

From the President

This is the last meeting of the triennium and members will be considering their future rôle on the Council or perhaps reflecting whether their initial interest has been fulfilled. It is important to remember that how effective the Council is in its work, and the degree to which it can contribute to local needs, very much depends upon the work of individual members. For those who are joining us this year and those looking forward, I hope that you will approach the proceedings with a view to what you can contribute.

The past year has seen both successes and disappointments, but each has I hope given fresh determination to Council members to address problems facing ringing as a whole. There have certainly been immediate crises which have had varying outcomes. Perhaps the most pressing was the declaration of financial losses on the operation of *The Ringing World* which threatened its very continuance. The Ringing World Board and staff have turned round the situation and are to be congratulated, as are all those who subscribe and make contributions; our weekly journal is a valuable “glue” that keeps us together and records our activities for posterity.

On a sadder note the Ringing Foundation took the decision to wind up its activities after eight years of work. Originally set up by the Council to promote ringing and seek grants, the Foundation has had tremendous success with the development of the Association of Ringing Teachers training organisation. Members of the RF Board are to be thanked for their hard work and their training legacy.

Milestones in the year not only produced much extra ringing but also gave a valuable boost to ringing publicity. The 300th anniversary of the first peal in Norwich was matched by the challenge for 300 “first peelers” being achieved and exceeded. The celebration of 800 years of Magna Carta and the interment of Richard III at Leicester were all boosts and a number of radio and TV interviews took place during the year. Our newly appointed Public Relations Officer has been busy seeking opportunities to bring ringing to the fore, and by the time you read this ringing will have celebrated Her Majesty the Queen’s 90th birthday and Shakespeare 400.

At the last Council meeting break-out sessions were arranged to allow members to discuss specific problems and initiatives in their respective areas. Whilst the opportunity to talk, rather than sitting and listening, was appreciated by many, the hoped for closer exchanges on a regional basis did not materialise afterwards. This year we shall have a meeting prior to the Council, open to any ringers, at which questions on topical and no doubt controversial topics may be aired. There is a great need to reach out beyond Council members who themselves can do much by creating a dialogue with local ringers on a two-way basis.

The Council Administrative Committee will be holding a whole day meeting in July to look at future issues and will consider views put forward on ways in which it may serve ringers better. In the meantime much has been done on updating guidance notes and, similarly, improvements to the Central Council website will be presented at the meeting. A review on the subject of Methods Decisions has taken place and will be reported upon.

The Council has reached the 125th anniversary of its first meeting and this has been marked by a weekend celebrating the work of Sir Arthur Heywood, founder and first President. Despite tremendous changes during its lifetime I believe that the Council continues to have an important rôle to play in looking after the interests of ringers and I hope that we will all work together to see that our support for ringing is appropriate to the age.

April 2016

CHRIS MEW

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Registered Charity No 270036

The third session of the 42nd Council (119th Annual Meeting) will be held on Monday 30 May 2016 in the Best Western Royal Beach Hotel, St Helen’s Parade, Portsmouth, 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 2015 Annual Meeting. *(p. 464)*
7. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
8. Annual Report of the Council.
9. Accounts for 2015.
10. Election of Life Member: John Barnes is proposed by Jane Wilkinson and seconded by Alan Regin.
11. Election of Additional Members
Stella Bianco, Roger Booth and Robert Cooles retire. The following nominations have been received; in accordance with Rule 6(ii), supporting statements for the candidates are given in Appendix A of this Agenda: *(p.463)*

Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Stella Bianco	Alan Glover	John Harrison
Robert Cooles	Michael Church	Mike Chester
12. Change Ringing for the Future.
13. Motions
 - (A) *That following the winding-up of The Ringing Foundation Limited the following Rules be amended as indicated:*

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.

Proposed on behalf of the Administrative Committee by Tony Smith (Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), seconded by Mary Bone (Ex-officio).

- (B) *That to avoid the need for time-consuming elections which distract from more important items under discussion by the Council the committee elections procedure be changed by introducing advance nominations and removing a maximum size for committees:*

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.

Proposed on behalf of the Administrative Committee by Tony Smith (Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), seconded by Mary Bone (Ex-officio).

- (C) *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.

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

- (D) *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.

Proposed on behalf of the Lancashire Association by Ernie de Legh-Runciman and seconded by Giles Blundell.

- (E) *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 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.

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

(F) *That the Council appoint a Working Group to undertake a detailed review of the 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).

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

(G) *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.”*

Proposed on behalf of the Methods Committee by Peter Niblett (Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Fred Bone (Essex Association).

- (H) 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 non-*

compliant peals

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

Proposed on behalf of the Methods Committee by Peter Niblett (Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and seconded by Robin Woolley (Southwell and Nottingham Diocesan Guild).

14. To receive, discuss and if thought fit to adopt the reports of the following committees; and to pass such resolutions as may be necessary on matters arising from the reports. In all cases one-third of the present members retire and are eligible for re-election if still members of the Council.
- (a) Administrative: *(p.472)*
David Kirkcaldy is now an ex-officio member. Angela Newing, Helen Udal and Andrew Wilby retire. Angela Newing is not seeking re-election. There are 4 vacancies.
 - (b) Peal Records: *(p.473)*
Andrew Barnsdale resigned and has since died. Alison Brittliff and Derek Sibson retire. There are 3 vacancies.
 - (c) Public Relations: *(p.478)*
Matthew Sorell is no longer a member of Council. Bruce Butler, Lynne Hughes and Michael Orme retire. Lynne Hughes is not seeking re-election. There are 4 vacancies.
 - (d) Publications: *(p.480)*
Peter Mackie has died. John Couperthwaite retires. There are 2 vacancies.
 - (e) Redundant Bells: *(p.481)*
Bob Cooles and Robert Wood retire. There are 2 vacancies.
 - (f) Ringing Centres: *(p.481)*
Matthew Sorell is no longer a member of Council. Leslie Boyce and Pip Penney retire. There are 3 vacancies.
 - (g) Ringing Trends: *(p.482)*
Elva Ainsworth and Mark Ainsworth are no longer members of Council. David Grimwood has resigned. There are 3 vacancies.
 - (h) Towers & Belfries: *(p.482)*
Tim Collins has resigned. Roland Backhurst, Alan Frost and Bernard Stone retire. There are 5 vacancies.
 - (i) Tower Stewardship: *(p.483)*
Alan Chantler and James Smith are no longer

members of Council. Peter Kemp retires and is not seeking re-election. There are 3 vacancies.

- (j) Bell Restoration: *(p.483)*
Jay Bunyan, Ian Oram and Peter Wilkinson retire. There are 4 vacancies.
 - (k) Biographies: *(p.484)*
Richard Andrew, Pat Halls and John Harrison retire. There are 3 vacancies.
 - (l) Compositions: *(p.485)*
Richard Allton and Paul Flavell retire. There are 2 vacancies.
 - (m) Education: *(p.485)*
Tim Hine, Gill Hughes, Pip Penney, David Roskelly and Susan Welch retire. There are 5 vacancies.
 - (n) Information and Communications Technology: *(p.485)*
David Richards, Leigh Simpson and Peter Trotman retire. There are 3 vacancies.
 - (o) Library: *(p.486)*
Stella Bianco and Ian Self retire. There are 2 vacancies.
 - (p) Methods: *(p.487)*
Peter Niblett and Robin Woolley retire. There are 3 vacancies.
15. Report of the Stewards of the Carter Ringing Machine Collection. *(p.487)*
 16. Report of the Steward of the Rolls of Honour. *(p.487)*
 17. Report of the Stewards of the Dove Database. *(p.487)*
 18. Central Council Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells (registered charity no. 278816):
Report and Accounts. *(p.488)*
 19. Future meetings.
 20. Any other business.

Mary Bone

Hon Secretary

Appendix A Additional Member Nominations – Supporting Statements

Stella Bianco

Stella Bianco joined the Library Committee in 2008 and became its Chairman a year later. She has held this position ever since. Her experience as Sussex Association Librarian, where she organises an open morning each year to encourage members to use and enjoy this valuable resource, has been invaluable in arranging three outreach days to encourage people to enjoy ringing books and publicise the rôle of the Central Council Library.

Stella was first elected to the Council as an honorary member in 1989 and has served it well in various positions ever since. She served on the Public Relations Committee and was joint project co-ordinator for the “Ringing in the Millennium” project, leading the distribution of £3m in grants to 150 projects. She continues to support the Council’s Bell Restoration Fund through selling ringing-themed wooden jigsaws.

Stella would like to continue to serve on the Library Committee. The members of the Committee would very much welcome her experience and enthusiasm in guiding the Committee and promoting the use of the Library.

Proposed by Alan Glover
Seconded by John Harrison

Robert Cooles

Robert Cooles has served on the Council for many years, principally as Secretary of the Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells, as a member of the Committee for Redundant Bells, and for several years as its Chairman. He has served for many years as a member of the Administrative Committee and in previous years as one of the first directors of The Ringing World Limited and in various other sundry “ad hoc” rôles within the Council. As a life long member of the Surrey Association he is currently President of the Association. Bob has been involved in Diocesan and other church bodies for a long time and the knowledge thus gained is additionally of value to the Council. He is a solicitor by profession and has skilfully acted as the Council’s honorary legal advisor for many years.

Proposed by Michael Church
Seconded by Mike Chester

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Minutes of the Second Session of the 42nd Council (118th Annual Meeting), held in the Mercure Hull Royal Hotel, Ferensway, Hull on Monday 25th May 2015, at 9.30 a.m.

Present

Life Members: William Butler, Alan Frost, David Kelly, Andrew Stubbs, David Thorne.

Additional Members: Elva Ainsworth, Mark Ainsworth*, Stella Bianco, Roger Booth, Robert Cooles, Robert Lewis, Peter Trotman, Jane Wilkinson.

Ex-officio: Mary Bone, Tim Jackson, Brian Meads, Nigel Orchard*, Bill Purvis, Alan Regin, Andrew Taylor.

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

Australian & New Zealand Assn: Christopher O'Mahony, James Smith, Matthew Sorell, Derek Williams (alternate member).

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: 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: Mervyn Way.

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

Dorset County Assn: Timothy Collins, Maureen Frost.

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

Durham Univ. Society: Michael Williams.

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*, Wendy Godden, Stephen Nash.

Four Shires Guild: Christopher Povey.

Gloucester & Bristol Dio. Assn: Derek Harbottle, Patrick Hickey, Angela Newing.

Guild of St Agatha: Anne Bray.

Guildford Dio. Guild: Anne Anthony, John Couperthwaite, 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: David Grimwood, Philip Larter, Catherine Lewis, Frank Lewis.

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

Lancashire Assn: Giles Blundell, Alison Brittliff, Ernie de Legh-Runciman, Christopher Fletcher, Beth Ingham.

Leeds University Society: Adam Crocker.

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

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

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

Liverpool Univ. Society: Richard Andrew.
Llandaff & Monmouth Dio. Assn: Pip Penney.

National Police Guild: William Dowse#.

North American Guild: Bruce Butler, Alan Ellis, Beverly Faber, Anthony Furnivall.

North Staffordshire Assn: Ray Ballard, Jan Hine, Tim Hine.

North Wales Assn: Antony Diserens, David Raggett.

Norwich Dio. Assn: Peter Adcock, Jenny Brunger, Michael Clements.

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

Oxford Society: Bernard Stone.

Peterborough Dio. Guild: Alan Chantler, Nick Elks*, Jane Sibson, David Westerman.

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

St Martin's Guild: James Ramsbottom*.

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

Scottish Assn: Stephen Elwell-Sutton, Ruth Marshall.

Shropshire Assn: Alan Glover, Peter Woolham*.

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, George Salter.

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

Sussex County Assn: Andrew Barnsdale, Stephen Beckingham, Anne Franklin, David Kirkcaldy, Margaret Oram.

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

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

Univ. Bristol Society: Robert Wood.

Univ. London Society: Jacqui Brown.

Veronese Assn: David Roskelly.

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.

Birmingham University Society, the Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild and Oxford University Society were not represented.

The Chair was taken by the President, Chris Mew.

1. Opening Prayer

Revd Giles Galley (Chaplain, Beverley & District Society) led members in prayer.

2. Report as to membership and subscriptions

The Hon Secretary, Mary Bone, reported that 67 societies were affiliated to the Council with 195 representatives; there were seven vacancies. There were 6 Life Members, 10 Additional Members and 7 ex-officio Members. One subscription was outstanding from Birmingham University Society. She urged those societies with vacancies to fill these as soon as possible.

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 (Life Member), Alan Baldock (Additional Member), Peter Harrison (Australian & New Zealand Assn), John Atkinson (Beverley & District Society), Michael Woolley (Birmingham USCR), Robert Flockton (Cambridge UG), James Clarke (Guild of Devonshire Ringers), Andrew Gunn (Four Shires Guild), William Nash and John Nicholls (Gloucester & Bristol DA), Jane Mason (Hereford DG), Douglas Davis (Kent CA), Jonathan Lewis (Llandaff & Monmouth DA), Frank Blagrove, Linda Foddering, Peter Kemp and Helen Udal (Middlesex County Assn & London DG), Maureen Gardiner (Norwich DA), Mark Bell (Oxford US), Julian Hemper (Salisbury DG), Richard Webster (Univ Bristol Society) and Susan Welch (Yorkshire Assn). Further apologies were presented from Robert Brown (Devon Assn), Andrew Mills (Southwell & Nottingham DG) and Eles Belfontali (Veronese Assn).

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: Kathryn Tucker (North American Guild 2008–2011); Stanley Darmon (Cambridge UG 1951–1954); Philip Rothera

(Essex Assn 1972–1978); Adrian Semken (Essex Assn 1996–2011, Additional Member 2011–); John Armstrong (Essex Assn 1966–); Philip Chalk (Cambridge UG 1954–1960); Frank Beech (North Staffs Assn 2002–2014). The Revd David Grimwood led members in prayer.

6. Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2014 had been published in *The Ringing World* of 12th September 2014.

The Hon Secretary informed members that the penultimate name in item 6 (Loss of members through death) should read W Leslie Weller and that in item 11(a) (Election of Life Members) it should state that Alan Frost was a member of the “Ringing in the Millennium” working party.

With these corrections, and there being no further corrections, 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 recorded to assist with the Minutes.

The President drew attention to the second Appendix to the Report of the Administrative Committee and reminded members to declare any interest in the bell-related trade to the Hon Secretary and to declare any relevant interest before speaking at the meeting or proposing a candidate for election. The President reminded members that we were all volunteers and should be treated with courtesy.

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 24th April 2015, p428*)

The Hon Secretary noted that 3 vacancies 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, 10 Additional Members, 7 ex-officio Members and 195 Representative Members. There are 7 other vacancies.”

Adoption of the report was then proposed by the Hon Secretary, seconded by Christopher O’Mahony, and agreed.

9. Accounts for 2014

(*RW 24th April 2015, pp428-431*)

The Hon Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, reported that the independent examiners had issued an unqualified report. The net movement of funds for 2014 was a surplus of £62,307. The Roadshow made a surplus of £6,633 without which the General Fund surplus of £4,543 would have been a deficit of £2,090. Interest receivable

was lower than in 2013 as all higher interest earning deposits had now matured and had been replaced with deposits at much lower interest rates. The expenses of the Council meeting were higher than in 2013. The Bell Restoration Fund received a bequest of £50,000. Total funds raised towards Christchurch NZ including Gift Aid were £14,925 of which £10,000 was paid last year to leave a balance of £4,925. Donations towards the Kilifi project totalled £2,269. Further donations had been received since 31 December towards both Christchurch and Kilifi. Payments had now also been made towards the forthcoming visit of the Kilifi ringers to the UK.

Looking ahead, the Hon Treasurer noted that the Administrative Committee had decided not to proceed at present with suggestions for changing the basis of the affiliation fee but to prepare detailed forward expenditure plans for several years to enable affiliated societies to plan themselves for regular staged increases in the fee from 2017 onwards. Details had yet to be put to the Administrative Committee but the likely proposal was for fees to increase to £35 for 2017, then to £45 and then £50 in subsequent years. The deficit for 2015 would be met from reserves.

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

10. Election of Additional Members

Two 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: Jane Wilkinson and Robert Lewis. The President clarified that Jane Wilkinson had been a member of the “Ringing in the Millennium” working party and had also dealt with post-completion monitoring of the project with Eric Godfrey. After a ballot these candidates were declared elected. Eight vacancies remained unfilled.

11. Election of Public Relations Officer

The President reminded members that the Council’s Rules had been changed in 2014 to allow for the election of a Public Relations Officer. A number of ringers had been approached about the position, which had also been advertised in *The Ringing World*, but none had felt able to stand for election at this time. Kate Flavell, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, had therefore agreed to stand for election so that the post did not remain unfilled. The President declared her elected (applause).

12. Motions

(A) Terms of Reference of the Biographies Committee

John Harrison proposed on behalf of the Biographies Committee:

That Rule 16(ii) (Terms of Reference of the Biographies Committee) be extended as follows:

“To maintain an account of the work and general ringing activities of past and present ringers, to make the information created available to ringers and the wider public, and to foster an interest in the history of ringing.”

John highlighted the changes to the current Terms of Reference which the additional clauses would provide. Bobbie May seconded.

The motion was put to the vote and carried nem con.

(B) Change of Date of the Annual Meeting

Andrew Wilby proposed:

That the Central Council meeting from 2018 onwards should be held during the first weekend in September.

Andrew recalled the history of the date and arrangements for the Council’s annual meeting, which were outlined in the background paper previously circulated. The first weekend in September was not currently used by any important regular event in the ringing calendar, as evidenced by the fact that it had been used for roadshows. A change of date would enable the Council to take advantage of modern conference facilities at universities at advantageous rates, and these facilities would also enable the Council to organise workshops and seminars open to all ringers during the weekend, thus enriching the format of the annual meeting. Any change would only take effect in 2018. Christopher O’Mahony seconded.

