

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 49, November 5th, 2020.

The good news.

“Jenny’s Garage Gang” have persisted in spite of falling temperatures and rang 3 quarter peals in October including a quarter of Plain Bob Royal which included four firsts of Royal in Hand, quite an achievement. Well done.

There is a general view that ringing handbells is hard, but ringing “virtual handbells”, (Abel, Ringing Room, Handbell Stadium, Muster) is an order of magnitude harder. There have been numerous attempts to ring quarters resulting in one quarter of Kent TB Minor for the B&D, this was rung on Ringing Room” and also included a first of TB in hand.

A gathering of folks who have rung together over the years includes Chris Munday and Hamish McNaughton from University days, and Peter Church and Simon Humphrey from Grammar School days, has been meeting occasionally with a view to ring Surprise Major in hand.

Our first attempt was for Yorkshire Surprise in Handbell Stadium, this proved far too ambitious and we rapidly backtracked to Kent and then Oxford TB Major in Ringing Room. With that experience we moved on to Yorkshire and scored a quarter towards the end of October.

It has become clear that ringing highly structured methods in hand requires a set of skills beyond those required by methods that can be rung by “rules” such as Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford. So given that we are still learning about aspects of Plain Bob and yet we have confidence in our ability to ring Plain Bob, then we certainly have much to learn about the more highly structured methods, and would not even think of teaching others as yet.

For the record:

Beverley & District Society

Melbourne, E Yorkshire

1 Melbourne Park

Wednesday 14th October, 2020, 15B

1288 Spliced Plain & Little Bob Major

1-2 Jenny M Hastings

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Neil Turner (C)

7-8 James R Startin

Rung in memory of Mark J. Lane on his handbells, having failed a quarter on his birth date last Wednesday, 7th October.

Hull Handbells Project

Ringing Room, East Yorkshire

Wednesday 21st October, 2020

1344 Oxford TB Major

1-2 Peter Church (Hull)

3-4 Christopher L D Munday (Kirk Ella)

5-6 Hamish McNaughton (Eastergate)

7-8 Simon Humphrey (Wetton) (C)

Beverley & District Society

Melbourne, E Yorkshire

1 Melbourne Park

Friday 23rd October, 2020 15C

1260 Plain Bob Royal

1-2 Jenny M Hastings

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Christopher LD Munday (C)

7-8 Neil Turner

9-10 James R Startin

First quarter on 10 in hand 1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 9-10.

Beverley & District Society

Ringing Room, East Yorkshire

Tuesday 27th October, 2020

1272 Kent TB Minor

1-2 Rebecca M Legowski (East Hull)

3-4 Neil Turner (Wilberfoss)

5-6 Peter Church (Hull) (C)

First TB in hand: 3-4.

A Wedding Anniversary compliment to Chris and Peter Church.

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Ringing Room, East Yorkshire

Tuesday 27th October, 2020

1344 Yorkshire S. Major

1-2 Peter Church (Hull)

3-4 Christopher L D Munday (Kirk Ella)

5-6 Hamish McNaughton (Eastergate)

7-8 Simon Humphrey (Wetton) (C)

Can you call a quarter peal of Bob Major off any pair, follow the coursing order, check that bells are ringing in coursing order?

Can you translate the coursing order into the double place bell sequences, by correlation with the observation bells?

2 Absorb rhythm and develop mental stamina.

Load up Abel on your computer, set it to ring Plain Bob. Track the places in which your chosen pair of bells will ring with left and right thumbs. At handbell speed.

3 Learn Kent Places.

Memorise the spacings

4 Learn Double Bob.

Write out the Double Blue Line, memorise.

5 Learn how to learn structured methods.

Print out the Bill Jackson lessons on learning to ring Surprise Major. Read, mark learn and inwardly digest.

You will get the idea from the above.

If you want help, e-mail me at

peter@pchurch.org.uk

Not-so-good news.

As I write we are entering lock-down again in UK. My assumption is that this lock-down will last until roughly Easter 2021, a further 5 months.

Lock-down restricts us once more to virtual ringing via one of the online systems. And in so doing, reduces the numbers involved quite considerably.

Every Problem can be an opportunity

(a.k.a. management B.S.)

If you really do want to become a double-handed change ringer, don't waste the next 5 months.

There's a huge amount of learning that can be undertaken, and practised, by maximising your use of resources that are available. Here are some headline tips:

1 Study the basic methods thoroughly.

Plain Bob Minor

Can you call a 720 of Bob Minor, off any pair, follow the coursing order, check that bells are ringing in coursing order?

Plain Bob Major

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1st October, 2020.

News roundup:

Use of the internet.

Handbell Stadium.

Handbell stadium continues to evolve. Graham John has now incorporated the ability to ring touches in the practise mode. Replacements for the motion controllers in the shape of “dummy” handbells are also in the pipeline, start saving now.

Friday night sessions (20:30 – 21:30) on discord / stadium can be very valuable. Heather is brushing up her Place Notation ringing, and Peter has rung Kent Royal and Yorkshire Major.

Handbells and the virus.

Nothing has changed in the last month to give me a more optimistic view of what we can do this autumn and winter. The upturn in COVID-19 infections has been, if anything, higher than expected.

One consequence has been the plethora of government statements restricting our freedom to meet. So we need to prepare for an extended period of online activity, in spite of all of the frustrations. Extended period: about 8 months to end of May 2021.

Which means that if you have no motion controllers, you’re stuffed! And if you have motion controllers that you don’t intend to use, please let me know, I can find a good home for them.

The Hull Handbells Project meets at 10:00am on Tuesdays each week. The meeting is on discord.com on the changeringing server. If you would like an invitation to join, please let me know.

Peter Church

Hull

WANTED:

Action XL motion controllers.

Contact Peter Church if you have any controllers to sell, lend, or give away to a needy cause.

NB – Quarter Peal Records.

As at 1st October 2020, the B&D website is over 3 months out-of-date with regard to quarter peals. BellBoard gives a more accurate picture, search for quarter peals with “Beverley” in the Other Association field to get a list of quarters rung for B&D and also those rung jointly with other Associations.