

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 266869**

**SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE  
OF BURY ST. EDMUNDS AND IPSWICH  
31 DECEMBER 2014**

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## CHARITY INFORMATION

Charity registration number: 266869

Charity address: Millbeck House  
Harleston Green  
Shelland  
Stowmarket  
Suffolk  
IP14 3HU

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc  
4 Church Street  
Woodbridge  
Suffolk  
IP12 1DJ

Accountant: I S Webster FCA  
Messrs. Larking Gowen  
Chartered Accountants  
Faiers House  
Gilray Road  
Diss  
Norfolk  
IP22 4WR

Donations should be sent to: G E Slack  
Millbeck House  
Harleston Green  
Shelland  
Stowmarket  
Suffolk  
IP14 3HU

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

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## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers**

I report on the accounts of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers which are set out on pages 4 to 11.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the accounts. They consider that the charity does not require an audit under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993, as amended by Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act
- ensure that the charity keeps accounting records under section 130 of the Act
- and that the accounts comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act

### **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 charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees 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:

- 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 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.



**I S Webster FCA  
Larking Gowen  
Chartered Accountants  
Faiers House  
Gilray Road  
Diss  
Norfolk  
IP22 4WR**

**12 March 2015**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014.

### **Charity**

The Suffolk Guild of Ringers was registered with the Charity Commission on 10 December 1975, registration number 266869. The Charity's registered address is Millbeck House, Harleston Green, Shelland, Stowmarket, IP14 3HU. It is governed under a constitution originally registered in 1977 and most recently revised in 2013.

### **Principal objectives**

The purpose of the Charity is to promote and encourage the practice of bellringing within the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich; to recruit, train and encourage bellringers in the practice of their art; to cultivate the art of scientific change ringing; and to promote and advise on the preservation of bells in an efficient condition.

### **Trustees**

The Trustees during the period were A F Stanley, G E Slack, and A J Shedden.

### **Review of Progress and Achievements**

**Bellringing** It has been another busy year for ringing, restoration, and social activities and we welcome the progress made by learners and young ringers. More ringers have completed teaching training and this should stand us in good stead for recruitment and retention of ringers. The Guild had a high profile in marking the centenary of the start of World War I and in celebrating the centenary of the Diocese. A well-attended AGM incorporated a valuable fringe meeting with guest speakers on the use of handbells in teaching church bell ringing; and an open forum on the Future of Ringing which in turn has led to actions being taken by the General Management Committee to consider how best the Guild can contribute, both financially and practically.

**Restoration activities** Our main contribution was to Rattlesden where the restoration of the bells was completed. Smaller contributions were made to Stowmarket, Thurston and Thelnetham. Members of the Belfry Advisory Committee continue to give advice and support, both for routine maintenance and restoration projects.

### **Guild Finances**

**Policies** All money in the Guild's funds not required for day-to-day working purposes is invested or deposited by the Treasurer, as directed by the Guild Management Committee. Grants from the Restoration Fund are authorised by the Guild Management Committee but are only paid after completed work has been approved by the Guild Ringing Master and the Technical Adviser. Grants are normally only offered for work to restore bells and their fittings for full-circle ringing, but may include augmentation and other ancillary work associated with any such project.

**General Fund** Income to the General Fund decreased by 5% overall, although this conceals increases in some categories and decreases in others. The most notable change was a reduction in subscription income of 10%. Membership numbers have fallen and a further contributory factor is



the increasing age profile of our members with more paying the senior rate or becoming free. We are grateful that many such members give a generous donation to the Restoration Fund in lieu of their subscription. Expenditure was virtually unchanged from 2013 although again there were increases and reductions. The Young Ringers raised sufficient funds for the Striking Competition to offset their costs and although this income and expenditure is included in the accounts, they virtually balanced out. Overall there was a small reduction in the General Fund of £162 which was anticipated in the budget for the year.

**Restoration Fund** The significant increase in Restoration Fund income from donations and interest reported last year has meant that income this year is down by 20%, especially as interest rates have deteriorated further. Grants made were relatively low again at less than £7,500 but after several years where requests for grants were small, grants of over £21,000 were approved in 2014. As a result, the sum available for allocation to new projects has decreased to £46,600.

**Summary** As anticipated, there was a small reduction in the General Fund balance in 2014 and the reduction in subscriptions is a cause for concern. It was encouraging to receive significant funding requests for restoration work after some years of declining activity.

A F Stanley

G E Slack

A J Shedden

Trustee & Chairman

Trustee & Treasurer

Trustee & Secretary

January 2015

January 2015

January 2015

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### GENERAL FUND

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Subscriptions	7,216		8,062	
Peal fees	948		1,236	
Sundry sales	16		84	
Report adverts	385		200	
Sale of rope	194		728	
Young Ringers fundraising	984		-	
		9,743		10,310
<b>LESS: EXPENDITURE</b>				
Annual report	1,296		1,137	
Ringing World advertising	44		97	
Central Council affiliation fee	120		100	
Administrative expenses	313		362	
Travel & subsistence	93		186	
Hall hire (meetings)	72		42	
Guild magazine	860		926	
Public liability insurance	363		363	
Members' accident insurance	707		707	
Wreaths/donations in lieu	50		125	
RWNYC expenses	972		-	
Donations	150		150	
Tower records digitisation	411		-	
Rope	-		1,099	
Handbell insurance	321		330	
Odd-struckness meter	-		260	
		5,772		5,883
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>		3,971		4,427
<b>TRANSFERS TO RESERVES</b>				
To Library fund	50		50	
To Restoration fund	4,082		4,649	
		4,132		4,699
<b>BALANCE AFTER TRANSFERS</b>		(161)		(272)
<b>GENERAL FUND at 1 January 2014</b>		5,708		5,980
<b>GENERAL FUND at 31 December 2014</b>		<u>5,547</u>		<u>5,708</u>