A number of points, both for and against the motion, were made in discussion: that this would encourage younger members of Council; that ringers with families returning to school would be unable to attend; that societies benefit by engaging their members with the organisation of a Council meeting; that day delegate rates would increase the costs for societies as representatives reclaimed the additional expenses; that an August date should be considered; and that clarification was needed on whether the annual meeting itself would be held on the Saturday or Sunday.

Andrew Wilby responded to the discussion by stating that the Council meeting would still be organised in conjunction with local societies, that it would not remain in the same venue, and that the motion was on the principle of changing the date. Christopher O’Mahony added that the motion arose from discussions at regional meetings, as well as at the additional meeting of the Administrative Committee, and showed that the Council was willing to embrace change.

Voting was by show of hands. The motion was lost (89 against; 60 for; 24 abstentions).

The President sought leave to vary the Agenda at this point in order to take a number of committee reports before item 13, as this item would be followed immediately by break-out sessions and then by the lunch break. He asked members to notify any items of any other business to the Hon Secretary during the lunch break.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS



TOWERS AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE



General guidance and technical information within the CCCBR website at <http://www.cccbr.org.uk/>

- ✘ A Bells Project From First Principles, a general guide for Principal PCC Officers and their ringers.
- ✘ Clapper Notes, a technical article on design, centre of percussion, and physical testing of clappers.
- ✘ The Faculty Jurisdiction, a general guide for Principal PCC Officers and their ringers.
- ✘ Radio Aerials & Telecommunications Equipment in Church Towers, a general guide, for Principal PCC Officers and their ringers, on management issues, principles, procedures, responsibilities and actions.
- ✘ Radio Aerials & Telecommunications Equipment in Church Towers, a technical article for Principal PCC Officers and their ringers.
- ✘ Sound Management, a general guide, for Principal PCC Officers and their ringers, on principles and practice to be used in the good acoustic management of the sound of church bells, both inside the tower and outside the tower.

14. Committee Reports

(The reports were published in The Ringing World Supplement of 24th April 2015. The relevant page numbers are shown against each report.)

(a) Administrative (p432)

Adoption of the report was proposed by the Hon Secretary, who thanked Robert Lewis and *The Ringing World* staff for their assistance in producing an excellent Supplement (applause). She drew attention to the forthcoming meeting with Historic England (formerly English Heritage) and the Church Buildings Council and 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. Jane Wilkinson seconded and spoke on the outline of a proposal to change the committee elections procedure by introducing a large maximum size for committees and advance nominations. This would avoid the need for time-consuming elections which distracted from more important items under discussion by the Council. Members showed their support for this proposal in a show of hands. The report was adopted.

Kate Flavell had become an ex-officio member of the Committee. Fred Bone, Robert Lewis and Jane Wilkinson retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 4 vacancies on the Committee: Fred Bone, Robert Lewis, Anthony Lovell-Wood and Jane Wilkinson.

(b) Methods (pp433-434)

Peter Niblett proposed adoption of the report. Peter stated that the majority of the Committee's time during the year under review had been spent preparing for the consultation on the Decisions on Peal Ringing, Methods and Calls, as agreed

at the 2014 Council meeting. Peter apologised for the delay in producing the consultation document; the Committee had naturally begun work by studying the current Decisions and this process had taken longer than expected. Peter referred to a letter from Philip Earis published on p255 of *The Ringing World*; this letter was Philip's response to the consultation document and Peter therefore added Philip Earis' name to the list of respondents given in the third paragraph of the Committee's report. Responses had also been received from Graham Lay and Graham John and their names should also be included in the list. Peter summarised future options as follows: (1) to revise the current Decisions; (2) to produce a new set of Decisions; or (3) to have no Decisions at all. Peter noted that there was widespread agreement in the responses received to date that a framework for naming methods was necessary; however there was less agreement on other aspects of the current Decisions. The Committee therefore proposed to re-issue an amended consultation document, in particular to obtain views on the basic objectives of any revised or new Decisions; to seek input from associations; and to hold an open meeting for all interested parties in autumn 2015. Seconding the report, Robin Woolley reminded members that it was important that future ringers should be able to establish clearly and precisely what had been rung on a particular occasion. David Richards mentioned the work of an independent group studying the Decisions and urged the Committee to integrate their work into its own. Peter replied that he was aware of the work of this group and that the Committee was always willing to co-operate with other interested parties in its work. The report was adopted.

Tony Smith had resigned. Stephen Jones was no longer a Council member. There were 3 vacancies on the Committee. The following 2 members were proposed, seconded and elected: Fred Bone and David Richards. One vacancy was unfilled. John Harrison, while not wishing to

stand for election, offered his services to the Committee where appropriate.

(c) Peal Records (pp434-438)

Proposing adoption of the report, Richard Allton noted that nearly 300 fewer peals were rung in 2014 compared with 2013. No non-compliant peals had been recorded in 2014. Derek Sibson seconded. Adoption of the report was agreed.

Richard Allton, Mark Bell and Ben Duke retired. The following 3 members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 3 vacancies on the Committee: Richard Allton, Mark Bell and Ben Duke.

(d) Public Relations (pp438-439)

Proposing adoption of the report, Kate Flavell informed members that the international reports had this year been published on the website. She drew attention to publicity in the *Church Times* on the 300th anniversary of the first peal, to a number of interviews given by the President and herself on ringing for the 70th anniversary of VE Day, and to plans for commemorative ringing for the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta in June. She highlighted the BBC broadcast from Holy Trinity, Hull, on Sunday morning (24 May). Lynne Hughes seconded. Peter Wilkinson added his congratulations to the Beverley & District Society for the publicity obtained for the Council weekend. Julian Newman referred to criticism of the Central Council on Facebook and other social media and urged the Council to respond; Matthew Sorell replied that the Committee's policy was to respond as and when appropriate but to ignore internet "trolls". Adoption of the report was then agreed.

Rosalind Martin was no longer a Council member. Beverly Faber, John Harrison and Lynne Hughes retired. Six candidates were proposed and seconded to fill the 5 vacancies on the Committee. Barrie Dove then informed members that he wished to stand down from the Committee, thus creating an additional vacancy. The President therefore declared the following elected: Jacqui Brown, Nick Elks, Beverly Faber, John Harrison, Lynne Hughes and Alan Marchbank.

13. Change Ringing for the Future

Introducing this item, Elva Ainsworth referred to the background paper circulated earlier and to the well-known age profile of ringers, to the decline in Church of England membership and to the many different social activities which now competed for time with ringing. However, recent initiatives had shown that change to secure a future for ringing was possible and she urged ringers to work more smartly, to modernise and be pro-active, especially at the local level. Elva encouraged members to participate fully in the regional break-out sessions, to identify opportunities and priorities, and to embrace debate and change. She

noted in conclusion that the results of the sessions would be collated and reported later. Duncan Walker joined Elva in thanking the Council officers, members of the Administrative Committee, and the Beverley & District Society for their support for this initiative.

Members adjourned for lunch at 12.30 p.m. and the meeting resumed, after the Annual Meeting of The Ringing World Limited, at 3.20 p.m.

14. (e) Publications (p439)

Adoption of the report was proposed by John Couperthwaite, seconded by Beryl Norris and agreed.

Philip Green and Barbara Wheeler retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Philip Green and Barbara Wheeler.

(f) Redundant Bells (pp439-440) and Central Council Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells (Registered Charity no. 278816) Report and Accounts (p448)

Proposing adoption of the reports and accounts, Bob Cooles informed members that discussions on the problems of bells in closed and closing churches had resumed with the Church Buildings Council and the Church Commissioners. Helen Webb seconded and adoption of the reports and accounts was agreed.

Tim Jackson and David Westerman retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Tim Jackson and David Westerman.

(g) Ringing Centres (pp440-441)

Adoption of the report was proposed by Norman Mattingley, who corrected the name of a Committee member listed at the end of the report to Richard Newman. He noted the publication of the latest edition of *Training Times* and encouraged members to publicise this and submit content for future issues. Norman thanked the retiring Committee members who were not standing for re-election. Adoption of the report was seconded by Paul Marshall and agreed.

Alan Bentley was no longer a Council member. Robert Brown and Richard Newman retired. There were 3 vacancies on the Committee. One member was proposed, seconded and elected: Barrie Dove. Two vacancies remained unfilled. Norman Mattingley added that Matthew Sorell had now become chairman.

(h) Ringing Trends (p441)

Elva Ainsworth proposed adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mark Ainsworth. Elva and Mark spoke about the forthcoming survey of the state of ringing and requested the aid of associations in conducting this and ensuring a good response rate. It was hoped that

most of the survey could be conducted electronically although some paper copies would be available. Tony Furnivall asked about plans to repeat the survey in future: there had been a long gap since the 1988 survey. Beryl Norris queried the decision not to use data from the 2007 survey as comparison; Mark Ainsworth noted that there had been significant differences between that and the 1988 survey. Anthony Lovell-Wood requested that association secretaries be copied in to all communications on the survey so that they could respond to any local queries. Lynne Hughes asked if the aim was to sample 10% of towers or all towers, and Paul Johnson asked if the aim was to sample 10% of ringers. Mark replied that the survey could be sent to all towers in a branch if so desired and again stressed that a good response rate was vital in providing an accurate snapshot of the state of ringing in 2015. Adoption of the report was agreed.

Andrew Wilby (co-opted), Elva Ainsworth and Tony Furnivall retired. There were 3 vacancies. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected: Elva Ainsworth, Tony Furnivall and Andrew Wilby.

(i) Towers and Belfries (pp441-442)

Adoption of the report was proposed by Tim Collins, seconded by Alan Frost and adopted.

Adrian Semken had died. George Dawson, Chris Povey and David Roskelly retired. There were 4 vacancies on the Committee. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected: George Dawson, Chris Povey and David Roskelly. One vacancy was unfilled.

(j) Tower Stewardship (p442)

Proposing adoption of the report, Ernie de Legh-Runciman noted that Guidance Note 1 on Insurance was currently being updated. Guidance agreed with EIG on tower open days would be available on the website shortly and a note on health and safety was being prepared. James Smith seconded. Peter Wilkinson stated that there had been a number of insurance issues within the Chester Diocesan Guild recently and a lack of consistent responses from EIG. James Smith replied that there could be good reasons for differing responses from EIG; the Committee was always willing to refer queries to a senior EIG officer for a definitive answer. Adoption of the report was agreed.

John Hall was no longer a Council member. Ernie de Legh-Runciman retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Ernie de Legh-Runciman and Chris Sharp.

(k) Bell Restoration (pp442-443)

Peter Wilkinson proposed adoption of the report. He informed members that, following the success of the seminar held at the Newbury Roadshow, a regional seminar would be held in the South-West later in 2015. The Council's Bell Restoration Fund had received a legacy of £50,000 and this would be distributed in tranches with applications next being invited in 2016. Jay

Bunyan seconded. The Committee lacked expertise in charity administration and Gift Aid issues and would welcome a new member with experience of these. Chris Rogers reported that a new Guidance Note on reclaiming VAT under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme was available on the Committee's stand that day and on the website. Adoption of the report was agreed.

John Barnes, Ken Davenport and Chris Rogers retired. There were 4 vacancies on the Committee. The following 3 members were proposed, seconded and elected: John Barnes, Ken Davenport and Chris Rogers. One vacancy was unfilled.

(l) Biographies (pp443-444)

Proposing adoption of the report, John Harrison thanked Andrew Craddock, for supplying records from PealBase to the Committee, and Margaret Oram, who was not standing for re-election, for her work. He drew attention to the forthcoming event with the Library Committee in February 2016. Bobbie May seconded and the report was adopted.

Patrick Hickey, Bobbie May and Margaret Oram retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 3 vacancies on the Committee: Anne Bray, Patrick Hickey and Bobbie May.

(m) Compositions (p444)

Paul Flavell proposed adoption of the report. He thanked Stuart Hutchieson for his contributions to the Committee. The number of compositions in the online collection continued to increase and supporting this now formed the major part of the Committee's work, while members also produced articles on composers and helped current aspiring composers. Richard Allton seconded. The report was adopted.

Fred Bone and Stuart Hutchieson retired. The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Fred Bone and Fergus Stracey.

(n) Education (pp444-445)

Duncan Walker proposed adoption of the report and stated that the Committee wished to expand its membership in order to increase its outreach to guilds. Lucy Hopkins Till seconded and the report was adopted.

Tony Furnivall, Geoff Horritt, Catherine Lewis and Brian Sanders retired. Six members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 6 vacancies on the Committee: Veronica Downing, Christopher Fletcher, Tony Furnivall, Geoff Horritt, Catherine Lewis and Anne Sladen.

(o) Information and Communications Technology (p445)

Adoption of the report was proposed by Peter Trotman, who amended the penultimate point in the Committee's report to read "work with Tony Smith to transfer his archives ...". The Committee had held a meeting on the previous day at which David Richards had become the

new chairman. David Richards seconded and adoption of the report was then agreed.

Andrew Hall (co-opted), Alan Chantler, Stephen Nash and Stuart Piper retired. Four members were proposed and seconded to fill the 3 vacancies on the Committee. A motion to increase the size of the Committee was approved and the following were therefore declared elected: Jacqui Brown, Douglas Davis, Andrew Hall and Stuart Piper.

(p) Library (pp445-446)

Proposing adoption of the report, Stella Bianco drew attention to the Librarian's request for annual reports to fill gaps in the Library's holdings and to the joint event with the Biographies Committee. She thanked Paul Johnson for all his work producing DVDs and announced that only a few copies of the latest DVD of *The Ringing World* remained for sale. Alan Glover seconded. Adoption of the report was agreed.

Linda Foddering and Jenny Lawrence retired. The following 2 members were proposed, seconded and elected to fill the 2 vacancies on the Committee: Linda Foddering and Jenny Lawrence.

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

(RW 24th April 2015, pp446-447)

Adoption of the report was proposed by Bill Purvis, who reported that the first project mentioned in the last paragraph of the report had been completed. The Stewards would consider suggestions for video clips of the machines in operation. James Blackburn seconded. Matthew Sorell stated that a video clip taken that day had already been uploaded to the Internet. The report was agreed.

16. Report of the Steward of the Rolls of Honour

(RW 24th April 2015, p447)

In proposing the report for adoption, Alan Regin added that a further 17 names were currently being added to the Rolls. Alan thanked *The Ringing World* for assistance in publishing accounts of the ringers killed in the Great War on the anniversaries of their deaths but added that alternative means of publication would also be explored as the numbers of those killed increased. Alan thanked ringers for their response to his requests for commemorative ringing and noted that 25 May was the centenary of the death of Private E J Hollox (Ely Diocesan Association). Derek Sibson seconded and adoption of the report was agreed.

17. Report of the Stewards of the Dove Database

(RW 24th April 2015, pp447-448)

Adoption of the report was proposed by Tim Jackson, who reiterated the appeal for help contained in the Stewards' report, and seconded by David Kelly. Replying to George Dawson, Tim noted that there had been no progress in transferring Dove to a new database. The President informed members that he had met with John Baldwin recently to discuss this and expected this project to move forward in the coming year. Robert Wood paid tribute to the vast amount of work done daily by the Stewards and urged more assistance for them to keep this vital resource for all ringers up-to-date. Tim Jackson stated that the Stewards were fully engaged in keeping the current system operational and up-to-date; he again requested any member who could assist with the future of Dove to contact the Stewards urgently. Adoption of the report was agreed.

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

Report and Accounts

This item was taken with the report of the Committee for Redundant Bells (item 14(f)) above.

The President thanked all the stewards and the trustees of the Rescue Fund for their work for the Council.

19. Future meetings

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

2016 – Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild

2017 – Scottish Association.

Vivien Nobbs outlined plans for the visit of the Council to Portsmouth in 2016.

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) Brian Meads announced that the Annual Meeting of the Ringing Foundation would be held on Saturday 8 August in London.

(b) Catherine Lewis invited new members of the Education Committee to meet for photographs.

(c) Bobbie May, Biographies Committee, asked new members of the Council to meet for photographs.

(d) Alan Frost thanked the President for his chairmanship of the meeting (applause).

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

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

(g) The Hon Secretary reminded members that there would be open ringing at Holy Trinity that evening.

Votes of Thanks

The President thanked all members for their support during this meeting and throughout the year and all committee members for their work for ringing and the Council.

The President moved a comprehensive vote of thanks to all those involved in the Council's visit to Hull: to the organising committee of the Beverley & District Ringing Society: John Atkinson, Rosina Baxter, James Blackburn, Bill Lennox, Simon Plows and Wendy Stabler; to all the members of the Society who manned the Reception / Help Desk; to ringing members from local towers who acted as Stewards for the ringing tours; to Society members who acted as Stewards at The Royal Hotel and at Holy Trinity Church; to the roving ringers, tellers, and microphone operatives; to Margaret & Neville Pailing for arranging the Saturday evening quiz; to the Society Chaplain, Reverend Giles Galley, for leading prayers; and especially to members of the Hutton Cranswick Church music group for providing the audio equipment; to the Lord Mayor of Kingston upon Hull, Councillor Mary Glew, and to James Blackburn, Ringing Master of the Beverley & District Ringing Society, for their welcome at the Dinner; to the Reverend Canon Dr Neal Barnes and the Reverend Irene Wilson for taking the Ringers' Service and also participating in the BBC Radio 4 broadcast on Sunday morning; and to Mark Keith, organist at Holy Trinity Church, for providing the music at the church services and playing the Guildhall Carillon prior to the dinner; and to all the incumbents and ringers of local churches who made bells available during the weekend (applause).

The President declared the meeting closed at 4.48 p.m.

