



Annual Report of The Troyte Ringing Centre

2019

(Revised printing – Aug 2020)

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TROYTE RINGING CENTRE

Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31st December 2019

CHARITY DETAILS

CHARITY NAME

The Troyte Ringing Centre (often known as the “TRC”) was set up in 2004.

CHARITY REG'D NUMBER

The Centre was granted charity status by the Charity Commission in July 2018. Its Registered Charity Number is 1179374.

CONTACT ADDRESS

Five Oaks, Bampton, TIVERTON, Devon, EX16 9LE.

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Name	Office Held
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Richard Barker

Leslie Boyce

Mandy Burnett

Michael Hatchett Chairman

Patricia Hatchett

Jennifer Jones Secretary

Sheila Scofield

ADVISORS

Robert Brown Principal Conductor

Jeffrey Knipe Conductor

Michael Spencer Conductor

Paul Hammond Examiner of Accounts

WEBSITE

<http://www.troyteringingcentre.org.uk/index.htm>

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The Troyte Ringing Centre is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and its governing document is the TRC Constitution adopted on 27th July 2018. The members of the TRC are for the time being its seven trustees. Additional trustees or trustees to fill vacant posts are appointed by the remaining trustees with due regard to the knowledge, skills and experience of the candidates. In particular, appointees must demonstrate their competence in ringing full circle tower bells and in the training and development of appropriate ringing skills.

Management

The TRC operates primarily from St Michael and All Angels Church, Bampton and from All Saints Church, Huntsham in Devon. The Centre has management agreements with the Parochial Church Councils of both churches which provide for access and maintenance arrangements and the respective responsibilities of the TRC and the PCCs. The trustees and other voluntary helpers appointed by the trustees are responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the Centre. All the trustees and helpers work for the Centre on a voluntary basis without remuneration other than the reimbursement of reasonable expenses.

The Centre has been a registered charity for 17 months and has developed a range of management policies covering issues such as health and safety, safeguarding and investment. The trustees will be addressing the issues arising from risk management in the coming year. The accounts included in this report cover the period of the first 17 months from the 1st August 2018.

Links to other bodies

In addition to the agreements in place with the respective PCCs of Bampton and Huntsham, the Centre cultivates links with the North East Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, is recognised as a Ringing Centre by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers and is designated an ART Teaching Hub by the Association of Ringing Teachers. The TRC also has a close relationship with Bampton Church of England Primary School and runs an after-school bellringing club for its pupils.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The TRC sets out its objective in its Constitution, namely:

For the public benefit, to recruit and train bell ringers, using individual and group-based programmes of continuing education and development, in Mid Devon, West Somerset, Taunton Deane and surrounding areas for the purpose of advancing the art of bell ringing on bells hung in towers for full circle ringing which are audible to the general public.

Note: This object requires the TRC to operate within three principal fields of activity: with the general public for the purpose of increasing public knowledge and

understanding of tower bell ringing, within groups of practising bell ringers for the purpose of developing group ringing performances and with individual bell ringers to enable them to integrate more effectively into existing groups of ringers.

In attempting to meet this objective the TRC carries out a range of activities, primarily:

- 1) Developing competence in the full circle ringing of tower bells through training, mentoring, focused practices and recorded performances for those living principally, but not exclusively, within the local authority areas of Mid Devon, West Somerset and Taunton Deane Districts.
- (2) Providing suitably competent bands of ringers to meet the reasonable bellringing needs and interests of the communities of Bampton and Huntsham and those living within the wider geographical areas of interest to the Centre.
- (3) Providing appropriate recruitment information and events for those living principally within the geographical areas of interest to the Centre.
- (4) Using any surplus income not used for meeting objectives 1,2 or 3 for the long-term maintenance and enhancement of the equipment used by the Centre which is owned by others and to support local communities.

