

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 31, May 1st, 2019.

News roundup: Recorded lengths.

Barrow and District Ringing Society

Melton Ross, Lincolnshire

3 West Holme

Thursday 4th April, 2019, 14D#

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Barry F Peachey**

3-4 **Heather LE Peachey**

5-6 **Peter Church (C)**

1st Quarter Peal at this address. Rung to welcome Barry Peachey back to Quarter Peal ringing, being his first for seven months.

Rung on the Barrow-upon-Humber Ringing Centre handbells.

Beverley and District Ringing Society

Market Weighton, E. Yorkshire

26 Sancton Road

Sunday 14th April, 2019, 14D#

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Jenny M Hastings**

3-4 **Karen A Lane**

5-6 **Neil Turner (C)**

Melbourne, E. Yorkshire

1 Melbourne Park

Friday 26th April, 2019, 12F

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Jenny M Hastings**

3-4 **James R Startin**

5-6 **Neil Turner (C)**

600th Quarter Peal for B&D, 1-2.

Out and about.

The month started with a Tuesday meeting of "Older but No Wiser", with **Chris Munday** and his bells, **Pat Donnelly, Lesley Davies, Ros Baxter, Rebecca Legowski, Neil Turner** and **Hilary Barclay** at **Chris and Peter Church's** house. With ringing split across two rooms I am not entirely sure what was rung, but I do know that a ladies band rang all the changes of a course of Kent TB Minor, another band rang 3 leads of Kent TB Major, there was a long touch of Plain Bob Major, a course of Oxford TB Minor, and a plethora of courses and touches of Plain Bob Minor.

Pretty much the same group met again a week later, with quality time spent on Kent TB Minor, and Plain Bob Major. Progress was evident in the quality of the striking especially in the Plain Bob Major (the author was not present for the Kent TB Minor session), but we understand that real progress is being made by **Chris C, Neil and Lesley**.

Also **Rebecca** rose to the challenge and rang 3 leads of Oxford TB Major on 1-2, and **Ros Baxter** got further with 1-2 (on physical bells) Plain Bob Major than she had ever done on the simulator.

In the holidays absence of the Churchies, ringing took place chez Ros on 16th.

Tuesday 23rd, "Older but no wiser" were getting back into the groove with the usual Plain Bob exercises, plus Kent, and Oxford TB Minor. There was a fun time with Place Notation exercises in the form of Original and Single Court.

Two days later we (**Barry and Heather Peachey, Chris and Peter Church, and Pat Donnelly**) met at No 3 West Holme and spent the evening focusing on Bastow and Little Bob Major, plus an excellent course of Kent TB Minor, and some progressive Plain Bob for Pat.

On the last "Older but no wiser" on 30th April, Kent TB, Oxford TB Minor, Forward Minor and Norwich S. Minor were all rung along with much valuable Plain Bob. We were missing one of our main stays, **Ros Baxter**, temporarily handbells incapacitated owing to a motoring incident.

The Norwich Surprise Minor was the first Surprise in hand in this area since the assault on London Surprise Minor in August 2017.

We don't know how many times the other two groups in Western East Yorkshire have met, but we have spotted a couple of quarter peals on BellBoard! Excellent!

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Techniques

Bellringing is a three stage process.

- a) Take some method knowledge
 - b) Combine it with some skills
 - c) Produce the sounds
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- a) The method knowledge has to be acquired by learning; that is study and memorise. Irrespective of your learning style, there is little or no point in picking up handbells, nor grabbing a rope, until the method is held between the ears. **I have never yet found any real contradiction to this statement.**

Whether you're at Plain Hunting or Bristol Surprise Maximus, the series of places in which you plan to ring your bells needs to be readily available in your head.

- b) The skills differ between handbells and towerbells, and probably mini-rings but I have zero experience of mini rings. On handbells, the essential skill is counting and picking out places. Visual ringing by spacings from lead is a way in, but in the end you have to listen and count.
- c) Ringing the method is essentially taking a) above and applying it to b), to produce the glorious sound of well struck ringing.

Do practise it "on your thumbs" and on Abel before trying it on the physical bells. The amount of time available in practise sessions is so limited that maximum value can only be gained if we do our learning homework before the session.

Oh yes, I know that the learning process is never finished, and there are feedback loops, and advanced skills, and that the band and the speed make a difference. But progress is only

made when the brain is correctly primed with the relevant, accurate information, and a lot of practise time is lost in correcting incorrectly learned methods.

--oo0oo--

Am off me serpbox nah.

(That's 'ull, that is, year it dahn the ten-foot).

--oo0oo--

A new handbell change ringing band is forming in the Howden area. So there could be a call for a beginners course in handbell Change Ringing. If you know of anyone who might be interested in such a course, especially youngsters (i.e. under 55) please let me have contact details.

--oo0oo--

Peter Church

www.handbellringing.org.uk