



# THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

## 2017 Annual Meeting Papers



*Holy Cross, Slapton (Bucks) – one of the projects supported by the Bell Restoration Committee during 2016  
(Photo courtesy of Corral McCormack)*

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### From the President

This is the initial meeting of the new triennium so my first duty is to welcome those for whom it is their first encounter with the Council. I hope that you will find the experience will show the depth of work which is undertaken by Council members through committees or other functions. The amount of time given by many individuals reflects the dedication which we seek to demonstrate on behalf of our respective societies and if you feel there are activities to which you can contribute so much the better. Take time to look at committee work at the Welcome Meeting and over the weekend.

The 2016 meeting set in train an examination of the activity and effectiveness of the Council under the specially formed Council Review Action Group (CRAG). You will hear plenty of reference to this during the weekend as they report back on their findings and recommendations. Do not feel intimidated by the extent of detail discussed since it is after all about how ringing is organised at present and how it might change in the future. Just remember that any changes to how things are run centrally will be a direct result of your expressed wishes as you represent your societies and bear in mind how it could affect you locally.

There have been many notable events since last May, celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday having fully met expectations in terms of the amount of ringing taking place. The Ringing World National Youth Competition again broke records with 24 teams entering and the numbers of young ringers in London on 2nd July provided reassurance that attracting young people is possible. Heritage Open Days over the first weekend of September again resulted in many open towers with public demonstrations and even, in some cases, getting new recruits into the bargain. If your tower did not open last year get ahead with plans for this September, and remember that free publicity is available.

The shock news of 2016 was the suspension of the band at York Minster which at the time of writing is unresolved and has had a profound effect on relationships with the church with local difficulties arising on Safeguarding matters. I shall continue to pursue consistency in the way ringers are treated. The other news received sadly by many, and which should not go unremarked, is the ending of hundreds of years of bell work at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

On a more positive note the new Council website has been launched with much improved content and access. New material for the promotion of ringing has been added – do use it and subscribe to receive news information direct if you have not yet done so. In the interests of sharing experience and local good practice, a series of seminars with local society officers has been held at Southwark, Derby, Bristol and Doncaster. It is the intention to make this information available soon.

The Council has continued to engage with our stakeholders, meetings having been held with Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, Diocesan Bell Advisers, Church Care and Historic England amongst others. The Council committees are continuing to strive to improve the services given to ringers and I hope that you will give your support both through your Council membership and at local level.

This is my last meeting in the chair as President and whilst it has been a very busy 3 years it has been a privilege to be involved with every aspect of our world of ringing. However, at the end of the day the future of ringing is down to all of you and your colleagues in every tower – make it happen.

April 2017

CHRIS MEW

## The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Registered Charity No 270036

The first session of the 43rd Council (120th Annual Meeting) will be held on Monday 29th May 2017 at St Andrew's and St George's West, George St, Edinburgh, starting at 9.30 a.m.

Will members please sign the roll and be in their seats by 9.20 a.m. – the roll will also invite you to sign in as a member of The Ringing World Limited.

The morning session will be adjourned at 12.30 p.m.; at 1.45 p.m. the Annual Meeting of The Ringing World Limited will be held; the afternoon session will resume after that Meeting.

### AGENDA

1. Opening prayer.
2. Report of the Honorary Secretary as to the representation of societies and subscriptions.
3. Welcome to new members.
4. Apologies for absence.
5. Loss of members through death.
6. Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting. *(p. 418)*
7. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
8. Annual Report of the Council. *(p.429)*
9. Accounts for 2016. *(p.431)*
10. Election of Officers for 2017 – 2020:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Secunder</i>
President	Christopher O'Mahony	Derek Williams	Peter Harrison
Vice-President	Peter Wilkinson	Stefan Zientek	David Jones
	David Kirkcaldy	Timothy Hine	David Grimwood
Hon Secretary	Mary Bone	Derek Sibson	Stephen Nash
Hon Assistant Secretary	Carol Franklin	Alan Regin	David Kirkcaldy
Hon Treasurer	Andrew Smith	Maureen Frost	Tom Garrett
Public Relations Officer	Caroline Stockmann	Nicholas Elks	Kate Flavell

11. Election of Independent Examiners.  
Jeremy Cheesman and Wendy Godden retire; both are eligible for election.
12. Election of Additional Members.  
Alan Baldock, Peter Trotman and David Willis retire. David Willis has become a Representative Member. The following nominations have been received; in accordance with Rule 6(ii), supporting statements by the candidates are given in Appendix A of this Agenda: *(p.415)*

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Secunder</i>
Alan Baldock	David Kirkcaldy	Graham Hills
Tim Barnes	David Richards	Bruce Butler
Peter Trotman	Kate Flavell	Doug Davis

13. Change Ringing for the Future.

## 14. Motions

[Formal notice of motions A – C was received from John Harrison and David Grimwood.]

(A) Council Review Action Group: *That the Council notes the report of the Council Review Action Group.*

Proposed by Dr Phillip Barnes (Kent County Association), seconded by John Harrison (Oxford Diocesan Guild).

(B) *That the Council adopt proposals A to F in the Council Review Action Group Summary of Findings and Proposals.*

Proposed by Dr Phillip Barnes (Kent County Association), seconded by Prof Patrick Wheeler (University of Bristol Society).

(C) *That the Council adopt proposals G to I in the Council Review Action Group Summary of Findings and Proposals.*

Proposed by Dr Phillip Barnes (Kent County Association), seconded by Prof Patrick Wheeler (University of Bristol Society).

(D) *That the subscription be increased to £40 per representative member from 1 January 2018.*

Proposed on behalf of the Administrative Committee by Andrew Taylor (Honorary Treasurer), seconded by Christopher O'Mahony (Vice-President, Australian & New Zealand Association).

(E) *The Trustees having agreed that the Bells Rescue Fund be wound up, it is proposed that, subject to any constraints or conditions attached to the grants when originally made to the Fund, the Central Council delegate to the Administrative Committee the decision as to how the Fund's assets should be allocated and used.*

Proposed on behalf of the Committee for Redundant Bells by Robert Wood (University of Bristol Society) and seconded by Helen Webb (Ladies Guild).

(F) *That Rule 15(iv) (Terms of Reference of the Methods Committee) be extended as follows:*

To provide and maintain the Council's definitions and requirements for change ringing, including methods, calls, and performances, and to consider and advise on all questions arising from their interpretation; to compile and maintain a library of all named methods with classification and appropriate references, and to maintain a record of historic method names; to commission tools and publications that aid in the understanding and

analysis of methods; to adjudicate on any conflicts that occur in method naming, and to request alternative names for methods that may be considered inappropriate; to facilitate the creation and maintenance of standards for the electronic interchange of methods; to promote an interest in technical and theoretical aspects of ringing to ringers at large.

Proposed on behalf of the Methods Committee by Peter Niblett (Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Mark Davies (Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association).

(G) *1. That Decision (E) METHODS be amended as follows, to extend the definition of a method to include methods that are false in the plain course:*

*a. Remove the word "true" from Decision (E)A.2 so that it becomes: "A method is defined by the places made between successive rows of its plain course, which shall be a round block, divisible into equal parts which are called leads. Starting the plain course from a different change does not give a different method."*

*b. In consequence, some existing blocks will be reclassified as methods, as listed on the Methods Committee web page.*

*2. That Decision (D) PEAL RINGING be amended as follows, to remove the requirement that the ringing shall be audible outside the tower:*

*a. Delete the existing Decision (D)A.6 and, if necessary, renumber the following parts of Decision (D).*

*3. That Decision (D) PEAL RINGING be amended as follows, to make it clear that peals can be rung on bells that produce sound by simulated means:*

*a. Add a new Decision (D)A.6 and, if necessary, renumber the following parts of Decision (D):*

For peals rung with simulated sound:

(a) for tower bell peals, the simulated bells shall all be rung full circle-style by human ringers.

(b) for simulated handbell peals, the simulated bells shall all be rung in alternating up-strokes and down-strokes by human ringers.

(c) the peal report shall state that simulated sound was used.

*b. Append the following sentence to the first paragraph of Decision (D)D Record Lengths:*

Records using simulated sound shall be kept separately.

*4. That Decision (D) PEAL RINGING be amended as follows, to reflect current peal ringing practice:*

*a. Replace the existing Decision (D)A.9 with the following text: “Bands should strive to maintain a high standard of ringing, and errors in ringing or calling should be corrected quickly.”*

*b. Delete Decision (D)A.10 and renumber existing Decisions (D)A.11 to (D)A.15.*

*5. That Decision (D) PEAL RINGING be amended as follows, to include a wider range of possible constructions in peals of Triples and below:*

*a. Replace the existing Decision (D)B.1(c) with the following text:*

Not more than one touch in which each of the possible rows at that stage occurs either  $n$  or  $n+1$  times, for a given value of  $n$  greater than or equal to zero.

*b. Replace the existing Decision (D)B.3(d)ii with the following text:*

a variable cover touch in which each of the possible rows, treated as being at the next higher stage, occurs either  $n$  or  $n+1$  times, for a given value of  $n$  greater than or equal to zero.

*c. Replace the existing Decision (D)B.5(e)iii with the following text:*

a mixed stage touch, with a cover bell when ringing the lower stage, in which each of the rows possible at the higher stage occurs either  $n$  or  $n+1$  times, for a given value of  $n$  greater than or equal to zero.

Proposed on behalf of the Methods Committee by Peter Niblett (Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Leigh Simpson (Ancient Society of College Youths).

15. To receive, discuss and if thought fit to adopt the reports of the following Committees; to pass such resolutions as may be necessary on matters arising from the reports; and to elect Committee members. Nominations received are listed under each Committee; in accordance with Rule 14(ii), supporting statements by the candidates are given in Appendix B of this Agenda. (p.415)

- (a) Administrative: (p.432)  
Mike Chester and Tony Smith will no longer be members of Council. Michael Church and Derek Sibson retire. There are four vacancies.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
MICHAEL CHURCH; Andrew Stubbs; Richard Allton  
PHILLIP BARNES; David Grimwood; David Kirkcaldy
- (b) Public Relations: (p.433)  
Giles Blundell, Ernie de Legh-Runciman and Kate Flavell retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
KATE FLAVELL; Caroline Stockmann; Linda Foddering  
SUSAN HALL; Kate Flavell; Gill Hughes  
VICKI CHAPMAN; Stephen Nash; Paul Cammiade  
MIKE BALE; Kate Flavell; Jacqueline Brown
- (c) Publications: (p.437)  
Beryl Norris and Jan Wyatt retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
BERYL NORRIS; John Couperthwaite; Timothy Pett  
JAN WYATT; Mike Hansford; Jay Bunyan
- (d) Redundant Bells: (p.437)  
Julian Newman and Helen Webb retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
IAN HASTILOW; David Kelly; Alan Regin  
HELEN WEBB; Robert Wood; Doug Davis
- (e) Ringing Centres: (p.437)  
Leslie Boyce will no longer be a member of Council. Philip Bailey, Paul Marshall and Norman Mattingley retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
PAUL MARSHALL; Maureen Frost; Phil Bailey
- (f) Ringing Trends: (p.437)  
The entire Committee resigned in 2016.
- (g) Towers & Belfries: (p.437)  
James Clarke and Bernard Stone will no longer be members of Council. Alison Hodge, David Kirkcaldy and Colin Ward retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
ALISON HODGE; Chris Povey; George Dawson  
DAVID KIRKCALDY; Ian Oram; Paul Flavell  
ALLAN YALDEN; David Mattingley; Michael Church
- (h) Tower Stewardship: (p.438)  
Christopher O’Mahony retires.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Secunder*  
CHRIS MEW; Ernie de Legh-Runciman; Mike Hansford

- (i) Bell Restoration: *(p.438)*  
Chris Rogers will no longer be a member of Council. Pat Albon and Peter Kirby retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
PETER KIRBY; Barrie Dove; David Hibbert  
PAT ALBON; Peter Wilkinson; Jay Bunyan
- (j) Biographies: *(p.439)*  
Bobbie May and Deborah Thorley will no longer be members of Council. David Jones and David Willis retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
DAVID JONES; Peter Wilkinson; Stefan Zientek  
DAVID WILLIS; Lynne Hughes; Alan Regin
- (k) Compositions: *(p.440)*  
Stephen Beckingham will no longer be a member of Council.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
ANDREW JOHNSON; Michael Church; David Mattingley
- (l) Education: *(p.440)*  
Chris Fletcher has resigned. Tony Furnivall will no longer be a member of Council. James Blackburn, Lucy Hopkins Till and Duncan Walker retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
LUCY HOPKINS TILL; Timothy Hine; Ken Davenport  
DAVID HIBBERT; Barrie Dove; Timothy Hine  
CLYDE WHITTAKER; Timothy Hine; Gill Hughes
- (m) Information and Communications Technology: *(p.440)*  
Fred Bone and Peter Harrison retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
PETER HARRISON; Derek Williams; David Smith
- (n) Library: *(p.441)*  
Appointment of Steward for 2017 – 2020: Alan Glover is proposed by Linda Foddering and seconded by David Kirkcaldy.  
Jenny Lawrence will no longer be a member of Council. Paul Johnson and Sue Marsden retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
SUE MARSDEN; Linda Foddering; Alan Glover  
PAUL JOHNSON; Linda Foddering; Alan Glover
- (o) Methods: *(p.441)*  
Leigh Simpson retires.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
DEREK WILLIAMS; David Smith; Christopher O'Mahony  
GRAHAM JOHN; Timothy Pett; John Couperthwaite  
ANDREW JOHNSON; David Mattingley; Michael Church  
TIM BARNES; David Richards; Doug Davis  
LEIGH SIMPSON; Mark Davies; David Richards
- (p) Peal Records: *(p.442)*  
Mark Bell and Adam Crocker will no longer be members of Council. Alan Baldock and Chris Turner retire.  
*NOMINEE; Proposer; Seconder*  
CHRIS TURNER; Philip Green; Chris Sharp  
ALAN BALDOCK; David Kirkcaldy; Graham Hills
16. (a) Report of the Stewards of the Carter Ringing Machine Collection. *(p.446)*  
(b) Appointment of Stewards for 2017 – 2020: Bill Purvis is proposed by George Dawson and seconded by Robin Woolley; James Blackburn is proposed by George Dawson and seconded by Robin Woolley.
17. (a) Report of the Steward of the Rolls of Honour. *(p.446)*  
(b) Appointment of Steward for 2017 – 2020: Alan Regin is proposed by Ian Oram and seconded by David Willis.
18. (a) Report of the Stewards of the Dove Database. *(p.447)*  
(b) Appointment of Stewards for 2017 – 2020: Tim Pett is proposed by John Harrison and seconded by Paul Flavell; Doug Davis is proposed by David Grimwood and seconded by Caroline Stockmann; Tim Jackson is proposed by John Couperthwaite and seconded by Michael Church.
19. Central Council Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells (registered charity no. 278816):  
Report and Accounts. *(p.447)*
20. Future meetings.
21. Any other business.

Mary Bone  
Hon Secretary

## Appendix A Additional Member Nominations – Supporting Statements

**Alan Baldock** was formerly a representative member of the Council for the Sussex County Association from 1978 to 2014 and an additional member for the last three years. He has served on the Peal Records Committee since 2008. For the majority of those nine years he has been responsible for the maintenance of the pre-1990 peal records on the Felstead database, which is time consuming and detailed work often requiring research before an amendment or addition to the data can be made.

Alan's work is much valued by the Committee and, whilst several hundred additions and corrections have already been made to the database, there still remains much to be done. He has also been contributing to the work of the Committee by helping to trace and record compositions used for first peals in methods. Alan would welcome the opportunity to continue with both of these areas of work on behalf of the Council.

**Tim Barnes:** I have been approached by the Methods Committee to stand as an Additional Member of the Central Council to help with the review of the Council's Decisions. Since 2014 I have coordinated a group of about 30 ringers who have been collaborating on reform of the Decisions. This group was established following a period of heavy discussion on the Ringing Theory email list on

how the current Decisions could be improved. The group's aim has been to channel this interest into tangible proposals, and to demonstrate what a modern set of Decisions might look like.

Significant progress has been made among this group, and its proposals were submitted to the Methods Committee in late 2015. There is now a need to compile all the input the Methods Committee has received, draft proposed new Decisions, and consult broadly across the ringing community to obtain feedback on the proposals from all interested parties. If elected, I would aim to support the Methods Committee in organizing and executing these next steps in the Decisions' review process.

By way of background, I am currently the Ringing Master at Trinity Wall Street, New York, and have been a ringer for over 35 years. Before moving to the US for work reasons, I rang in Wimborne, Plymouth, Guildford and London. I am involved in many different aspects of ringing, from teaching new ringers, to building and developing the band in New York, to peal ringing and conducting.

**Peter Trotman:** I have been a member of the Central Council and of the ICT Committee (and its Computer Coordinator predecessor) since 1996, including two spells as chairman. The ICT Committee are kind enough to want to retain my skills and experience as primary developer and webmaster of the CCCBR website from 2001 through 2016.

## Appendix B Committee Member Nominations – Supporting Statements

### Administrative Committee

**Phillip Barnes:** I am returning to the Council this year having previously been a representative member for a total of 19 years, and a member of the Admin Committee for eleven of those years (eight as committee chairman and three as an elected member). I have recently chaired CRAG and wish to work on the Committee in implementing our recommendations. It is more important than ever that ringing has a respected and relevant leadership body that truly represents the ringers it serves. I should like to bring my skills to work in helping the Council recover its position as that body.

### Bell Restoration Committee

**Peter Kirby:** I have worked on this Committee for the past 6 years attending and contributing to its regular meetings with specific emphasis on looking after the web pages for this Committee. I look forward to a further 3 years working with this very pro-active and hard-working Committee.

**Pat Albon:** Pat currently has responsibility for the Bell Restoration Committee's Guidance Notes and his experience and expertise is invaluable.

### Compositions Committee

**Andrew Johnson:** I have some knowledge of composition having composed peals and quarter-peals. To aid aspiring conductors I would like to help the Committee collect and publish some simple compositions with explanations of their merits and how they might be learnt and called.

### Education Committee

**Lucy Hopkins Till:** I learnt to ring in 1961 and have rung peals up to Surprise 14. A teacher by profession, I have run courses as Branch Training Officer for the past nine years. I am currently involved in training across three Guilds and served on the ODG Education Committee for eight years. Elected Secretary of the CC Education Committee in January 2015, I have also helped to run a listening course, been active in promoting handling posters, reviewing articles and making contributions regarding our old and new websites. I am very enthusiastic about finding ways to improve education within ringing.

**David Hibbert:** Although not a teacher by profession, my day to day rôle includes coaching and mentoring in an informal environment as well as occasional formal tutoring. I have also taught in a secondary school, lectured as part of my professional rôle and I frequently give presentations. These activities require me to carry out lesson planning and write course materials. My job also involves project management and I have been involved in implementing change within organisations with the skill set that that requires and which I can bring to the Education Committee together with my more education related skills.

### ICT Committee

**Peter Harrison:** I have served on the ICT for the last three years and helped with the breakdown of the old website. I am also now working with Dove, so would like to help with the connection between ICT and Dove.

### Library Committee

**Sue Marsden:** I am a qualified librarian with an interest in bellringing books. Currently I hold the stock of *Order and Disorder* books and post out sales.

### Methods Committee

**Derek Williams** is an experienced bell ringer. He has been Ringing Master at Wellington Cathedral, New Zealand, since 2005. He is a Vice-President of ANZAB and has been a Central Council representative for ANZAB for two years. His interest in the Methods Committee arises from his ringing in Wellington, where the current Decisions have a significant impact. He is a member of the rt-rules-subgroup.

**Graham John:** Since 2011, I have run automated checks on method library updates, notifying the Committee of any corrections needed. In 2016 I launched Composition Library, a website for selfpublishing and searching for compositions true to a method. Users can add new

methods privately for correct classification according to the current Decisions. It now contains 20,000+ methods and 20,000+ compositions including all those in the CCCBR collection on [ringing.org](http://ringing.org). In 2014/15 I actively participated in an independent review of the Council's Decisions which resulted in a draft document the "Descriptive Framework and Requirements for Method Ringing" that could provide a potential replacement.

**Andrew Johnson:** I would like to work on the Methods Committee to help conductors find worthwhile methods to ring and to have decisions on methods and peals which are simple for ordinary ringers and maintain the long traditions of ringing including the importance of the extent as a basis of peals.

**Leigh Simpson:** Leigh has a keen interest in methods and method classification. He has served on the Committee before and hopes to return in order to establish more momentum in reforming the Decisions. He is keen to describe what ringers actually do rather than to prescribe what they ought: thereby supporting the development of ringing at all levels. He also hopes to work with the ICT Committee (of which he is also a member) in order to provide more online resources to discover methods and method ringing.

**Tim Barnes:** As per my candidate statement for Additional Membership, since 2014 I have coordinated a group of about 30 ringers who have been collaborating on reform of the Decisions, and developing ideas for how they could be modernized. I am well-versed in the current Decisions, and am also aware of the wide range of views surrounding them. I am currently an advisory consultant to the Methods Committee. If elected, I would seek to help in organizing and executing the Decisions' review process with the goal of finding the best possible solution for updating the Decisions.

### Peal Records Committee

**Chris Turner** joined this Committee 3 years ago and has contributed to the drafting and revision of all documents from the Committee. As a peal ringer and conductor, he has relevant technical background for work on this Committee and intends to continue supporting its varied activities.

### Public Relations Committee

**Kate Flavell:** I have been a member of the PR Committee since ending my term as President in 2014 and became the first PR Officer in 2015. While I am standing down from that rôle now, I would like to continue the work I have been leading on the PR Committee for a further period. This has included getting ringing recognised as a



major part of the Heritage Open Days, celebrating various royal events and placing ringing articles in national papers and TV.

**Susan Hall:** Ringing needs a positive and attractive image. I can help the PR Committee to produce resources that are eye-catching, upbeat, relevant, contemporary and concise. I am currently Derby DA PRO, have a creative flair and an eye for detail, can see things from the public's point of view, and believe we should use social media to our advantage. The PR material I produced for Peak 2015, now used by the Derby DA, has been well received by members of the public and other ringing societies. Several local publications have published my ringing articles. I look forward to joining the Committee.

**Mike Bale:** As Tower Captain of a successful 10 bell tower I have initiated many recruitment open days, and used various different publicity options to appeal to different age groups. As Guild Training Officer for the Guildford Guild I turned these experiences into a training course with the approach being used successfully across the Guild and beyond. The documentation for this course has been turned into the CC Guide on running a recruitment open day. I've started up 3 new bands, successfully reintroduced the Guild 6 bell striking competition in a different format and initiated setting up our Young Ringers Group.

**Vicki Chapman:** I have held various offices at district and Association level for EACR, including Association General Secretary. At that time we had no PRO so I did a dual rôle; however I believe that everyone has a PR rôle in any discussions they have, even at a tower level. I responded to requests for information from both press and public and the Association's PR material was updated and made available at several events across the county. Since becoming CC Rep for EACR last year, I have been proactive in sharing information from the CC to our membership, which has been welcomed.

### Publications Committee

**Beryl Norris:** I am currently working for the Publications Committee as its Treasurer and I would like to be elected to that Committee for a further three year period. I find the work undertaken by this Committee interesting and stimulating and I very much appreciate being able to

support both the Committee and the Council through the work that I do. I have a background in finance and accountancy as well as project management skills.

**Jan Wyatt:** I am a current member of this Committee. I have particular responsibility for allocating and recording ISBN numbers (a unique number allocated to all published books). I also occasionally write a synopsis of some of our titles for *The Ringing World*, and I help with sales at events such as the Roadshow.