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### RESTORATION FUND

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Non resident life membership fees		77		7
Guild meetings and events		439		270
Other donations and events		714		2,045
Interest received (note 2)		557		1,303
Affiliation scheme		1,112		1,242
Jubilee fund interest (note 3)		17		41
Refund of gift aided donations		1,696		1,450
St Edmund Clapper income		929		750
Mini ring				
Donation	360		240	
Expenses	-		(20)	
(to BRF)		360		220
		<u>5,902</u>		<u>7,327</u>
		5,902		7,327
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Grants paid		7,385		12,200
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>		<u>(1,483)</u>		<u>(4,873)</u>
<b>TRANSFERS TO RESTORATION FUND</b>				
From General fund (note 1)		4,082		4,649
<b>BALANCE AFTER TRANSFERS</b>		<u>2,599</u>		<u>(224)</u>
<b>RESTORATION FUND at 1 January 2014</b>		60,055		60,279
<b>RESTORATION FUND at 31 December 2014</b>		<u><u>62,654</u></u>		<u><u>60,055</u></u>



# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### LIBRARY FUND

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME		-		-
EXPENDITURE				
CC library subscription	-		-	
	<hr/>	-	<hr/>	-
DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		<hr/> -		<hr/> -
TRANSFERS TO LIBRARY FUND				
From General fund		50		50
BALANCE AFTER TRANSFERS		<hr/> 50		<hr/> 50
LIBRARY FUND at 1 January 2014		278		228
LIBRARY FUND at 31 December 2014		<hr/> <hr/> 328		<hr/> <hr/> 278

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### JUBILEE FUND

	2014 £	2013 £
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations received	-	30
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<hr/> -	<hr/> 30
<b>TRANSFERS TO RESTORATION FUND</b>		
Interest received transferred to restoration fund	-	-
<b>BALANCE AFTER TRANSFERS</b>	<hr/> -	<hr/> 30
<b>JUBILEE FUND at 1 January 2014</b>	1,910	1,880
<b>JUBILEE FUND at 31 December 2014</b>	<hr/> <hr/> 1,910	<hr/> <hr/> 1,910

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### PIPE FAMILY TRUST FUND

	2014 £	2013 £
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations received	700	50
Interest received	8	8
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Grants	-	400
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<hr/> 708	<hr/> (342)
<b>PIPE FAMILY TRUST FUND at 1 January 2014</b>	206	548
<b>PIPE FAMILY TRUST FUND at 31 December 2014</b>	<hr/> <hr/> 914	<hr/> <hr/> 206

# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### HANDBELLS FUND

	2014 £	2013 £
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations received	35	25
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	-	-
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>35</u>	<u>25</u>
<b>HANDBELLS FUND at 1 January 2014</b>	527	502
<b>HANDBELLS FUND at 31 December 2014</b>	<u><u>562</u></u>	<u><u>527</u></u>

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## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### ST. PETER'S SUDBURY FUND

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Donations received	-		138	
Interest received	9		9	
		9		147
<b>EXPENSES</b>		-		-
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>		9		147
<b>ST. PETER'S SUDBURY FUND at 1 January 2014</b>		1,776		1,629
<b>ST. PETER'S SUDBURY FUND at 31 December 2014</b>		<u>1,785</u>		<u>1,776</u>



# SUFFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Central Board of Finance	25,687		22,563	
Bank current account	1,331		1,683	
CAF 12mth bonds	46,681		46,213	
		73,699		70,460
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>73,699</u>		<u>70,460</u>
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>				
General fund	5,546		5,708	
Restoration fund	46,654		58,370	
Restoration Grants Allocated	16,000		1,685	
Library fund	328		278	
Jubilee fund	1,910		1,910	
Pipe Family Trust fund	914		206	
Handbells fund	562		527	
St. Peter's Sudbury fund	1,785		1,776	
		<u>73,699</u>		<u>70,460</u>

### Notes to the accounts

**Note 1.** 50% of the sum of subscriptions and peal fees is transferred to the Restoration fund.

**Note 2.** The interest received from the CBF and Barclay's bank accounts and shown in the Jubilee, Restoration and Pipe Trust funds has been apportioned in the ratio of their respective capital sums.

### APPROVED:

We approve the accounts on pages 2 to 12 and confirm that the records produced, together with the information and explanations supplied to Larking Gowen, constitute a true and correct record of all the transactions of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2014.

  
G E Slack

  
A Stanley

### ASSETS

The Guild owns a number of assets in addition to the various bank balances. The main items are:

Handbells	£ 30,000
Library	£ 13,000
Vestey Ring	£ 4,900
Other assets	£ 2,700