# CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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

# Annual Trustees' Report for 2025 (Issued in 2026)

## 1. Legal and Administrative Information

### 1.1 Charity

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers ("the Council") was founded in 1891 and is a registered charity, No. 270036. The registered address is that of its Treasurer for the time being, currently 136 Milhouse Road, Plymouth, PL3 4DE. The constitution and conduct of the Council is governed by its Rules, last amended in September 2025.

### 1.2 Trustees

The Council's Trustees during 2025 were as follows:

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

### 1.3 Principal Agents and Advisors

The Council's bankers are Lloyds Bank plc, Butler Place Branch, 1 Butler Place, Westminster, London, SW1H 0PR. Its Independent Examiner is Mr D Walker. Its insurers are Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, Benefact House, 2000 Pioneer Avenue, Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4AW.

## 2. Objectives and Activities

### 2.1 Charitable Objects (as defined in Rule 2.2):

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

*Communications and Relationships*

a) encouraging the growth and public appreciation of bell ringing;
b) representing the interests of bell ringing and ringers through promoting the development of strong relationships with the church, stakeholders, the media and others outside the bell ringing community;

c) facilitating communication and cohesion amongst ringers and bell ringing societies to assist ringers in supporting each other and achieving their bell ringing objectives;
d) using its efforts to foster the continuing recruitment and retention of ringers;

*Learning and Development*

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

*Stewardship and Management*

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

*Technical and Taxonomy*

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

*Historical and Archive*

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

2.2 Public Benefit

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

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

## 3. Structure, Governance and Management

3.1 Executive

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

3.2 Workgroups

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

3.3 Membership

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

## 4. Progress and achievements in 2025

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

4.1 Key achievements

- **Inaugural South West Ringing Course**, held in October 2025. This course offered a chance to improve ringing skills across a variety of traditions (both method ringing and Devon-style call change ringing). The course is designed to be self-funding but is supported by the Council with a series of loans to cover the start-up costs.
- **Relaunch of the Ringing History Hub**. This redesigned website has a deep catalogue of articles and information on every aspect of ringing history and is actively updated by members of the History and Archive working group.
- **Inaugural Summer Honorariums** – using a bequest from Wendy Piercy, we were able to fund three summer internships targeted at building the Young Ringers Hub (which was formally launched early in 2026).
- **Scout badge pilot in Derbyshire** – the Derbyshire Scout Association offers a dedicated staged Bellringer Badge (Introductory, Bellringer 1, 2, and 3) to help Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers track their ringing progression. This provides a blueprint for other regional Scout Associations and uniformed groups.

4.2 Support for ringing organisations

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.3 Governance and strategy

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

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

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

4.4 Changes in Personnel

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

The vacancy was filled by Alison Edmonds. Alison is an experienced leader and organiser, most recently leading the local organising teams for the RWNYC York in 2023, and the 2025 ART Conference which was based at the University of York where she works and is pastorally and financially accountable for the whole student lifecycle (admissions to graduation) for around 1,750 students across two science departments.

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

4.5 Ringing 2030

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

The focus of work continues to be in team building to be able to sustain development of long-term multi-year projects. For projects such as School Lesson Plans to add bellringing to the curriculum, the plan has been developed and piloted, but the ability to roll this out beyond the pilot requires a slightly different team of volunteers which is still being recruited. This is a similar situation for the regional

Scout badge programme, which has been successfully piloted. The recruitment project team was rebuilt during 2025, showing strong signs of progress moving into 2026.

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

It continues to be the policy to devote a significant portion of the available cash reserves towards Ringing 2030 projects. Marketing and marketing assets remain a key target of investment, creating the library of new banners for use by ringing groups, and the development of further branded assets such as social media templates and specific banners for youth projects and publications. Investment was made for professional design support for the Young Ringers Hub and for the Lesson Plan presentations. Finally, seed capital was made available to launch the first South West Ringing Course, the success of which meant the funding was repaid.

