

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 27, January 2019.

News roundup: Recorded lengths.

Beverley and District Ringing Society

Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

Tuesday 4th December, 2018

1360 Plain Minor, 2 methods

160 Little Bob & 1200 Plain Bob

1-2 Rebecca Legowski

3-4 Christine M Church

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First in > 1 method, 1-2.

A birthday compliment to Chris Munday.

Cherry Burton, Little orchard

Tuesday 18th December, 2018

1264 Plain Bob Major

1-2 A John Atkinson

3-4 Neil Donovan

5-6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7-8 James E Blackburn

Out and about.

Older but no wiser in Hull

Christmas arrangements and health issues reduced our numbers to 5 at the start of the month, giving a rare opportunity for focused practice. **Rebecca Legowski, Ros. Baxter, Neil Turner, and Chris and Peter Church** rang plenty of Plain Bob Minor touches, courses of Plain Bob Major, but also courses of Little Bob Minor, Reverse Bob Minor, Forward Minor as well as a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor.

The following week, still with depleted numbers we rang Bastow, Treble Bob Hunting, St Clements College Bob all Minor, and Plain Bob Major, all to good educational purpose rotating the pairs. However, the amount of ringing took its toll on the number of available neurons as a Quarter of Plain Bob Major later in the day never found “the groove” and was stopped after about 10 courses.

Kirk Ella

Later in the first week we had a visit to Chris Munday’s where we had **Chris Church** ringing one of **Chris Munday’s** evil touches of Kent T.B. on an inside pair, Chris (C) was mightily pleased with this achievement.

Melton Ross

We had a constructive 6-bell session where **Barry Peachey** rang Kent TB Minor on 3-4 for the first time, and with **Heather Peachey** we explored the depths of Single Court and Single Oxford. Various “bugs” were removed and we had some good ringing with not a blue line in sight!

Wilberfoss

There are rumours of ringing on 8 bells taking place towards the middle of December.

Cherry Burton

Congratulations to **James and Sarah on the birth of Timothy Patrick**, they now have enough family members to form a band for ringing major on **James’s** handbells in years to come.

And just as a marker of things to come, a quarter peal was duly rung on 18th December, bringing the total for the B&D in 2018 to 35, and the 2018 total for the project to 40.

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Change ringing on Handbells, 2018

Enjoyable, challenging, record breaking are all adjectives for our highly successful handbell ringing year; they are the result of real commitment, patience and persistence leading to the achievements. People involved were: John Atkinson, Ron & Hilary Barclay, Rosina Baxter, James Blackburn, Chris & Peter Church, Lesley Davies, Patricia Donnelly, Neil Donovan, Jenny Hastings, Simon Humphrey, Karen Lane, Rebecca Legowski (registered blind), William Lennox, Gwynneth Moffatt, Christopher Munday, Barry & Heather Peachey, James Startin and Neil Turner.

Plenty of laughter has been heard as we fought, struggled, sometimes literally wriggled our way through challenging methods, and persistence brought success to people who thought they would never make it. A lot of the ringing was superb, and we recorded over 30 handbell quarter peals for the society, more than in any preceding year.

Our ringing included 2018 Plain & Little Bob Minor for Armistice Day, this was the first date touch on handbells for the society since 1980.

Whilst much Plain Bob Minor has been rung, this formed the bedrock for our progress into Plain Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, and multi method quarter peals later in the year. Over half of the recorded lengths have some achievement documented in the footnotes, and progress has been strong enough for some people to take their first steps into conducting. Weekly practices, quarterly regional meetings, quarter peals whenever the opportunity presented itself all contributed towards the success.

The ringing achievements are only part of the story. The hidden part is what we have learned about the learning process. The human brain is amazing, truly awesome in its learning ability at all ages. If a learner has the motivation, we have the ability to impart the necessary knowledge and skills for that learner to become a double-handed change

ringer.

What the recorded lengths do not show is the ringing of more highly structured methods such as Bastow Little Bob, St Clements College Bob, Single Oxford and Single Court, and these methods were rung without memorising double blue lines.

The achievements and learning of 2018 will go on to be the bedrock of 2019, where the balance will swing towards ringing on 8 and 10 bells, and into the more complex Minor methods. Yorkshire Surprise Major and Little Bob Royal, on handbells, will be on the radar.

But whilst we pursue those goals we must also ensure that our less experienced ringers maintain their progress.

Peter Church

www.handbellringing.org.uk