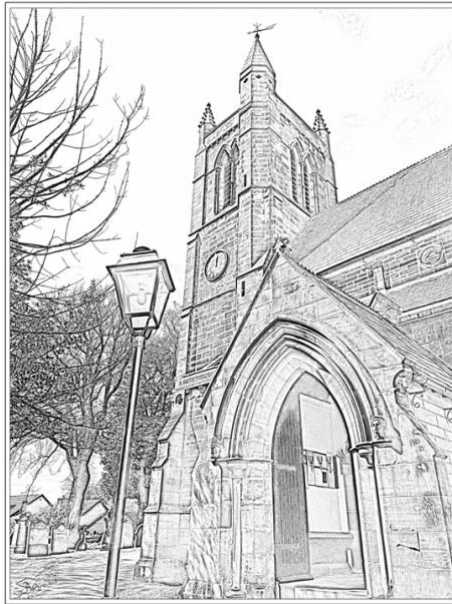




Carlisle Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers



St Nectiporis Church, Aspatria

Annual Report 2025

THE CARLISLE DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Patron: The Lord Bishop of Carlisle
President: The Venerable Stewart Fyfe, Archdeacon of West Cumberland

The Carlisle Diocesan Guild was founded in 1975 in the areas formerly covered by the Cumberland Association, established in 1889, and the Cumberland and North Westmorland Association of Change Ringers, which was formed in 1947.

OUR PURPOSE

Carlisle Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers (CDGCBR) works in partnership with local ringers, bands and towers, and with the Church in the Diocese as it serves and worships God, to:

1. Support ringing for Church services, and national and community events
2. Promote the enjoyment of ringing and fellowship amongst ringers of all faiths and none
3. Welcome, recruit, train, encourage, and develop – so that all are enabled to ring as well as they can
4. Take care of bells and their fittings, with advice, practical help and funding
5. Foster an appreciation of bells and ringing in the wider general public

The Guild Prayers

O God, we give You thanks for the bells we ring and the art of ringing; for benefactors and bell-founders; for those who have taught us and those with whom we ring. May we ring as well as we can, for the delight of those who hear, for the celebration of those for whom we ring, for the offering of wordless worship, for the reminding of all that the Church is here and You are here.
Amen

or

Lord God of joy and celebration,
we offer to you the sounding of our bells.
Let us ring out the good news of your Son our Saviour
and welcome all to come and know Jesus.
We celebrate the generosity of previous generations;
may we, in our day, ring out with joy and gladness
through the gifts of your Spirit. Amen

or

Loving God
We pray for the Guild of Church Bellringers, and the towers and ringers of Carlisle Diocese.
May the bells we ring tell out your name and sing your praise.
May our lives ring out your love as our bells call people to worship. Amen

OFFICERS in 2025

President:	The Venerable Stewart Fyfe
Guild Master:	Ruth Gilbert Tel: 07970 273242 Email: ruth.m.gilbert@gmail.com
Guild Ringing Master:	Vacant
Guild Secretary:	Ed Matthews Tel: 01946 841076 Email: info@cumbriabellringing.org.uk
Events Officer:	Sue Thomas Tel: 07584 484102
Comms & PR Officer:	Sue Thomas Tel: 07584 484102 Email: Guildcomms@gmail.com
Finance Officer:	Janet Yasities Tel: 07961 838992 finance_officer@cumbriabellringing.org.uk
Compliance Officer: -including safeguarding	Duncan Walker Tel: 07879 430534 Email: tc0747@yahoo.co.uk
Central Council Representatives:	Duncan Walker (as above) Jayden Milby Tel: 07716 834598 Email: jaydenmilby@icloud.com
Guild Archivist:	John Mather
Additional Officers:	Julia Cater, Andrew Moncrief
Eastern Branch Ringing Officer:	Imogen Carrie Tel: 07583193455 Email: imogen.carrie@gmail.com
Secretary:	Vacant
Western Branch Ringing Officer:	Richard Last Tel: 07425 138520 Email: richard.last@tiscali.co.uk
Secretary:	Diana Green Tel: 07858 074133 Email: dianagreen62@gmail.com

FEES

Resident Members	Adult	£10.00
	Junior	£1.00
	Senior	£5.00

Senior members are those of pensionable age who may choose to pay the reduced rate.

Non-Resident Members	On election	£5.00
Peal Fees (tower) (hand)	Each rope	£0.50
	Each person	£0.50

Cover – St Kentigern’s Church, Aspatria

Guild Website: www.cumbriabellringing.org.uk

SUMMARY OF TOWERS AND PRACTICE NIGHTS

Eastern Branch

Appleby (Monday with Shap)
Bampton (Monday)
Brampton (1st and 3rd Thursday)
Brough
Cathedral (Friday)
Great Salkeld (Wed. with Lazonby)
Greystoke (Thursday)
Harraby
Keswick (Wednesday)
Kirkby Stephen (Thursday)
Lazonby (Wed. with Gt Salkeld)
Orton (Friday)
Penrith (Tuesday)
Shap (Monday with Appleby)
Thursby (Tuesday)

Western Branch

Arlecdon (Thursday)
Aspatria
Barrow-in-Furness (Wed)
Bridekirk (Monday)
Cockermouth (Wednesday)
Dalton-In-Furness (Tuesday)
Egremont
Hensingham (Tuesday)
Irtton (Monday)
Moresby (Tuesday)
St Bees (Wednesday)
Whitehaven (Friday)
Wigton (Monday)
Workington (Monday)

AFFILIATED TOWERS

APPLEBY, St Lawrence 6 bells, 10cwt (508Kg) in G (GF) (NY683205)

Practice: Monday 7.30pm (alternating with Shap)

Enquiries: Sue Grainger, Laurel Bank, Kirkby Thore, Penrith CA10 1XN
(07876 403895)

ARLECDON, St Michael 8 bells, 14¹/₄cwt (725kg) in F (NY052198)

Sunday: 10.30am (fortnightly) **Practice:** Thursday 7pm, contact to confirm.

Enquiries: Debbie Keighley (07999 806966) email: debbie.keighley@btinternet.com

ASPATRIA, St Kentigern 8 bells, 14cwt (712kg) in F# (NY147419)

Enquiries: The Vicar

BAMPTON, St Patrick 6 bells, 5cwt (258kg) in D (NY521180)

Sunday: 9am – 1st and 4th Sunday of month **Practice:** Monday 7pm – contact to

confirm. Enquiries: Bridget Kelly, Abbott House, Rosgill, Penrith, CA10 2QX (01931 716822) email: email@bridgetkelly.me

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, St James the Great

8 bells, 12cwt (621kg) in F (SD194699)

Sunday: 10.00am **Practice:** Wednesday 7.30pm

1st Wednesday of the month 'Target' practice – extra visitors encouraged

5th Saturday in a month – simulator Saturday 10-12noon contact to confirm.

