

# THE SURREY ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS - BELFRY REPAIR FUND ANNUAL REPORT

BRF funds had risen to nearly £29,000 by the end of 2016, although £20,000 is promised as a contribution to the refurbishment of the bells at Southwark Cathedral and yet to be paid (although the bells have now been blessed). Receipts during the year were 6% up on the total for 2015 and no payments were made. There have, however, been a number of applications for funding assistance, which are being considered by the committee.

Marginally the largest category of receipts were gift-aided donations (by individuals), with donations from towers and the payments from the Numbers Club coming close behind. The gift-aid donors, who mainly use standing orders, are a generous handful of members. Some twelve towers and five PCCs made contributions during the year. Volunteer helpers at the Brockham Bonfire, co-ordinated by Noel Gibbin, earned the fund a very useful £550 - 10% up on the figure received the previous year.

Although the current level of funds seems quite high, the potential outgoings on various projects for which applicants would like assistance mean that this is unlikely to remain so for long. Naturally, all contributions result in the exercise being supported, in extent and quality, so members are encouraged to join those thoughtful donors who already make valued commitments.

Malcolm McAlister

## STATUTORY DECLARATIONS

### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Number: 260561  
Registered Address: 9 Cricket Green Close, Shackleford, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 6BY  
Governing Document: The Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers' Rules 48 - 50  
Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey.  
Independent Examiner: Andrew Robinson.  
None of the Fund's assets are a permanent endowment.  
The Fund has no borrowing powers and no specific investment powers.

### NARRATIVE INFORMATION

The objects of the Charity are to provide "for or towards the cost of bells, their fittings, or repairs thereto or any structural or mechanical work essential to the proper functioning of bells ringing full circle provided always that the bell or bells concerned are located within the county" (of Surrey as recognised in 1880).

The Charity is part of The Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers (the "Association") which is managed by a General Committee elected by members annually.

The BRF Committee members are the Managing Trustees of the fund, a registered charity, but with the decision as to whether to give Grants or not in the hands of the Custodian Trustees - the General Committee - so as to give proper a protection for the charitable funds.

The BRF Committee shall comprise as a minimum the following:

- The elected BRF Secretary
- One of the Association General Master, General Secretary or the Assistant General Secretary
- One member of the Southern District Committee, nominated each year by the Southern District Committee
- One member of the Northern District Committee, nominated each year by the Northern District Committee

The Committee may co-opt other Association members to join the Committee as desired and as necessary from time to time, particularly in relation to any specific projects. The Committee shall elect its Chairman from among its members.

Current members are: Malcolm McAlister (BRF Secretary), Richard Wallis (General representative), Chris Clementi, Jeremy Cheesman (ND representative), Noel Gibbin (SD representative), Gail Terry, Kate Wills.

## BELFRY REPAIR FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 £	2015 £	2014 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Donations: Gift Aid	1,013.00	970.00	846.00
Not Gift Aided	496.94	100.00	50.00
Towers	872.00	765.00	1,146.38
PCCs	590.00	640.00	565.00
Tax refunds	325.69	271.60	282.86
Northern District Meetings	57.00	98.23	71.00
Southern District Meetings	128.25	156.26	100.94
General Meetings	15.00	75.00	88.00
Mugs – Profit on sales	55.00	80.00	80.00
Key rings	-	-	35.60
Clothing	-	91.88	110.26
Webb Ivory	-	-	30.00
Brockham Bonfire	550.00	500.00	475.00
Michael Uphill's donation re. Book	39.85	99.95	92.95
Numbers Club	796.95	791.55	713.25
Interest	190.15	181.78	226.01
<b>Total income</b>	<b><u>£5,129.83</u></b>	<b><u>£4,821.25</u></b>	<b><u>£4,913.25</u></b>
<b>GRANTS</b>			
Current year	-	-	-
Prior year	-	-	20,000.00
<b>Total payments in the year</b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>£20,000.00</u></b>
Excess Receipts over Payments	5,129.83	4,821.25	-15,086.75
Cost of mugs written off	-	-	-291.00
Add: Fund at 1 January	<u>23,835.70</u>	<u>19,014.45</u>	<u>34,392.20</u>
Fund at 31 December	<b><u>£28,965.53</u></b>	<b><u>£23,835.70</u></b>	<b><u>£19,014.45</u></b>
<b>DISPOSITION OF FUNDS</b>			
Barclays Current Account	7,047.34	2,107.66	1,468.19
Virgin Charity Deposit Account	<u>21,918.19</u>	<u>21,728.04</u>	<u>17,546.26</u>
	<b><u>£28,965.53</u></b>	<b><u>£23,835.70</u></b>	<b><u>£19,014.45</u></b>