Summary of Attendance

	Societies		Members	
	Present	Absent		
Fully represented	43	123	-	
Partly represented	21	49	17	
Not represented	3	-	6	
	67	172	23	
Life Members		5	1	
Ex-officio Members		7	-	
Additional Members		8	2	
		192	26	



Central Council of Church Bell Ringers



Annual Report for 2015

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 2015 were as follows:

President	Mr C F Mew
Vice-President	Mr 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 25 May 2015 the Council’s membership comprised 6 Life Members, 10 Additional Members, 7 Ex-officio Members and 195 Representative Members representing 67 affiliated societies. Since then two Additional Members have retired, were re-elected at that meeting and took office; two further Additional Members have resigned; two Representative Members have died and one of these vacancies has been filled; six Representative Members have resigned and their vacancies have been filled and one further Representative Member has resigned. One society ceased to be affiliated as its subscription remained unpaid at 31 December 2015. During that annual meeting the Terms of Reference of one committee were amended and a Public Relations Officer was appointed. Subject to any further changes, at the start of the 2016 Council meeting there will be 6 Life Members, 8 Additional Members, 7 Ex-officio Members and 192 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies. There are 9 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 2015 are given in the committee reports, which appear elsewhere on the Council’s agenda and are being published in the 29th April 2016 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 2015 show total funds at the year-end of £439,726 of which £276,045 is in restricted funds. The income for the year totalled £36,108 compared with £119,432 in 2014. The 2015 figures include further donations for the Christchurch Cathedral, New Zealand, bells restoration and the Kilifi project. The 2014 figures included the Roadshow and a bequest to the Bell Restoration Fund. The increase in

expenditure includes the Ringing World *Supplement* which in previous years has been covered by The Ringing World Ltd. Also, the costs of the Council meeting were higher than expected as the hotel is the only major conference centre in Hull (with everything under one roof) and we therefore had to pay the full day rate for the whole weekend; the Ringing Foundation meeting was cancelled too late for us to avoid the room charge and we also absorbed the cost of the Ringing World meeting. 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 2016, 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) F 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 2016

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015

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. At 31 December 2014 the Library

Collection was valued at a replacement cost of £95,000 by Roger Barnes of Church Green Books. 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*.

7. Interest receivable

The interest was received from:

	2015	2014
	£	£
National Savings	3,144	2,322
Investment Bonds		
Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Deposit	233	175
Lloyds Bank term deposits	-	751
Other banks	1	1
Total	3,378	3,249

8. Donations and grants received

8.1 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 £294. The total amount of the donations received to date is £15,219. A grant payment of £10,000 was made in 2013.

8.2 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, amount to £2,280. The total amount of the donations received to date is £4,530. Expenditure to date on airfares and visas is £2,476 leaving a balance available of £2,054.

9. Committee expenses (2014 excluding Ringing Roadshow)

These were as follows:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Administrative	308	983
Bell Restoration	374	195
Biographies	169	285
Education	437	439
Information and Communications	316	316
Library	-	-
Methods	63	-
Peal records	-	-
Compositions	-	-
Publications	-	-
Public Relations	20	731
Redundant Bells	117	189
Ringing Centres	40	35
Ringing Trends	141	84
Towers and Belfries	407	616
Tower Stewardship	-	-
Carter Ringing Machine Steward	98	87
Roll of Honour Steward	-	-
Dove Steward	-	-
Total	2,490	3,960

10. Grants paid

During the year, the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund awarded one grant totalling £2,500. No grants were paid.

Year awarded	Unpaid brought forward	Awarded in 2015	Paid in 2015	With-drawn in 2015	Unpaid carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
2010	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
2011	200	-	-	-	200
2015	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
Total	2,200	2,500	-	-	4,700

During the year, the Bell Restoration Fund awarded 29 grants totaling £36,400. Two grants were paid.

Year awarded	Unpaid brought forward	Awarded in 2015	Paid in 2015	With-drawn in 2015	Unpaid carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
2015	-	36,400	(600)	-	35,800
Total	-	36,400	(600)	-	35,800

11. Charitable commitments

There were unfulfilled charitable commitments at 31st December 2015 in respect of three grants totalling £4,700 awarded but not yet paid by the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund, and 27 grants of £35,800 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 £5,219.

12. Publications fund

Storage and distribution costs of £2,400 were paid to a Council member.

13. Payments to trustees

There were no payments to Trustees.

14. Emoluments of employees

The Council had no employees during the year.

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

- ⌘ 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 BELLRINGERS

Registered Charity Number 270036

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Note	General Fund	Education Courses	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund	Publications Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2015	Total Funds 2014
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Expenditure									
Incoming Resources									
Affiliation fees		6,030	-	-	-	-	-	6,030	6,060
Ringling Roadshow		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,387
Subscriptions from friends of Library		-	-	-	-	-	1,582	1,582	2,222
Interest receivable	7	1,478	-	812	993	46	49	3,378	3,249
Sales of publications, books and CDs		-	-	-	-	8,573	10,377	18,950	19,939
Sales of jigsaw puzzles and prints		-	-	2,675	-	-	-	2,675	2,726
Sales of training video/dvd		42	-	-	-	-	-	42	35
Courses and seminars		280	-	-	-	-	-	280	-
Stock written back		-	-	-	-	319	-	319	1,442
Donations to Christchurch Cathedral, NZ	8	-	-	265	-	-	-	265	3,853
Donations to Kilifi, Kenya	8	-	-	1,989	-	-	-	1,989	2,070
Gift Aid		6	-	304	-	-	252	562	1,124
Lloyds - compensation		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200
Other donations		-	-	-	-	-	36	36	51,125
		7,836	-	6,045	993	8,938	12,296	36,108	119,432
Resources expended									
Council meeting		4,059	-	-	-	-	-	4,059	2,528
Ringling World supplement		1,627	-	-	-	-	-	1,627	-
Committee expenses	9	2,490	-	-	-	233	378	3,101	4,951
Ringling Roadshow		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,016
The Future of Ringing - regional seminars		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	668
Regional Development Project		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130
Council and other committee costs		-	-	-	-	35	-	35	369
Courses and seminars		407	-	-	-	-	-	407	-
Recruitment leaflets		659	-	-	-	-	-	659	-
Cost of publications sold		-	-	-	-	5,296	6,269	11,565	11,532
Cost of jigsaws		-	-	1,950	-	-	-	1,950	1,892
Kilifi - cost of project	8	-	-	2,476	-	-	-	2,476	-
Library maintenance		-	-	-	-	-	975	975	871
Grants for bell restoration	10	-	-	600	-	-	-	600	4,300
Advertising		-	-	-	-	2,433	489	2,922	2,921
Storage and distribution	12	-	-	-	-	2,400	-	2,400	2,400
Stationery, postage and telephone		25	-	-	-	96	996	1,117	1,432
Insurance		2,195	-	-	-	421	-	2,616	2,714
Stock written off and disposed of		-	-	-	-	20	-	20	990
Roll of Honour		68	-	-	-	-	-	68	92
Revaluation cost		-	-	-	-	-	200	200	-
Depreciation - Library Collection		-	-	-	-	-	1,900	1,900	1,882
Depreciation - shelving		-	-	-	-	-	106	106	106
PayPal charges		-	-	-	-	87	-	87	56
Website		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Sundry expenses		-	-	-	-	288	4	292	38
		11,530	-	5,026	-	11,309	11,317	39,182	58,905
Net incoming resources before transfers		(3,694)	-	1,019	993	(2,371)	979	(3,074)	60,527
Revaluation of Library Collection		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,780
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(3,694)	-	1,019	993	(2,371)	979	(3,074)	62,307
Balances at 31 December 2014		141,970	2,169	66,539	79,974	25,607	126,541	442,800	380,493
Balances at 31 December 2015		138,276	2,169	67,558	80,967	23,236	127,520	439,726	442,800

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

Registered Charity Number 270036

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	General Fund	Education Courses	Bell Restoration Fund	F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund	Publicat ions Fund	Library Fund	Total Funds 2015	Total Funds 2014
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets								
Tangible assets								
Investments at cost	107,200	-	65,500	79,300	-	-	252,000	252,000
Library Collection	-	-	-	-	-	93,100	93,100	95,000
Library shelving	-	-	-	-	-	848	848	954
Total fixed assets	107,200	-	65,500	79,300	-	93,948	345,948	347,954
Current assets								
Stock	-	-	-	-	7,848	7,153	15,001	8,772
Debtors and prepayments	2,442	-	386	73	167	250	3,318	4,365
Cash on short term deposit and at bank	33,065	2,169	1,976	1,594	15,426	26,470	80,700	84,034
Total current assets	35,507	2,169	2,362	1,667	23,441	33,873	99,019	97,171
Current liabilities								
Creditors - amounts due within one year	(4,431)	-	(304)	-	(205)	(301)	(5,241)	(2,325)
Net current assets	31,076	2,169	2,058	1,667	23,236	33,572	93,778	94,846
Total assets less current liabilities	138,276	2,169	67,558	80,967	23,236	127,520	439,726	442,800
Funds								
Unrestricted	138,276	-	-	-	-	-	138,276	141,923
Unrestricted - designated	-	2,169	-	-	23,236	-	25,405	27,823
Restricted	-	-	67,558	80,967	-	127,520	276,045	273,054
Total funds	138,276	2,169	67,558	80,967	23,236	127,520	439,726	442,800

Administrative Committee

Since the 2015 Council meeting the Committee has met twice in London in October and March. A number of new committee chairmen were elected during the year and joined the Committee; sadly two resignations since autumn 2015 mean that two committees (Ringing Trends and Ringing Centres) are currently without chairmen. Ringing Centres was represented at the March meeting by Leslie Boyce, who also gave members an update on the recent conference and plans of the Association of Ringing Teachers. The Ringing Foundation kept members informed of progress implementing the decision of its 2015 annual meeting to dissolve the company and cease registration as a charity. 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 publication in *The Ringing World*. In March Committee chairmen advised which members would be retiring under the provisions of rule 15 (i) and the committee sizes needed for next year. The arrangements for

the 2016 Council meeting were discussed and agreed. Papers for the meeting will again be circulated electronically to those Council members with email.

Change Ringing for the Future: There was a worthwhile exchange of views amongst societies during the regional break-out meetings held at Hull and there have been some initiatives to foster activities across society boundaries. Although the Council's own survey of ringers has been delayed, useful information has been gathered in the Ringing World Ltd's survey and this has been offered to the Council. Plans are at an early stage for a further series of regional meetings involving local society officers. The Vice-President has organised the Open Meeting on Sunday 29 May with a "Question Time" format and this meeting will be "streamed" to make it more widely available. The Committee intends to hold a further "Away Day" in summer 2016.

Reform of the Council and of the Administrative Committee: A motion for a revised and less time-consuming process for committee elections has been prepared and appears on the agenda, following the strong expression of support for this by members at the Hull meeting.

The Administrative Committee also considered arrangements for future meetings and resolved that the Committee itself will take the lead in organising the 2018 annual meeting weekend. The Vice-President will report. 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.

Other matters considered by the Committee included:

Council Finances: The General Fund for the current year (2015) and next year (2016) was reviewed at both meetings, considering income levels and planned expenditure. Committees have been asked to prepare detailed forward programmes of activity and expenditure plans for several years to enable the Council to plan appropriately. The revised guidelines on committee expenses were approved in October (see appendix). The March meeting decided not to propose an increase in the affiliation fee for 2017 but to re-visit proposals for changing the basis of the fee in a way which would be fairer to small societies.

Church Buildings Council (formerly Council for the Care of Churches) & Historic England:

A meeting was held on 14 July with the main topics for discussion being bells in closed and closing churches and faculty simplification. CCCBR has since supplied details of cases where the new owners of closed churches had failed to honour agreements for access. Links to the A and B lists of minor works on bells were included in the report of the meeting in *The Ringing World*; further guidance on the new faculty procedures is being published by the relevant Council committees. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 July 2016. The 2016 DAC bell advisers' conference will be based in Warwick on Friday 8 July; this conference is also open to society bell advisers.

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (EIG): A meeting with EIG to discuss matters of mutual interest was held on 17 June, with the Council represented by the Tower Stewardship Committee. The notes of the meeting were published in *The Ringing World*. The next meeting will be held on 11 April 2016.

Central Council 125th Anniversary: The Council and Derby Diocesan Association have worked together on a programme of events for the weekend of 23–24 April 2016.

Ex officio:

CHRIS MEW (*President*)

CHRISTOPHER O'MAHONY (*Vice-President*)

ANDREW TAYLOR (*Treasurer*)

MARY BONE (*Secretary*)

CAROL FRANKLIN (*Assistant Secretary*)

RICHARD ALLTON (*Peal Records*)

STELLA BIANCO (*Library*)

JOHN COUPERTHWAITTE (*Publications*)

ERNIE DE LEGH-RUNCIMAN (*Tower Stewardship*)

KATE FLAVELL (*Public Relations*)

PAUL FLAVELL (*Compositions*)

JOHN HARRISON (*Biographies*)

DAVID KIRKCALDY (*Towers and Belfries*)

BRIAN MEADS (*The Ringing Foundation*)

PETER NIBLETT (*Methods*)

NIGEL ORCHARD (*The Ringing World*)

DAVID RICHARDS (*Information and Communications Technology*)

DUNCAN WALKER (*Education*)

PETER WILKINSON (*Bell Restoration*)

ROBERT WOOD (*Redundant Bells*)

Elected Members:

FRED BONE

MIKE CHESTER

MICHAEL CHURCH

ROBERT LEWIS

ANTHONY LOVELL-WOOD

ANGELA NEWING

DEREK SIBSON

TONY SMITH

HELEN UDAL

ANDREW WILBY

JANE WILKINSON

Appendix Guidance on Committee expenses

Notwithstanding the great commitment that we, as church bell ringers, demonstrate by keeping our church bells ringing regularly Sunday by Sunday, bell ringing is a hobby. In exchange for our contribution to the life of the Church we are able to enjoy ringing at other times, for instance practices, meetings, quarter peals and peals, usually for no more than a small donation to tower funds.

Many ringers also contribute to the organisation of ringing, by accepting office at tower, district (or branch), and society (or association or guild) level. We do this, usually with no more than possible reimbursement for secretarial expenses such as postage or phone calls, for our love of the Exercise.

Indeed, as in other voluntary organisations, most societies would quickly become insolvent if their officials sought to recover in full the expenses they incur in the performance of their duties.

The same is true of Council committees. If all members of committees routinely claimed the expenses of attending committee meetings, then either the dues collected from affiliated societies would have to rise substantially or the activities of the Council would have to be curtailed.

However the Council would not want its committees to be deprived of the expertise of a member who could not afford to attend committee meetings. Accordingly the Hon. Treasurer will meet claims for travelling expenses to committee meetings from those members, subject to the following criteria:

1. The committee should include the amount expected to be claimed on travel expenses in their estimate of committee expenditure for the following year provided to the Hon. Treasurer in September. The total forecast expenditure will then be reviewed by the Administrative Committee at the October meeting.

2. Members travelling by train may claim standard class travel and should take full advantage of the various economies available by travelling off-peak and booking in advance.

3. Members travelling by car may claim 20 pence per mile and should share transport whenever possible.

4. An itemised claim (with any vouchers) for expenses should be submitted to the appropriate committee chairman, who will authorise the expenditure and forward to the Hon. Treasurer for payment. Claims relating to the Administrative Committee can be forwarded directly to the Hon. Treasurer. Expense claims and authorisation by email are acceptable.

5. All claims for expenses must be submitted to the Hon. Treasurer within two months of the end of the accounting period to which they relate. Claims submitted after this date may be refused.

Only in exceptional circumstances should taxi fares need to be claimed and expenses for accommodation or meals may not be claimed.

Please note that this guidance is not an invitation to members of committees to claim expenses that they are not claiming at present,

but simply to ensure that when expenses are paid they are at consistent rates and accounted for in a timely manner.

The Council Officers
(Reviewed May 2015)

Peal Records Committee

The Peals Analysis

We have recorded a total of 4894 peals rung in 2015 and published in *The Ringing World* up to February 26th, of which 4079 were on tower bells and 815 on handbells. The revised total for 2014 is 4784, an increase of 46 over the total published in the last year's report. Full details are included in the methods table that accompanies this report. All the 2015 totals above show a modest increase over the revised ones for 2014 (4012 t/b, 772 h/b, total 4784) of roughly 2.2% in the overall total, with tower bell peals up 1.6% and handbells roughly the same – down just 3. However, all three 2015 totals are lower than those in 2013.

The Yorkshire Association is again the leading society with 363 peals, 92 more than the second place Oxford D.G. with 271, the gap having widened again as the Yorkshire Assn. rang 39 more while the Oxford D.G. only rang 2 more than in 2014. The leading society for handbell peals in 2015 was the Oxford D.G. with 122, a gain of 19 on 2014 while second place Chester D.G. rang 103, the same as the previous year. Seventeen affiliated societies rang 100 or more peals in 2015, two more than in 2014. 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 were three record peals rung in 2015, all on tower bells. The record peals are detailed in the Records table below.

Peals not complying with the Decisions on Peal Ringing

All the peals rung in 2015 which were published in *The Ringing World* up to 26th February, 2016 complied with the Central Council Decisions on Peal Ringing. This includes the peal rung at Throwley, Kent, on 28th November which was reported as 5100. As the additional 60 change block was rung at the end of the peal, this has been counted as a 5040 in 42 extents.

