

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 110, December 1st, 2025.

Project performances 2025:

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

Beverley and District Ringing Society

Kingston upon Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday, 1st November 2025 in 2h 3 (13 in E)

5040 Mixed Minor (6m)

Extents: 1, Single Oxford B; 2, Oxford T.B.; 3, Kent T.B.; 4 5 St. Clement's College Bob; 5, Double B; 6 & 7, Plain Bob.

1–2 Karen A Lane

3–4 Timothy J Billings

5–6 Peter Church (C)

Beverley and District Ringing Society

Kingston upon Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday, 15th November 2025 in 2h 3 (13 in E)

5040 Mixed Minor (6m)

Extents: 1, Oxford T.B.; 2, 3, Kent T.B.; 4 St. Clement's College Bob; 5, Double B; 6 & 7, Plain Bob.

1–2 Catherine A Williams

3–4 Timothy J Billings

5–6 Peter Church (C)

Beverley and District Ringing Society

Kingston upon Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Friday, 21st November 2025 (13 in E)

1875 Plain Bob Minor

Being a 3 row construct followed by 432 and 2 x 720.

1–2 Christine M Church

3–4 Karen A Lane

5–6 Peter Church (C)

Rung for the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Avenues estate.

100th Quarter: 1-2.

400th Quarter for the Hull Handbells Project.

Out and about

The West of Weighton Group is depleted by the loss of Neil Turner and Jenny Hastings, but Jim Startin is keeping his eye/ear/hand in whenever possible. Friday 14th turned into a heavy head-banging Plain Methods session for Jim and Karen including Double Oxford Bob, St Clement's College Bob, College Bob, Buxton Bob, Oxford Treble Bob. And after Karen had called some new-to-her touches of Plain Bob we tackled Reverse Bob complete with Lead End Bobs and Singles (half lead calls would be easier).

Tuesday 18th session majored on giving everyone the opportunity to ring all the pairs to Little Bob Royal. Little Bob has many progressive features that are needed for the more complex methods.

There have been some excellent method practice sessions this month. Whilst we rarely get sufficient ringers to tackle maximus, our ringing on 10 has improved. Little Bob has been a large part of that improvement. Little is a busy method at any stage and provides much valuable practice at seeing 5ths, 6ths, 7ths, 8ths places, and the demands of hunting in the first 4 places whilst dodging above 4ths is a good lead towards the more structured methods.

Our last session of the month saw us ringing Oxford Treble Bob based Duke of Norfolk T.B., Sandal T.B., Old Oxford D., Neasden D., and even a full course of Combermere Delight.

Cambridge and Norwich Surprise were also rung but were easy-peasy in comparison to Combermere.

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400 Quarters in the 9 years since the project started with the course in North Cave. It would be good to get the age profile down by about 50 years.

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The Learning Curve

Stedman Triples project:

If we look at method ringing ability then, crudely, there are three levels:

- Entry Level
- Performance Level
- Method Mastery

For handbells, the **Entry Level** ringer needs enough knowledge of the method to get going and to ring Plain Courses and Simple Touches. And it doesn't matter whether it's Plain Bob or Scientific Triples, the memory technique needs to be aimed at ringing a pair as a unit, not as two separate bells. For me the "Days of the week" memory technique works well for sequencing the work of the sixes, especially combined with retiring the concept of up and down dodges and, for example, replacing Double Dodge 4-5 up with places 4-5-4-5-4-5 in pairs Hand and Back

Taking the Entry Level up to **Performance Level** entails extensive practice and in the process, the addition of all the method features you personally find valuable. The crucial objective at this level is to find a way of overcoming trips. So far, I can only offer that extensive practice reduces the danger of trips becoming catastrophes.

Method Mastery: I have no contribution for this level that I would share.

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One of the great joys of handbell ringing is to have a coffee and get Chris Munday talking about methods and compositions. I had never contemplated calling WHWH inside 1 course in Yorkshire Surprise until Chris pointed out how it works.

Food for Thought

Check out the most useful 4-way table ever:

<https://tinyurl.com/y76ccja6>

for handbell ringers and towerbell ringers alike. All 147 regular methods are fully indexed. Compositions, all with Abel code and Complib links are being extended.

"Regular" is defined as symmetrical about the Half-Lead, Plain Bob Lead Heads, no 5th place made away from the Half lead, no more than 2 consecutive blows in any one place.

Peter Church

30th November 2025.