



## **OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS**

### **Educational Leaflet**

**No. 7**

## **STEDMAN DOUBLES and TRIPLES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Do not be put off when people say 'Stedman is difficult'. It is no more difficult to learn than any other method. It just needs more concentration while ringing and it cannot be rung in a 'slipshod' way.

This is due to the fact that Stedman is a 'Principle' viz. all the bells do the same work in the Plain Course. It is not a Treble dominated method such as Plain Bob, Grandsire and Cambridge.

In those methods the position of the Treble decides the work the other bells do at any given blow. Hence the need for concentration in Stedman; since, if one 'forgets', there is no Treble to fall back on to put one right. Nor does Stedman have an obvious 'coursing' order as do Plain Bob and Grandsire.

From the musical point of view it is possible to produce many musical touches which are pleasing to the outside listener. This is in measure due to the fact that certain sequences of the dodging bells are repeated. The regular dodging places also enable one to correct poor striking.

STEDMAN DOUBLES

Fig. I

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
Out Quick	** 1					↑ Quick Work
	** * 1					
	** * * 1					
	** * * * 1					
	** * * * * 1					
Double Dodge 4-5 up	** * * * 1					↑ Dodges Behind
	** * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * 1					
Lie Behind	** * * * * 1					← 4
	** * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * * 1					
Double Dodge 4-5 down	** * * * * 1					↑ Slow Work
	** * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * * 1					
Third's Place	** * 1					← 3
	* 1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Whole Pull Wrong 1 Blow in 2nds	* 1					← 2
	1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Whole Pull Right	* 1					↑ Quick Work
	** 1					
	** * 1					
	** * * 1					
	** * * * 1					
Third's Place	** * 1					← 5
	* 1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Snap at Hand	* 1					↑ Quick Work
	** 1					
	** * 1					
	** * * 1					
	** * * * 1					
Third's Place	** * 1					← 5
	* 1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Snap at Back	* 1					↑ Quick Work
	** 1					
	** * 1					
	** * * 1					
	** * * * 1					
Third's Place	** * 1					← 5
	* 1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Whole Pull Right 1 Blow in 2nds	* 1					↑ Quick Work
	1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Whole Pull Wrong	* 1					↓ Quick Work
	** 1					
	** * 1					
	** * * 1					
	** * * * 1					
Third's Place	** * 1					← 5
	* 1					
	1					
	1					
	1					
Double Dodge 4-5 up	** * * * 1					↑ Quick Work
	** * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * 1					
Lie Behind	** * * * * 1					↓ Quick Work
	** * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * * 1					
Double Dodge 4-5 down	** * * * * 1					↓ Quick Work
	** * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * 1					
	** * * * * * * * * 1					
In Quick	* 1					↓ Quick Work
	1					
Whole Pull Right	1	2	3	4	5	

FIG. II



This is the "Blue Line" of Stedman Doubles. The figures of the Plain Course are on page 7.



lead, Leading at Hand-stroke only ('First Half Turn' or 'Snap at Hand'). It is then hunted once more to Third's Place and returns to lead at Backstroke ('Second Half Turn' or 'Snap at Back'). Once more it is hunted to Third's Place and returns to lead a Whole Pull Right, makes one blow in Seconds Place and returns to lead Wrong. These are known as the Last Whole Turn.

The bell is then hunted out to make two blows in Third's Place and continues to hunt out behind.

Note 1. As very few people practise backward hunting (cf. p6 fig B) before learning to ring Stedman it might be a good plan to ask your tower Captain if you could practise Backward Hunting.

This will enable you to learn to lead at back and hand stroke without losing the rhythm of the bells i.e. the backstroke lead is a 'checking' blow and the hand-stroke is rung at 'rounds' speed. In forward hunting the blows are the other way round.

Note 2. If your Tower Captain and the rest of the Band are willing it might be a good plan to practice Stedman on Four bells (Fig VI) with covering bells.

