



# Annual Report and Accounts for 2024

Registered Charity No. 1156971

[www.bellringing.org](http://www.bellringing.org)

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## ASSOCIATION OF RINGING TEACHERS

### Annual Report and Accounts of the Trustees for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

CHARITY NAME	The Association of Ringing Teachers (known as "ART") was founded in March 2012
CHARITY REG'D NUMBER	ART was granted Charity status by the Charity Commission in May 2014. Its Registered Charity Number is: 1156971
CONTACT ADDRESS	12, The Courtyard, Bridge End, Warwick, CV34 6PD

#### MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Andrew Slade (T)	Chairman
Annie Hall (T)	Secretary
Sue Dixon (T)	Treasurer

Roger Booth  
Lesley Boyle  
Monica Hollows  
Matthew Lawrence  
Clare McArdle  
Arthur Reeves  
David Sparling  
Dee Smith

The above named are members of the Association's Management Committee and those marked (T) are Trustees. All members were elected to the Management Committee at the Association's AGM in March 2024 or at subsequent Management Meetings.

#### NON-EXECUTIVE CHARITY TRUSTEES

Andrew Wilby	Christopher Enzor	Lesley Belcher
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#### ADMINISTRATORS

ART employs a part-time Office Manager, Monica Hollows and two part-time administrators: Rose Nightingale and Denise Tremain.

PATRONS: Peter Bevis, Helen McGregor, Len Roberts, Paul Flavell, Eileen Butler, Stephanie Pattenden

WEBSITE: [www.bellringing.org](http://www.bellringing.org)

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Association's governing document is its Constitution which was adopted at the foundation meeting in March 2012 and most recently amended at the Annual General Meeting in March 2024. ART is an unincorporated association with a membership as follows at 31/12/2024:

Type	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Full	726	355	334	314	330	308	247	209
Associate	N/A	332	283	271	301	301	256	174
Tutor	N/A	14	14	15	13	14	16	18
Affiliate	7	8	15	15	16	16	11	7
'Trial'	N/A	N/A	16	6	15	15	35	
<b>Total</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>408</b>

### Membership

Membership of The Association is offered to all those who are accredited to teach bell ringing under the ART Training Scheme. The constitution was updated in 2024, to allow all those who have completed a single Module of the Training Scheme to be eligible to become Full Members. A small number of persons with particular skills or expertise are offered Affiliate Membership by the Management Committee.

### Management

Policy and executive decisions are made by the Management Committee. The Committee and the Trustees are elected from the membership at the Association's Annual General Meeting. A business plan is produced annually and regularly reviewed at meetings of the Committee.

ART's principal policies are published in detail on the Association's website. These cover the following issues:

### ART Structure and Governance

- [ART Constitution](#)
- [ART Purpose Statement](#)
- [ART Training Scheme Regulations](#)
- [Reserves Policy](#)
- [Code of Practice for ART Members](#)
- [Code of Conduct for Ringing](#)
- [Equality and Diversity Policy](#)

- [Poverty and Disadvantaged Policy](#)
- [Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy](#)

## **Data Protection and Privacy**

- [Data Protection Policy](#)
- [Data Protection Impact Assessment](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Guidance on Data Protection for ART Teachers](#)
- [Handling and Safekeeping of DBS Certificate Information Policy](#)

## **Safeguarding**

These policies and codes of practice assist the Association and its members and volunteers to comply with all necessary legal practices and codes of conduct around the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

- [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Guidance Note on Safeguarding Documentation \(DBS\)](#)
- [Photography and Video Policy](#)
- [Code of Practice for Training Children and Vulnerable Adults](#)
- [Code of Practice for Organising Training and Events](#)
- [Code of Practice for Prevention and Resolution of Bullying](#)

## **Health and Safety**

- [Health and Safety Policy](#)
- [Code of Practice for Safety](#)

## **Relationship with other ringing bodies and the ringing community**

ART has strong working relationships with other ringing bodies, notably the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (Reg'd Charity No. 270036) and the Ringing World (Reg'd Charity No. 287182). Regular meetings take place with these and other ringing organisations. There is extensive promotion and organisation of Training Scheme Day Courses.

