

## Change Ringing on Handbells

The core group of handbell change ringers based in and around East Yorkshire maintained its dedication to the cause during 2024 in spite of the pressures and setbacks. So whilst a respectable number of quarter peals have been recorded, the quantity is 30% lower than in 2023.

We have rung in three main locations, Market Weighton, Kirk Ella and Hull, and all in the comfort and warmth of various private properties.

The great sadness of our year was the loss of Neil Turner. Neil was one of the driving forces of the "West of Weighton" group that started in the Wilberfoss, Melbourne, Burnby, Market Weighton area, continued as an outdoor meeting during the Covid pandemic, and has continued ever since.

Bellboard shows Neil as having rung 155 quarter peals on handbells of which he conducted 50. Neil's handbells achievements include a full peal of Plain Bob Major.

Neil was cremated at Bishopthorpe on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, and a course of Plain Bob Major was rung on handbells in his honour at the wake in his home village of Wilberfoss.

Two method initiatives started after the summer break.

The first was a concerted effort to crack the complexities of double-handed Stedman. Much progress has been made using Ringing Room as a means of bringing together Alison Lucas from Gargrave, Sue Carpenter from Kendal, Timothy Billings from Caistor, and Peter Church from Hull. Progress has been slow and erratic but we are gradually gaining the ability to ring various lengths. The welcome arrival of Timothy in North Lincolnshire provided the catalyst to start this process.

Our other sub-project is to extend our Treble Dodging Minor repertoire. To do this we are developing the skills of ringing by structure, rather than learning every pair of blue lines for every method. Using Oxford Treble Bob as the base we have learned the intricate consequences of changing the Half Lead (Sandal T.B.) and Lead End (Duke of Norfolk T.B.) and the 5-6 Section (Morning Star T.B.) and have started the process of assembling Old Oxford Delight.

We look forward to significant achievements in 2025; these could include a Quarter Peal of Maximus, Treble Bob Royal, Yorkshire and Cambridge S Major, right-place Surprise Minor and Stedman Triples.

Peter Church

V1.1, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025