### Committee for Redundant Bells

**Ian Hastilow:** As a Sussex CC representative I previously served on this Committee from 2008 to 2011. Since moving to Wales I have become CC representative for the St David's Guild and serve the St David's DAC as their bell adviser. With the number of churches earmarked for closure in St David's alone I hope I would be able to contribute to the Committee.

### Towers and Belfries Committee

**David Kirkcaldy:** David was taught to ring in 1967 at Hurstpierpoint in Sussex, and has continued bellringing ever since. He has been involved in various ways with his local Association, and was first elected to the Sussex Bell Restoration Fund committee in 1979. He was their Secretary from 2006 until 2010, and in 2015 he became Secretary again. David became a representative on the CCCBR in 2007, joining the Towers and Belfries Committee the following year. He was elected Chairman in 2016, a post he still holds. David is keen to continue on this Committee as the Council evolves in the future.

**Allan Yalden:** After an RN apprenticeship I served on ships in charge of maintenance of Radar, Sonar, Weapons and Computers.

After 24 years I left to take up work as Quality Assurance Manager. I was involved in many aspects of engineering new systems design for both hardware and software for Ferranti, Marconi and BAE.

After the RN I spent 24 years as a Scout Leader before taking up ringing at St John the Baptist Purbrook, rapidly finding myself taking over as steeple keeper servicing both the bells and Gillett and Johnson clock.

I hope my engineering experience can be of use on the Belfries and Towers Committee.

# The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

## Minutes of the Third Session of the 42nd Council (119th Annual Meeting), held in the Royal Beach Hotel, St Helen's Parade, Portsmouth on Monday 30th May 2016, at 9.30 a.m.

### Present

**Life Members:** Alan Frost, David Kelly, Andrew Stubbs.

**Additional Members:** Roger Booth, Robert Cooles, Robert Lewis, Peter Trotman, Jane Wilkinson, David Willis.

**Ex-officio:** Mary Bone, Nigel Orchard, Alan Regin, Andrew Taylor.

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

**Australian & New Zealand Assn:** Peter Harrison, Christopher O'Mahony, David Smith\*, Derek Williams#.

**Barrow & District Society:** David Hibbert.

**Bath & Wells Dio. Assn:** Roland Backhurst, Jay Bunyan, Michael Hansford, Richard Newman, George Wyatt.

**Bedfordshire Assn:** Patrick Albon, Richard Horne, Sue Silver.

**Beverley & District Society:** James Blackburn.

**Cambridge Univ. Guild:** Robert Flockton, David Richards.

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

**Chester Dio. Guild:** David Jones, Michael Orme, Peter Wilkinson, Stefan Zientek.

**Coventry Dio. Guild:** Michael Chester, Christopher Idle, Christopher Mew.

**Derby Dio. Assn:** Andrew Hall, Susan Hall, Patricia Halls, Gill Hughes.

**Devon Assn:** Robert Brown.

**Devonshire Guild:** Leslie Boyce, Lynne Hughes, Fergus Stracey.

**Dorset County Assn:** Maureen Frost.

**Durham & Newcastle Dio. Assn:** Barbara Wheeler.

**East Derbys & West Notts Assn:** Brynley Richards.

**East Grinstead & District Guild:** Kate Desbottes.

**Ely Dio. Assn:** Philip Bailey, George Bonham, Sue Marsden, Paul Seaman.

**Essex Assn:** Fred Bone, Paul Cammiade, Vicki Chapman\*, Wendy Godden, Stephen Nash.

**Four Shires Guild:** Christopher Povey.

**Gloucester & Bristol Dio. Assn:** Mark Davies\*, Derek Harbottle, Patrick Hickey, Angela Newing.

**Guild of St Agatha:** Anne Bray.

**Guildford Dio. Guild:** Anne Anthony, Beryl Norris, Christopher Rogers.

**Hereford Dio. Guild:** John Croxton, Jenny Lawrence, Colin Ward.

**Hertford County Assn:** Tony Crowther, Geoff Horritt, Margaret Horritt.

**Irish Assn:** June Kelly, Julia Lysaght.

**Kent County Assn:** Douglas Davis, David Grimwood, Philip Larter, Catherine Lewis, Caroline Stockmann\*.

**Ladies Guild:** Carolyn Dawson, Helen Webb, Jan Wyatt.

**Lancashire Assn:** Giles Blundell, Ernie de Legh-Runciman, Beth Ingham.

**Leicester Dio. Guild:** Carol Franklin, Andrew Preston, Arthur Rees, Winifred Warwick.

**Lichfield & Walsall Archd. Society:** Stuart Hutchieson, Andrew Ogden.

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

**Liverpool Univ. Society:** Richard Andrew.

**Llandaff & Monmouth Dio. Assn:** Jonathan Lewis, Pip Penney.

**Middlesex County Assn & London Dio. Guild:** Linda Foddering, John Manley\*, Peter Kemp, Clyde Whittaker\*.

**North American Guild:** Alan Ellis, Beverly Faber, Anthony Furnivall, Tina Stoecklin (alternate member)#.

**North Staffordshire Assn:** Jan Hine, Tim Hine. **North Wales Assn:** Antony Diserens, David Raggett.

**Norwich Dio. Assn:** Michael Clements, Maureen Gardiner.

**Oxford Dio. Guild:** Ken Davenport, John Harrison, Lucy Hopkins Till, Alan Marchbank, Bobbie May, Timothy Pett.

**Oxford Society:** Bernard Stone.

**Peterborough Dio. Guild:** Simon Dixon\*, Nick Elks, Jane Sibson, David Westerman.

**St David's Dio. Guild:** Ian Hastilow.

**St Martin's Guild:** James Ramsbottom.

**Salisbury Dio. Guild:** Tom Garrett, Julian Hemper, Andrew Howes, Anthony Lovell Wood, Julian Newman.

**Scottish Assn:** Ruth Marshall.

**Shropshire Assn:** Alan Glover, Peter Woollam.

**Society of Royal Cumberland Youths:** John Barnes, Ben Duke, Ian Oram, Derek Sibson.

**Society of Sherwood Youths:** Jane Woolley.

**South African Guild:** James Champion.

**Southwell and Nottingham Dio. Guild:** George Dawson, Anne Sladen, Robin Woolley.

**Suffolk Guild:** Veronica Downing, Peter Harper, Stephen Pettman.

**Surrey Assn:** Jeremy Cheesman, Kate Flavell, Paul Flavell, Richard Wallis.

**Sussex County Assn:** Stephen Beckingham, Anne Franklin, Graham Hills\*, David Kirkcaldy, Margaret Oram.

**Swansea & Brecon Dio. Guild:** Paul Johnson, David Katz.

**Truro Dio. Guild:** Norman Mattingley, Helen Perry, Robert Perry, Ian Self.

**Univ. Bristol Society:** Richard Webster, Robert Wood. **Univ. London Society:** Jacqui Brown.

**Winchester & Portsmouth Dio. Guild:** Michael Church, David Mattingley, Peter Niblett, Vivien Nobbs, Anthony Smith.

**Worcestershire & Districts Assn:** Alison Hodge, Paul Marshall, Stuart Piper, Alan Roberts.

**Yorkshire Assn:** Barrie Dove, Peter Kirby, Deborah Thorley, Susan Welch.

Durham University Society, Leeds University Society, the National Police Guild, Oxford University Society and the Veronese Association were not represented.

**The Chair** was taken by the President, Chris Mew.

### 1. Opening Prayer

Richard Wallis, Surrey Association, led members in prayer.

### 2. Report as to membership and subscriptions

The Hon Secretary, Mary Bone, reported that 66 societies were affiliated to the Council with 193 representatives; there were 8 vacancies. There were 6 Life Members, 8 Additional Members and 7 ex-officio Members. [Postmeeting note: all subscriptions have been received.]

### 3. Welcome to new members

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

### 4. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Revd John Baldwin, Bill Butler and David Thorne (Life Members); Alan Baldock and Stella Bianco (Additional Members); Tim Jackson, Brian Meads and Bill Purvis (ex-officio); John Atkinson (Beverley & District Society), James Clarke (Guild of Devonshire Ringers), Michael Williams (Durham University Society), Andrew Gunn (Four Shires Guild), William Nash (Gloucester & Bristol DA), John Couperthwaite (Guildford DG), Jane Mason (Hereford DG), Alison Brittliff and Chris Fletcher (Lancashire Assn), Bill Dowse (National Police Guild), Bruce Butler (North American Guild), Ray Ballard (North Staffs Assn), Peter Adcock and Jenny Brunger (Norwich Diocesan Assn), Mark Bell (Oxford US), Sue Wilkinson (Scottish Assn), Mary Jones (Truro Diocesan Guild) and Eles Belfontali and David Roskelly (Veronese Assn). Further apologies were presented from Mervyn Way (Devon Assn), Tim Collins (Dorset County Assn), Howard Smith (Durham & Newcastle DA) and Andrew Mills (Southwell & Nottingham DG).

### 5. Loss of members through death

Members stood in silence as the Hon Secretary read the names of the following members and former members who had died since the last meeting: Frank Lewis (Kent County Assn 1990-2008 and 2014-); Ronald Noon (Peterborough DG 1951-1954); Terence Hampton (St Martin's Guild 1975-1986); Peter Mackie (Ancient Society of College Youths 2014-); Freda Willgress (Ladies Guild 1990-1993); John Chilcott (Ancient Society of College

Youths 1960-1963); Edward Mould (London County Assn 1990-2005); Andrew Barnsdale (Sussex County Assn 2012-2016); Denis Frith (Lincoln DG 1972-1993). Peter Wilkinson, Chester Diocesan Guild, led members in prayer.

## 6. Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2015 had been published in *The Ringing World* of 2nd October 2015.

The Minutes were approved and signed by the President.

The President asked members wishing to speak to wait for a microphone and to give their name and that of the society they represented. He informed members that the proceedings were being live streamed to the Internet and were also being recorded to assist with the Minutes.

The President reminded members to declare any relevant interest in the bell-related trade before speaking at the meeting or proposing a candidate for election. The President asked members to treat each other with courtesy as all members were volunteers.

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

No member wished to raise any matter.

## 8. Annual Report of the Council (RW 6th May 2016, p469-470)

The Hon Secretary noted that two further representative members had resigned and their vacancies had been filled and one other vacancy had been filled since the Annual Report was prepared and that the figures in the last 2 sentences of paragraph 4 should therefore read "... 6 Life Members, 8 Additional Members, 7 ex-officio Members and 193 Representative Members. There are 8 other vacancies." She further noted that in the last line of paragraph 6 the reference should be to the 6th May 2016 issue of *The Ringing World*.

Adoption of the report was then proposed by the Hon Secretary, seconded by the President and agreed.

## 9. Accounts for 2015

(RW 6th May 2016, pp470-472)

The Hon Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, reported that the independent examiners had issued an unqualified report. The net movement of funds for 2015 was a deficit of £3,074. Interest receivable was similar to that in 2014 but was expected to fall again in 2016. The expenses of the Council meeting were higher than in 2014. Total funds, including Gift Aid, raised towards Christchurch NZ were £15,219 of which £10,000 was paid to leave a balance of £5,219. Donations towards the Kilifi project totalled £4,530 of

which £2,476 has been paid, leaving a balance of £2,054.

Looking ahead, the Hon Treasurer noted that the Administrative Committee had decided to re-visit proposals for changing the basis of the affiliation fee and thus a motion to increase the fee for 2017 had not been submitted. The deficit for 2016 would be met from reserves. Andrew concluded by stating that he would be unable to stand for re-election in 2017 due to pressure of work and other commitments.

The Hon Treasurer formally proposed the adoption of the Accounts; Michael Church seconded and adoption of the accounts was agreed.

## 10. Election of Life Member

Jane Wilkinson proposed that John Barnes be elected to Life Membership of the Council. Jane recalled that John had urged the creation of a bell restoration funds committee and had become the founding chairman of this Committee upon its creation at the 1975 meeting. John had served the Committee for over 40 years and was still the parish contact for the Committee with some 30 contacts each year. John was always willing to assist and visit parishes and had spent many hundreds of hours on this work. Alan Regin seconded.

Voting was by paper ballot and the proposal was carried by a large majority.

## 11. Election of Additional Members

Three Additional Members would complete their three-year term at the end of the meeting. The following advance nominations, duly proposed and seconded, had been received: Stella Bianco and Robert Cooles. Alan Glover announced that Stella Bianco wished to withdraw her nomination.

After a ballot Robert Cooles was declared elected. Twelve vacancies remained unfilled.

## 12. Change Ringing for the Future

The President introduced this item, referring to the debate at the Open Meeting held the previous day. He acknowledged that the pace of change in the Council appeared slow but assured members that much was being achieved and planned: public relations had improved with better communication both with ringers and to the wider public; the website was being re-designed; Council committees were working better together; the Council had good relationships with outside bodies such as EIG and CBC and with the Church of England on safeguarding issues; the long-term future of Dove was being secured; all committees had been asked for their work plans for several years ahead so that the Administrative Committee could work on an overall future strategy and business plan for the Council; a motion to change the committee elections procedure appeared on the agenda and, if passed, this would gain time at the

annual meeting for more discussion on important issues; and a number of options would be considered for the affiliation fee and the future funding of the Council. The President stated that the Council intended to work closely with societies and to improve contact with society officers; to this end a number of regional meetings would be held to establish a two-way dialogue. The Founders' Company had offered a grant to assist with an education and training initiative. He concluded by saying that he hoped to see education and training programmes with appropriate budgets in every society.

Members commented on the need for a vision to inform all Council activities and on the need to explain the Council and its work to ringers. Overseas representatives urged the Council to consult and work with them as well as with UK societies. The President responded that a vision should recognise the distinction between what the Council could achieve and what should be the responsibilities of local societies. He agreed that the Council's work should be explained to ringers directly as this would circumvent problems with communication in many societies and added that the Council's new website would allow ringers to sign up to a single email contact list themselves.

The President repeated his request to members to be courteous to each other in debate and encouraged those speaking in debates on the motions to be as brief as possible.

## 13. Motions

### (A) Removal of References to the Ringing Foundation

Tony Smith proposed on behalf of the Administrative Committee:

That the second sentence of Rule 5(iii) be amended to read:

Each triennial session commences with the Annual Meeting next after each triennial election or an annual meeting of The Ringing World Limited if held in the preceding two days.

That the second sentence of Rule 5(iv) be amended to read:

An Alternate Member may not be elected an independent examiner, nor be appointed to a committee of the Council; neither shall an Alternate Member be entitled to membership of The Ringing World Limited, nor to give notice of motion in accordance with Rule 17.

That Rule 9 be deleted, existing Rules 10 to 23 be renumbered 9 to 22, and that the references in existing Rules 4(iii)(b), 15(i) and 23 to "Rule 10," "Rule 23" and "Rule 18" be changed to "Rule 9," "Rule 22" and "Rule 17" respectively.

That paragraph (iii)(e) of existing Rule 15 be deleted.

The Hon Secretary seconded. The President recorded the Council's thanks to present and past directors of the Ringing Foundation.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

## **(B) Change of Procedure for Committee Elections**

Tony Smith proposed on behalf of the Administrative Committee:

That the third sentence of Rule 6(ii) be amended to read:

Nominations may be accompanied by a statement by the candidate of not more than 250 words which will be distributed to members of the Council.

That the second, third and fourth sentences of existing Rule 15 be amended to read:

Members are appointed for three years and are eligible for reappointment.

That paragraphs (ii) to (vii) of existing Rule 15 be renumbered (iii) to (viii), that the references in paragraph (i) to “paragraph (ii)” be changed to “paragraph (iii)” and the following new paragraph (ii) be added:

All nominations for the Administrative Committee and the permanent committees enumerated in paragraph (iii) of this Rule shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary, signed by two members of the Council, not less than two calendar months previous to the meeting, and such nominations shall appear on the agenda paper. Nominations may be accompanied by a statement by the candidate of not more than 100 words which will be distributed to members of the Council. Supporting speeches will not be permitted at the meeting.

That existing paragraph (iv) of existing Rule 15 be amended to read:

The other committees shall consist of any number of elected members. Each of these committees shall have power to co-opt further members of the Council. Co-opted members shall retire at the next annual meeting but are eligible for nomination in accordance with paragraph (ii) of this Rule.

That the first sentence of existing Rule 18 be amended to read:

All notices of motion shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary, signed by two members of the Council, not less than six weeks previous to the meeting, and such notices shall appear on the agenda.

Tony referred to the advance notice of this motion given at the previous year’s meeting and to members’ strong support for it then. The motion removed limits to the size of all committees except the Administrative Committee and introduced advance nominations. Committee members would serve for 3 years as at present and would be eligible for re-election upon the expiry of that term. The Hon Secretary, seconding, stated that the nomination deadline in 2017 would be 29 March.

Some members expressed concern that there might be too many nominations for a committee

to work effectively or insufficient nominations received by the deadline, while others commented that committees needed new members and that a number of committees already had insufficient members. Tony reminded members that committees would still be able to co-opt members to serve for the current year and that this power could be used in cases where insufficient nominations were received or where new members of Council were elected after the deadline. In reply to Mark Davies, he explained that the nomination deadline was in line with that for other Council positions. Robert Wood added that committees should ensure they provided information on their work to prospective members.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

## **(C) Terms of Reference of the Committee for Redundant Bells**

Robert Wood proposed on behalf of the Committee for Redundant Bells:

That existing Rule 16(x) (Terms of Reference of the Committee for Redundant Bells) be replaced by the following:

To consider and advise on all matters concerning churches and other buildings with rings of bells where those buildings may be affected by redundancy, having the power, where necessary, to act on behalf of the Council;

to develop and maintain contact with statutory and other interested bodies charged with dealing with church and other buildings, with rings of bells, which are facing redundancy and to provide advice and support as appropriate to protect the interests of ringers;

to liaise with and support local ringers, as appropriate, in order that their interests are taken into account when buildings with rings of bells are made redundant;

to provide periodic reviews and reports concerning rings of bells in buildings affected by redundancy in order to raise awareness of the problem among ringers.

Robert explained that the revised Terms expanded the Committee’s remit to include buildings other than churches which contained rings of bells and referred members to the more extensive policy document available on the website. The motion was seconded by Helen Webb. The motion was put to the vote and carried.

## **(D) Proxy Voting**

Ernie de Legh-Runciman withdrew the motion:

That the following paragraphs be added to existing Rule 20 to permit voting by proxy:

(iii) Voting by proxy is permitted. Any member who will be absent from a meeting of the Council and who wishes to appoint a proxy to vote on his/her behalf must, before the start of the meeting, lodge with the Honorary Secretary a written proxy form, signed by the member. The absent member may appoint either the chairman of the meeting, or another member who will be

present at the meeting, as their proxy to vote on their behalf. Proxies will be issued with an additional set of ballot papers for use in secret ballots. Arrangements will be made to indicate proxy votes in a show of hands ballot.

(iv) For all purposes in these rules, a member who has appointed a proxy will be considered to be present at the meeting. When a proxy vote is cast, the member who has appointed a proxy will be considered to be voting at the meeting.

Ernie explained that the motion was being withdrawn in the light of comments on it received during the weekend and to allow more time for debate on the remaining motions.

## **(E) The Council’s Responsibilities and Relationships**

John Harrison proposed:

That the Council should make a declaration to clarify its relationship with ringers, with churches and with other ringing service providers, and that to give it prominence the declaration be recorded as a new ‘Decision’ as follows:

### **(K) Responsibilities and Relationships**

1. The Council’s primary rôle is to provide support and services to bellringers – those who practice change ringing (methods and called changes) on tower bells in the English style or on handbells.

2. The Council recognises its responsibility to undertake actions locally or globally that will help to ensure the long term future of ringing by supporting the development of all aspects of the art, science and practice of ringing, and fostering a sustainable community of competent, motivated ringers.

3. The Council recognises the church as an important partner for the ringing community – most ringers are members of church bands that provide a service within their church communities and most ringers depend on the use of bells in churches. However, the Council seeks to promote ringing as a non-denominational living tradition open to all.

4. The Council supports ringing for many reasons, including for church services, community celebrations, the development of skills and the personal satisfaction of ringers.

5. The Council will seek opportunities to develop an appetite for ringing and a respect for ringers in the wider community and in all organisations with an interest in bells.

6. The Council recognises the need to ensure the long term availability of bells suitable for ringing, whether in churches, former churches or other buildings in civic, commercial or private ownership, especially in an era of closing churches.

7. The Council recognises itself as one of a number of providers of services to ringers, and will seek constructive synergy with other service providers, taking a leading

The on-line *Dove’s Guide for Church Bell Ringers* can be found at:  
**[dove.ccbbr.org.uk/home.php](http://dove.ccbbr.org.uk/home.php)**

Updates to your tower’s information (such as change of practice night) are really helpful to potential visitors.

Also – do please supply full details of your bells and frame if not already shown.

rôle in helping different agencies to work effectively together.

8. The Council recognises that its responsibility to ringers includes seeking to ensure the continuity of any service on which the ringing community depends, if the original provider is no longer able to do so.

John opened his remarks by expressing his strong support for the Council and explained that the motion was designed to address the negative image of the Council among many ringers by making a public commitment of the Council's rôle in providing support and services to ringers. He stressed that the motion was not anti-church and drew an analogy between ringing and music: both had their own traditions, history and skills of which performance for church services was only a part. The Council needed to think long-term and recognise the changing environment in which ringers now operated. John summed up the motion as having two key points: the Council must improve its relationship with ringers and it needed a 'grown-up' relationship as a partner with the churches and other providers of services to ringers. John concluded by saying that he and the seconder wished to remove the phrase "non-denominational" from the last sentence of the third point. Ruth Marshall, seconding, recalled her experience of learning to ring at a secular tower and reminded members of the position of ringing in Scotland where many rings of bells were now housed in non-church buildings. The Council and ringers needed to look at new ways of continuing to ring when churches were declared redundant and to be open and welcoming to all.

Tony Furnivall supported the motion and called for a clear and attractive mission statement. Alison Hodge proposed that the second part of the first point be deleted so that it read "the Council's primary rôle is to provide support and services to bellringers", thus enabling the inclusion of those who rang only rounds and those ringing in the Veronese style. Ernie de Legh-Runciman seconded this amendment. After some further proposals for alternative wording had been suggested the amendment was put to the vote and carried. Robert Brown suggested that a change in the Council's name should be considered; John Harrison replied that this could be considered if the next motion was passed.

The motion as amended was put to the vote and carried.

#### **(F) Review of the Council's Rules and Activities**

John Harrison proposed:

That the Council appoint a Working Group to undertake a detailed review of its rules and activities, and to make recommendations for modernisation. Specifically:

1. That the Group report, with appropriate recommended changes, to the 2017 Council meeting.

2. That the Group consist of 5 Council members who are not officers and preferably not committee members, 5 recent former Council members (having left in the period 2008-2014) and 5 representatives from

territorial societies who are not in either of these categories.

3. That the Council commit funds to the Group to cover hire of meeting facilities, members' travel and secretarial costs.

4. That the Group should consult relevant parties including ringers at large (via a survey), representatives of relevant churches and other tower bell owning organisations, ringing societies and the Charity Commission.

5. That the scope of the review shall include but not be limited to: the Council's legal Objects and its name, the Council's structure and governance, the Council's size and membership (for example whether being a federation of ringing societies is the best way to engage with individual ringers).

John stated that this motion would commit the Council to reform of its rules and activities. The group would operate with a definite timescale, have a balanced membership and carry out wide consultation with ringers and other relevant bodies, including via a survey. The last point indicated some of the items for review including investigating ways of offering individual ringers a stake in the Council. Ruth Marshall seconded the proposal.