Enquiries: Andy Pollock (07879 411824) email: ringing@barrowbells.org.uk

Website: www.barrowbells.org.uk

BRAMPTON, St Martin 6 bells, 9¹/₄cwt (470kg) in A (NY528610)

Sunday: 1st Sunday 3pm **Practice:** 1st and 3rd Thursday 7pm

Enquiries: Mike & Janet Richards

email: janet.a.richards@btinternet.com (07834 898672)

BRIDEKIRK, St Bridget 6 bells, 11³/₄cwt (597kg) in G# (NY117337)

Sunday: 10.30am **Practice:** Monday 7.30pm

Enquiries: Richard Green (077153 80332) email: ragreen987@gmail.com

BROUGH, St Michael 4 bells, 887kg in E (NY792139)

Sunday: By arrangement **Practice:** By arrangement

Enquiries: Paul & Melissa Steadman 07816 765885

email: paul.steadman77@gmail.com

CARLISLE, Cathedral Church of the Holy & Undivided Trinity (NY398559)

13 bells, 21-0-6 (1071kg) in E^b Tower phone: 01228 597887

Sunday: 9.30am **Practice:** Friday 7.30pm – contact to confirm

Enquiries: Anne East, 65 Scotby Road, Scotby, Carlisle, CA4 8BG

(01228 513633) email: aeast65sr@btinternet.com

Veronica Taylor, (07929 069186) email: veronicataylor@hotmail.co.uk

CARLISLE, St Elisabeth, Harraby 8 bells, 14cwt (712kg) in F (GF) (NY422545)

Unavailable. Enquiries: Ron East, (01228 513633) ronald.east@btinternet.com

COCKERMOUTH, All Saints 8 bells, 12¹/₂cwt (636kg) in F# (NY124306)
Sunday: 9.25am **Practice:** Wednesday 7.30pm
Enquiries: Enquiries: Richard Green (077153 80332) email: ragreen987@gmail.com

Dalton-in-Furness, St Mary 10 bells, 21-2-25 (1104kg) in D (SD225738)
Sunday: 9.00am **Practice:** Tuesday 7.30pm
Enquiries: Jacqueline Preston (07921 132196) email: jp@romneyroad.co.uk

EGREMONT, Ss Mary and Michael 8 bells, 13¹/₂cwt (686kg) in F# (NY012105)
Sunday: **Practice:**
Enquiries: Colin Gates, 2 High Bank House, Egremont CA22 2DZ
(01946 820419 or 01946 820623)

GREAT SALKELD, St Cuthbert 6 bells, 11-03-22 (610kg) in F# (NY552368)
Sunday: 9.30am alt. Sundays **Practice:** Wednesday 7.30pm alt. with Lazonby
Enquiries: Mike Allison, 10 Barton Dale, Lazonby, Penrith, CA10 1BU
(01768 898806) email: allmickey@btinternet.com

GREYSTOKE, St Andrew 6 bells, 7¹/₄cwt (368kg) in A (NY443308)
Sunday: Usually 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10.30am **Practice:** Thursday 7.30pm
Enquiries: Katherine Prince email: kjprince349@hotmail.com

HENSINGHAM, St John Evangelist 8 bells, 13³/₄cwt (699kg) in F# (NX985166)
Sunday: 10.30am **Practice:** By arrangement - contact to confirm
Enquiries: Gordon Gray, (07977 126738) email: hensingham@bell-ringing.co.uk
website: www.bell-ringing.co.uk

IRTON, St Paul 8 bells, 16cwt (814kg) in F# (GF) (NY092005)
Sunday: Special services **Practice:** Monday 7.30pm
Enquiries: Kathleen Egglestone, Spindle Craft, Drigg Station, Holmrook CA19 1XQ
(01946 724335) (daytime)

KESWICK, St Kentigern, Crosthwaite 8 bells, 12-02-24 (737kg) in F (GF)
Sunday: 9.30am **Practice:** Wed 7pm; visiting bands welcome (NY257243)
Enquiries: Nick Newby, 18 Skiddaw St, Keswick, CA12 4BY
email: nickjane.newby@gmail.com
or Jenny Humphreys (01768 772063) email: robandjenhumphreys@outlook.com

KIRKBY STEPHEN, (dedication unknown) 8 bells, 15³/₄cwt (801kg) in F (NY775088)
Sunday: 10.00am **Practice:** Thursday 7.30pm by arrangement
Enquiries: Colin Belsey (07938 532735) email: colinbelsey1207@gmail.com

LAZONBY, St Nicholas 4 bells, 7¹/₂cwt (369kg) in B^b (GF) (NY549398)
Sunday: 9.30am alt. Sundays **Practice:** Wednesday 7.30pm alt. with Gt Salkeld
Enquiries: As Great Salkeld

MORESBY, St Bridget 8 bells, 5cwt (259kg) in D (NX982210)
Sunday: 10.15am (ringers MUST stay to the service; ringing can take place afterwards, for visitors for whom this is a problem, if requested in advance) **Practice:**
Tuesday 7- 8.30pm Enquiries: Mrs Anne Denwood email: annedenwood@sky.com

ORTON, All Saints 8 bells, 12³/₄cwt (648kg) in F# (GF) (NY622084)
Sunday: 3rd at 10am **Practice:** Friday 7.30pm
Enquiries: Susan Thorpe email: s.thorpe669@btinternet.com (015396 24166)

PENRITH, St Andrew 8 bells, 19cwt (966kg) in E (NY516302)
Sunday: Usually 9.15am, contact to confirm **Practice:** Tuesday 7.00pm, contact to confirm. Enquiries: Mike Lee 07710 776088 email: penrith.bells.secretary@gmail.com
Note: For security reasons, the church is locked during the practice, after 7.45. Entry is via the South door. There is a doorbell on the West door, for use if the South door is locked.

ST BEES, Priory Church of SS Mary and Bega 8 bells, 13cwt (661kg) in F
Sunday: 10.00am **Practice:** Wednesday 8.00pm (NX968121)
Enquiries: Doug Sim, 31 Main Street, St Bees CA27 0AA (01946 824898)
email: doug.sim@btinternet.com

SHAP, St Michael 6 bells, 8cwt (407kg) in G# (NY564154)
Sunday: 10.00 (1st) and special services **Practice:** Monday 7.30pm alt. with Appleby
Enquiries: Janet Labram, Spout House, Keld, Shap, Penrith, CA10 3QF
(01931 716311) email: janetlabram@btinternet.com

SILLOTH, Christ Church 8 bells (unringable), 23¹/₂cwt (1195kg) in E (NY110537)
Enquiries: The Vicar

THURSBY, St Andrew 6 bells, 6³/₄cwt (343kg) in A (NY324503)
Sunday: 10.30am **Practice:** Tuesday 7.00pm
Enquiries: Cynthia James, 5 Church Terrace, Thursby, Carlisle CA5 6PD
(01228 642994)

WHITEHAVEN, St James 12 bells, 16cwt (814kg) in F (NX977184)
Sunday: 9.30am
Practice: Friday 7.30pm Beginners taught to handle separately. Contact for details.
Enquiries: Richard Last (07425 138520) email: Richard.last@tiscali.co.uk

WIGTON, St Mary 8 bells, 8cwt (407kg) in A (NY256483)
Sunday: 9.00am, 6.00pm (by arrangement) **Practice:** Monday 7.30pm
Enquiries: Martin Snape, 3 Greenfoot, Mealsgate, Wigton, CA7 1DF
(01697 371437) email: mary.snape1@btinternet.com

WORKINGTON, St Michael 8 bells, 12¹/₂cwt (636kg) in F# (NX997289)
Sunday: 9.00am **Practice:** Monday 7.00pm
Enquiries: Eric Martin (07796 828568) email: ericbells@yahoo.co.uk
Note: For security reasons the church is locked during practices. Please contact to arrange access before visiting.

GUILD MASTER'S REPORT

The tower reports this year show a lot of good news and great progress. Many towers are reporting successful recruitment ventures, which is very positive. The Cathedral report notes that they were winners of the Association of Ringing Teachers Band/Cluster of the year, recognising the ongoing recruitment and development work within that tower.

There is a new tower report this year as we have a brand-new band – “The Herdwicks”. It has been wonderful to watch this group grow in number and confidence, and I am sure we all wish them well in this year’s young ringers’ striking competition after their very credible inaugural visit last year. Well done to all those that continue to support this group, and in particular Helen and Immy.

It is great to see such progress with 67 “firsts” noted in the 75 tower bell quarters on Bellboard for the Carlisle Diocesan Guild. It is possible that we have got better at reporting them locally, but there also appears to have been many more firsts (quarters and peals) for CDGCBR members that have been rung in association with another association; this is particularly the case with young ringers, but also with adult members who have been adventuring. Peal report for this Guild is within this annual report. Congratulations to all who have achieved a “first” this year and many thanks to the stalwarts who rang in these bands and conducted.

