

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 55, May 1st, 2021.

For the record:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1301423>

Beverley & District Society

Hull Handbells Project

Ringling Room

Tuesday 13th April, 2021

1360 Plain Bob Major

1-2 Simon Humphrey (Wetton)

3-4 Rebecca M Legowski (Hull)

5-6 Peter Church (Hull)(C)

7-8 James R Startin (Burnby)

We are very grateful for the time and talent contributed by Simon Humphrey and Hamish McNaughton over the last year. And during this last month we re-set our Tuesday morning activities to have a 6 bell session and a specific Surprise Major practice. Alison Lucas from Skipton has joined us for that and the regular time spent Surprise Major is beginning to bear fruit.

Ringling Room

Monday 19th April, 2021

1260 Double Bob Minor

1-2 James R Startin (Burnby)

3-4 William Lennox (North Cave)

5-6 Peter Church (Hull)(C)

1st Double Bob: 1-2.

1st Double Bob inside: 3-4.

In driving towards Surprise Major we have not forgotten the need for basic method work, and we have rung a lot of the simpler plain methods, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, and St. Clement's College Bob in particular.

Out and about

The West of Weighton Group eventually did an Oscar Wilde and gave in to the temptation to ring actual handbells. There were no lost packets of data, no recalcitrant motion controllers, no uncalibrated e-bells; no Paddy with his digger, and no-one had changed the system since they met together sometime lost in the depths of memory of last year.

Ringling Room

Friday 30th April, 2021

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 Neil Turner (Wilberfoss)

3-4 William Lennox (North Cave)

5-6 Peter Church (Hull)(C)

Congratulations to Neil Turner on moving into a new house fully equipped with ethernet.

How surreal, lift the bell, flick your wrist, "boing", that can't possibly be all there is to it?

The modest number of quarters does not do justice to the time invested in virtual ringing. Technology problems have defeated us at each turn, in one case a quarter of Double Bob was lost having rung 1,247 changes when half the bells flipped onto the wrong stroke.

OMG. You can actually see the actual ringer, grinning at you because that gap was a real trip not an internet faux pas. And the ringers still have heads and shoulders but now they're attached to a torso and all the way down to legs.

At home during April

The Yorkshire Association Education Committee held a handbells morning on 10th April, a number of East Riding ringers took part, and it was good to meet up with so many like-minded fanatics for a couple of hours.

This is so unreal, it won't catch on until the weather warms up a bit.

April 11th was the date on which the first 8-bell quarter peal was rung for the B&D, this was 1971, 50 years ago. Diary commitments precluded even an online attempt to mark the anniversary.

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The Surprise Major Toolkit.

Following the YACR morning we started a video conference based workshop on how to move beyond Treble Bob on handbells. Kent and Oxford Treble Bob are of intermediate difficulty compared with Surprise Minor and Major.

We have looked at the nuts and bolts of method construction and some of the memory techniques for focusing on the structural details of methods like Cambridge.

We will be looking at how to gain more confidence in ringing the harder methods as well as some method progressions and practice techniques.

Each of the sessions has been documented and the notes will be available via the Project Website before the next newsletter.

Comments and improvements to the content have been made by Heather Peachey (Barrow and District) and Elaine Scott (YACR), and the intention is to make the workshop widely available via video conferencing.

The Learning Curve

College Bob Minor is identical with St. Clement's College Bob Minor apart from the Lead End; where St. Clement's has 2nds place, College Bob has 6ths place. Both demand respect as interesting and valuable methods.

The key feature of both methods is the split between the triple dodge in 1-2 versus the hunting work of the back 4.

And the two fold difficulty of the 3-pull dodging, is "which way round" and "how many have I done"?

For the question "**which way round**", you will begin with one bell on the front. If that bell entered the front after becoming 4ths place bell, then, having passed treble 3-2, go and dodge down, under at hand over at back. Conversely 2nds place bell leads full and

dodges up, over and under. Concentrate, get the first dodge right, and relax, replicate the physical action for the following 2 dodges.

How many have I done? There are two working bells on the front and 3 plus the treble hunting around in 3-4-5-6. They all fit together like pieces in a jigsaw.

As the frontwork pair dodge together,

- The treble hunts 4-5, lies behind at the half lead, and hunts 5-4
- The three working bells make thirds hand and back in line with the dodge on the front and the work of the treble, and they do so in natural coursing order.

Remember to look for these structural tips next time you pick up a pair to ring St Clement's.

Keep looking at the jigsaw, suddenly all the pieces will fall into place; the work on the front complements the hunting at the back and vice versa, and then there can only be 3 dodges, no more no less.

College Bob

<https://complib.org/method/11371>

St. Clement's College Bob

<https://complib.org/method/11369>

Peter Church

1st May 2021.