A number of points were made in discussion: that a vision statement should be a prerequisite; that organisational change could be a distraction from defining the Council's mission and strategy; that the proposed membership excluded those with experience, for example with Council committees; that the timetable was unrealistic; that organisational change did not preclude work on strategy; and that a fixed timescale was important. Peter Wilkinson proposed an amendment to remove the phrase "who are not officers and preferably not committee members" from point 2. John and Ruth responded that the review group would obviously consult Council officers and committee chairmen and benefit from their experience; however the proposed composition of the group would enable the officers and others to continue to focus on their regular work. The amendment was seconded by Angela Newing, put to the vote and lost. Further discussion then continued on how the group should be selected and the importance of reflecting a wide range of views and not just the personal views of group members. The Vice-President, Christopher O'Mahony, stressed that the officers should not be involved in the selection of the group. Peter Harrison suggested that guild secretaries be asked to circulate their members for expressions of interest and that a deadline of 30 June be set. John Harrison commented that the process should be transparent with the aim of producing proposals that would be workable and capable of gaining majority Council support. Jane Wilkinson proposed that points 2 – 5 be deleted as too specific. Pip Penney seconded this amendment. John Harrison repeated his comment that the process needed to be transparent and that the group should conduct wide-ranging consultations amongst ringers and other bodies. Andrew Wilby urged caution and warned of the effect on the Council's image if inappropriate proposals were

brought forward in 2017. The amendment was put to the vote and lost.

The motion was then put to the vote and carried by majority.

#### **(G) Amendments to Decision (D) PEAL RINGING, Decision (E) METHODS and Decision (J) CALLS etc**

Peter Niblett proposed on behalf of the Methods Committee:

1. That Decision (D) PEAL RINGING be amended as follows, to allow a wider range of possible lengths for peals of Doubles, Minor and Triples:

a. Add a new part (c) to Decision (D)B.2: "Not more than one touch shorter than an extent in which any of the possible rows at that stage occurs at most once."

b. Add a new part (d) to Decision (D)B.4: "Not more than one of the following:

i. a touch with the tenor as cover as permitted in 2(c) above;

ii. a variable cover touch shorter than an extent in which any of the possible rows, treated as being at the next higher stage, occurs at most once."

c. Add a new part (e) to Decision (D)B.6: "Not more than one of the following:

i. a touch at the lower stage as permitted in 4(d) above;

ii. a touch at the higher stage as permitted in 2(c) above;

iii. a mixed stage touch shorter than an extent with a cover bell when ringing the lower stage, in which any of the rows possible at the higher stage occurs at most once."

2. That Decision (E) METHODS be amended as follows, to allow a bell to lie still for more than four consecutive blows:

a. Delete the current Decision (E)A.6 in its entirety

b. Add a new Decision (E)A.6: "No bell shall lead or lie continuously for the entire plain course of the method."

3. That Decision (E) METHODS be amended as follows, to allow a new method to be named by ringing a true touch of 1260 changes or more for a Triples method (1250 changes or more for a method at higher stages):

a. Replace the existing Decision (E)A.4 with the following text:

"A new method shall be named and published in *The Ringing World*, subject to D.2 and D.3 above, and to the power of the Council to change the name or leave it unnamed if it considers it necessary, by the band that first

i. rings an extent or round block as permitted in Part B.2 of the Decision on Peal Ringing; or

ii. in the case of Triples only, rings a touch of at least 1260 changes, or in the case of higher stages, rings a touch of at least 1250 changes, otherwise complying with Parts A to D of the Decision on Peal Ringing; or

iii. includes it in a multi-method peal complying with Parts A to D of the Decision on Peal Ringing."

4. That Decision (J) CALLS be amended as follows, to allow calls that extend the length of a lead:

a. Add the following text to the end of Decision (J)A.2: “(c) by inserting additional changes between two rows, altering the length of a lead.”

5. That Decision (D) PEAL RINGING be amended as follows, to allow peals of Minimus on handbells:

a. Delete Decision (D)B.1 and renumber existing Decisions (D)B.2 to (D)B.7 and references to them.

b. Add a new Decision (D)A.15: “One or more umpires shall be present during any peal by a single ringer.”

Peter introduced the motion by saying that this was based on responses to proposals for modernisation of the Decisions received at the open meeting held at Southwark in 2015 and on the ringing theory email group. He apologised for an error in the motion as worded: the first line of 3.a should read “Replace the existing Decision (E) D.4 ...”. Peter stated that each part of the motion was independent of the others; they relaxed some current conditions in the Decisions and imposed no further restrictions.

On part 1 of the motion, Peter confirmed that a single partial extent could be rung at any point in the peal and that 240s of Doubles were already permitted.

Part 2 of the motion would allow a bell to lie still for more than 4 consecutive blows. Peter commented that the safeguard of not permitting this for the entire plain course of a method would avoid confusion as to which stage was rung. Richard Allton proposed, seconded by Tim Hine, that the wording should be “No bell shall remain in the same place continuously”. Peter responded that link methods already exist in which this occurs and he therefore opposed the amendment. The amendment was put to the vote and lost. In reply to Stephen Pettman, Peter said that current non-method blocks would become methods, with ‘block’ included as part of the name of the method.

Part 3 of the motion would allow new methods of Triples or higher stages to be rung and named in quarter peals of at least 1260 changes for Triples and at least 1250 changes for higher stages. Peter explained that this amendment had been seen as a key issue during the consultations of the past year. He noted that this provision would not be retrospective and recommended that existing provisional names be respected. Peter confirmed that the amendment related to quarter peals of a single new method; it did not allow a band to name a new method if it had been rung to a quarter peal of spliced triples or above. Peter recognised the anomaly that only a single lead of a new method needed to be rung in a peal of spliced triples or above for it to be named and suggested that further changes to this part of the Decisions could be considered in future.

Part 4 of the motion clarified the position on the way in which calls could be effected and Part 5 would permit peals of minimus on handbells with the safeguard that one or more umpires be present if the peal were rung by a single person.

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librysteward@cccbr.org.uk

Peter concluded by formally proposing the motion, which was seconded by Fred Bone. The motion was carried.

Members adjourned for lunch at 12.30 p.m. The President reminded members to initial the attendance sheets to signify their consent to membership of The Ringing World Ltd and asked them to notify any items of any other business to the Hon Secretary during the lunch break. The meeting resumed, after the Annual Meeting of The Ringing World Limited, at 2.52 p.m.

### 13 (H) Revision of Decisions on Peals, Methods and Calls

Peter Niblett proposed on behalf of the Methods Committee:

1. That the Council recognises the need for a framework of definitions for Peals, Methods and Calls in order that method collections and peal records can be maintained.

2. That the Council agrees that these definitions should reflect current ringing practices and also that they should not inhibit future developments in ringing, and should not impose value judgements on what people choose to ring.

3. That the Methods Committee shall, in consultation with other interested parties, prepare revised Decisions that are consistent with points 1 and 2 and address points that have been raised in the consultation process to date. The Committee shall prepare a draft before the end of 2016.

4. That the following areas shall be considered in scope for the revision:

a. Relaxation of restrictions imposed by the current Decisions (for example peals on simulators, methods that are false in their plain course)

b. Requirements on how peals are reported

c. Requirements for Record Peals

d. The process for recording and handling noncompliant peals

e. The structure and presentation of the Decisions, and definitions of the terms used in them.

The President explained that this was an enabling motion and invited Peter Niblett to introduce the motion. Peter noted that the first two points established a framework with the remaining points providing scope for the Methods Committee to work on further changes to the relevant Decisions. The consultation process had revealed many radically different views and the Committee would try to find a balance between some of these opposing views. The Committee’s website would be used to present draft proposals. Peter encouraged

members and others to respond to the request for comments and drew attention to the timeline given in the third point. Robin Woolley seconded the motion. Tony Furnivall stated that the North American Guild urged the Committee to conduct further consultations in a transparent and public way and to use the ringing theory email list. John Harrison urged the Committee to consider alternative solutions to the issue of compliant or non-compliant peals.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

## 14. Committee Reports

*(The reports were published in the Central Council Supplement to The Ringing World of 6th May 2016. The relevant page numbers are shown against each report.)*

The President asked committee chairmen and those nominating candidates for election to be ready at the microphone so that this part of the meeting could be conducted as efficiently as possible.

### (a) Administrative (pp472-473)

Adoption of the report was proposed by the Hon Secretary. She apologised to members for the delay in publication of this year’s *Supplement*, which had been caused by IT problems at the office of *The Ringing World*, and thanked Fred Bone and Jacqui Brown for their assistance with its production. The Hon Secretary noted a minor change to the Guidance on Committee Expenses which introduced a deadline for the submission of claims. She drew attention to the forthcoming meeting with Historic England (formerly English Heritage) and the Church Buildings Council in July and asked members to notify her or David Kirkcaldy of any item which should be raised at the meeting. She thanked members for continuing to support the electronic circulation of papers for the meeting, thus saving a considerable sum which would otherwise be spent on copying and postage. The Vice- President, seconding, spoke on initial plans for the 2018 annual meeting to be held at Lancaster University. The report was adopted.

David Kirkcaldy had become an ex-officio member of the Committee. Angela Newing and Andrew Wilby retired. Helen Udal was no longer a member of Council. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 4 vacancies on the Committee: Giles Blundell, Pip Penney, Clyde Whittaker and Andrew Wilby.

### (b) Peal Records (pp473-477)

Richard Allton proposed adoption of the report. He noted that the three additional new methods rung on tower bells in 2015 had now been published and would be included in the 2016 analysis. Ben Duke seconded. John Harrison queried if the peal at Throwley should now be reported differently; Tony Smith commented that this peal had not been compliant with the Decisions at the time it was rung. Adoption of the report was agreed.

Andrew Barnsdale had died. Alison Brittliff and Derek Sibson retired. There were 3 vacancies on the Committee. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected: Paul Cammiade and Derek Sibson. One vacancy was unfilled.

**(c) Public Relations (pp478-480)**

Proposing adoption of the report, Kate Flavell thanked members for their co-operation in planning ringing for the Heritage Open Days in England in September. She asked members to complete and return the BBC survey on ringing circulated that day. Kate referred to ringing for the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen and encouraged towers to ring during the Patron's Lunch on Sunday 12th June. A seminar for public relations officers would be held in 2017. The Committee planned to focus on ringing for St George's Day in 2017. Lynne Hughes seconded the report. Tina Stoecklin asked if Scotland could be involved in Heritage Open Days ringing. Kate replied that other heritage events were held throughout the UK. She also responded to requests for clarification of question 6 in the BBC survey. Adoption of the report was then agreed.

Matthew Sorell was no longer a Council member. Bruce Butler, Lynne Hughes and Michael Orme retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 4 vacancies on the Committee: Bruce Butler, Michael Orme, Caroline Stockmann and Clyde Whittaker.

The meeting agreed that item 14 (m) should be taken next so that committee members could maintain existing travel arrangements.

**(m) Education (p485)**

Duncan Walker proposed adoption of the report. He announced that Tim Hine had now become chairman of the Committee and thanked members for their support during his time as chairman. Lucy Hopkins Till seconded. Roger Booth asked if the Committee intended to cooperate with the Association of Ringing Teachers in producing publications. Duncan replied that ART was well represented on the Committee but there was still a case for separate publications. Pip Penney added that ART publications were available for sale to the wider ringing community. The report was adopted.

In view of the adoption of Motion (B) the Committee size was increased and the following members, having been proposed and seconded, were declared elected: Christine de Cordova, Tim Hine, Gill Hughes, Pip Penney, David Smith, Caroline Stockmann and Susan Welch.

**(d) Publications (pp480-481)**

Adoption of the report was proposed by Beryl Norris, who announced that the new edition of *Organising a Bell Restoration Project* was now on sale, seconded by Jan Wyatt and agreed. The meeting resolved to send good wishes to John Couperthwaite, chairman, who was absent due to ill health.

Peter Mackie had died. John Couperthwaite retired. The following members were proposed,

seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: John Couperthwaite and Mike Hansford.

**(e) Redundant Bells (p481)**

Robert Wood proposed adoption of the report. David Westerman seconded. Robert Perry informed members that the Truro diocese now had a "festival church". Adoption of the report was agreed.

Robert Cooles and Robert Wood retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Robert Cooles and Robert Wood.

**(f) Ringing Centres (pp481-482)**

Adoption of the report was proposed by Leslie Boyce. Leslie noted that the latest edition of *Training Times* was now available electronically and drew attention to the fact that the Committee was currently without a chairman. Committee members had spent time considering various options for its future, including disbanding the Committee, forming a smaller Committee with a limited brief, continuation of the present situation or becoming a working group as part of another committee. Phil Bailey seconded the report. John Harrison urged the Committee to review earlier proposals for a merger of the Education and Ringing Centres committees; Leslie replied that he hoped the committees would work closely together. The report was adopted.

Matthew Sorell was no longer a Council member. Leslie Boyce and Pip Penney retired. There were 3 vacancies on the Committee. Two members were proposed, seconded and elected: Leslie Boyce and Maureen Frost. One vacancy remained unfilled.

**(g) Ringing Trends (p482)**

Tim Pett proposed adoption of the report. He regretted that the Committee chairman, Elva Ainsworth, had felt obliged to resign in October following publication of a letter in *The Ringing World* on data protection aspects of the planned survey. The survey was currently on hold. Deborah Thorley, seconding, announced that the remaining members of the Committee had all now resigned with immediate effect.

Robert Wood expressed his disappointment at this but pointed out that this was the result of a letter from a single ringer. David Smith stated that ANZAB would have been unable to comply with the Committee's original request for data but had responded with suggestions on a way forward; publication of the letter in *The Ringing World* had not been inappropriate. Tony Furnivall considered that an international membership organisation would provide a solution to data protection issues. The Vice-President commended the Committee for the quality of the information collected and analysis made over the years, adding that the new Council website would provide a facility for individual ringers to subscribe and submit relevant data. The report was adopted.

No member responded to the President's request for nominations. Stefan Zientek noted that the Committee's expertise would be needed by the Review Working Party (Motion F). John Harrison recalled the background to the establishment of Ringing Trends as a permanent Council Committee and stressed the need to find a way to continue the Committee's important work.

**(h) Towers and Belfries (pp482-483)**

Adoption of the report was proposed by David Kirkcaldy, who reported progress on the new Maintenance Handbook and updated guidance on mobile telephone installations, seconded by Chris Povey and agreed.

Tim Collins had resigned. Roland Backhurst, Alan Frost and Bernard Stone retired. There were 5 vacancies on the Committee. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected: Roland Backhurst, Alan Frost and Bernard Stone. Two vacancies were unfilled.

**(i) Tower Stewardship (p442)**

Proposing adoption of the report, Ernie de Legh-Runciman referred to his recent email (4th April) to Council members and for the need for better communication between relevant Council committees. Ernie suggested that representatives of Tower Stewardship, Bell Restoration, Towers and Belfries and the Committee for Redundant Bells should meet regularly and that the committee structure should be reviewed. Chris Sharp seconded. Stephen Pettman asked if there had been any changes to the most recent document on safeguarding and if the same document had been sent to dioceses. The President confirmed that this was the case. Ian Hastilow remarked that the committees also needed to work with DAC bell advisers. Adoption of the report was agreed.

Alan Chantler and James Smith were no longer Council members. Peter Kemp retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 3 vacancies on the Committee: Mike Hansford, Julian Hemper and David Mattingley.

**(j) Bell Restoration (pp483-484)**

Peter Wilkinson proposed adoption of the report. He noted that 2 specific projects – the bell restoration seminar in Somerset and updating *Organising a Bell Restoration Project* – had been completed. Peter referred to the advertisement in the 1st April issue of *The Ringing World* seeking applications for a grant; 29 expressions of interest had been received and a shortlist of 5 projects would be forwarded to the company concerned for a decision. The Committee would welcome invitations to hold further bell restoration seminars in the regions. Peter confirmed that the Committee co-operated with other Council committees in its work. Jay Bunyan seconded and adoption of the report was agreed.

Jay Bunyan, Ian Oram and Peter Wilkinson retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 4 vacancies on

the Committee: Jay Bunyan, Graham Hills, Ian Oram and Peter Wilkinson.

#### **(k) Biographies (p484)**

Adoption of the report was proposed by John Harrison. John noted that 940 biographical records were now available on the website and that 40 articles had now been published in the “Prolific Peal Ringers” series. John thanked Pat Halls, who was not seeking re-election, for her work, especially in dealing with the backlog of records, and Bill Butler for the “Prolific Peal Ringers” series. Bobbie May seconded and the report was adopted.

Richard Andrew, Pat Halls and John Harrison retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 3 vacancies on the Committee: Richard Andrew, Anne Anthony and John Harrison.

#### **(l) Compositions (p485)**

Paul Flavell proposed adoption of the report. He referred to the number of composition resources which existed in the online collection and stated that he would be standing down as Committee chairman. Richard Allton seconded. Mark Davies asked for the Committee’s views on Graham John’s compositions website. Richard Allton responded that the 2 sites complemented each other and that there would be migration problems if they attempted to merge. The report was adopted.

Richard Allton and Paul Flavell retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Richard Allton and Paul Flavell. Veronica Downing stated that George Salter had just resigned as a Suffolk Guild Central Council representative and therefore there was a further vacancy on the Committee. This vacancy was left unfilled.

#### **(n) Information and Communications Technology (pp485-486)**

Adoption of the report was proposed by David Richards. Dave thanked Douglas Davis for his work on the proposed new Council website which was currently on display and asked members to view this and provide feedback by the end of August. The new system would allow committees to update their own web pages directly. Dave also announced that the Committee was able to provide a repository and support service for the preservation of digital ringing resources. Douglas Davis seconded and adoption of the report was then agreed. The Vice-President congratulated the Committee on their progress with these projects during the year.

David Richards, Leigh Simpson and Peter Trotman retired. The following members were proposed and seconded to fill the 3 vacancies on the Committee: David Richards, Leigh Simpson and Peter Trotman.

Dave Richards added that the Committee would be happy to assist with the proposed survey of ringers but the responsibility for this should remain with the Ringing Trends Committee.

#### **(o) Library (pp486-487)**

Proposing adoption of the report, Alan Glover paid tribute to the work of Stella Bianco, retiring chairman. Linda Foddering seconded and adoption of the report was agreed. It was announced that Linda Foddering would become chairman.

Stella Bianco would no longer be a Council member. Ian Self retired. There were 2 vacancies on the Committee. One member was proposed, seconded and elected: Ian Self. One vacancy was unfilled.

#### **(p) Methods (p487)**

Peter Niblett proposed adoption of the report. This was seconded by Leigh Simpson and agreed.

Peter Niblett and Robin Woolley retired. There were 3 vacancies on the Committee. Four members were proposed and seconded to serve on the Committee. In view of the adoption of Motion B the meeting agreed that all should serve and the following were declared elected: Mark Davies, David Grimwood, Peter Niblett and Robin Woolley.

### **15. Report of the Stewards of the Carter Ringing Machine Collection**

*(RW 6th May 2016, p487)*

Adoption of the report was proposed by James Blackburn, seconded by George Dawson and agreed.

### **16. Report of the Steward of the Rolls of Honour**

*(RW 6th May 2016, pp487-488)*

In proposing the report for adoption, Alan Regin noted the publication in the current *Ringling World* of information on those ringers who fell during April to June 1916. Alan reminded members of the anniversary of the commencement of the Battle of the Somme on 1 July and asked societies to inform him of any commemorative ringing organised to the memory of those ringers who lost their lives. The centenary of the battle of Jutland, in which 3 ringers died, would be marked on 31 May. Alan thanked Yvonne Cairns and Kathryn Pearce for their assistance with family history research. Robert Wood seconded and adoption of the report was agreed.

### **17. Report of the Stewards of the Dove Database**

*(RW 6th May 2016, p488)*

In the absence of the Stewards, the President proposed adoption of the report. He referred to the vast amount of work undertaken by the Stewards and informed members that progress was being made on ensuring the future viability of the service with plans to host the Dove database on the BellBoard server. He urged any

member interested in working as a Dove Steward to contact him. The Vice-President seconded. Ernie de Legh-Runciman asked if Dove would be able to link with the new Church of England online records system; the President replied that the Church Buildings Council was interested in supporting the work done on the pNBR. The report was adopted. The meeting agreed that a message wishing Sid Baldwin, John’s son and the developer of the Dove mobile app, a speedy recovery should be sent.

### **18. Central Council Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells (Registered Charity no. 278816)**

#### **Report and Accounts**

*(RW 6th May 2016, p488)*

Adoption of the report was proposed by Robert Cooles and seconded by Helen Webb. Fred Bone asked for an assurance that the charity’s entry on the Charity Commission website, which showed an overdue annual return and an out-of-date list of trustees, would be updated urgently. This assurance was given and the report was agreed.

### **19. Future meetings**

The President reminded members that invitations had been accepted for future years as follows:

2017 – Scottish Association.

Ruth Marshall outlined plans for the visit of the Council to Edinburgh in 2017.

### **Attendance**

The Hon Secretary reported on attendance at the meeting as set out in the table below and thanked Stephen Franklin for compiling the attendance records.

### **20. Other Business**

(a) The Vice-President invited expressions of interest for the positions of Vice-President and Treasurer in 2017.

(b) Helen Webb urged members to support the BellRingers Strike Back Against Blood Cancer event on 25th June.

(c) Julian Newman asked about the position of the Ringing Trends Committee; the President confirmed that there were currently no volunteers to serve on the Committee.

(d) Alan Regin asked any ringer who would be attending the Somme commemoration at Thiepval on 1st July to contact him.

(e) Kate Flavell reminded members to return the BBC survey sheets.

(f) James Ramsbottom asked if, with no members, the Ringing Trends Committee still existed; the President responded that the Committee did exist but had no members.

(g) The Hon Secretary reminded members to return badges and, especially, badge holders.

(h) The Hon Secretary stated that the nomination deadline for Council officers,



stewards, independent examiners and committee members would be 29 March 2017.

(i) The President sought agreement for the ballot papers to be destroyed and this was given.

### Votes of Thanks

The President thanked all committee members and stewards for their work for ringing and the Council throughout the year and thanked members for their support during the difficult discussions at the day’s meeting.

The President moved a comprehensive vote of thanks to all those involved in the Council’s visit to Portsmouth: to the organising committee of the Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild: Christine Hill, Michael Church, Charlotte Colliss, Claire Partridge, Maureen Routh, Tessa Smith and Tony Smith; to all the members of the Guild who manned the Reception / Help Desk; to ringing members from local towers who acted as stewards for the ringing tours; to Guild members who acted as stewards at The Royal Beach Hotel and to the tellers and microphone operators; and to all those Guild members involved in any way with the arrangements; to the Rt Revd Christopher Foster (Bishop of Portsmouth), to Councillor David Fuller (Lord Mayor of Portsmouth), and the Master of the Guild Viv Nobbs for their welcome at the dinner; to the Revd Canon Jo Spreadbury, Precentor, for leading the Songs of Praise service and giving the address at the Cathedral; and to all the incumbents and ringers of local churches who made bells available during the weekend.

The President declared the meeting closed at 5.20pm.

### Summary of Attendance

	Members		
	Societies Present	Absent	
Fully represented	37	110	
Partly represented	24	57	20
Not represented	5	–	6
	66	167	
Life Members		3	3
Ex-officio Members		4	3
Additional Members		6	2
		180	34

**SECOND-HAND BELLS WANTED**

We have a large number of enquiries for single bells for augmentations, for complete rings of bells and small bells for chiming

*Please contact:*  
**The Secretary, Keltek Trust, The Kloof,  
 Lower Kingsdown Road, Kingsdown, Corsham,  
 Wiltshire SN13 8BG**  
 email: bells@keltektrust.org.uk  
 web site: http://www.keltektrust.org.uk  
 Registered Charity No. 115407  
 KeltekTrust – helping Christian churches world-wide  
 to acquire second-hand bells

## Council Review Action Group Summary of Findings and Proposals

The Central Council set up this independent review in order to examine its activities and make recommendations for modernisation in the light of the current needs of the ringing community.