The Guild continues to aim to respond to requests for development of ringers, so if you are struggling to achieve something with only local support please do let us know and we will do our best to support.

Ruth Gilbert

GUILD SECRETARY'S REPORT

As Guild Secretary I am responsible for the day-to-day running of the Guild, including organising meetings, keeping records, and communicating with members. I've been in post since April 2022 and have enjoyed my time as Secretary.

My activities during the past year included: Organising the Annual General Meeting of the Guild and four Committee meetings; keeping minutes of all Guild meetings; corresponding with members of the Guild by email using the newly populated Mailchimp software; replying to correspondence sent to the Guild.

I have sent a welcome email to all new members so they know a bit more about the Guild. If anyone does not get the monthly bulletin please let me know at info@cumbriabellringing.org.uk.

This year I worked with Sue Thomas to move the website over to the new address – www.cumbriabellringing.org.uk. If there is any content you'd like to see added please let either of us know.

The Striking Competition was back in 2025 and an enjoyable day was had. We also updated the format for the Guild Ringing Meeting at Workington to make the business meeting more formal and this included presentation of the Pat & Gareth Award to the Cumbrian Herdwicks for their excellent year and performance at the RWNYC.

From all the work done I believe the Guild is in a strong position to continue its work in the coming year which needs to focus on training new bell ringers and developing the skills of current bell ringers. We're keen to have more events to

encourage new ringers - so if you have any ideas on this please let me or another committee member know.

Ed Matthews

COMMUNICATION & PR OFFICER'S REPORT

As Communication & PR Officer, I oversee newsletters, manage the Guild website, and help administer the Guild Facebook page 'Cumbria Bellringing' to keep members informed and engaged. While current newsletter content centres mainly on Guild updates and announcements, we hope in future to encourage submissions from individual towers—such as achievements, events, and profiles of local ringers—to make our communications more representative and interesting. In 2025, we emailed seven newsletters during the year. The 'Cumbria Bellringing' Facebook page currently has 68 members – and all Guild members are actively encouraged to join if they are a user of this platform.

For the website, we ensure that information is accurate and regularly updated by posting news and event details. Our aim by maintaining a vibrant online presence is to help all members, both new and experienced, feel welcome and connected. Your input for the website would be gratefully received.

Sue Thomas

EASTERN BRANCH REPORT

Last year, we had a doubles workshop for Greystoke, Keswick, and Salkeld/Lazonby ringers. A very successful practice that helped people who were just starting on the treble all the way up to people calling touches who may have never called before.

We've also had many young ringer practices now called Herdwick practices, generally on the last Sunday of the month at various different towers. We started over in the east and have now started to branch out west, and we are joined by anyone and everyone at various different levels. As a result of all the Herdwick practices, the young ringers were able to go down to the Youth Striking Competition in Birmingham, and they are now "in training" and preparing for Nottingham in July this year, which is exciting.

In terms of planning extra targeted sessions, I'm planning for a couple in summer and autumn. I just need to finalise dates, towers, and learners/what stages they are at as well as helpers. There are a few towers that are in need of workshops, and I am planning mixed sessions for various towers. As always, if you need a workshop or know of people/towers that do, please feel free to come to me and ask, and I can get them included. I want to thank everyone who has helped with young ringers or at a targeted practice, your support is much appreciated.

Imogen Carrie

WESTERN BRANCH REPORT

Not much happened at branch level in the Western Branch over the past year. Efforts focused on trying to help towers where help was needed on a case by case basis. This was focused on towers in the Workington and Whitehaven area.

At the 2026 AGM, members were asked what further help was required and if anything more formal should be organised.

Richard Last

FINANCE OFFICERS'S REPORT

These accounts have been approved by the General Committee and the Independent Examiner in the usual way.

As is usual, the main bulk of income this year has come from Guild subscriptions. This amount remains broadly similar to the previous year which is to be expected with a membership which has remained broadly the same in number over the same period.

The Guild's young ringers competed in the Ringing World National Youth Contest in Birmingham in July of 2025 under the name of the 'Cumbrian Herdwicks'. This is the first time the Guild has put a band forward to the RWNYC and they did tremendously well, placing fourth in the category of Rounds and Call Changes on 6 Bells. The Committee took the decision to support this inaugural venture and covered the cost of travel, t-shirts for participants, and competition entry fees. Ongoing support has been agreed for the Cumbrian Herdwicks by way of an annual grant of £500 towards their continuing participation in future RWNYCs.

The constitution of the BRF sets out the specifics of what makes a project eligible to be considered for support; these parameters have been found to be somewhat narrow and, as such, are limiting the assistance that can be provided. The Committee has proposed to the AGM that a small change is made to the specifics of this wording which would open up the possibility for a wider range of projects to be considered going forward.

We continue to receive generous donations to the BRF from individuals via standing order and cash/cheque for which we express thanks. If you wish to make a regular donation to this fund you can find the relevant forms on the Guild website. Once again, the 50/50 Club has made a significant contribution of £672 to the BRF and our thanks are again extended to Anne East for her organisation of this club. New members are always welcome to join and details of how to do so can be found on the Guild website under 'The Guild' tab.

Two requests were received for BRF assistance in 2025, both of which were supported. All eight bell ropes are being replaced at Kirkby Stephen with the Guild covering 50% of the net cost. The Guild also agreed to loan the PCC the VAT for this project which will be reclaimed by them through the Listed Places of Worship Scheme and repaid to the Guild in due course. At Aspatria there was work done to guard against damage being caused by birds. There is no resident band at Aspatria and therefore no bell tower funds. The Guild decided to fund this smaller amount of work in full in order to support keeping the bells in good ringing order for the long-term.

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers has over the past two years increased its membership fees by increments and we are now required to pay £1 per member of the Guild compared to 20p per member up until 2023. So far the CDG has absorbed this increase in cost but this cannot be sustained so the Committee has proposed an increase to the AGM of £1 extra for all membership grades from January 2027.

The General Committee continues to focus on looking for ways to proactively promote ringing and encourage recruitment and retention of ringers. We would encourage discussion of any necessary restoration works with the Diocesan Bell Advisor and a proactive stance on restoration and maintenance.

Janet Yasities

CDGCBR GENERAL FUND – RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Subscriptions	1585.00	1601.00
Peal Fees	35.00	3.00
Book Sales	-	76.00
Striking Competition Fees	45.00	45.00
Interest	41.57	52.06
Badge Sales	-	-
Donations other	12.15	-
	1718.72	1777.06
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Annual Report	77.00	70.00
Public Liability Insurance	196.90	196.90
Handbell Insurance	-	97.78
Awards Voucher	80.00	40.00
Young Ringer Award Engraving	7.50	7.00
P&G Evans Engraving	7.50	-
Website hosting / Domain	-	118.37
Striking Competition Gift for Judge	89.00	29.95
Central Council Subscription	92.80	42.60
50% subsidy of M1 teaching course	150.00	-
Donation to ART	50.00	50.00
Bookcase for Guild Archive	-	179.99
Purchase of book stock	-	11.80
Miscellaneous expenditure	17.55	-
President's medal	48.95	-
Ringing World AGM Advert	5.28	-
Return of monies to new Arlecdon Bell Fund	610.41	-
Central Council Annual Meeting Expenses	212.00	-
Funding of Herdwicks at RWNVC	1138.00	-
	2782.89	844.39
Excess of income over expenditure	-1064.17	932.67

BALANCE SHEET at 31st December 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Fixed Assets		
Handbells	10513.80	10513.80
President's Medallion & Bars	740.70	740.70
Fixtures and Fittings	50.50	50.50
	11305.00	11305.00
Current Assets		
NatWest Bank Current Account	160.50	1176.19
NatWest Bank Business Reserve Account	2904.06	3822.49
Transfer due from BRF	1360.94	388.79
Transfer due to BRF	-87.15	-
Cash in hand	-	15.05
	4338.35	5402.52

