

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 33, July 1st, 2019.

News roundup: Recorded lengths.

Quarter Peals

Beverley & District Society

Beverley

39 Morton Lane

Wednesday 5th June, 2019, 34 mins, 15C

1272 Oxford TB Minor

1-2 **Rebecca M Legowski**

3-4 **Roderick R Horton**

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

First purely of Oxford: 3-4.

Barrow & District Society

Melton Ross

3 West Holme

Thursday 6th June, 2019, 13E

1280 Spliced Plain & Little Bob Minor

560 Spliced Plain (240) and Little Bob (320),

720 Plain Bob, with 1 com.

1-2 **Barry F Peachey**

3-4 **Heather LE Peachey**

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

Rung on the Robert Wells of Aldbourne, Wilts
1784 hand bells by a Hull Handbells Project
band to mark the 75th anniversary of the D-
Day Landings in which the father of 1-2, the
late Frank Peachey took part.

Beverley & District Society

Kirk Ella

60 Riplingham Road

Wednesday 12th June, 2019, 41 mins, 15C

1260 Plain Bob Royal

1-2 **Rebecca M Legowski**

3-4 **Peter Church(C)**

5-6 **Christopher L D Munday**

7-8 **Roderick R Horton**

9-0 **A John Atkinson**

First on 10 bells: 1-2.

The first quarter of Plain Bob Royal for the
Society since 1984.

Kingston-upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Wednesday 19th June, 2019, 15C

1360 Plain Bob Major

1-2 **Rebecca M Legowski**

3-4 **Roderick R Horton**

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

7-8 **Barry F Peachey**

25th Quarter on handbells: 7-8.

100th Quarter on handbells: 3-4.

A 75th Birthday compliment to Chris Church.

Kingston-upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Thursday 20th June, 2019, 33 mins, 14D

1320 Oxford TB Minor

1-2 **Rebecca M Legowski**

3-4 **Christopher L D Munday**

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

Market Weighton

26 Sancton road

Wednesday 26th, 2019

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **James R Startin**

3-4 **Karen A Lane**

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

Peal

Kingston-upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday 29th June, 2019, 2hrs 4 mins, 13E

5040 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Karen A Lane**

3-4 **Rebecca M Legowski**

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

First attempt on handbells: 1-2.

First inside: 3-4.

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Out and about.

We had an intriguing start to ringing in June with a meeting up in Market Weighton. With numerous distractions reducing the numbers we focused on seeing the coursing order in touches of Bob Minor, and then onwards and upwards into Reverse Bob, Double Bob, Single Court rung as Original and then as Single Court, and finally Little Bob. **Bill Lennox and Karen Lane** were the ones climbing the learning curve.

With holidays and sicknesses, and other major distractions, the Tuesday session planned for 4th June was cancelled.

However, 2 days later a gathering in Beverley enabled another good quarter of Oxford TB Minor, this time with **Roddy Horton** ringing 3-4. The practise session focused on Norwich Surprise Minor and a number of courses were achieved.

By 11th June, **Neil Turner** was back from foreign parts and **Lesley Davies** was bouncing back from various bits of illness, and hence a productive session was had with **Pat Donnelly** and **Chris Munday** as well as **Rebecca and Peter**. A bit of rust was brushed off some Plain Bob Major, some courses of Kent B Minor caused little difficulty, and a few courses of Cambridge Surprise Minor was both a surprise and a bonus.

That's the first Cambridge in hand in this area for a couple of years.

The following day we met for to ring Plain Bob Royal. Our initial attempts proved that the Royal is both harder to ring than you expect, and at the same time more rewarding.

Our persistence paid off and we rang a respectable quarter, **Rebecca's** first on 10 bells.

The week after the quarter peal in Melton Ross, the same band met for a Kent TB Minor practise. Once the band had all rung all of the pairs, we set to on touches; 3 Homes were rung with little difficulty but a 2 course touch took some persistence to bring it round. The progress is very encouraging.

With the completion of **Chris Church's** Hull Truck play (seen by a number of handbell ringers), she returned to the (**Older But No Wiser**) fold on her birthday to be greeted by a host of bellringers, **Lesley Davies** was fit and well again, **Neil Turner**, recently back from Australia brought along **Jenny Hastings**, **Chris Munday** brought along his bells, **Rebecca Legowski** was, of course, in the mix as was **Pat Donnelly**. **Roddy Horton** was in the area on a separate mission and called in to check on our activities and brush a little rust of his handbell skills.