We have undertaken the review using Council Decision K as a starting point. This was adopted at the Portsmouth meeting in 2016 and clarified the Council’s relationship with ringers, churches and other ringing service providers stating clearly that the primary role of the Council was the provision of support and services to ringers and to ringing.

We developed and then consulted upon Vision and Mission statements that sought to describe a view of what a good future for ringing would be like and what the role of a reformed Central Council should be in making that happen. Additionally, we invited general submissions from ringers giving their views on the Council including ideas for improvement and undertook a survey to see whether the views expressed were representative of those of a larger group of ringers. On the basis of this evidence, together with our own observations, we have identified a number of positive and negative themes in relation to the Council. We have further analysed these to identify underlying causes and propose changes that should address them.

This is a short summary of our findings together with our detailed proposals. Our full report is available online at [cc-crag.weebly.com](http://cc-crag.weebly.com).

### 1 Summary of findings

While a minority of respondents did not see any reason for change, the overwhelming view was that radical change is essential. It is important to stress, however, that not all was seen as bad and that many commented on the hard work done by members of the Council. Indeed the majority did see the need for a Central Ringing Organisation (CRO) and the positive themes below emerged about the existing Council (more information is in the main report):

- A. It provides a single point of representation for ringers.
- B. It keeps an extremely valuable set of records regarding both practical ringing and the history of ringing.
- C. The maintenance of a comprehensive list of method names and definition is invaluable.
- D. There is a strong volunteer ethos.
- E. As the progenitor of the Ringing Foundation it has indirectly enabled ART to form.
- F. Its stewardship of, and continuing links with, the Ringing World and Dove’s Guide is of great importance.

These points demonstrate the unequivocal need for a Central Ringing Organisation to continue, building on these strengths and developing new capabilities.

A number of common negative themes emerged from the feedback, however. These were seen as currently limiting the Council’s authority and standing as well as its effectiveness:

G. It communicates poorly with the ringing community.

There were more adverse comments about communication than any other issue.

H. It doesn’t promote ringing to the public well enough.

Many stressed the need to promote a different (more accurate) view of ringing and ringers to the non-ringing public.

I. Most ringers think it is irrelevant to them.

There was a recurrent theme that the Council was perceived as irrelevant to most ringers and that it focussed on matters that were neither of interest nor relevance to the majority of them.

J. It has no apparent strategy or vision.

The lack of an overall strategy or vision was commented on by a number of people. This was felt to inhibit adequate coordination between the different committees and prioritization of what the Council should and should not be doing. Others raised the simple question “What is the Central Council for?”

K. It is ineffective.

A number of ringers, including some Council members, commented on problems with getting things done effectively with a tendency to dive into irrelevant details seen as part of the culture. A number of responses said that the size of the Council was far too big to operate effectively and to make decisions swiftly.

L. It lacks a culture of accountability and doesn’t follow-through.

There was a repeated theme that the Council and its committees appear to be inefficient and sometimes fail to see important tasks through to completion. Various examples were provided as well as the observation that previous attempts to introduce effective accountability for committees or chairmen have failed, largely for cultural reasons within the Council.

M. It seems closed, insular and inward-looking.

The Council was variously described as “impenetrable”, “opaque” and “inward-looking” with insufficient turnover in some committees. It was noted that most of the business transacted at Council meetings is about the Council itself or its activities and that it was frequently dismissive of work that was initiated outside of its control.

N. It is defensive.

Regrettably the reputation for being defensive still persists quite strongly, despite the Council’s strong vote to initiate this review. It is

also noteworthy that some of the submissions made in a personal capacity by people who are prominent members of the Council put much of the blame for the Council's problems on a lack of new volunteers willing to join it. We should say however that the current officers of the Council have in no way been defensive in their dealings with CRAG.

O. It can appear autocratic.

Some people commented that there is an impression given that "Council knows best" and that issuing top-down edicts took preference to engaging with those outside the Council. The name Central Council is felt by a number of respondents as having negative connotations, suggesting a Victorian governing body rather than a modern, open and forward-thinking body.

P. It is inadequately funded.

Funding is seen as a major issue, with the ability of the Council to get things done being hampered by a lack of available funds. It is clear that for any CRO to function efficiently it needs enough money to run its affairs in a professional manner in order to provide a high quality service.

Q. The need for Leadership.

Throughout the submissions there were comments on the need for effective leadership at all levels in ringing. It is also inescapable that a lack of effective leadership within the Central Council was one cause of many of the specific criticisms of the Council. Any CRO must be prepared to tackle this issue and to focus on the development of effective leadership at all levels including within the CRO.

In our discussions with current and past leaders of the Council most have expressed their frustrations at the difficulty of getting things done, suggesting that it may well be the structure and culture of the Council rather than the attributes of any specific individual that impede effective leadership.

## 2 Principles for change

The Council needs to change in a way that allows it to become the effective Central Ringing Organisation that ringing needs. In making the required changes, the following criteria must be met:

- A. It must be clear about what it is trying to achieve and adopt a strategic approach.
- B. At all times it must primarily serve and represent the interests of ringing and ringers.
- C. It must develop a direct communication channel and make it available to all ringers.
- D. It must develop the ability for any ringer who joins a direct membership channel to have some form of influence over the services and activities of the CRO in addition to the influence of affiliated societies.
- E. The day-to-day running of the CRO must be entrusted to a small "Executive" group, empowered to make decisions without further approval.

F. The representative group ("Council of Representatives" in the proposals below) should confine itself to holding to account the leadership that runs the CRO. To be effective it is desirable that it be significantly smaller than the current Central Council.

G. There must be fewer committees, and they must be held to account by the Executive.

H. Any ringer, without reference to their membership or not of the Central Council may be nominated for a position on the Executive or on a Workgroup (committee).

I. Lines of accountability must be clear and in keeping with best governance principles.

J. All posts must have a maximum term of office.

K. It should work closely with other ringing bodies to serve ringing and ringers.

L. It should at all times foster strong and constructive relationships with community, church and bell owners.

M. It must develop new and diverse sources of income.

N. It must be willing and able to expend resources to deliver a professional quality of service including employment of a small professional support group.

O. The current rules and decisions must be simplified.

## 3 Conclusions and proposals

The following proposals will allow the ultimate development of an organisation that:

- helps ensure a healthy future for ringing
- is in better contact with and more relevant to ringers in general
- addresses many of the governance and operational issues that underlie the problems we have identified.

To serve and represent the interests of ringers, our finding is that it is vital that the Council urgently establishes a direct relationship with individual ringers, which allows them both to benefit from and exert influence upon the Council's range of services and activities.

The full development of a direct membership organisation will require significant research, planning and consultation to ensure that it:

- offers services that will be attractive and valuable to its members;
- is financially sustainable;
- complements the services currently available from other societies;
- retains those positive features of the current Central Council;
- has the right balance of governance between society and individual membership.

On the immediate question of governance, our conclusion is that the existing Council could dramatically improve its ability to make and implement timely decisions by taking a number of steps to bring its structure and working practices in line with the standard governance model adopted by most UK charities.

Wherever the phrase Central Ringing Organisation (CRO) is used it relates to the future state of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

### PROPOSAL A)

The Council will: -

i) make the necessary rule changes by the end of May 2018 to replace its existing objects with the "Vision", "Mission" and "Activity" statements consulted upon by CRAG and

ii) in the interim, through the Executive group, develop and publish a five-year strategy and strategic objectives based upon these and an action plan each year to cover the work required. The Executive will publish the first plan by the end of 2017, send interim reports of progress against actions to all Council members by email quarterly from November 2017 and make a formal report to the Council meeting in May 2018.

### PROPOSAL B)

The Council will transfer management of its affairs, including the development and delivery of strategy, to an Executive of no more than eight people (including President, Deputy President, Secretary and Treasurer and no more than four other elected members).

i) Any ringer will be eligible to stand for election as an officer or to the Executive.

ii) The Executive will be formed as soon as possible (and no later than November 2017).

iii) The Executive will be accountable to the CRO's members for

a) creating and delivering the strategic direction of ringing;

b) acting as advocates promoting the wellbeing and development of ringing and ringers in general;

c) promoting the development of technical and non-technical leadership skills amongst ringers;

d) working strategically, in partnership with other bodies, to ensure the delivery of those services needed by ringers.

iv) Upon establishment of the Executive the role of the Administrative Committee will be limited to the organisation of the 2018 annual meeting following which it will be disbanded.

v) All posts will have a term of office of three years renewable no more than once, except for the initial appointments as specified in (vi) below.

vi) For the first appointments terms of office will be staggered to ensure that not all officers and Executive members retire at

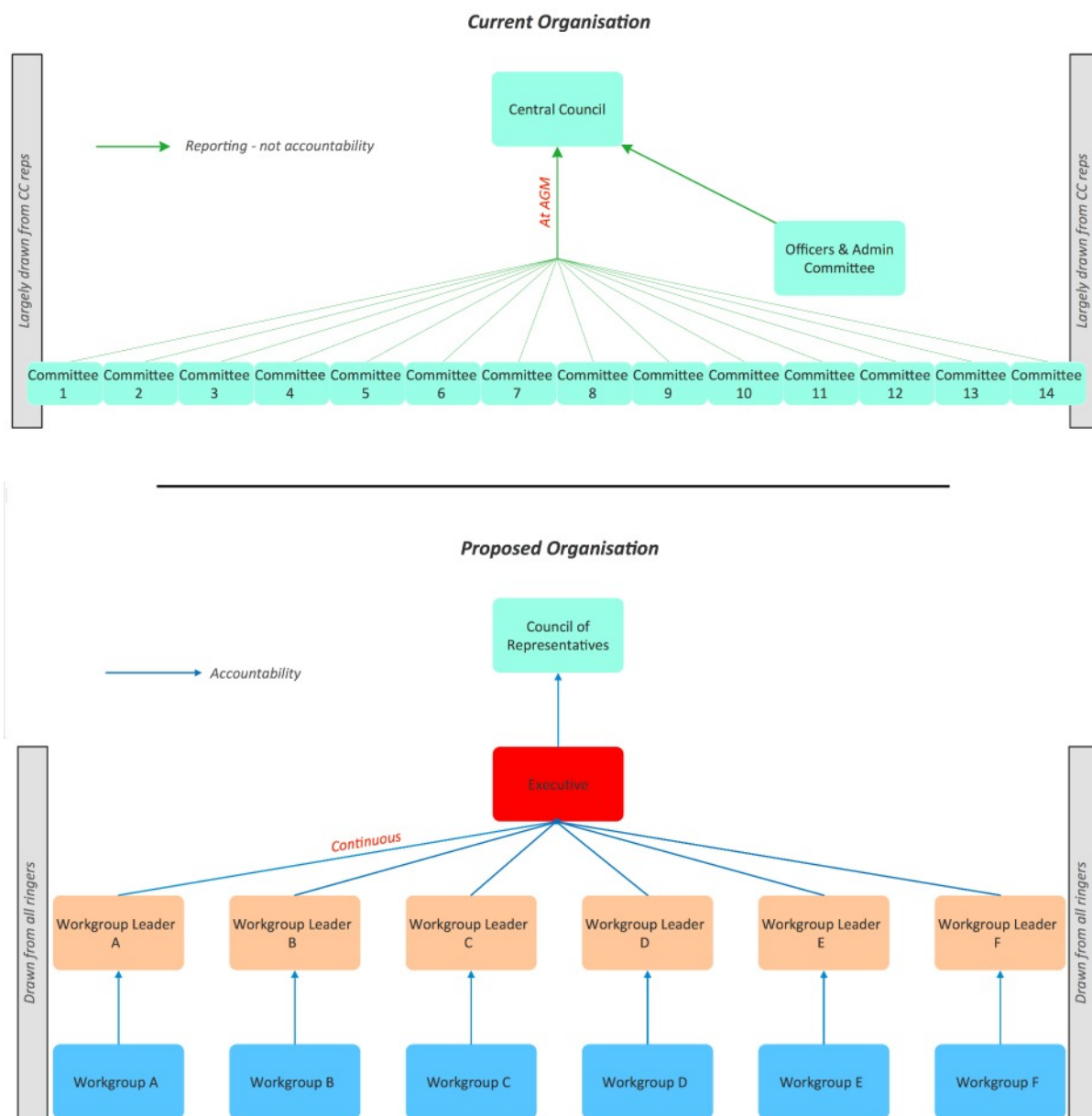


Figure S1  
Comparison of Current and Proposed Organisational Structures

once. In the case of additional members of the Executive, the current Trustees will appoint individuals, each of whom will serve for one year only in the first instance and be eligible for re-election at the 2018 meeting.

vii) The members of the Executive will also become the Trustees of the CRO for the purposes of running the charity.

viii) In line with Charity Commission guidance, the Executive should be empowered to appoint up to two additional non-elected members, where they judge this to be necessary in order to achieve an appropriate diversity of skills, backgrounds or expertise.

ix) The post of Vice-President will be re-titled as Deputy President to remove the

implicit expectation that the post of President is preceded by a three-year period as Vice-President.

x) The Executive will review the necessity for the post of Honorary Assistant Secretary in the light of these changes and the creation of a professional support group. The post-holder will in any case not be an automatic member of the Executive and will accordingly cease to be a Trustee.

PROPOSAL C)

The new Executive will, by November 2017, realign the current committees into a significantly reduced number (single figures) of Workgroups, each led by an individual Workgroup Leader.

i) Workgroup Leaders will be appointed by the Executive by February 2018. One criterion for appointment will be that they are considered to have credibility within the Workgroup’s field of activity.

ii) Each Workgroup Leader will report to a named member of the Executive who will be ultimately accountable for that Workgroup’s performance.

iii) Any ringer may apply to be a Workgroup Leader.

iv) Workgroup Leaders will, in consultation with the Executive, appoint members for their Workgroups in such number and variety as needed, with selection being irrespective of a candidate’s membership of the Council

of Representatives or Executive. This work will be completed by May 2018.

v) The continuing need for each of these Workgroups or for new working (including “task and finish”) groups will be reviewed regularly by the Executive.

vi) All Workgroup posts will have a term of office of three years renewable no more than once (except that some initial appointments may be for shorter terms to ensure that not all members of a Workgroup, or all Workgroup Leaders retire at once).

#### PROPOSAL D)

The current Council will from its meeting in 2018 be retitled the Council of Representatives (CoRe) and its functions restricted to matters related to the constitution of the CRO, the review and approval of the annual report and accounts, the election of members of the Executive and approval of any changes to the rules of the Council. It will not be involved in operations or in making operational (including technical) decisions but may act as a conduit for feedback from members and from affiliated societies as well as a source of advice to the Executive.

i) Members of the Executive and Workgroup Leaders will not be eligible to be members of CoRe. Any member of CoRe who is elected to one of these roles shall be deemed to have resigned their membership of CoRe. Members of the Executive shall be expected to attend meetings of CoRe but shall have no voting rights.

ii) CoRe will consist of Representative members only and the category of Additional Members will be discontinued. Existing Life Members will be conferred the title of “Fellows of Council” but will not have voting rights within CoRe.

iii) The Executive should develop proposals by which the formal business meeting of CoRe will be made significantly shorter and more effective. These proposals should explicitly consider the feasibility of reducing the size of CoRe to 25-40% of its current size

with each society retaining representation. It will consult on these proposals with affiliated societies with a view to implementation before the election of representatives to take up office in 2020.

#### PROPOSAL E)

The Executive will: -

i) Develop plans to allow membership of the CRO to be opened up to all ringers, begin implementing these and report on progress to CoRe in May 2018.

ii) Work with affiliated societies and others to develop direct communication links with individual ringers during 2017-18.

iii) Every three years commencing May 2019, undertake a review of the CRO’s rules and governance to assess whether they continue to be effective and aligned with best practice. In the event that control of the CRO remains vested in the CoRe, each review should explicitly include an assessment and recommendation as to whether it would be appropriate to transfer some or all of the powers of the CoRe to individual direct members.

#### PROPOSAL F)

The Executive will recruit a small group whose task will be to simplify the rules of the Council, replacing them with a short statutory set of rules supported by a set of operating principles and procedures. All of the necessary rule changes required by the foregoing proposals will be incorporated into this work. The new rules and supporting documents together with any other outputs of this group should be compliant with Charity Commission guidance. The Executive will report back to CoRe in May 2018 with a recommendation for adoption at that meeting.

#### PROPOSAL G)

Professional support.

i) The Council agrees that the Executive should, where necessary, seek and be pre-

pared to pay for professional support particularly in communications, public relations, the marketing of ringing and those aspects of ICT necessary to allow the smooth and professional operation of the CRO.

ii) The new Executive will scope out the creation of a professional support group to carry out the administrative functions of the CRO and some of the support work currently performed by committees and report back to CoRe with their conclusions in May 2018.

#### PROPOSAL H)

The Decisions of the Central Council will be replaced with a simple and permissive descriptive framework for ringing with only the minimal detail required to maintain the historical record. The Executive will appoint a neutral and respected ringer who is demonstrably independent of those responsible for the current Decisions to complete this work. The leader may assemble a group of ringers to assist with this task and will consult widely on their proposals before presenting them to the Council in May 2018.

The publication and maintenance of this framework will be the responsibility of the Executive.

#### PROPOSAL I)

The Executive will also, during the period 2017-2020: -

i) Review the name and branding of the Council taking into account a broad range of opinion from the public, ringers in general and other interested parties and then bring forward to CoRe recommendations for any change to the name of the Council, or any alternative working name, that it may have.

ii) Consider how the annual meeting of CoRe may be incorporated into an annual ringing festival which will be open to all ringers and plan future meetings accordingly.

iii) Consider what benefit remains from continuing to work to the current triennial cycle of business.



**Ringing World National Youth Contest**

The seventh Contest will be held on

**Saturday, 1st July 2017**

in

**BIRMINGHAM**

For further details see: [www.rwnyc.ringingworld.co.uk](http://www.rwnyc.ringingworld.co.uk)



# Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

## Annual Report for 2016

1. 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 Honorary Secretary for the time being, namely 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, CM21 9DB. The constitution and conduct of the Council is governed by its Rules.

2. The Council’s Trustees during 2016 were as follows:

President	Mr C F Mew
Vice-President	Dr C D O’Mahony
Hon Secretary	Mrs M Bone
Hon Assistant Secretary	Mrs C N J Franklin
Hon Treasurer	Mr A C Taylor

3. The Council’s bankers are Lloyds Bank plc, Westminster House Branch, Dean Stanley Street, London, SW1P 3HU. Its Independent Examiners are Mr J D Cheesman and Mrs W E Godden.

4. At the close of the Annual General Meeting on 30 May 2016 the Council’s membership comprised 6 Life Members, 8 Additional Members, 7 Ex-officio Members and 193 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies. Since then three Additional Members have retired, one of whom was re-elected at that meeting and took office. During that annual meeting one Life Member was elected, references to the Ringing Foundation were removed from the Rules, a revised procedure for committee elections was agreed, the Terms of Reference of one committee were amended, and the Council agreed that a working party should be established to review its rules and activities. Details of the changes to the Representative Membership are set out in the Appendix below. Subject to any further changes, at the start of the 2017 Council meeting there will be 7 Life Members, 5 Additional Members, 6 Ex-officio Members and 189 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies. There are 11 other vacancies.

5. The Object of the Council is to promote and foster the ringing of bells for Christian prayer, worship and celebration and in furtherance thereof:

- (i) To promote awareness of and educate the general public in the ringing of church bells and the art of change ringing;
- (ii) To make available advice, assistance and information to church authorities,

ringers and ringing societies and to promote good practice on all matters concerned with bells and bell ringing;

- (iii) To encourage development of the art of ringing through innovation;
- (iv) To bring together ringers to discuss matters of common interest and to represent ringers both nationally and internationally;
- (v) To encourage high standards of performance in ringing;
- (vi) To recommend technical standards in change ringing and maintain such records as may be necessary to uphold these standards;
- (vii) To assist in the provision, restoration, maintenance and transfer of church bells.

6. The work of the Council in pursuing this object is for the most part carried out by its sixteen committees and by working groups appointed by them. Summaries of their activities during 2016 are given in the committee reports, which appear elsewhere on the Council’s agenda and are being published in the 28th April 2017 issue of *The Ringing World*.

7. 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.

8. The Accounts for 2016 show total funds at the year-end of £418,592 of which £257,557 is in restricted funds. Income for the year totalled £29,151 compared with £36,108 in 2015. A grant of £1,000 was received from the Worshipful Company of Founders. The costs of the 2016 Council Meeting at £1,829 were lower than the previous year (2015 £4,059). We paid the full cost of *The Ringing World Supplement* of £2,191 (2015 £1,627). Council Review and Action Group expenditure was £1,052 (2015 nil).

The 2016 figures include further donations for the Christchurch Cathedral, New Zealand, bells restoration and the Kilifi project.

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.

9. It is confirmed that the Council’s assets, together with the expected income for 2017, are available and are likely to be adequate to fulfil the objects of the Council in that year.

10. Reserves policy:

- (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.
- (ii) **Education Courses** – the balance provides cash flow to enable the Education Committee to run various training courses, in general the costs are recouped from attendees.
- (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.
- (iv) **Fred Dukes International Bell Fund** – Grants from the Fred 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.
- (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.
- (vi) **Library Fund** – the balance represents the value of the library, which is maintained for use by council members and affiliated societies.

11. 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.

12. No significant fund-raising activity has been carried out during the year.

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

MRS M BONE  
Honorary Secretary

April 2017

## Appendix

### Membership of the Council 2017–2020

Arising from the triennial elections of Representative Members by the affiliated societies, the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths has one member fewer. Of the 189 Representative Members, 150 (79.4%) were members of the previous Council (of whom two are representing a different society and one was formerly an Additional Member) and 39 are new members (of whom 4 have been members at some time in the past).

42 Representative Members of the previous Council are not returning. Special mention should be made of those who had been members for more than 15 years: George Bonham (Ely Diocesan Association), elected 1974; Leslie Boyce (Guild of Devonshire Ringers), elected 1999; Mike Chester (Coventry Diocesan Guild), elected 1999; James Clarke (Guild of Devonshire Ringers), elected 1972, served until 1981, re-elected 2002; Patricia Halls (Derby Diocesan Association), elected 1996; Julia Lysaght (Irish Association), elected 2002; Andrew Mills (Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Guild), elected 1993; Margaret Oram (Sussex County Association), elected 2002; Chris Rogers (Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild, Guildford Diocesan Guild) elected 1969; Bernard Stone (Oxford Society), elected 1984; Tony Smith (Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), elected 1981; Winifred Warwick (Leicester Diocesan Guild), elected 1998. Thanks are due to these, and all others not returning, for their services to the Council.

#### Child Protection & Bell Ringing

New legislation requires registration for certain face-to-face training and transport of young persons. Seek advice from your Parish, Diocese, local ringing society or visit the Central Council website [www.cccbr.org.uk/towerstewardship](http://www.cccbr.org.uk/towerstewardship)

- ⊗ Always have two adults present when children are being taught
- ⊗ Invite parents of young trainees to come and watch a training session before allowing their child to start to learn. Require a parent to attend the first training session and ensure that the parent fully understands what is involved in learning to ring
- ⊗ Make sure a parent has agreed to any transport arrangements for young people travelling to and from ringing activities
- ⊗ Ask parents to sign a 'permission to learn to ring' form
- ⊗ Keep an attendance register
- ⊗ Be aware of the insurance position for children
- ⊗ Do not allow young people into a potentially hazardous situation without appropriate adult supervision
- ⊗ For tower outings get parents to sign a detailed permission form. Organisers should be aware of Health & Safety and other issues: for example, it is inadvisable for a child to travel alone in a car with an adult

## Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016

#### 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

No amounts have been transferred between funds.