In this the Treble Plain Hunts to Fourths Place, makes six blows there and returns to lead. It does this three times while 2, 3 and 4 ring the slow work.

This will enable you to learn the slow work without having to worry about the rest of the method.

## **PUTTING THE METHOD TOGETHER**

1. Learn the sequence of the work.
2. Copy the Blue Line (Fig II, p2) until you can remember it.
3. Stand behind someone who is ringing the method and follow what he/she is doing.
4. Try to ring the method with someone behind you to help if you make a mistake or to check if you are remembering correctly.
5. Always, while learning a new method, watch other people who are ringing it.
6. Draw a Blue Line of the method and using two colours mark the 'holding' blows in one colour and the 'checking' or 'cutting' blows in the other.

Fig.VI - Plain Course of Stedman on 4 bells. (Note this has repetitions of rows.)

1 2 3 4	1 3 4 2	1 4 2 3
2 1 3 4	3 1 4 2	4 1 2 3
2 3 1 4	3 4 1 2	4 2 1 3
3 2 4 1	4 3 2 1	2 4 3 1
2 3 4 1	3 4 2 1	4 2 3 1
2 4 3 1	3 2 4 1	4 3 2 1
4 2 3 1	2 3 4 1	3 4 2 1
4 3 2 1	2 4 3 1	3 2 4 1
3 4 2 1	4 2 3 1	2 3 4 1
4 3 1 2	2 4 1 3	3 2 1 4
4 1 3 2	2 1 4 3	3 1 2 4
1 4 3 2	1 2 4 3	1 3 2 4
1 3 4 2	1 4 2 3	1 2 3 4

1

'Blue Line'  
for Stedman  
on Four Bells



**SINGLES**

As there are only sixty changes in the Plain Course of Stedman Doubles, Singles are used to extend it to 120 changes.

Plain Course		Single
12345		12345
21354		21354
23145		23145
32415		32415
23451		23451
24315	S	24315
42351		42315
43215		43251
34251		34215
43521		43125
45312		41352

Fig.VII



Fig.VIII



Fig.IX

You will notice that the bell that was due to dodge 4-5 up (the Treble in this case) made one blow in fifths place, two in fourths place, one in fifths place and returned to the front in the same way as it came out. It does not matter if it was Slow or Quick.

Note. This is sometimes said to be "Making Cat's ears". (See Fig VIII).

The bell dodging down (the Fifth in this case) makes one blow in fourths place, two in fifths place, one in fourths place, lies two blows behind and double dodges 4-5 down. This bell will return to the front the same way as it came out, be it Slow or Quick.

Note. Should you forget which way to go in; you are a Slow bell if you meet the bell which made the Single with you as you pass from fourths place to thirds place. Another way of checking yourself is described in 'Stedman - Very Simple Method Construction' (Page 6)

## STEDMAN DOUBLES - VERY SIMPLE METHOD CONSTRUCTION

It is as well, when learning a method to know something about its construction. As has been said earlier Stedman is a principle because all the bells do the same work.

If we take three bells there are six possible changes but they can be arranged in two possible ways

<u>1 2 3</u>	<u>1 2 3</u>
2 1 3	1 3 2
2 3 1 A	3 1 2 B
3 2 1	3 2 1
3 1 2	2 3 1
1 3 2	2 1 3
<u>1 2 3</u>	<u>1 2 3</u>

In 'A' the whole pull leads are made right (Hand and Back) and it is known as forward hunting. In 'B' they are made 'wrong' (Back and Hand i.e. backward hunting). 'A' and 'B' are known as 'sixes'. Stedman Doubles is based on these two principles.

