

# THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

*Promoting double-handed change ringing throughout the East Yorkshire region.*

Newsletter Number 105, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

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A full list of Project performances for 2025 is on Bellboard at:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=20167>

## **Recorded performances, June 2025.**

### **Kingston upon Hull**

33 Westbourne Avenue

Tuesday, 3 June 2025 (15 in C)

#### **264 Plain Bob Maximus**

1–2 Karen A Lane

3–4 Christopher L D Munday

5–6 Heather L E Peachey

7–8 Timothy J Billings

9–10 Peter Church (C)

11–12 Barry F Peachey

A compliment to Karen on her birthday.

The first full course of Plain Bob Maximus on handbells in East Yorkshire since October 2024. Rung during a practice session which included Bastow Little Bob Maximus, Little Bob Maximus, Plain Bob Royal, 2 courses of Stedman Triples, and a 360 of Plain Bob Minor for Mark Smith.

### **Beverley and District Ringing Society**

#### **Kingston-upon-Hull**

##### **33 Westbourne Avenue**

Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2025,

##### **1260 Plain Bob Minor:**

720 & 540

1–2 Mark F Smith

3–4 Karen A Lane

5–6 Peter Church (C)

First quarter on handbells: 1-2.

Rung in the garden on the Mark Lane handbells.

### **Market Weighton, East Yorkshire**

#### **26 Sancton Rd**

Friday, 20 June 2025 (16 in B)

##### **1360 Plain Bob Major**

Complib 142263

1–2 Jenny M Hastings

3–4 Karen A Lane

5–6 James R Startin

7–8 Peter Church (C)

75th Quarter on handbells: 5-6.

### **Kingston upon Hull**

### **33 Westbourne Avenue**

Saturday, 21 June 2025 (13 in E)

#### **1272 Treble Bob Minor (2m)**

720 Oxford TB & 552 Kent T.B.

1–2 Karen A Lane

3–4 Timothy J Billings

5–6 Peter Church (C)

### **Kingston upon Hull**

#### **33 Westbourne Avenue**

Saturday, 21 June 2025 (15 in C)

#### **1260 Plain Minor (3m)**

720: 360 Single Oxford Bob & 360 Double Bob;

540 Plain Bob

1–2 Karen A Lane

3–4 Timothy J Billings

5–6 Peter Church (C)

Kirk Ella, East Yorkshire

60 Riplingham Road

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 (15 in C)

264 Little Bob Maximus

1–2 Catherine Williams

3–4 Karen A Lane

5–6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7–8 Timothy J Billings

9–10 Peter Church

11–12 Barry F Peachey

### **Market Weighton, East Yorkshire**

#### **26 Sancton Rd**

Friday, 27 June 2025 (16 in B)

#### **1360 Plain Bob Major**

Complib 142263

1–2 Jenny M Hastings

3–4 Peter Church

5–6 Karen A Lane (C)

A birthday compliment to Peter.

## ***Out and about***

With reduced number of people “out to play” our session on 10<sup>th</sup> June warmed up with a touch of Spliced Plain, Little, Double and St Clement’s Bob Major, and then focused Double Norwich.

However, our real test came when ringing Oxford TB Minor derivatives, Sandal Treble Bob and Neasden Delight. The Neasden

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proved interesting as the coursing order at the half lead is even better than in Sandal, and a couple of Plain Courses were rung.

Congratulations to Mark Smith on ringing his first quarter peal on handbells. It was rung in the garden at 33 Westbourne on his grandfather's handbells. Karen pointed out that Peter has conducted for 3 generations of the Lane Family, Peter replied that there's still time for a fourth generation to be coached in the arcane discipline before he hangs up his bells.

A Minor Methods practice session at Wootton included Kent TB., St. Clement's College Bob, College Bob, Double Bob, Single Court, and Oxford TB. The Single Court was most educational as it was rung by rules generated structure rather than double blue lines, and without calling the court places.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> saw the students Catherine and Mark joining the regular meeting in Hull. The first session was parallel Royal and Minor, putting folks through their Plain Bob paces. The second session was parallel Plain Bob Major and Yorkshire Major. Very useful for shaking the dust off Peter's Yorkshire.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> in Kareen's garden and Jim had his wrists strapped on so a quarter of Plain Bob Major was despatched.

We met on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June to ring a peal of 7 Minor Methods, but with the weather turning hot and sticky we elected to enjoy a couple of Quarter Peals as an alternative.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> saw us gathering at Riplingham Road with just 6 ringers. Plain Hunting on 12 gave us the rhythm and so we went to work on Little Bob Maximus, eventually achieving a 3-course touch. Plain Bob Royal and Yorkshire Surprise Major were less successful but equally valuable.

## **Stedman Triples project:**

Complib 129440 (159 changes) and 138521 (336 changes) were rung on Ringing Room on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>.

Back out and about

Had the weather been kinder we would have annoyed Karen's hens by ringing in the garden once more, but instead we had an indoors Plain Bob Minor practice for Chris and Mark, and then Karen called a quarter peal.

On Friday evening Heather Peachey, Timothy Billings and Peter Church met using Discord and Stadium and worked through the pairs to Duke of Norfolk Treble Bob Minor (Half Lead and Lead end variation on Oxford Treble Bob). All the ringers rang all the pairs quite happily.

## ***The Learning Curve***

We count our successes but often forget to learn from a failure. A quarter peal attempt for Plain Bob Minor was in the 10<sup>th</sup> course of 12 of the 720 when the bells were suddenly discovered to be ringing the Plain Course. Peter was so shocked he stopped the ringing. In hindsight could he have put it right, well, yes. (Correct trips as soon as they happen).

Q: So why didn't he put it right?

A: He had become cocky and stopped concentrating.

Cocky? – Surely not. But yes, in the last 240, when 2 is unaffected and 3-4 are coursing all the way, what could possibly go wrong. Nothing. Have a quick think about the next 540. A slight hesitation and 53426 has become 53246.

**Learning point:** If the team needs the conductor, the conductor needs to be awake and watching, even in the easy bits.

The quarter restarted, only to fail after about 3 courses. What. What. What happened. Well, ringing outside has its perils. There are birds and bees and overhead military manoeuvres, and when a bug crawls up your arm, the temptation to scratch is irresistible (I could never be an astronaut), but the disruption caused by the unexpected movement of the bells out of sight and them being whipped back into place was too much.

**Learning point:** The development of a simple, clean, handstroke and backstroke action for handbells is as important as ringing the

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backstroke correctly rather than panicking about catching the sally and making the problem worse.

Following the backstroke blow a handbell should be at rest either horizontal or pointing slightly downwards, there should be no sideways movement, and definitely no sweeping grand gesture. And yes Peter, your bells should always make a noise, don't get lazy!

--oo0oo--

***To fail is a gift: accept it and place value on it.***

--oo0oo--

## ***Food for Thought***

Check out the most useful 4-way table ever:

[http://www.pchurch.org.uk/ringing/03\\_meth-ods/06.02\\_treble\\_dodging\\_minor\\_table.html](http://www.pchurch.org.uk/ringing/03_meth-ods/06.02_treble_dodging_minor_table.html)

for handbell ringers and towerbell ringers alike.

**Peter Church**

1<sup>st</sup> July 2025.