TOTAL ASSETS	<u>15643.35</u>	<u>16707.52</u>
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Represented By:

Accumulated Fund Balance at 1 st January	16707.52	15774.85
Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>-1064.17</u>	<u>932.67</u>
ACCUMULATED FUND at 31st December	<u>15643.35</u>	<u>16707.52</u>

CDGCBR BELL RESTORATION FUND – RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2025

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Interest	214.78	262.82
Donations Gift Aid (standing order)	360.00	429.00
Donations Gift Aid (other)	40.00	-
50/50 draw donation	672.00	703.00
Donations from towers	50.00	-
Donations other	-	12.15
	<u>1336.78</u>	<u>1406.97</u>

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Aspatria proofing tower from bird damage	423.58	-
Cash in hand administered into GF	12.15	-
Replacement ropes at Kirkby Stephen	960.00	-
Kirkoswald Bells Restoration	-	364.84
	<u>1395.73</u>	<u>364.84</u>

Excess of income over expenditure	<u>-58.95</u>	<u>1042.13</u>
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BALANCE SHEET at 31st December 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Current Assets		
NatWest Bank Charities Reserve a/c	19467.40	18629.20
Transfer due to CDGCBR Current Account	-1360.94	-388.79
Transfer due from CDGCBR current account	87.15	-
Cash in hand	-	12.15
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>18193.61</u>	<u>18252.56</u>

Represented By:

Accumulated Fund balance at 1 st January	18252.56	17210.43
Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>-58.95</u>	<u>1042.13</u>
ACCUMULATED FUND at 31st December	<u>18193.61</u>	<u>18252.56</u>

THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution can be found on our website www.cumbriabellringing.org.uk at: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/the-guild/constitution/>

Also on the website are various resources, including the current stock of books and pamphlets available to buy from the Guild: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/resources/>

TOWER REPORTS

ARLECDON

2025 was a mixed year for the Arlecdon Bellringers. It started well with practice sessions each Thursday evening and ringing for Sunday services once a fortnight. However, ringing practices ceased in the summer due to on-going maintenance work at the church, followed by the loss of the Vicar, who moved to London. As a result, regular practices at Arlecdon did not restart until February 2026. Highlights of the year were, however, an Open Day and Thanksgiving Service in October 2025 to celebrate completion of the six year tower and church refurbishment project. This day included taster bellringing sessions for members of the general public, and ringing of all the bells by experienced ringers prior to the Thanksgiving Service. During the year we also welcomed three visiting groups of ringers from: Somerset, South Wales and St Annes on Sea.

The Arlecdon team is still struggling for new members, but welcomed back an experienced ringer who used to ring at the church about 40 years ago, and two new recruits, who are just starting their bellringing journey. Thus, in spite of setbacks, the team doubled in size to 6 members over the period of the report. In addition, one member of the group attended an ART Module 1 course, in preparation for teaching new ringers in the future.

Debbie Keighley

BAMPTON

Weekly Practice is no longer on Thursdays. In order to accommodate our other commitments we now practice on Mondays from 7pm until 9pm. This change of date has enabled regular weekly practice to take place.

Sunday service ringing is on the first and fourth Sunday of each month from 9am until 9.30am with 4-5 ringers and we generally manage to achieve 6 bells ringing out for Special Services.

Here is a brief overview of our 2025 activity:

We gained a new ringer who learned to handle a bell safely and independently and confidently settled into weekly practice and service ringing; an enthusiastic learner and an asset to our band.

As well as weekly practice and Sunday service ringing, we rang out across 2025 for Bell Sunday; 85th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain; Trafalgar Day; half muffled prior to Remembrance Sunday Service and Remembrance Day; Quarter Peals with a combination of firsts for two Bampton ringers. We also enjoyed

invitations from other towers to ring with them for weddings, special services and are looking forward to participating in more ringing activities/outings going forward. In August, St Patrick's was one of twenty eight ringing towers selected by the North West Ringing Course (NWRC) to host four group ringing sessions over 2 days. It was great to hear such positive engagement from participants about their sessions and how much they thoroughly enjoyed ringing our Bampton Bells. Also, the feedback received on our hospitality was very much appreciated. This is exactly the type of event we would be keen to host again if the opportunity arises.

The Bampton ringers closed 2025 by ringing out prior to Carol Service on Christmas Eve to a packed congregation. After service there was lots of chat with ringers while serving up mulled wine and mince pies to all. It was great fun and another recruitment opportunity for bell ringing!

The ringing groups/families who include a visit to the Bampton bells each year in their annual ringing outings/holidays are always welcome and we very much look forward to seeing them again in 2026.

We would like to thank all our ringing friends for their continued guidance, help and support.

Bridget Kelly

BARROW-IN-FURNESS

A new set of ropes for Barrow with much better sallies, and smoother top ends to reduce rope noise further when they brush the rope bosses. To cap it off, they are now in 'bluebird' colours for bellringing supporters of Barrow FC who play in earshot of our bells.

Two new members in 2025 - Linda Marshall and Julie Matthews; and we have some learners that may become members in 2026.

Notable achievements:

Two peals – one for Dave Day and the other was rung for the visit of HM King Charles III to bestow royal status to the shipyard.

Five quarter peals, four of them rung by local bands including quarters to commemorate VE and VJ day; and Kyle's 21st birthday.

Individual ringer achievements: First quarter peal of surprise minor on an inside bell for Rachel Hallows, and first peal on 8 bells for Jason Pollock.

The Wombel made excursions to "The Bridge" centre for the BAE Systems community investment event; the Dockside Festival; the North West Ringing Course; and Kendal Parish Church Heritage open days.

A grant has been awarded for an additional bell weight, and to install Virtual Belfry and Beltower software applications as alternatives to each other and Abel, plus a bespoke display panel that attaches to the frame and a shroud to provide limited protection to the laptop from the elements when outdoors.

On the social front, we embarked on three springtime me-andy-ring rambles near Cartmel (HowBarrow) in February, Broughton-in-Furness (Swinside Stone Circle) in March, and Ulverston (SeaWood) in April, as well as a social outing to the local pitch-and-putt which was great fun!

Andy Pollock

BRAMPTON

Sadly, we have been unable to recruit any additional ringers during the past year. However, we have managed to retain the ringers already recruited. Congratulations to Val, Mike and Janet who have now been awarded their 'Learning the Ropes' Level 1 Certificate.

We have developed into a strong group with a committee, structure, and a clear reporting framework which, will enable us to co-ordinate our efforts during the forthcoming year. My intention is to authorise the Brampton ringers to ring together without additional support from Carlisle Cathedral and thereby support the Sunday morning services moving forward.

On 5th April we hosted a very well attended Guild AGM at Brampton and prepared the bell ringers tea, for which we were very grateful for the help we received from members of the church. Guild members packed the ringing room and some very good ringing was enjoyed.

On 15th August we rang in celebration of VJ Day and continue to support the annual Remembrance Day Service.

We hosted Alwyn Lewis and his group of ringers from Wales on 2nd September. As I was standing outside listening to their ringing, a local person enquired why the bells were ringing during the day, he seemed quite satisfied to hear of our Welsh visitors.

Thursday 6th November saw us don our overalls as the ringing room, clock room, and belfry were cleared of sticks, bird carcasses, and other detritus, and my thanks go to all involved, including Barry, David, and Terry, for their help.

We have continued to ring for the monthly family service with wonderful support from the Cathedral ringers. Our ringing is improving all the time and I'm really pleased how well everyone is doing.

John Proudfoot

BRIDEKIRK

As in 2024, ringing has continued throughout the year but less frequently than recent years. Monday practice nights usually attract 5 or 6 ringers: thank you to ringers from Cockermouth who make the practices viable. Sunday service ringing is infrequent and then generally consists of 2 ringers - but we persevere.