Leading Towers

The following 79 towers had 10 or more peals in 2015: (70 in 2014):-

63 Thorverton

49 Leeds, W Yorks (St. Anne), Portsmouth (St Agatha)

- 48 Dordrecht (*t Kloekhuys)
 33 Ipswich (Old Stoke, The Wolery)
 32 Huntsham
 31 Milton
 30 City of London (St James, Garlickhythe)
 29 Marston Bigot (Pig le Tower),
 26 East Huntspill (Little Orchard Tower),
 Sproxton
 25 Rotherham (All Saints)
 24 Sheffield (Dore)
 23 Lundy Island
 22 Spitalfields
 21 Burnley, City of London (St. Magnus the
 Martyr, Lower Thames Street)
 20 Shoreditch
 19 Birmingham (Cathedral), Blankney, Keele
 (Woodlands), Maidstone (All Saints)
 18 Hughenden
 17 Bristol (St John), City of London (St
 Dunstan in the West, Fleet Street), Shepton
 Beauchamp
 16 Wedmore (The Bakery Tower)
 15 Awbridge (Clock House Bells), Barton
 Seagrave, Bishopsteignton (Bishops Ting
 Tong), City of London (St. Mary le Bow,
 Cheapside), Knottingley, Leicester (St
 Mary de Castro), Meldreth, Oxford (St
 Thomas), Worcester (All Saints)
 14 Church Lawford (The Plantagenet Ring),
 Longcot, Loughborough (Bell Foundry),
 Marston Bigot (St Leonard), Saltby
 13 Amersham, Cambridge (Great St Mary),
 Edenham, Pershore (Parish Centre), Roth-
 well (N'hants), Worcester (Cathedral)
 12 Bradford Peverell, Burghill, Campton, City
 of London (St Michael Cornhill), Middle-
 ton (Gtr Man), Thatcham, York (St Law-
 rence)
 11 Farnworth and Kearsley, Harrogate (St
 Wilfrid), Kirby Hill, New York, Sheffield
 (Cathedral), South Croydon, Terling,
 Warnham (Bell Meadow Peal), West
 Bridford
 10 Barrow Gurney, Basingstoke (All Saints),
 Birstwith, Bishopstoke, Daresbury, East
 Ilsley, Elsham, High Week, Inworth, Maid-
 stone (St Michael), North Wootton (Great
 Orchard Campanile), Stoke Poges,
 Willoughby on the Wolds, Worcester (Bar-
 bourne), Worcester (St. Martin in the Corn-
 market), Yarkhill.

There were also 26 handbell venues where
 10 or more peals were rung in 2015.

First pealers and firsts as conductor

Thanks to FirstPeal2015, the steady year by
 year decline in the number of first pealers has
 been reversed. FirstPeal2015 set a modest, but
 realistic, target of 300 first pealers and this was
 easily met with a final tally of 375. (This varies
 from the 387 first pealers quoted in RW no 5465,
 due to 7 peals, containing 12 first pealers, not yet
 being printed in the RW. These 12 first pealers
 are not included in this formal analysis, which is
 a great pity.) It will be difficult to achieve another
 300 first pealers in 2016, but let us hope the
 number does not quickly drop to the levels of
 2014, when only 139 ringers achieved their first
 peal. 38 ringers conducted a peal for the first time

in 2015, which is above the last 5 year average
 of 29. However, it is well below 125, which is
 the number of ringers the Central Central has
 challenged to conduct their first peal in 2016.

Corrections to the 2014 Analysis

There are a number of alterations to the 2014
 Analysis owing to late submission and therefore
 late publication which are detailed below. Cor-
 rections relate to tower bells except where spec-
 ified.

ANZAB	Major +1
Bath & Wells	
Minor +1, Major +2, Royal +2, Maximus +1	
Cambridge University	Cinques +1
Chester	Doubles +1
Derby	Caters +1
Devonshire	Royal +1
Dorset	Major +1
Durham & Newcastle	Minor +1, Major +1
Durham University	Major +1
Hertford County	Major +1
Lancashire	Minor +3
Lichfield & Walsall	Caters +1
Lincoln	
Major +2 (handbells), Royal -1 (handbells)	
Middlesex & London	Royal +1 (handbells)
Oxford Diocese	Doubles +1
Scottish	Royal +1
Shropshire	Doubles +1
Southwell & Nottingham	Major +1
St David's	Major +1
St Martin's	Triples +1
Suffolk	Doubles +1, Minor +1
Sussex	Major +1
Winchester & Portsmouth	
Minor +1, Triples +1, Major +7, Maximus +1	
Non-Association	Major +1, Maximus +1
Non-Affiliated	Major +2, Royal +1 (handbells)

The amended methods analysis for 2014 is
 shown in the 2015 methods table, which forms
 part of this report. Revised totals for 2014 are:
 tower bells 4012, handbells 772, total 4784.

The Felstead Project

During the year the work of maintaining the
 accuracy of the Felstead database has continued.
 Some 85 previously unrecorded peals have been
 added and corrections made to a number of others
 due to John Eisel continuing to search a number
 of eighteenth and nineteenth century newspapers
 as they become available on line. There are
 almost certainly others still to be discovered by
 searching through local newspapers not available
 on line. Details supplied by other ringers have
 resulted in a further ten peals being added and
 corrections being made to some 110 others. Alan
 Glover has once again been very helpful in
 answering a number of queries by reference to
 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. Jointly with
 Andrew Craddock a start has been made in
 correcting the dates of post-1949 peals where the
 original *Ringing World* publication gave a date

which did not match up with the day of the week
 – almost 100 have so far been corrected.

Andrew Craddock also 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
 ALISON BRITTLIFF
 ADAM CROCKER
 GRAHAM (BEN) DUKE
 DEREK SIBSON
 CHRISTOPHER TURNER

First peals in methods rung on Tower Bells.

January		
6	5096 Rushcliffe A Major	S&N DG
8	5040 Coalville D Royal	Leicester DG
11	5120 Pristina D Major	Bath & Wells DA
14	5152 Leigh Woods S Major	Yorks A
15	5040 Bynack More S Royal	Devonshire G
15	5100 Rowlands Gill A Major	Lincoln DG
16	5024 Thurncourt S Major	S&N DG
17	5124 Fox A Major	Coventry DG
21	5040 Dotterel Bob Triples	Suffolk G
22	5026 Criccieth Castle S Major	Dorset CA
23	5152 Cheddar Valley D Major	UBSCR
24	5184 Hennock S Major	S Blaise S
26	5056 Earl of Powis S Major	Devonshire G
27	5112 Zealandia A Royal	S&N DG
28	5120 Lucas S Major	Yorks A
28	5024 Morning Dew S Major	Coventry DG
28	5040 Gateshead A Major	Lincoln DG
29	5043 Earl of Mount Edgcumbe S Major	Dorset CA
February		
3	5056 Kingsteignton D Major	Devonshire G
3	5088 Woolavington D Major	Bath & Wells DA
3	5096 Charlestown A Major	S&N DG
4	5152 Walter's Ash S Major	Amersham G
6	5056 Baltic Wharf S Major	G&B DA
7	5088 Frampton D Major	Lincoln DG
8	5056 Tirana D Major	Bath & Wells DA
12	5040 Carn a' Mhaim S Royal	Devonshire G
12	5120 Greyfriars D Royal	Leicester DG
12	5040 Ringmaster A Major	Lancs A
13	5040 Cold Ashby D Minor	Peterboro DG
14	5096 Lindum Colonia A Major	Lincoln DG
19	5056 Samuel D Major	Yorks A
21	5040 Cullompton D Royal	G&B DA
25	5152 Pinner Green S Major	Yorks A
25	5100 Rogmau A Major	Lincoln DG
28	5152 Megan D Major	Cumb & NW A
28	5152 Cotswold Way D Major	G&B DA
28	5056 Headcorn TP Major	Kent CA
March		
1	5040 Dewi Sant D Royal	Devonshire G
4	5056 Wheatley D Major	Amersham G
5	5044 Earl of Dunraven S Major	Dorset CA
5	5184 Kernow D Major	Ely DA
6	5080 Edgcote D Royal	Peterboro DG
7	5040 Clavis Lodge S Royal	AFAME
8	5152 Sarajevo D Major	Bath & Wells DA
11	5056 Gerrards Cross D Major	Amersham G
12	5059 Earl St Aldwyn S Major	Dorset CA
12	5040 Beinn A' Chaorainn S Royal	Devonshire G
12	5120 Chew Magna D Major	Bath & Wells DA
19	5066 Sir Felix Pole S Major	Dorset CA
21	5024 Heckington D Major	Lincoln DG
25	5184 Old Rydon S Major	Devonshire G

Analysis of Peals by method and change on year

	TOWER			HAND			TOTAL		
	2015	2014	+/-	2015	2014	+/-	2015	2014	+/-
Sixteen	1	2	-1	0	0	0	1	2	-1
Septuples	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fourteen	1	2	-1	3	2	+1	4	4	0
Sextuples/Fourteen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sextuples	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ON 13+ BELLS	2	4	-2	3	2	+1	5	6	-1
Maximus									
Spliced S	22	29	-7	13	11	+2	35	40	-5
Spliced Treble Dodging	11	24	-13	5	1	+4	16	25	-9
Other Spliced	19	25	-6	4	1	+3	23	26	-3
Bristol Surprise	59	66	-7	7	7	0	66	73	-7
Cambridge Surprise	52	47	5	5	5	0	57	52	+5
Yorkshire Surprise	36	42	-6	5	7	-2	41	49	-8
Other Single Surprise	30	36	-6	19	12	+7	49	48	+1
Other	8	5	+3	8	7	+1	16	12	+4
TOTAL MAXIMUS	237	274	-37	66	51	+15	303	325	-22
CINQUES/MAXIMUS	12	11	+1	0	1	-1	12	12	0
Cinques									
Stedman	88	71	+17	10	4	+6	98	75	+23
Other	7	15	-8	0	0	0	7	15	-8
TOTAL CINQUES	95	86	+9	10	4	+6	105	90	+15
Royal									
Spliced Surprise	43	41	+2	14	31	-17	57	72	-15
Other Spliced	12	4	+8	6	3	+3	18	7	+11
Kent Treble Bob Royal	2	0	+2	25	17	+8	27	17	+10
Cambridge Surprise	69	79	-10	17	22	-5	86	101	-15
Yorkshire Surprise	70	65	+5	19	9	+10	89	74	+15
Bristol Surprise	59	57	+2	13	13	0	72	70	+2
London No.3 Surprise	43	38	+5	4	7	-3	47	45	+2
Lincolnshire Surprise	17	19	-2	13	19	-6	30	38	-8
Swindon Surprise	19	22	-3	4	1	+3	23	23	0
Other Surprise	99	97	+2	11	23	-12	110	120	-10
Single Delight	23	24	-1	4	2	+2	27	26	+1
Other	25	20	+5	5	11	-6	30	31	-1
TOTAL ROYAL	481	466	+15	135	158	-23	616	624	-8
CATERS/ROYAL	6	6	0	1	0	+1	7	6	+1
Caters									
Grandsire	53	57	-4	4	5	-1	57	62	-5
Stedman	54	59	-5	6	1	+5	60	60	0
Other	6	4	+2	0	0	0	6	4	+2
TOTAL CATERS	113	120	-7	10	6	+4	123	126	-3

- 25 5028 Llantilio Castle S Major Dorset CA
- 25 5040 Tynemouth A Major Lincoln DG
- 26 5040 Beinn Bhreac D Royal Devonshire G
- 26 5000 King Richard III D Royal Leicester DG
- 31 5040 Armstrong S Minor Truro DG
- 31 5040 Xaintes S Minor W&P DG

- April
- 2 5037 Monmouth Castle S Major Dorset CA
 - 3 5040 Kirby Muxloe Bob Doubles Peterboro DG
 - 8 5088 Alrewas D Major Lincoln DG
 - 9 5152 Horsley D Major G&B DA
 - 11 5152 Mitchell and Mills S Major Lancs A
 - 12 5088 Minsk D Major Bath & Wells DA
 - 15 5152 Hallam D Major Yorks A
 - 18 5056 Cottingham D Major Lincoln DG
 - 19 5088 Roding Valley S Major Essex A
 - 20 5152 Hill 60 D Major St James G
 - 20 5088 Willey TB Major Coventry DG

	TOWER			HAND			TOTAL		
	2015	2014	+/-	2015	2014	+/-	2015	2014	+/-
Major									
Spliced Surprise	304	340	-36	98	66	+32	402	406	-4
Other Spliced	13	9	+4	13	14	-1	26	23	+3
Bristol Surprise	205	215	-10	28	34	-6	233	249	-16
Yorkshire Surprise	162	168	-6	53	46	+7	215	214	+1
Cambridge Surprise	119	105	+14	27	25	+2	146	130	+16
London Surprise	49	56	-7	4	15	-11	53	71	-18
Lincolnshire Surprise	30	44	-14	18	16	+2	48	60	-12
Superlative Surprise	46	41	+5	16	11	+5	62	52	+10
Lessness Surprise	50	45	+5	2	5	-3	52	50	+2
Rutland Surprise	37	34	+3	5	11	-6	42	45	-3
Glasgow Surprise	17	24	-7	1	0	+1	18	24	-6
Uxbridge Surprise	9	17	-8	1	3	-2	10	20	-10
Pudsey Surprise	12	16	-4	4	4	0	16	20	-4
Cornwall Surprise	24	13	+11	1	0	+1	25	13	+12
Dereham Surprise	12	11	+1	0	0	0	12	11	+1
Other Surprise	440	452	-12	7	15	-8	447	467	-20
Single Delight	176	135	+41	0	9	-9	176	144	+32
Plain Bob	52	36	+16	74	66	+8	126	102	+24
Double Norwich Court Bob	34	34	0	3	3	0	37	37	0
Kent Treble Bob	4	2	+2	30	33	-3	34	35	-1
Other	89	82	+7	11	8	+3	100	90	+10
TOTAL MAJOR	1884	1879	+5	396	384	+12	2280	2263	+17
TRIPLES/MAJOR	2	3	-1	0	0	2	3	-1	
Triples									
Stedman	61	92	-31	19	16	+3	80	108	-28
Grandsire	59	48	+11	1	0	+1	60	48	+12
Plain Bob	46	11	+35	3	1	+2	49	12	+37
Other	8	15	-7	0	0	0	8	15	-7
TOTAL TRIPLES	174	166	+8	23	17	+6	197	183	+14
Minor									
8+ Methods									
Spliced surprise	150	131	+19	16	16	0	166	147	+19
Spliced other	13	25	-12	1	4	-3	14	29	-15
Surprise	51	61	-10	18	18	0	69	79	-10
Other	8	11	-3	8	3	+5	16	14	+2
7 Methods									
Surprise	328	326	+2	36	35	+1	364	361	+3
Other	88	103	-15	12	7	+5	100	110	-10
2-6 Methods									
Surprise	26	29	-3	2	9	-7	28	38	-10
Other	72	67	+5	33	20	+13	105	87	+18
Plain Bob Minor	53	30	+23	16	11	+5	69	41	+28
Cambridge Surprise	55	50	+5	4	5	-1	59	55	+4
Other									
Surprise	23	22	+1	2	7	-5	25	29	-4
Other	10	6	+4	7	3	+4	17	9	+8
TOTAL MINOR	877	861	+16	155	138	+17	1032	999	+33
DOUBLES/MINOR	7	4	+1	1	0	0	8	4	+1
Doubles									
2+ Methods	140	93	+47	14	10	+4	154	103	+51
Grandsire	15	14	+1	1	1	0	16	15	+1
Stedman	12	10	+2	0	0	0	12	10	+2
Other	14	11	+3	0	0	0	14	11	+3
TOTAL DOUBLES	181	128	+53	15	11	+4	196	139	+57
MINIMUS	8	4	+4	0	0	0	8	4	+4
TOTAL	4079	4012	+67	815	772	+43	4894	4784	+110

Analysis of Peals by Society

2015 Society	TOWER																Tower total	HAND														Hand total	Society total
	4	5	5/6	6	7	7/8	8	9	9/10	10	11	11/12	12	14	16	5		5/6	6	7	8	9	9/10	10	11	12	14						
Ancient Society of College Youths	0	5	0	7	9	0	62	5	1	38	14	3	47	0	1	192	0	0	5	2	23	2	0	5	8	5	1	51	243				
Australia & New Zealand Association	1	2	0	1	4	0	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	18	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	21				
Barrow & District Society	1	9	0	11	0	0	4	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30				
Bath & Wells Diocesan Association	1	8	0	41	2	0	102	0	0	24	2	0	12	0	0	192	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	194				
Bedfordshire Association	0	2	0	14	3	0	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	28				
Beverley & District Society	0	0	0	5	1	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13				
Birmingham University Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5				
Bristol University Society	0	1	0	7	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	15				
Cambridge University Guild	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5				
Carlisle Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	1	3	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	11				
Central Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3				
Chester Diocesan Guild	0	2	0	15	4	0	32	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	58	0	0	26	0	49	0	0	25	0	3	0	103	161				
Coventry Diocesan Guild	0	2	0	17	1	0	42	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	66				
Derby Diocesan Association	1	0	0	9	1	0	14	3	0	6	2	0	1	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	5	0	0	0	11	48				
Devonshire Guild	0	4	0	52	4	0	92	1	0	40	0	0	14	0	0	207	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	211				
Dorset County Association	0	1	0	31	1	0	39	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73				
Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Association	0	2	0	10	1	1	26	2	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47				
Durham University Society	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5				
East Grinstead & District Guild	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
Ely Diocesan Association	0	5	0	22	2	0	38	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	69	0	0	3	0	15	0	0	0	1	0	0	19	88				
Essex Association	0	4	0	30	4	0	20	4	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	65	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	66				
Four Shires Guild	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2				
Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association	0	14	0	17	3	0	70	4	0	12	1	0	2	0	0	123	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	128				
Guildford Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	0	3	0	23	2	1	11	6	0	4	0	0	50	0	0	1	0	13	2	0	1	0	0	0	17	67				
Hereford Diocesan Guild	0	16	1	22	6	0	24	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	73	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	2	0	0	0	24	97				
Hertford County Association	0	3	0	20	3	0	23	0	0	4	1	0	1	0	0	55	0	0	24	0	16	0	0	5	0	0	0	45	100				
Irish Association	0	1	0	6	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12				
Kent County Association	0	6	0	28	6	0	42	8	0	17	0	0	1	0	0	108	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	108				
Ladies' Guild	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
Lancashire Association	0	3	0	21	4	0	82	0	0	25	0	0	2	0	0	137	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	138				
Leeds University Society	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
Leicester Diocesan Guild	0	1	0	3	0	0	11	1	0	16	0	0	1	0	0	33	0	0	13	0	7	0	0	13	0	1	0	34	67				
Lichfield & Walsall Archdeaconries Society	0	1	0	9	1	0	11	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	29				
Lincoln Diocesan Guild	0	7	0	50	4	0	59	5	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	129	0	0	7	1	16	1	0	4	1	0	0	30	159				
Liverpool Universities Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
Llandaff & Monmouth Diocesan Association	0	4	2	4	2	0	10	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	2	0	2	0	10	39				
London University Society	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	8				
Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild	0	1	2	7	6	0	19	4	0	3	2	0	1	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	2	0	0	1	43	88				
National Guild of Police Ringers	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
North American Guild	0	0	2	3	3	0	17	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	36				
North Staffordshire Association	0	1	0	10	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16				
North Wales Association	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3				
Norwich Diocesan Association	0	0	0	16	7	0	9	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	36				
Oxford Diocesan Guild	0	8	0	34	9	0	66	5	0	20	1	0	6	0	0	149	0	0	1	0	42	0	0	43	0	35	1	122	271				
Oxford Society	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13				
Oxford University Society	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4				
Peterborough Diocesan Guild	0	6	0	3	2	0	16	1	0	10	0	0	1	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39				
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	0	4	0	20	4	0	13	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44				
Scottish Association	0	0	0	10	2	0	11	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	29	0	0	2	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	40				
Shropshire Association	0	1	0	3	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10				
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	0	2	0	11	1	0	90	4	0	22	4	0	13	0	0	147	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	149				
Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Guild	0	2	0	37	2	0	40	0	0	15	0	0	4	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100				
St Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham	0	0	0	0	6	0	3	3	0	2	6	0	11	0	0	31	0	1	0	15	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	20	51				
Suffolk Guild	0	12	0	29	6	0	43	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	93	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	94				
Surrey Association	0	2	0	3	1	1	6	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18				
Sussex County Association	0	4	0	4	6	0	17	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	1	0	12	0	0	7	0	0	0	20	57				
Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5				
Truro Diocesan Guild	1	4	0	4	9	0	9	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	33	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	35				
Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild	1	9	0	24	4	0	85	2	0	17	2	0	5	0	0	149	0	0	26	0	39	0	0	3	0	4	0	72	221				
Worcestershire & Districts Association	0	2	0	4	0	0	7	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	18				
Yorkshire Association	0	2	0	66	7	0	168	9	0	52	7	0	13	1	0	325	0	0	10	0	26	0	0	2	0	0	0	38	363				
<i>Sub-total – Affiliated</i>	7	163	7	751	155	2	1502	86	3	380	64	3	164																				

