

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 38, December 1st, 2019.

News roundup: Recorded lengths.

Quarter Peals

Beverley & District Society

Market Weighton

26 Sancton Road

Thursday 4th December, 2019

1360 Plain Bob Major

1-2 **Jenny M Hastings**

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

5-6 **Karen Lane**

7-8 **James R Startin**

Wishing Neil Turner a trip free trip down under.

Out and about.

The month got off to a rolling start on Sunday 1st December with a Kent TB Minor practise session out at Market Weighton.

The following Tuesday meeting had **just Karen Lane, Rebecca Legowski, and Chris and Peter Church**. Much good work was done on 8 bells with the focus on Plain Bob, Bastow LB and Forward with a view towards Kent TB Major.

Thursday 4th December saw a Quarter Peal attempt with too many people on new pairs, so we reverted to comfort zones and rang a compliment to **Neil Turner**.

The following week also out of comfort zones also proved unsuccessful.

10th and 17th December both had an Older But No Wiser meeting with just 5 ringers. Kent Treble Bob Minor and Major became the focus and some excellent touches of Minor and a good course of Major were achieved as well as some Plain Hunting on 10.

A couple of courses of Hull Surprise Minor were accomplished with the help of **Chris Munday**.

And then Christmas and the New Year interrupted activities.

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The Learning Curve

We recently had the question, "***How do you avoid frying your brains when ringing difficult methods on handbells?***".

There is no short answer to this, there is no "Silver Bullet", but there are way and means.

Getting your ringing skills up by ringing 2 or 3 times per week, ringing quarter peals and especially peals, helps enormously in achieving that peculiar state of consciousness where the sub-conscious brain can be trusted to ring the method, and the conscious brain can do other stuff like saying "bob" at the right point if you're the conductor.

Learning the method thoroughly also helps a great deal.

Many people stop learning Plain Bob once they can ring a good quarter peal. This is a mistake. The details of the pairs in Plain Bob need to be studied until they are second nature, and the underpinning nature of Plain Bob in relationship to other methods like St Clements, and Cambridge Surprise becomes obvious.

Once you know Plain Bob that thoroughly, you will begin to relax in harder methods and then appreciate the "staging posts" like the slow work in Oxford Treble Bob, and 3rds Place Bell in Cambridge Surprise. Then you can allow yourself a moment of relaxation without the danger of starting a major trip.

And your brain stays nice and cool.

Peter Church

1st January, 2020.