

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 71, September 1st, 2022.

Performances for the record:

A full list of Project performances for 2022 is on Bellboard at:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=14769>

Kingston-Upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Friday, 5th August 2022

1260 Buxton Bob Minor

1-2 Karen A Lane

3-4 Neil Turner

5-6 Peter Church (c)

The first quarter of the method for all of the band and on handbells for the Society.

Kingston-Upon-Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Tuesday, 9th August 2022

1260 Plain Bob Royal

1-2 Heather L E Peachey

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Peter Church (c)

7-8 Neil Turner

9-0 Barry F Peachey

Rung on the 100th birthday of Philip Larkin (1922 – 1985), poet, and Librarian of the University of Hull.

Cambridge University Guild

Boynton, Dairy Cottage

Thursday 25th August, 2022

5056 Cambridge S. Major

Middleton's

1-2 Alan T Winter (Christ's)

3-4 David C Brown (Darwin)(C)

5-6 William T Perrins (Selwyn)

7-8 Alan F Schofield (Clare)

Rung as part of the Cambridge University Guild Tour, 2022.

The first known handbell peal of Surprise Major in East Yorkshire.

NB. This is not a "Hull Handbells" performance, but is reported here for its historic significance.

Out and about

The month started with a practise session at **Chris Munday's** place in Kirk Ella. Our intention had been to ring a quarter of Kent TB Royal, but one ringer had to cry off for work reasons; we rang most of a quarter of Oxford TB Major before a trip caused us to stop.

We also explored the Ilkeston Variation (half lead spliced Oxford and Kent) until a pair-swap for 1-2 proved fatal.

On Friday 5th our normal Friday venue in Market Weighton was unavailable so we met in Hull and after some false starts rang a very nice quarter of Buxton Bob. Buxton is a simple St Clement's variation; easy to ring on towerbells, deceptive on handbells. Later in the session **Karen** "bagged" her first course of Oxford TB Minor on 3-4.

On Tuesday 9th persistence enabled us to ring a quarter of Bob Royal in spite of the holiday absence of **Chris Munday** and covid absence of **Rebecca**. The quarter was followed by a good exploration of Kent TB Major.

Technology woes, Wednesday 10th, dogged **Peter's** ability to join **Rebecca, Damien and Neil** (T) in Ringing Room; a course of Sandal and a course of Plain Bob Major were all that could be achieved in 45 minutes but at least Rebecca was back in action following covid.

Gwynneth Moffat is fighting back against health issues, just one walking stick for now. **Gwynneth** and **Chris** (Church) enjoyed ringing some Plain Bob, Little Bob and Double Bob, not so much the Reverse Bob.

Barry Peachey had a couple of head-bangin' sessions of Kent TB Minor towards the end of the month; progress is being made and we have rung all of the changes of an extent, just not yet all in the same touch.

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Friends in need of prayer and support:

“Two wrists” - *Jim Startin*,

“New Joints” - *Rhona McEune*

“1 stick” - *Gwynneth Moffat*,

“Bugs Bunny” - *Karen Lane*

The Learning Curve (1)

Following a conversation with respected ART member, **Heather Peachey**:

Learning the sequence of calls is not the same as learning a composition. NB.

We’re talking here about 720s of Minor or quarters of Major, not short touches.

Learning the sequence of calls is just one early step in learning a composition. So what else is there?

- The position of the calls in each course and as related to the observation bell.
- The structure of the calls as related to the pair you are going to ring.
- The impact of the calls on the coursing order.
- The positions of the various pairs in the coursing order.
- Checkpoints and pitfalls

At the end of the learning, ***the structure of the coursing orders is how you remember the composition***, the sequence of calls is merely a means of recording the composition.

Why not “just watch the observation bell, make the calls and then transpose the coursing order?

Well, sure, if you want to make life hard for yourself, and be embarrassed when it fires up because you had got a couple of bells the wrong way round in the transposition, or missed a dodge or even missed a call because you were transposing at the time.

Do the prep, do the practise, get right on top of the composition, get the results.

And for anyone that says, “I cannot remember strings of numbers”, I say “watch this video”:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0td5aw1KXA>

The Learning Curve (2)

When I first suggested ringing Buxton Bob it looked like a really good idea, but when it came to the actual ringing it felt wrong. For such a simple change of structure (X36 became X1236), ***why was it so un-nerving?***

My conclusion was X12X anywhere should create a dodge. **Period.**

Only it didn’t, because it was conjoined with a X36X most bells were static, and just the pair in 4-5 crossing over.

That’s one of the beauties of handbell ringing, you get so involved in the method that it can still throw up surprises even at the simplest levels.

Website

The website will be updated to Version 10 later this year. If there are any features you would like to see, or views you have on its usability please let me know.

I am thinking towards a ringing development structure based around:

- Acquiring Knowledge and Skill
- Turning Knowledge and Skill into Performance
- Turning Performance into Achievement
- Turning Achievement into Mastery

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Coming soon to a computer near you if there is demand:

We have the material and talent to run training courses in person, or online, viz:

- Complete beginner
- Plain Hunting and Plain Bob Minor
- Conducting Plain Bob
- Beyond Plain Bob but before Treble Bob
- Treble Bob and Beyond

All we need are the trainees. . .

If you know anyone wishing to take on a wee bit of learning, please get them to e-mail

peter@pchurch.org.uk

A beginner's questionnaire accompanies this newsletter.

Peter Church

1st September 2022.