## **Risk Analysis**

The Association maintains a comprehensive risk analysis of its activities and continues to put measures in place to mitigate the risks faced wherever possible.

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## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are listed in the constitution:

[Association of Ringing Teachers : ART Constitution](#)

Our key mission is to maintain the quintessentially English art of ringing changes on church bells and hand bells by training teachers and ringers for the future.

### Staff and Volunteers

The Association employs a part-time Office Manager and two part-time administrators. All the trustees are volunteers and none receive any remuneration, other than expenses, for their work. Other volunteers assist the Association in its work through the provision of advice on matters such as safeguarding, recruitment, information technology, communications, tutor development, educational development, fundraising, running its merchandising arm and helping the Administrators.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

In 2024 the subscription rate was increased to £15 to address a forecast deficit of £7007, mainly from rising salary and IT costs. Although a significant number of members paid the increase immediately, the full effect will not be seen until 2025. Course fees were also increased to £30 during the year.

As a result of these measures income has increased overall by 15% but main operations again incurred a loss of £12584 despite the continued support of our sponsors and members.

Merchandising sales achieved a profit of £9290 leaving the organization as a whole with a net deficit of £3294.

The Trustees have established a reserves policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the free reserves) held by the Association should be at least equivalent to one year's expenditure, approximately £45,000 for 2024. At this level the Management committee are confident that activities could be maintained in the event of a significant drop in funding and allow sufficient time to secure alternative funding or failing that, to wind up the Charity.

In spite of a deficit in the year and significant increases in salary costs the free reserves remain just above this target level and amount to £46,738 at 31st December 2024.

The free reserves equate to the net assets of £77,891 less that committed to restricted funds totalling £14,879, (comprising the Len Roberts Award Fund of £8,400, the Recruitment Reserve of £1,441, and the Sarah Beacham Memorial Fund of £5,038), and the Designated Funds of £16,275 (comprising the Heritage Lottery Fund Project of £10,000, Son of SmART ringer Development of £5,975 and ART Masterclass Sponsorship of £300).

## Balance Sheet As at 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
<u>Non-Current</u>				
M&G Investment Account		6,518.72		6,350.17
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash at bank and in hand				
Lloyds 32 Day Deposit	47,071.71		45,894.27	
Lloyds Instant Deposit	12,510.48		11,002.92	
HSBC Treasurer account	5,977.35		5,432.97	
Lloyds Treasurer account	3,653.96		4,437.43	
Lloyds Merchandising	1,106.34		4,540.27	
HSBC 50 50 Club	300.00		297.00	
Total Bank Balances	70,619.84		71,604.86	
Paypal Account	1,268.75		931.96	
Total Cash at Bank and In Hand		71,888.59		72,536.82
Debtors		-2.90		296.10
Stock				
Merchandising Stock	4,032.55		6,283.63	
Course Pack Stock	2,896.64		-	
Total Stock Held		6,929.19		6,283.63
Prepayments and Accrued Income		-		140.00
<b>Total Assets</b>		85,333.60		85,606.72
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Accrued Expenses and Deferred income (Note 3)		4,368.71		3,086.73
<b>Creditors</b>				
Awards Payable	2,773.61		3,016.31	
HMRC Paye refund due	-		-31.82	
50 50 Club Receipts	300.00		297.00	
		3,073.61		3,281.49
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		7,442.32		6,368.22
<b>Net Assets</b>	£	77,891.28	£	79,238.50
<b>Represented By:</b> (Note 5)				
<b>Restricted Reserves</b>				
Len Roberts Award Fund	8,400.00		8,700.00	
Recruitment Reserve	1,440.97		2,314.81	
Sarah Beacham Memorial Fund	5,037.74		5,270.73	
		14,878.71		16,285.54
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
Heritage Lottery Fund Project	10,000.00		10,000.00	
Son of SmART Ringer Development	5,974.92		7,665.29	
ART Masterclass Sponsorship	300.00		-	
		16,274.92		17,665.29
<b>Retained Earnings</b>				
Balance brought forward	45,287.67		50,339.96	
Prior Year Adjustment (Note 6)	4,743.94		-	
Surplus/Deficit for the year	-3,293.96		-5,052.29	
		46,737.65		45,287.67
	£	77,891.28	£	79,238.50

