

# THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

*Promoting double-handed change ringing throughout East Yorkshire*

Newsletter Number 18, April 2018.

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## News Roundup.

### *Recorded lengths.*

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2018

At the Old School, Melton Ross

**1260 Plain Bob Minor**

1-2 Heather L E Peachey

3-4 Barry F Peachey

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First on an inside pair, 3-4.

Rung for St David's Day on The Robert Wells bells from 1784.

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2018

At 33 Westbourne Avenue, Hull

**1260 Plain Bob Minor**

1-2 Christine M Church

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First on an inside pair, 3-4.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2018

At 33 Westbourne Avenue, Hull

**720 Plain Bob Minor**

1-2 Lesley Davies

3-4 Christine M Church

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First extent, 1-2.

### *Out and about.*

#### *Barrow / Melton Ross.*

After knocking off the rust flakes, the Robert Wells bells proved good for a quarter peal. There were 2 or 3 mistakes, all corrected within a change or so, and a great rhythm once we got into it.

We tried again with the Barrow-on-Humber handbells a couple of times later in the month, to no avail!

So far as I can tell, the above quarter peal was the only handbell ringing the first half of March, drama activities, Fairtrade Fortnight, a few days away and a bit of "snerr" all

conspired against the bells until the penultimate week.

#### *Older but no wiser in Hull.*

Our session in Hull on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> was a good "pipe cleaner" with some interesting touches of Bob Minor and a couple of rough courses of Plain Bob Major. Rough yes, but reassuringly rhythmic and boding well for the future.

In the afternoon we had a Treble Bob Minor practice with **Chris Munday**. **Chris (C)** managed a touch of Kent TB on 1-2, a Plain Course on 5-6 and a course of Oxford TB on 1-2.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> **Lesley Davies** and the Churchies sat down for a long touch of Plain Bob, to get Lesley in the groove. The touch ran to a 720. Well done **Lesley**.

The following day we had a long touch session with **Ros Baxter**, much fun was had and we eventually got Ros ringing in a relaxed and "rust free" mode.

#### *Kirk Ella*

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, (Holy week) saw a gathering in Kirk Ella around a set of 12 handbells. **Barry** and **Heather Peachey** from Barrow, and **Peter** from Hull joined up with the Beverley trio, **John Atkinson**, **Neil Donovan** and **Chris Munday**.

Several courses of Plain Bob Royal were rung as we got used to the numbers and after a break we started with ringing plain hunting on 12 and then finished with a couple of courses of **Plain-Little-Plain Maximus**.

This is thought to be the first sober 10 and 12 bell ringing in hand in East Yorkshire for several decades.

#### *Market Weighton / South Cave*

We managed to slot in a practice session towards the end of March with **Karen Lane** and **Bill Lennox** plus a welcome to a new

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participant, **Neil Turner**. There was a lot of progressive Bob Minor (progressive = successful even though on a ringer's limit of ability), a course of Kent TB Minor and a course of Plain Bob Major, **Neil's** first on 8.

**Karen** has been wanting to ring an inside pair to a quarter of Bob Minor for a while and success came on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>, (in the school holidays).

As we chewed the cud afterwards I made some comments about following the coursing order in the plain course. There followed the comment, "That's all very well and good, but it changes when you make a call".

It does. But the conductor doesn't need to ring his/her bells, make the calls, transpose the coursing order, follow the coursing order and correct trips. There's no magic in conducting, just a lot of work, which just makes it look like magic or sheer genius.

***Pick an easy composition, rehearse it until you know it thoroughly, and memorise the coursing orders. After you have called it 20 or 30 times you begin to see the other bells leading and working round each other at the dodges.***

There is no magic! Success comes from hard work and just ringing a lot.

### ***Rawcliffe***

The invalid, **Ron Barclay**, has been reported as making good progress and gradually getting back the use of his broken arm. We're looking forward to getting **Ron** back on the handbells.

### ***Melbourne (East Yorkshire)***

**Neil Turner** reported that he is meeting with two more "rural ringers", Jim and Jenny, and fighting with touches of Plain Bob Minor. We know how you feel and wish you every success!

### ***Further afield***

It seems there is a group of ladies in the depths of rural **Derbyshire** trying teach themselves change ringing on handbells. They have discovered our little website and found a few useful nuggets in there.

It's good to know the effort of creating the code is being put to good use. Feedback, especially criticism, is always welcomed.

### ***Rebecca Legowski***

Following an improvement in family circumstances for **Rebecca**, we installed Handbell Manager and Abel on her laptop. After a few teething problems Rebecca was up and running into Plain Hunting on the various pairs and on number including 6, 8 and 10 bells.

**Rebecca's** ability to concentrate and count is impressive. So let's hope that us biological ringers can provide as clean a rhythm as Abel does when Rebecca gets going on physical handbells.

### ***Notes.***

#### **Plain Bob Minor.**

By far the most important webpage on my little site is the Plain Bob Minor page. And we've made some improvements. The section on touches has been extended to include some touches with a specific purpose, mainly to help **Rebecca**, but other Bob Minor ringers might get value as well.

The selection of compositions on the website, ranging in length from 36 changes to 720 all now also have the related Abel code to make it easy to use them with Handbell Manager and Abel.

There will be some more improvements as time goes by so drop by at <https://tinyurl.com/y8t6xehd> every now and then to see what's new.

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## **Eureka moment for Peter**

**Chris Munday** has pointed out several times that hunting patterns in Plain Bob Minor change when a bell makes seconds and the other bell dodges. Whether you are on 3-4, or on 5-6, you change hunting pattern each time a bell makes seconds.

However, the other **Chris (Chris Church)** was talking about Kent TB Minor and noted that when a bell makes the bob, the pattern for the work of an inside pair changes to the other pair.

A quick look showed this also to be true in Plain Bob Minor. If you are ringing 3-4 pattern work and a call of Bob is made, and one of your bells makes the bob, then you will go into coursing pattern work; and vice versa, when one of a coursing pair makes the bob, you will go into 3-4 pattern.

This “rule” applies equally well to all regular minor methods where regular means having plain bob lead ends.

***Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>:***

## ***Regional Handbells day No 7.***

The current plan is to ring some quarter peals as well as have some “on the edge of ability” general practice ringing. Some people have already got their names down for quarter peals, if you would like to take part, please drop me a note.

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