

Oxford Diocesan Guild



of Church Bell Ringers.

Educational
Leaflets

PLAIN HUNTING and PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Educational Leaflet

No. 3

PLAIN HUNTING and PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

INTRODUCTION

Once you have mastered the art of bell control and can ring up and down, as well as being able to ring rounds and call changes accurately and confidently, you are ready to progress to change ringing.

This leaflet tries to explain the first steps you will take on the way to becoming a competent change ringer, but it is only intended to reinforce what you are taught in the tower and cannot replace practical experience.

Ropesight takes some time to acquire and you will help yourself if you watch others when you are not ringing.

Use your eyes and your ears at all times, and never hesitate to ask for an explanation of something you do not understand.

PLAIN HUNTING BY ROPESIGHT

123456 - Rounds

123456 - Rounds again

123456 - and again. Note that after the bell you are ringing has struck, 5 bells strike before it strikes again. You are ringing EVENLY in the same place each time.

123456

214356 - This is the first row of plain hunt (on 5). Note that after the 2nd rang only 4 bells struck before the 2nd rang again. The 2nd (and the 4th, count the bells) rang QUICKLY.

Note that the 1 (and 3) waited for 6 bells to strike before striking again.

They rang SLOWLY.

The 5 and 6 stayed in their own places, they rang EVENLY.

214356

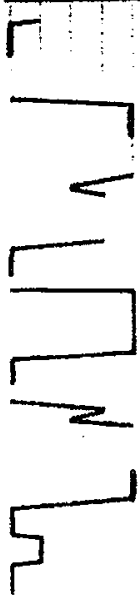
241536 - This is the second row of plain hunt. The 2nd and 6th rang evenly to stay in the same place. The 4th and 5th rang quickly, and the treble and 3rd rang slowly.

123456

*1	One bell/rope in front.	2nd's place	Ringling slowly
**1	Two bells/ropes in front.	3rd's place	Ringling slowly
***1	Three bells/ropes in front.	4th's place	Ringling slowly
****1	Four bells/ropes in front.	5th's place	Ringling slowly
****1	Four bells/ropes in front.	5th's place	Ringling evenly
***1	Three bells/ropes in front.	4th's place	Ringling quickly
**1	Two bells/ropes in front.	3rd's place	Ringling quickly
*1	One bell/rope in front.	2nd's place	Ringling quickly
1	Leading. A quck blow, but not too quick.		
1	Leading again. Ringling evenly, but remember you have to hold up the next handstroke to get into 2nd's place.		

BLOW BY BLOW THROUGH BOB DOUBLES

1 2 3 4 5 6



Quick pull to lead, but keep handstroke lead 'open'.
Lead evenly, remember you are going to have to hold the next handstroke up.

Plain hunt slowly to 5th's place.

Even pull to stay in 5th's place.

Quickly hunt down to 3rd's place, but remember to pull the handstroke in 3rd's to hold the next backstroke up into 4th's place. Hunt quickly down to lead. Lead evenly.

Hunt slowly up to 5th's place and ring 3 more even blows in 5th's. Hunt quickly down to lead and lead evenly.

Hunt up to 4th's place, then quickly pull in the next backstroke to 3rd's place. Remember to pull this backstroke, as you have to hold the next handstroke up into 4th's place. Hunt up to the back, ring evenly in 5th's place and hunt quickly down to lead. Lead evenly, then strike two blows in 2nd's place, and LEAD AGAIN. EVERYONE forgets this. Be the exception!

HINTS Think ahead. Always think more than just one blow ahead and you will not get caught out by overpulling when you need to ring quickly, or having the bell drop when you try to hold it up.

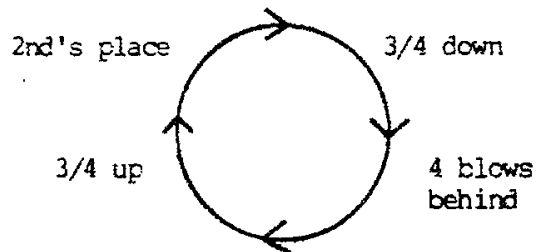
Remember your own blue line and follow it even if other people are not in the right place.

The order of work is:-
Dodge 3/4 down
4 blows behind
Dodge 3/4 up
Make 2nd's place

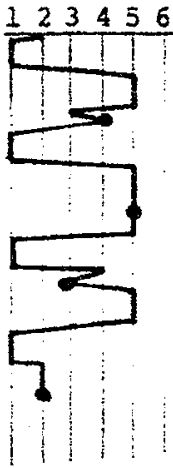
Some people like to think of this as being a circle.



— 3/4 down
 — 4 blows behind
 — 3/4 up
 — 2nd's place



PLAIN BOB DOUBLES



3/4 dodge 'down'.

4 starts here.

4 blows 'behind'.