22 5012 Catton A Major	Lincoln DG	12 5120 Root D Major	Yorks A	22 5152 Aardvark S Major	SRCY
28 5024 Boulogne Eastern S Major	SRCY	12 5040 Bilston A Major	Lincoln DG	22 5152 Winlaton D Major	SRCY
30 5040 Dinlow S Minor	Barrow & D S	13 5000 Galashiels S Royal	Leicester DG	25 5152 Burnham Beeches D Major	Amersham G
30 5061 Earl of Birkenhead S Major	Dorset CA	17 5152 The Canaries D Major	Norwich DA	28 5088 Ripon S Maximus	Yorks A
30 5012 Cleatham A Major	Lincoln DG	18 5012 Zion A Major	SRCY	30 5040 Wickersley S Maximus	Yorks A
		19 5025 Curbar Edge S Major	Yorks A		
May		22 5040 Henry Tudor S Royal	Leicester DG	December	
2 5184 Isle of Man D Major	Yorks A	24 5184 Keeebab S Major	W&P DG	1 5152 Vaynor S Major	Yorks A
6 5060 Cherry Blossom S Major	Yorks A	25 5004 Aubourn A Royal	S&N DG	2 5152 Cyningsburgh S Major	Yorks A
13 5024 Hanthorpe S Major	Lincoln DG	27 5040 Sparkling S Royal	Devonshire G	2 5096 Blanchland A Major	Lincoln DG
13 5152 Zeebrugge D Major	Amersham G	30 5152 Great A'Tuin D Major	W&P DG	4 5080 Polebrook S Royal	Peterboro DG
16 5152 Hillcrest S Major	Coventry DG			10 5053 Earl Cairns S Major	Dorset CA
17 5152 Kiev D Major	Bath & Wells DA	September		12 5120 Anna's Star D Major	Bath & Wells DA
18 5088 XXXXXXXXXX TB Major	Coventry DG	1 5024 Zywovice S Major	Yorks A	14 5068 Highfield A Major	Lincoln DG
20 5056 Uplands D Major	Amersham G	2 5152 Monsal Head S Major	Yorks A	18 5152 Cromer S Major	Non
20 5152 Bluebell D Major	Yorks A	3 5088 Tales from the Crypt S Major	SRCY	22 5080 Venford S Royal	S&N DG
21 5040 Uckingham S Minor	Scottish A	3 5062 Earl of Shaftesbury S Major	Dorset CA	24 5085 No. 5085 Evesham Abbey S Major	
21 5152 Tanfield D Major	Peterboro DG	5 5136 Plester A Major	Coventry DG		
22 5060 Earl of Berkeley S Major	Dorset CA	6 5040 Wyck Rissington Hybrid Minimus	F Shires G	24 5120 Wrotham D Major	Kent CA
28 5091 Cleeve Abbey S Major	Dorset CA	6 5088 Llantilio Crossenny S Major	Yorks A	30 5056 Farmers Blonde S Major	Yorks A
29 5096 Old Cleeve A Major	Lancs A	9 5088 High Spen A Major	Lincoln DG	<i>Note there are believed to be three additional methods that have not yet been published.</i>	
30 5152 Dong Ding D Major	Chester DG	10 5040 Creag Meagaidh D Royal	Devonshire G	First peals in methods on Handbells	
30 5056 Bower Ashton D Major	Bath & Wells DA	11 5080 Regnum Diutissime D Royal	Peterboro DG	February	
		19 5088 Hairy Snake's D Major	ASCY	4 5040 Xylophone S Maximus	Oxford DG
June		21 5088 Zatisall TB Major	Coventry DG	25 5040 Counter's Creek D Maximus	Oxford DG
2 5152 Speedball S Major	W&P DG	22 5040 Woodhall A Royal	S&N DG		
2 5152 Ingleton S Major	Yorks A	23 5032 Usk Castle S Major	Dorset CA	March	
3 5152 Hawthorn D Major	Yorks A	23 5024 Equinox D Major	Yorks A	18 5088 Glastol S Maximus	Oxford DG
4 5097 Sarum Castle S Major	Dorset CA	23 5056 Gateshead D Major	Lincoln DG	23 5088 Azura D Maximus	G St Cuileáin
10 5100 Witham A Major	Lincoln DG	24 5045 Earl of Dudley S Major	Dorset CA	25 5088 Backnang S Maximus	Oxford DG
11 5063 Earl Baldwin S Major	Dorset CA	26 5088 Thomas D Major	G&B DA		
11 5040 Cruach Ardrain S Royal	Devonshire G	26 5056 Fawcett Inn D Major	W&P DG	May	
11 5152 Bishops Cannings D Major	Bristol S	27 5088 Stokes Bay S Major	W&P DG	13 5184 York Little S Royal	Leicester DG
12 5040 Magna Carta A Major	Lincoln DG	30 5088 Mosse D Major	Non		
14 5040 Runnymede S Maximus	Guildford DG	30 5096 Fluorspar A Major	Lincoln DG	July	
14 5120 Bucharest D Major	Bath & Wells DA			8 5088 Palatino S Maximus	G St Cuileáin
14 5148 Marshal A Royal	L Crendon Soc	October		15 5000 Quakers Friars S Royal	Oxford DG
15 5088 Yasminoli TB Major	Coventry DG	1 5000 Hardwick A Major	S&N DG	28 5000 Phobia S Royal	G St Cuileáin
16 5120 Oakie S Major	Devonshire G	2 5040 Minier Merritt TP Minor	Sussex CA	August	
16 5152 Quantock Hills S Major	Bath & Wells DA	3 5024 Octoginta S Major	Amersham G	3 5040 Cawdle Fen S Maximus	G St Cuileáin
17 5760 Magna Carta TP Minor	Lincoln DG	6 5040 Quatre-Vingts S Royal	Kent CA	10 5088 Tritone D Maximus	G St Cuileáin
17 5152 Ruskin D Major	Yorks A	6 5088 Rainbow Hill D Major	V Evesham S		
18 5040 Waterloo S Minor	D&N	6 5040 Princetown A Major	S&N DG	September	
18 5056 Duke of Wellington S Major	Bath & Wells DA	7 5024 Thornbridge S Major	Yorks A	3 5040 Thousandth S Minor	S Stowmarket Y
		8 5048 Earl of Devon S Major	Dorset CA	October	
22 5056 Wellesley D Major	Devonshire G	8 5024 Clevedon D Major	Bath & Wells DA	5 5184 Strawberry S Maximus	G St Cuileáin
22 5088 Waterloo D Major	St James G	10 5040 Reverse Byley Bob Major	Coventry DG	14 5040 Knotty Ash D Royal	Oxford DG
23 5024 Regil S Major	G&B DA	11 5040 Ashley Bob Doubles	Peterboro DG		
23 5040 Evedon A Royal	S&N DG	12 5152 Swardeston S Major	St James G	November	
24 5056 Kingsey D Major	Amersham G	15 5046 Earl Cawdor S Major	Dorset CA	4 5040 Damgate S Royal	Oxford DG
24 5096 Burnopfield A Major	Lincoln DG	18 5120 Imbri S Major	G&B DA	December	
26 5012 Waterloo A Major	Ely DA	18 5152 Istanbul D Major	Bath & Wells DA	14 5056 Kimmeridge S Major	Oxford DG
28 5088 Patching D Major	S Blaise S	18 5040 Dollywaggon Pike A Royal	Lancs A	Record Peals on Towerbells	
		19 5184 Queen's Nympton S Major	Devonshire G	April	
July		19 5152 Desborough A Major	Lincoln DG	6 10082 Avon D Maximus	St Martins G
1 5068 Lancastria A Major	Lancs A	20 5088 Creber S Major	Bath & Wells DA		
3 5040 Golden Wedding D Royal	Peterboro DG	20 5088 Agincourt 600 D Major	St James G	October	
4 5088 Toyne D Major	Yorks A	25 5088 St Crispin's Day S Major	Chester DG	17 21216 Cambridge S Maximus	Bath & Wells DA
8 5058 Earl of Clancarty S Major	Dorset CA	27 5088 Mosse A Major	St James G	December	
8 5024 Sutterton D Major	Lincoln DG	28 5152 Chantrey S Major	Yorks A	28 10800 Cambridge S Minor	W&P DG
9 5095 Barbury Castle S Major	Dorset CA	28 5086 Aswarby D Major	Lincoln DG	New Methods rung in 2014 published after the 2014 report was produced	
9 5040 Beinn Alligin S Royal	Devonshire G	30 5056 Gray D Major	Amersham G	November	
9 5120 Bathwick A Royal	Bath & Wells DA	31 5120 Gallifrey D Royal	G&B DA	27 5034 Corfe Castle S Major	Dorset CA
13 5056 Humber Ferry S Major	Barrow & D S			December	
13 5152 Harrow D Major	St James G	November		14 5088 Skopje D Major	Bath & Wells DA
16 5004 El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciúncula A Major	Dorset CA	1 5040 Brion D Royal	Derby DA	31 5040 New Year's Eve Little S Major	D&N
21 5000 Yeo Yeo A Major	Devonshire G	3 5096 Ferrytown A Major	S&N DG		
23 5148 Netherexe A Royal	Devonshire G	4 5056 King Ecgbert D Major	Yorks A		
28 5082 Queenhill D Royal	S&N DG	6 5088 Spitalfields Crypt Trust S Major	SRCY		
29 5152 Nunburnholme S Major	Lincoln DG	9 5152 Ardeley S Major	St James G		
30 5056 Baltimore S Major	SRCY	10 5088 Quoyloo S Major	Yorks A		
		11 5054 Earl of Ducie S Major	Dorset CA		
August		15 5120 Red Pike A Royal	Lancs A		
1 5024 Barnard D Major	Coventry DG	16 5040 Elford A Major	Lincoln DG		
3 5184 Wobbly Bobs S Major	Dorset CA	18 5024 Barney S Major	Yorks A		
7 5040 Luddington S Royal	Peterboro DG	19 5089 Westminster Abbey S Major	Dorset CA		
9 5056 Budapest S Major	Bath & Wells DA	19 5040 Beinn Eithe S Royal	Devonshire G		
10 5024 Cheshunt D Major	St James G	21 5068 Paragon A Major	Lincoln DG		

Public Relations Committee

Our work mainly involves proactively promoting ringing nationally and responding to national issues, as well as providing material for societies and ringers to promote ringing locally and promoting the Council to the ringing community.

This year we were pleased to welcome Jacqui Brown, Nick Elks and Alan Marchbank as new members of the Committee. We express our grateful thanks to retiring member Barrie Dove and were very disappointed at the end of 2015 to receive the resignation of Matthew Sorrell due to the pressure of work. Matthew had made a great contribution to the work of the Committee and we miss him.

The Committee has met at Wellesbourne twice during the year and once in Hull and will meet again in Portsmouth over the Council meeting weekend in May. We have handled our usual collection of ongoing and regular work as well as some specific time-limited projects.

It did not prove possible to find someone to be our new Public Relations Officer. Kate Flavell agreed to be nominated and was elected at the Council meeting in 2015. It will not necessarily be the case that the Committee Chairman will always be the PRO and Kate has indicated that the combined rôle creates excessive work and she is unlikely to wish to stand again as PRO in 2017. The search for the right person continues.

Specific Projects

The Committee decided that we should normally limit the number of special events for which we seek a lot of publicity to two each year. Ringers will not always respond to a large range of “special” events and certainly the media has limited tolerance for ringing stories. For 2015 we therefore decided to focus on the 300th anniversary of the first recorded peal and the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta. These plans were somewhat overturned by media pressure applied to the Government just before the 2015 general election to have bells ringing everywhere to celebrate the 70th anniversary of VE Day while there were still some alive who remembered it. There was little similar pressure regarding the same anniversary of VJ Day and the actual end of the Second World War, marked in August after the election was long forgotten.

FirstPeal2015



2015 was the 300th anniversary of what is believed to be the first recorded true peal (though there may have been earlier ones). We felt this

was worthy of wide celebration by the whole ringing community – ringing around the date of the tercentenary and getting 300 ringers through their first peal (as opposed to around 160 normally). We planned significant publicity as part of this project. We liaised closely with the Mancroft ringers to ensure that our publicity complemented theirs. We created a logo and First Peal certificates with this logo that can be downloaded from the website. The *Ringing World* front page of 22 January gave the final figures and we were thrilled to see our target exceeded by a very wide margin – 387 first pealers! This was something that really caught the imagination of ringers everywhere and we hope that a large proportion of those ringing their first peal in 2015 will go on to ring many more and encourage others to achieve this gold standard of ringing.

The actual anniversary of the first recorded peal received some publicity, especially that generated by the Mancroft ringers in Norwich of course as well as our own commissioned article in the *Church Times*. Local media gave good coverage to individual local achievements, with much explanation of what a peal is and how hard it is to complete, particularly for the first time. Mainstream national media is hard to engage in ringing stories unless they involve some element of controversy or argument. Local media are nearly always interested in how local people are joining in with national events or celebrations.

Magna Carta

We made a big push for ringing to take place at 3 pm on the Grand Ringing Day to mark Magna Carta 800 (Sunday 14 June 2015). This linked well with the Parliament-sponsored Lib-Teas, an encouragement to the whole country to hold a tea party to celebrate, debate and reflect on our freedoms and rights. Again this created good local publicity, particularly for those churches with close Magna Carta connections and those in the Runnymede area.

VE Day 70

There was much ringing in response to letters from a Cabinet Minister to all dioceses to ensure all their bells rang. There were radio broadcasts on a wide range of local BBC stations among others, some linking in with other broadcasts in connection with the 300th anniversary of the first recorded peal. This was unexpected publicity for us, led by Government and bishops.

Branding for ringing

There is still a strong feeling among ringers that ringing needs better branding and brand recognition. We have not been able to progress this issue this year with the absence of sufficient or appropriate committee members. If anyone would like to join us to help with this work we would welcome you with open arms.

More general projects

Completed and ongoing work:

- We have put the new leaflet for clergy *Bells in your Care* on the website and circulated it to all Diocesan Communication Officers.
- 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 respond to regular Learn to Ring website enquiries.
- We have developed press release templates and posters for use by societies and others.
- We updated the first peal and first quarter certificates and the porch notices to make them available for completing and downloading from the website.
- We received good feedback after creating a separate website for those starting university so that they stand the best chance of finding ringing friends as soon as they arrive.
- We are aware that people seeking information from some society websites experience difficulty obtaining the information that they need. We know that websites are run by volunteers, and that major revision can entail significant effort, but we are concerned that ringers’ perception of ringing websites is not always positive. We would like to help website managers improve the service that they provide and we are working on what advice and support we could offer to help them do this. Unfortunately we have not been able to progress this work during 2015 but are hoping to have the resources to do so during 2016 and thereafter.
- 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.
- 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.

The future

The two key events we are focusing on during 2016 are the Queen’s 90th birthday and Heritage Open Days.

