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RINGING CHANGES

The Dorset County Association's Monthly Newsletter

A Bellringer's Paradise...who would believe there would be so many beautiful Churches, just a stone's throw from the North Dorset border.

16 of us, with varied ringing abilities, thoroughly enjoyed a day of bellringing in and around the Crewkerne area and we are all so grateful to Karen for organising such a wonderful day. For 5 of us, it was our very first ringing outing.

We started our day at South Perrott (North West Dorset), where we were welcomed with tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes. Our travels then took us to North Perrott, Crewkerne, Merriott and Hinton St George, finishing in the 12 bell tower of South Petherton. We were met at each tower by a representative happy to greet us and proud to show us their tower, with some even joining in, to help the newer ringers. It was interesting how the bells varied from one tower to another and the experience of adapting to the changes at each tower was very useful.

All towers were a joy to ring at but the icing on the cake was to finish at the 12 bell tower at South Petherton...many of us had never rung on 12 bells! Here we admired the Peal Board where it shows the12 ringers who in 2015 rang a peal of 21216 changes of Cambridge Surprise Maximus. It was successfully rung in 14 hours and 26 minutes and became the longest peal ever rung. It is now the second longest peal ever rung on 12 bells but still holds the record for the longest peal of Cambridge.

In true bellringing fashion, such a perfect and fun day had to be rounded off with a quick half in the local, ...very well deserved, after all the spiral staircases we had climbed up and down throughout the day!

Maggie Midmore



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Next Newsletter: We welcome contributions from all DCA members. Please submit articles, news, photographs and other items for inclusion by 26th August 2026 to the new newsletter inbox via

dca-newsletter@googlegroups.com