

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS TRAINING FUND

It was agreed at the 2014 AGM to set up a strong Education and Training Function including the appointment of an Education and Training Officer to organise and coordinate training. Also to make available training courses and establish a Fund to help meet the cost of associated equipment, materials and expenses. It was agreed that funding would be met by direct donations, fund raising events and annually allocating a portion of the member's subscriptions

The Fund opened on 1 January 2015 and is able to receive direct donations and monies from fund raising events.

At the 2015 AGM it was agreed that from 1 Jan 2016 that 10% (i.e. \pounds 1.00 for each adult member and \pounds 0.30 for each junior member) is allocated to the new Fund. This percentage will be subject to an annual review by the Guild Committee and subject to approval at the Guild AGM.

This agreement changed the allocations from the subscriptions as follows:

From: General Fund 50%, Bell Repair Fund 35%, Branch Retention 15%.

To: General Fund 50%, Bell Repair Fund 25%, Training Fund 10%, Branch Retention 15%.

The Fund will receive about £600 per year from this proposal and by the end of 2016 would be in a position to make small items of expenditure on training. This may be an outright purchase or contribution at Guild or Branch level as approved by the Guild Committee. Individual towers or tower groups may request assistance through their Branch Committee.

The Guild Committee will be open to receiving requests on any item associated with education / training and will encourage it to be used for the benefit of member groups. Items of expenditure may include:

Specialised Books, video and stationary.

Expenses towards Training Courses for students and teachers. Simulation equipment and materials.

Bell Repair Fund: Under the proposed allocation this will receive £600 less than in previous years. The current balance is about £93,000 with income in 2015 of £9,287 and expenditure of £13,415. There is a total of £7,500 of outstanding grants to be paid on completion of the works. A good healthy BRF is important in helping to support bell restoration projects. Increasing the number and availability of ringers to ring the bells is now seen as an important requirement and this slight change in emphasis will help provide the best possible training for new and existing ringers which is considered to be a key part of the Recruitment / Retention process.

December 2015