peal length.

Of those analysed, there were 18431 performances published of between 1250 and 4999 changes, including 26 of 2500 changes or more (23 of which were on tower bells and 3 in hand). This is 6% greater than both the total for 2024 and that for 2019, the last pre-pandemic year and

continues the steady pattern of growth since the end of the pandemic. More detail is given in the tables below.

The relative proportion of quarters at different stages on tower bells was largely unchanged from 2024. On handbells however there was a 26% increase in overall numbers rung, largely due to a significant increase in quarters of Minor, Minimus and Major. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues.

2238 conductors were involved in calling quarter and half peals in 2025 (vs 2232 in 2024) with the following gender split:

	Conductors		Performances*	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
Male	1730 (77%)	1753 (79%)	16143 (86.3%)	15233 (87%)
Female	508 (23%)	478 (21%)	2560 (13.7%)	2395 (14%)

*NB Some quarters had more than one conductor

There has been a minor increase in the proportion of conductors who are female but the imbalance remains large, especially the number of performances conducted by women.

The number of ringers claiming their first quarter peal in 2025 was 812 (vs 823 in 2024). The gender split was 394 typically male names (49%) vs 416 typically female names (51%). The equivalent figures for 2024 were 395 (48%) male and 428 (52%) female. This broad gender parity in first quarter pealers is encouraging for the future.

As we forewarned in our report last year, there is no overall analysis of the gender of ringers ringing in quarter peals this year. The analysis had shown no change in the gender balance in quarter peal ringing since it was commenced in 2021 and it is both labour intensive and highly prone to error. Should there be any future initiative to address the gender imbalance in quarter peal ringing then the analysis could be reinstated. It would, however, need significant effort to improve the accuracy and specificity of the source data that we have available.

We thank all those who assist us with our work and especially the Editor of *The Ringing World*, for alerting us about issues he becomes aware of, and Drew Craddock whose PealBase data assist us in identifying those ringing their first peal and for his excellent data on individual ringing achievements.

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RICHARD ALLTON
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Analysis of Peals by Method and Change on Year

