

GUILD MANAGEMENT REPORT 2025

INTRODUCTION: After all the excitements of the Guild's Centenary Year in 2024 the Guild entered a more "business as usual" phase in 2025. Not that there were no developments – following the success of the Centenary Logo our Secretary Helen Allton produced a new simplified and modernised Guild Logo that would be rolled out at the end of the year.

An enduring legacy of Simon and Cathy's Second Saturday sessions over the last 3 years is a definite appetite across the membership for Training and Retention sessions. Thus a significant number of training events were delivered locally across all the Branches in addition to the Guild Second Saturday sessions and the COOTS QP sessions. We thank all those involved for their efforts in delivering these and members for both attending and supporting these events.

During the year the 6 bells at Corby were refurbished and returned to the tower for rehangng, the 6 bells at Greetham have also been refurbished and returned. The 6 bells at Badby have been removed for complete rehangng to return in early 2026.

We are extremely grateful to all Officers for their efforts supporting members across the Guild.

MAJOR EVENTS: The 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe ("VE Day") in May and the 80th anniversary of Victory in Japan ("VJ Day") in August were marked by ringing 2 Peals and 11 Quarter Peals.

FINANCES: Our finances remain healthy. The General Fund stood at £44,202 at the end of the year (2024: £49,621). The Bell Fund stands at £58,480 (up from £53,825) and the Training Fund stands at £13,648 (£6,387). Transfers from General Funds to Bell Fund were made of £10,000 and to the Training Fund £3,500. Income exceeded Expenditure by £8,601. The Guild needs to focus more on fundraising in the coming year, such as EasyFundRaising to boost the funds available for Bell work.

MEMBERSHIP: The Guild presently has 965 members (2024: 977 -1%), comprising 906 (917 -1%) adults, 46 (50 -8%) students and 13 (10 +30%) associate members.

Members who died during the year were: Will Adams (Whitfield); John Beadman (Brooke); Ellene Christie* (Hellidon); David Couldwell (Unattached, Rutland); John Hennessy* (Barrowden); Roy Hibbard (Castor); Ann Houghton (Daventry); Peggy Jennings (Oakham); Phillip Lindley (Yardley Hastings); Mike O'Brien (Earls Barton); June Pitcher* (St Mary Peterborough); Derek Sibson (Barton Seagrave); Trevor Vercoe* (Castor); Stella Wilkinson (North Luffenham). (* not current members)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: This was held on 14th June at Barton Seagrave Church Hall attended by 60 members (2024: 70). The Kettering Branch was thanked for making the arrangements.

AWARDS: At the AGM 50-year membership certificates were announced for: Mrs Janet Caunt (Braunston (Dav)).

GUILD OFFICERS: Most current Guild Officers were proposed, seconded, and re-elected for another year at the AGM. Simon Dixon stood down as Master and Trustee after serving for 8 years, and Jim Bence was elected to succeed him. Jim and Gwyneth White stood down as Report Editors after 11 years and were succeeded by Nick Watts. Cat Hemmington was elected as Guild Youth Officer, but sadly had to stand down before the year's end for personal reasons. A new post of Recruitment & Training Officer was created, to which Nich Wilson was elected. However, the post of Public Relations Officer remains vacant.

FESTIVALS: Thanks are extended to the Thrapston branch for arranging the Spring Festival Meeting at Great Addington and Twywell on the 12th April, where 19 teams entered. The Weaver Shield (Methods) was won by a band from Peterborough Cathedral, and the Centenary Trophy (Called Changes) was won by a band from Pattishall. It was good to see 8 of our 10 branches entering a team, including the Young Ringers.

Thanks are also extended to Peterborough branch for arranging the Summer Festival at Castor on 13th September. 6 branches entered where the Harry Wooding Memorial Trophy was won by the team from Towcester Branch.

BELL WORK: There have been a number of grant requests in 2025 for bell work.