## Income and Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
<b>Income</b>	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions		5,533.00		3,670.00
Unrestricted Donations		13,756.36		10,766.74
Gift Aid recovery		1,879.92		1,662.21
Conference receipts		2,320.00		2,585.75
Course and Workshop fees		15,372.00		14,532.50
LtR Events		500.00		-
Recruitment Reserve (See Note 4)		873.84		120.34
50/50 Club (See Note 1)		762.50		759.00
Bank Interest		1,347.59		1,054.12
CCCBR - Ring For The King		-		900.00
<u>Total Income from Operations</u>		<u>42,345.21</u>		<u>36,050.66</u>
<b>Direct Costs</b>				
Conference expenses	1,556.85		1,924.88	
Cost of Course Packs	5,545.73		5,594.44	
Tutor Travel Expenses	1,419.85		1,526.27	
Assessor Travel	177.20		203.50	
LtR Events	595.70		-	
Hub Packs	238.00		615.30	
Recruitment Reserve	873.84		120.34	
Regional Development	1,000.00		1,000.00	
ART funded Awards (See Note 2)	132.30		126.60	
<u>Total Operational Expenditure</u>		<u>11,539.47</u>		<u>11,111.33</u>
<b>Net Operational Income</b>		<u>30,805.74</u>		<u>24,939.33</u>
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>				
Salaries	34,861.94		32,179.69	
IT Expenditure	5,817.89		5,064.84	
Meeting Expenses	624.38		734.53	
Insurance	669.79		505.01	
Paypal Fees and Bank Charges	694.26		798.55	
Promotional Expenses	470.98		1,176.13	
General Expenses	51.56		40.43	
Volunteer expenses	199.00		242.95	
<u>Total Administrative Expenditure</u>		<u>43,389.80</u>		<u>40,742.13</u>
<b>Net Operational Deficit</b>		<u>-12,584.06</u>		<u>-15,802.80</u>
<b>Net ART Shop Income (see Appendix)</b>		9,290.10		10,750.51
<b>Net Deficit of Income over Expenditure</b>	£	<u><u>-3,293.96</u></u>	£	<u><u>-5,052.29</u></u>