Queen’s 90th birthday

Her Majesty the Queen will be 90 on 21 April, and there will no doubt be much celebratory ringing on that day and over the following few days to include the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death, which is also receiving considerable public attention. The Palace has announced that the main celebrations will be held over the weekend of 10-12 June, to coincide with the Queen’s annual Official Birthday. On Friday 10 June there will be a special service at St Paul’s Cathedral. On Saturday 11 June there will be the Trooping the Colour ceremony and on Sunday 12 June there is to be “The Patron’s Lunch” along the Mall, celebrating Her Majesty’s patronage of over 600 organisations in the UK and around the

Commonwealth since 1952. It is hoped that there will also be many other street parties in the UK and elsewhere at the same time. Ringing is likely to be very appropriate at almost any time everywhere over that weekend, especially if it fits in with any local celebrations planned. But the Palace has agreed that special ringing should take place at lunchtime on the Sunday, to coincide with “The Patron’s Lunch”, particularly as this would be an unusual time for ringing in many towers. Ringers are therefore encouraged to arrange special ringing at some point between 12 noon and 2 pm that day and to let local media and residents know why you are ringing. The Committee will be working to raise media awareness nationally.

We have been permitted to use the Patron’s Lunch logo in any publicity. It’s already incorporated in the event posters available to download and complete with local details. Sadly permission to use our adapted version of this logo was withdrawn after it had been in use for around eight months. Compositions of 1290 and 5090 of appropriate methods are also available.

Heritage Open Days



During 2015 we made contact with those organising Heritage Open Days and have secured agreement to ringing being a key element of those days in appropriate open churches. For 2016 this will take place over the weekend of 8–11 September. Again a logo is agreed and available for use by ringers in their publicity. We hope this will open up the world of ringing to many people, some of whom may well become recruits.

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

KATE FLAVELL (*Chairman*)
 GILES BLUNDELL
 BRUCE BROWN
 BRUCE BUTLER
 ERNIE DE LEGH-RUNCIMAN
 NICK ELKS
 BEVERLY FABER
 JOHN HARRISON
 LYNNE HUGHES (*Secretary*)
 ALAN MARCHBANK
 MICHAEL ORME
 MATTHEW SORELL
 (to January 2016)

International Reports

North American Guild of Change Ringers

One of my favorite pieces hung on the wall of the ringing room at Trinity Wall Street, is an invoice from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, dated 1714, for the casting and delivery of 8 bells. It is a reminder that in pre-revolutionary America bells and ringing were an unremarkable extension of a familiar habit from the home country.

Two towers in North America can proudly hang similar invoices this year – albeit for somewhat larger amounts. Virginia Seminary, in Alexandria, Virginia, actually received their 8 bells in late 2014, but we will include them in this report, because this is the year when ringing began to get under way in that location. Rochester, NY received their set of 10 this past Fall (Autumn for those unaccustomed to the North American nomenclature). Both towers have histories of response to trying circumstances, and have rings of roughly comparable size. In Alexandria, the impetus came from a tragic chapel fire. The decision to rebuild was accompanied by a decision to include change-ringing bells in the new chapel. In Rochester, the trying circumstances were the absence of any bells, but a dedicated band of ringers (who would travel great distances in order to practice their art). They now have their own bells – following a search for a suitable place to house them – in the Church of the Ascension.

VTS (Virginia Theological Seminary) will be able to benefit greatly from the propinquity of the Washington Ringing Society, which is already leading weekly practice and training sessions. Rochester is still some way from the closest towers (Toronto – 2½ hours away, and Trinity Wall Street – 6 hours away). However, they are rolling up their metaphorical sleeves and getting on with the task that face them.

These two towers exemplify the state of ringing in North America – growing steadily, but facing challenges of distance that must seem strange to ringers in the UK, and of the same three perennial problems that face bands in England and North America alike.

There are three predictable crises facing ringers in both places:

- The availability of bells
- The availability of ringers, and
- The availability of competent and committed leadership

Despite the low number of towers in North America, the provision of bells is actually the easiest to deal with. Given the prevailing “can do” attitude of North Americans in general, it is only a matter of degree to design and fund the capital project that a bell installation represents. Of course, it is not trivial, but these two towers have shown that it is entirely doable!

Availability of ringers is a crisis that all towers are facing nowadays. Fortunately, the importance of good teaching training is being more widely recognized in the Exercise, and North America has already begun offering both Module I and Module II of the ITTS training

program. Recruitment and retention are often considered to be a part of the provision of new ringers. They are, of course, not really a part of this program. Training is a technical activity. Recruitment and retention require leadership.

This is the third crisis facing the exercise, and is, I believe, the most important one, and most likely to lead to towers falling silent. However, it is not necessarily a gloomy picture. Research has shown that leaders are, in fact, made not born, and leadership training programs are beginning to be offered. More significant is the aging of the ringing population, and the increasing demands being placed upon potential ringers.

One solution is to share the technical leadership (running practices, conducting touches and the like) and to leave the organizational side to those who have more time for such “during the day” type activities. What we need to do is to experiment with different styles and manners of developing leadership – both technical and organizational, and to share the results as widely as possible.

TONY FURNIVALL
 NAGCR Public Relations Officer

South African Guild

There isn’t actually anything significant to report from South Africa this year. Bob and Gail Cater’s party toured the country in January/February 2015, and a full report of their experiences was published in *The Ringing World*. All of our towers receive visitors from time to time and, I trust, they are made very welcome, but it is not often that we receive such a large party.

RICHARD ROBERTS
 Chairperson

Australia and New Zealand

ANZAB’s membership continued its recent pattern of slow but steady growth in 2015, as did the number of towers: Bowral and Camden rang out for the first time during the year, with the newly-trained local band at Camden ringing for service for the first time on Christmas Eve. More new towers are at the planning stage or are under construction, including Katoomba, Bangalow and Lindfield. Bendigo, which has been silent since the cathedral was closed after structural problems were discovered, started ringing again, and the year ended with an encouraging statement from the Bishop of Christchurch suggesting that at least some of the problems to do with rebuilding the cathedral have been resolved.

Our 2015 festival was held at Adelaide in June, and included Module 1 and 2 ART courses; further Module 1 and 2 courses were held at the Bell Tower in Perth in November. All these were well attended and attracted very positive feedback. Our 2016 festival will be in the Central West region of New South Wales (Bathurst, Lithgow and Orange) in March; do come along. Check out our website www.anzab.org.au for how to register, and for news of ringing events in this part of the world.

DAVID SMITH
 President ANZAB

Central European Association

The Central European Association enjoyed another successful year in 2015. We now have over 30 resident members living in various countries across Europe and we have also been very pleased to welcome several new members during the year – some of whom have made a return to ringing after several years' absence.

In addition to regular peal weekends during the year the CEA organised two main events for its resident members. The AGM weekend was held in May at 't Kloekhuys in Dordrecht and was very well attended. 4 peals and 2 quarter peals were rung together with general ringing for all levels of ringers. Peter Richards rang his first quarter peal on tower bells shortly followed by his first quarter peal inside. A handbell peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major was also rung during the weekend being a first of Surprise in hand for Nicola Bright and a first of Surprise on an inside pair for Harm Jan de Kok. Secondly, an Autumn meeting was held in November where peals followed by the customary drinking of port and wine in 't Kloekhuys made for a very enjoyable weekend! Peals of Bristol and Glasgow Surprise Major were rung and also a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major on handbells at The Postillion Hotel in Dordrecht.

A total of 60 peals were rung for the Association in 2015 of which 17 were on handbells. One particular peal of note was rung by a CEA residents band – a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Modautal-Brandau (Die Glöckli), Germany on 3 October to mark the 25th Anniversary of German Reunification. 24 quarter peals were also rung at various locations in The Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland. Of particular note was a quarter peal of 4 Spliced Surprise Major rung at 't Kloekhuys and being a first quarter of spliced for Thirza de Kok.

It is a pleasure to report that our two youngest and "home grown" members of the Association, Harm Jan and Thirza de Kok, continue to make tremendous progress with their ringing. Harm Jan has conducted several peals of Surprise Major during the year and has recently rung a peal of Bristol Surprise Maximus in the UK. Thirza can now confidently ring the standard 8 Surprise Major methods and has rung several Surprise Major quarter peals. A great achievement for both.

The CEA continues to welcome many visiting bands from the UK and we are also most grateful for their help and support throughout the year. Ringing at 't Kloekhuys is by way of appointment only. For enquiries please contact Paul de Kok by email – p.m.dekok@hetnet.nl Further details can also be found by visiting our web page www.change-ringers.eu/

MARGARET GAMBLE
Secretary

Zimbabwe Guild

The good news is that the Zimbabwe Guild is still a viable entity and there are ringers at both towers.

The bad news is that ringing in Zimbabwe is not in a strong position with neither tower ringing regularly twice a week to a high standard.

At the Guild AGM held on Saturday 6 February 2016 we agreed that this would be our aim for the future, but in doing this we should consider the question "Why do we ring?" and that the enjoyment of being part of a team was critical to the future of ringing and should be regularly considered.

It was unfortunate that due to health problems of 5 of the Harare ringers no visit was made to Kwekwe for the second year in a row, however we were delighted that again many of the Kwekwe ringers managed to get to Harare for the ringing at the AGM.

Training also took a back seat in 2015, however a successful service in December in which the ringers read the lessons and talked about ringing has produced 3 new learners who, although they cannot yet ring up and down unaided and ring in rounds (the qualifications for membership of the Guild), are progressing well and are very supportive of the efforts made by the rest of the band.

Communication within the band is now largely through the medium of cell phone messages – largely WhatsApp. However work is in progress on updating the information available for visiting bands. This was last done in 1993 when the exchange rate was £1:Z\$9.6 and communication was still by mail and no information was available through the internet. Now much of what people want to know is on the internet so it is high time the Zimbabwe Guild was there and there is work in progress on this aspect of our communication.

During the year our Guild Master, Feleccitas Pswarayi, left to take up further studies in Canada, and we are delighted that Tendai Dzuda from Kwekwe is now in this rôle.

The attendance trophy was this year awarded to Mark Kabwemba who is here seen receiving it from the Harare Tower Captain, his father Teddy Kabwemba, whom he beat by 1 attendance.



For anyone planning to be in Zimbabwe in September, the date for the half yearly meeting in Kwekwe is 10 September 2016 and Harare is planning a social visit to Kwekwe on 9 April 2016.

Officers:

Master: Tendai Dzuda

Honorary Secretary: Linda Hyde

Honorary Treasurer/Librarian: Fiona

Thomson

Central Council Liaison Officer: Anne

Phillips

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.

LINDA HYDE

Publications Committee

No new titles were sent to us for publication during the year. We commissioned one new book on which work is in progress. Ten titles were reprinted: *The New Ringer's Book*, *Towards Better Striking*, *Raising and Lowering*, *Ringling Jargon Made Easy*, *Doubles and Minor for Beginners*, *Ringling Circles*, *Listen to Ringing CD 1*, *Listen to Ringing CD 2*, *Standard Eight Surprise Major*, and *Judging Striking Competitions*.

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*.

Our usual best sellers *The New Ringer's Book*, *Ringling Circles* and *Teaching Tips* continued to be popular, but numbers sold of all three were significantly lower than in 2014. Sales of *Dove's Guide 10th Edition* also dropped to 91 from 250. Drops in sales of publications which have been available for several years are to be expected and reduced sales of these titles account for a large part of the drop in income from sales reported below. After three years with no significant additions to the list new titles are clearly needed.

As the next stage of our modernisation process we are beginning to investigate the viability of charging for some downloads (not, of course, for those which are currently free or which will become free in future), and of selling some titles by "print on demand".

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 dropped to £8,570 from £14,800 in 2014, when £3,000 worth of sales at the Roadshow boosted income. Expenditure exceeded income by £2,370, in large part due to reprinting *The New Ringer's Book*, which also largely accounted for the increase in the value of stock held to £7,850 from £5,600. At year end the total cash available was £15,400 and the fund remains at a level sufficient to finance known future work. As expected the popularity of PayPal transactions increased. By year end they accounted for about 33% of income from sales (17% in 2014) as did BACS transfers (also 33% in 2014) and cash sales (down from 50% in 2014). The PayPal facility continues to be trouble free.

We were greatly saddened by the death of our friend Peter Mackie. He had been on the Committee for only a short time but had made

Stocklist at December 31st 2015

<i>Title</i>	<i>Sales to 31 Dec 2015</i>	<i>Stock at 31 Dec 2015</i>
New Ringers Book	378	929
Beginners Handbook	138	113
Towards Better Striking	20	45
Raising and Lowering	44	180
Ringling Jargon Made Easy	5	2
Beginners Grandsire	57	38
Beginners Plain Bob	64	66
Doubles and Minor for Beginners	23	90
Triples and Major for Beginners	5	27
Ringling Circles	316	527
Ringling Basics for Beginners	32	95
The Learning Curve Vol 1	16	11
The Learning Curve Vol 2	13	148
The Learning Curve Vol 3	13	139
The Learning Curve Vol 4	11	170
Listen to Ringling CD 1/CD2	29/30	21/28
Beginners Guide to Change Ringling on Handbells	17	106
Change Ringling on Handbells	8	83
Standard Eight Surprise Major	28	45
Method Splicing	3	11
Will You Call a Touch Please, Bob?	37	104
Service Touches	35	187
Conducting Stedman	12	44
A Tutors Handbook	12	134
One Way to Teach Handling	8	24
Teaching Beyond Bell Handling	4	150
Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles	7	67
Kaleidoscope Ringling	40	42
Teaching Unravelling	15	80
Starting a New Band	8	42
Teaching Tips	236	268
Towers and Bells Handbook	5	110
Schedule of Regular Maintenance	63	195
Organising a Bell Restoration Project	27	4
Sound Management	5	61
Splicing Bellropes	44	26
Change Ringling History Vol 1/Vol3	7/2	136/156
Centenary History of the Central Council	1	71
Giants of the Exercise Vol1/Vol2	2/2	154/31
A J Pitman Biography	2	115
Dove's Guide 10	91	204
Belfry Offices	5	39
Organising an Outing	5	17
Belfry Warning Notices	4	30
Church Towers and Bells	4	23
CC Rules and Decisions 2013	0	26
Getting it Right	3	110
Judging Striking Competitions	29	97
Stedman Compositions	2	8
DVDs	10	3

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 Ringling 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.

many significant contributions to our work. Derek Jones was again closely involved in a consultative capacity, and we thank him for his contributions.

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

Committee for Redundant Bells

Unfortunately there has been no significant progress this year in improving the redundancy process; however, the recent report from the Church of England's Church Buildings Review Group highlighted the problems with the current process. The Committee, through the Council's officers, strongly supported the Group's recommendation that the process be improved.

The report highlights a number of serious issues with churches, especially in rural areas, and considers various options such as the much discussed "Festival Churches". The Committee will be watching this area and subsequent discussions very closely; however, it seems that there is a significant risk of many more churches becoming redundant in the next few years.

The Committee's focus during the year has been on reviewing the Council's policy on bells in redundant buildings and a new policy document has been approved by the Administrative Committee; this is available on the website. The new policy focuses more on saving larger rings of bells and particularly those of good quality or historic interest. It has also led to a review of the Terms of Reference.

The Committee is now working on defining its rôle more specifically and preparing a strategy aimed at saving good quality rings of bells and for maintaining access for ringling of bells in redundant buildings.

The current case list comprises 33 open cases. Some of these are long-standing cases where progress towards a new use is very slow. In some redundant churches ringling continues to be possible, even if limited, in others ringling is much more difficult or impossible. Opportunities to improve access for ringling are being explored.

The Committee continues to work closely with the Keltek Trust and is grateful to David Kelly for his support and attendance at meetings.

There have been no calls on the Bells Rescue Fund during the year.

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

Ringling Centres Committee

The Committee has sustained its key functions of maintaining a database of ringling centres, conducting an annual survey of centres, providing a forum for the exchange of news, questions and views through Facebook and

publishing a ringing centres newsletter, *Training Times*. The Committee met in Hull in May 2015 and has conducted a dialogue by e-mail since that time.

There are currently 40 Council-recognised ringing centres in the U.K. and abroad. Several new centres have been recognised in recent years, although no new centre has sought recognition this year. The Committee tries to gather intelligence about possible new centres and to approach local contacts to offer assistance. Response rates to the annual survey vary from year to year with normally at least half the centres replying in any one year and most responding at least every two years. We attempt to follow up centres with whom we have had no contact for over two years with a view to reviewing their recognition. Centres vary widely in their organization and level of activity; inevitably some wax and some wane over time.

The “Bell Ringing Centres” Facebook group established in 2014, after a slow start, now seems to be gaining traction, has 176 members and is better used than the previous email groups. There are often several posts per month and some prompt useful discussion while others give valuable pieces of news. A further edition of *Training Times* will be published in time for the May meeting of the Central Council. The Committee also responds to requests for help and this year has offered advice to Bradpole on its organization.

There were several resignations from the Committee during the year and this has prompted some discussion about the future of the Committee both within the Committee and with Central Council officers. At the conclusion of those discussions any proposals for change will be made to the Council.

LESLIE BOYCE (*Committee Contact*)
 PHIL BAILEY
 BARRIE DOVE
 PAUL MARSHALL
 NORMAN MATTINGLEY
 PIP PENNEY

Ringling Trends Committee

The early part of 2015 was an active time for the Committee as they finalised details of the “State of the Bell-ringing Nation” survey, designed to provide a robust and accurate picture of the ringers of the world by using a “random sample” methodology. This was followed by a successful pilot and further revisions. Analysis of the pilot results clearly highlighted how important it was to survey a complete set of known ringers with a protocol to maximise completions: the “eager responders” who initially completed had a very different profile (in experience and frequency of ringing) to the later-responders who received chasing emails. This strengthened the Committee’s conviction that any survey would be of little value in terms of forming a complete picture unless it was carefully structured to minimise “self-selection” bias.

The survey was ready for full roll out when Steve Coleman, through a letter to *The Ringing World*, gave his opinion that the survey would breach data protection regulations. The opinion

of the Committee, experts consulted by them and other *Ringling World* correspondents was that this was not the case and that there was a legitimate way of delivering a survey with a robust methodology as already designed. Alternative approaches were seen to compromise the representativeness of the sampling process proposed, which would damage the accuracy of any potential findings. Prompted by the printing of this letter by *The Ringling World* together with the President’s response, the Committee chair, Elva Ainsworth, resigned from her Central Council membership. She had concluded that these actions were indicative of current thinking and that there was insufficient authority at Council level combined with a lack of willingness to participate in a centrally-led modernisation by the local member associations to justify her membership on Council as leading a change process. The survey has not progressed further as the Committee remains without a chair. The Committee still feel that it is vitally important to collect the data that a robust survey would provide, and the survey remains ready for centrally-administered roll out provided there is strong support from Council leadership and the ringing fraternity to proceed.