Public Benefit

The Trustees are mindful of the guidance given by the Charity Commission in respect of demonstrating public benefit arising from the work of the TRC. In carrying out the activities outlined above the following public benefits are derived:

- Towers within the geographical area of interest are supported to provide information, open events and recruitment activities to explain and foster an understanding of tower bell ringing in the general population. Raising awareness of the heritage and history of bells and tower bell ringing from the mid-16th century is a key component of our public information activities.
- Through helping teachers in local towers or by directly providing tuition, the TRC enables new recruits to bellringing to be taught to control bells safely and effectively, thus sustaining ringing activities in towers that might otherwise fall silent and maintaining the centuries old tradition of ringing bells in England.
- Through providing continuing training in bell ringing, less experienced ringers are supported to maintain and develop their ringing and thus to improve their standard of public performance.
- Through offering readily available practice facilities using well-maintained bell installations, sound control systems and silent practice computer-based training, the TRC is further supporting ringers of all levels of ability. It thereby encourages the retention of ringers and supports ringers to achieve higher standards of public performance, while avoiding excessive disturbance to neighbours from long and frequent periods of open ringing.
- Through raising funds through its activities, the TRC supports its host churches to meet running costs, the costs of day to day bell maintenance and the investment needs for the longer-term overhaul of the bell installations. Surplus income is offered to other towers in the area to assist with the costs of the maintenance and overhaul of their bell installations.
- Bell ringing is an activity open to people of all ages from 8 to 80 and of all backgrounds. It offers good physical exercise and the opportunity for mental stimulation and social interaction.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2019

Recruitment and Individual Tuition

Five new ringers have been recruited and trained for the Centre's own band. Three of these recruits had no previous experience and two have learnt to ring bells full circle at other towers.

Individual tuition and support have been offered to non-TRC ringers attending some of the Extended Practice events.

A set of display boards illustrating the history and practice of bells and ringing is maintained by the Centre and has been borrowed by several towers during the year to support recruitment or public relations events.

Group practices

The Centre holds its own twice-weekly practices which are open to the TRC band and other local ringers. These provide regular development opportunities for individual ringers and attract up to 12 ringers at each session. In addition, a weekly improvers practice for call change ringers is run by invitation and about 6 ringers from local towers attend this regularly. There is also a weekly After-School Bell Club for youngsters from the local primary school. Three pupils were taught in the first two terms of the year, one of whom has progressed to the 2019 – 20 school year and has been joined by three new recruits.

Eight specially designated Extended Practices in basic ringing skills were also offered to ringers throughout the area and attracted 40 student attendees.

Recorded performances – peals and QPs

The TRC encourages ringers throughout the South West to participate in weekly peal attempts. The Guild of Devonshire Ringers requires more than half the ringers participating in any successful peal attempt to comply with the Guild's membership requirements if the intention is to include the details in the peal records of the Guild. As a consequence, most of the peals rung at the TRC are credited to ringing societies which have more inclusive rules regarding the peals to be included in their records. 40 successful peal performances were recorded in 2019 – see the TRC website: <http://www.troyteringingcentre.org.uk/peals/peals2019.htm>. A "peal" is a continuous performance of a minimum of 5,000 changes and takes between 2½ - 3 hours to complete.

The Centre also hosts regular quarter peal attempts by the local ringers and bands from further afield. 19 successful quarter peal performances were recorded in the year. A "quarter peal" is a continuous performance of a minimum of 1,260 changes and takes about 45 minutes to complete.

Providing facilities for branch practices

The local North East Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers organised three regular practices each month for ringers at different levels of ability and interest: advanced 6-bell methods, plain Triples & Major methods and a Surprise Major practice. These were held using the facilities at the TRC's Huntsham tower.

Sunday Service ringing

The Centre's band of local ringers performs regularly prior to most Sunday services at Bampton and Huntsham. Normally these Sunday Service ringing sessions occur on six occasions each month. The TRC band also rings for mid-week church services when requested.

Weddings and requested ringing

There are frequent requests to ring for weddings, blessings and other celebrations at both churches. In addition to weddings, occasional requests are received for the bells to be rung to celebrate people's special events such as mile-stone birthdays and wedding anniversaries. Between 1st August 2018 and 31st December 2019 local ringers rang for 39 weddings and other celebrations at Bampton and Huntsham.