First a 'six' of forward hunting with two bells dodging behind. Then one of the front bells changes with one of the dodging bells and another 'six' of plain hunting takes place on the front three bells. This time - if you look at the figures - you will find that it is backward hunting. These two 'sixes' alternate through a Plain Course beginning with the fifth blow of a forward hunting 'six' and ending with the other four blows of that six. There are lines drawn at the end of each 'six'. A further look at the figures of the Plain Course will show you that the forward hunting sixes produce a 'Quick Six' viz a bell runs In and Out Quick, and all the bells lead Right. The 'backward' hunting Sixes produce 'Slow Sixes' where all the bells leading a whole pull do so 'back and hand' (Wrong). Knowledge of these facts can help one if one is lost as to how to go into the front but can see how the leads are being made.

Another aid - this time for helping while in the front - is to know what you are doing when the sixes change.

Singles A Bob entails changing the work of three bells. This is not possible in Stedman Doubles so a Single which changes the work of two bells has to be used. The only place to do this is in the middle of a six. Simple 120s (using only two singles) can be produced by calling a Single every time a selected pair of bells come together behind. Often no call is made but, by mutual consent, two members of the band automatically make a Single when they come together behind.

Plain Course

1 2 3 4 5  
Q 2 1 3 5 4  
2 3 1 4 5  
3 2 4 1 5  
2 3 4 5 1  
2 4 3 1 5  
S 4 2 3 5 1  
4 3 2 1 5  
3 4 2 5 1  
4 3 5 2 1  
4 5 3 1 2  
Q 5 4 3 2 1  
5 3 4 1 2  
3 5 4 2 1  
3 4 5 1 2  
4 3 1 5 2  
3 4 1 2 5  
3 1 4 5 2  
S 1 3 4 2 5  
1 4 3 5 2  
4 1 3 2 5  
1 4 2 3 5  
1 2 4 5 3  
Q 2 1 4 3 5  
2 4 1 5 3  
4 2 1 3 5  
4 1 2 5 3  
1 4 5 2 3  
4 1 5 3 2  
S 4 5 1 2 3  
5 4 1 3 2  
5 1 4 2 3  
1 5 4 3 2  
5 1 3 4 2  
5 3 1 2 4  
Q 3 5 1 4 2  
3 1 5 2 4  
1 3 5 4 2  
1 5 3 2 4  
5 1 2 3 4  
1 5 2 4 3  
1 2 5 3 4  
S 2 1 5 4 3  
2 5 1 3 4  
5 2 1 4 3  
2 5 4 1 3  
2 4 5 3 1  
Q 4 2 5 1 3  
4 5 2 3 1  
5 4 2 1 3  
5 2 4 3 1  
2 5 3 4 1  
5 2 3 1 4  
5 3 2 4 1  
S 3 5 2 1 4  
3 2 5 4 1  
2 3 5 1 4  
3 2 1 5 4  
3 1 2 4 5  
Q 1 3 2 5 4  
1 2 3 4 5

Simple Touches of Stedman Doubles

Call a single on any pair of bells and then another single when they come together behind again, i.e.

- 1 + 5
- 1 + 2
- 1 + 3
- 1 + 4
- 2 + 3
- 2 + 4 etc

You can write these touches out for yourself.

Other touches may be found in W.G.Wilson's "Change Ringing" page 80.

## STEDMAN TRIPLES

This, as in the case of Stedman Doubles, is a Principle. The Treble does not dominate the Method, although it may be used as a fixed bell from the conductor's point of view when calling touches i.e. it may ring plain courses. This is not often the case in Triples but is common on the higher numbers viz. Stedman Caters and Cinques.

If you compare the 'Blue Line' of Stedman Triples with that of Stedman Doubles you will see that it is a natural extension of it. Again due work can be broken into four parts:-

- (a) In and Out Quick.
  - (b) The work above Third's Place.
  - (c) The Slow work.
  - (d) The work above Third's place.
- (a) and (c) are the same as in Stedman Doubles.  
(b) and (d) are identical and are made up as follows:-

Double dodge 4-5 up

Double dodge 6-7 up

Lie behind and Double dodge 6-7 down

Hunt down to fourths place and Double dodge 4-5 down

NOTE All the dodging is done at hand-stroke.

