

THE HULL HANDBELLS PROJECT

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

Newsletter Number 112, February 2nd, 2026.

Project performances 2026:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=22619>

Beverley and District Ringing Society

Kingston upon Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday, 31st January 2026 (13 in E)

1260 Double Bob Minor

1-2 James R Startin

3-4 Karen A Lane

5-6 Peter Church (C)

Kingston upon Hull

33 Westbourne Avenue

Saturday, 31st January 2026 (13 in D#)

1260 Plain Minor (2m)

480 Little, 780 Plain

1-2 Barry F Peachey

3-4 Neil Donovan

5-6 Peter Church (C)

Out and about

Our first outing of the year was a six-bell Treble Dodging practice focused on Wath Delight. For a conceptually simple method (just a variation on Kent) that preserves natural coursing order, there was a lot of struggling and hence much learning taking place.

And at our first full meeting, we refreshed our 12 bell skills with Spliced Plain and Little, 3 Leads of Kent TB, some courses of Bastow LB.

Barry Peachey was persuaded to have a shot at 7-8 to Yorkshire Major, he was surprised at how well he did. The remaining 5 ringers were equally surprised by ringing a course of Spliced Yorkshire S Royal and Little Bob Royal.

The following week we concentrated on Kent TB Royal especially the leads where 9 and 10 are slow bells and, the music goes to pot and kills the rhythm. The session finished with some 6-bell method structure practice including Double Court Bob, St. Clement's College Bob, Buxton Bob, Childwall Bob, Norwich Surprise and Cambridge Surprise.

--oo0oo--

Quoted from an e-mail to a band member:

"I understand your comments about today, and I do understand the tower bell ringers' dilemma when faced with a pair of bells and a pushy wazzok like me with an aspiration to ring Spliced Surprise.

Please may I give you two thoughts?

1) The objective is not merely to ring your pair when everyone is keeping right, it's to be able to ring your pair in spite of others making mistakes and know that you are still right. What that looks like will be different for every individual as each of us has different strengths and weaknesses.

2) You can't stand still and keep moving at the same time. To keep moving you (we) need to keep learning. And for handbells that learning is far far harder than ringing Spliced Surprise Maximus on a tower bell. It's harder for several reasons, two bells, faster, fewer others to give stability, no rhythmic help from the bells.

If you are learning you will be making mistakes. If you are really learning, you will be making mistakes, reflecting on them, finding ways of avoiding the mistakes.

-oo0oo--

In the tower, purely as a ringer, memorise a blue line, count your place, see the ropes, and you have the ability to ring 1,000 peals.

*On handbells the complexity is an order of magnitude higher, and for any one method you need **both** method learning and skills development to achieve a) getting going; b) performance level; c) mastery. Have we mastered Plain Bob?*

--oo0oo--

Before you get depressed, just look at how much fun we've had over the last few years, literally hundreds of quarters, a lot of brain bending work, and 95% of ringers can't even ring 1-2 to Bob Minor. A good handbell ringer is an asset to any tower."

Peter Church

1st February 2026.