### NOTE TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Michael Uphill's donation is reserved for ex-"London County" towers; there remains £1,644.70.
2. Promised to Southwark Cathedral: £20,000.

### THANK YOU

Thanks are extended to the following towers for their donations during 2016:  
Battersea, Benhilton, Betchworth, Caterham St John's, Clapham Holy Trinity, Kingston upon Thames, Newdigate, Redhill, Reigate, Southwark Cathedral, Stoke d'Abernon and Walton on Thames.

Thanks also to the following PCCs who made donations during 2016:  
Ashted, Beddington, Oxted and Walton on Thames.

# BRF NUMBERS CLUB RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 £	2015 £	2014 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Stakes	1,812.00	1,788.00	1,656.00
Donation	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b><u>1,813.00</u></b>	<b><u>1,789.00</u></b>	<b><u>1,657.00</u></b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
Prizes	983.15	925.90	872.58
To Belfry Repair Fund	<u>796.95</u>	<u>791.55</u>	<u>713.25</u>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b><u>1,780.10</u></b>	<b><u>1,717.45</u></b>	<b><u>1,585.83</u></b>
Excess receipts over payments	32.90	71.55	71.17
Add: Funds at 1 January	<u>1,066.55</u>	<u>995.00</u>	<u>923.83</u>
<b>Funds at 31 December</b>	<b><u>£1,099.45</u></b>	<b><u>£1,066.55</u></b>	<b><u>£995.00</u></b>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Subscriptions received in advance	878.00	836.00	806.00
Quarterly prize fund	27.93	29.03	23.80
Annual prize fund	<u>193.52</u>	<u>201.52</u>	<u>165.20</u>
	<b><u>£1,099.45</u></b>	<b><u>£1,066.55</u></b>	<b><u>£995.00</u></b>
<b>DISPOSITION OF FUNDS</b>			
Barclays Current Account	1,099.45	1,066.55	995.00
Virgin Charity Deposit Account	-	-	-
	<b><u>£1,099.45</u></b>	<b><u>£1,066.55</u></b>	<b><u>£995.00</u></b>

## NUMBERS CLUB WINNERS IN 2016

Draw	Number	Amount	Winner
January	94	£25	Nutfield ringers
February	144	£112.09	Phyllis Palfreeman
March	11	£25	Emma Booth
April	157	£25	Gillian Leale
May (quarterly)	117	£110.43	Beddington ringers
May (annual)	142	£344.98	Phyllis Palfreeman
June	64	£25	Mark Davies
July	6	£25	Tony Bishop
August	9	£106.59	Ruth Goodsir
September	160	£25	Sue Turner
October	74	£25	Richmond ringers
November	27	£109.06	Linda Foddering
December	63	£25	Jean Kimber

# TRAINING GROUP REPORT

The following Surrey Association training events took place in 2016:

9 Jan	Bletchingley Training Day booster course
6 Feb	Listening Skills course
5 Mar	Wimbledon Training Day
9 Apr	ART Module 2 course
7 May	Wimbledon Training Day booster course
4 June	Steeple keeping course
6 Aug	Surprise Minor beyond Cambridge
3 Sep	Conducting and Putting Right course
1 Oct	Up and Down course
5 Nov	Bletchingley Training Day

The Bletchingley Training Day booster course gave students the opportunity to follow up on their training day courses ringing Plain Bob Doubles and Minor at Limpsfield and Oxted.