Bell Funds in the Guild total £58,480 (2024: £53,825) of which £12,525 (£21,275) has been allocated to 5 ongoing schemes, leaving £45,955 from Guild Funds to be allocated to future schemes.

Grants amounting to £8,170 (2024: £25,955) were paid to 2 Parishes in 2025.

The Affiliation letter was sent out by the Diocese during 2025. 33 parishes contributed £980 (2024: £520). We thank the Diocesan Office for helping to distribute our emails, and are grateful for the continued support given by parishes in these difficult times. However, in 2019 many more Affiliated parishes contributed £4,325 – we should try to grow affiliation back to those numbers.

Collections and Donations into the Bell Fund amounted to £675 (2024: £743); the 100 Club raised £1,039 this year. (£964), and the Guild Quiz raised £221 (£211). Thanks to everyone for their support.

TRAINING, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION: Ten-bell practices have continued in 2025 alongside the Second Saturday Sessions, a series of training events and focused practices arranged for all members who apply to attend. Focused sessions have included Ringing Up & Down, also Bell Maintenance, and an ART Module One Course. (Rutland branch also ran an ART M1 Course) Thanks to Simon and Cathy Dixon for continuing to run the Second Saturday Training sessions throughout this year, these have been much appreciated across the Guild. These sessions were run at a net cost of £109.

Thanks to Justin Baker of Daventry Branch for organizing events for Young Ringers including putting a Guild team together for the Ringing World National Youth Contest held across the City of Birmingham on Saturday 5th July. Our team, all under 19, performed brilliantly, coming 6th in their category out of 14 teams. The band also entered the Midland Young ringers contest in March, coming 4th, and also did well in the Guild competitions. Well done to them all.

No Training Grants were paid in 2025 (2024: £72)

The Training Fund currently stands at £13,648 (2024: £6,387) net of the cost of training events, including donations and the sale of Jams and Craft items.

PEALS AND QUARTER PEALS: 2025 has been a good year for ringing across the Guild, with just a slight decrease in both Peals and Quarter Peals being rung over 2024, boosted as it was then by ringing for the Guild Centenary.

Peals: 109 (2024: 134) (-19%) Peals were rung by 94 (96) ringers led by 14 (15) Conductors in 73 (77) towers during the year; all Peals were rung on Tower bells.

Quarter peals: The total number of Quarter Peals rung in the Diocese was 307 (2024: 374) (-18%); they were rung in 109 Towers/venues by 426 (480) ringers led by 91 conductors. Of these Quarter Peals 33 (39) were rung for service. Busiest branch was Peterborough, ringing 95.

It is noted that 17 (2024: 23) ringers rang their first quarter peal, 2 (4) rang their first inside, and 1 (2) rang their first as conductor — congratulations to them all.

The first Quarter Peals have been rung on the restored bells at Harrington, Corby and Greetham.

SAFEGUARDING: Our Safeguarding Officer issued another set of new Guidelines for the conduct of ringing in our Towers from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. Concern has been expressed by many as to the practicality of the new requirements; please pass these to your Parish Safeguarding Officers for advice and resolution.

WEBSITE: Our Guild website has 146 registered Users (2024: 130) (+12%). 40 Articles were added in the year.

The Webmaster reminds us to keep him informed of all changes – e.g. member details, Officers, tower contacts, towers temporarily unringable due to work in progress, new toilet facilities. Please keep sending in News and updates to the Guild Calendar. Please also send updates to the CCCBR Dove Guide.

The Webmaster reminds all those running websites in the Branches to respect the Guild Privacy Policy and GDPR requirements and respect data permissions granted by Members as notified to the Guild.

The Guild Facebook pages have now attracted 555 “followers”, up 40% from 397 in 2024.

Bluesky and Instagram pages have been launched in the year, attracting 233 & 646 followers respectively.