All members of the Committee contributed to the development of the survey but special thanks are due to Elva Ainsworth for her leadership and project management, to Mark Ainsworth for the technical aspects of setting it up in QuestionPro and to Deborah Thorley for running a very successful pilot in the Yorkshire Association area.

ELVA AINSWORTH (*Chairman to Oct 2015*)
 MARK AINSWORTH
 TONY FURNIVALL
 TIM PETT
 DEBORAH THORLEY
 ANDREW WILBY
 JENNY HOLDEN (*consultant*)

Towers & Belfries Committee

Two meetings were held during 2015, both at Evesham. Our thanks go to Chris Povey for the local arrangements. At the 2015 Central Council meeting George Dawson, Chris Povey and David Roskelly retired by rotation and were re-elected. There was one vacancy.

It is with regret that we have to record the passing of Frank Lewis who was a member of this Committee from 1993 to 1999. His work for the Central Council was extensive and will be sadly missed.

The year has been made difficult with several members suffering bouts of ill health that regretably led to the cancellation of a planned meeting. Early in January 2016, following further health issues, Tim Collins resigned from the Committee. The Committee places on record its thanks for his work and wishes him a speedy recovery. His position as Chairman was filled by David Kirkcaldy who was elected at our meeting in February.

During the year the Committee was able for the first time to arrange and man a display of bellhanging items at the Ringling World National

Youth Contest held in Oxford, and the Committee wishes to thank Whites of Appleton for their assistance. The venture proved most useful by creating a talking point and hope was expressed that a similar event could take place at future contests.

We gave advice or guidance to a number of towers during the year, either by correspondence or following a site visit. The subjects covered included tower stability, internal and external sound control, electrical safety, lighting levels in ringing rooms, seized clappers, correcting odd-struckness, augmentation and rehanging.

Our consultant, Gordon Breeze, has been working on developing theoretical and experimental methods that can predict bell tower movement when bells are being rung. Six monographs have been prepared for the T&B Committee which describe i) how the forces generated by bells can be estimated; ii) how bell towers can be tested; and iii) how the results can be used to predict bell tower motion.

The T&B Committee organised a visit to Leamington Spa, whose square-plan brick tower is well-known for exhibiting large movements when bells are rung. During ringing, the tower motion was measured using an analogue instrument (“The Wobblemeter”) that has been donated to the T&B Committee. The recorded motion levels exceeded threshold levels that are generally accepted as being compatible with good ringing. The tower motion was also measured using a mobile phone; in the future this new approach is likely to enable the motion of bell towers to be investigated without recourse to expensive instrumentation. During the visit the practical difficulties of ringing in this tower were evident, even to the experienced ringers of the Committee.

Our new Maintenance Handbook is still proving to be a major undertaking and work is still very much in progress. We are also working on additional information sheets for various subjects: staircase handrails; ringing room lighting, power and heating; bell and clock chamber lighting and power; and contract management. Following the transfer of Health & Safety aspects to the Tower Stewardship Committee our guidance notes have been withdrawn and a link to the TSC guidance note put in place. Changes in telecommunications technology mean that our early guidance notes regarding the installation of transmission masts in towers have been superseded and as a consequence those notes have been withdrawn pending a possible update.

The T&B Committee is one of the oldest of the Council sub-committees and, from its inception, has always had a practical or technical bias. Historically the Committee membership has always been based on practical knowledge. Over the years the work of the Committee expanded to meet demand until it offered advice on all aspects of work on bells, bell towers, internal and external sound control, health and safety, lighting, access, telecoms installations ... the list seems almost endless. Some less technical items have now been taken over by other committees. We are always keen to recruit suitably qualified new members who have personal experience of bellhanging and maintenance, or with engineering or architectural qualifications and experience.

However with changing technology altering our sphere of operation we need to broaden our expertise and we therefore have a greater need for members with skills in alternative forms of technology.

At the 2016 Council meeting Roland Backhurst, Alan Frost and Bernard Stone retire by rotation and we have a total of 5 vacancies. With this in mind we draw Council members' attention to the Committee's wish to recruit members from the north of England. At present we have none from anywhere north of Nottingham.

- 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

This year has been a busy year for the Tower Stewardship Committee. Updates to our Health and Safety, Insurance and Safeguarding Guidance Notes have been published on the Council's website.

In the light of updated safeguarding policies by the Church of England, the CCCBR has issued a document (Safeguarding Children in Bell Towers). This document, compiled by our President, Chris Mew, reflects the current practices and policies of the Church of England, and is intended to act as a guide for incumbents and safeguarding officers in the management of such policies in relation to bell towers. While compiled by the CCCBR, it has been published by the Church of England to diocesan safeguarding officers.

During the year, the Committee has received a number of enquiries regarding safeguarding, health and safety, insurance and noise complaints. All these enquiries have been successfully responded to. The complaints helpline, ably run by Alan Chantler, is working successfully. Five enquiries have been received this year, and all but one has been resolved by a simple exchange of emails.

The Committee manages the CCCBR 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 Health & Safety guidance notes every time they are updated.

The Tower Stewardship Committee has identified a number of areas for future work:

- Updates to our church law guidance notes, to reflect changes to the Church of England Faculty Jurisdiction Rules, that came into force on 1st January 2016.

- Compilation of an advisory pack to assist with the management of bell towers in secular buildings.
- Compilation of an advisory pack to help churches (and ringers) with bells, where the church is facing redundancy and closure.

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:

- www.cccbr.org.uk/towerstewardship/
- 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.

Finally, we finish with a request to all members of Council. As well as representing your association to the Council, you also represent the Council to your association. As mentioned, there have been a number of updates and changes to our information and documentation. We ask that all Council members familiarise themselves with this information and ensure that your association has been updated with such changes, and the information has been passed out to the grass root towers.

- ERNIE DE LEGH-RUNCIMAN
(Chairman)
- CHRIS SHARP
- ALAN CHANTLER
- CHRISTOPHER O'MAHONY
- PETER KEMP
- JAMES SMITH

Bell Restoration Committee

Introduction

The Bell Restoration Committee is one of the most pro-active committees with excellent public interface. All members have clearly defined areas of responsibility and these are reviewed on a rolling basis.

Meetings

The Committee met three times in 2015: in February, June and October. All meetings were held at St Andrew's Church, Short Street, London.

Activities in 2015

A seminar on bell restoration was held in Somerset on 6th September and a full report was included in *The Ringing World* of 15th January 2016.



Matthew Higby addressing the delegates at the Bell Restoration Seminar

An updated version of the booklet *Organising a Bell Restoration Project* (OABRP) has been drawn up and will be published during 2016.

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

An article was prepared reviewing the new Faculty rules. This was published in *The Ringing World* of 5th February 2016.

Grants

The following grants were allocated in 2015: Basingstoke All Saints – £700, Bath Christ Church – £300, Biggleswade – £900, Brading – £1,600, Brant Broughton – £900, Combe Raleigh – £2,000, Drayton Bassett – £1,000, Great Catworth – £1,700, Great Malvern – £400, Harlow – £1,300, Hereford All Saints – £400, Hollingbourne – £1,800, Ipstones – £2,000, Kelham – £800, Liddington – £2,000, Lindfield – £2,000, Marden, Herefordshire – £2,000, Meldreth – £1,200, Michaelchurch Escley – £1,100, North Creake – £1,000, Norwood Green – £600, Rochdale Christ Church – £600, Taunton St Mary Magdalene – £2,000, Templecombe – £1,500, Tollesbury – £300, Westminster St Stephen – £1,700, Whitestaunton – £1,800, Woolhope – £1,100, Wortley – £1,700.

At the time of writing this report work at Bath Christ Church, Great Malvern, Kelham, Meldreth, North Creake, Templecombe and Tollesbury has been completed.



Templecombe bells at their blessing service

Fred Dukes Fund

A grant of £2,500 was agreed for Bangalow, NSW. Progress on the projects at Bunbury, WA (2010) and Queenstown, South Africa (2011) are both awaiting reports on the tower.

For some time certain aspects of the Guidance for Applicants have been giving concern. Following discussion, and with the agreement of the Managing Trustees, two of the clauses in the Guidance have been changed. The first change enables a project to use any UK contractor, rather than restricting applications to work by “a major UK bellfounder”. The other change relates to repayment of the grant in the event that a project is never completed, in cases where a UK contractor has been paid from the Fund in order that the bells and/or fittings can be shipped to the overseas parish.

Advice to parishes

The Ffoenix software is very out of date and cannot be updated so other methods of searching for funds are being investigated. All towers receiving a grant are encouraged to complete a feedback form showing sources of grants, which will help towards compiling a bell restoration specific data base. John Barnes has again been very active providing fund raising assistance and ideas to parishes.

Membership

Peter Wilkinson, Ian Oram and Jay Bunyan will stand down at the 2016 meeting and will be available for re-election. The Committee still has one vacancy.

Ongoing tasks include:

- Reviewing and drawing up new Guidance Notes as required. We shall publicise these in *The Ringing World* as required;
- Continuing to administer the Central Council’s Bell Restoration Fund and the Fred E Dukes International Fund by inviting applications for distribution when money is available;
- Providing information on grant making organisations;
- Providing information on local fund raising;
- Providing articles for *The Ringing World* as appropriate; and
- Continuing to raise awareness of the work of the Committee via associations, DACs and PCCs.

Future work

- In 2016 – publishing the new version of OABRP.
- In 2017 and 2019 – holding further seminars on bell restoration.

PETER WILKINSON (*Chairman*)
 PAT ALBON
 JOHN BARNES
 JAY BUNYAN (*Secretary*)
 KEN DAVENPORT
 PETER KIRBY

IAN ORAM
 CHRIS ROGERS

Biographies Committee

The committee met at Hull in May and at Wellesbourne in September. Margaret Oram stood down and Anne Bray was elected a new member. Bill Butler remains a consultant. The Council approved our broadened terms of reference – to go beyond creating and recording information and proactively bring it to the notice of ringers and historians.

At the end of 2015 there were 904 biographic records on the website and a further 18 delivered for inclusion. A similar number will be delivered early in 2016. Stuart Piper of the ICT committee supports us by managing our pages on the website. No records were printed during the year but it is intended that all records available on the web will in due course also have an archival paper copy. We have made little progress with our aspiration to expand some very cursory records produced in former years. This is not a priority and will be done as and when any new information becomes available.

We have been extending the time span of the record collection much earlier than the formation of the Council. We have so far produced seventeen records based on material in John Eisel’s *Giants of the Exercise* and we have reached a similar agreement with David Ingram and Richard Jones to use material from *The recollections of John Day*.

Bill Butler’s articles on Prolific Peal Ringers in *The Ringing World* reached number 37 by the year end (omitting a few who are still alive). The first 20 are also on the Council website.

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

Our work on ringing societies has progressed. We have a prototype web page listing 170+ current and former societies, with basic information, dates, and evolutionary links between them. In due course this will appear on the Council website, and in the long term we hope to add lists of members who represented each society with links to their individual biographic records, which will provide an alternative way to access the records. We have also started work on the history of Council committees that will eventually be linked to the biographic records via lists of members.

We considered the possibility of permanent exhibition material for use at various events but decided not to invest in a pop-up display in the short term. Bill Butler and Bobbie May developed a series of vignettes of notable ringers with interesting snippets about each that are intended to “bring ringing biography to life” for those who might not previously have taken an interest. We envisage them as a set of laminated A4 posters that can be displayed in any suitable space in a venue.

We made some progress developing advice for ringers wishing to undertake biographical / historical research but it is not yet complete.

We worked with the Library Committee on a joint outreach event in 2016. By linking ringing history to the concerns facing ringing in the

future we aimed to reach a wider audience than for previous events. We obtained the support of the ICT Committee to make a webcast of the event available to ringers who could not physically be present.

Future plans and aspirations include:

- 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 more structured ways to access the record collection.
- 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 2015 are:

- Philip John Rothera, Essex Association 1972–1978, attended 4 meetings, died 13 January 2015.
- Adrian G Semken, Essex Association 1996–2011, Additional member 2011–2015, attended 16 meetings, died 6 March 2015.
- Dr John Armstrong, Essex Association 1966–2015, attended 49 meetings, died 27 March 2015.
- Philip A F Chalk, Cambridge University Guild 1954–1958, attended 1 meeting, died 4 April 2015.
- Frank Beech, North Staffs Association 2002–2014, attended 12 meetings, died 17 April 2015.
- Frank William Lewis, Kent County Association 1990–2008, 2014–2015, attended 20 meetings, died 22 July 2015.
- Ronald C Noon, Peterborough Diocesan Guild 1951–1954, attended 2 meetings, died 3 August 2015.
- Terence Ralph Hampton, St Martin’s Guild 1975–1986, attended 11 meetings, died 4 August 2015.
- Peter Howard Mackie, Ancient Society of College Youths 2014–2015, attended 1 meeting, died 3 September 2015.
- Freda Patricia Willgress (née Greaves), Ladies’ Guild 1990–1993, attended 3 meetings, died 16 December 2015.

JOHN HARRISON (*Chairman*)
 RICHARD ANDREW
 ANNE BRAY
 PATRICIA HALLS
 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 *Ringling World Diary* compositions were updated in conjunction with the Methods Committee and further reviews will be made as required for the 2017 diary.

The key work of the Committee is to maintain and update the web collection 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. There are touches for example of 800 for Magna Carta and 1290 and 5090 for the Queen's birthday and date touches.

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. Over 2,000 peal compositions and over 200 quarter peals were uploaded to the website in the last twelve months, so we process an average of over 40 compositions per week.

Our particular thanks go to Richard Allton and Don Morrison for their work, as compositions are submitted in a number of formats from spreadsheets to written paper and these have to be carefully collated and checked for accuracy and truth. The web collection is backed up on the CCCBR web services account on a daily basis.

The easy access of on line compositions means there now appears to be little demand for printed books. It is difficult to justify the work required to produce and publish new books of compositions. It is possible to produce pdfs of existing composition books, for example *Touches of Triples* by Edgar Shepherd and these are being added to the web collection.

The Committee has answered a number of technical and historical queries on composition, including for example the first peal of Plain Bob Triples for people wishing to repeat the peal for the 300th anniversary of the first known tower bell peal, and a request for a quarter peal of Stedman Caters to practice an opening course for a peal.

Stephen Beckingham has updated his best 1,280 website with expansion with bobs and singles to 1,312 and 1,344 lengths in tenors together compositions to generate the maximum number of runs on four or more bells.

bex280.x10.mx/namedparameters2.php. This is a popular site for composers looking to get the best music out of methods for quarter peals.

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 Ringling World*, although we are perfectly happy to review compositions as required.

Roger Bailey's handbell collection is being maintained and updated by Peter Blight and can be found at

www.ringing.info/handbell-collection/.

The Committee would like to welcome Fergus Stracey to the Committee. Finally, to

reiterate, we very much welcome submissions of new peal, quarter peal and special length compositions and these should be sent to compositions@ccbr.org.uk.

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

Education Committee

During 2015 the Committee met 5 times, being twice face to face and three times by telephone conference. Overall, the Committee concluded that the Face to Face meetings were significantly more productive, but much more of a commitment and cost, so the key thing is to try to maintain the right balance looking forward.

This year we welcomed new members Veronica Downing (Suffolk), Chris Fletcher (Lancashire) and Anne Sladen (Southwell and Nottingham). Retiring this year, we thank Brian Sanders, who served for a number of years as the Committee's treasurer. Following his retirement, the Committee has put in place a new bank account.

In line with its recently refreshed Terms of Reference, the Committee continues to co-ordinate closely with other organisations involved in ringing education, including the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART), the Whiting Society, Ringing Centres Committee, Ringing Trends Committee, The Ringing Foundation (part year), and members also follow a wide variety of social media feeds, to look for ideas and trends.

In particular, this co-operation has led this year to the development of the Ringing Leadership course, together with ART and Elva Ainsworth. A version of this course was given at the ART AGM recently, plus a version is also available for download from the Committee's web pages, for use by local associations and other groups.

The development of the new Listening Course has continued, with two pilot courses given jointly with local associations, to further develop the material. The final version of this course is now ready and will be available on the Committee's web pages in time for the AGM. This package is intended to be used by local associations and other groups, with help from the Committee as needed. Along similar lines, the Central Council booklet "Listening Skills" is now available in electronic form on the Committee's website.

The Conduct 5040 scheme continues with a modest number of participants. Partnership is in place with ART, who have started delivering a basic conducting course, which it is hoped will bring forward more candidates for this mentoring scheme.

The coming year will be one of transition for the Committee, as we are in the process of replacing the retiring Chairperson Duncan Walker, after 3 years at the helm.

Looking forward, the Committee is considering two possible publications, following earlier series of articles published in *The Ringling World*,

under the titles *What Helps What Hinders* and *Learning Together*. It also has plans to put together a new teaching manual in book form, plus further work on new ringing videos (liaising with a North America initiative).

DUNCAN WALKER (*Chair*)
LUCY HOPKINS TILL (*Secretary*)
SUSAN WELCH (*Treasurer*)
JAMES BLACKBURN
VERONICA DOWNING
CHRIS FLETCHER
TONY FURNIVAL
TIM HINE
GEOFF HORRITT
GILL HUGHES
CATHERINE LEWIS
PIP PENNEY
DAVID ROSKELLY
ANNE SLADEN

Information and Communications Technology Committee

Work this year has focussed on development of a new website which is run by a content management system. Due mainly to the extraordinary contribution of Doug Davis, a draft version of the site was made available at the March Administrative Committee meeting and the aim is to make it publicly available at or around the time of this year's Central Council meeting. Thanks also go to Jacqui Brown, Elva Ainsworth and Christopher O'Mahony for their support developing the site over this year.