	TOWER			HAND			SIMULATED			DISTRIBUTED			TOTAL		
	2025	2024	+/-	2025	2024	+/-	2025	2024	+/-	2025	2024	+/-	2025	2024	+/-
Sixteen	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Septuples	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1
Fourteen	1	1	0	0	3	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	-3
Sextuples and Fourteen	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Sextuples	0	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-2
Maximus															
Bristol Surprise	56	62	-6	19	12	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	74	1
Spliced	35	32	3	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	39	3
Cambridge Surprise	30	36	-6	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	38	-5
Spliced Surprise	18	19	-1	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	25	1
Spliced Treble Dodging	15	24	-9	4	6	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	30	-11
Yorkshire Surprise	12	14	-2	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	15	-3
Zanussi Surprise	3	7	-4	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	9	-1
Orion Surprise	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Lincolnshire Surprise	1	3	-2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	-2
Rigel Surprise	2	3	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	-1
Other	10	14	-4	6	12	-6	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	26	-10
Maximus	186	218	-32	54	50	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	240	268	-28
Cinques and Maximus	20	16	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	17	5
Cinques															
Grandsire	17	6	11	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	6	12
Stedman	91	56	35	8	16	-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	72	27
Plain Bob	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1
Other	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Cinques	110	63	47	9	16	-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	119	79	40
Royal															
Cambridge Surprise	83	65	18	8	12	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	77	14
Yorkshire Surprise	48	53	-5	14	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	63	-1
Bristol Surprise	39	52	-13	22	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	63	-2
Spliced Surprise	38	28	10	11	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	34	15
London No. 3 Surprise	33	30	3	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	32	5
Kent Treble Bob	0	2	-2	14	16	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	18	-4
Lincolnshire Surprise	6	10	-4	4	5	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	15	-5
Plain Bob	8	7	1	1	2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	0
Spliced Treble Dodging	3	6	-3	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	9	-2
Sgurr A' Chaorachain Surprise	5	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	3
Spliced	6	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	4
Other	79	95	-16	5	16	-11	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	111	-27
Royal	348	352	-4	88	84	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	436	436	0
Caters and Royal	9	7	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	7	3
Caters															
Grandsire	39	40	-1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	40	1
Stedman	48	36	12	6	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	41	13
Plain Bob	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Other	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
Caters	91	78	13	8	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	83	16
Major															
Spliced Surprise	210	208	2	89	96	-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	299	304	-5
Yorkshire Surprise	129	137	-8	61	41	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	190	178	12
Bristol Surprise	155	139	16	27	38	-11	0	0	0	0	0	0	182	177	5
Cambridge Surprise	104	100	4	18	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	116	6
Plain Bob	26	32	-6	33	27	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	59	59	0
Lessness Surprise	48	52	-4	5	6	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	58	-5
London Surprise	35	35	0	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	41	2
Lincolnshire Surprise	30	25	5	11	14	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	39	2
Superlative Surprise	22	37	-15	13	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	46	-11
Turramurra Surprise	32	32	0	1	2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	34	-1
Other	563	545	18	93	94	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	656	639	17
Major	1354	1342	12	359	349	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1713	1691	22
Triples and Major	9	4	5	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	8
Triples															
Grandsire	30	43	-13	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	44	-14
Stedman	49	31	18	8	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	36	21
Plain Bob	13	23	-10	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	24	-11
Other	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1
Triples	96	100	-4	8	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	104	107	-3
Minor															
Surprise	314	290	24	36	36	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	351	326	25
Spliced Surprise	140	112	28	32	28	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	172	140	32
Mixed	101	84	17	42	22	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	143	106	37
Treble Dodging	48	43	5	17	18	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	61	4
Spliced Treble Dodging	28	17	11	28	20	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	37	19
Cambridge Surprise	34	36	-2	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	37	1
Plain Bob	14	18	-4	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	26	-4
Spliced Delight	10	6	4	4	6	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	12	2
Spliced Treble Bob	8	4	4	1	5	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	0
Delight	3	3	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	2
Other	11	13	-2	2	8	-6	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	21	-8
Minor	711	626	85	176	152	24	1	0	1	0	0	0	888	778	110
Doubles and Minor	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
Doubles															
Grandsire	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	4	1
Stedman	4	5	-1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
Plain Bob	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Other	73	71	2	0	0	0	0	2	-2	0	0	0	73	73	0
Doubles	83	81	2	1	0	1	0	2	-2	0	0	0	84	83	1
Minimus	13	13	0	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	19	2
Singles	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
Two	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-1
Grand Totals	3038	2908	130	717	675	42	1	3	-2	0	0	0	3756	3586	170