#### 6. Tangible assets and intangible assets

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

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

#### Interest receivable

The interest was received from:

	2016	2015
	£	£
National Savings	2,790	3,144
Investment Bonds		
Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Deposit	181	233
Other banks	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,971</b>	<b>3,378</b>

#### 7. Donations and grants received

##### 7.1 Christchurch, New Zealand

Donations received in respect of Christchurch Cathedral, New Zealand, bells restoration following the damage caused by the earthquake to the City of Christchurch are included in the Bell Restoration Fund as a restricted item and, together with the related gift aid, amount to £275. The total amount of the donations received to date is £15,494. A grant payment of £10,000 was made in 2013.

##### 7.2 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 the related gift aid, amounts to £4,930. Expenditure to date on air fares is £2,476 leaving a balance available of £2,454.

#### 8. Committee expenses (General Fund)

These were as follows:

	2016	2015
	£	£
Administrative	670	308
Bell Restoration	237	374
Biographies	83	169
Education	260	437
Information and Communications	1239	316
Library	-	-
Methods	-	63
Peal Records	-	-
Compositions	-	-
Publications	30	-
Public Relations	578	645
Public Relations – donations for leaflets	(743)	(625)
Redundant Bells	89	117
Ringing Centres	121	40
Ringing Trends	-	141
Towers and Belfries	243	407
Tower Stewardship	-	-
Carter Ringing Machine Steward	101	98
Roll of Honour Steward	-	-
Dove Steward	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,908</b>	<b>2,490</b>

#### 9. Grants paid

During the year, the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund awarded and paid one grant of £1,000.

Year awarded	Unpaid brought forward	Awarded in 2016	Paid in 2016	With-drawn in 2016	Unpaid carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
2010	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
2011	200	-	-	-	200
2015	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
2016	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,700</b>

Continued p.432

## CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

Registered Charity Number 270036

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	General Fund	Education Courses	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund	Publications Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2016	Total Funds 2015
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>									
<b>Incoming Resources</b>									
Affiliation fees		6,030	-	-	-	-	-	6,030	6,030
Worshipful Company of Founders		1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	-
Subscriptions from Friends of Library		-	-	-	-	-	2,561	2,561	1,582
Interest receivable	7	1,430	-	566	890	39	46	2,971	3,378
Sales of publications, books and CDs		-	-	-	-	10,198	4,077	14,275	18,950
Sales of jigsaw puzzles and prints		-	-	629	-	-	-	629	2,675
Sales of training video/dvd		11	-	-	-	-	-	11	42
Courses and seminars		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	280
Stock written back		-	-	-	-	454	-	454	319
Donations re Roll of Honour		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	265
Donations to Christchurch Cathedral, NZ	8	-	-	275	-	-	-	275	1,989
Donations to Kilifi, Kenya	8	-	-	370	-	-	-	370	562
Gift Aid		1	-	31	-	-	53	85	-
Royalties re Three Rings		8	-	-	-	-	-	8	-
Beverley & District for education		409	-	-	-	-	-	409	-
Other donations		6	-	-	-	-	67	73	36
		<u>8,895</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,871</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>10,691</u>	<u>6,804</u>	<u>29,151</u>	<u>36,108</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>									
Council meeting		1,829	-	-	-	-	-	1,829	4,059
Ringling World supplement		2,191	-	-	-	-	-	2,191	1,627
Committee expenses	9	2,908	-	-	-	244	637	3,789	3,101
Heywood Weekend		122	-	-	-	-	-	122	-
Central Council Review Action Group (CRAG)		1,052	-	-	-	-	-	1,052	-
Regional meetings		412	-	-	-	-	-	412	-
Council and other committee costs		-	-	-	-	84	-	84	35
Courses and seminars		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	407
Recruitment leaflets		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	659
Cost of publications sold		-	-	-	-	5,592	1,957	7,549	11,565
Ringling World DVD expenses		-	-	-	-	-	33	33	-
Cost of jigsaws		-	-	180	-	-	-	180	1,950
Kilifi - cost of project	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,476
Library maintenance		-	-	-	-	-	1,412	1,412	975
Equipment costs		-	-	-	-	-	239	239	-
Grants for bell restoration	10	-	-	19,700	1,000	-	-	20,700	600
Advertising		-	-	154	-	2,341	122	2,617	2,922
Storage and distribution	12	-	-	-	-	2,450	-	2,450	2,400
Stationery, postage and telephone		24	-	-	-	96	650	770	1,117
Insurance		2,279	-	-	-	433	-	2,712	2,616
Stock write off provision		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Stock written off and disposed of		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	68
Roll of Honour		64	-	-	-	-	-	64	200
Library outreach day deficit		-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Depreciation - Library Collection		-	-	-	-	-	1,862	1,862	1,900
Depreciation - shelving		-	-	-	-	-	106	106	106
PayPal charges		-	-	-	-	111	-	111	87
Sundry expenses		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	292
		<u>10,881</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,034</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>11,351</u>	<u>7,019</u>	<u>50,285</u>	<u>39,182</u>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>	(1,986)	-	(18,163)	(110)	(660)	(215)	(21,134)	(3,074)	
Revaluation of Library Collection		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	(1,986)	-	(18,163)	(110)	(660)	(215)	(21,134)	(3,074)	
<b>Balances at 31 December 2015</b>		<u>138,276</u>	<u>2,169</u>	<u>67,558</u>	<u>80,967</u>	<u>23,236</u>	<u>127,520</u>	<u>439,726</u>	<u>442,800</u>
<b>Balances at 31 December 2016</b>		<u>136,290</u>	<u>2,169</u>	<u>49,395</u>	<u>80,857</u>	<u>22,576</u>	<u>127,305</u>	<u>418,592</u>	<u>439,726</u>

The Notes to the Accounts appear on page 430

## CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

Registered Charity Number 270036

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	General Fund	Education Courses	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund	Publications Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2016	Total Funds 2015
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>								
<b>Tangible assets</b>								
Investments at cost	131,960	-	39,459	80,581	-	-	252,000	252,000
Library Collection	-	-	-	-	-	91,238	91,238	93,100
Library shelving	-	-	-	-	-	742	742	848
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>131,960</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,459</b>	<b>80,581</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91,980</b>	<b>343,980</b>	<b>345,948</b>
<b>Current assets</b>								
Stock	-	-	-	-	5,776	5,289	11,065	15,001
Debtors and prepayments	3,060	-	57	57	1,268	303	4,745	3,318
Cash on short term deposit and at bank	4,204	2,169	9,879	219	15,706	29,763	61,940	80,700
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>7,264</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>9,936</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>22,750</b>	<b>35,355</b>	<b>77,750</b>	<b>99,019</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>								
Creditors - amounts due within one year	(2,934)	-	-	-	(174)	(30)	(3,138)	(5,241)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>4,330</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>9,936</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>22,576</b>	<b>35,325</b>	<b>74,612</b>	<b>93,778</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>136,290</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>49,395</b>	<b>80,857</b>	<b>22,576</b>	<b>127,305</b>	<b>418,592</b>	<b>439,726</b>
<b>Funds</b>								
Unrestricted	135,881	-	-	-	-	-	135,881	138,276
Unrestricted - designated	409	2,169	-	-	22,576	-	25,154	25,405
Restricted	-	-	49,395	80,857	-	127,305	257,557	276,045
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>136,290</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>49,395</b>	<b>80,857</b>	<b>22,576</b>	<b>127,305</b>	<b>418,592</b>	<b>439,726</b>

Notes continued

During the year, the Bell Restoration Fund awarded no grants. Sixteen grants were paid.

Year awarded	Unpaid brought forward	Awarded in 2016	Paid in 2016	With-drawn in 2016	Unpaid carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
2015	35,800	-	(19,700)	(1,200)	14,900
2016	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,700)</b>	<b>(1,200)</b>	<b>14,900</b>

#### 10. Charitable commitments

There were unfulfilled charitable commitments at 31 December 2016 in respect of three grants totalling £4,700 awarded but not yet paid by the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund, and ten grants totalling £14,900 awarded but not yet paid by the Bell Restoration Fund. There is also a charitable commitment to Christchurch Cathedral New Zealand bells restoration in respect of the balance of donations received

but not yet paid amounting to £5,494 and £2,454 in respect of Kilifi.

#### 11. Publications fund

Storage and distribution cost of £2,450 was paid to a Council member.

#### 12. Payments to trustees

There were no payments to Trustees.

#### 13. Emoluments of employees

The Council had no employees during the year.

#### Administrative Committee

Since the 2016 Council meeting the Committee has met twice in London in October and March. Two new committee chairmen were elected during the year and joined the Committee, and Richard Allton now chairs both Compositions and Peal Records. Leslie Boyce continued as acting chairman of and contact for Ringing Centres. Members were updated on the recent conference and plans of the Association of

Ringling Teachers. The Ringling Foundation was removed from the Charity Commission register on 12 August and from the Companies House register on 30 August; there were no outstanding financial liabilities on either the Council or its members. The Chairman of the Ringing World Ltd has continued to report on the future of the journal. The Methods Committee review of the relevant Decisions was discussed at both meetings. The Public Relations Officer has prepared summary accounts of the meetings for publica-

tion in *The Ringing World*. The arrangements for the 2017 Council meeting were discussed and agreed. Papers for the meeting will again be placed on the website with information circulated electronically to those Council members with email.

**Change Ringing for the Future:** A full report by the President is given in the Appendix to this report.

**Reform of the Council and of the Administrative Committee:** The October meeting of



the Committee was extended to the afternoon for an “Away Day” session. The meeting received a full report and demonstration on the development of the new Council website and its communication possibilities. A small working group, with the active involvement of members of the Lancashire Association, is organising the 2018 annual meeting weekend based at Lancaster University. This group has also considered arrangements for future meetings and has recommended a change in the date of the meeting to early September. The Vice-President will report. Active co-operation by committees has been encouraged. Committee annual reports received prior to the March meeting were circulated to the elected members of the Administrative Committee for comment and review before publication; a number of constructive comments were passed to the relevant committee chairmen. The new procedures for committee elections have been implemented. The Library/Biographies Outreach Day and both the Open Meeting “Question Time” at Portsmouth and the Council meeting itself were streamed live to the Internet.

**Council Review Action Group:** A paper was presented to the October meeting, at which Clyde Whittaker, a member of both the Administrative Committee and CRAG, reported and responded to questions. The March meeting had a full report from CRAG Chairman Phillip Barnes on its findings and recommendations to date. The executive summary and recommendations from the final report are included in this Supplement and the full report is available online.

Other matters considered by the Committee included:

**Council Finances:** The General Fund for the current year (2016) and next year (2017) was reviewed at both meetings, considering income levels and planned expenditure. Committees are expected to prepare detailed forward programmes of activity and expenditure plans for several years to enable the Council to plan appropriately. In view of the continued deficit a motion to increase the affiliation fee appears on the agenda. Further work on a different basis for the fee was held over pending conclusion of the CRAG study.

**Church Buildings Council & Historic England:** The regular meeting was held on 19 July. The main topic for discussion was again bells in closed and closing churches. Harvey Howlett of the Church Commissioners Closed Churches Department, who also attended the meeting, explained the use of maintenance and bells covenants when churches were made redundant and passed to different ownership. Sir Tony Baldry, Chair of CBC, has accepted an invitation to address the Open Meeting at the 2017 Council meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 July 2017. The 2016 DAC bell advisers’ conference was held in Warwick on Friday 8 July; the 2017 conference will be held in Lincoln on 30 June.

**Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (EIG):** Through the Tower Stewardship Committee, Council maintains a healthy dialogue with Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. An annual liaison meeting is followed up by ongoing correspondence throughout the year. In 2016 a meeting to

discuss matters of mutual interest and concern was held on 11 April, and the notes of the meeting were published in *The Ringing World*. Discussion topics include such items as Health & Safety, Fire Risk, Metal Theft, Safeguarding, insurance for ringing outings and policies for Guilds. The next meeting will be held on 13th April 2017.

**Central Council 125th Anniversary:** A programme of events for the weekend of 23–24 April 2016, centred on Duffield, was organised by the Council and the Derby Diocesan Association.

*Ex officio:*

CHRIS MEW (*President*)  
CHRISTOPHER O’MAHONY (*Vice-President*)  
ANDREW TAYLOR (*Treasurer*)  
MARY BONE (*Secretary*)  
CAROL FRANKLIN (*Assistant Secretary*)  
RICHARD ALLTON (*Compositions & Peal Records*)  
LESLIE BOYCE (*Ringing Centres*)  
JOHN COUPERTHWAITE (*Publications*)  
ERNIE DE LEGH-RUNCIMAN (*Tower Stewardship*)  
KATE FLAVELL (*Public Relations*)  
LINDA FODDERING (*Library*)  
JOHN HARRISON (*Biographies*)  
TIM HINE (*Education*)  
DAVID KIRKCALDY (*Towers and Belfries*)  
PETER NIBLETT (*Methods*)  
NIGEL ORCHARD (*The Ringing World*)  
DAVID RICHARDS (*Information and Communications Technology*)  
PETER WILKINSON (*Bell Restoration*)  
ROBERT WOOD (*Redundant Bells*)

*Elected Members:*

GILES BLUNDELL  
FRED BONE  
MIKE CHESTER  
MICHAEL CHURCH  
ROBERT LEWIS  
ANTHONY LOVELL-WOOD  
PIP PENNEY  
DEREK SIBSON  
TONY SMITH  
CLYDE WHITTAKER  
ANDREW WILBY  
JANE WILKINSON

## Appendix Change Ringing for the Future

The rôle of the Council in encouraging and supporting ringing for the future has been the subject of special meetings of the Administrative Committee, plans of individual Committees and the break-out session of all Council members in Hull. The past year has seen considerable progress and positive action in areas of the Council’s activities which were identified as needing improvement and further initiatives which will continue to be pursued.

One of the most evident examples has been the modernisation and launch of the Council’s new-style website. There are several elements

covered, these being changed logo and image, making the site friendly for ringers, non-ringers and media and the ability for ringers anywhere to subscribe for direct newsfeeds. The latter provides a doorway for wider direct contact and possibly a conduit for any future direct membership.

New downloadable material has been made available as part of Public Relations initiatives including bespoke visual presentations aimed at recruitment. The need for new publications to complement those produced by other agencies continues to be examined and joint working with ART regarding “Leadership Training” is one aim. Emphasis on attracting ringers to maintain or indeed take up ringing skills at universities has been followed up with contact profiles for individual campuses and the Council has sponsored a University achievement award.

Close consideration has been given to the format and timing of the Council’s annual meeting with a three-fold objective of streamlining administrative proceedings, reducing cost of attending and, most importantly, to encompass activities which will involve all ringers. Some of these intentions will be the subject of this year’s agenda.

The committee structure is also under review, again with a view to removing overlap, grouping where common interest exists and ensuring that future work is developed in a co-ordinated fashion. In terms of securing records and data for the future, the Council has been working with *The Ringing World* and is also in the process of ensuring that the Dove database is protected. During the year, the assets and distribution of Sherbourne Teaching Aid materials have been transferred to the Publications Committee.

Finally, in recognition of work being achieved at local level, a series of seminars has been held with officers of societies both to recognise common problems but also to share achievements. It is intended that the information from the seminars held at Southwark, Derby, Bristol and Doncaster will be incorporated in a booklet of “Good Practice” to be made widely available.

CHRIS MEW

## Public Relations Committee

We welcomed Caroline Stockmann and Clyde Whittaker to the Committee in 2016 and are grateful to them for their immediate significant contributions to our work.

While 2016 has been an interesting year in terms of political upheavals in the UK and elsewhere, it has also been an interesting year for ringing public relations. We aim to prioritise publicity for two major events each year, but it is often the unexpected and unplanned-for events that create the most work. In 2016 such events included a public debate about whether or not ringing should be officially classified as a sport and events at York Minster.

## PR Matters Conference

We held a very successful conference at Wellesbourne in February 2017 attended by

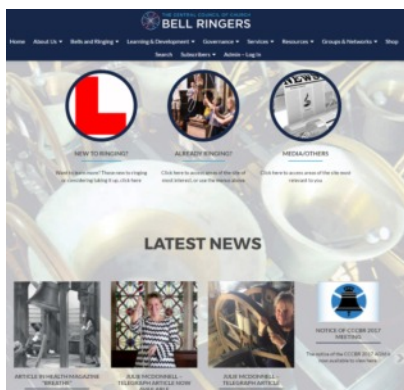
some 50 ringers from around the country (and beyond) with an interest in using public relations to raise awareness of ringing as well as to recruit new ringers. We had excellent external speakers, including the Media Manager for 2016 Heritage Open Days, a BBC Broadcast Manager and a print editor. They all gave inspirational talks and answers to question sessions, leaving everyone ready to set-to in groups to identify our personal objectives for the future. There were ideas of additional things the Central Council ought to be doing as well and we called for the delegates' help in delivering these.

### Julie McDonnell



The Council has always rather shied away from lending support to the many charities that frequently ask us to “arrange for bells everywhere to be rung” for their special events. However, Julie was a little different as she is a ringer and was creating interesting challenges for ringers that they did not have to pay for or even raise sponsorship for. Her story is an attractive one for the media and we have been helping with making sure ringers are aware of her work and getting publicity for it.

### New Central Council Website



We have contributed significantly to the development of the new website and continue to help with its ongoing evolution. It started with the same content as the old site and the challenge now is to get the content updated and improved. All committees will be doing this for their own parts of the site.

### Ringling as a Sport

There was a short media frenzy about whether ringing should be registered with Sport England. We investigated this but it would require ringing to have: a National Governing Body with all ringing societies and competitions abiding by its rules, and an anti-doping policy with a means of enforcing it. We did develop a draft policy but we decided not to pursue registration. This need not preclude the promotion of the sport-related aspects of ringing where beneficial. The publicity created was substantial and not unhelpful.

### Planned Events for 2016

The planned events were ringing for HM The Queen's 90th birthday, and Heritage Open Days. The Queen's birthday ringing achieved much local publicity when local bands and associations had put effort into publicising their activities. Heritage Open Days achieved considerable publicity, because of a combination of the assistance of their media manager and the BBC survey that was carried out at the 2016 Council meeting in Portsmouth. While some ringers publicly expressed views that this was too negative, with its focus on the need for more ringers, most ringers who opened their towers benefited significantly from the additional publicity. Many reported great interest in learning to ring and actual recruitment, although this was not primarily the aim of the event, which was intended mainly to raise awareness of ringing.



The Heritage Open Days people were delighted with the impact of having bell towers open as a new attraction. Their focus these days is much more on doing things rather than just looking at things and they are now enthused to pursue such activities with other groups in the future, as well as retaining ringing, and the ringing logo, for the future. They had excellent feedback on the open towers and we are sure that many towers will wish to repeat the experience, to help local people understand more about ringing and to recruit new ringers.

### More general projects

*Completed and ongoing work:*

- We respond to regular *Learn to Ring* website enquiries. To help us with this we have created a list of nominated individuals for each territorial society affiliated to the Council of those who will receive enquiries

from those wishing to learn to ring. These individuals will ensure that those enquiring are passed on to suitable active towers where they will be welcome and well taught.

- We are in regular contact with PR Officers for affiliated societies to tell them of forthcoming PR opportunities and about the Council's work.
- We have continued to distribute quantities of the *Learn to Ring* Leaflet on request.
- We continue our successful relationship with the BBC over Bells on Sunday and are also in other discussions with the BBC and Premier Christian Radio.
- We have updated our leaflet for clergy *Bells in Your Care* and the revised version will be on the website shortly.
- We remain active in social media, ensuring that as much news as possible about the Council, and our Committee's work, is spread in this way for the wider engagement especially of the younger ringing community. We still have much more to do here and would value help.

### The future

The two key events we are focusing on during 2017 are St George's Day (23 April) and the Queen and Prince Philip's 70th wedding anniversary (20 November).

We will also be continuing with our general projects listed above.

Ernie de Legh-Runciman, Giles Blundell and Alan Marchbank are standing down from the Committee in May and not seeking re-election. We thank them for their contributions to our work during their time on the Committee.

KATE FLAVELL (*Chairman*)  
 GILES BLUNDELL  
 JACQUI BROWN  
 BRUCE BUTLER (*Secretary*)  
 ERNIE DE LEGH-RUNCIMAN  
 NICK ELKS  
 BEVERLY FABER  
 JOHN HARRISON  
 ALAN MARCHBANK  
 MICHAEL ORME  
 CAROLINE STOCKMANN  
 CLYDE WHITTAKER  
 MICHAEL BALE (*Consultant*)

### International Reports

#### Australian and New Zealand Association

The number of ANZAB towers continues to grow slowly but steadily. The upcoming ANZAB festival (June 8th to 12th) includes the chance to ring at two of the new light sixes: the Uniting Church, Bowral and St Paul's, Camden. The most recent tower to start ringing is St Hilda's, Katoomba, a slightly heavier six with a 5-3-13 tenor. Ringing has also started again at St Paul's cathedral in Bendigo, after a six-year gap imposed by structural problems which closed the cathedral. Many other new towers are at various stages of planning, development and fund-raising, suggesting that the present rate of increase of one or two new towers per annum will con-

tinue for the foreseeable future. ANZAB is also providing financial support for the growing number of towers that are fitting simulators, the most recent being St Bartholomew's, Burnley and St Pius, Heidelberg.

We are continuing to run ART modules, with four in 2016 – modules 1 and 2C in Sydney in April, and the same in Brisbane in November, along with various other training events.

Lastly a notable performance was the peal of 5040 Little Bob Sixteen at the Bell Tower in Perth on 5th November – this was, among many other firsts, the first peal on 16 ever rung for ANZAB.

DAVID SMITH  
President ANZAB

### Central European Association

The CEA has enjoyed another successful year during 2016. Membership has remained steady and despite one or two resident members returning to the UK the Association continues to do well and continues to achieve a high standard of ringing both on tower and handbells. It is a pleasure to welcome ringers who have moved to Europe either on a permanent or temporary basis to our weekend ringing events which take place at 't Klockhuys in Dordrecht and we currently have ringers living and working in 6 European countries.

We organise two weekends during the year at which time CEA members can get together, the first of these being the AGM in May. This was very well attended this year with members travelling from France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, UK and The Netherlands. We all enjoyed an excellent weekend together at 't Klockhuys in Dordrecht with a mix of ringing and socialising both carrying on until late into the night in true "Dordrecht" style! We were also successful in ringing 3 peals of Surprise Major, a handbell peal and one quarter peal over the course of the weekend.

An Autumn peal weekend followed in November and was enjoyed by all and included a jovial and very tasty evening dinner in a local Dordrecht restaurant on the Saturday evening.

Congratulations must go to the resident CEA handbell band who completed their project to ring all 8 Standard Surprise major methods to peals on handbells. A peal of London Surprise Major was rung on 15th October in Leiden by Nicola Bright, Martin Bright, Harm Jan de Kok and conducted by Mike Trimm – a great achieve-



L-R: Martin Bright, Eric Trumpler, George Campling, Margaret Gamble, Pauline Campling, Brian Diserens, Cathy Ockwell, Thirza de Kok, Harm Jan de Kok, Clive Smith, Geraldine Diserens, David Ockwell, Elizabeth Mason, Heather Forster, Jeff Ladd, Peter Mason, Graham Scott, Paul de Kok.

ment! The same band had rung a peal of 8 Spliced Surprise Major the previous month being a peal of spliced in hand for all the band except Mike.

The CEA continues to welcome many visiting bands from the UK to Dordrecht and we appreciate their support and encouragement. Peal weekends from visiting UK bands have become a regular feature at Dordrecht and it was especially fun to track on BellBoard the progress of the band who attempted to ring 9 peals in a day – they were successful in ringing 8 peals!! It is very satisfying to see that ringing in Central Europe has become so well established and we look forward to further exciting developments in the future. Thanks of course go to Paul de Kok and Harm Jan for their tireless enthusiasm and dedication to make things run so successfully!