CONCLUSION: The Guild Management Committee acknowledges the efforts made by so many across the Guild in training, member retention, bell restoration work and fund raising. The Committee thanks all branch officers, members, incumbents and friends who develop and support change ringing across the Diocese of Peterborough.

BELL FUND ADMINISTRATORS REPORT 2025

Major grants from 2024 awaiting completion

Badby – Complete Refurbishment	£8,400
Corby – Refurbish fittings	£2,000

Major grants recommended to be awarded in 2026 to:

Weekley – Repair Cracked Frame	£1,150
Yardley Hastings – Refurbish main frame and clappers	£600

Minor grants were awarded to: Easton Maudit – Rope Guides £375

Major grants were paid to: Greetham – Complete Refurbishment £8,100

Minor grants were paid to: Bozeat – Rope Bosses £70

Total Expenditure for the year was £8,170

Outstanding Grants Pledged	Total	£12,525
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Unallocated Bell Fund	£45,955
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TRAINING FUND ADMINISTRATORS REPORT 2025

Training sessions

Twelve Second Saturday Session training courses were financed from the training fund in 2025.

Income from fees and refreshment sales from these courses was £287.65. Costs for the running of the training courses totalled £396.05. Overall, £108.40 was spent from the training fund in support of the Second Saturday Training sessions.

The fund also financed a donation of £50 to Holy Trinity Rothwell for hosting the ART course in June 2025.

Following a transfer of funds agreed at the 2025 GMC of £3,500, and a donation in relation to sound control at St Peters Northampton of £3,450, as at 31/12/25 the training fund stood at £13,648.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS ACCOUNTS

An abbreviated set of accounts of the Guild and the Bell Fund for the year ended 31st December 2025 is produced on the following pages.

A copy of the full Annual Report of the Trustees, which has been examined by the Independent Examiner, will be available for inspection at the Annual General Meeting. Copies are available on written request to the Guild Treasurer.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act): and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met: or
- (2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner:

Stephen. Hayward, 235 Acre Lane, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 8DY

1 March 2026

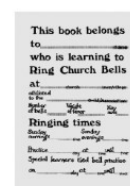
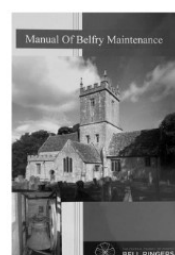
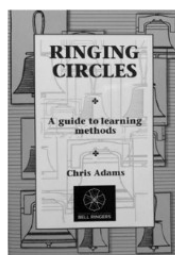
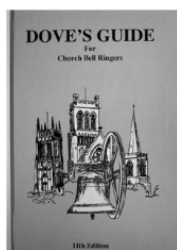
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All prices incl. p&p UK mainland only, prices subject to change

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

1	GENERAL FUND	2025	2024
Movement of Fund Balance		£	£
Income Receipts:			
Subscriptions and donations			
	Ringing Members	6,625	4,982
	Donations and Fund Raising	1,580	3,792
	Gift Aid	1,202	1,293
	Other income	179	100
		9,586	10,167
Trading Activities			
	Report sales and adverts	259	203
	Merchandise sales	36	1,381
	NRLM	170	98
	Bank Interest	2,599	3,246
		3,064	4,928
	Total Receipts:	12,650	15,095
Direct Charitable Expenditure:			
	Adverts in Ringing World	37	255
	Annual Report and Newsletters	1,578	1,319
	Central Council fees and expenses	425	353
	Insurance	389	352
	Maintenance	-	-
	Room Hire	84	209
	Training Costs	79	64
	Grants outside of Funds	168	1,383
		2,760	3,935
Other Expenditure:			
	Meetings/Travel	118	104
	Recruitment	-	145
	Computer Costs	445	1,113
	Stationery and postage	381	1,207
	Trophies/prizes	80	629
	Bank Charges	72	-
	Branch Social events	193	-
	Other	-	66
		1,289	3,264
	Total Payments	4,049	7,199
	Net Receipts for the Year	8,601	7,896
Transfers			
	Transfer from/(to) Bell Fund	(10,520)	431
	Transfer from/(to) Training Fund	(3,500)	-
Fund Balance			
	Balance at 1 st January	49,621	41,294
	Balance at 31 st December	44,202	49,621

