

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 36, October 1st, 2019.

News roundup: Recorded lengths.

Quarter Peals

Beverley & District Society Melbourne, East Yorkshire

1 Melbourne Park
Wednesday 4th September, 2019

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Jenny M Hastings**
3-4 **Karen Lane**
5-6 **Neil Turner (C)**

Beverley

39 Morton Lane
Thursday 5th September, 2019

1360 Plain Bob Major

1-2 **A John Atkinson**
3-4 **Roderick R Horton**
5-6 **Neil Turner**
7-8 **Peter Church (C)**
100th Handbell Quarter for the Society: 3-4.

Kingston-upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue
Friday 6th September, 2019

1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor

1-2 **Jenny M Hastings**
3-4 **Roderick R Horton**
5-6 **Peter Church (C)**
First St Clement's on handbells: 1-2, 3-4.

Market Weighton

26 Sancton Road
Sunday 8th September, 2019

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Jenny M Hastings**
3-4 **Karen Lane**
5-6 **Neil Turner (C)**
Rung after meeting short for practice.

Kirk Ella

60 Riplingham Road
Thursday 12th September, 2019

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1-2 **Peter Church**
3-4 **Christopher L D Munday**
5-6 **Samuel M Austin (C)**
7-8 **Roderick R Horton**
First of Surprise Major on handbells: 1-2, 7-8.
The first quarter of Surprise Major on handbells in East Yorkshire.

Kingston-upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue
Sunday 22nd September, 2019

1778 Plain Minor

1-2 **Christine M Church**
3-4 **Karen A Lane**
5-6 **Peter Church (C)**
Rung to mark the opening on 22nd September 1778 of "The Dock" in Hull; at the time of opening it was the largest dock in the UK. The Dock became "The Old Dock" and then in 1855 it became "Queen's Dock". The dock closed in 1930 and was filled in and re-opened in 1935 as Queen's Gardens.

A ground plaque is illuminated by the Hull Solar Gate, located in Queen's Gardens, 14:15 each 22nd September.

The 200th handbell quarter peal of Minor for the Society.

400th Quarter peal: 5-6.

Kingston-upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue
Thursday 26th September, 2019

1440 Kent TB Minor

1-2 **Peter Church**
3-4 **Christine M Church**
5-6 **Christopher L D Munday (C)**
First Kent inside: 3-4.

In memoriam, John Horsley, Cottingham, 1941 – 2019; actor, musician, poet and a dear friend of 3-4.

City of Kingston upon Hull

You sail as a ship on a fair Humber breeze,
Your citizen crew is aboard,
Your course set for far away seas.
Through storms to prosperity's prize,
May your tales of adventure be told,
And your pennants fly,
Blue as the sky,
Bearing in brilliance Three Crowns of Gold.
John Horsley, 2014.

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Barrow and District Society.

Broughton, N. Lincs.,

19 Church Lane

Saturday 28th September, 2019

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 **Barry F Peachey**

3-4 **Heather L E Peachey**

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

70th Birthday compliment to **Pat Donnelly.**

Out and about.

We understand that **James Blackburn** is home and “on-the-mend” but physical exercise is limited to a pair of handbells. It seems that St Clement’s CB Minor is the target.

St Clement’s made an appearance at the Older but No Wiser session on Tuesday 3rd September along with Kent T.B. and Plain Bob.

A rare fit of the infamous **Church giggles hit Peter** when he realised that he couldn’t call Single Court (4ths when treble passes through 2-3 or 3-2) as Original if the treble goes wrong.

We have rung the Before-Wrong-Middle turning course in **Chris Munday’s** 1360 Plain Bob Major most Tuesdays thus enabling **Neil Turner** to get his head round the temporary indisposition of 5-6.

Neil and the Market Weighton group rang a quarter of Bob Minor on the Wednesday (5th) and on the Thursday we rang the 1360 where **Roddy Horton** scored his 100th for the Society becoming the 4th person to do so. The league table at that point was:

1 Peter Church	213 (191)
2 John Atkinson	114 (2)
3 Roddy Horton	100 (55)
3 Maris Midgley	100
5 Chris Church	72
6 Graham Smith	66
7 Chris Munday	59 (40)
8 Michael McLean	34 (2)
9 Rebecca Legowski	26
10 Sarah Driver	24

(The next person for the top 10 is currently **Karen Lane** on 21.)

And whilst in history mode, it should be noted that **Graham Smith** rang with Howard Palmer and Charles Hobson in the first B&D handbell quarter peal, Boxing Day, 1964, and **Maris Midgley** rang in the second handbell quarter in June 1967.

Jenny Hastings’ ambition to ring a quarter of St Clement’s on handbells came to fruition at first attempt on Friday 6th September. This quarter passed the record number of B&D handbell quarters in one year of 35, set in 2018.

A practice session for Kent TB and S Clements was arranged for Sunday 8th but fate had other ideas and Pete and Chris didn’t make it, and consequently neither did **Gwynneth** (sorry **Gwynneth**).