Publicity & Fundraising

The Centre stages events and runs activities to promote bells and bell ringing to the wider public. During 2019 two Coffee Mornings were held in Bampton church and widely promoted in the town. Our fund-raising events provide the income necessary to meet the costs of using church premises as invoiced by each Parochial Church Council. A popular event involving parachuting teddy bears from the roof of the tower was organised in conjunction with the Primary School PTA, thus cementing community links with the school. Centre volunteers wore TRC tabards to make them visible to the public and accessible for questions at these events.

Two information leaflets were produced during the year: a general "What the Troyte Ringing Centre does" and a leaflet specifically on "Celebration Ringing".

Governance

Much work was done in 2019 to get important policies in place to meet the requirements of the newly established charity. Regard has been given to guidance and advice from various sources – the Charity Commission, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, the Health and Safety Executive, the Church of England and the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group.

Health and Safety policies and guidelines are now agreed and published on the Centre's website. Safety Risk Assessments have been carried out and several practical issues have been addressed or are being worked on covering lighting, first aid and incident recording. A Safeguarding Policy is in place and all new recruits are undertaking the Church of England's C0 safeguarding training. Teachers and leaders have also met the more demanding requirements for training as laid down by the Church of England and have current DBS clearance. Trustees also received awareness training in Data Protection during the year in recognition of the introduction of the GDPR under the Data Protection Act of 2018.

Protracted discussions have taken place with our insurers, the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group to achieve the right level of insurance cover for Centre activities.

A shared Google drive was set up to facilitate the circulation and storage of documents and records between the Trustees.

Facilities Maintenance

Bellhangers were engaged by the Centre to carry out minor maintenance on clappers and to attend to the bearings on the tenor bell at Huntsham. Centre volunteers have also carried out routine maintenance and repairs to stays and ropes.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Introduction

The Troyte Ringing Centre started life in 2001 with the installation of a practice bell and simulator in the tower of St. Michael and All Angels Church Bampton. Between 2001 and 2003 funds were raised to remodel and rehang the eight bells within the tower of All Saints Church Huntsham. Neither church was adequately financed at this time and although they supported these two projects in principle, they were unable to provide any funds. Two bell ringing couples, one from Tiverton and one from Bampton, raised the £80,000 needed and organised the work, including the participation of many volunteers, for these two projects. The Huntsham project was completed in 2004 and the Troyte Ringing Centre was fully operational from November 2004.

Throughout the above projects it became clear to us that bell ringing was seen as a peripheral activity by most church organisations. Therefore, we decided that our principal objective would be to develop the full circle ringing of tower bells as assets to their local communities and not financial liabilities to the Parochial Church Councils of the churches in which those bells are located. This remains our principal financial objective.

During the initial development phase of these two projects we produced several different financial models as a key part of our search for an effective future ringing strategy. These models demonstrated that we needed to ring these bells rather more often than they had been rung in the past; that this ringing needed to be understood and supported by both local communities, and that we would need to be engaged in some fund raising activities each year for the foreseeable future.

In 2007 we won the Founders' Company prize as the best Ringing Centre for that year. That award gave us confidence that we were moving in the right direction. Our ringing programme therefore reflects the benefits of our work during the first five years of our existence as a Ringing Centre.

By 2010 we were aware that both parishes were struggling financially. The major problems were the costs associated with the maintenance of their church buildings. The bells we use are located within those buildings and our financial plans included paying for the facilities we use which are provided by each church. We also wanted to avoid the massive fund-raising exercises most bell ringers have to undertake every 50-100 years in order to keep their bells, bell frames and other equipment in good working order. We decided that we would be better able to manage our finances as a registered charity rather than as peripheral committees of two rather different Parochial Church Councils.

Transfer of funds from Parochial Church Councils to the Troyte Ringing Centre

On 01 August 2018 the Troyte Ringing Centre became a registered charity and the appropriate funds contained within our relevant PCCs' bank accounts were then transferred to the Troyte Ringing Centre account. Note 4 of the attached accounts shows that we transferred a total of £3,189 together with some return of Income Tax through the Gift Aid donations received during the tax year ending in April 2019 as shown on Note 2.