## BOBS AND SINGLES

These bear no relation to the Singles of Stedman Doubles. Both are necessary to produce 5040 true changes. One or both may be used in shorter touches. They take effect in the last three places (fifths, sixths and sevenths) at the change over of a 'Six'. The bells in the front are not affected.

1. The bell dodging 4-5 up makes fifths place and double dodges 4-5 down; then goes into the front the opposite way to that in which it came out. (cf p9, Figs A and X)
2. The bell dodging 6-7 up does three more dodges in that position. It then makes Sevenths place and dodges 6-7 down. If however more bobs are called while it is dodging 6-7 up then it makes three more dodges for every bob called. (cf p12 Figs XIII(a)/(b))
3. The bell dodging 6-7 down at a Bob makes three more dodges in that position and then goes down to dodge in 4-5 down. Should more Bobs be called while it is dodging 6-7 down then it does three more dodges for every Bob then it goes down to dodge 4-5 down. (cf p12 Figs XIV(a)/(b))

STEDMAN TRIPLES

Q 1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
 2 1 3 5 4 7 6  
 2 3 1 4 5 6 7  
 3 2 4 1 6 5 7  
 S 2 3 4 6 1 7 5  
 2 4 3 1 6 5 7  
 4 2 3 6 1 7 5  
 4 3 2 1 6 5 7  
 3 4 2 6 1 7 5  
 4 3 6 2 7 1 5  
 Q 4 6 3 2 7 5 1  
 6 3 4 7 2 5 1  
 3 6 4 2 7 1 5  
 3 4 6 7 2 5 1  
 4 3 7 6 5 2 1  
 S 3 4 7 5 6 1 2  
 3 7 4 6 5 2 1  
 7 3 4 5 6 1 2  
 7 4 3 6 5 2 1  
 4 7 3 5 6 1 2  
 7 4 5 3 1 6 2  
 Q 7 5 4 1 3 2 6  
 5 7 4 3 1 6 2  
 5 4 7 1 3 2 6  
 4 5 7 3 1 6 2  
 4 7 5 1 3 2 6  
 7 4 1 5 2 3 6  
 S 4 7 1 2 5 6 3  
 4 1 7 5 2 3 6  
 4 7 2 5 6 3  
 7 4 5 2 3 6  
 7 1 4 2 5 6 3  
 Q 7 2 4 6 5 3  
 2 7 6 4 3 5  
 2 1 7 4 6 5 3  
 2 7 1 6 4 3 5  
 7 2 1 4 6 5 3  
 7 1 2 6 4 3 5  
 S 7 6 2 3 4 5  
 7 1 6 3 2 5 4  
 7 6 1 2 3 4 5  
 6 7 1 3 2 5 4  
 6 1 7 2 3 4 5  
 6 7 3 2 5 4  
 Q 6 1 3 7 5 2 4  
 6 3 1 5 7 4 2  
 3 6 1 7 5 2 4  
 3 1 6 5 7 4 2  
 6 3 5 7 4 2  
 S 6 1 5 3 4 7 2  
 1 6 5 4 3 2 7  
 5 1 6 4 3 2 7  
 5 6 1 3 4 7 2  
 6 5 1 4 3 2 7

Q 6 5 1 4 3 2 7  
 5 6 4 1 2 3 7  
 5 4 6 2 1 7 3  
 Q 4 5 6 3 2 3 7  
 4 6 5 2 1 7 3  
 6 4 5 1 2 3 7  
 6 5 4 2 1 7 3  
 S 5 6 2 4 7 1 3  
 6 5 2 7 4 3 1  
 6 2 5 4 7 1 3  
 2 6 5 7 4 3 1  
 2 5 6 4 7 1 3  
 5 2 6 7 4 3 1  
 2 5 7 6 3 4 1  
 Q 2 7 5 3 6 1 4  
 7 2 5 6 3 4 1  
 7 5 2 3 6 1 4  
 5 7 2 6 3 4 1  
 S 5 2 7 3 6 1 4  
 2 5 3 7 1 6 4  
 5 2 3 1 7 4 6  
 S 5 3 2 7 1 6 4  
 3 5 2 7 1 4 6  
 3 2 5 7 1 6 4  
 2 3 5 1 7 4 6  
 3 2 1 5 4 7 6  
 3 1 2 4 5 6 7  
 1 3 2 5 4 7 6  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Bob