Analysis of Peals by Society 2025

Analysis of Peals by Society 2025

Society	Tower																Hand										Simulated		Grand Total					
	3	4	5	5 1/2	6	7	7 1/2	8	9	9 1/2	10	11	11 1/2	12	13	14	16	Total	4	5	6	7	7/8	8	9	9 1/2	10	11		11 1/2	12	Total	6	Total
Ancient Society of College Youths	0	0	3	0	36	19	0	80	10	0	42	33	5	59	0	1	1	289	0	0	1	5	0	2	1	0	5	7	0	5	63	0	0	352
Australian & New Zealand	0	0	4	0	6	3	0	17	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
Barrow & District Society	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Bath & Wells DA	0	0	6	0	44	1	0	60	1	0	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	120	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	125	
Bedfordshire Association	0	0	0	0	9	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	
Beverley and District Ringing	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	6	
Cambridge University Guild	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	8	0	0	12	
Carlisle Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Central European Association	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	
Chester Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	8	2	0	4	1	0	3	0	0	0	24	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	11	0	0	64	0	0	88	
Coventry Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	24	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	34	
Derby Diocesan Association	0	0	1	0	5	1	0	20	1	1	10	3	0	4	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	5	0	51	
Devonshire Guild	0	0	3	0	31	0	0	70	1	0	14	0	0	1	0	0	0	120	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	18	0	0	138	
Dorset County Association	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	
Durham & Newcastle DA	0	0	1	0	10	3	0	21	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	
Durham University Society	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Ely Diocesan Association	0	0	0	0	21	3	2	16	3	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	15	0	64	
Essex Association	0	0	1	0	20	2	0	18	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	
Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Gloucester & Bristol DA	0	0	3	0	15	3	0	31	2	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	73	
Guilford Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	5	3	0	20	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	32	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	50	
Hereford Diocesan Guild	0	0	8	0	17	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	31	
Hereford County Association	0	0	0	0	47	1	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	64	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	31	0	0	95	
Irish Association	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Kent County Association	0	0	1	0	53	4	0	56	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	119	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	120	
Ladies Guild	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	
Lancashire Association	0	0	2	0	9	2	0	42	0	0	14	0	1	1	0	0	0	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71	
Leeds University Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Leicester Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	11	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	24	
Lichfield & Walsall Arch Society	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	10	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	19	
Lincoln Diocesan Guild	0	1	2	0	25	1	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	97	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	0	105	
Liverpool Universities Society	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Llandaff & Monmouth DA	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	19	
Middlesex CA & London DG	0	0	1	0	5	4	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	26	
North American Guild	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	12	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	1	0	0	6	3	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	36	
North Staffordshire Association	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
North Wales Association	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	
Norwich Diocesan Association	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	25	
Oxford Diocesan Guild	0	0	3	0	21	4	0	56	4	0	5	4	0	3	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	7	1	1	13	73	0	0	173
Oxford Society	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	9	2	0	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	39	
Oxford University Society	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	
Peterborough Diocesan Guild	0	0	8	0	30	1	0	49	1	0	18	0	0	2	0	0	0	109	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109	
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	0	0	3	0	15	3	0	6	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	32	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	2	19	0	0	51
Scottish Association	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	28	
Shropshire Association	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	0	0	0	0	7	5	0	57	1	2	21	9	6	27	0	0	0	135	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	7	0	0	142
Southwell and Nottingham DG	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	17	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	
St David's Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	4																													

Analysis of Quarter and Half Peals by Stage

	Tower		Hand		Sim Sound		Dist.		Grand Totals	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Two	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
Singles	157	78	28	47	1	0	0	0	186	125
Singles & Minimus	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	4
Singles & Doubles	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Minimus	146	192	267	139	5	1	23	63	441	395
Minimus & Doubles	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	9
Doubles	4897	4838	18	31	71	64	8	3	4994	4936
Doubles and Minor	22	27	1	1	1	0	0	0	24	28
Doubles and Triples	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Minor	4178	3886	679	463	55	56	181	238	5093	4643
Triples	2061	1893	15	21	15	15	0	1	2091	1930
Triples & Major	14	10	2	1	1	0	0	0	17	11
Major	2989	2893	728	637	22	14	114	144	3853	3688
Caters	554	559	15	13	1	1	1	1	571	574
Caters & Royal	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	4
Royal	467	409	164	159	3	3	18	13	652	584
Cinques	246	213	5	4	0	0	0	0	251	217
Cinques & Maximus	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Maximus	222	230	19	24	0	2	0	0	241	256
Sextuples	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Fourteen	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2
Sixteen	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
Multistage*	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Grand Totals	15968	15256	1943	1545	175	156	345	463	18431	17420

* Contained changes at each of three or more Stages.