4.6 Communications and outreach

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

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

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

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

4.7 Challenges

**Key vacancies in marketing.** The continuing vacancy for the Marketing for Ringing 2030 workgroup lead, and a similar vacancy for a Public Relations Officer was a key impediment to progressing plans for a national and international awareness campaign. The gap was plugged by continuing to make use of contracted design services through YellowYoYo, and by the Deputy President stepping back into handling direct media enquiries. However, opportunities to capitalise on key events such as Bell Sunday or Heritage Open Days were missed. In addition, the lack of volunteer resource in this space limited the Council's ability to support the Mobile Belfry Trust in engaging with scouting and guiding jamborees and similar awareness and outreach events.

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

4.8 The year ahead

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

## 5. Statement of Policies

5.1 Reserves

(i) **General Fund** – the balance on the General Fund is invested to produce income which, together with member societies' affiliation fees, provides sufficient funds to support the work and activities of the Council. The balance also facilitates cash flow and enables the development of new projects and initiatives. The Trustees have agreed that a minimum of £75,000 needs to be kept as a reserve in the general fund. This is in order to cover three years of overheads, provide adequate cash flow and give a reasonable level of contingency against any unforeseen financial risks. This fund is unrestricted.

(ii) **Education Courses Fund** – the balance provides cash flow to enable the Volunteer and Leadership Workgroup to run various training courses; in general, the costs are recouped from attendees. This is an unrestricted designated fund.

(iii) **Bell Restoration Fund** – the balance is fully allocated to bell restoration projects and paid on satisfactory completion of the work. Grants are made in proportion to the types of applications received and in accordance with priorities agreed by the Council and reviewed annually. Members approved an increase in the maximum possible grant to £2,000 in May 2018. This is a restricted fund. The fund is currently closed for new grant applications.

(iv) **Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund** – Grants from the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund are made in accordance with the terms of Mr Dukes' legacy. Grants are awarded from the interest on the legacy and reviewed annually. This is a restricted fund.

(v) **Publications Fund** – the balance represents the stock of publications held and a cash balance to facilitate the production of new titles and the reprinting of existing publications. This is an unrestricted designated fund.

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

5.2 Investment

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

5.3 Investment and Borrowing Powers

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

5.4 Risk Assessment

The Trustees identify and review risks as they are identified, and to which they believe the Council may be exposed and take steps to minimise and manage those risks.

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

5.5 Expenses

Updated guidance on expenses was approved by the Executive in November 2019 and is due for review in 2026.

5.6 Safeguarding

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

5.7 Conflicts of Interest

Members of the Executive are required to complete an annual declaration of Conflicts of Interest which is available to the members.

5.8 Data Protection (GDPR)

The guidance note on data protection was last reviewed in January 2018. A privacy notice is available on the website. The Data Protection and wider data management policies are scheduled for review in 2027.

## 6. Review of Financial Activities

The accounts for 2025 show total funds at the year end of £477,842 (2024 £397,802). Restricted funds accounted for £288,801 of the total funds (2024 £223,837). Of the remaining balance designated funds total £47,616 leaving unrestricted funds of £141,425 (2024 £120,011). Income for the year totalled £145,673 (including publications, library & model bell sales of £21,419 (2024 £17,223)). Publications sales increased as a result of the proactive activities of the team.

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

Affiliation fees in 2025 increased because of changing the fees to £0.40p per capita from £0.20p.

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

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

During 2025 we received £67,648 from the estate of John Long which is to be used for additional bells in St Andrew's & St Paul's Bedford Churches. The balance of the funds is to be used to provide loans for sanctus sacring angelus service or bourdon bells in High Anglian Churches. Any residue remaining after 21 years can be used for general purposes of the Central Council. The Trustees are expecting the balance of the bequest in 2026.

There has been no significant fundraising during the year.

Expenditure for bell restoration grants totalled £3,450, and publication cost of sales was £6,611. Other items of expenditure include Ringing 2030 of £6,213. The total expenditure for Ringing 2030 was £34,164 over the years. It should be noted that for Ringing 2030 to be a success the Executive is reliant

on the efforts of ringers at society and tower level using the resources which are being put in place by the Central Council, otherwise the monies spent will have been wasted.

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

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

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

Of the unrestricted funds £75,000 is held in abeyance under our Reserve Policy, which leaves a balance of £66,425 available for project expenditure. The majority of these funds are held in interest bearing accounts and as they are drawn down the amount of interest received will be correspondingly reduced.