The money invested in the Bells Major Works Funds remains with the appropriate PCC.

Income during the period up to 31 December 2019

The total receipts received during the period between 01 August 2018 and 31 December 2019 were £16,823; of which £6,645 was from Huntsham, £7,837 from Bampton and £1,752 from Training. See notes 1-4 of the Financial Statement. The Huntsham income was £2,388 from peals and £1,200 from celebration ringing activities such as weddings. The Bampton income was principally Gift Aided donations of £2,315 and non gift-aided donations of £769. These donations are from visiting ringers and those who really appreciate what the Bampton ringers do for their local community. Bampton also received £1,871 from fund raising events including coffee mornings and parachuting teddy bears.

Expenditure during the period up to 31 December 2019

The total expenditure during the period between 01 August 2018 and 31 December 2019 was £8,004 of which £2,567 was related to Huntsham and £3,814 to Bampton. See Notes 5-9 of the Financial Statement. The principal items of expenditure related to the use of church facilities with £700 paid to Huntsham PCC and £2,000 paid to Bampton PCC. The facilities payment of £700 per year agreed with Huntsham PCC was paid for 2018 before 01 August and therefore does not appear in these accounts. The facilities payment of £1,000 to Bampton PCC was paid later in the year and therefore the payments for 2018 and 2019 both occur in these accounts.

In addition, the annual payments into the Major Works Investment Fund show £1,000 paid into the Bampton Fund and £1,400 paid into the Huntsham Fund. An earlier payment of £600 paid into the Huntsham Major Works Investment Fund was made before 01 August 2018 and therefore does not appear in these accounts.

The value of the two Major Works Investment Funds as at 31 December 2019 was:

Bampton Bells Major Works Fund	£12,343
Huntsham Bells Major Works Fund	£6,343

This gives a total of £18,686 which goes towards major works such as rehanging at some point in the future. It is our intention that these two funds should provide sufficient money to

rehang these two rings of bells in something like fifty years' time. However, we rely on the appropriate PCCs to use these funds solely for the purpose for which they are intended.

Surplus funds

At 31 December 2019 the Troyte Ringing Centre had surplus funds of £8,819 of which £3,014 is held in a CIOF Deposit Fund. See Note 11 to the Financial Statement. It is our intention that a further transfer of surplus funds will be made into the Deposit Fund during the early months of 2020. However, expenditure in excess of £5,000 will be due later in 2020 to have the Huntsham clappers rebushed and the main bearings replaced.

The Financial Statement for the period 1st August 2018 to 31st December 2019 is appended.

DECLARATION OF TRUSTEES

This annual report and the accompanying accounts were approved by the Trustees who emailed their consents by 10th May 2020.

Signed Michael Hatchett Chairman

Signed Jenny Jones Secretary

Troyte Ringing Centre
Financial Statement for period
1st August 2018 to 31st December 2019

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT		General	Hunstham	Bampton	Training	TOTAL 2018/9
Note	Designated	Designated	Designated	Designated		£
	£	£	£	£		£
RECEIPTS						
Use of bells	1		4263.00	525.00		4788.00
Voluntary receipts	2	588.50	2195.50	3084.40	52.00	5920.40
Fund raising	3		155.00	2079.31		2234.31
Other incoming resources	4		31.88	2148.45	1700.43	3880.71
Total receipts		588.50	6645.35	7837.16	1752.43	16823.44
PAYMENTS						
Maintenance & Repairs	5		459.92	205.51		665.43
Fund raising costs	6					
Facilities	7		2100.00	3000.00		5100.00
Training	8				357.42	357.42
Other outgoing resources	9	1264.80	7.63	608.62		1881.10
Total payments		1264.80	2567.55	3814.13	357.42	8003.99
Surplus (Deficit)			4077.80	4023.03	1395.01	8819.49
TRANSFERS						
Transfers between funds	10	500.00	(200.00)	(200.00)	(100.00)	0.00
Surplus (Deficit) after transfers			3877.80	3823.03	1295.01	8819.49
AVAILABLE FUNDS						
Available funds at 1 August 2018		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Available funds at 31 December 2019			3877.80	3823.03	1295.01	8819.49