The Market Weighton group put the opportunity to good use with a quarter of Plain Bob Minor.

Still lower than normal on numbers we had a productive Older But No Wiser session on Tuesday 10th with much Kent TB, St Clement’s College Bob, and progressive touches of Plain Bob.

Later that week we made history with **the first ever quarter of Surprise Major on handbells** in East Yorkshire. This was ably conducted by **Sam Austin**, and with **Roddy Horton and Peter Church** ringing their first quarters of Surprise Major in hand. **Chris Munday** has abundant previous experience at this level, but it’s a long time ago now.

And then Sam said, “Let’s ring half a course of Cambridge Major”, and amazingly, we did! Wow.

Around the same time, a set of handbells was used for some change ringing in the Howden area. Let’s hope this is the start of a regular meeting.

We tried to make another breakthrough on the following Saturday 14th with **Heather** and **Barry Peachey** and **Rebecca Legowski** meeting to try for a peal of Plain Bob Royal. Unfortunately we were either under-

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rehearsed, poorly, or just shattered and whilst we managed 7 courses we were not up to peal standard. However, for the circumstances it was a re-assuring effort, and success will follow with a bit of work.

There was a grape-vine report of handbell change ringing making an appearance at the B&D Striking Competition. **Proverbs 25:25!**

The second Solar Gate quarter peal was rung to mark the opening of the largest dock in the UK on 22nd September 1778. This made 200 handbell quarters of Minor for B&D and 400 quarters in total for **Peter Church**.

Older But No Wiser 2 days later was strong enough to ring Double Bob and Single Oxford Bob Minor and a full course of Kent TB Major amongst the Plain Bob Minor and Major.

Close But No Cigar

On Wednesday 25th **Chris (M), Rebecca** and **Peter** sat down with a set of bells and explored the nature of Cambridge Surprise Minor. Several thousand changes were rung spread over three touches, but not enough of them ended with rounds to publish as a quarter peal. About 970 courses to go before we **know** the method.

The Cambridge session was followed later that evening by a practise session with **Gwynneth Moffat**. Kent proved to be more of a challenge than the Single Oxford, but a good touch of Double Bob rounded the night off.

Q: Are all "firsts" as good as each other?

A: No, of course not. Whilst all progress is valuable, some "firsts" are a mere formality, whilst others represent months of slog, and frustration and hard work.

Chris Church's first quarter of Kent TB Minor "inside" on Thursday 26th was a marathon of fighting with Abel over "those b!***dy bobs". Well done Chris.

On Saturday we gathered round food and drink and celebrated **Pat Donnelly's** 70th Birthday. A fine quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung in the presence of the assembled company (including Pat).

As the month drew to a close we met at Karen's in Weighton for the session that we lost early in the month. **Bill Lennox, Neil Turner, Karen Lane, Gwynneth Moffat, and Chris and Peter Church** spent 2 solid hours on Bob Minor/Major, much Kent Minor, St Clement's CBM, S. Oxford B., S. Court B. All good stuff, and some nice ringing. Even the occasional lumpy embarrassment was progressive. It was an excellent session.

The Learning Curve

We ring handbells bells together. **It's hard.** Even the experts we ring with who have rung methods like Bristol Surprise Maximus and Stedman Cinques on handbells say it's hard. It is hard, but it's not impossible, and we can all learn to ring more difficult methods than we ring now.

However, I have a red button (red for danger / stop) which gets pressed every time I hear a phrase like:

- I can't do that.
- My brain doesn't work that way.
- I'm only a . . .

These are known as "Self-Talk" phrases and are taken by the sub-conscious mind as statements of fact. With repetition the negative statements become self-fulfilling and they are severely limiting. (Positive self-talk works exactly the same way but in the opposite direction).

I don't advocate wishful thinking. You can't skip the work of learning something by just telling yourself you can already do it when clearly, you can't.

So what's my point? Simply this: Be careful when you find a limitation in your ringing skill, not to accept it as set in concrete and become a limiting factor. Be even more careful not to set that limitation in concrete by repeatedly stating that limit as an unchangeable fact.

Be open to breaking through that limitation. A break through might be a big jump, but it's more often an accumulation of little steps (a.k.a. hard work).

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I have heard the following self-talk in the group:

- I can't use Abel and motion controllers
- I'm just a six bell ringer
- I can't learn place notation
- I can't get my Abel score above 9.0
- I can't learn coursing orders
- I can't see coursing orders
- I can't ring my bells and follow the treble as well

Every one of those statements was probably true when it was made by the person. And every one of those statements needs to have "yet, but I am working on it" added on the end to ensure people are open to making improvements.

By way of inspiration, spend a few minutes listening to the woman who changed her brain:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0td5aw1KXA> .

I can hear someone say: "Hypocrite, what about Peter Church and Grandsire?".

Well, I am not a Grandsire ringer, not because I couldn't be, but because I just don't like the method, it's a dog's dinner. **I am not a Cambridge Surprise Minor ringer either, yet, but I am working on it.**

[End]