We recently rang for a funeral of one of the long-standing members of the congregation - a big thank you to ringers from Cockermouth and further afield who turned out to help.

Richard Green

COCKERMOUTH

Another good year at All Saints, somewhat overshadowed by the death of Sally Nicols.

Practices are well attended and service ringing is well supported. We have welcomed a returning ringer to our band, which has enabled us to increase our repertoire on practice nights. Thanks to Sue Thomas for joining our band while two members were on an extended holiday around the other side of the world, enabling ringing to continue in their absence.

It was good to ring for three weddings last year, a noticeable increase compared to recent years.

We have been teaching a young girl and her father to ring - which has been a real pleasure and they are both making good progress. The young girl joined the "Herdwicks" young ringers group last year which has really increased her confidence.

Richard Green

CATHEDRAL

2025 has been significant for the Cathedral band including the retirement of Ron East after many years of service, we thank Ron and of course Anne for the dedication shown over many years to the band and the Cathedral.

There are presently twenty-seven registered members of the Cathedral band, however, this figure includes many who are not actively ringing at present. The number of active ringers is in the region of twenty-one and from this a group of fifteen or so attend regularly for service ringing, the remainder attending as and when they are able. The average number of Sunday attendees for the whole of 2025 is fifteen. We consider that recruitment and retention must be our most important aim for the foreseeable future.

The band has been able to ring on twelve bells for all Sunday Eucharist services except one. We have also been able to ring on twelve bells for every other major event throughout the year, notable events included the following:

The ringing of a Passing Bell for Head Verger James Armstrong.

Tolling the tenor for James' entry to the Cathedral to lie in rest overnight and then ringing half muffled for his funeral.

The installation of Canon Pete Gunstone

Dean Rashdall's birthday for the 100th time, we hope that Constance Rashdall rests well knowing that we fulfil her wish each and every year.

VE Day, 80th anniversary.

VJ Day, 80th anniversary.

Remembrance Sunday.

The election of the Bishop of Carlisle Rob Saner-Haigh.

The Enthronement of Bishop of Carlisle Rob Saner-Haigh.

Eden Valley Hospice Service.

Festival of Nine Lessons – twice.

Christmas Eve.

Christmas Day.

Midnight ringing to welcome the New Year.

A peal of 5040 Plain Bob Triples was rung on May 26th, in 3 hrs 7 mins, dedicated to Ron East as thanks for his many years of service as Tower Captain, of particular significance was that it was the first peal ever rang by a Carlisle Cathedral Sunday service band.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the hanging of the new millennium bells twelve of the band rang 2,025 call changes in 86 minutes.

The band has been recognised in several ways in 2025, most notably the band were delighted to receive from the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) the award for 'Band or Cluster of the Year 2025'. The award was given primarily for the bands work in increasing ringing standards and developing the sustainability of ringing but in my opinion, it is just reward for the dedication shown by several people in the group who over many years have led practices and taught and given their time and skill to us all, particular thanks go to Ruth Gilbert.

The band were also voted Volunteers of the Year for Carlisle Cathedral and were finalists in the Volunteer Band of the year awards for the Association of English Cathedrals.

John Proudfoot was awarded the inaugural Pat and Gareth Evans award for significant contribution to ringing in the diocese by the Carlisle Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers. This was for the effort and determination he has shown in resurrecting bell ringing at St Martins Church, Brampton, a silent tower that now rings regularly on Sunday afternoons for the family service and for Remembrance Sunday.

As part of the bands commitment to training and development ART certificates were awarded to:

Sarah Steel level 5, Janet Yasities level 5, David Steel level 3, Lucy Coulthard (aged 10) level 2, and Kate Harris level 1.

Safeguarding Leadership Certificates were awarded to two members of the band, others of the group carried out the training to update their certificates.

A Chaperone procedure was developed and agreed with the Cathedral together with a review of the Safer Recruitment procedure which is now used for all recruits. A full review of the tower risk assessments has been conducted and the relevant clauses rewritten as required.

Three members of the Cathedral band presently sit on the committee of the Carlisle Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers and help with the development and teaching of ringing across the diocese.

A group of volunteer ringers from the Cathedral have given their skills and time to various towers across the diocese to inspect, restore, and maintain the bells. Towers which have benefitted in 2025 included:

Arlecdon, Bampton, Brampton, Aspatria, Raughton Head, Great Salkeld, Kirkby Stephen, Cockermouth among others, Arlecdon in particular was a long term project and was given many working weeks of volunteer time and experience from Cathedral ringers saving tens of thousands of pounds.

Ringers from Carlisle Cathedral have been welcomed for service and practice ringing at Brampton, Wigton, Thursby, Cockermouth, Penrith, and Aspatria. The Cathedral tower holds regular practice sessions that involve ringers from

Brampton and Wigton and ringers from across the diocese would be very welcome to visit us whenever they choose.

Various bands have visited the tower, notably The Herdwicks, it was refreshing to see that ringing does not always have to be performed by people of a 'certain age.' We also welcomed and thoroughly enjoyed the visit of a band made up of ringers from the Appleby, Brough and Orton areas. We are often visited by bands and visitors from outside the diocese but it was particularly heartening to welcome bands from our own diocese and hopefully this happens more often in the future.

David Steel

CUMBRIAN HERDWICKS

At the beginning of 2025 we just held practices during the school holidays for the young ringers in our part of the Eastern Branch but decided to canvas other towers in the Guild to see who else might be able to join us. At this point we realised then that we actually had enough good young ringers to enter a band in the 6 bell call change category of the Ringing World National Youth Contest (RWNYC) being held in Birmingham in July. So, we started planning the important business of choosing a team name, logo and polo shirt colour and so the Cumbrian Herdwicks were born.

Then we started to hold practices more regularly to work on the test piece (120 changes to include, Queens & Kings with at least 3 different bells leading). Ringing exactly the right number of rows is remarkably difficult, but you are allowed someone in the tower with a clicker to help count the rows. All the hard work paid off with a very creditable 4th place out of 12 teams in the category, the first time that Cumbria has entered a team.

We now aim to hold monthly practices in the afternoon of the last Sunday of the month at different towers and have recently branched out to hold some practices in Western Branch Towers to encourage more young ringers from the Western Branch to join us. Thank you to all our regular adult helpers and parents who are welcome ringers or not.

The Herdwicks are not just about the serious business of the RWNYC competition but also about enjoying ringing together as a group, making progress, encouraging and retaining young ringers. If you know of any young ringers who would like to ring with us please do get in touch at cumbrian.herdwicks@gmail.com.

Helen Ruberry

DALTON-IN-FURNESS

Dalton in Furness remains one of the stronger towers in the south of the county with Tuesday practice attendance regularly exceeding 10 ringers. We have been recently trying to improve our repertoire with Cambridge S Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Stedman Triples and three leads of Bristol S Major now being regulars on the practice menu. We are lucky to receive support from other local

towers and ringers, with the vast majority of support coming from towers in the Furness Branch of the Lancashire Association.

Sunday attendance fluctuates between 6 and 10 ringers with most Sunday ringing being on the back 8 and recently, we have had some excellent Sunday morning services touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

We remain grateful to all the ringers who support us from around the local area and our focus is on improving our standard of ringing and method repertoire. We hope to continue this success for the rest of 2026 and beyond.

Jayden Milby

GREYSTOKE

Greystoke continues to be a popular venue for visiting ringers, including quarter peals, outings and joining our practice night. We continue to have busy practices which is great for developing ringers' skills.

There were two Greystoke band quarters, one of which was to celebrate VE day. In addition, three of the young Herdwick Ringers rang their first quarter or first quarter inside at Greystoke last year.

We are very grateful for the continued regular support from Imogen Carrie, Jennifer Graham, Helen and Tony Ruberry and Mike Allison from Penrith and Lazonby towers, whose attendance both on Thursdays and to make up our Sunday service band is much appreciated. We are also grateful to Alison Foster and John Inkley who are now frequent ringers at Greystoke.

