

Ringers gather to compete in national competition

The beautiful sound of church bells ringing filled Norwich city centre at the weekend as the Church of St Peter Mancroft hosted a special competition.

The National 12 Bell Striking Contest took place on Saturday and saw about 500 bell ringers from across the country come to enjoy the event. Ten teams competed for the Taylor Trophy, which was won by The Ancient Society of College Youths from London. The St Peter Mancroft Guild of Ringers came eighth in the competition.

Simon Rudd, part of the Mancroft team competing and chairman of Mancroft Appeal 300 committee, said: "It is the biggest event in the bell ringing calendar and we are immensely proud it took place here in Norwich. We invited the competition to come in 2015 because it is an important year for us, because we are marking the anniversary of the first peal which was rung at St Peter Mancroft in 1715."

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Bell ringers from across the country took part in the National 12 Bell Striking Contest at the Church of St Peter Mancroft, Norwich. Picture: SIMON FINLAY

Local NEWS

Free school announces its first principal

Norwich's next free school has named a maths and PE specialist as its principal-designate.

The Charles Darwin Primary School, which will be run by the Inspiration Trust, is due to open in September 2016, although its location has yet to be announced.

Jo Brown, 32, will run the school. She is currently part of the leadership team at Hevingham Primary School, near Aylsham, where she has taught for the last nine years, specialising in maths and PE.



Jo Brown has been announced as the principal-designate of Charles Darwin Primary School.

She grew up in Norfolk and studied at Aylsham High School and City College Norwich, before taking a degree and doing teacher training at Sheffield Hallam University.

She said: "I am pleased to be opening a school that I would be proud to send my children Isabella and Barnaby to. I would want them to be educated in a nurturing environment where they can achieve their best, and these are the same principles I have for Charles Darwin."