3 2 4 1 6 5 7  
 2 3 4 6 1 7 5  
 2 4 3 1 6 5 7  
 4 2 3 6 1 7 5  
 Bob 4 3 2 1 6 5 7  
 3 4 2 6 1 7 5  
 4 3 6 2 1 5 7  
 4 6 3 1 2 7 5  
 6 4 3 2 1 5 7  
 6 3 4 1 2 7 5  
 3 6 4 2 1 5 7  
 3 4 6 1 2 7 5  
 4 3 1 6 7 2 5

Fig.A

Single

Fig.B

3 2 4 1 6 5 7  
 2 3 4 6 1 7 5  
 2 4 3 1 6 5 7  
 4 2 3 6 1 7 5  
 Single 4 3 2 1 6 5 7  
 3 4 2 6 1 7 5  
 4 3 6 2 1 7 5  
 4 6 3 1 2 5 7  
 6 4 3 2 1 7 5  
 6 3 4 1 2 5 7  
 3 6 4 2 1 7 5  
 3 4 6 1 2 5 7  
 4 3 1 6 5 2 7

'Blue Line' for Stedman Triples



Bob or Single 4-5 up



FIG.X

Single 6-7 up (unaffected)



FIG.XI

Single 6-7 down

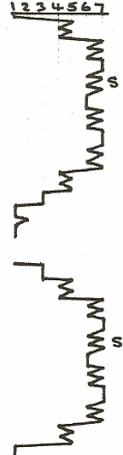


FIG.XII

See also page 12 (for 'Bobs' in 6-7)

4. The bell dodging 4-5 down is not affected.

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE NUMBER OF BOBS CALLED AT ANY TIME TO BE NOTED BY THE RINGERS OF THE BELLS DODGING IN 6-7 up and 6-7 down AS THE NUMBER CALLED WILL AFFECT THEIR FUTURE WORK.

A1. An even number of Bobs Go into the front the opposite way to coming out.

ie Out Quick ... In Slow  
Out Slow .... In Quick

A2. An odd number of Bobs Go in the same way as you came out

ie Out Quick ... In Quick  
Out Slow .... In Slow

Some helps to aid forgetfulness will be suggested later!

SINGLES (only two bells are affected, cf (1) and (3) below)

At a Single:-

1. The bell dodging 4-5 up acts as at a Bob. (cf p9 Fig X)
2. The bell dodging 6-7 up makes Sevenths place and double dodges 6-7 down (as in the Plain Course). (cf p9 Fig XI)
3. The bell dodging 6-7 down makes two blows in sixths and then double dodges 6-7 up. (cf p9 Fig XII)
4. Other bells not affected.

### **HOW DO I GO INTO THE FRONT AFTER A SINGLE**

- B1. Bell dodging 6-7 up. If only one single and no bobs act as in a plain course. If an odd number of Bobs see A2 above. If an even number of Bobs act as A1 above.
- B2. Bell dodging 6-7 down. If a Single and no bobs act as in Plain Course. If the single is followed by an odd number of bobs act as A2 above. If a Single is followed by an even number of Bobs then act as A1 above.
- C1. What happens if a Single is called in the middle of a series of Bobs? Probably the best answer is to use one of the aids suggested later or to check by the sixes. viz If you went out quick then your 6-7 up six will be quick, the next six will be slow and so on until you get to the front. For a ringer in the early stages this may be difficult and so one has to rely on other aids. If you went out slow then 6-7 up will be a slow six. However with practice one should be able to keep a tally on the sixes while dodging.