Ringing at 't Klockhuys is by way of appointment only. For enquiries please contact Paul de Kok by email – [p.m.dekok@hetnet.nl](mailto:p.m.dekok@hetnet.nl) or visit our web page at: [www.change-ringers.eu](http://www.change-ringers.eu)

MARGARET GAMBLE  
Secretary

### North American Guild of Change Ringers

Ringing in North America is healthy. Two areas that demonstrate this best are in the number of peals that were rung in 2016, and the opening of yet another seminary tower.

We had twenty-six peals in 2016 ranging from Plain Bob and Stedman, up to Glasgow, and 23-spliced surprise major. While some of these peals, it is true, were rung by visiting bands, most (and notably, the 23-spliced) were rung by North American ringers. Recruitment seems also to be progressing – and one tower has established a second novices-only practice. There can be few better ways of bringing new ringers on at a good clip than giving them their own practice. The investment is in time, on the part of the leader of that practice, and for any extra helpers; the return is a committed group of ringers who are able to take their place in the regular practice without much concession to their status and experience.

The second thing of which we can be proud is the establishment of a bell-tower at a second seminary, in Nashotah, Wisconsin. Our hobby is more than usually dependent on the goodwill and relationship between ringers and the Church. It is delightful to see how the future leaders of congregations are being exposed to ringers and

ringing, during their seminary experience. Some seminarians are even taking up ringing themselves, and discovering how enjoyable a hobby it can be.

TONY FURNIVALL

### South African Guild

Ringing continues in South Africa, based in our major centres of Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg, but there have been no major events that we would consider "newsworthy". Our Central Council representative, James Champion, keeps us informed about Central Council matters and we participate in surveys and forums as requested by that body but, as I said, there have been no significant events to report.

RICHARD ROBERTS  
Chairperson

### Zimbabwe Guild

Last year I reported that I thought that the Zimbabwe Guild was still a viable entity. I am not so confident this year.

Communication between the towers is difficult and although the Harare Tower paid 2 visits to Kwekwe during the year which were both well attended by both towers, the frequency of Sunday ringing and the general standard of ringing has I think deteriorated.

At the Harare Tower in January 2016 we welcomed three new young adults as learners. One is still with us and is becoming an ever more competent ringer. The other two have gone to universities outside the country. At the same time, other ringers have suffered from ill health and one of our older, more experienced ringers has emigrated.

Thus the numbers of our band remain static, but the overall standard of ringing drops. Those who are experienced are often frustrated because the general standard is not good. Beginners find it more difficult to learn because the band around them is not good enough. Practices are cancelled due to low numbers of people attending making the problem more severe.

These are problems common to Kwekwe as well as to towers all over the world, but in our isolated state they have a more marked effect. Neither are they new to the Guild.

I thought I would try and look at the problem with an historical perspective.

It is now

- 55 years since the Mashonaland Guild was formed;
- 54 years since the bells were installed in the Harare tower;
- .... years since 4 bells were installed in the Kwekwe tower and the Guild changed its name to the Rhodesia Guild;
- 50 years since Rhodesia declared UDI;
- 50 years since Kwekwe was augmented from 4 to 6 although the actual hang was later as the bells were landed at the Beira docks just before the border was closed due to UDI;
- 36 years since Zimbabwe became officially independent;



Dordrecht bells

- 20 years since the Zimbabwe economy started to experience hyperinflation;
- 8 years since the Z\$ was abandoned and the country became a multi-currency economy with the major currency in use being the US\$;
- 4 years since the Harare Cathedral was reopened after a 5 year “exile” during which time it was closed to all, including the ringers;
- 1 year since the government reintroduced the concept of a unit of trade not an international currency.

The best years for ringing were I think the period from the mid 1970s to the mid 1990s. So what makes the position different now to previous years?

Obviously the instability of the country and its economy does not help the situation (the last influx we had of ringers from other communities was in the 1980s and all of these have now left). However I think that the problem has been exacerbated by the period of “exile” as during that time no new learners were taught, beginners who might have continued didn’t, good ringers found other spare time activities and the congregation moved its allegiance to other churches. (I wonder if Christchurch has the same problem?)

So what *have* we achieved?

The more experienced ringers continue to push for a high standard of bell control and striking even if it is only rounds.

We held both an AGM and a half yearly meeting in 2016.

The 2017 AGM is scheduled for 25 February when we plan a whole day of ringing and social events.

A Facebook page has been established to which we try and post items of interest to local and overseas ringers.

We have a visiting peal band the week after the 2017 AGM when both towers plan to use their talents to assist those who can handle well enough to plain hunt, and those who can plain hunt to ring Plain Bob and Stedman (hopefully with calls) as well as socialising with them.

The Harare Tower is currently exploring ways in which to involve the Cathedral congregation and gain more young adult recruits.

Mostly we keep on keeping on. Sometimes we dream of an enthusiastic, experienced ringer being posted to Zimbabwe based either in Harare or Kwekwe for a couple of years (or better, two or more experienced ringers for more years), but we know that the real answer is to train up Zimbabweans who are committed to keeping ringing alive in this country.

Finally, we really appreciate the email contact maintained with the Central Council through Anne Phillips who forwards these emails to those of us with email addresses.

Officers:

Master: Tendai Dzuda

Honorary Secretary: Linda Hyde

Honorary Treasurer/Librarian: Fiona Thomson

Central Council Liaison Officer: Anne Phillips

LINDA HYDE

## Stocklist at December 31st 2016

Title	Sales to 31 Dec 2016	Stock at 31 Dec 2016
New Ringers Book	330	599
Beginners Handbook	127	87
Towards Better Striking	13	32
Raising and Lowering	38	140
Ringing Jargon Made Easy	25	18
Beginners Grandsire	93	148
Beginners Plain Bob	110	152
Doubles and Minor for Beginners	34	55
Triples and Major for Beginners	8	19
Ringing Circles	374	153
Ringing Basics for Beginners	25	71
The Learning Curve Vol 1	10	1
The Learning Curve Vol 2	8	140
The Learning Curve Vol 3	12	127
The Learning Curve Vol 4	9	161
Listen to Ringing CD 1/CD2	25/13	36/25
Beginners Guide to Change Ringing on Handbells	20	86
Change Ringing on Handbells	11	72
Standard Eight Surprise Major	31	14
Method Splicing	1	10
Will You Call a Touch Please, Bob?	33	71
Service Touches	38	140
Conducting Stedman	21	23
A Tutors Handbook	9	125
One Way to Teach Handling	4	20
Teaching Beyond Bell Handling	5	145
Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles	16	51
Kaleidoscope Ringing	37	5
Teaching Unravalled	14	66
Starting a New Band	1	41
Teaching Tips	330	347
Towers and Bells Handbook	3	107
Schedule of Regular Maintenance	62	133
Organising a Bell Restoration Project (2016)	84	123
Sound Management	6	55
Splicing Bellropes	38	106
Change Ringing History Vol 1/Vol3	11/9	125/147
Centenary History of the Central Council	6	65
Giants of the Exercise Vol1/Vol2	7/8	147/23
A J Pitman Biography	7	108
Dove’s Guide 10	81	123
Belfry Offices	4	35
Organising an Outing	7	10
Belfry Warning Notices	3	26
Church Towers and Bells	4	19
Getting it Right	0	110
Judging Striking Competitions	11	86
Stedman Compositions	2	6
DVDs	3	20
One per Learner	1222	1998
Follow-on Book	190	1610
Exercise Book	163	1087
Method Leaflets	205	136
Bell Club Cards	155	845
Badges	349	1651
20 Questions & 19 Answers	160	240

The following titles are available for download free of charge: Triples and Major for Beginners, Learning Methods, Method Splicing – Practical Hints, Understanding Place Notation, Conducting Stedman, Tower Captain’s Handbook, One way to Teach Bell Handling, Teaching Beyond Bell Handling, Getting it Right – Guidance for Officers of Ringing Societies, CC Rules and Decisions (2013), Giants of the Exercise Vol 2, A J Pitman Biography, Collection of Plain Minor Methods, Treble Dodging Minor Methods, Handbook of Composition, Collection of Stedman Compositions, Collection of Grandsire Compositions, Collection of Ten Bell Compositions, Collection of Twelve Bell Compositions.

## Publications Committee

During the year we assumed responsibility, on behalf of the Council, for the production, marketing, sales and distribution of Pam Copson's "Sherbourne Teaching Aids" series, apart from the wooden goods. Ted Copson transferred all rights to the series, together with the existing stock and a reprint of *One per Learner*, to the Council entirely free of charge. The Council is very grateful indeed to Ted for this most generous gift and we look forward to publishing the series for many years to come.

One new book was sent to us for publication, an updated edition of *Organising a Bell Restoration Project*. Nine titles were reprinted: *Beginners Handbook*, *Ringling Jargon Made Easy*, *Beginners' Grandsire*, *Beginners' Plain Bob*, *Listen to Ringing CD 1*, *Listen to Ringing CD 2*, *Teaching Tips*, *Splicing Bell Ropes*, and the DVD. At year end a book which we commissioned, *On This Day* by Bill Butler, was nearing completion, and should be on sale at the next Council meeting if not before.

The following nineteen titles are currently available for download free of charge: *Triples and Major for Beginners*, *Learning Methods*, *Method Splicing – Practical Hints*, *Understanding Place Notation*, *Conducting Stedman*, *Tower Captain's Handbook*, *One way to Teach Bell Handling*, *Teaching Beyond Bell Handling*, *Getting it Right – Guidance for Officers of Ringing Societies*, *CC Rules and Decisions (2013)*, *Giants of the Exercise Vol 2*, *A J Pitman Biography*, *Collection of Plain Minor Methods*, *Treble Dodging Minor Methods*, *Handbook of Composition*, *Collection of Stedman Compositions*, *Collection of Grandsire Compositions*, *Collection of Ten Bell Compositions*, and *Collection of Twelve Bell Compositions*.

Pam Copson's *One per Learner* immediately became a best seller and *The New Ringer's Book*, *Ringling Circles* and *Teaching Tips* continued to be popular. Sales of *Dove's Guide 10th Edition* dropped to 81, leaving a stock of 127 books. Once again we note that significant new titles are needed.

The new Central Council website should enable us to charge for downloads and we intend to pursue this option as and when appropriate. We hasten to add that the titles which can currently be downloaded free of charge will remain so, and other titles will be added to the "free download" list in due course. We believe that it is now viable to offer some titles on a "print on demand" basis and this option will also be pursued when judged appropriate.

Three Committee meetings were held during the year, and the usual large number of telephone and e-mail conversations took place. Bulk discounts were offered in March and advertisements were again placed in a number of Association reports.

The income from sales rose to £10,200 from £8,600, largely due to sales of Sherbourne Teaching Aids, and expenditure exceeded income by £660. The value of stock held fell to £5,780 and at year end the total cash available had increased by £1,100 to £16,800. The fund remains well able to finance any likely future work. The popularity

of PayPal transactions continued to rise and the facility remained trouble free.

Derek Jones was again closely involved in a consultative capacity, and we thank him for his contributions.

JOHN COUPERTHWAITE  
(Chairman)  
PHILIP GREEN  
MICHAEL HANSFORD  
BERYL NORRIS  
BARBARA WHEELER  
JAN WYATT

## Committee for Redundant Bells

The Committee met twice during 2016; other business was carried out using email and Facebook.

We have heard nothing further following the 2015 review by the Church of England's Buildings Review Group. We look forward to the Church coming forward with proposals, especially concerning the improvement of the redundancy process.

In anticipation of increased redundancies in the years ahead, the Committee has been working to develop a prioritisation tool. Two different versions were developed and are to be tested during the early months of 2017.

As at December 2016 the Committee had 39 open cases which it was keeping under review. In some towers there is positive news, for example Crewe, where local ringers are taking a lead and hope to bring the bells back into use.

In other cases news is less positive; Council members will be aware of the recent fire at St. Michael on the Mount, Bristol, where the bells were previously available for occasional ringing but, for safety reasons, are now out of action.

Aware that the Churches Conservation Trust now owns over 100 rings of bells and that its portfolio is likely to grow, the Committee is seeking to establish contact with that Trust and to develop a protocol for management of its bells.

There have been no calls on the Bells Rescue Fund during the year. As this Fund has not been used at all in recent years, beyond making a loan to Keltek Trust, the Committee, as Trustees, is recommending to Council that the Fund be closed down.

ROBERT WOOD (Chairman)  
ROBERT COOLES  
TIM JACKSON  
JULIAN NEWMAN  
HELEN WEBB  
DAVID WESTERMAN

## Ringling Centres Committee

Last year's report noted several resignations from the Committee. We were pleased to welcome Maureen Frost this year, but remain a small Committee and therefore must tailor our work plan to the limited resources available. The previous report also noted that we were reflecting on the future of the Committee. We have decided, in the light of the CRAG initiative, not to propose any immediate change. We have, however, engaged in discussions with the Education Com-

mittee about co-operation and are keen, in the spirit of the Council Review, to pursue a joint agenda for ringling education and training. We meet twice a year and conduct an email dialogue between meetings.

Maintaining an up-to-date directory of ringling centres and gathering information about the activities of recognised centres through an annual survey remain our key priorities. Editing access to the new Council website allows us to make small updates without the need to trouble Peter Trotman. We are grateful to Peter for his help and prompt attention to our requests in the past. We were pleased to offer Central Council recognition to Strettham Ringling Education Centre, near Ely, during the year. We are also following up other prospective centres and are keen to receive news of other developments relevant to our remit of supporting any facility providing training to ringers outside the home tower.

It is good to report that the Bell Ringling Centres Facebook pages are now attracting several posts per month and the list has grown to 190 members. Along with our annual newsletter *Training Times* this actively encourages discussion, the sharing of new ideas and best practice.

It is clear that good quality initial training and plenty of opportunity for subsequent ringling development are crucial elements for success in retaining ringers. The Committee is committed, in partnership with others, to supporting those who provide these facilities.

LESLIE BOYCE (Acting Chairman)  
PHIL BAILEY  
BARRIE DOVE  
MAUREEN FROST  
PAUL MARSHALL  
NORMAN MATTINGLEY

## Ringling Trends Committee

The Committee remained without a Chair following the resignation of Elva Ainsworth in October 2015. The remaining members of the Committee resigned at the Portsmouth meeting and no new members were elected (Minutes, p.423).

## Towers & Belfries Committee

As a Committee we have met three times during 2016, first at Evesham, then Great Malvern and finally in London. After the meeting in Great Malvern we had the opportunity to inspect the recent work carried out to the installation at Malvern Priory and try the bells for ourselves. All were impressed with what had been achieved and, after the various delays, trust the local ringers are well satisfied.

We have given advice to a number of towers during the year; much of this has been by correspondence, but there have been tower inspections carried out by our members when required. As with last year many enquiries have concerned the installation of mobile communication equipment and at present we are in the process of updating our guidance on this subject. During the year we have updated various sections

of our information available via the CCCBR website and added others covering new subjects; there are a number of additional items already in the pipeline. So as to avoid duplication we have added links to information already provided by different organisations.

Gordon Breeze, a consultant on the Committee, is continuing his work on further developing theoretical and experimental methods that refine the ability to predict tower movement when bells are rung. Early results show that bell towers are more flexible in their movement than has been thought in the past.

Real progress has been made on the new *Maintenance Handbook* and it is hoped that this will be ready for publication in Spring 2017. Whilst on the subject of maintenance, we are always willing to arrange day seminars for local guilds and associations; we had no requests for this service during 2016. We are hoping to arrange a day seminar in 2017 to introduce the subject of bell frame recording. There are various reasons why this is an important subject but at present there are very few experts in this field and apparently no one seems to be showing an interest in developing their knowledge.

After the 2016 Council meeting our Committee was left with two vacancies; this year we will be losing two longstanding and experienced members: James Clarke and Bernard Stone. We are always looking for those willing to join our Committee; having said that I am also keen to collaborate with those who have experience and an interest in our work who are not members of the Council.

DAVID KIRKCALDY (*Chairman*)  
 ROLAND BACKHURST  
 JAMES CLARKE  
 TIM COLLINS  
 (*Resigned Jan 2016*)  
 GEORGE DAWSON  
 ALAN FROST  
 ALISON HODGE  
 CHRIS POVEY  
 DAVID ROSKELLY  
 BERNARD STONE  
 COLIN WARD  
 GORDON BREEZE (*Consultant*)

## Tower Stewardship Committee

2016 has been a busy year for the Tower Stewardship Committee. Yet again, the topic of safeguarding was high on the Committee's agenda. We are indebted to Chris Mew for managing our responses to this topic. We have also been looking at a number of other topics, including secular towers and health and safety.

The Committee manages the Council's liaison with Ecclesiastical Insurance. We have a very good working relationship with Ecclesiastical, who are in general very happy with the bell ringing Exercise, especially in health and safety matters. For example, Ecclesiastical will review and advise on our H&S guidance notes every time they are updated.

During the year there continued to be contact with church authorities regarding several updated safeguarding guidelines issued by their Westminster office. An update was published in *The*

*Ringing World* in November 2016 and further advice will be published as appropriate. A number of more local questions regarding safeguarding interpretation and specific cases have been dealt with.

The Committee has recognised that there is a significant need to establish stewardship guidance to answer the specific needs of secular towers. Some preliminary data has been gathered from a few civic/secular towers.

This information shows that management arrangements and relationships between local ringers and the tower owners differ greatly from one tower to another and significantly differed in effectiveness. In some circumstances, there is the potential for the tower to become lost to the Exercise despite the good endeavours of local ringers.

The Tower Stewardship Committee believes that there is a need for it to provide specific guidance on stewardship for towers in such a variable environment in the form of a draft model of agreement between local ringers and the secular (or non C of E) owner.

We also feel that the best time to put in place such an agreement would be at the point of change of ownership. We are therefore looking to work closely with the Redundant Bells Committee on this issue.

So far, we have received emails from ten individuals during the past year to the Complaints Helpline email address. Of these, eight have been non-ringers complaining of either the clock, or general ringing. One has been to aid a London gallery to find out times of when a carillon is played. Only one email has been seeking advice to deal with a complaint.

There have been some requests this past year for advice on the access and security of some of our larger church buildings. This also has implications on the safety of not only ringers but contractors working in the building and members of the public. This is on-going work and further discussions are needed to formulate a policy.

Part of the terms of reference of the Tower Stewardship Committee is to monitor regulatory issues that might impact on the Exercise. An example of this is the General Data Protection Regulations, which come into force in 2018 in the UK. This will affect most aspects of data protection. The Committee is looking at these regulations with a view to updating our advice in Guidance Note No. 8.

The Committee has answered a number of enquiries regarding varying topics, including insurance, safeguarding and health and safety. One recurring theme of these enquiries is that of communication between ringers and the church authorities. In at least one case, the problem has been solved by suggesting that the ringers open a dialogue with the church wardens at the church concerned.

In addition to the above, we will also be carrying on with our normal "day to day" activities:

- The annual review of our guidance notes, in light of changes to national legislation and guidance;
- The annual liaison with Ecclesiastical Insurance and the Church Buildings Council;
- The provision of the Complaints Helpline;

- The provision of reactive advice.

A key aspect of the Committee's remit is the production and review of a set of Guidance Notes. These are reviewed annually, and are available via the Central Council website, as follows:

[ccbr.org.uk/services/tower-stewardship](http://ccbr.org.uk/services/tower-stewardship)

- GN1 Insurance and Ringing
- GN2 Tower Management
- GN3 Child Protection in Towers
- GN4 Tower Safety and Risk Assessment
- GN5 Church Law
- GN6 Fire Risk Assessment and Protection
- GN7 Noise, the Law and the Environmental Health Officer
- GN8 Data Protection and Bell Ringing

The Committee is well served by the wide range of skills, qualifications and experience brought by members. The Tower Stewardship Committee is very open to suggestions and recommendations from all areas of the Central Council regarding our remit, our communication methods and any other component of our work.

ERNIE DE LEGH-RUNCIMAN  
 (*Chairman*)  
 MICHAEL HANSFORD  
 JULIAN HEMPER  
 DAVID MATTINGLEY  
 CHRISTOPHER O'MAHONY  
 CHRIS SHARP

## Bell Restoration Committee

### Introduction

The Bell Restoration Committee (BRC), which met three times in 2016, works proactively to ensure that advice to parishes and others concerned with bell restoration is updated as necessary, continually monitoring for changes in guidance from government departments, grant-



*St Mary Magdalene, Taunton (Som) – supported by a grant from CCCBR*  
 (Photo courtesy of Peter Wilkinson)

awarding bodies, etc. We also make great efforts to bring our services to the attention of those contemplating bell projects to offer help and advice. All members of the Committee have clearly defined areas of responsibility, which are reviewed on a rolling basis.

### Activities in 2016

A new and updated edition of the booklet *Organising a Bell Restoration Project* was published in time for the Central Council meeting in May. Our thanks go to the Publications Committee for their help and support in publishing this new edition.

Guidance Notes have been regularly updated and posted on the Central Council website.

Having agreed to provide material for the 2018 Ringing World Calendar, we are intending to feature towers supported by the Committee since 2015. We hope that the calendar will bring our work to the attention of a wider audience. Work on this project will continue during the first half of 2017.

During the Spring we were approached by the landfill company SITA (now Suez) with the offer of a one-off large donation to a bell restoration project in memory of one of their board members who passed away recently. Some 30 projects expressed interest and a shortlist of six was passed to Suez for their decision. The project at Black Bourton, Oxfordshire, was eventually selected by the Suez board to receive almost £57,000 to rehang their unringable 5 and augment to 6. Completion is expected in September and a new band is being trained in readiness.

### Central Council Bell Restoration Fund

In 2015 grants were awarded to 29 projects of which 7 had been completed at the time of our previous report. Since then a further 14 projects have been completed. The projects at Brading, Brant Broughton, Combe Raleigh, Ipstones, Lindfield, Michaelchurch Escley, Rochdale (Christ Church) and Whitestaunton are yet to complete, but most of these will complete in the coming months. The Committee monitors situations where there are difficulties.

### Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund

A grant of £1000 was agreed for Lindfield, NSW. Work on this project is now well advanced and, at the time of writing, it is anticipated that the bells should soon leave England and the bell frame is almost complete.

On projects to which grants were offered in previous years, the project at Bunbury WA (2010) has been affected by the closure of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, whilst the project at Queenstown, South Africa (2011) is now looking unlikely to proceed. At Katoomba, NSW (2013) we understand that a new band is being trained and the project at Bangalow, NSW (2015) is still fund-raising.

### Advice to parishes

Following the demise of FunderFinder and Ffoenix, we are compiling our own database of grant-awarding organisations. The feedback we

receive from parishes who have been awarded grants or have been helped in other ways provides very valuable information to add to our growing database, which can then be used to assist future projects.

We have had contact with over 60 projects during 2016. We provided advice ranging from sample dedication service sheets, bell-appropriate music for services, fund raising ideas and sample appeal leaflets to suggestions for possible sources of funding, advising about grant applications and visits to parishes to advise project leaders.

### Jigsaws

Stella Bianco has indicated her wish to retire from her rôle of co-ordinating the production and sales of the popular series of ringing jigsaws. The sales of these jigsaws have raised very useful funds for the Bell Restoration Fund and, with Stella's agreement, future production and sales will be dealt with by the Committee. We thank Stella for her work on the jigsaws over the many years since the series began.

### Membership

Graham Hills joined the Committee during 2016. Pat Albon and Peter Kirby will stand down at the 2017 meeting and will be available for re-election. Chris Rogers will no longer be a member of Council and we thank him for his valuable service on the Committee.

### Ongoing tasks include:

- Revising and producing new Guidance Notes as required;
- Continuing to administer the Council's Bell Fund and the Fred Dukes Fund by inviting applications when funds are available;
- Updating our extensive area of the Council's new website;
- Providing information on possible sources of funding;
- Providing general support to projects including local fund raising;
- Provide articles for *The Ringing World* as appropriate; and
- Continuing to raise awareness of the work of the Committee via associations, DACs, PCCs and the bell trade.

