

# THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 23, September 2018.

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## **News roundup: Recorded lengths.**

The quarter peal, rung at Cherry Burton on 6<sup>th</sup> June, was 100<sup>th</sup> on handbells for **John Atkinson**.

### **Beverley & District.**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2018  
Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

#### **1260 Plain Bob Minor, 15C**

1-2 Barry F Peachey  
3-4 Christopher LD Munday  
5-6 Peter Church (C)

The 250<sup>th</sup> Quarter Peal on Handbells for the B&D.

### **Barrow & District.**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2018  
Melton Ross, Lincs, The Old School

#### **1260 Plain Bob Minor, 15C**

1-2 Heather LE Peachey  
3-4 Barry F Peachey  
5-6 Peter Church (C)

150<sup>th</sup> Quarter Peal on Handbells as conductor.  
Rung to prove that 1<sup>st</sup> March was no fluke.

### **Beverley & District.**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2018  
Kirk Ella, 60 Riplingham Road

#### **1320 Kent T.B. Minor, 15C**

1-2 Christine M Church  
3-4 Peter Church  
5-6 Christopher LD Munday (C)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2018  
Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

#### **1260 Plain Bob Minor, 13E**

1-2 Rebecca Legowski  
3-4 Christine M Church  
5-6 Peter Church (C)  
First Quarter at first attempt, 1-2.  
50<sup>th</sup> on handbells, 3-4.

#### **Rebecca is registered blind.**

(It was a pleasure and a privilege to conduct Rebecca's first recorded length - PC).

This Quarter became the Featured Performance of the week on BellBoard.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2018  
Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue  
**1260 Plain Bob Minor, 13E**  
1-2 Christopher LD Munday  
3-4 Lesley A Davies  
5-6 Peter Church (C)  
First Quarter "inside", 3-4.

## **In Memoriam**

We note with great sadness the passing of  
**Wendy Hill** née **Atkinson**.

Wendy was a lovely person to know and also a highly competent handbell ringer. She rang in the ground breaking quarter peal on 11<sup>th</sup> April 1971, see <https://tinyurl.com/ycm7dyxk>, and the first handbell peal on 8 bells for the B&D in November of the same year. She made a huge contribution as a totally reliable 1-2 ringer.

Our sympathy goes out to **John Atkinson**.

## **Out and about.**

**James Blackburn** has been spotted in the Outer Hebrides ringing Plain Bob Major!

**The Regional Handbells day** took place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>. The session was quite intensive for those that were available, and a lot of good ringing took place. Just the one quarter was rung on the day (See above).

Participants were: **Barry Peachey, Chris Church, Chris Munday, Hilary Barclay, Neil Turner, Peter Church, Rebecca Legowski, Ron Barclay, and William (Bill) Lennox.**

Methods rung during the day were:

- Plain Bob Minor
- Double Bob Minor
- S Clements College Bob Minor
- Kent TB Minor
- Plain Bob Major
- Kent TB Major (3 lead touch)

**Barry Peachey** surprised himself by ringing his first course of Kent TB Minor on 3-4, and went on to prove that his handbell skills are rising with some good courses of Plain Bob Major on 1-2, not to mention St Clements and Double Bob Minor.

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Meanwhile, **Bcubed (Bing Bong Becky), Neil, Bill and Chris** had some fun with touches of Bob Minor. **Neil** is getting to grips with calling the touches, and **Bill** is getting the rhythm for ringing major. **Rebecca** was very pleased to ring on physical bells and had good rhythm for Bob Major on 1-2. **Chris** brushed off the rust of nearly 8 weeks away from the bells and turned in a very respectable 1-2 to Kent TB Minor, 3 leads of Kent TB Major, and 3-4 to Plain Bob Major.

**Ron and Hilary Barclay** joined in later in the afternoon session, **Ron** looked surprised when we rang the Double and the S Clements. It was good to see both of his arms back in action at long last. **Hilary's** Bob Major had also acquired a coat of rust but some shiny spots started to appear.

All of this was made possible by **Chris Munday** bringing his handbells and fitting in where needed; and multi-role **Chris Church** making salad, tea, and coffee, and delivering iced water from the shiny new Fridge-Freezer to all and sundry, plus turning in a good performance on the bells whenever necessary.

Learning / refresh points:

- A clear, correct open handstroke lead is vital to establishing and maintaining the rhythm.
- Kent TB is a mixture of slithery places and Plain Bob on steroids.
- Abel is a major learning aid, good fun, but no substitute for ringing real bells.
- There is no standing still, either you're sliding backwards or you're driving forwards
- There is no substitute for just ringing a lot.