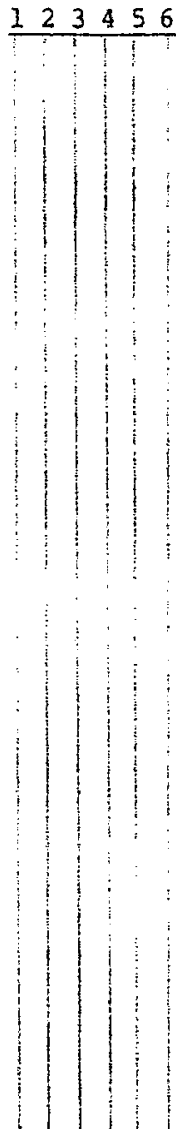
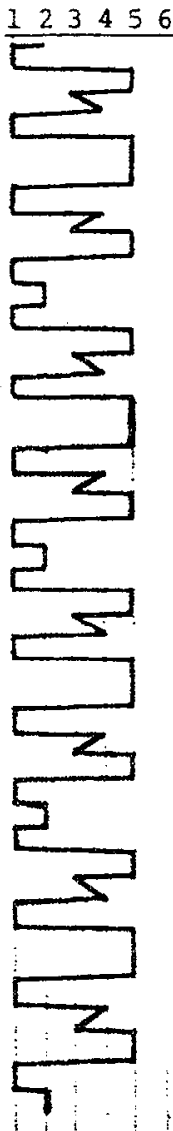
5 starts here.

3/4 dodge 'up'.

3 starts here.

2nd's place (over treble)

2 starts here.



Use this grid to practise drawing the diagram.

COLOUR IN:-

SLOW strokes in BLACK

QUICK strokes in GREEN

EVEN strokes in BLUE

MARK the sequence of work as in the diagram above.

NOW FOR THE BOBS

Preparation. Practise ringing plain courses on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th, so that you become familiar with the starts of all the bells.

Information. Bobs are used to extend the 40 changes of the plain course into the 120 changes possible on five bells.

Bobs can only be called at the backstroke before the treble leads.

Bobs only affect the bells in 2nd's, 3rd's and 4th's places at the treble's handstroke lead. (In the example on the next page, the 2, 4 and 3).

Explanation. 1. The bell which is about to dodge 3/4 down runs in (missing out the dodge) and becomes 2nd's place bell. It will dodge 3/4 down next time.

2. The bell which is about to make 2nd's place runs out (missing out the 2nd's place) and becomes 3rd's place bell. It will make 2nd's place next time.

3. The bell which is about to dodge 3/4 up makes the bob. It strikes two blows in 4th's place and becomes 4th's place bell, going down to lead and then up to 4 blows behind.

Application. Look at the numbers on the next page and colour in the paths of the marked bells to show what each one does at the bob, and continue the lines on to show what happens at the next plain lead.

<u>(1 2 3 4 5 6)</u>	<u>(1 2 3 4 5 6)</u>	<u>(1 2 3 4 5 6)</u>
1(4)5 2 3 6	1 4 5(2)3 6	1 4 5 2(3)6
1 4 2 5 3 6	1 4 2 5 3 6	1 4 2 5 3 6
4 1 5 2 3 6	4 1 5 2 3 6	4 1 5 2 3 6
4 5 1 3 2 6	4 5 1 3 2 6	4 5 1 3 2 6
5 4 3 1 2 6	5 4 3 1 2 6	5 4 3 1 2 6
5 3 4 2 1 6	5 3 4 2 1 6	5 3 4 2 1 6
3 5 2 4 1 6	3 5 2 4 1 6	3 5 2 4 1 6
3 2 5 1 4 6	3 2 5 1 4 6	3 2 5 1 4 6
2 3 1 5 4 6	2 3 1 5 4 6	2 3 1 5 4 6
*! 2 1 3 4 5 6	*! 2 1 3 4 5 6	*! 2 1 3 4 5 6
1 2 4 3 5 6	1 2 4 3 5 6	1 2 4 3 5 6
1 4 2 3 5 6	1 4 2 3 5 6	1 4 2 3 5 6
4 1 3 2 5 6	4 1 3 2 5 6	4 1 3 2 5 6
4 3 1 5 2 6	4 3 1 5 2 6	4 3 1 5 2 6

*! - Bob called here.

Which bell ran in ?

Which bell ran out ?

Which bell made the bob ?

Which bells were not affected by the bob?

What would have happened if no bob had been called ?

WHY ?

Very Simple Method Construction

If you look at a lead of plain hunting you will see that in order to satisfy the criterion that no bell may move more than one place at a time, it is necessary to leave the front and back bells in position alternately, crossing the remaining pairs thus:

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(Ex.1)  1 2 3 4 5 6
         x  x  |
         2 1 4 3 5 6
         |  x  x
         2 4 1 5 3 6
         x  x  |
         4 2 5 1 3 6
         |  x  x
         4 5 2 3 1 6

```

(The tenor is ringing behind)

Continuing in this way will bring the bells back into rounds after ten changes, each bell having only plain hunted.

Therefore, as the treble leads a new rule is introduced. The bells in 2nd's and 5th's places lie still at the treble's backstroke lead, and the pair in 3/4 cross, creating a dodge. Now the original rule of front and back bells lying still alternately takes over again until the next treble backstroke lead. Each bell will make 2nd's place in turn until it comes round after forty changes. (See example 2).

The effect of a bob is to make the bell in 4th's place lie still at the treble's backstroke lead, so that the pair in 2/3 cross over. (See example 3).

If you call three bobs, one each time a particular bell is unaffected, you will end up with 120 changes of Plain Bob Doubles, all different.

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(Ex.2)  5 3 4 1 2 6
         3 5 1 4 2 6
         3 1 5 2 4 6
         1 3 2 5 4 6
         1 3 5 2 4 6
         3 1 2 5 4 6
         3 2 1 4 5 6
         2 3 4 1 5 6

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(Ex.3)  5 3 4 1 2 6
         3 5 1 4 2 6
         3 1 5 2 4 6
         1 3 2 5 4 6
         1 2 3 5 4 6
         2 1 5 3 4 6
         2 5 1 4 3 6
         5 2 4 1 3 6

```

Why not try it for yourself?