



Bell maintenance group

Members of this group volunteer one day a month to inspect and perform basic maintenance and minor repairs at towers needing help to keep their bells ringing smoothly.

Tasks may include tightening bolts, cleaning pulley blocks, replacing leather clapper washers, mending wheel braces, replacing stays, or splicing ropes. Afterwards, a formal report is sent to both the church and ringers, detailing completed work and any recommendations for more major repairs beyond the group's scope.



L&M Bell Restoration Fund

The fund is a separate charitable body that can provide grants or loans for the restoration of bells in churches within the two dioceses. Past projects have included repairs to bells, overhauls of frames and fittings, augmentation of bell numbers, and even the installation of sound control systems.

The Bell Restoration Fund relies heavily on the hard work and commitment of ringers for its fundraising efforts—such as joining the Monthly 200 Club draw for cash prizes—or by volunteering to assist with bell restoration projects.

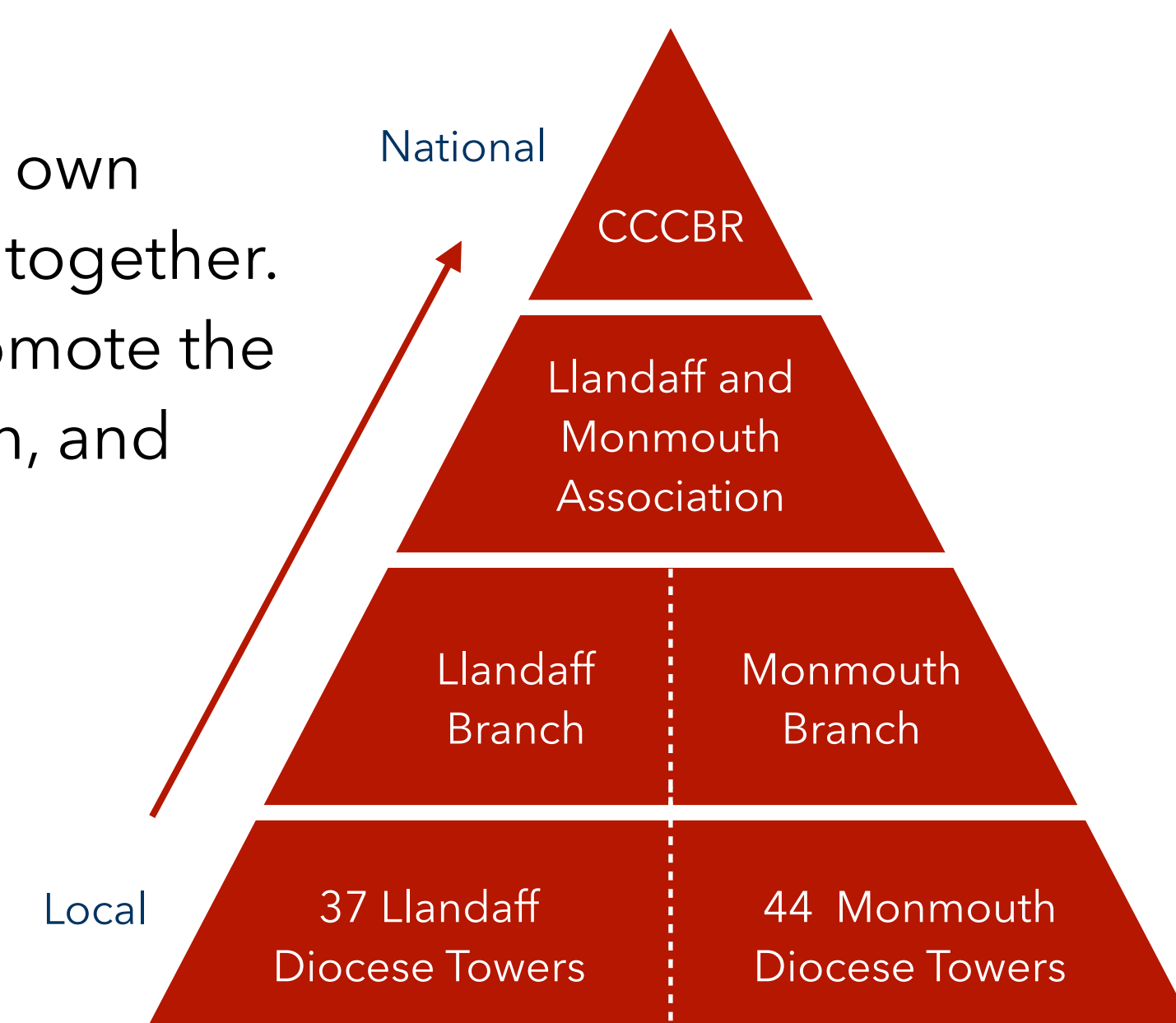


How the Llandaff and Monmouth Association helps you get more from your ringing

How bell ringing organises itself

Not everything in ringing can be achieved within your own tower, and some things make more sense when done together. The Association works to bring towers together to promote the art of change ringing, maintain bells in good condition, and encourage fellowship among ringers.

Towers are grouped into local branches or districts, which then collaborate as area associations or guilds. These associations meet annually at the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers and contribute to national working groups.



What does the Association do?

The branches and Association offer many chances to ring beyond your own tower, including new ringers' meets, branch practices, 8-bell, Surprise Major, 12-bell, daytime, and young ringers' practices, plus striking competitions, quarter peal weeks, and full peals. They also organise many social events including an annual quiz night, ringing tours, walking tours, and formal dinners.

The Association is a key link to Church in Wales authorities and national activities via the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. It also manages our website, a Wales-wide recruitment site, email lists, a Facebook group, and provides publicity, recruitment materials, a library, and a historic archive of regional ringing.



Ringling practices for all levels

The branches and association run monthly practices aimed at ringers of all levels—from relaxed and friendly general practices for everyone, to 12-bell practices for our most advanced ringers. Our younger ringer's have formed their own group who meet regularly for practices and compete annually in the Ringing World National Youth Contest.

You'll find a supportive group of ringers at all of these practices, where organisers strive to ensure that everyone leaves just a little better than before.

Although it may feel a little daunting at first, once you return to your home tower, you'll be rewarded with a strong sense of achievement and a clear feeling of improvement.



Training opportunities

Whether you want to learn how to ring up and down, or are considering teaching others the basics of ringing, the Association works with ringers to support them in whatever training they may need.

Speak to your branch training officer about the support they can provide. This could involve signposting you to a particular practice, showing you some training resources, or even organising a training day focused on specific skills or methods.

The Association and branches also provide funding and grants to support training events, the hire of mini-rings for PR events and installation of simulators in towers.



Newsletters

Each branch produces a quarterly newsletter featuring a variety of articles that showcase current ringing activities, offer historical perspectives on towers and ringing, provide updates on how national initiatives connect with local activities, and most importantly, list all the events and practices you can get involved in.



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