Analysis of Quarter and Half Peals by County / Country 2025

	Tower		Hand		Sim Sound		Dist.		Grand Total	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Africa	0	0	0	6	0	0	-	-	0	6
Asia	3	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	3	0
Aust & NZ	266	319	9	18	7	5	-	-	282	342
Bedfordshire	94	115	0	2	0	0	-	-	94	117
Berkshire	245	231	76	95	0	0	-	-	321	326
Buckinghamshire	156	148	37	11	0	0	-	-	193	159
Cambridgeshire	665	550	43	47	7	2	-	-	715	599
Channel Is	181	165	254	61	52	32	-	-	487	258
Cheshire	348	307	79	60	0	0	-	-	427	367
City of London	243	188	8	3	0	0	-	-	251	191
Cornwall & Is of Scilly	130	126	16	4	0	0	-	-	146	130
County Durham	165	155	25	28	0	0	-	-	190	183
Cumbria	103	78	11	9	6	7	-	-	120	94
Derbyshire	398	343	17	9	25	21	-	-	440	373
Devon	405	480	31	38	0	0	-	-	436	518
Dorset	308	327	66	60	0	0	-	-	374	387
East Riding of Yorks	76	149	36	33	0	5	-	-	112	187
East Sussex	322	259	4	5	0	0	-	-	326	264
Essex	428	415	42	42	1	0	-	-	471	457
Europe	55	52	15	8	0	0	-	-	70	60
Gloucester & Bristol	774	776	16	12	1	0	-	-	791	788
Greater Manchester	121	91	9	6	0	0	-	-	130	97
Hampshire & I of Wight	635	654	82	60	3	2	-	-	720	716
Herefordshire	246	277	1	3	1	0	-	-	248	280
Hertfordshire	417	391	83	42	1	1	-	-	501	434
Ireland	42	65	6	0	0	0	-	-	48	65
Kent	821	849	21	23	1	0	-	-	843	872
Lancashire & I of Man	174	130	3	6	0	0	-	-	177	136
Leicestershire	316	236	88	59	0	0	-	-	404	295
Lincolnshire	439	452	15	8	0	0	-	-	454	460
Merseyside	208	125	8	1	0	0	-	-	216	126
Mid and W Wales	112	120	5	3	0	0	-	-	117	123
Middlesex	328	323	10	8	1	0	-	-	339	331
Norfolk	580	457	45	51	16	39	-	-	641	547
North America & Caribn	167	136	68	55	3	1	-	-	238	192
North Wales	134	80	7	0	11	14	-	-	152	94
North Yorkshire	382	350	31	48	3	0	-	-	416	398
Northamptonshire	207	239	0	0	0	0	-	-	207	239
Northumberland, T & W	91	83	1	2	0	0	-	-	92	85
Nottinghamshire	303	295	75	64	0	0	-	-	378	359
Oxfordshire	531	548	214	212	0	1	-	-	745	761
Rutland	12	27	0	0	0	0	-	-	12	27
Scotland	166	180	57	74	0	0	-	-	223	254
Shropshire	231	233	17	17	1	0	-	-	249	250
Somerset	855	880	45	18	8	1	-	-	908	899
S America & Antarctica	0	0	3	0	0	0	-	-	3	0
South Wales	189	204	19	7	0	0	-	-	208	211
South Yorkshire	197	189	51	19	1	0	-	-	249	208
Staffordshire	221	201	28	17	3	1	-	-	252	219
Suffolk	561	439	53	42	2	0	-	-	616	481
Surrey	481	430	12	11	0	0	-	-	493	441
Warwickshire	192	191	24	62	18	23	-	-	234	276
West Midlands	272	230	2	7	2	0	-	-	276	237
West Sussex	222	189	19	7	1	0	-	-	242	196
West Yorkshire	184	175	17	11	0	0	-	-	201	186
Wiltshire	248	303	5	11	0	0	-	-	253	314
Worcestershire	318	301	28	37	0	1	-	-	346	339
"In transit"	-	-	6	3	-	-	-	-	6	3
Multisite	-	-	-	-	-	-	345	463	345	463
Grand Totals	15968	15256	1943	1545	175	156	345	463	18431	17420