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

## 7. Membership

At the close of the Annual Council Meeting on 6th September 2025 the Council's membership comprised 4 Fellows, 13 Ex-officio Members and 199 Representative Members representing 66 affiliated societies and 4 small societies. Of the 203 Representative Members, there are 22 vacancies.

## Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees on 23rd September 2026.

T Stoecklin
President

# CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

**Registered Charity Number 270036**

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

| | Note | General Fund | John Long Bequest | Bell Restoration Fund | F Dukes Internat' l Bell Fund | Publications Fund | Library Fund | Total Funds 2025 | *Total Funds 2024* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Income and Expenditure** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Incoming Resources** | | | | | | | | | |
| Affiliation fees | | 13,942 | - | - | - | - | - | 13,942 | *6,935* |
| Legacies without restrictions | 8.3 | 12,216 | - | - | - | - | - | 12,216 | *-* |
| Legacies with restrictions | 8.6 | - | 67,648 | - | - | - | - | 67,648 | *-* |
| Subscriptions from friends of Library | | - | - | - | - | - | 1,228 | 1,228 | *1,160* |
| Interest receivable | 7 | 3,995 | - | 585 | 2,606 | - | 527 | 7,713 | *10,818* |
| Sales of publications, books and CDs | | - | - | - | - | 20,211 | - | 20,211 | *14,910* |
| Merchandising Income | | 1,577 | - | - | - | - | - | 1,577 | *805* |
| Sales of Model Bells | | - | - | - | - | 1,208 | - | 1,208 | *-* |
| Young Change Ringers Association | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *12* |
| Stock written back | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *41* |
| Donations re Roll of Honour | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *730* |
| Donations to Kilifi, Kenya | 8.1 | - | - | 120 | - | - | - | 120 | *120* |
| Gift Aid | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *-* |
| South West Course repayment of loan | | 12,000 | - | - | - | - | - | 12,000 | *-* |
| Publications Receipts | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *-* |
| Royalties re Three Rings | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *-* |
| Donations for Leaflets | | | | | | | | | |
| Other donations | 8.4 | 80 | - | 100 | - | - | 250 | 430 | *1,100* |
| AGM Weekend | | 7,380 | - | - | - | - | - | 7,380 | *3,067* |
| | | 51,190 | 67,648 | 805 | 2,606 | 21,419 | 2,005 | 145,673 | *39,698* |
| **Resources expended** | | | | | | | | | |
| AGM Weekend | | 9,052 | - | - | - | - | - | 9,052 | *6,114* |
| Publications Re-branding | | - | - | - | - | 354 | - | 354 | *-* |
| Workgroup expenses | 9.1 | 1,945 | - | - | - | - | - | 1,945 | *3,265* |
| Model Bells & Posters | | - | - | - | - | 1,057 | - | 1,057 | *-* |
| Mobile Belfries Trust Loan | | 6,200 | - | - | - | - | - | 6,200 | *8,013* |
| Merchandise for Resale | | 1,985 | - | - | - | - | - | 1,985 | *498* |
| Wearebellringing Shopify Website | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *248* |
| SW Course Grant | | | | | | | | - | *5,000* |
| SW Course Loan | | 12,000 | - | - | - | - | - | 12,000 | *-* |
| Recruitment leaflets | | 83 | - | - | - | - | - | 83 | *78* |
| Cost of publications sold | | - | - | - | - | 6,611 | - | 6,611 | *3,473* |
| Ringing 2030 | | 5,823 | - | - | - | - | - | 5,823 | *7,138* |
| New Website Hosting - 2 years | | 2,064 | - | - | - | - | - | 2,064 | *-* |
| Library maintenance | | - | - | - | - | - | 140 | 140 | *131* |
| Equipment costs | | - | - | - | - | - | 312 | 312 | *-* |
| Grants for bell restoration | 10 | - | - | 3,450 | - | - | - | 3,450 | *12,550* |
| Advertising | | - | - | - | - | 174 | 110 | 284 | *670* |
| Storage and distribution | 12 | - | - | - | - | 2,500 | - | 2,500 | *1,666* |
| Stationery, postage and telephone | | - | - | - | - | 3,846 | 452 | 4,298 | *3,315* |
| Insurance | | 3,050 | - | - | - | - | - | 3,050 | *2,989* |
| Stock written off and disposed of | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *1,941* |
| Bank Charges | | - | - | - | - | - | 86 | 86 | *62* |
| Depreciation - Library Collection | | - | - | - | - | - | 1,552 | 1,552 | *1,584* |
| Depreciation - Bookcases (2024) | | - | - | - | - | - | 2,000 | 2,000 | *2,000* |
| Paypal charges | | 74 | - | - | - | 578 | - | 652 | *417* |
| Sundry expenses | | - | - | - | - | 137 | - | 137 | *-* |
| | | 42,276 | - | 3,450 | - | 15,257 | 4,652 | 65,635 | *61,152* |
| **Net incoming resources before transfers** | | 8,914 | 67,648 | (2,645) | 2,606 | 6,162 | (2,647) | 80,036 | *(21,455)* |
| Revaluation of Library Collection | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *-* |
| Transfers between funds | | 12,500 | - | - | - | (12,500) | - | - | *-* |
| **Net movement in funds** | | 21,414 | 67,648 | (2,646) | 2,606 | (6,338) | (2,647) | 80,036 | *(21,455)* |
| Balances at 31 December 2024 | | 145,126 | - | 25,682 | 82,268 | 29,570 | 115,160 | 397,806 | *419,257* |
| Balances at 31 December 2025 | | 166,540 | 67,648 | 23,036 | 84,874 | 23,232 | 112,513 | 477,842 | *397,802* |

# CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

## Registered Charity Number 270036

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

| | General Fund | John Long Bequest | Bell Restoration Fund | F Dukes Internat'l Bell Fund | Publications Fund | Library Fund | Total Funds 2025 | *Total Funds 2024* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | *£* |
| **Fixed assets** | | | | | | | | |
| **Tangible assets** | | | | | | | | |
| Investments at cost | 157,444 | 67,648 | 17,777 | 79,131 | - | - | 322,000 | *232,000* |
| Library Collection | - | - | - | - | - | 76,063 | 76,063 | *77,615* |
| Library Bookcases | - | - | - | - | - | 6,000 | 6,000 | *8,000* |
| **Total fixed assets** | 157,444 | 67,648 | 17,777 | 79,131 | - | 82,063 | 404,063 | *317,615* |
| **Current assets** | | | | | | | | |
| Stock | 5,981 | - | - | - | 4,585 | - | 10,566 | *11,275* |
| Debtors and prepayments | 5,745 | - | 79 | 187 | - | 145 | 6,156 | *3,646* |
| Cash on short term deposit and at bank | (2,395) | - | 5,181 | 5,556 | 19,614 | 30,305 | 58,261 | *68,024* |
| **Total current assets** | 9,331 | - | 5,260 | 5,743 | 24,199 | 30,450 | 74,983 | *82,945* |
| **Current liabilities** | | | | | | | | |
| Creditors - amounts due within one year | (235) | - | - | - | (967) | - | (1,202) | *(2,757)* |
| **Net current assets** | 9,096 | - | 5,260 | 5,743 | 23,232 | 30,450 | 73,781 | *80,188* |
| **Total assets less current liabilities** | 166,540 | 67,648 | 23,036 | 84,874 | 23,232 | 112,513 | 477,842 | *397,802* |
| **Funds** | | | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | 141,425 | - | - | - | - | - | 141,425 | *120,011* |
| Unrestricted - designated | 24,384 | 67,648 | - | - | 23,232 | - | 115,264 | *53,954* |
| Restricted | 730 | - | 23,036 | 84,874 | - | 112,513 | 221,153 | *223,837* |
| **Total funds** | 166,540 | 67,648 | 23,036 | 84,874 | 23,232 | 112,513 | 477,842 | *397,802* |

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

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

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

2.1 Incoming resources
Interest is accounted for when receivable.
Donations, grants and legacies are accounted for as soon as the Council is notified of the legal entitlement and the amount due.