We continue to ring on alternate Sundays and in 2025 again rang for Easter, Remembrance Day and Christmas, and for three weddings.

Katherine Prince

HENSINGHAM

We try to keep the bells ringing each week but struggle with illnesses and absences. As always, we are grateful to friends and visitors who augment our own ringers, mostly from Whitehaven. We held practices at the start of the year to teach two young ringers to handle bells. They were quick learners and are now valuable members of our Sunday band. As always with youngsters, they have many pressures on their time and it's difficult to move their skills on. They have had one outing with the Herdwicks when they were in the west of the county.

As always, we would like to recruit new or returning ringers to ring with us and we offer to be flexible on training times. We do have several new ringers in the area and I help with their tuition when I can. But none in our church at the moment. It would be great to have more ringers from St Johns.

This year we have had visitors from South Wales, Lancashire, the Codgers and from the Ladies Guild. Also a return visit from one-time Hensingham ringer Caroline and her daughter Anna. We rang for Easter Sunday and Christmas Day and also for VE Day.

Maintenance included replacement of stays on two of the bells. We have run out and need to replenish our stock of spares. We have a wet wall in the ringing room which will need to be stripped when the church masonry has been repointed in the Spring.

Gordon Gray

KESWICK, CROSTHWAITE

We've had many visitors during the year who have assisted us at practices and Sunday services.

Helen Rubery and Imogen Carrie brought "The Herdwicks", a group of young ringers; with Helen later bringing a group of improvers.

Furness ringers visited in May.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the inauguration of the Carlisle Diocesan Guild of Church bell ringers and their first peal at St Kentigern Keswick, a group of ringers rang a peal of Bob Major on September 20th.

In August the U3A once again visited us, enjoyed climbing the tower, seeing the bells and trying their hand in the ringing room.

We said goodbye to Margaret Miller in February who has moved to be nearer her family. She has been a valued ringer on Wednesday practice nights, whilst being a Workington tower member. After twelve years ringing at Crosthwaite Ros Shirreff decided to retire from ringing.

On the plus side, Helen Bracher has joined us, bringing with her a wealth of ringing experience. We extend to her a hearty welcome.

During the year, we tolled for three funerals, rang for one wedding and rang for VE day.

Prior to the Carol Service two of us made use of the Ellercombe chiming system to ring a variety of carols, with a visitor joining us to ring on Christmas Day, giving us a ring of eight.

To see in the New Year, we fired the bells at midnight followed by a glass of bubbly. During January and February, services were moved to the Parish Room in order to save Church heating costs thus postponing Sunday ringing until March.

A very convivial Christmas gathering bring and share was held in Newlands at the home of Catherine and Ken. Thank you both.

Nick Newby

PENRITH

Ringling at Penrith continues to be very well supported. During 2025, with the help of our own ringers and regular visitors, we were able to ring all eight bells for most Sunday services, civic events and services associated with Remembrance Day, Christmas and New Year.

Our Tuesday night practices are extremely busy, often with upwards of 20 ringers present. Ringling ranges from rounds and call changes up to Surprise Major with plenty in-between. Our practices are often divided into two sessions starting with

a quieter, short session dedicated to our learners followed by the more hectic main practice. Some of our ringers also continue to regularly visit other local towers to assist on both practice nights and with service ringing.

Since our practices are now so busy, our learners are not getting as many “goes” at their latest targets as we’d like so we have started to hold some extra monthly improvers practices on the simulator on Saturday mornings specifically for them and had a fairly local outing for them in November.

We have also continued arranging extra practices for the young ringers at our own and other towers. This group of youngsters have now evolved into the Cumbrian Herdwicks Youth team who entered the RWNYS representing the CDGCBR in Birmingham in July.

In May we were delighted to retain the Guild Method Ringing striking competition trophy and additionally to win back the Call Changes trophy.

Several of our ringers have made good progress during the year with a number of quarter peal and peal firsts both as ringers and conductors.

Helen Ruberry

SHAP

Shap bells continue to be rung for the Passing Bell, services and other key events. In July 2025 three junior school leavers rang for their school’s end of year service, a proud moment for them and the tower. Two young learners have attended The Herdwicks, thank you Helen, Imogen, Alison and others for making these opportunities possible.

Practices are still alternate Mondays 7.30pm, with anything between 4 and 18 folk attending thanks to support from Appleby, Orton and Brough. Ages range from 11 to 70+, at all stages of experience and ability. This makes for a wide variety of learning possibilities. There’s at least one or more ART teachers present, so lots of support. Cake is involved. All are most welcome.

We stick to the basics – PH, PBD, Grandsire, etc, but we can now attempt a touch of PBD and even a plain course of PBM. Modest, but major achievements for Shap tower. Soon we have a first ¼ attempt for two ringers, onwards and upwards in 2026!

Janet Shepherd

ST BEES

Ringling summary

2025 has been a year of consolidation rather than one of rapid progress, but we usually have several spare ringers on Sundays. On practice night Plain Bob Triples is a regular feature with occasional Stedman and Grandsire. We are commencing a recruitment campaign in Spring 2026. We are very grateful for Soo and Gordon Gray and Andrew Moncrief for joining us for practice, and Hilary Chadwick for supporting us both for practice and Sunday ringing.

Social

Our midsummer tower outing was to Cartmel Priory, Flookburgh and Ulverston, which was enjoyed by all. There was a huge range of bells per square metre among the towers. I have now established that Cartmel has probably the largest ringing chamber in Cumbria at 32 feet square. (St Bees is 23 feet).

At New Year it was the usual open house in the belfry for ringing by candlelight in formal dress. Muffled then open ringing, hot punch, reading of Tennyson's "Ring out wild bells!", all featured as usual. This year we had quite a number of visitors in the tower.

Our well-supported annual dinner was once again held in the Queens Hotel in early December with formal dress code; which makes it look rather grand, and enhances visibility. The Queen's dining room was at capacity; port was again kindly donated by the landlord.

Technical

Global warming is having an effect on the belfry. Our marvellous oak frame of 1857 has been suffering from two very dry summers and tightening of bolts has been unprecedented and shrinkage is being closely monitored. Conversely, very wet winters have been increasing moisture penetration in what has generally been a dry tower. Detailed roped access surveys of the tower exterior have revealed defects in water shedding, pointing and leadwork, which the church is rectifying.

Doug Sim

THURSBY

The band at St Andrew's, Thursby has been working steadily at improvements on Bob Doubles, Grandsire and April Day over the year. A couple of the band have not been able to ring due to illness, so it has been a real help that several Carlisle Cathedral members have been joining us regularly. Thank you very much to Hilary, Barry and Andrew in particular. Our band is small but we do meet for the weekly practice on Tuesday evenings (7 to 8:30pm) and ring before the Sunday Service. We also rang for one wedding in 2025. Guests are always very welcome to pop in and join us.

Peg Eastwood

WHITEHAVEN

We continue to ring for 10:00 Sunday Services as well as other special occasions, and we practice most Friday nights. We have also started ringing for Sunday afternoon services on the first Sunday of each month. We often use this slot to provide extended ringing practice for a particular person or method, sometimes including quarter peals.

We continue to cooperate well with ringers from St John's Hensingham, meaning that both towers ring more often and on more bells than they otherwise would. Attempts to recruit new ringers continued in 2025 and seem to be getting more successful. At the time of writing two adult ringers who started during 2025 are still

ringing. One is still in the early stages of learning but the other is now ringing rounds and call changes for Sunday services.

We have also been trying to recruit children. In the end of the summer term we did a series of demonstrations to all the year 5 pupils in our local church school. We then started an after school ringing club for them in September. At the time of writing the after school ringing club is still going and includes five year 6 pupils, who are at the stage where they can normally handle on their own but cannot yet ring without 1-1 supervision. Again, thanks to ringers from Hensingham for assisting with this.