St Clement's College Bob and Kent TB Minor, Plain Bob Major, Plain Hunting on 10 and Plain Bob Royal, and Kent and Oxford TB Major all had an airing, and most people had the chance to ring at, or try to ring just beyond the limit of their abilities.

We did also ring plenty of the most important method of all, Plain Bob Minor.

Time spent learning the foibles of Bob Minor, and ringing lots of it with a good clear handstroke lead, and crisp striking at Goldilocks speed is time well spent.

Inspired by Quarters of Oxford TB Minor, and Plain Bob Royal, we tried to ring Kent TB Major on Wednesday 19th. It was not to be, but we did ring a confident Quarter of Plain Bob Major, followed the following day by a quarter of Oxford TB Minor.

Why ring so much Oxford Treble Bob?

Oxford TB is an interesting challenge. It is easier to strike well than Kent as the places are made from Handstroke to Backstroke (unlike Kent). However, it is seductively easy to make trips, and then the chopped up coursing order under the treble can be rather unhelpful.

However, it is a good method to ring whilst learning to watch the treble, and naturally leads on to Norwich Surprise.

It's good to have **Lesley Davies** fit and well, and **Chris Church** less distracted, so we spent a quality hour ringing Kent TB Minor with **Chris Munday**. Abel is great for handbell ringing, but real bells are better by far. It was a good lead-in to our final Tuesday practise

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where parallel streams of Kent TB Minor were followed by a dusting down of Cambridge S Minor and some touches of Plain Bob Major.

The following day **Neil Turner** called a quarter peal at Market Weighton with **Karen Lane** and **Jim Startin** and hence the total for the year so far rose to 27, that figure has only been exceeded once, that being last year when 35 handbell quarters were scored. A total of 50 handbell quarters in 2019 seems achievable.

Three days later **Karen Lane** went on to join **Rebecca Legowski** and **Peter Church** for a peal attempt. We had planned to ring Major but one band member was stricken by a “code in der dose, thag you very buch”, so we rang a respectable peal of Plain Bob Minor. We had a good rhythm, and less than a handful of trips. Well done to **Karen** – First Peal Attempt on handbells, and **Rebecca**, first inside. After a spot of lunch, **Rebecca** and **Karen** sat down with **Chris Church** and rang some courses of Kent TB Minor, this is believed to be *the first Kent TB rung in the District on handbells by a ladies band.*

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Techniques

The website had a chunky update this month. Following a request I have separated compositions out from the methods and started to build lists of progressive touches. This is to help people struggling to get to terms with the impact of calls on a method.

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Peter Church

www.handbellringing.org.uk

<rant>

Footnote.

Old fogeys (like me) tend to yak on a bit, and I have often told people about how I discovered my role in life as a computer systems quality consultant in the summer of 1965 and then how I spent the next 40 years making a handsome living from that discovery. Summer 1965 was also the point at **which Simon Humphrey** taught me to ring handbells.

I was quite proud of my discovery of the nature of quality until I found that Shakespeare had got there 350 years before me, and penned the lines:

*“Find out the cause of the effect,
Or rather say,
The cause of this defect
For this effect defective comes by cause.”
Polonius (Hamlet, Act 2 Scene 2).*

You perhaps think I am still yakking on?

I am, but about ringing. If there are defects or trips in your ringing, what’s the cause?

Whatever you build, be it aircraft, bicycles, teams, whatever, each and every trip or defect always has a cause. In the dynamic art of change ringing, the cause of trips can be hard to find. But find the causes, and then eliminate them, patiently, and thoroughly. Your ringing will be the better for it.

Browsing the Changeringing.co.uk blog for info on Double Norwich on handbells I came across: *“This led me to formulate the principle that if your bell is always in the right place, no-one will ever question your internal technique, but if your bell isn't in the right place, you can expect to be given advice about how to do better, whether you want it or not.”*

“Internal technique”???

- Double Blue lines
- Rules
- Grid structure
- Place Notation

Are all valid method learning techniques. And if your bells are in the right place, no-one will ever question which one you are using.

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