

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 78, April 1st, 2023.

Performances for the record:

A full list of Project performances for 2023 is on Bellboard at:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=16089>

Beverley and District Society Market Weighton, 26 Sancton Road

Sunday 5th March, 2023

1300 Minor (2m)

540 Plain, 40 Little, and 2 x 720 Plain Bob

1-2 Karen A Lane

3-4 Neil Turner

5-6 Peter Church (C)

Rung to mark the Hull Solar Gate Panel for the recording of the earliest known solar eclipse, the ground panel is illuminated at 13:00 on 5th March.

Barrow and District Society Melton Ross, 3 West Holme

Monday 6th March, 2023

1260 Minor (2m)

720 Oxford TB, 540 Plain Bob

1-2 Barry F Peachey

3-4 Heather LE Peachey

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First Treble Dodging in Hand: 1-2.

Beverley and District Society Market Weighton, 26 Sancton Road

Sunday 12th March, 2023

1260 Plain Bob Minor

720 & 540

1-2 Christine M Church

3-4 Peter Church

5-6 Karen A Lane (C)

Best wishes to Diane Turner for a speedy improvement to the damaged knee.

Barrow and District Society Kingston-upon-Hull, 33 Westbourne Avenue

Tuesday 21st March, 2023

1320 Kent T.B. Minor

1-2 Barry F Peachey

3-4 Christopher LD Munday

5-6 Nicholas W Jones (C)

First purely of Treble Bob in Hand: 1-2.

Dedicated to Dr. Hamish M. McNaughton.

Beverley and District Society

Kirk Ella, E Yorks

60 Riplingham Road

Tuesday, 28 March 2023 in 35m (15 in C)

1360 Plain Bob Major

1-2 Heather L E Peachey

3-4 Neil Turner

5-6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7-8 Barry F Peachey

Rung in memoriam **Dr Hamish M McNaughton.**

Market Weighton, 26 Sancton Road

Friday 31st March, 2023

1300 Minor (2m)

720 Kent T.B. & 540 Plain Bob

1-2 James R Startin

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First 720 of T.B. in hand: 1-2.

First 720 of T.B. "inside" in hand: 3-4.

Out and about

Two fine quarter peals started the month, well done to Barry Peachey on another 720 of Treble Bob.

There was a methods and skills session on Tuesday 7th, numerous progressive courses of Double Norwich were rung, together with a half course of Yorkshire S Major; the Yorkshire was a "Major Surprise" to **Neil Turner** who doubted his ability to achieve Surprise on 8.

The 3rd week of the month was unique. Monday night saw **John Atkinson, Heather Peachey, Chris Munday and Peter Church** at a cultural event in the Ropery in Barton. There was some ringing of Spliced Plan and Little on handbells, as well as a brief explanation of change ringing. The performance was well received by the 50 or so members of the audience, and resulted in some follow on interest.

The normal morning ringing for Tuesday 21st March was moved to the evening to accommodate a visit from **Nick Jones** from Fort William. This was a golden opportunity for Barry to ring a full quarter of Treble Bob;

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this was followed by a concerted Double Norwich session.

Also, it was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of **Hamish McNaughton**. **Hamish and Chris Munday** were at university together; **Hamish** was a great advocate of ringing handbells using Place Notation as a guide to the structure of a method. He was unstinting in giving his time to lesser experienced members, and both **Peter Church and Heather Peachey** are better ringers for having been “tutored” by **Hamish**.

On Friday 24th March the West of Weighton group met and tackled a long list of methods, all Major: Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Avalon Court, St Clement’s College, Little Bob, Crayford Little Bob, Reverse Bob, Wellington Little Bob, and Double Bob. Whilst noting that Avalon can be rung with either near or far calls, it could be a useful as a way of developing awareness of turning round in 3rds and 5ths on 8 bells.

The best buildings sit on strong foundations, and running off to ring Surprise too early is a waste of time, compared with putting Double Bob alongside Plain Bob. Double is deceptively easy for a course, and sneakily hard for a quarter. **Barry Peachey** is on his way to the latter after a concerted Double Bob session on Monday 27th.

On Tuesday 28th yours truly was late to the session having put extra time in at home.

The assembled gathering rang a quarter for **Hamish McNaughton** who, sadly, died earlier this month.

Hamish was a great help to the Hull Handbells Project during the pandemic, he provided a safe pair to Treble Bob and Surprise Major just when we needed him.

The Learning Curve

To count or not to count, that could be the question.

How do you know how many dodges there are left in the 3-pull in 1-2 for St Clement’s, or the work in 5-6 in Kent at a Bob?

Well, counting the dodges will work, just so long as nothing untoward happens to distract you. And you remember to start counting in Kent and Oxford before a bob is called.

One of the problems with the front work of St Clement’s is that you need to ring the right number of dodges, and also ring them the right way round. A technique I employ all the time is for 4ths Place bell St Clements, which runs down to 1-2 and dodges 1-2 down 3 times, is to concentrate on that bell and ring it slightly (physically) higher on the backstroke, lift the bell up and extra inch or two just to emphasise “over at backstroke”. I then repeat that physical movement two more times.

If I am following the coursing order, then my after bell makes thirds when I do my first dodge, the next bell makes thirds at the dodge for the half lead, and the last working bell makes the last thirds. So I don’t count 1, 2, 3, I count to 3 by watching 3 bells doing the work in 3rds.

If you ring 5-6 to Kent or Oxford, and call In Out In, apply the physical counting technique described for St Clement’s, cooler brains, and greater certainty, will be yours.

What about that 3-pull in 5-6 at the half lead in Yorkshire? Well, dodge first when Treble is 7-8 up, dodge for the Half-Lead, and dodge for the treble in 7-8 down.

What about the 5-pull in Bourne? Start with Treble in 3-4 Up, 2nds Place Bell makes 2nds for treble in 3-4, and then dodges down (under at hand emphasis over at back)

1. For Treble in 4-5
2. For Treble dodging 5-6 Up
3. For Half Lead
4. For Treble dodging 5-6 Down
5. For Treble in 5-4

Then lead full whilst Treble dodges 3-4 down, and pass the Treble 2-3.

Peter Church

1st April 2023.

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