One of the team started university this year and so is only available for part of the year.

Richard Last

WIGTON

We have managed to ring for all the main Sunday Services with, at times, the help of Cathedral ringers, for which we are very grateful.

Apart from these duties the bells have been well used, mainly for quarters before Evensongs. There were 20 quarters, a date touch and one peal, by the Scottish Association.

Many quarters were a first for someone which is always a time for congratulations. Notable quarters:

For the first anniversary of the passing of Gerald Sewell and the 2nd anniversary of the passing of Pat and Gareth Evans.

On the anniversary of the dedication of the bells in 1999.

On the 50th Anniversary of VE Day.

On the 26th anniversary of the hanging of the bells.

As part of the celebrations of the centenary of the restoration of the Cathedral bells in 1925.

A farewell compliment to Alison Robinson, moving away to Yorkshire after 25 years of exceptional service to ringing in this tower.

This last quarter marked a sad note for the tower and ringers. We have not only lost an excellent ringer, but a good friend and we wish Alison and Steven all the very best in their new home. Our loss is Bingley's gain!

So, we start 2026 with a basic six active ringers. We are particularly grateful to the Cathedral ringers who support our Monday practice nights so regularly and make for varied and interesting practices.

Mary Snape

WORKINGTON

We began 2025 by Ringing in the New Year which was closely followed by the customary AGM held on 10th January. The meeting was well attended with ringing lasting from 3pm until 4.30pm the Ringers Service in its Traditional form was led by the Reverend Malcolm Cowan in the absence of the Guild President Archdeacon The Ven. Stewart Fyfe who was on sabbatical.

The customary tea and business meeting followed and more ringing for those keen to carry on.

Sadly, we were not able to field a team in the 2025 annual Striking Competition due to absences and ringers being on holiday but look forward to being able to do so for 2026.

We made great progress throughout the year with Andrew Hamilton gaining his Level 1 ART Award under the watchful eye of Jeanne Clements, followed quickly, by his Level 2 Award. Unfortunately, for us, Andrew and his family have moved away to live in Lincolnshire - both he and his family are greatly missed. The good news is that Andrew has taken up ringing at St. Thomas's Church, Market Rasen and it will be interesting to see how he continues to progress.

An Association Of Ringing Teachers Course was held in Saint Michael's in June and was well attended. Twelve students took part and enjoyed the course, making use of the ringing room and the excellent conference facilities St Michael's has to offer.

Following on from this training course, I approached Favour, a young boy aged 9 who attends church regularly with his family and invited him to learn how to ring. He has now gained his Level 1 Arts award that was presented to him on the 2nd of February by the new Rector Rev Ben Thompson during the 0930 Sunday morning Eucharist. He now joins us to ring on a Sunday Morning, ringing solo in the circle instead of ringing the hurry, hurry, bell on his own. He is very enthusiastic and he will certainly benefit from more ringing time supported by other ringers and will soon become a useful member of the band.

We are keen to train others who wish to commit to learning the skills of bell handling, hopefully leading to ringing on Sunday Mornings. Ringing is more than a hobby, it is a commitment.

With regard to more complicated ringing, we may not have rung any peals or quarter peals but have kept the bells ringing for almost all Sunday services and for other special services when bells are required. This is seen as the most important aspect of our ringing.

Plain Hunt, Bob Doubles and occasionally Bastow are rung along with Plain Courses of Minor when other ringers, either local or from further afield come to join us.

Many thanks are due to Chris de Cordova and Richard Last for the time and effort they give to us on an almost weekly basis. Other good news is that Andrew Moncrieffe has returned to ring with us on a regular basis, and John and Barbara Shalcross visit occasionally adding strength to the band. Workington welcomes all ringers and we are grateful to them for their presence and support.

Important maintenance of the Bell Frame was carried out throughout the year and although there are no signs of activity by woodworm, I decided to clear the Main Frame and Bell Pits thoroughly, removing copious amounts of stone dust, spiders and creepy crawlies from the pits and around the frame.

The Bell Frame was then treated with 5-star wood treatment and as much of the main supporting beam ends as could be accessed were also treated leaving the headstocks to be given a good protective coating with Hammerite paint.

I could not end this report without referring to Richard Evans and Caroline who visit St Michael's for a ring on as many occasions that work and distance will allow. These visits allow Richard and Caroline to keep in touch with the ringing skills they learned as children and young adults over the years before University studies took priority. From their responses it is obvious they enjoy every opportunity to ring with us.

Numbers of Ringers	St Michaels: 7 + 1
Regular Visitors	3 C de Cordova, Richard Last, Andrew Moncrieffe
Occasional Visitors	John and Barbara Shallcross
Zoe Martin	Fully Paid- up Member of the Guild - rings when she can get down from Glasgow

Ringling Events

1 Quarter Peal - Visiting Band

West Somerset Ringers (Returning Visit)

North-West Guild Change Ringers Ladies Band

4 Weddings - VE Day Ringing 8th May - Normal Service Ringing.

I hope I have not embarrassed anyone because I mentioned them by name, but I feel it is very important to recognise the assistance given to us by Branch and Guild members

Eric Martin

PEALS 2025

Thursby St Andrew

Thursday 23 January in 2h 45
(6–2–22 in A)

5040 Minor (3m)

7 extents: 1-2 Kent TB, 3-4 Cambridge S,
5-7 Plain Bob

- 1 David A Horne
- 2 Ruth M Gilbert
- 3 Jane Holland
- 4 John J Proudfoot
- 5 Andrew J Holland
- 6 Norman M Brock (C)

Circled the tower in peals – 6. Rung
in memory of Alison Last, former
ringer and friend of the guild

Carlisle Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity

Monday 26 May in 3h 7 (7-2-22)

5040 Plain Bob Triples

Composed by C. Ravenscroft

- 1 Hilary Ward
- 2 Lynne Sydes
- 3 Amanda Roger
- 4 Ruth Gilbert
- 5 John J Proudfoot
- 6 David A Horne
- 7 Andrew P Warboys (C)
- 8 Barry Garrett

First Peal: 1, 2, 8

First Peal on the bells by a Sunday
Service band.

Rung with grateful thanks to Ron
East for his many years of service
as Tower Captain at Carlisle
Cathedral, in the year of his
retirement.

Barrow in Furness

St James the Great
Saturday 21 June in 2h 51 (12–0–
24 in F)

5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Composed by Simon A Percy

- 1 Clarissa J E Caroe
- 2 Simon A Percy (C)
- 3 Iwan Cotgreave
- 4 J Andrew Pollock
- 5 Jayden R Milby
- 6 R Owen Battye
- 7 Robin A Daw
- 8 Julia R Cater

Rung to celebrate Dave Day 2025
in joyful memory of Barrow's Dave
Myers aka the Hairy Biker

Monday 22 September in 2h 54
(12-0-24 in F)

5056 Plain Bob Major

Composed by John R Pritchard

- 1 Jason W Pollock
- 2 Anne E Pettifor
- 3 J Andrew Pollock
- 4 Clarissa J E Caroe
- 5 Cameron J Pollock
- 6 Robin A Daw
- 7 Jayden R Milby (C)
- 8 George H Campling

Rung during the visit of His Majesty
King Charles III to bestow the title
of Royal Port of Barrow.

Also for the commissioning of HMS
Agamemnon built in the Barrow
shipyard, and the cutting steel
ceremony of the Dreadnought class
submarine HMS King George VI.
The ringers of bells 3, 5 & 7 all work
locally at the shipyard.

First on 8: 1

Keswick St Kentigern, Crosthwaite
Saturday 20 September in 2h 53
(12–2–24 in E)
5056 Plain Bob Major
Composed by John R Pritchard

- 1 Ruth M Gilbert
- 2 J Andrew Pollock
- 3 Jane Holland
- 4 Andrew J Holland
- 5 David A Horne
- 6 Andrew P Warboys
- 7 Jayden R Milby (C)
- 8 Julia R Cater

Rung to mark the 50th anniversary,
to the day, of the first peal for the
Guild.