There was a very good turnout of 19 delegates on a cold day in February for the Listening Skills course, ably presented by John Harrison (Oxford DG). The course included bell recordings, a computer striking program, and the use of the Bletchingley simulator to enable the students to listen to ringing and identify faults and learn how to correct them. All the students enjoyed the course and the Bletchingley simulator has now become even more popular as a training aid.

Wimbledon Training Day was well attended with 68 Helpers and 48 Students practising a wide range of courses from Kaleidoscope to Stedman Doubles. This was the first opportunity to use an on-line website for the training day and on-line application forms, making organising the groups and ringers much easier - many thanks to Trisha Hawkins for setting this up.

We again welcomed Graham Nabb from the Association of Ringing Teachers who gave a stimulating course on ART Module 2 (teaching elementary change ringing) at Barnes. This was attended by 18 delegates from Surrey who enjoyed trying a wide range of exercises from Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Mexican Wave to Bales, all designed to improve bell handling and a basic understanding of method ringing.

The Wimbledon Training Day booster course enabled students to practise trebling to a method, Plain Bob Doubles and Grandsire Doubles at Addington and Caterham St John.

Alan Hughes from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry gave an excellent steeple keeping course to 18 delegates at Benhillon, which was chosen as there is good lighting and access to the bell chamber.

Several of the Cambridge by Christmas delegates took the opportunity to ring more advanced Surprise Minor methods under the supervision of Shirley McGill at Holy Trinity Clapham Common. Progress was made in Beverley and London Surprise Minor.

The Conducting and Putting right course in September showed students how to understand coursing orders and how to call 120s of Plain Bob Doubles. All the students had called a 120 by the end of the session which was excellent progress.

Noel Gibbin ran a very constructive Up and Down course on the simulator at Bletchingley. Once the students had mastered ringing up and down, the simulators were taken off to allow them to ring open and practise chiming.

The Bletchingley Training Day was well attended by some 120 students and helpers practising Kaleidoscope to Stedman and Grandsire Doubles over 9 different groups. We had the annual plea for Helpers which was answered in part - please do volunteer as a Helper if you can to enable us to run all the courses requested by the students.

We're pleased to report that since the ART Module 1 courses were held in October 2015, 16 Surrey members have been assessed and have become accredited ART teachers. The ART teachers have so far trained over 40 Surrey members and learners under the ART Learning the Ropes system, which is a structured way to learn bell handling and elementary change ringing. This all helps to enhance the confidence of our teachers, the quality of teaching and learning and is leading to greater satisfaction and results with our learners.

The Training Group is not a formal "committee" of the association but a group of members interested in

training matters. Anyone else so interested is welcome to join if they wish to help with its work. The Group currently consists of:

Kate Flavell (Association Master, chairman)  
 Paul Flavell (Training Officer)  
 Shirley McGill (Northern District)  
 Noel Gibbin (Southern District)  
 Caroline Prescott (Northern District)  
 Louise Booth (Northern District)  
 Andrew Howell (Southern District)

The 2017 programme has been planned and all Training Events are publicised on the Yahoo Groups, on the Association website and the Newsletter.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the Towers for their welcome and hospitality in hosting training events, the Leaders and Helpers for their input into training events, The Training Group, and not least the Students whose enthusiasm and progress in ringing makes this all worthwhile.