2.2 Resources expended
Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.
Grants are accounted for when paid over.

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

4 Funds
The General Fund is unrestricted and includes designated funds raised and held for a particular purpose.
The Education Courses Fund and Publications Fund are unrestricted designated funds.
The Bell Restoration Fund, the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund, John Long Bequest and the Library Fund are maintained for restricted purposes.

5 Transfers between funds
£12,500 has been transferred from Publications to The General Fund

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

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

7 Interest receivable

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| National Savings Bonds | £ | 7185 |
| Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Deposit account | £ | 527 |

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

8 Donations and grants received

8.1 Kilifi, Kenya
Donations have been received in respect of Kilifi, Kenya, for ropes and a training project. These are included in the Bell Restoration Fund as a restricted item and, together with any related gift aid, amounted to £120 in 2025, bringing the total now available to £1,497. Gift Aid is still to be claimed.

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

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

8.4 Other Donations - Bell Restoration
During the year a donation of £100.00 was received from CAF, which was allocated at the Treasurer's discretion

8.5 Other Donations - New Roll of Honour Ledger
No donations were received during the year and the balance of £730 is carried forward.

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

9 Workgroup Expenses

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

9.2 Ringing 2030 Workgroup Expenses
The total Ringing 2030 workgroup expenses during the year was £5,823 of which Yellowyoyo accounted for £1,104 and Bobcat Distribution accounted for £1097.

9.3 Wearebellringing.co.uk T Shirts & Banners
The remaing stock at the year end was £5,981. The shopify website has been closed

9.4 Long Term Debtor
Included in Debtors is a loan asset made to the Mobile Belfries Trust of £5,000. All of this amount is considered repayable in more than one year. The loan has been documented in an agreement and is due to be repaid by 31 December 2030.

10 Grants paid
During the year, the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund did not pay any grants.
There are one outstanding grant commitment, with £9,632 available for new schemes.

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

11 Charitable commitments
There is one grant of £1,000 awarded but not yet paid by the Fred Dukes International Bell Fund,
and fourteen grants totalling £18,300 awarded but not yet paid by the Bell Restoration Fund.
There is also a charitable commitment to Kilifi bell restoration in respect of the balance of donations received but not yet paid amounting to £1,497.

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

13 Designated Funds in General Fund
These comprise:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ringing Remembers Grant | 11236 | For recruitment |
| Rolle Legacy | 2362 | |
| Young Ringers | 1284 | For use by YCRA |
| Robert Kilby legacy | 9502 | For 1st peal in Stedman Caters |

14 Restricted Funds in General Fund
These comprise:

| | |
|---|---|
| New Roll of Honours Ledger | 730 |

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

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

Additional Notes not comprising part of the accounts

Investment Account - NS&I - Interest Received Monthly

| | |
|---|---|
| General Fund | 59943.9 |
| Bell Restoration Fund | 17777.07 |
| Fred Dukes Bell Fund | 79130.96 |
| Publications Fund | 12500 |
| John Long Legacy | 67648.07 |

Cambridge & Counties Bank - Interest received annually

| | |
|---|---|
| General Fund | 85000 |

CCLA Short Term Deposit Account - Interest received quarterly

| | |
|---|---|
| General Fund | 884.99 |
| Bell Restoration Fund | 2584.46 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Lloyds Bank Account (No 1) | 13767.58 |
| Comprising | |
| General Fund | -14063.04 |
| Bell Restoration Fund | 2593.37 |
| Fred Dukes Bell Fund | 5558.84 |
| Robert Kilby Legacy | 9502.2 |
| Publications | 10176.21 |
| Lloyds Bank Account (No 2) | 1284.16 |
| Comprising | |
| Young Ringers (YCRA) | 1284.16 |
| Reserve Policy (To close the Charity) | 75000 |

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees**

Charity Name: Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

| **On accounts for the year ended** | 31st December 2025 | **Charity no (if any)** | 270036 |
|---|---|---|---|

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") and financial year.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination, to which attention should be drawn in this report, in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

| **Signed:** | Dun g Walk | **Date:** | 28 / Sep / 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|

**Name:** Duncan G Walker

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body:** CIMA, ACIE, MBA

**Address:** Mell Fell View, Graham Street, Penrith, CA11 9LE

## Section B Disclosure

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

There is nothing to disclose.