



Dear Fellow Ringers,

March 2023

I write after our first rising and lowering workshop to say what an enjoyable day we had! Ashwater and Clawton were good venues for our first effort and many thanks to Liz Martin for making all the arrangements at both towers. We were very warmly received.

Our first big learning point was that 10 improvers is too many to give adequate ringing time in two hours. So when we do the next workshops on Saturday 20th May 2023 at Woolfardisworthy and Parkham in North Devon. We will restrict the numbers to 7 at each tower, to make sure everyone manages to get more ringing. Between rings at Ashwater and Clawton our improvers were talking to the trainers and watching other ringers. This is also valuable learning time to ask questions and discuss what's happening, whether the ringing is going well or slightly less well! We will do this again for the next workshops as this was very beneficial.

I have to thank my band of trainers very much for giving up their day to come and support me and the improvers. Each improver had the opportunity to rise and lower at least twice with an experienced band around them so we could establish what they needed help with. This meant that all the trainers had at least 20 rises and lowers that day!

We have our North Devon trainers going to help at a couple of the towers which were represented at the workshops. We hope to be able to do more in this respect; if you feel that you or your tower could do with some help on a practice night then please contact me and we will try to arrange some trainers to come along and help out.

We suggested a donation of £5 per person for each 2 ½ hour session as we felt that we should give money to the tower as well as to the church. In these present times all churches are struggling!

If you would like to come to the training day in North Devon, there will be 7 spaces for the morning session and a further 7 in the afternoon. The morning session will be 10am to 12pm, lunch then 3pm to 5pm. So to avoid disappointment please book early! Please email me – president@devonbells.co.uk

I hope to see many of you at the Novice competition on 11th March 2023 at Tiverton St Pauls.

Best wishes,

Suzanne Driscoll {DAR President 2022-23}