## **Kirk Ella**

**Chris and Anne Munday** made their home and bells available for another quarter peal of Kent TB Minor. Just to prove that the quarter of T.B. rung in April was not a fluke.

## **Older but no wiser in Hull**

Our first session after the holidays had plenty of Plain Bob Major for **Chris Church, Lesley Davies, Neil Turner and Hilary Barclay**. **Pat Donnelly** also rang some Plain Bob Major and touches of Plain Bob Minor.

Later that week a quarter peal of Kent TB Minor failed after about 900 changes, we were all a bit rusty with the calls.

With **Ros Baxter, Bing Bong Becky, and Ron Barclay** all back in action, we had a full session on 14<sup>th</sup>. Again with lots of Plain Bob Minor and Major, but also Plain Hunting on 10, and a couple of courses of Kent TB Minor. And a lot of good rhythmic ringing. The elusive second quarter of Kent TB finally came our way on the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup>.

2 days later we scored the first quarter peal with **Rebecca Legowski**. Whilst it was **Rebecca's** achievement, bellringing is quintessentially about teamwork. This is a Regional achievement as well as a personal success.

On 21<sup>st</sup>, following on from a digression into Bastow Little Bob, we again focused on Plain Bob, **Ros Baxter** ringing her first touch of minor on an inside pair, and **Rebecca** started to ring 3-4 and 5-6. Everyone (**Ros, Becky, Lesley, Chris, Hilary**) had a share in the Plain Bob Major, at their various levels. We now need to find time to rise to the challenge of ringing the touches of Bob Major.

**Lesley Davies** rose to her challenge and rang a quarter of Plain Bob Minor on 3-4 later in the afternoon, thereby earning an ice-cream ☺.

The last session of the month re-located to **Lesley's** as there were painters working at 33. On top of the Plain Bob workout we also achieved some leads of Plain Hunting on 10. **John Atkinson** joined us later that same day and enabled some more concerted PB Major as well as Kent TB Minor.

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## **Market Weighton**

After the long break in June and July we were all a bit out of practice, so the session at **Karen's** on 12<sup>th</sup> August was heavy with Plain Bob Major. We (**Karen Lane / Chris Church / Peter Church / Neil Turner**) managed most of a three course touch as well as moving round the pairs. We were sufficiently encouraged to try for another long touch 3 days later. Numerous touches were started culminating in a good 336, and producing a number of learning points. The most significant lesson:

**When there is a gap or hesitation don't stop. Keep the rhythm going and ring your bells as near to right as you can.** Get them spot on at the next change. Losing the rhythm is fatal.

Subsequently, we managed about 900 changes before the ringing broke down.

## **Sutton**

We were delighted to entertain **Gwynneth Moffat** for an evening. Whilst the evening was mostly a catch-up on 8 weeks of news, we also rang some Plain Bob, Little Bob, Spliced Plain and Little Bob and a good course of Kent TB. It was great to have **Gwynneth** out and about.

## **Melbourne (E. Yorkshire).**

**Neil Turner's** other band (**Jim and Jenny**) is exploring the delights of Little Bob and Bastow Little Bob.

## **Conducting Plain Bob Minor**

**Karen Lane** and **Chris Church** were the guinea pigs upon whom Peter tested the Conducting Plain Bob Minor for Handbells training material.

Conductor's responsibilities, compositions, coursing order, checking, correcting were the topics covered in a solid three hours of brain bending concentration. We will probably have a re-run with new guinea pigs for the version 2 early in 2019.

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## **Quarter Peals**

The quarter peal length is excellent as a training and practice piece, whereas peal lengths, whilst being harder, carry more kudos. With the B&D reaching 250 handbell quarters as recorded on BellBoard, herewith a few B&D statistics:

63 ringers have rung quarter peals, 6 of those having rung first in hand since the start of the Hull Handbells Project. Only 9 ringers have exceeded 20 quarter peals in hand for the B&D, viz (numbers as at 250 quarters):

**155 Peter Church**  
**100 John Atkinson**  
94 Maris Midgley  
90 Roddy Horton  
64 Graham Smith  
**48 Chris Church**  
**35 Chris Munday**  
31 Michael McLean  
23 Sarah Driver

### **Best years:**

1974: 27  
1979: 23  
1973: 20  
1980: 19  
1977: 18  
1978: 17  
2000: 13  
2018: 13 so far

### **Stage Analysis**

3 Minimus  
2 doubles  
150 Minor  
89 Major  
6 Royal

The last quarter of Royal was rung in 1977. Treble Bob: 8 Minor, 10 Major  
The first 720 of Surprise was Norwich in 1974, followed by Cambridge and Netherseale. The only quarter purely of Surprise was Cambridge Minor in 1978.

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