## ART Shop Income and Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>ART Shop Sales</b>				
50 Ringing Things		554.85		853.05
50 Ringing Things 4 Teams		218.20		217.59
Discover Bell Ringing		545.46		1,087.38
LtR Ringers Guide		6,897.03		9,014.05
Teaching with Simulators		108.45		118.35
LtR Teachers Guide		692.50		669.83
LtR Achievement Log Book		149.82		103.96
LtR Progress Log Book		3,874.15		5,239.85
LtR Call Changes Log Book		242.84		331.22
LtR Hand Bell Log Book		85.25		110.01
LtR Bell Handling DVD		457.00		1,204.25
Raising & Lowering DVD		634.00		1,216.25
LtR Badges		309.70		241.70
Inside Story Recruitment DVD		-		9.00
Carry on Counting WS		216.00		147.00
Doubles or Quit WS		105.00		132.00
Plain Bob Minor WS		-		12.00
Come On Listen To It WS DVD		120.00		300.00
Rounds to Ropesight WS DVD		180.00		330.00
Miscellaneous Shop Income		-		200.70
Shop Discounts		-469.89		-588.90
<b>Total ART Shop Sales</b>		<u>14,920.36</u>		<u>20,949.29</u>
<b>Cost of Sales</b>				
50 Ringing Things	100.89		195.28	
50 Ringing Things 4 Teams	54.50		56.68	
Discover Bell Ringing	148.62		376.31	
LtR Ringers Guide	2,091.96		3,913.59	
Teaching with Simulators	36.75		56.34	
LtR Teachers Guide	258.78		283.75	
LtR Achievement Log Book	39.73		18.64	
LtR Progress Log Book	783.64		1,161.61	
LtR Call Changes Log Book	59.50		86.00	
LtR Hand Bell Log Book	57.75		46.20	
LtR Bell Handling DVD	40.00		111.25	
Raising & Lowering DVD	55.00		93.75	
LtR Badges	71.76		70.40	
Inside Story Recruitment DVD	-		-	
Carry on Counting WS	89.10		83.55	
Doubles or Quit WS	49.50		66.60	
Plain Bob Minor WS	0.00		12.00	
Come On Listen To It WS DVD	66.00		165.00	
Rounds to Ropesight WS DVD	103.50		181.50	
L5 Achievement	-		-	
Stock Shrinkage	-355.90		-109.59	
<b>Total Cost of Shop Sales</b>		<u>3,751.08</u>		<u>6,868.86</u>
<b>Gross Profit on Shop Sales</b>		<u>11,169.28</u>		<u>14,080.43</u>
<b>Other Shop Expenditure</b>				
Storage Costs	559.56		559.56	
Shop Postage and Packing	1,319.62		2,770.36	
		<u>1,879.18</u>		<u>3,329.92</u>
<b>Net ART Shop Income</b>	£	<u><u>9,290.10</u></u>	£	<u><u>10,750.51</u></u>

## Notes to the Accounts For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

### Note 1

#### 50/50 Club

	£
Balance at Bank 1/1/2023	297.00
Club Receipts for the Year	1,528.00
Prizes	-762.50
Net Income to ART	-762.50
Balance at Bank 31/12/2024	<u>£ 300.00</u>

Bank charges of £60 on the club account have been excluded and added to the main operational bank charges.

### Note 2

#### ART Awards

Art awards for 2024	2,925.00
Less: Sponsorship received	
Sarah Beacham Memorial Fund	800.00
Abelsim	400.00
John Taylor and Co	400.00
Talent Innovations	400.00
Len Roberts	300.00
ASCY	250.00
Anonymous Sponsor	<u>250.00</u>
	2,800.00
ART funded Awards, LTR	125.00
Add: Various sundry balances removed from Awards Payable	7.30
	<u>£ 132.30</u>

### Note 3

#### Deferred Income and Accrued Expenses

	£
Courses after date	2,360.00
Course Vouchers	135.00
Accrued Expenses	1,870.21
E-gift cards	3.50
	<u>£ 4,368.71</u>

### Note 4

#### Awards Payable

Youth (Sarah Beacham Fund)	800.00
Len Roberts Award	300.00
Recruitment and Retention	526.61
Leadership	700.00
LTR Achievement	375.00
Special Awards	72.00
	<u>£ 2,773.61</u>

### Note 5

#### Reserves policy

	Opening Balance	Transfer from Retained Earnings	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Reserves</b>					
Len Roberts Award Fund	8,700.00			-300.00	8,400.00
Recruitment Reserve	2,314.81			-873.84	1,440.97
Sarah Beacham Memorial Fund	5,270.73		567.01	-800.00	5,037.74
	<u>16,285.54</u>	0.00	567.01	-1,973.84	14,878.71
<b>Designated Funds</b>					
Heritage Lottery Fund Project	10,000.00				10,000.00
Son of SmART Ringer Development	7,665.29			-1,690.37	5,974.92
ART Masterclass Sponsorship			300.00		300.00
	<u>17,665.29</u>	0.00	300.00	-1,690.37	16,274.92
			(Note 6)		
<b>Unrestricted Reserves</b>	<u>45,287.67</u>		4,743.94	-3,293.96	46,737.65
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<u>79,238.50</u>	0.00	5,610.95	-6,958.17	77,891.28