2 BELL FUND (incorporating the 100 Club)	2025	2024
Movement of Fund Balance	£	£
Income Receipts:		
Grants and Donations		
Interest	24	34
Collections - Guild	210	-
Collections - Branch	37	44
Donations	428	699
	699	777
Fund Raising		
Affiliations	980	520
100 Club profit	1,039	964
Quiz Profit	221	211
Other	1	3
	2,241	1,698
Total Receipts	2,940	2,475
Direct Charitable Expenditure		
Grants paid (Note 2a)	8,170	25,955
Bell Fund related expenses	90	15
Total Payments for Year	8,260	25,970
Net Receipts (Expenses) for the Year	(5,320)	(23,495)
Transfer from/(to) General Fund	10,520	(431)
Fund Balance		
Balance at 1 st January	56,692	80,618
Balance at 31 st December	61,892	56,692
Held in		
Guild	58,480	53,825
Branches	3,412	2,867
	61,892	56,692
3 TRAINING FUND		
Movement of Fund Balance		
Income Receipts:		
Donation	4,000	14
Other	5	-
Total Receipts	4,005	14
Direct Charitable Expenditure:		
Training Paid (Note 3a)	109	1
Youth Support (Note 3a)	135	-
Training Courses - subsidised	-	140
Total Payments	244	141
Net Receipts (Expenses) for the Year	3,761	(127)
Transfer from/(to) General Fund	3,500	-
Fund Balance		
Balance at 1 st January	6,387	6,514
Balance at 31 st December	13,648	6,387

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31st DECEMBER 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Assets		
Stock	1,179	1,437
Debtors	3,424	2,583
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	434	1,362
Deferred Grants (Note 2b)	12,525	20,900
Bank Accounts	116,325	109,010
Total Assets	133,887	135,292
Liabilities:		
Creditors	434	440
Accruals	1,186	1,252
Bell Fund Grants approved (Note 2b)	12,525	20,900
Total Liabilities	14,145	22,592
Total Net Assets	119,742	112,700
Funds		
Bell Fund - Guild	58,480	53,825
Bell Fund - Branches	3,412	2,867
Total Bell Fund	61,892	56,692
Training Fund	13,648	6,387
General Fund	44,202	49,621
Total Funds	119,742	112,700

Notes to the Financial Activities Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Note 1 The accounts are prepared on the accruals basis

Note 2: Bell Fund

a) Bell Grants Paid

Grants paid in the year ended 31st December 2025 paid by Guild/Branches: £

Guild		Branches
Greetham	8,100	
Bozeat	70	No Grants Paid
Total Guild	8,170	Total Branches
		0

b) Bell Grants approved (outstanding): £

Badby	8,400	Weekley	1,150
Corby	2,000	Yardley Hastings	600
Easton Maudit	375	Total	12,525

Note 3: Training Fund

a) Training Grants Paid

Grants paid in the year ended 31st December 2025: £

Youth Ringers	135	Total	£ 244
Second Saturday Sessions	109		

b) Training Grants approved (outstanding): £nil

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING PCCs, WHICH SUPPORTED THE GUILD'S WORK BY MAKING A DONATION TO THE BELL FUND IN 2025