Society Membership Numbers

August 2026

Society	2025 Members	2026 Members	2026 Reps	2026 Vacancies
ASCY	667	675	3	1
Australian & New Zealand	399	438	3	0
Barrow & District Society	130	130	1	0
Bath & Wells Diocesan	1614	1631	5	0
Bedfordshire Association	343	290	2	0
Beverley & District	224	201	2	0
Cambridge University	225	160	2	0
Carlisle Diocesan Guild	232	240	2	0
Chester Diocesan Guild	898	925	3	1
Coventry Diocesan Guild	471	470	4	0
Derby Diocesan Association	653	662	4	0
Dorset County Association	177	62	0	1
Durham & Newcastle	524	531	1	3
East Derby & West Notts	97	91	1	0
Ely Diocesan Association	714	683	4	0
Essex Association	1133	1130	5	0
Four Shires Guild	189	186	1	1
Gloucester & Bristol	1195	1162	5	0
Guild of Devonshire Ringers	571	604	4	0
Guildford Diocesan Guild	652	652	3	1
Hereford Diocesan Guild	692	650	4	0
Hertford County	664	696	4	0
Irish Association	407	439	3	0
Kent County Association	1135	1294	4	1
Ladies Guild	477	525	4	0
Lancashire Association	750	800	4	0
Leicester Diocesan Guild	595	606	3	1
Lichfield & Walsall	361	351	3	0
Lincoln Diocesan Guild	690	694	4	0
Llandaff & Monmouth	396	411	3	0
Middlesex and London	492	482	3	1

Small Societies

Central European	29	33	1	0
Guild of Railway Ringers	84	84	1	0
Lilliputters Guild	30	25	1	0
Liverpool University Society	68	65	1	0
National Police Guild	88	75	1	0
Open University Society	72	73	1	0
Sheffield Universities Guild	40	17	1	0
South African Guild	32	31	1	0

Total Number of Ringers
Represented

2025 33,109
2026 32,997

% Change -0.34%

Society	2025 Members	2026 Members	2026 Reps	2026 Vacancies
North American Guild	454	482	4	0
North Staffordshire	339	345	2	1
North Wales	247	246	1	1
Norwich Diocesan	499	486	3	1
Oxford Diocesan Guild	2184	2199	5	1
Oxford Society	75	75	1	0
Peterborough Guild	977	965	4	0
Salisbury Guild	1471	1408	4	1
Scottish Association	229	211	2	0
Shropshire Association	283	293	2	0
Royal Cumberland	917	864	4	0
Southwell & Nottingham	511	459	4	0
St David's Diocesan Guild	118	136	1	0
St Martin's Guild	270	248	2	0
Suffolk Guild	672	684	4	0
Surrey Association	573	580	4	0
Sussex County	1032	1061	4	1
Swansea & Brecon	104	103	0	1
Truro Diocesan Guild	720	732	4	0
University of Bristol	255	260	2	0
Veronese Association	300	64	1	0
Winchester & Portsmouth	1218	1201	3	2
Worcestershire & Districts	614	635	3	1
Yorkshire Association	1416	1369	5	0

Associated Societies

Durham University Society	110	101	1	0
Guild of Clerical Ringers	104	104	1	0
Leeds University Society	138	138	1	0
Oxford University Society	120	120	1	0
Devon Association	600	143	1	0
Welsh Colleges Society	76	84	1	0
University of London	100	100	1	0

Council Membership 2026	Reps	Vacancies	Totals
Affiliated Societies	163	21	184
Associated Societies	7	0	7
Small Societies	8	0	8
Fellows	4	0	4
Ex-Officio	12	0	12
Total Council	194	21	215

Data as at 1st August 2026

Some society names have been abbreviated due to space constraints in the table.