The Trustees have established a reserves policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the free reserves) held by the Association should be at least equivalent to one year's expenditure, approximately £45,000 for 2024. At this level the Management committee are confident that activities could be maintained in the event of a significant drop in funding and allow sufficient time to secure alternative funding or failing that, to wind up the Charity. In spite of a deficit in the year and significant increases in salary costs the free reserves still remain above this target level and amount to £46,738 at 31st December 2024. The free reserves equate to the net assets of £77,891 less that committed to restricted funds totalling £14,879, (comprising the Len Roberts Award Fund of £8,400, the Recruitment Reserve of £1,441, and the Sarah Beacham Memorial Fund of £5,038), and the Designated Funds of £16,275 (comprising the Heritage Lottery Fund Project of £10,000, Son of SmART Ringer Development of £5,975 and the ARTMasterclass Sponsorship of £300).

### Note 6

#### Prior Year Adjustment

A count was made of Course Pack Materials at the start of the year to allow stock levels to be monitored for the purpose of costing courses more accurately and simplifying the process to reorder items. This resulted in an adjustment to the retained earnings in the 2024 accounts to bring in the stock valuation at the 1st January 2024 of £4743.94.

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Association of Ringing Teachers (ART)**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Association of Ringing Teachers (The Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Martin Penny FCMA FCMI CPFA  
04 February 2025

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE – REVIEW OF 2024

- 57 courses were held during 2024 (60 in 2023):
  - Module 1            39 Courses (47 in 2023).
  - Module 2            18 Courses (13 in 2023)
- Although, there was a broad spread of Module 1 courses across the year, three had to be cancelled due to low numbers of registrants.
- 565 delegates attended day courses in 2024 (515 in 2023). 401 on M1 and 164 on M2.
- 110 teachers or mentors were accredited in 2024, lower than in 2023 (138) and still significantly lower than in 2019 (158).
- 936 new ringers were registered in the Learning the Ropes scheme in 2024, similar to 2019 and 2022, though lower than 2023, owing to the Ring for the King campaign.
- Just over 1000 LtR certificates were issued in 2024, slightly down on 2023 (1210).
- The total number of course delegates who have attended ART courses since the start is 5744 (5,179 as at 2023).
- The total number of ringers registered on SmART Ringer since the start is 10097, (9161 as at 2023).
- It should be noted, that while the numbers of ringers active in the UK has still not returned to pre pandemic levels, the number of courses run by ART has and continues to grow to support bell ringing as a whole.
- The Annual General Meeting took place by zoom on 25 March 2024.
- Investment of ART reserves has been allocated to:
  - Funding investment in university recruitment and training projects. Nine university and colleges benefited from this investment in 2024
  - Providing admin support for delivering training at ART teaching centres.
  - Upgrading of the ART IT systems including SmART Ringer website.
- Chairman's Chatter continues to be published for the benefit of ringing teachers.
- Tower Talk continues to be published for the benefit of all ringers and teachers using the Learning the Ropes scheme.
- Sales of ART products totaled £14,920, down on 2023 which was higher owing to Ring for the King.
- Publication of books and leaflets promoting bell ringing to the public is a major part of ARTs on-going commitment.
- The continued financial contributions of our Supporters have provided a firm financial base.
- The annual ART Conference was held at Harbury in March. Support of training opportunities for members was provided by the principal bellringing societies in the Country.

## DECLARATION OF THE TRUSTEES

This Annual Report was approved by the Trustees.



Annie Hall.

Date: 14 February 2025