

# THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 85, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

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

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

**Beverley and District Ringing Society  
Kingston upon Hull**

**33 Westbourne Avenue**

Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 (15 in C)

**1260 Plain Bob Royal**

1–2 Karen A Lane

3–4 Neil Turner

5–6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7–8 Heather L E Peachey

9–0 Barry F Peachey

**Kirk Ella**

**60 Riplingham Road**

Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 (15 in C)

**1344 Kent T.B. Major**

1–2 Peter Church

3–4 Heather L E Peachey

5–6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7–8 Barry F Peachey

Rung in memory of Neville Pailing who died 15/11/2023.

Neville was a past President of the Society and for many years Tower Captain at Walkington.

With deepest sympathy to Andrew, Kathryn, and all the family.

**Kingston upon Hull**

**33 Westbourne Avenue**

Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (15 in C)

**1272 Oxford Treble Bob Minor**

552 & 720

1–2 Heather L E Peachey

3–4 William Lennox

5–6 Peter Church (C)

In memoriam: F. Neville Pailing who taught 3-4 to handle a tower bell.

First Oxford T.B.: 3-4.

**Kingston upon Hull**

**33 Westbourne Avenue**

Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 in 40m (15 in C)

**1260 Plain Bob Royal**

Arranged by C L D Munday

1–2 Peter Church

3–4 Karen A Lane

5–6 Christopher L D Munday (C)

7–8 Neil Turner

9–10 Barry F Peachey

**Barrow & District Society**

**Melton Ross, Lincolnshire**

**3, West Holme**

Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**1360 Plain Bob Major**

1–2 Barry F Peachey

3–4 Heather L E Peachey

5–6 William A Lennox

7–8 Peter Church (C)

1st of Major on real handbells 5-6.

**Beverley and District Ringing Society**

**Kingston upon Hull**

**33 Westbourne Avenue**

Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (15 in C)

**1260 Plain Bob Minor**

1–2 Barry F Peachey

3–4 Karen A Lane

5–6 Neil Turner (C)

## ***Out and about***

The month kicked off on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> with a West of Weighton meeting at Karen's workplace, a tour of Plain, Little, Double, Reverse Bob Minor was augmented by some touches of Original and some courses and touches of Bob Major. We also rang some short touches of Kent Treble Bob and Writtle Treble Bob Minor, one extension of which is "Queer" Treble Bob Major.

Chris Munday is never short of zany ideas. On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, Barry Peachey's face was "a picture" when Chris suggested that we rang Cambridge Minor Maximus. We commuted this to a Plain Course of Original Minor Maximus. Followed by a few changes of Bristol S Major.

Original Minor Maximus:

1234567890ET

43218765TE09

347812ET5690

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8743TE210965  
78ET34901256  
TE8709436521  
ET9078563412

Etc

If you think this is bad, have a look at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2rn7dtzn>

(it takes you to complib). A lead is 720 changes, and there are 7 leads in a course. Probably a bit harder than Crambo Doubles.

--oo0oo--

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November saw a concerted effort to ring Norwich Surprise. We are at the stage of getting up to performance standard, and in particular being able to survive trips. To get there we need to put in a chunk of time as well as to do some Abel / Stadium practice sessions.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> then had a brilliant practice session with rotating the pairs to Little Bob Royal, a method that is a lot harder than expected. Karen Lane rang her first courses of Double Norwich, Barry Peachey put the inside pairs of Bob Major to bed plus 7-8 to Kent TB Major, and the session was rounded off with some courses of Duffield and 3 leads of Kent TB Royal.

On the following weekend a peal of Plain Bob Major fell foul of lack of sleep for the conductor but enabled Barry Peachey 's first quarter of Kent TB Major. Plain Bob Triples was rung for amusement.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Bill Lennox and Heather Peachey stepped up to the mark and rang Oxford TB Minor. Oxford TB is a hard method to conduct on any number and we vowed to repeat the performance.

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Maestro Munday called a quarter of Plain Bob Royal with half-lead singles. A brew-up was then followed by some more (more than last time, we reached the half-lead) changes of Bristol S Major. This was followed by Little Bob Royal and 3 leads of Kent TB Royal.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> saw another busy session in the conservatory at 26 Sancton Road. An hour of

Plain Bob and Little Bob Royal was followed by a heavy session of Double Bob Major for treble tracking practice and some Plain Bob Triples for amusement.

--oo0oo--

The Learning Curve.

Attempts to put the changes together for two bells to Bristol S Major caused some discussion.

The question, "Why did we change from the standard 8 Surprise Major to the Pickled Egg 7" was raised. Albert Pitman was right on the nail in his choice of London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative. From there you can take any route that your conductor suggests, but for handbells whilst Cambridge S Minor to Cambridge S Major and Yorkshire S Major is an understood route, there is merit in ringing Norwich and Bourne, both of which extend well into the Major stage and have features that make them attractive for handbells.

--oo0oo--

On a more practical note, Plain Bob Major is vitally important, a cardinal method. The question arose near the end of the month, "Why do we have 'off-days' when things go a lot worse than expected.

Well, at one level we are all fallible human beings, perfection is not a given. So when we get good at using a skill, we need then to put in the "flying hours" as Chris would say, to imprint the skill in the sub-conscious in order for it to become habitual rather than exceptional.

Another aspect of ringing that we don't put enough attention towards is the question of how to survive trips. One strategy is to ensure context for the details. If the detail runs into problems, then the context can carry you through. What do we mean by that? Well (and here's a tower-bell concept helping a handbell ringer), when we learned Yorkshire, Cambridge and Superlative S Major, we learned 2, 6, 7, 3, 4, 8, 5, 2, - the Place-Bell sequence.

On handbells it's more complicated. 8-7, 5-3,

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2-4, 6-8, 7-5, 3-2, 4-6, 8-7 (and that's just the coursing pattern). But, being conscious of the pair of place bells that you are ringing, and the place bells you will become is a way of surviving trips. Especially if the conductor is on the ball and announces the lead end. So, every lead-end, what's my place bells? What place-bells do I become? Practice it in Plain Bob Major, then apply it to Kent, and build on up to Surprise.

You can't learn this stuff at a practice session, you have to do the work before-hand.

Another tactic; when other people make trips: go icy-cool and just stick to ringing your own pair as best possible, and not get distracted. Watch the treble like a hawk.

--oo0oo--

Maestro Munday has too much spare grey matter and wants us nutters to ring Bristol S Major when we would hardly claim to have mastered Plain Bob. But he does have a way of drawing the most out of people by helping the learning process. Bristol has been updated on the website with some of his ideas.

Take a look:

[http://www.pchurch.org.uk/ringing/03\\_methods/19048\\_bristol\\_surprise\\_major.html](http://www.pchurch.org.uk/ringing/03_methods/19048_bristol_surprise_major.html)

**Peter Church**

1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.