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		General	Hunstham	Bampton	Training	TOTAL 2018/9
Note	Designated	Designated	Designated	Designated		£
	£	£	£	£		£
Monetary assets						
Bank current account		-176.35	2,108.76	2,172.99	1,273.00	5,378.41
Cash		0.00	262.00	143.00	22.00	427.00
Deposit account		0.00	1,507.04	1,507.04	0.00	3,014.00
		-176.35	3,877.80	3,823.03	1,295.00	8,819.44
Liabilities						
Cheques not presented		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Agency Account	12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Jack P. Ward

Jack Ward
Accounts Manager

Approved at Trustees Meeting on

Mike Hatchett
Treasurer

Jenny Jones
Secretary

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT	General	Huntsham	Bampton	Training	TOTAL 2018/9
	Designated £	Designated £	Designated £	Designated £	£
1 Use of bells					
Peals		2388.00	50.00		2438.00
Quarter Peals		260.00	6.00		266.00
Weddings, funerals and celebrations		1200.00	425.00		1625.00
Visiting Ringers			22.00		22.00
Branch Practices		415.00	22.00		437.00
		4263.00	525.00		4788.00
2 Voluntary receipts					
Online Giving Ltd	41.1				41.1
Charity Checkout					
Non-Gift Aided Donations		1155.50	769.40	33.00	1957.90
Gift Aided Donations		1040.00	2315.00	19.00	3374.00
Income tax recovered (Gift Aid Scheme)	547.3				547.3
	588.5	2195.50	3084.40	52.00	5920.40
3 Fund raising					
Trading		155.00	208.00		363.00
Events			1871.31		1871.31
		155.00	2079.31		2234.31
4 Other incoming resources					
Bell Club fees & subscriptions				245.00	245.00
Training fees				324.50	324.50
Refreshments				46.50	46.50
Transfer of assets		24.8	2117.36	1046.43	3188.60
Interest on Deposit Account		7.0	7.0		14.00
Transfer from Deposit Account					
Other			24.00	38.00	62.00
	31.85	2148.45	1700.43		3880.73
5 Maintenance & Repairs					
Maintenance & minor repairs		459.9	205.51		665.41
New equipment					
	459.92	205.51			665.41
6 Fund raising costs					
Invoices & reimbursements					
Cost of trading					
7 Facilities					
Use of facilities		700.00	2000.00		2700.00
Major Works Investment Fund		1400.00	1000.00		2400.00
		2100.00	3000.00		5100.00
8 Training					
Training material				67.20	67.20
Reimbursements				190.10	190.10
Other				100.00	100.00
				357.40	357.40
9 Other outgoing resources					
Administration	1121.4				1121.4
Other	143.4	7.63	608.62		759.65
	1264.8	7.63	608.62		1881.10

10 The General Fund is used for payments which are not liabilities falling to one of the other funds (e.g. insurance, website costs and governance) and receipts which are not other fund credits (e.g. income from Just Giving and Charity Checkout). As its liabilities are likely to exceed its income it relies on transfers from other funds to remain in credit. The total of all transfers must equal zero.

11 Monetary Assets less Liabilities

12 Money which passes through the TRC's bank account but which is not part of its income or expenditure. e.g. Collections for other charities.

Independent Examiner's Report to Troyte Ringing Centre Trustees

I report on the accounts of Troyte Ringing Centre for the period covering 1st August 2018 to 31st December 2019.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The Accounts Manager is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. He considers that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) but that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility as examiner:

- to examine the accounts (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Accounts Manager and a comparison with the bank and other records provided by the TRC Treasurer. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Accounts Manager or Treasurer concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention 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 2011 Act has not been met
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act has not been met.

Paul Hammond