

THE HULL HANDBELL PROJECT

Promoting double-handed change ringing throughout East Yorkshire

Newsletter Number 9, July 2017.

News Roundup.

Quarter Peals

Wednesday 14th June, 2017

33 Westbourne Avenue, Hull

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 Gwynneth C Moffatt

3-4 Christine M Church

5-6 Peter Church (C)

First in hand 1-2

First in hand since 1985 3-4

First in hand as conductor since 1985

--oo0oo--

Out and about.

Hull Tuesday morning practice (older but no wiser)

Solid practice sessions are enabling people to relax into ringing, with lots of Bob Minor, pushing into Bob Major.

Pat Donnelley rang her first course of Plain Bob early in the month.

Everyone in this group is using Handbell Manager and Abel between meetings, and this is giving this group extra impetus. Ringing with Chris Munday also made a tremendous difference, not only were the touches of minor more certain, the courses of Plain Bob Major were also more secure, and Chris (C) rang several courses of Kent TB.

Sutton

Sessions with Gwynneth Moffat and Chris (C) again included the old-faithfuls of Plain, Double, Little, Bastow and Reverse Bob. Forward Minor is now on the radar, and length ringing beyond a 720 is now starting to happen along with touches of Double Bob, and first a foray into Kent TB.

Indeed, a successful quarter peal was rung in the middle of June, a reward for much hard work by all concerned.

Hornsea

Gwynneth's dad, Ron Ducker, also picked up a pair of bells for the first time in many decades.

Barrow / Melton Ross, Market Weighton

Progress has been interrupted by absences for holidays.

Beverley

"The assault on the complexity of London S Minor" commenced on physical bells on June 9th.

To begin with we managed about a lead, then a bit less, then a bit more, then half a course, then just over a lead. We restarted countless times, sometimes firing up within a handful of changes. After about 45 minutes, we completed a plain course of London Surprise Minor:

Friday 9th June, 2017

39 Morton Lane, Beverley

120 London Surprise Minor

1-2 Chris Munday

3-4 Peter Church

5-6 Roddy Horton

This is thought to be the first course of London S Minor on handbells in the area.

At which point we stopped for a bite of lunch provided by Roddy. After a restart we managed a further course with Peter on 1-2 and Chris (M) on 3-4.

We met again on June 30th by which time much of the progress made on 9th had evaporated and we re-started the slog. We

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got back into our stride fairly quickly and Roddy also had a shot at ringing 3-4.

Several courses came round after the right number of changes.

With the (London) bit between our teeth we're determined to push this all of the way.

Learning Change Ringing on Handbells

Heather Peachey reminded me of one of the facets of learning bellringing which applies equally on towerbells as on handbells.

That is that the learning process starts with learning enough to make a good attempt at ringing the method. Then you ring what you have learned. Whilst ringing, you start to see things about the method that you were not obvious at the initial learning.

This process applies as much to Plain Bob as it does to Stedman and Surprise.

Classically it applies to handbells. E.g. Coursing Order becomes obvious, bells working together, how certain pairs dance around each other in more complex methods. All of this comes out when you have two bells to navigate.

Chuckle

As I was peering at the double blue line of London S Minor, having fired up yet another Plain Course on the simulator, Christine said: "It needs to be in your head", to which I replied, "I know, but when I put it in there, it leaks out again". I got the reply, "I know that feeling, sometimes it leaks out faster than it goes in"!

--oo0oo--

We can't turn a Bob Minor ringer into a Surprise Major ringer overnight, but we can give some helpful advice on routes forward.

The website, www.handbellringing.org.uk has been updated with some new material including:

Seven Steps to Heaven – Advanced ringing techniques

Method Madness – Different approaches to Learning methods

Historical note.

50 years ago.

Hull, 81 Park Street, in 1 hr 46 mins
22nd June, 1967

5040 Plain Bob Minor

1-2 Peter Church

3-4 Alan H Bridges

5-6 Geoffrey W Randall (C)

Diary:

2017:

- Hull meetings: See website www.handbellringing.org.uk
 - Regional Handbells Day no 5, Saturday 28th October, details to follow.

Handbell Change ringers wanted:

Do you want to start handbell change ringing at your tower? And don't know how to start? Drop me a line, we can help.

peter@pchurch.org.uk