

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 75, January 1st, 2023.

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>

**Beverley and District Society
Market Weighton, 26 Sancton Road**

Friday 2nd December, 2022

1264 Plain Bob Major

1-2 James R Startin

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Neil Turner

7-8 Peter Church (C)

A "welcome back" to Jim after injury.

Market Weighton, 26 Sancton Road

Friday 2nd December, 2022

1260 Minor – 2 methods

720 Kent TB, 540 Plain Bob

1-2 Karen A Lane

3-4 Neil Turner

5-6 Peter Church (C)

Kingston-upon-Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday 3rd December, 2022

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 Christine M Church

3-4 William Lennox

5-6 Peter Church (C)

Kingston-upon-Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday 3rd December, 2022

1288 Spliced Plain and Little Bob Major

1-2 Rebecca M Legowski

3-4 Neil Turner

5-6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7-8 Barry F Peachey

First Spliced in hand: 7-8.

For International Disabled Persons' Day,

Kingston-upon-Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday 3rd December, 2022

1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor

1-2 Neil Turner

3-4 William Lennox

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First Kent in hand inside: 3-4.

The 500th Handbell Quarter for the Beverley Society.

Kirk Ella, 60 Riplingham Road

Tuesday 6th December, 2022, 2h37, 15 in C

5184 Kent Treble Bob Major

1-2 Rebecca M Legowski

3-4 Neil Donovan

5-6 Christopher LD Munday

7-8 Peter Church (C)

Elland,

24 Boxhall Road

Friday 9th December, 2022

1264 Plain Bob Major

1-2 Damien C Garwood

3-4 Rebecca M Legowski

5-6 Peter Church

7-8 Christopher LD Munday (C)

Kingston-upon-Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

Sunday 11th December, 2022

1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor

1-2 Karen A Lane

3-4 Neil Turner

5-6 Peter Church (C)

Market Weighton, 26 Sancton Road

Tuesday 27th December, 2022

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 James R Startin

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Neil Turner (C)

50th Handbell Quarter in the area this year.

Out and about

With "Town Taking Day" as an excuse we had a quarter peal fest to start the month.

Jim Startin made a re-entry into quarter peal ringing following an accident, with 1-2 to Bob Major. Also a quarter of Kent was rung to get **Neil and Karen** into the groove.

Chris Munday conducted a valiant attempt to ring Little Bob Major but the band needed something slightly easier and a simple Spliced Plain and Little was scored.

At the same time a quarter of Bob Minor was rung with **Chris Church and Bill Lennox**, and then also a quarter of Kent TB Minor. This

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proved to be the 500th handbell quarter peal for the B&D.

The peal of Kent TB Major on Tuesday 6th was again showed a good rhythm and very competent conducting and ringing. This brings to the number rung (in 2022) in the area up to 8, 7 of which were published for the B&D

The following Friday, a trip to Elland to see **Damien Garwood** brought several benefits. We rang a good quarter of Plain Bob Major. Good rhythm, clear leads, no trips nor restarts, "That's how I like it" commented the conductor.

Explaining method structure over a VOIP link to a blind person who has little spatial awareness is difficult. **Rebecca** has demonstrated what can be done using a braille printer and showed this to **Damien**. We had a good discussion about places and bell numbers and some suggestions for improving her system came up. Mind you, the band rang courses of Little Bob and Gainsborough Little Bob without trouble.

A couple of days later on Sunday 11th, **Karen Lane and Neil Turner** came through to Hull for a quarter of Kent TB Minor and a Treble Bob practise session.

Chris Munday hosted a 12 bell session in Kirk Ella on Tuesday 13th. **Rebecca, Neil D, Neil T, Barry and Jim** gathered and practised. 12 bells is a strange rhythm with compacted but elongated changes. We would have sunk without trace but for coursing order. As it was everyone rang some courses of PLP, and the little bit of Plain Bob Royal at the end felt like light relief.

The WoW (West of Weighton) group rounded off our handbell year with a simple quarter of Plain Bob. This made the quarter peal tally for the year to 50, a good figure in the light of the post pandemic problems. This figure was exceeded in 2019 with 58 quarters, and also in 2021 with 80 quarters.

Thoughts

The Peal tally of 7 for 2022 is a good score compared with previous years. But what's the point in ringing peals when we can count a quarter peal as an achievement?

The Peal with an agreed set of rules and regulations defined by the wider ringing community is normally rung to a higher standard than a quarter peal. That's not to say that quarters are rubbish, far from it, but the purpose in a quarter is often progression and experience, and standing-up a quarter could be quite demoralising for a struggling learner. A peal however, is a clear standard and that standard should not be diluted.

The long term concentration needed for a peal also leads to stronger practise ringing with the improved "ropesight" and good rhythm that comes from sustained high standard ringing.

To be a good peal ringer requires more than just the ability to ring a touch, it requires a deep level of method knowledge, extensive experience, and a cool head in times of trouble, not to mention a ringing style that leaves some room for relaxation when you get to the handrails.

Set your stall out, become a handbell peal ringer, life will never be the same again.

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The Learning Curve

Fun food and friends, count the smiles per day: Steve Wozniak

There is bad news:

“There is no magic bullet that will take away the work needed to learn surprise methods

There is good news:

All the techniques that you need to learn are available for a few GBP in Tina Stoecklin’s books, “Change Ringing on Handbells”.

Little Bob and Surprise

A quarter peal of Little Bob Major (early in December) failed, the method was just too tricky.

So what’s tricky about Little Bob and what has that to do with Surprise.

Well in Surprise you frequently need to hunt with one bell and dodge with the other. This sort of pattern turns up in Little Bob on all numbers, at the half lead.

If you have a working pair (as opposed to 1-2) at some point you will have one bell passing through 2-3 and one dodging above 4ths.

It’s worth studying how the pairs fit together and what patterns are followed. Learn as much as you can on 6, 8, 10 etc. Then have a go on Abel.

Peter Church

1st January 2023.