Paul Flavell

## TRAINING GROUP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 - £	2015 - £	2014 - £
<b>INCOME</b>			
Training Day – Wimbledon	200.00	-	140.00
ART Course	170.00	240.00	-
Steeplekeeping Course	180.00	-	-
Training Day- Bletchingley	383.00	291.68	28.00
Prior year sessions	-		25.00
<b>Net income from events for the year</b>	<b><u>933.00</u></b>	<b><u>531.68</u></b>	<b><u>193.00</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Listening Skills	148.40	-	-
Training Day - Wimbledon	157.94	-	-
ART Course	442.00	540.00	-
May event	16.00	-	-
Steeplekeeping Course	123.50	-	-
August event	12.04	-	-
September event	76.41	-	-
Training Day - Bletchingley	458.71	142.26	-
Sundry expenses	-	133.00	-
<b>Total expenditure for the year</b>	<b><u>1,435.00</u></b>	<b><u>815.26</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	<u>(502.00)</u>	<u>(283.58)</u>	<u>193.00</u>
Represented by: Fund at 1 January	2,045.01	2,328.59	2,135.59
Transfer from Peal Fund	1,154.91	-	-
Net decrease/increase in Fund	<u>(502.00)</u>	<u>(283.58)</u>	<u>193.00</u>
	<b><u>£2,697.92</u></b>	<b><u>£2,045.01</u></b>	<b><u>£2,328.59</u></b>

### PROPERTY REGISTER

The former Training Officer, Vicky Williams, holds the video camera and tripod.

# COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER'S REPORT

At the beginning of 2016 our website was beginning to show its age and there was an urgent need to address some significant technical shortfalls. Your webmaster was spurred into action and a number of changes were introduced early in the year to improve the news and events sections of the site and a new tower map was launched. These changes prepared the ground for a move to an entirely new web platform which was complete by Easter. The cost of migrating to the new website was £108.

A new dedicated training day website was launched in time for the Wimbledon training day in March. This popular innovation makes communicating and administering the training days much more efficient. Many thanks to Trisha Hawkins for her hard work in setting up and maintaining this site.

The community of bell ringers on Facebook continues to flourish and thousands of ringers from all over the world are taking part in discussions and sharing information on the site. The Surrey Association has had a Facebook page since Nov 2011 which we use to share news and event details and publish performance details from Bellboard. We currently have 142 followers, up from 121 over the year.

Facebook also provides us with an effective and low cost platform for advertising to the wider community. In 2016 our main Facebook advertising campaign was in support of local towers participating in the nationally organised Heritage Open days event in the autumn.

With an increasing number of web based resources available to members the 'one link for everything' initiative launched in the summer was aimed at making it easier for mobile users to find us online. Type 'bit.ly/surreybells' into your browser and see how easy it is to discover all our online resources.

The association newsletter continues to be published quarterly. The newsletter is distributed to towers and also made available to download online. At approx. £300 printing costs for the year the newsletter was our biggest expense on communications in 2016. The Spring 2017 edition will be published in March. I'm extremely grateful to all who contribute articles to the newsletter and to those who help to distribute it to all towers.

Our district email groups continue to serve as the mainstay of our communications with members as well as a great resource if you need to appeal for an extra ringer for a wedding or a quarter peal. If you haven't joined these yet please do. At the end of the year the SD group had 190 members and the ND group 189 members. And finally, if you have any news, photos or information to share, have an idea for the website or want to comment on any of our communications please do email me: [communications@surreybellringers.org.uk](mailto:communications@surreybellringers.org.uk)

Chris Baldwin

## One link for everything [bit.ly/surreybells](http://bit.ly/surreybells)

### **HOLDING A TOWER OPEN DAY? You could borrow the display boards**

We have two sets of display boards which towers are welcome to use for their own promotional events. These 3-panel sets are lightweight and designed for tabletop use. They are full of colourful displays featuring ringing in The Surrey Association and designed to appeal to all age groups. Content can be varied to suit your promotion.

Look at the website [www.surreybellringers.org.uk](http://www.surreybellringers.org.uk)  
to view them and other promotional material.

To make a booking, email Trisha Hawkins on [towercaptain@stmarybarnes.org](mailto:towercaptain@stmarybarnes.org)