

# Beyond Treble Bob on Handbells

## 03: Ringing the harder methods

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### Ringling the harder methods

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In workshop 1 we looked at the essence of ringing, change rows, places, methods; simple memory techniques.

In workshop 2 we have looked at the basic building blocks for the harder methods, and at some of the method structures, Plain, TB, Delight, Surprise; and glanced at more memory techniques. We looked in detail at one section of a Treble Bob method, and at the grid structure for a lead of Cambridge S and Norwich S.

So the question behind this paper is, "Given the method structure, how do you find your place amongst the other bells"?

This can also be asked: "How do I accurately ring a lead or a course of a new-to-me method.

Answer is:

- Define the places to be hit by apply the hunting and dodging skills to the place notation elements
- Ring in those places by counting along the row.

#### **01. Define the places:**

The starting point for the answer is that the dodging and hunting skills in Oxford Treble Bob need to be well practised in order to be able to "see" the treble dodging in each of the sections, and hunting between the sections.

Given the position of the treble, bring to mind the places made and recognise the hunting and dodging structure the places create, and hence the places in which the bells will strike. The place notation exercise on 02.08 is important here.

It is vital that all six places on 6 bells can be perceived by the ringer, this is beyond the mere ability to ring in a place. The six places encompass the work of the treble, and the place structure, thereby making the work of one's own pair more meaningful (NB the St Clement's example of aligning the dodging and the turning around in 3rds).

It is also worth starting the process of perceiving the full set of places for 8, 10 and 12 bells.

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### 02 Techniques for finding the places.

#### Bill Jacksons Thumbs

Low technology approach, with thanks to Bill Jackson, to ring 3-4 to first section and cross section of Cambridge S. Minor:

Count the bells, emphasise the places to be hit, raise right thumb for 3, left thumb for 4.

H 1 2 **3** 4 5 6

B 1 2 **3** 4 5 6

H 1 2 **3** 4 5 6

B 1 2 **3** 4 5 6

H 1 2 3 **4** 5 6

B 1 2 3 **4** 5 6

And in mind: treble dodging 1-2 up, 3rds & 6ths, treble hunting 2-3, places lead & 4<sup>th</sup> .

#### Work in Pairs

All the dodging work takes place in 1-2, 3-4, or 5-6.

Therefore identifying those pairs of places is a significant step towards ringing a method, and becomes more effective as the number of bells increases.

#### Use Abel Teacher

Set Abel to ring the chosen method at a moderate speed. Listen until the treble can be heard dodging in the sections. Do it again and bring the place notation / grid structure to mind as Abel rings the method. Work out the place pairs for Treble and another bell.

**Repeat for pairs of working bells.**