### Future work

- In 2017 and 2019 – holding further seminars on bell restoration;
- Providing material for the 2018 Ringing World calendar;
- Reviewing and updating our advice on charity registration, VAT and Gift Aid; and
- Taking over production and sales of the jigsaw series.

PETER WILKINSON (*Chairman*)

PAT ALBON

JOHN BARNES

JAY BUNYAN (*Secretary*)

KEN DAVENPORT

GRAHAM HILLS (*From May 2016*)

PETER KIRBY

IAN ORAM

CHRIS ROGERS

## Biographies Committee

The Committee met at Portsmouth in May and at Wellesbourne in October. Patricia Halls stood down and Anne Anthony was elected a new member.

At the end of 2016 there were 941 biographic records on the website. Stuart Piper of the ICT Committee supported us by managing our pages.

Bill Butler, although no longer a consultant to the Committee, has continued work on the Prolific Peal Ringers articles for *The Ringing World*, reaching number 44 by the year end.

The outreach day on "Ringing History and Future Trends", organised jointly with the Library Committee, attracted a good attendance and addressed important topical issues. It was the first Council event to be live streamed, courtesy of the ICT Committee.

We continue to hold basic information, photos, press items, etc on current & former Council members, on paper or digitally.

Other projects progressed less than we hoped, notably developing advice for ringers wishing to undertake biographical / historical research and developing information on the history of ringing societies.

Future plans and aspirations include:

- Getting to grips with managing our pages and biographic records on the CC website;
- Working with ICT Committee to develop the management of biographic information;
- Completing advice on biographical / historical research, and making it available from our web pages;
- Seeking links with the wider world of social and family history research;
- Further collaboration with the Library Committee where our interests overlap;
- Augmenting the historic records with additional information where available;
- Providing archival hard copy of on-line records;
- Developing online submission and access to biographic information about ringers.

We are grateful to all those who have helped us by providing information and we look forward to working with other people who are interested in ringing history, or researching the history of their societies or local ringers.

Members and former members of the Council who died in 2016 are:

- John Esmond Chilcott, Ancient Society of College Youths from 1960–1963, attended 1 meeting, died 23 February 2016.
- Edward George Mould, London County Association 1990–2005, attended 14 meetings, died 19 March 2016.
- Andrew D Barnsdale, Sussex County Association 2012–2016, attended 4 meetings, died 20 March 2016.
- Denis Albert Frith, Lincoln Diocesan Guild, 1972–1993, attended 21 meetings, died 11 May 2016.
- Brian David Threlfall, Cambridge University Guild 1954–1984, Honorary 1984 - 1990, Hereford Diocesan Guild 1996–2002,

Gloucester & Bristol Guild 2002–2008, attended 43 meetings, died 3 Jun 2016.

- John Edward Camp, Oxford University Society 1969–1978, attended 8 meetings, died 17 October 2016.
- David Beacham, Worcestershire and Districts Association from 1957–1975, attended 17 meetings, died 30 October 2016.

JOHN HARRISON (*Chairman*)  
 RICHARD ANDREW  
 ANNE ANTHONY  
 ANNE BRAY  
 PATRICK HICKEY  
 DAVID JONES  
 BOBBIE MAY  
 DEBORAH THORLEY  
 DAVID WILLIS

## Compositions Committee

The Compositions Committee hold regular conference calls and are in contact by email.

The key work of the Committee is to maintain and update the web collection ([www.ringing.org](http://www.ringing.org)) of peal and quarter peal compositions and to encourage new submissions from a wide range of contributors. Many thanks to all our contributors for their wide variety of compositions.

The readily accessible websites are a very valuable resource for conductors. The compositions range from relatively easy to highly complex on all numbers of bells, so there are compositions for all requirements. 217 peal compositions and 122 quarter peals were uploaded to the website in the last twelve months. Our particular thanks go to Don Morrison for continuing to host this service. The web collection is backed up on the CCCBR Web Services account on a daily basis.

Two articles have been written and published in *The Ringing World* for publication during the year. The article about the compositions of Richard (Dick) Speed was prompted by the review of his ringing papers carried out by Richard Clements on behalf of the Worcestershire and Districts Association to whom they were bequeathed. The second article was on the work of Sir Arthur P Heywood to coincide with the activities to mark the 100th anniversary of his death. Both of these were mostly researched and written by Paul Flavell.

There seems to be little scope for simpler compositions of standard methods these days as most of the obvious combinations have already been discovered or generated. Breakthroughs in composition tend to be discussed on ringing theory chat lists, reducing the necessity for detailed reviews in *The Ringing World*, although we are perfectly happy to review compositions as required.

No publications were produced this year, as the availability of compositions on the Internet and in electronic format has vastly reduced the demand for books. At this point in time it is not obvious if there will be demand for books of compositions in the future.

Finally, to reiterate, we very much welcome submissions of new peal, quarter peal and special

length compositions and these should be sent to [compositions@cccbr.org.uk](mailto:compositions@cccbr.org.uk).

RICHARD ALLTON (*Chairman*)  
 STEPHEN BECKINGHAM  
 FRED BONE  
 PAUL FLAVELL  
 FERGUS STRACEY

## Education Committee

### Highlights of the past year

David Smith of the Education Committee wrote a series of eight articles in *The Ringing World* supported by Will Bosworth, under the title “The Education Column”. The RW Editor took the unusual step of printing these as colour centrefolds. These articles aim to help the teacher with a student who has sufficient bell control to start to ring with others, and is moving towards plain hunting and the very early stages of method ringing. They proved very popular, with many requests for reprints; slightly modified single-page versions can be found on the CC website at <https://cccbr.org.uk/services/education/the-education-column/>.

### Problems encountered during 2016

For a variety of reasons there was a loss of focus of the Committee in early 2016, and a large effort is being put into forging a new sense of purpose before the 2017 CC Meeting. The Committee is not complacent and intends to make a sharp change during 2017. Other organisations are making a significant and welcome contribution to education, and the Committee needs to consider giving added value, acknowledging other organisations’ and people’s work and filling in any gaps that it identifies, rather than reinventing the wheel.

### Liaison that has taken place with other CC committees

The Committee is open to work with other groups and take on work in support of the Council. It has been seeking to engage the Ringing Centres Committee to see if closer working or a merger could be achieved.

### Plans

The Committee has been looking at costs and resources needed to produce other services such as short tutorial videos, and how these could be disseminated. The Committee would be happy to develop new approaches with others such as ART. Its aim is to facilitate and collaborate, as opposed to duplicate, and sees its future rôle very much as one of coordination and bringing things together. We also hope to produce further “Education Column” articles in the coming year.

TIM HINE (*Chair*)  
 LUCY HOPKINS TILL (*Secretary*)  
 JAMES BLACKBURN  
 CHRISTINE DE CORDOVA  
 VERONICA DOWNING  
 TONY FURNIVALL  
 GEOFF HORRITT

GILL HUGHES  
 CATHERINE LEWIS  
 PIP PENNEY  
 ANNE SLADEN  
 DAVID SMITH  
 CAROLINE STOCKMANN  
 DUNCAN WALKER  
 SUSAN WELCH

## Information and Communications Technology Committee

This year has been dominated by the preparation and launch of the new website. Many have played a part in getting the system live, but special thanks should go to Doug Davis and Andrew Hall on the ICT side and Caroline Stockmann and Clyde Whittaker on the PR side.

Despite the fact it has been several years coming, getting this system running on Word-Press doesn’t represent the end of the story – in fact, quite the opposite. There is evidently a reasonable body of work still to do in terms of refinement of the site and a large job to do in terms of communicating with other committees to allow them to get the most out of the new structure. All those charring committees should have details to update their own area of the site, but several committees have nominated another member to look after their area of the site. If that sounds applicable to your committee too, please don’t hesitate to get in contact with someone on the ICT committee.

The ICT committee was pleased to support the PR Matters event at Wellesbourne in February this year. The offer to help committees with technical arrangements for their events stands – particularly those which help improve the accessibility of Central Council such as webcasting or streaming of events (either live or after the event).

As we look to the future, there are several projects which the ICT Committee will be working on outside the new website:

- Migration of the hosting for [cccbr.org.uk](http://cccbr.org.uk), [felstead.org.uk](http://felstead.org.uk) and [dove.cccbr.org.uk](http://dove.cccbr.org.uk);
- Looking at Microsoft Azure and Office 365 to see how it could be of assistance to the Council;
- Getting moving with the “protection of digital assets” project.

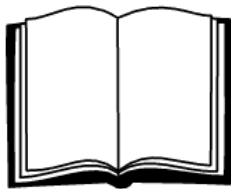
The final project on that list has been mentioned at the last two meetings, but progress has been slow. The aim is to provide a shelter for any digital resource (website / software / app) such that it is not “lost” to the community if the original author is unable or unwilling to continue development. The Council has built up a technical capacity to host this service and the next round of work, but does not yet have the “paperwork” side ready (i.e. to lay out the basis of agreement between the developer and the Council). Several projects have indicated a desire to come into the scheme, and we would welcome more.

DAVID RICHARDS (*Chairman*)  
 FRED BONE  
 JACQUI BROWN  
 DOUG DAVIS



ANDREW HALL  
 PETER HARRISON  
 STUART PIPER  
 LEIGH SIMPSON  
 PETER TROTMAN

## Library Committee



2016 saw an increased use of the Library's resources. There was one extended visit for research, thirty-three items were borrowed and eighty-six queries were dealt with, by sending scans or written replies, by our library steward Alan Glover.

A very generous donation from Alan Ellis has been made of a 1698 edition of Stedman's *Campanologia: or the Art of Ringing, Improved*, an edition which the library previously lacked.

George Morris presented a number of books in Italian about ringing in Italy; Steve Coleman provided the 2016 reprint of *The Bellringer's Bedside Companion*; and George Pipe and Fraser Clift both continued to donate a number of interesting items.

In February 2016, the CC Library committee joined forces with the Biographies Committee to hold an Outreach Day entitled "Ringing History and Future Trends" at Wellesbourne. Three speakers provided interesting and provocative content. (See RW 15.4.16 p364/365). This event was attended by 50 people; it was the first CC webcast which showed 56 viewers overall. Thank you to David Richards (ICT Committee) for making this happen.

At this event, a number of items were donated by Chris Mew and Clive Smith, who gave the Library both books and a large number of 78 and 33 rpm records of ringing. Those that are new to the collection will be considered for transfer to DVD.

Unforeseen circumstances prompted Stella Bianco's late decision not to stand for election to the Library Committee at the Portsmouth CC meeting in May 2016. We wish Stella and husband Anthony all the best. Stella will be greatly missed as our chairman.

Work continued throughout the year on updating and extending coverage of the library catalogue and more issues of *Bell News* and *The Ringing World* were added to the Central Council website. We look forward to making full use of this site to enable every ringer to have greater access to the Library. The routine binding and repair work has continued and a further group of valuable items has been provided with clam-shell boxes for their protection.

Paul Johnson reports we have now sold all the original DVDs, apart from the latest edition (RW1971-2000). We are now selling *Bell News* and pre-1970 *Ringing Worlds* by the volume or year.

John Eisel is making good progress with the next volume of *Order and Disorder*. Because of the volume of material he has discovered, this will be the last one to be published in book form. We plan to make later material available online.

Jenny Lawrence is standing down from the Library Committee and as a Council representative at the 2017 meeting in Edinburgh. I would like to thank her for all the hard work she has put in to the despatch of *Order and Disorder* books. Thank you to Sue Marsden who has taken over these duties.

The "Friends of the Central Council Library" saw an increase in membership subscriptions; three Honorary Life members and five Life members. William Willans wrote another essay to accompany the newsletter entitled *The "Remarks and Collections" of Thomas Hearne*. Without the Friends of the CC Library we would be unable to acquire new and rare books. For the fourth year, the Library Committee has waived the CC grant. Thank you to Ian Self for coordinating the Friends, along with Linda, and for being our Treasurer.

As the new Chairman, I would like to thank the Library Committee members and Stella Bianco for their support.

LINDA FODDERING (*Chairman*)  
 ALAN GLOVER (*Library Steward*)  
 PAUL JOHNSON  
 JENNY LAWRENCE  
 SUE MARSDEN  
 IAN SELF

## Methods Committee

Three consistent themes have come out of our consultation on the CC Decisions:

1. The value of having a consistent set of names for Methods, and the value of having collections of named methods.
2. The need for a framework of definitions for Peals and Methods in order that consistent method collections and peal records can be maintained.
3. These definitions should reflect current ringing practices and should not inhibit future developments in ringing, and should not impose value judgements on what people choose to ring.

We realise that there are discussions going on about the nature and constitution of the Council and its committees, but we believe there is a need for a body to steward the collections and to maintain the definitions on which they are

based. We therefore feel that this is an appropriate time to review the purpose of the Committee, and so have prepared a revised Terms of Reference, with some input from the Ringing Theory Group. These new Terms of Reference are based on what the Committee currently does, but also includes some additional things that we feel it should do in the future.

The bulk of the Committee's time this year has been spent on the Decisions on Peals, Methods and Calls. We published a new consultation paper, listing the areas where we think changes could or should be made, and we picked some of these changes to be made as updates to the current Decisions in 2017. We asked for comments, and the responses we have received to date are shown in the diagram.

As you can see, the favourable responses outweighed those who were against, with the biggest concerns being raised with the proposal on the use of simulators.

We realise that the rate of change has not been as rapid as some might like, and that the idea of making further updates to the current Decisions has been criticised as a diversion, or as minor tweaking. In defence, we can point out that if the changes in this year's motion are passed, we will have moved the Decisions on significantly from where they were in 2014. It also means there will be less items of substance to change as we move forwards.

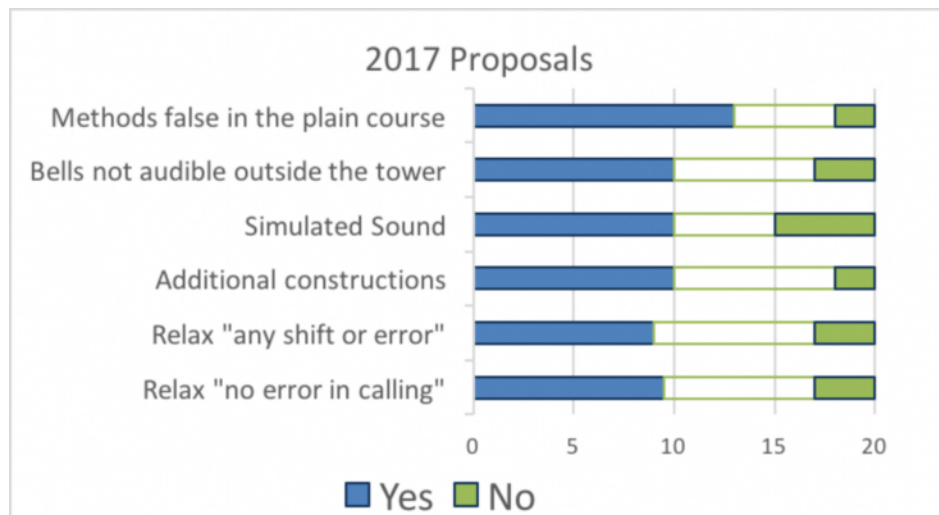
Our plan for 2017/8 is to build a new, more descriptive, decision framework incorporating:

- Changes in the substance of what they say, based on feedback from our consultation;
- Changes in their style and structure, to make them more consistent and appear less authoritarian.

In addition they need to be adaptable and responsive to change.

The Committee has made two innovations this year to the way it has been working, and which we hope will help us move forward faster with our work on the Decisions:

1. We have been fortunate to have enlisted the assistance of Tim Barnes and Graham John as advisors to the Committee. They have both been active in the Ringing Theory group, and Tim led their Rules sub-group.
2. We have been using new collaboration technology to help us in our work. We have been



holding regular video-conference calls using Skype, and we have been using an online collaboration tool called Slack. The Slack tool has been particularly effective in letting us communicate quickly online and share work, in between our conference calls.

Throughout the year we have continued to answer enquiries about method names, extensions, CC Decisions and other matters received on the Committee's email address: [methods@cccbr.org.uk](mailto:methods@cccbr.org.uk).

Once again, we would like to record our thanks to Tony Smith for maintaining up to date method collections at <http://methods.org.uk>. As we noted earlier, the collections are recognised as an important service that the Council provides to the wider ringing community and we are very grateful to Tony for updating them each week.

PETER NIBLETT (*Chairman*)  
 FRED BONE  
 MARK DAVIES  
 DAVID GRIMWOOD  
 DAVID RICHARDS  
 LEIGH SIMPSON  
 ROBIN WOOLLEY

## Peal Records Committee

### The Peals Analysis

We have recorded a total of 4875 peals rung in 2016 and published in *The Ringing World* up to February 24th, of which 4003 were on tower bells and 872 on handbells. The revised total for 2015 is 4960 (4134 t/b & 826 h/b), an increase of 176 over that published in the last year's report. Full details are included in the methods table that accompanies this report. The figures for the last five years are shown below.

	Tower bell	Handbell	Total
2016*	4003	872	4875
2015	4134	826	4960
2014	4012	772	4784
2013	4231	793	5024
2012	4405	736	5141

\* Published up to the RW of 24<sup>th</sup> February.

The Yorkshire Association is again the leading society with 369 peals, 85 more than the second place Oxford D.G. with 284, similar figures to last year's. The leading society for handbell peals in 2016 was the Oxford D.G. with 124, while second place Chester D.G. rang 99; again these were similar to the previous year. Fourteen affiliated societies rang 100 or more peals in 2016, three fewer than in 2015. Please see separate tables for details of peals rung for each society and by method / method type.

There are a number of peals known to have been rung but not yet published in *The Ringing World* including some from the first half of the year. We would encourage the organisers and conductors of peals to submit their peals for publication promptly, and then ensure that they are printed as expected.

### Record peals

There was only one record peal rung in 2016, on tower bells. The record peals are detailed in the Records table below.

### Peals not complying with the Decisions on Peal Ringing

There were two peal length performances in 2016 which did not comply with the CC Decisions on Peal Ringing. These were: on 7 April, at Hurstpierpoint, The Wickham Ring, 5024 Pudsey Surprise Major for the Sussex CA, which was rung on a simulator; and on 20 December, at Whiteparish (handbells), 5160 St Albans Delight Minor for the W&P, which contained an 840 change touch.

### Leading Towers

Ten or more peals were rung in the following 71 towers in 2016 (79 towers in 2015):

- 59 Dordrecht (t Klockhuys)
- 52 Leeds (RC Cath Ch of St Anne)
- 50 Portsmouth (St Agatha)
- 37 Sproxtton
- 36 Thorverton
- 34 Milton
- 31 Huntsham
- 30 Meldreth
- 27 Maidstone (All Saints)
- 25 Sheffield (Christ Church, Dore)
- 24 Birmingham (Cath Ch of St Philip)
- 23 Ipswich (The Wolery, Old Stoke)
- 22 London (St James Garlickhythe, Garlick Hill), Longcot
- 21 Hughenden
- 20 Burnley, Kingsteignton (Kings Ting Tong), Maidstone (St Michael), Rotherham (All Saints)
- 19 Oxford (St Thomas)
- 18 Barrow Gurney, Bradford Peverell
- 17 Keele (Woodlands), London (St Dunstan-in-the-West, Fleet Street), Peterborough (St Mary), Thatcham
- 16 Bovey Tracey (Wobbly Bobs Campanile), East Ilsley, Knottingley, Lundy Island
- 15 Burghill, Church Lawford (The Plantagenet Ring), East Huntspill (Little Orchard Tower), Inworth, London (St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames Street), Saltby, Worcester (St Stephen, Barbourne), Yarkhill
- 14 Bristol (St John), Leeds (St Matthias, Burley), London (St Michael, Cornhill), Marston Bigot (Pig le Tower), Shoreditch
- 13 Bishopstoke, Chilcompton (St John), Grundisburgh, London (St Mary le Bow, Cheapside), Spitalfields
- 12 Shepton Beauchamp, Worcester (All Saints)
- 11 Amersham, Basingstoke (All Saints), Bushey, Campton, Hanbury (Worcs), Middleton (Gtr Man), Rothwell (Nhants), Sheffield (Cath Ch of St Peter & St Paul), Winford
- 10 Aldeburgh, Awbridge (Clock House Bells), Burnham, Croydon (St Peter, South Croydon), Egham, Exeter (St Mark), Kirby Hill,

Pershore (Parish Centre), South Petherton, Stoke Poges, Stratton St Margaret, Warnham (Bell Meadow Peal), West Bridgford.

There were also 28 handbell venues where 10 or more peals were rung in 2016 (26 venues in 2015).

### First pealers and firsts as conductor

In our report for 2015, after 375 first pealers were recorded in response to the FirstPeal2015 initiative, we hoped the number of first pealers in 2016 would not drop down to the levels of 2014, when only 139 ringers achieved their first peal. It is of considerable concern, therefore, that we have to report only 98 ringers rang their first peal in 2016 – a serious decline.

34 people conducted a peal for the first time in 2016, which is a little above the average number for the last 5 years of 30, but is nowhere near the Central Council challenge for 2016 of having 125 ringers conduct a peal for the first time in 2016.

So all in all, 2016 has not been a good year for first peals, and the data adds weight to the suggestion that the number of active change ringers is declining year on year.

### Corrections to the 2015 Analysis

There are several alterations to the 2015 Analysis owing to late publication which are detailed below. Corrections relate to tower bells except where specified.

ASCY	Minor + 1
Chester	Minor + 1
Derby	Doubles + 1, Minor + 5, Triples + 1, Major + 7, Royal + 1, Cinqes + 1
Devonshire	Major + 1
Durham University	Major + 1
Kent	Doubles + 1, Major + 1
Lancashire	Major + 1
Lincoln	Minimus + 1, Major + 4 (1 handbells)
NAGCR	Minor + 1
Norwich	Minor + 1
Oxford Diocese	Major + 4 (2 handbells)
Salisbury	Major + 1
St Martin's Diocese	Triples + 1 (handbells)
Suffolk	Major + 1
Surrey	Doubles + 1
Winchester & Portsmouth	Minor + 2, Triples + 1, Major + 2, Maximus + 1
Worcestershire	Triples + 1
Yorkshire	Major + 2, Royal + 3
Non-Association	Minor + 1 (handbells), Caters + 1, Cinqes + 1, Maximus + 2
Non-Affiliated	Doubles + 1 (handbells), Minor + 2 (1 handbells), Major + 4 (3 handbells), Royal + 2 (1 handbells), Cinqes + 1, Maximus + 1

The amended methods analysis for 2015 is shown in the 2016 methods table, which forms part of this report. Revised totals for 2015 are: tower bells 4134, handbells 826, total 4960.





materials in the Library; this has enabled a number of corrections to be made and the Committee is grateful to all who have in any way contributed to the accuracy of the database.

Andrew Craddock continues to be responsible for all the data for post-1989 peals and downloads the data regularly from *The Ringing World*, BellBoard and Campanophile websites; the Committee wishes to thank him for doing this important work.