## **HELP FOR THOSE WHO FORGET**

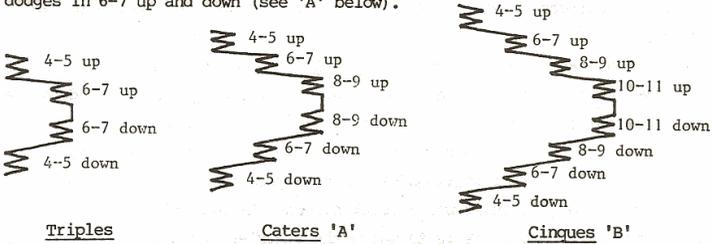
As has been said earlier the best way is to make a mental note at the beginning of each 'six' whether it is 'Slow' or 'Quick'. There are times however when even the best ringers do forget and so it is as well to be able to correct one's self without relying on other people who may be wrong.

1. Always make a mental note of the bell dodging 6-7 down as you dodge 6-7 up. If there are no Bobs or Singles while you dodge 6-7 down that bell will go into the front the opposite way to yours. If you strike over that bell your first blow in 4-5 down then it will be a 'Slow six' and you will go in Quick. Should you meet it in 3-4 at the end of the dodge then it was a Quick six and the next six will be 'Slow'.
2. Another way to check is to watch the leads as you dodge 6-7 down. If they are Right then it is a Quick 'six' and your bell will go in quick. If the leads are Wrong then that six is Slow and your bell will be Slow.
3. A check can also be made in 4-5 Down by either watching the leads; by noting your 6-7 Down Bell i.e. the bell you followed to the front or by noting the way the bell dodging 4-5 up with yours came out from the front. Your bell will go in the same way as that one came out.
4. A last resort, but one not to be relied on too much, is to note the two bells below you as you strike your first blow in thirds place. If they change over then it is a Slow 'six'. If however it is obvious that the ringer you have just followed intends to follow you then it is a Quick 'six'. This is a 'last resort' check as at the best it can lead to bad striking and further, should the other two ringers already be in trouble, it may lead to the bells being called into rounds or stood up.

**REMEMBER THAT CONCENTRATION IS IMPORTANT IN STEDMAN. A GOOD STEDMAN RINGER IS RARELY SLIPSHOD IN HIS/HER RINGING AND ALWAYS KEEPS A CHECK ON WHAT HE/SHE IS DOING.**

STEDMAN CATERS and CINQUES

These two methods are the natural extensions of Stedman Triples - i.e. to ring Stedman Caters insert double dodges 8-9 up and 8-9 down between the dodges in 6-7 up and down (see 'A' below).



For Cinques insert double dodges 10-11 up and 10-11 down between the dodges in 8-9 up and down (see 'B' above).

Bobs and Singles

As in Triples these are made at a 'Six' end in the last three places:-

i.e. Caters in 6-7 up and 8-9 up and down

i.e. Cinques in 8-9 up and 10-11 up and down

Bells in the other places are not affected.

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Stedman Triples - ('Bobs' in 6-7)

FIG.XIII(a)  
Even number of Bobs 6-7 up

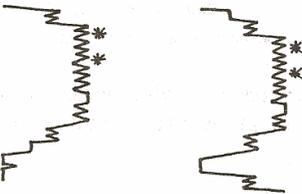


FIG.XIII(b)  
Odd number of Bobs 6-7 up

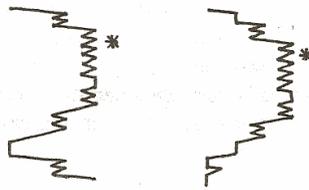


FIG.XIV(a)  
Even number of Bobs 6-7 down

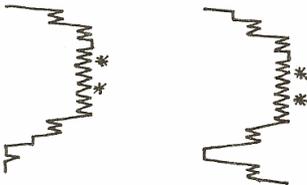


FIG.XIV(b)  
Odd number of Bobs 6-7 down

