

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 67, May 1st, 2022.

For the record: QUARTER PEALS

Barrow and District Society
Fethiye, Turkey
F3 Focapark, 1404 Sky 8
Friday 1st April 2022
1-2 Heather L E Peachey
3-4 Barry F Peachey (C)
The Conductor's 1900th Quarter Peal. 1st
Quarter Peal in Turkey by both and for the
Barrow & District Society.

For the record: PEALS

Beverley & District Society
Market Weighton
26 Sancton Road
Friday 1st April 2022
1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor
1-2 Karen A Lane
3-4 James R Startin
5-6 Peter Church (C)
First St Clement's on handbells: 3-4.

Market Weighton
26 Sancton Road
Friday 8th April 2022
1360 Plain Bob Major
1-2 James R Startin
3-4 Karen A Lane
5-6 Peter Church
7-8 Neil Turner (C)

Ringling Room
Monday, 18 April 2022
1440 Minor (6m)
360 each Double Bob, Plain Bob; 240 St.
Clement's College Bob, 180 each Double
Oxford Bob, Single Oxford Bob, 120 Little Bob
1-2 Damien C Garwood (Elland)
3-4 Rebecca M Legowski (East Hull)
5-6 Peter Church (West Hull) (C)
Most Minor methods on handbells for all and
for the Society.

Ringling Room
Wednesday, 27th April 2022
1272 TB Minor (2m)
720 Kent, 552 Oxford.
1-2 Damien C Garwood (Elland)
3-4 Rebecca M Legowski (East Hull)
5-6 Peter Church (West Hull) (C)
Good to be back from coronavirus: 1-2.

Beverley and District Ringing Society
Kingston upon Hull
33 Westbourne Avenue
Tuesday, 5 April 2022 in 2h 2 (13 in E)
5040 Minor (5m)
Extents: 1&2, Kent T.B., 3, Oxford T.B., 4, St.
Clement's College B., 5, Double B., 6&7, Plain
Bob.
1-2 Christopher L D Munday
3-4 Alison J Lucas
5-6 Peter Church (C)
The most methods on handbells for the
Society since 1967, and most Minor methods.

Beverley and District Ringing Society
Kingston upon Hull
33 Westbourne Avenue
Tuesday, 19 April 2022 in 2h 32 (15 in C)
5056 Plain Bob Major
C Kenneth Lewis
1-2 Karen A Lane
3-4 Rebecca M Legowski
5-6 Christopher L D Munday
7-8 Peter Church (C)
First Major in hand: 1-2.

***Rung with the compliments of the band to Dr.
Maris C Midgley (née Stephenson), on her
marriage (12th April 2022) to Mr. Gordon
Blake.***

Maris learned to handle a bell at Sutton and
went on to ring some 200 peals, mainly for
the B&D in the 15 years from 1967 to 1982,
and conducted the first ladies band peal for
the Society. She also took part in the first peal
of Kent Major in hand for the Society, and in
the only silent and non-conducted peal for the
Society, both of these in 1975.

Maris still holds the ladies' record for most
handbell quarters (100) and handbell peals
(14).

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Beverley and District Ringing Society

Kirk Ella

60 Riplingham Road

Tuesday, 26 April 2022 in 2h 34 (15 in C)

5184 Kent Treble Bob Major

Marcus C Sherwood

1-2 Peter Church

3-4 Rebecca M Legowski

5-6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7-8 Heather L E Peachey

1st Treble Bob in hand: 7-8.

Out and about

Congratulations to Barry Peachey on reaching 1,900 quarters, but was it really necessary to go all the way to Turkey to ring Bob Minimus in hand?

There's plenty of life in the handbell ringing in the area, much learning takes place both with the West of Weighton group, and with the Elland / Hull axis. Following 4 months with nothing to show for our efforts, we have scored a few peals and there are more to come.

We have recently started to teach "from scratch" once more. However, much to their shame, the Beverley and District Society Committee could not find it within their powers to support this initiative.

So currently two blind people and an ancient wrinkly keyboard warrior (a.k.a P Church) are teaching a Vicar's wife the delights of double handed (fingered?) method ringing in Ringing Room.

We will probably have more fun than waiting for hours for a nugatory towerbell touch on a meeting day, and where there is no handbell ringing within the service.

Certainly the "West of Weighton" online session had a lot of fun with Quintus Little Bob Minor in preparation for another date touch.

The Learning Curve

Some learning points came out of the peal of Plain Bob Major on 19th April. Karen asked the question: "***How do you relax without losing concentration and making mistakes?***". Excellent question!

The medium term goal is complete mastery of the method. But even in the short term, all of the possible answers to that question would fill a book, but here's a few:

Ring a lot of quarters and peals so that the mental stamina builds up and the memory pathways are made stronger.

Learn more about the method than simply the patterns for your pair (you should always learn all of the pairs). It would pay dividends to spend half an hour every day on Bob Major.

You know the pattern for 7-8 (coursing), and you know the pattern for 5-6 in the plain course. ***How do they fit together? Test yourself:***

- When 7-8 are dodging home, what are 5-6 doing?
- When 7-8 are going into the split lead what are 5-6 doing?
- Etc., for all 7 lead ends

--oo0oo--

Conducting tip

Stemming from a discussion between Heather Peachey and Chris Munday is a recognition that knowing which bell runs out at a bob is more useful than knowing which bell makes the bob. In Kent and Oxford, the bell in the slow runs out (unaffected) if there is a bob called, and in Plain Bob the bell that hunts down in front of the treble runs out if there is a bob.

So pick up on the three bells in the coursing order, and focus on the middle one. Then make the call with confidence.

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Reflection.

What are the ingredients of a strong team or society? In my view, we need:

- A sense of purpose
- A missionary zeal
- Clear objectives
- An understanding of binding forces and constraints

Wow.

Sounds like a management presentation.

Well yes, this is part of a high-performance work-systems model that can be applied to any team or collective activity. I started to think about it when my second request for support from the local Ringing Society was rejected.

When I read the relevant constitution I discovered that the original purpose of the Society had become diluted, and there are no clear objectives.

Even worse, the passionate enjoyment of ringing in all of its glorious absurdity, and which binds ringers together has gone.

Q: Is change ringing on handbells of any value to the current Beverley and District Ringing Society?

A: No, not at the moment, it's just an embarrassing nuisance.

My conclusion: The committee of the local bellringing society no longer believes that handbell change ringing has any value.

Handbell Change ringing in the area is weakened by this and so is Towerbell change ringing as a consequence.

We lose-lose together.

History

Saint Cuileáin used a brass handbell to call the faithful to worship in Glenkeen, Co. Tipperary, his bell is housed in the British Museum.

The Guild of St Cuileáin was formed in 2012 and has some 700 recorded peals and 44 Quarter Peals.

Peter Church

1st May 2022.