Aynho, St Michael	Irchester, St Katharine	Thornhaugh, St Andrew
Badby, St Mary	Kings Cliffe, All Saints – 2 yrs	Thorpe Achurch, St John Baptist
Brigstock, St Andrew	King's Sutton, St Peter & St Paul	Thorpe Mandeville, St John Baptist
Bugbrooke, St Michael & All Angels	Lilbourne, All Saints	Twywell, St Nicholas
Church Brampton, St Botolph	Nassington, St Mary V & All Saints	Wadenhoe, St Michael & All Angels
Cotterstock, St Andrew	Nether Heyford, St Peter & St Paul	Wansford, St Mary V
Easton on the Hill, All Saints – 2 yrs	Northampton, St Benedict	Weldon, St Mary
Glinton, St Benedict	Orlingbury, St Mary	Whitfield, St John the Evangelist
Great Oxendon, St Helen	Peterborough Cathedral Bellringers	Woodford, St Mary the Virgin
Harringworth, St John the Baptist	Seaton, All Hallows	Yarwell, St Mary Magdalene
Helmdon, St Mary Magdalene	Stoke Doyle, St Rumbald	

BRANCH ACCOUNTS 2025

Balances b/f from 2024:	Culworth	Daventry	Guils-borough	Kettering	North-ampton	Peter-borough	Rutland	Thrapston	Towcester	Welling-borough	TOTAL
General Funds	2,757.48	2,270.26	1,745.68	1,164.92	1,131.91	1,794.95	2,220.76	619.33	1,990.05	1,819.30	17,514.64
Maintenance/Bell funds										2,867.33	2,867.33
Total b/f from 2024	2,757.48	2,270.26	1,745.68	1,164.92	1,131.91	1,794.95	2,220.76	619.33	1,990.05	4,686.63	20,381.97
Income:											
Subscriptions	841.10	467.00	360.00	806.00	380.00	890.00	720.00	235.00	530.00	900.00	6,129.10
Donations to Guild Bell Fund		80.61	70.00	104.50	5.00				98.00		358.11
Collections	37.18										37.18
Guild Quiz Sheets	35.00		1.00						11.00		47.00
Other Donations	75.00	5.00					200.01		301.00		581.01
Branch Events	23.00	78.85	90.00			510.20	404.00	65.00	1,762.50	91.45	3,025.00
Other Sales	10.00						81.00		10.00		101.00
Other Income							71.25			82.92	154.17
Maintenance Receipts				15.00						20.00	35.00
Interest	26.91								13.47	24.26	64.64
TOTAL INCOME	1,048.19	631.46	521.00	925.50	385.00	1,400.20	1,476.26	300.00	2,725.97	1,118.63	10,532.21
Expenditure:											
¾ Subscriptions	525.00	350.25	270.00	602.00	285.00	657.75	502.50	176.25	397.50	675.00	4,441.25
Guild Quiz Payments	33.00		1.00								34.00
Bell Fund Donations		80.61	70.00	104.50	5.00				98.00		358.11
Collections	37.18										37.18
Transfer to Bell Fund						50.00	75.00				125.00
Other Donations				20.00					165		185.00
Branch Events	159.07	93.00	65.00			496.50	749.50		1,747.00		3,310.07
Other Purchases								18.75	60.00	20.00	98.75
Other Expenditure	83.49		60.00	58.15		45.20	25.50		43.52	12.00	327.86
Bank Charges	9.98				9.98				4.25	43.92	68.13
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	847.72	523.86	466.00	784.65	299.98	1,249.45	1,352.50	195.00	2,515.27	750.92	8,985.35
YEAR'S MOVEMENT	200.47	107.60	55.00	140.85	85.02	150.75	123.76	105.00	210.70	367.71	1,546.86
FUND BALANCE for 2025	2,957.95	2,377.86	1,800.68	1,305.77	1,216.93	1,945.70	2,344.52	724.33	2,200.75	5,054.34	21,928.83
Represented by:											
General Funds	2,957.95	2,377.86	1,800.68	1,305.77	1,216.93	1,945.70	2,344.52	724.33	2,200.75	1,642.75	18,517.24
Maintenance/Bell funds										3,411.59	3,411.59
TOTAL	2,957.95	2,377.86	1,800.68	1,305.77	1,216.93	1,945.70	2,344.52	724.33	2,200.75	5,054.34	21,928.83