RICHARD ALLTON (Chairman)  
 ALAN BALDOCK  
 MARK BELL  
 PAUL CAMMADE  
 ADAM CROCKER  
 GRAHAM (BEN) DUKE  
 DEREK SIBSON  
 CHRISTOPHER TURNER

**First peals in methods rung on Tower Bells.**

**January**

- 1 5032 Pratt's Bottom Alliance Major Dorset CA
- 6 5120 Lady Canning's Plantation Surprise Major Yorks A
- 7 5098 Clifford Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 8 5152 Hillside Surprise Major Amersham G
- 9 5088 Capricorn Delight Major Bath & Wells DA
- 13 5040 Easttrington Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 15 5152 Stony Stratford Surprise Major S&N DG
- 16 5040 Brewood Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 18 5024 Freda Surprise Major Peterboro DG
- 20 5120 Dore Moor Surprise Major Yorks A
- 24 5040 Tattingstone Surprise Minor Essex A
- 26 5076 Ivington Alliance Royal S&N DG
- 31 5088 St Blaise Delight Major S Blaise S

**February**

- 3 5040 Wrington Bob Major Bath & Wells DA
- 4 5055 Earl of Eldon Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 4 5112 Wargate Alliance Royal S&N DG
- 10 5100 Cofton Hackett Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 14 5040 Kathleen and May Surprise Royal Lancs A
- 15 5056 Elegy Delight Major Amersham G
- 17 5120 Farnsworth Delight Major Yorks A
- 18 5120 LUSCR Dinner Surprise Major Liv USCR
- 18 5056 Burneham Delight Major Amersham G
- 20 5152 Baston Fen Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 21 5122 Grisedale Pike Alliance Royal Lancs A
- 22 5152 Ware Surprise Major St James G
- 28 5152 Upnorth Delight Major Lancs A

**March**

- 2 5088 Uniform Surprise Major Lincoln DG
- 2 5088 Xenolite Delight Major Lancs A
- 3 5760 Evelyn Treble Place Minor Truro DG
- 5 5152 Mendip Hills Surprise Major G&B DA
- 7 5152 Wareside Surprise Major St James G
- 9 5040 Scottlethorpe Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 10 5120 Hardington Mandeville Surprise Major Bath & Wells DA
- 10 5040 Buachaille Etive Mor Surprise Royal Devonshire G
- 12 5120 Regulus Alliance Cinques Guildford DG
- 13 5152 Olde English Surprise Major S Blaise S
- 14 5040 Fenchurch St Paul Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 16 5056 Blackbird Surprise Major Yorks A
- 16 5040 Easington Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 19 5096 Sunderland Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 24 5086 Viscount Horne Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 25 5040 Northampton Bob Doubles Peterboro DG
- 30 5100 Golden Hare Alliance Major Lancs A
- 30 5056 Carr Dyke Delight Major Lincoln DG
- 31 5033 Broughton Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA

**April**

- 1 5040 Matrimonial Delight Royal Devonshire G
- 1 5160 Courteenhall Surprise Royal Peterboro DG
- 5 5152 Inchcol Alliance Major S&N DG
- 6 5088 Regent's Park Surprise Major Suffolk G
- 6 5152 Camellia Delight Major Yorks A
- 9 5184 Bon Accord Delight Major Scottish A
- 9 5080 Hangingwater Delight Royal Yorks A
- 9 5040 Ward-Mannix Alliance Major S Blaise S
- 11 5040 Comparative Surprise Royal Yorks A
- 13 5040 Fishwick Bob Major Suffolk G
- 13 5024 Newburn on Tyne Delight Major Lincoln DG
- 14 5094 Tretower Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 16 5100 Roker Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 17 5120 Morpeth Surprise Major D&N
- 18 5152 90th Birthday Delight Major St James G
- 18 5068 Rocket Pole Alliance Major Lundy IS
- 20 5760 Double Norwich Surprise Minor Essex A
- 20 5160 Jones Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 20 5024 Anemone Delight Major Yorks A
- 21 5087 Tintern Abbey Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 23 5056 Chelonium Surprise Major SRCY
- 23 5071 Louise's Birthday Little Bob Major Sussex CA

**May**

- 23 5136 St George's Alliance Major Yorks A
- 25 5152 Wolborough Delight Major Devonshire G
- 25 5040 Johnston Alliance Major S Blaise S
- 28 5093 Upton Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 3 5088 Uzmaston Surprise Major Yorks A
- 5 5040 Elsham Surprise Minor Barrow & D S
- 5 5036 Lyonshall Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 6 5120 Woodwell Alliance Royal Peterboro DG
- 11 5012 Cleator Moor Alliance Major S&N DG
- 11 5096 Fluorine Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 12 5024 Wigton Delight Major S Blaise S
- 12 5068 Chinook Alliance Major Lancs A
- 16 5040 Cottingham Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 18 5040 Ebor Surprise Minor Essex A
- 21 5096 Marley Hill Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 24 5076 Fulstow Alliance Royal S&N DG
- 26 5088 Everton Delight Major Lancs A
- 27 5152 Dordt Surprise Major CEA
- 29 5090 Neath Abbey Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 31 5100 Battle of Jutland Surprise Major Suffolk G

**June**

- 1 5184 Skylark Surprise Major Yorks A
- 2 5035 Coity Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 3 5000 London No.5 Surprise Royal Peterboro DG
- 6 5060 London No.3 Alliance Royal St James G
- 7 5024 Midnight Bell Surprise Major Yorks A
- 7 5100 Vanbrugh Alliance Major S&N DG
- 8 5040 Little Waltham Surprise Minor Essex A
- 9 5067 St Fagans Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 15 5100 Jesmond Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 20 5040 Scarborough Surprise Royal Yorks A
- 21 5056 GDR Surprise Major Devonshire G
- 22 5012 Ecclesbourne Alliance Major S&N DG
- 23 5038 Morlais Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 25 5152 Champion Delight Major Yorks A
- 27 5088 Ashby Folville Surprise Major Lincoln DG
- 27 5040 Mansley Combe Surprise Royal Devonshire G
- 30 5152 Thiepval Wood Surprise Major Irish A
- 2 5096 The Somme Alliance Major Irish A
- 3 5040 Bangor Surprise Minor Irish A
- 5 5024 Potternewton Surprise Major Yorks A
- 7 5039 Rhuddlan Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 11 5088 Graduation Surprise Major Coventry DG
- 11 5056 Becordel-Becourt Alliance Royal Lincoln DG
- 13 5096 Odyssey Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 14 5024 Wales Delight Major G&B DA
- 14 5040 An Teallach Delight Royal Devonshire G

**July**

- 2 5096 The Somme Alliance Major Irish A
- 3 5040 Bangor Surprise Minor Irish A
- 5 5024 Potternewton Surprise Major Yorks A
- 7 5039 Rhuddlan Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 11 5088 Graduation Surprise Major Coventry DG
- 11 5056 Becordel-Becourt Alliance Royal Lincoln DG
- 13 5096 Odyssey Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 14 5024 Wales Delight Major G&B DA
- 14 5040 An Teallach Delight Royal Devonshire G

- 16 5056 Buxted Park Surprise Major Sussex CA
- 19 5024 Mary Rose Surprise Major St James G
- 20 5120 Bilberry Delight Major Yorks A
- 21 5040 Tom A' Choinich Surprise Royal Devonshire G
- 23 5152 Port Erin Delight Major Sproxton S
- 25 5040 Ruby Alliance Major Devonshire G
- 27 5056 Aslackby Fen Delight Major Lincoln DG
- 27 5184 Childrey Delight Major Around R
- 28 5040 Sgurr Na Lapaich Delight Royal Devonshire G
- 28 5068 Beverston Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 29 5184 Oganesson Surprise Major G&B DA

**August**

- 2 5056 Newlay Surprise Major Yorks A
- 2 5056 Chetwode Delight Major Amersham G
- 12 5024 Tennessine Surprise Major G&B DA
- 13 5040 Kent Block Minimus W&P DG
- 15 5040 Humber Ferry Surprise Royal Barrow & D S
- 16 5040 Wobbly Bobs Alliance Major Devonshire G
- 27 5056 Caerphilly Surprise Major G&B DA
- 27 5000 Victoria Delight Royal Truro DG
- 27 5100 Barlow Alliance Major Lincoln DG

**September**

- 1 5056 St Giles Delight Major Amersham G
- 4 5040 Warlincourt Halte Alliance Major Lancs A
- 7 5024 Clarence Delight Major Yorks A
- 7 5040 Coseley Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 8 5112 Chilcompton Alliance Royal Bath & Wells DA
- 9 5152 Moscovium Surprise Major Bath & Wells DA
- 15 5088 Costa Rica Surprise Major Devonshire G
- 16 5184 Nihonium Little Surprise Major G&B DA
- 19 5152 Walkington Delight Major Lincoln DG
- 21 5040 Long Sutton Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 26 5056 Bushey Hall Surprise Major St James G
- 29 5096 Bridgwater Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA

**October**

- 1 5000 Bunker Delight Royal ASCY
- 3 5040 Callender Bob Doubles Derby DA
- 5 5152 Étricourt-Manancourt Surprise Major Amersham G
- 6 5047 Earl of Dartmouth Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 8 5004 Vennington Alliance Royal S&N DG
- 12 5040 Holme on Spalding Moor Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 16 5040 Trasna Park Surprise Royal SRCY
- 17 5040 Luton Surprise Minor SRCY
- 17 5088 Bushey Heath Delight Major St James G
- 18 5124 Leeds and Liverpool Alliance Major Lancs A
- 18 5000 Upper Ramsbottom Alliance Major Devonshire G
- 19 5056 Standish Surprise Major Lancs A
- 19 5152 Rowanberry Delight Major Yorks A
- 22 5096 Ipswich Alliance Major Peterboro DG
- 23 5120 New York Littleport Little Surprise Caters NAG
- 31 5152 Patrington Delight Major Lincoln DG

**November**

- 3 5064 Bishop's Castle Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 3 5000 Tibshelf Surprise Royal Yorks A
- 8 5088 Gheluvelt Surprise Major V Evesham S
- 10 5049 Earl of Plymouth Surprise Major Dorset CA
- 11 5120 Platina Surprise Major Amersham G
- 11 5152 Golden Eagle Surprise Major G&B DA
- 16 5120 Nuthatch Surprise Major Yorks A
- 16 5152 Inglemire Surprise Major Lincoln DG
- 19 5152 Ashridge Surprise Major SRCY
- 19 5040 Boongate Alliance Major Lincoln DG
- 21 5040 Tritonian Surprise Maximus St Martins G
- 22 5040 Alexander Surprise Royal Kent CA
- 22 5004 Quarrington Alliance Royal S&N DG
- 23 5010 Burstwick Alliance Major Lincoln DG

25	5081 Lockheed Hudson Surprise Major	Bath & Wells DA	September	11	5056 Harbury Festival Delight Major	Lincoln DG
27	5056 Easy Rider Surprise Major	Yorks A		12	5024 Xennapod Surprise Major	Oxford DG
27	5065 Newport Castle Surprise Major	Bath & Wells DA	October	23	5152 Bevan's Delight Major	Lincoln DG
28	5152 Bushey Hall Delight Major	St James G		26	5160 Frog Island Surprise Royal	Oxford DG
30	5040 Salby Treble Place Royal	S&N DG				
30	5010 Julie McDonnell Alliance Major	Lincoln DG	November	5	5000 Derwent Edge Surprise Royal	ASCY
December				8	5040 Willesden Delight Minor	W&P DG
1	5099 Compton Castle Surprise Major	Dorset CA		13	5088 Wedding Delight Major	Lincoln DG
5	5120 Temple Bar Alliance Royal	St James G		20	5152 Amersham Delight Major	Lincoln DG
6	5184 Hanbury Hall Surprise Major	V Evesham S		23	5040 Riverhead Surprise Maximus	G St Cuileain
7	5152 New York Delight Major	Ely DA		24	5040 Newdigate Delight Minor	W&P DG
7	5120 Bullfinch Surprise Major	Yorks A				
7	5076 Highweek Alliance Major	Devonshire G				
10	5100 Cubs' Centenary Surprise Major	Scout Assoc	October	1	10080 Cornwall Surprise Major	Yorks A
10	5092 Julie McDonnell Alliance Royal	S&N DG				
14	5152 Blackley Bob Major	Suffolk G				
17	5088 Hedon Delight Major	Lincoln DG				
21	5088 Julie McDonnell Surprise Major	Lincoln DG				
21	5184 Winter Solstice Delight Major	Yorks A				
22	5078 Beaufort Surprise Major	Dorset CA				
24	5040 Julie McDonnell New Bob Triples	Peterboro DG				
27	5040 Toynton Alliance Royal	S&N DG				
28	5040 Hessle Alliance Major	Lincoln DG				
29	5073 No. 5073 Blenheim Surprise Major	Dorset CA				
29	5024 Lesslessness Surprise Major	Non				
30	5152 Royston Delight Major	Amersham G				
30	5056 Wharmliffe Delight Major	Yorks A				
30	5008 Newcastle College Bob Major	D&N				
30	5160 So what are we going to call this then?	Alliance Major				
		Bath & Wells DA				

### First peals in methods on Handbells

February		
8	5042 Glenkeen Delight Maximus	G St Cuileain
14	5152 Mororlessness Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
17	5120 Titan Delight Royal	Oxford DG
21	5120 Neverthelessness Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
28	5152 Knebworth Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
March		
6	5152 Heydour Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
13	5120 Xpoyntial Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
20	5152 Downton Abbey Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
21	5042 Copper Dragon Surprise Royal	G St Cuileain
April		
11	5060 Nailstone Surprise Major	Oxford DG
17	5088 Gainsborough Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
May		
8	5152 Ospringe Surprise Major	Lincoln DG
16	5000 Jaipur Surprise Royal	G St Cuileain
25	5040 Barham Delight Royal	Derby DA
June		
6	5024 Omega Surprise Major	Oxford DG
26	5040 London No.5 Surprise Royal	Oxford DG
29	5000 Lundy Island Surprise Royal	Oxford DG
July		
13	5160 Usselby Surprise Royal	Oxford DG
25	5160 Stanage Edge Surprise Royal	G St Cuileain
August		
3	5040 Whistler Delight Royal	Oxford DG
7	5056 Friendly Delight Major	Lincoln DG
10	5002 Xenolith Surprise Royal	Oxford DG
12	5040 Alderney Delight Maximus	G St Cuileain
22	5088 Quito Surprise Major	Oxford DG

September	11	5056 Harbury Festival Delight Major	Lincoln DG
	12	5024 Xennapod Surprise Major	Oxford DG
October	23	5152 Bevan's Delight Major	Lincoln DG
	26	5160 Frog Island Surprise Royal	Oxford DG
November	5	5000 Derwent Edge Surprise Royal	ASCY
	8	5040 Willesden Delight Minor	W&P DG
	13	5088 Wedding Delight Major	Lincoln DG
	20	5152 Amersham Delight Major	Lincoln DG
	23	5040 Riverhead Surprise Maximus	G St Cuileain
	24	5040 Newdigate Delight Minor	W&P DG

### Record Peals on Towerbells

October	1	10080 Cornwall Surprise Major	Yorks A
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### Doubles Variations

A doubles variation is where a Doubles method is rung with a non-standard call to produce a touch or an extent. However, as a call is not part of a method definition, any method can be rung with any call, and for recording purposes the parent method is rung. Therefore, whilst the peal rung at Killamarsh on October 3rd for the Derby DA was published as Julie McDonnell Doubles, it is recorded above as the first peal in the parent method, Callender Bob Doubles, no previous peal in the method having been recorded.

### Report of the Stewards of the Carter Ringing Machine Collection

The past year has been very quiet as far as the Carter Machine is concerned. We have had no requests for demonstrations and the Carter Machine has been a static exhibit at Taylor's Museum. We have given two demonstrations of one of the Cummins simulators, one to a small group in Shropshire (Stoke St Milbrough) and then at St John the Baptist, Tuebrook, Liverpool for the Heritage Weekend. The latter event saw a failed attempt to ring a quarter peal! We hope to attempt this again, hopefully with more success.

In addition some work has been done tracing circuitry on one of the other, non-working, Cummins simulators. This is incomplete, and other things have take priority over it, but we hope to continue this work as time permits, with the hope that the simulator can be made operational again.

We are happy to consider invitations to give demonstrations of either or both of the Carter or Cummins machines.

BILL PURVIS  
JAMES BLACKBURN

### Report of the Steward of the Rolls of Honour

The original Great War Memorial Book and World War II Memorial Book are usually kept in their display case at St Paul's Cathedral along with the new Great War Roll of Honour. Once

again the Great War books have been out of the case for several months having been taken to Great War commemorations and have also been to St George's Memorial Church in Ypres in connection with the memorial bell project that is taking place there. The books are in good condition and when in their display case the pages are regularly turned.

The original Great War Book records the names of 1207 fallen ringers. Research has continued to discover names of ringers that were not originally recorded; the new Great War Book records 152 names, and I have 22 additional names that will be added when the new Roll of Honour is next updated. The WWII Book records 300 names.

I am still following up the practicalities of extending the existing display case; this is much more complicated than anticipated!

"Rolls of Honour" have continued to be published monthly in *The Ringing World*, and I am grateful to the Editor, Robert Lewis, and compositor, Chris Caryer, and more recently Will Bosworth for their help. I am very grateful for the huge amount of help with family history research I have received from Yvonne Cairns of Jesmond, Kathryn Pearce of Bradoc, Beverly Faber of Stamford CT and David Willis of Braunton. These Rolls of Honour give details of the ringers who fell in the following month a century ago. All articles included a number of photographs of individuals, graves and memorials and were published as follows:

April 1st 2016, pp.329–330, giving details of the 13 who fell during April 1916

April 29th 2016, pp.426–427, giving details of the 11 who fell during May 1916

May 27th 2016, pp.553–554, giving details of the 17 who fell during June 1915

June 17th 2016, pp.633–635, giving details of the 35 who fell during early July 1916

June 24th 2016, pp.666–667, giving details of the 31 who fell during late July 1916

July 29th 2016, pp.786–787, giving details of the 32 who fell during August 1916

August 26th 2016, pp.880–883, giving details of the 45 who fell during September 1916

September 23rd 2016, pp.977–980, giving details of the 28 who fell during October 1916

October 21st 2016, pp.1072–1074, giving details of the 34 who fell during November 1916

November 25th 2016, pp.1189–1190, giving details of the 9 who fell during December 1916

December 23rd / 30th 2016, pp.1300–1301, giving details of the 14 who fell during January 1917

January 20th 2017, pp.52–54, giving details of the 21 who fell during February 1917

February 17th 2017, pp.151–152, giving details of the 17 who fell during March 1917

These will continue over the coming months and years, right through to the last recorded ringer casualty who died on 12th March 1921 from wounds received in action.

I have continued to contact local ringers encouraging commemorative ringing, and I am pleased to be able to report that the majority have been commemorated on or close to the centenary of their death. Ringers may have seen these reported in *The Ringing World* and on BellBoard and I am most grateful to all those ringers who

have taken part. Some Guilds and Associations have continued to co-ordinate efforts to assist with these commemorations. I hope ringers will continue these commemorations. I am keeping a record of commemorative ringing that has been done which has ranged from tolling a single bell to quarter peals and peals.

Peter Trotman and, more recently, Doug Davies have been undertaking updates and corrections as and when these are found and I am most grateful for their help. The website continues to generate a number of contacts and is clearly a very good way of making sure that information is available both to ringers and the wider public.

As always I am grateful to ringers and others for supplying information that enables us to remember those who gave their all.

ALAN REGIN

## Report of the Stewards of the Dove Database

2016 was an exceptionally busy year for the Dove Stewards. We made 944 updates to the information that we show against a “Dove entry”, and 1591 updates to the information held in the prototype-National Bell Register (*pNBR*), the latter representing an 80% increase on the number of changes made during 2015.

The number of *Dove* entries, and the changes that occurred during this period, are summarised in the accompanying table.

We have listed 5 rings for the first time but no longer list 4 others (namely Clifton, S Francis, Notts; Oddington, Oxon; Rodmarton, Glos; and Thurlby (3), Lincs). We have been notified of 18 augmentations, 2 reductions (namely Broughton, Northants; and Buckworth, Cambs), 15 rings that are no longer unringable, and 3 rings that are now unringable.

We thank all who have notified us of changes that they believe we should know about. We are especially grateful to our hardcore of supporters, numbering some 20 or so people, who between them supplied over 50% of the *Dove* updates and over 90% of the *pNBR* updates during 2016. One person alone, David Sloman, provided over 40%

of the *pNBR* updates. We would like to thank publicly those of our other regular contributors not named in our previous reports: Chris Pickford, Colin Turner, David Kelly, David Potter, George Dawson, Graham Clifton, Ian Oram, John Greenhough, Matthew Higby, Mark Walker, Nigel Taylor, and Paul Mason.

We are delighted to report that a team led by Richard Smith is developing a replacement solution for the *Dove* database using up-to-date technology. We have not, so far, had any success in identifying any individuals who might be interested in becoming our successors in the rôle of Dove Steward.

JOHN BALDWIN  
TIM JACKSON

## Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells

The full name of the charity is:-  
**CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS RESCUE FUND FOR REDUNDANT BELLS**

The charity is not incorporated. The constitution derives from rules adopted on the 29th May 1979 (amended on the 26th May 2008) and registered with the Charity Commission on the 22nd October 1979. The Charity’s registration number is 278816.

The principal address of the Charity is that of the secretary namely:-

**8 LEBANON GARDENS, LONDON SW18 1RG.**

The principal object of the Fund is to advance the Christian religion by the rescue of redundant bells for the purpose of their being rehoused elsewhere for ringing in churches.

The Trustees of the Fund are the members of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers Committee for Redundant Bells namely:-

R.J.Cooles  
T. Jackson  
J. Newman  
Miss Helen Webb  
D. Westerman  
R. Wood  
The Honorary Secretary is: R. J. Cooles  
The Honorary Treasurer is: Helen Webb

## Annual Report: 2016

The Committee has not “rescued” any rings of bells during the past year but has continued to use its own funds to assist the Keltek Trust Rescue Fund to enable the joint funding to finance the acquisition of bells otherwise at risk and for those bells to be reused elsewhere. As last year this has enabled the Trust funds to actually be used during the year for the rescue of various bells rather than just idling in a bank account.

It has therefore helped both organisations achieve their objectives.

It is some years since the Trust has had to request those ringers who are prepared to lend money to the Fund in case of need to support the work of the Trust. The Trust’s own finances have been sufficient to meet cases of need but the Committee remains grateful to those who continue to leave their offer on the table from year to year.

The trustees decided in December that it would make for better organisation to close the fund as a separately registered charity; to transfer the charity’s cash to a dedicated account with the Central Council itself and to continue the work of the charity under the management of the Committee for Redundant Bells (as is the present case).

R J COOLES (Honorary Secretary)  
HELEN WEBB (Honorary Treasurer)

## Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells

Registered Charity No 278816  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
for year ended 31 December 2016

Incoming resources	2016	2015
Interest receivable	24.18	25.48
Every Click (=donations from ringers)	25.03	41.18
<b>Resources expended</b>		
Payments	10.00	0.00
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	<b>39.21</b>	
Balances at 1 January	14,828.15	
Balances at 31 December	14,867.36	

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December

Current assets	
Loan to Keltek Trust	
Rescue Fund	8,500.00
Cash in bank and on deposit	6,367.36
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>14,867.36</b>
Current liabilities	
	0.00
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>14,867.36</b>
Funds	
Unrestricted	14,867.36

HELEN WEBB  
16 FEBRUARY 2017

	Rings			Unringable		
	As at 1 Jan	As at 31 Dec	Change	As at 1 Jan	As at 31 Dec	Change
16s	3	3	0	0	0	0
15s	0	1	+1	0	0	0
14s	2	1	-1	0	0	0
12s	138	138	0	0	0	0
10s	275	281	+6	2	2	0
9s	1	0	-1	0	0	0
8s	1893	1893	0	40	39	-1
6s	2926	2931	+5	87	86	-1
5s	606	601	-5	140	135	-5
4s	317	316	-1	151	150	0
3s	979	976	-3	571	566	-5
<b>Total</b>	<b>7140</b>	<b>7141</b>	<b>+1</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>-13</b>

Please use *The Ringing World's*

## BellBoard

for submitting and browsing ringing records online & confirming performances for print publication in the magazine

[www.bb.ringingworld.co.uk](http://www.bb.ringingworld.co.uk)



*Library & Biographies Committees Outreach Day, 27 February 2016  
Photos by Anthony Bianco*