With the band's best wishes to
Norman Brock who rang in that peal
and organised this one today.

Shap St Michael and All Angels
Sunday 7 December in 2h 39 (7-2-
19in G)
5040 Plain Bob Minor

- 1 Paisley R C Cater
- 2 Simon J Gay
- 3 Kye L Leaver
- 4 Nicholas C Tithecott
- 5 Tina R Stoecklin
- 6 Julia R Cater

First Peal: 1

To celebrate Bella Knill's 19th
birthday yesterday, Gail Cater's
upcoming 82nd and Bethany
Cater's upcoming 21st.upcoming
82nd and Bethany Cater's
upcoming 21st.

To celebrate Bella Knill's 19th
birthday yesterday, Gail Cater's
upcoming 82nd and Bethany
Cater's upcoming 21st.

2025 GUILD MEMBERSHIP

Appleby (6)

A Foster R Liddle
S Grainger B Parkin
N Harrop A Warburton

Arlecdon (1)

D Keighley

Bampton (8)

C Crowther B Kelly
J Crowther D Kitchen
A Donaoghue A Murphy
H Eccles H Pitt

Barrow-in-Furness (12)

A Bolt J Matthews
C Caroe J Milby
I Cotgreave A Painter
K Harrison A Pollock
A Jones C Pollock
L Marshall J Pollock

Brampton (5)

V Doughty M Richards
S Long S Ross Mowatt
J Richards

Brough (2)

E Steadman P Steadman

Carlisle Cathedral (31)

C Brennan J Proudfoot
N Brock J Robinson
T Collins A Rodger
B Coulthard M Rodger
T Coulthard C Sadler
L Coulthard S Starkey
A East D Steel
R East S Steel
W Finnegan L Sydes
B Garrett V Taylor
R Gilbert S Thomas
D Horne M Thompson
J Horne A Warboys
A MacLachlan H Ward
J Mather J Yasities
S Nicholson

Cockermouth (12)

E Anderson J Ingrams
M Cubey E Matthews
M Fleming-Williams R Nicols
D Green S Nicols
R Green E Tattersall
R Horrocks J Yeoman

Dalton-in-Furness (3)

R Hallows J Preston
O Osmotherley

Great Salkeld / Lazonby (16)

M Allison E Liptrot
W Colclough M Ousby
A Dickinson B Pink
J Dickinson S Porter
E Dunning K Rhodes
E Forsyth H Saudek
S Jenkins L Tallentire
M Lawson M Tallentire

Great Urswick (1)

R Browne

Greystoke (9)

B Barnes M Hall
A Brock L Hall
D Feeney T James
I Godfrey K Prince
G Hall

Hensingham (7)

K Amey A Moncrief
S Burgess H Naylor
G Gray T Naylor
S Gray

Irton (8)

D Batten G Holland
J Clayton L Kissick
K Eggleston S Lister
V Goodwin E Perrott

Keswick (10)

K Corder	N Moss
R Corder	G Roberts
D Lowe	C Sears
J Newby	S Thomas
N Newby	R Shirreff

Kirkby Stephen (4)

C Belsey	A Jorysz
W Belsey	J Keogh

Moresby (7)

J Barwise	J McGlennon
R Barwise	B Penny
A Denwood	B Southwell
A Grierson	

Orton (7)

P Gaskell	James Thorpe
L Hoyle	Julian Thorpe
D Merritt	S Thorpe
D Rogers	

Penrith (27)

P Bell	R Pawley
I Carrie	G Powell
B Cater	C Radcliffe
J Cater	M Relph
P Cater	J Ridley
S Durrant	H Ruberry
E Gosden	T Ruberry
J Graham	S Smith
S Hall	D Speechley
R Jack	N Tomlinson
C Lamb	D Walker
M Lee	S Walker
B Lloyd	A Walton
H Pawley	

Shap (4)

E Gerrard King	D Newsome
J Labram	J Shepherd

St Bees (11)

N Bettinson	D McMullen
H Chadwick	D Sim
J Hale	E Sim
A Hewetson	H Strong
D Hope	V Turpin
Y Leech	

Thursby (12)

Les Brett	C James
Liz Brett	W Kwiatkowski
J Brown	G Latimer
P Eastwood	J Robinson
A Edwards	R Swindells
S Foulger	K Thorn

Whitehaven (9)

B Dobell	L Leech
E Doran	B Shallcross
B Foster	J Shallcross
J Last	L Sutton
R Last	

Wigton (8)

W Graham	S Sewell
M Huntington	P Shingler
C Ingham	Martin Snape
A Robinson	Mary Snape

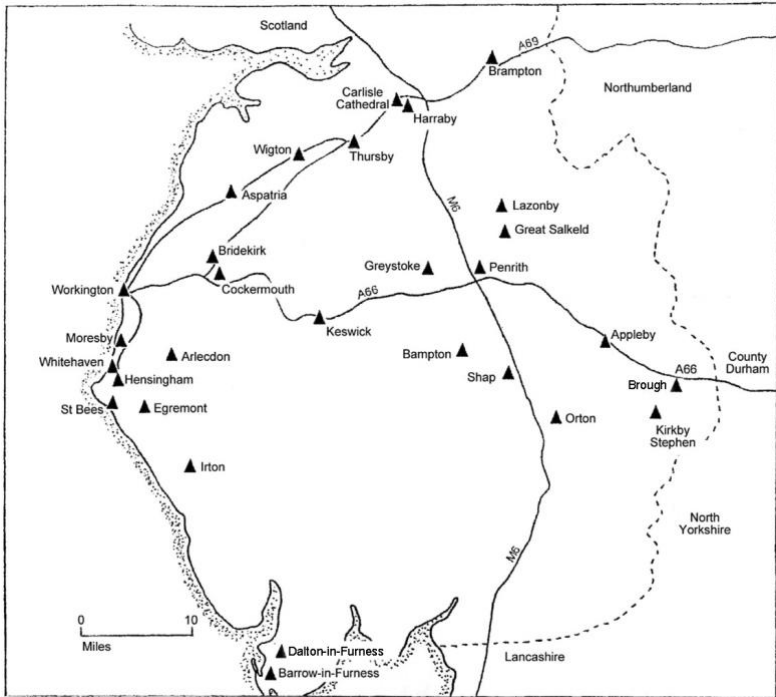
Workington (11)

D Austin	M Knights
J Clements	E Martin
C Cunliffe	Z Martin
M Edger	M Miller
C Hadfield	H Speight
J Knights	

Unattached (3)

A Holland
J Holland
N Tithecott

LOCATION OF RINGING TOWERS AFFILIATED TO THE CARLISLE DIOCESAN GUILD



POSTCODES OF RINGING TOWERS

Appleby	CA16 6QW	Hensingham	CA28 8QW
Arlecdon	CA14 4RY	Irtan	CA19 1YH
Aspatria	CA7 3AL	Keswick	CA12 5QG
Bampton	CA10 2QR	Kirkby Stephen	CA17 4QX
Barrow-in-Furness	LA14 5UE	Lazonby	CA10 1BW
Brampton	CA8 1NU	Moresby	CA28 6PJ
Bridekirk	CA13 0PE	Orton	CA10 3RH
Brough	CA17 4EJ	Penrith	CA11 7YA
Cathedral	CA3 8TZ	St Bees	CA27 0DR
Cockermouth	CA13 9PJ	Shap	CA10 3LA
Dalton-in-Furness	LA15 8LH	Thursby	CA5 6PF
Egremont	CA22 2AY	Whitehaven	CA28 7PY
Great Salkeld	CA11 9NA	Wigton	CA7 9AU
Greystoke	CA11 0TL	Workington	CA14 2EZ
Harraby	CA1 3QA		