Thanks go to Peter Trotman, Andrew Hall and Aidan Hopkins for keeping the current site in good shape during this year. It is anticipated that the current site will run alongside the new site until we are happy that all the relevant material has been brought across to the new system. The expectation is that this will be complete by the 2017 Central Council meeting.

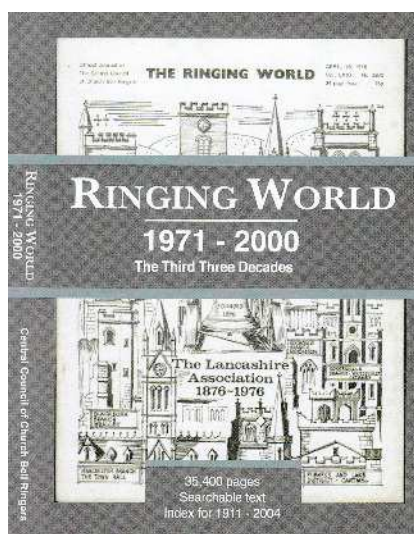
The usage of Github has continued, and an application for recognition of the Central Council's charitable status was accepted meaning that we can offer version control for free to around 6 software projects. This links into last year's stated aim to offer protection to digital resources (to ensure that projects aren't lost or become unavailable if their authors are unable to continue development). No progress has been made on the drafting of an escrow agreement under which projects would be brought into the system, however, the underlying message is that the ICT Committee is technically ready to accept projects.

This year saw the first webcast event organised by the ICT Committee. The Central Council event "Ringing History and Future Trends" was watched by around 70 people on the day and has been watched by a further 400 since. The ICT Committee is happy to provide practical support to anyone (inside or outside of the Council) wishing to webcast a ringing event – e-mail chairman@ictc.cccbr.org.uk to discuss your project.

DAVID RICHARDS (*Chairman*)
 FRED BONE
 JACQUI BROWN
 DOUG DAVIS
 ANDREW HALL
 PETER HARRISON
 STUART PIPER
 LEIGH SIMPSON
 PETER TROTMAN

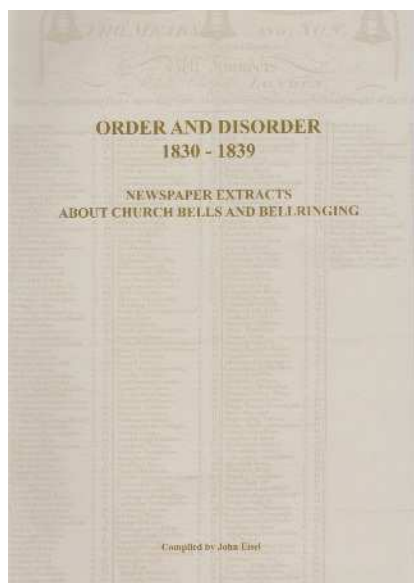
Library Committee

The *Ringling World* DVD 1971-2000: This is the third DVD in the series and was launched at the 2015 Central Council Meeting. Thanks go to Paul Johnson for this achievement. Sales are going well. Earlier DVDs are advertised on the Library Publications page of the Council website www.cccbr.org.uk/library/pubs/



Order and Disorder publications: We are indebted to John Eisel for completion of the third volume in this series 1830-1839 in time for Christmas. It is selling well, and the previous volumes are still available

www.cccbr.org.uk/library/pubs/



John Eisel has continued his research into digitised newspapers, and abstracted many hun-

dreds of reports relating to ringers and change ringing. With the increasing number of reports being published as the century progressed, this has produced a great deal of material. For the period 1840-49 there is more material than for the whole of the eighteenth century! Consideration is being given as to how to bring this into the public domain, to supplement the printed volumes. Meanwhile, if anyone has a query about published newspaper material for a particular tower, John will be happy to attempt to answer the query. Email: jceisel@btinternet.com

Paul Johnson and Alan Glover have now made several publications available online:

Church Bells: 1871-1906

The Bell News: 1881-1891

Campanology: 1896-1897 (6 months)

The Bellingring: 1907 (6 months)

www.cccbr.org.uk/library/olpubs/

One Committee meeting was held in the year in October and we met briefly at our sales table at the Hull Central Council Meeting on 25 May.

Sue Marsden is investigating a possible database containing all ringing books, not just those in the Central Council Library. Linda Foddering assists with the Friends Newsletter and maintaining the list of Society librarians. Jenny Lawrence runs the packing and despatch department for *Order and Disorder* publications and adds library matters on the Central Council Facebook page.

2015 saw steady use of the Library with seven items being borrowed and sixty-four queries dealt with by sending scans or written replies. The publication of the *Ringling World* DVDs by the Library Committee has made it easier for many ringers to carry out their own research.

A certain amount of work has been done on transferring items to more modern media. An offer of help from Malcolm Merritt was enthusiastically accepted and almost all the VHS tapes in the Library are now available on DVD. We also found a firm able to transfer (and “clean-up”) some of our 78 rpm records to CD. They have done an excellent job at a very reasonable cost.

We are very grateful to all those individuals and organisations who donated material to the Library during the year. Several correspondents gave help with the preparation of the badge catalogue, and we are grateful to them all.

We are pleased to report that most of the library catalogue is now available on-line at www.cccbr.org.uk/library/catalogue/ in the form of a series of searchable pdfs. The remaining sections will be added as time permits.

The librarian was approached by a senior editor at the Oxford English Dictionary with a request for help in revising items relating to bells. So far “Grandsire” has been tackled with some success, largely due to help from John Eisel. John’s help and that of Carl Zimmerman has been enlisted as we wrestle with “yoke” in the (largely) American sense of headstock.

The list of reports required to complete runs is largely unchanged from last year, but is included here as tower cupboards are always being turned out and tidied (eventually).

Librarian’s wish list

Bath and Wells D A	1927 and 1928
Bedfordshire A	1928 and 1930
Cumberland & N Westmorland S	1951-56 and 1960
Derby D A	1946-1949 & 1951
Devonshire G	1929, 1930, 1934, 1937-42, 1944, 1953
Durham and Newcastle D A	1957/58, 1962/63, 1969/70
EDWNA	2010, 2012, 2013, 2014
Ely D G	1908-1911
Essex A	1912, 1914, 1917, 1930
Hertford C A	1921/22
Middlesex C A	1897-1898, 1899/1900
Midland Counties A	1923, 1924
Midland Counties G	1947-9, 1951, 1953 and 1959
North Wales A	1993-1995, 2000, 2001
Peterborough D G	1925
Salisbury D G	1911, 1912, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1918
Shropshire A	Any pre 1938
Surrey A	1911, 1914-1922, 1925-1927
Truro D G	1960, 1962-1964

After years of receiving an annual bound copy of *The Ringling World*, the financial situation of the weekly publication means that we have now had to take out a subscription to the printed version and then reimburse the cost of binding at the end of the year.

We continue to receive excellent service from “The Binding Place” on the outskirts of Worcester. As well as binding and minor repairs to the stock, Les Stallard has made additional individual clam-shell boxes for some of the more valuable and vulnerable books.

Collaboration with other committees: we are working with the Biographies Committee on a joint Outreach Day on 27 February 2016 at Wellesbourne. We liaise with Alan Baldock re the Felstead Database.

We are grateful to the Friends of the Library for their subscriptions, which support the work the Library Committee undertakes. Also, twenty-three people overall have taken up the offer of Life Membership. Ian Self is the Friends co-ordinator, assisted by Linda.

The accounts are submitted to the Central Council Hon Treasurer and, following checking by the independent examiners, appear in summary in the Council’s accounts. They are also published in the annual Newsletter for the Friends of the Library, whose subscriptions fund projects such as printed publications and DVDs. The annual grant received from the Council towards maintenance of the Library has been waived for 2015 and will be shown in the 2016 accounts. Copies of the accounts are available on request from Ian Self.

William Willans has kindly written an interesting Essay (No 23 in the series) entitled *The Remarks and Collections of Thomas Hearne* to accompany the newsletter sent to the Friends.

Two members of the Committee will be retiring at the Portsmouth Central Council Meeting.

Future Work Plan:

- Outreach Day (joint event with the Biographies Committee) 27.2.16
- *Order and Disorder* 1840 onwards by John Eisel
- Online catalogue with search facility
- Maintain library webpages
- Maintain online badge catalogue
- Membership and other ringing certificates from societies to be available online – request from Chris Ridley.

STELLA BIANCO (*Chairman*)
ALAN GLOVER (*Library Steward*)

LINDA FODDERING
JENNY LAWRENCE
SUSAN MARSDEN
PAUL JOHNSON
IAN SELF

Methods Committee

The Methods Committee's main focus this year has been on the review of the Central Council Decisions concerning Peal Ringing and Methods and Calls. Following our report last year, we held an open meeting at Southwark Cathedral in October, and an independent report on this written by Richard Smith appeared in the October 16th edition of *The Ringing World*. Following the review and the open meeting, we feel that changes are required, and are proposing to do this in two stages, as shown by the motions at the 2016 meeting.

In addition the Committee has worked with the Compositions Committee on updates to pages in *The Ringing World Diary*, and it has also restarted work on a new book of Doubles Methods. This will contain blue lines for plain Doubles methods, as well as a chapter on splicing.

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.

Once again, we would like to record our thanks to Tony Smith for maintaining up to date method collections at methods.org.uk. These online collections are 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
DAVID RICHARDS
LEIGH SIMPSON
ROBIN WOOLLEY

Report of the Stewards of the Carter Ringing Machine Collection

The Carter Ringing Machine was on display on three occasions during 2015. The first was at the Annual General Meeting in Hull where it performed briefly between sessions and was visited by many of the Council members.

Later in the year it was invited to Liverpool Cathedral for one of their special evenings where visitors are allowed up the tower and can visit the ringing chamber to see the bells being rung. Many of the local ringers participating in this event had never seen the machine so it was of great interest to them, in addition to visitors, some of whom were intrigued by the machine in operation.

The final event was during the Heritage Weekend in September when it was back in Liverpool again, this time at St John the Baptist, Tuebrook, where it again received attention from interested visitors as well as local church members.

During the year the bell cabinet was modified to allow one of the Cummins electronic simulators to be able to ring the bells. This had been partly done prior to the Hull meeting and we were able to demonstrate both machines in operation, though not simultaneously! The electromechanical relays that had been installed in the cabinet when it was made in the 1960s were replaced by modern electronic switching, which eliminated the noise made by the relays. We felt this change to be justifiable as the bell cabinet was not part of the original machine.

One further item of interest – we have received donations of other Cummins machines during the year, and one has been installed at the Taylor Museum for demonstration purposes. This one was donated by George Mudge and has sampled bell sounds and a reasonably smart appearance. The program within the machine has been modified somewhat to make it easier for museum staff to demonstrate to visitors.

We are currently evaluating the other additional machines as to whether they should be added to the collection, possibly replacing existing ones, or simply used as spare parts.

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, although they have been out on view for several months of this past year. They 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. In this period of WWI centenary commemorations every effort is being made to discover the names and details of our fellow ringers who were not listed in the original Great War Roll of Honour, so that their names may be added to the new volume. The new Great War Book records 152 names; this includes 17 added in June 2015 and 14 added in January 2016; I currently have two additional names that will be added when the new Roll of Honour is next updated. The WWII Book records 300 names.

During the last year the Great War books have been on view at the Longworth Festival of Bells in Oxfordshire which was the launch event of the bell restoration appeal; one ringer from

there, Private W H Rivers, the last Tower Foreman at Longworth, is recorded in the original Great War Roll. Both Great War books were also on display at the exhibition of the South London Lettering Association at the St. Brides Foundation in London, at the request of Timothy Noad who is the illuminator / calligrapher for the new Roll. This event was advertised on Bell-Board.

I have been following up the practicalities of extending the existing display case to enable all three books to be displayed satisfactorily. I have contacted a cabinet maker who will inspect the case shortly and will then advise on the best course of action. The aim is to create a case that allows the Rolls of Honour to be safely displayed together at other venues, thus giving more opportunity to ringers and others to view them first hand.

Further "Rolls of Honour" have been published monthly in *The Ringing World*, thanks to the help of the Editor, Robert Lewis, and compositor, Chris Caryer. A huge amount of work on the detail contained in these is undertaken by Yvonne Cairns, and I am most grateful for this assistance. These 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:

May 1st 2015, pp.455–456, giving details of the 28 who fell during May 1915

May 29th 2015, pp.562–563, giving details of the 15 who fell during June 1915

July 3rd 2015, pp.682–683, giving details of the 5 who fell during July 1915

July 31st 2015, pp.778–780, giving details of the 36 who fell during August 1915

August 28th 2015, pp.874–875, giving details of the 32 who fell during September 1915

September 25th 2015, pp.970–972, giving details of the 24 who fell during October 1915

October 30th 2015, pp.1091 and 1093, giving details of the 9 who fell during November 1915

November 27th 2015, p.1188, giving details of the 3 who fell during December 1915

December 18th / 25th 2015, pp.1281 and 1285, giving details of the 8 who fell during January 1916

January 29th 2016, p.116, giving details of the 5 who fell during February 1916

February 26th 2016, pp.211–212, giving details of the 12 who fell during March 1916.

These will continue over the coming months, where readers will see numbers increase considerably. In addition, where possible, I have contacted local ringers encouraging commemorative ringing, and I am pleased to be able to report that many have been commemorated on or close to the centenary of their death. Ringers may have seen these reported in *The Ringing World* and I am most grateful to all those ringers who have taken part. Some guilds and associations have co-ordinated efforts to assist with these commemorations. I would particularly like to thank Ellen Crabtree who is undertaking this for those who were Durham & Newcastle DA members, Ruth Curtis for those in the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, Steve Jakeman for those in the Middlesex County Association, Robert Wellen for those in the Salisbury Diocesan Guild and to Christine

Parsons, Peter McCoy and Robert Wood who are doing the same for Yorkshire Association members. 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.

A number of other articles, by other authors, have appeared in *The Ringing World* giving more details on individuals who fell.

In addition an article appeared in *The Ringing World* of 6th November 2015 which gave details of the three ringers commemorated in Ypres Reservoir Cemetery, which is close to the town centre of Ypres (now Ieper) in Belgium. This article introduced the possibility of the installation of a ring of eight change ringing bells in the tower of St. George's Memorial Church, Ypres, as a memorial to the Fallen of the Great War.

Peter Trotman, Central Council Webmaster, has been adding photographs of the new Great War Roll pages as well as undertaking a complete overhaul of the way in which the page photos are accessed and undertaking corrections and additions to the information held. His willing assistance is greatly appreciated. The website generates 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, particularly Robert Wellen from the Salisbury Guild who has done considerable research to identify more names from his area, Alan Seymour who continues to research those from Sussex and to David Underdown for his continued work researching those who came from the Surrey Association area.

ALAN REGIN

Report of the Stewards of the Dove Database

2015 has been another busy year for the Dove Stewards. We have made 871 updates to the information that we show against a "Dove entry", and 888 updates to the information held in the prototype-National Bell Register (pNBR).

The number of Dove entries, and the changes that occurred during this period, are summarised as follows.

We have listed 8 new rings during 2015 but no longer list 4 others. We have been notified of



12 augmentations, 10 rings that are no longer unringable, but 17 rings that are now unringable.

We thank those who have notified us of changes that they believe we should know about. This year we wish in particular to thank Mike Chester, Philip Denton, and David Sloman. Mike seems to possess an uncanny knack of instantly spotting any Dove-related change on just about any ringing-related website. He has also provided us with frame information for many rings where previously we held no, or perhaps only limited, information. Philip has been an assiduous contributor for many years and his suggestions for updates are always well-researched before being offered to us for inclusion. David seems to have a superb ability to spot various data items which have been missing from the pNBR but which have previously appeared in printed county works or their corrigenda. Each of these three has now sent us in excess of 1000 emails and this represents real commitment on their part to getting the pNBR as comprehensive and accurate as possible.

John's son (Sid) has released a third version of his excellent Dove's Guide mobile app for iOS, this version also providing record-keeping capability for recording visits, quarter peals, and peals.

We are pleased to report that a small amount of progress has been made in sourcing a replacement solution for the Dove database using up-to-date technology. We look forward to significant progress being made during 2016. As yet we have had no success in identifying any individuals who might be interested in becoming our successors in the rôle of Dove Steward.

JOHN BALDWIN
TIM JACKSON

	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
14s	2	2	0	0	0	0
12s	138	138	0	0	0	0
10s	274	275	+1	2	2	0
9s	1	1	0	0	0	0
8s	1889	1893	+4	39	40	+1
6s	2922	2926	+4	86	87	+1
5s	605	606	+1	140	140	0
4s	317	317	0	150	151	+1
3s	985	979	-6	570	571	+1
Total	7136	7140	+4	987	991	+4

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: 2015

There have been no calls on the Fund this year and no further loans have been made to the Kelttek Trust Rescue Fund. There is therefore no change from the position as reported last year.

The Trustees remain grateful to those who have promised loans to the Fund in case of need.

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 2015

Incoming resources	2015	2014
Interest receivable	25.48	20.67
Every Click		
(=donations from ringers)	41.18	19.82
Donations	0.00	1,000.00
Resources expended		
Payments	0.00	0.00
Net incoming resources	66.66	
Balances at 1 January	14,761.49	
Balances at 31 December	14,828.15	
Balance Sheet as at 31 December		
Current assets		
Loan to Kelttek Trust		
Rescue Fund	8,500.00	
Cash in bank and on deposit	<u>6,328.15</u>	
Total current assets	14,828.15	
Current liabilities		
Net current assets	14,828.15	
Funds		
Unrestricted	14,828.15	

HELEN WEBB
14 FEBRUARY 2016