ART Conference 2023



Teaching with Unusual Methods

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Unusual Methods

Why use unusual methods?

Variety improves interest and motivation.

It always helps to have more weapons in your arsenal.

Anything is better than "We try Stedman Doubles every practice but never quite seem to manage to get it."

Each method has at least one educational purpose, as well as being fun, different or challenging.

Teaching with Unusual Methods

David Smith, ART Conference 2023



The hope is that SOME rather than all of the topics and methods in this session may be useful to you or your band. This sheet lists the methods, indicating the levels of difficulty and with references to where you can find more information about most of them. The powerpoint presentation and a video recording of the entire session will be available for download from ART after the conference.

EdCol S1 A2 RW 5503 14/10/16	Bastow/Bistow	Probably the best exercise method there is; dual-purpose, for the treble (lead and seconds) and for inside bells (Plain Bob work).					
EdCol S6 A9 RW 5792 28/04/22	plus QP with alliance	Shows advanced ringers how Bastow can be combined with an Alliance method such as Sutton to give an extent or QP.					
EdCol S6 A14 RW 5802 07/08/22	All Saints Doubles	A great method that is easy to learn, no dodging, and provides insights into how we learn methods. A big confidence boost!					
EdCol S6 A12 RW 5798 08/03/22	Banana Doubles	A principle that isn't Stedman! Much easier than Stedman, shows what a principle means, and good for the idea of right and wrong places.					
EdCol S6 A6 RW5787 17/03/22	Poyle Doubles	Two bells repeat the same work each lead of a plain course, as in Grandsire, but NOT both plain hunting! Also easier touches than Grandsire.					
EdCol S6 A2 RW 5778 21/01/22	Adding a hunt bell	Before looking at twin-hunt triples methods, it is worth noting how Plain Bob Minor becomes Grandsire Triples if a second hunt bell is added.					
EdCol S6 A3 RW 5780 04/02/22	St Clements Triples	Of the many twin-hunt triples methods derived by adding a second hunt bell, St Clement's is a reasonably simple and melodious example.					
Not in the Ringing World	St Andrew's Differential	A simple minor method that introduces the mind-stretching concept of bells repeating chunks of work that are longer than one lead.					
EdCol Xmas RW 5669 20/12/19	Double Dunkirk	This minor method (and a doubles method we will also look at) are useful in a 6-bell tower to challenge those confident with Stedman Doubles.					
EdCol Xmas RW 5773 17/12/21	Splicing Stedman, and	Splicing is always to be encouraged, but splicing Stedman Doubles with minor methods is "unusual" and interesting					
EdCol S3 A8 RW 5576 09/03/18	transposing coursing orders	and it may lead the curious on to exploring conducting beyond just Bob-calling, including how calls affect the coursing order.					
Not in the Ringing World	Littleport Little Surprise Max	A final method for the experienced, useful for 12-bell practices with a mixture of experts and some not quite ready for surprise maximus.					
1							
The Education The reference The Ringing Education Color the series are number, the R and date of p	Suitable for begin not yet at LtR Lev World's Jumn, giving and article W number	ners el 5 A very brief description of each method or topic is given, as a reminder.					

Unusual Methods

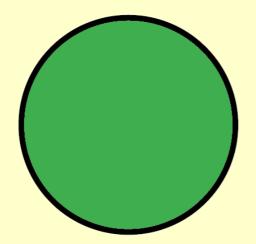
You should also have this one-page handout.

This should help you follow up on any particular item this interests you.

Do not try to learn the methods in this brief presentation. Follow up the one or two you like later.

There will be a little "pause for thought" between methods!

First method is Bastow



Bastow/Bistow ...plus QP with Alliance

All Saints
Banana Doubles
Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire
St Andrew's Differential
Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max

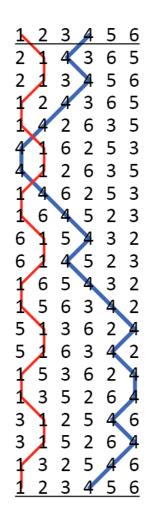
Bastow Minor / Bistow Doubles

Bistow Doubles

1 2 3 4 5 6 2 1 4 3 5 6 2 1 3 4 5 6 1 2 4 3 5 6 1 2 5 3 6 4 1 5 2 3 6 4 1 5 2 3 6 1 4 5 2 3 6 1 4 5 2 3 6 1 5 4 3 2 6 5 1 3 4 2 6 5 1 3 5 2 4 6 1 3 5 2 4 6 3 1 5 2 4 6 3 1 5 2 4 6 1 3 2 5 4 6 1 3 2 5 6

EdCol S1 A2 RW 5503 14/10/16

Bastow Minor

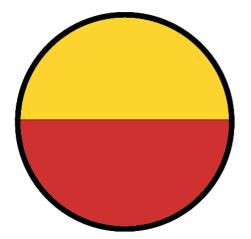


Perhaps the most useful practice method there is, <u>but still not rung</u> <u>nearly enough!</u>

Dual-purpose!

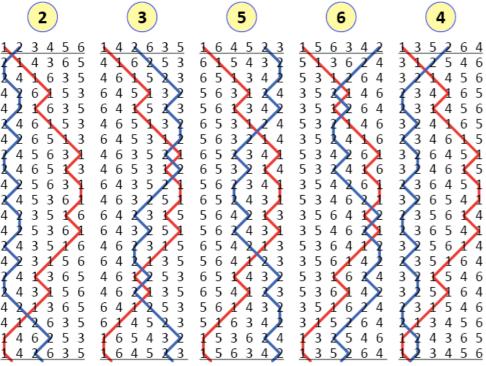
For the treble, Kaleidoscope-ish leading and making seconds, but over which bell? Encourages wider ropesight and also rhythm.

For other bells, most of the work of Plain Bob but without the worry of "Do I dodge now?"



Bastow Minor in a QP

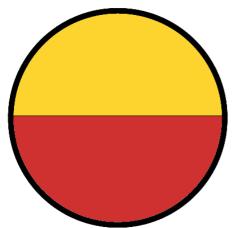
Sutton Alliance Minor



On a more advanced level - have you ever rung a quarter peal of Bastow?

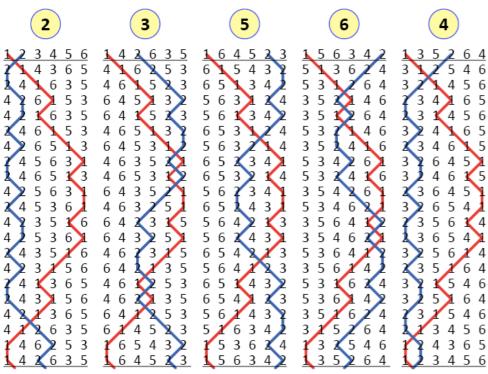
To get an extent in minor, you need to combine it with something like an Alliance method such as Sutton.

EdCol S6 A9 RW 5792 28/04/22



Bastow Minor in a QP

Sutton Alliance Minor



On a more advanced level - have you ever rung a quarter peal of Bastow?

To get an extent in minor, you need to combine it with something like an Alliance method such as Sutton.

It has two leads of frontwork, where you stay in first or second place.

The rest of the time you treble-bob between 3rd place and the back. Conductors: note the calling positions.

EdCol S6 A9 RW 5792 28/04/22

Bastow Minor in a QP

On a more advanced level - have you ever rung a quarter peal of Bastow?

To get an extent in minor, you need to combine it with something like an Alliance method such as Sutton.

Here's an extent (with not many method changes). See EdCol for full details.

4th place Bobs, but Singles are 234 in Sutton, 456 in Bastow.

Definitely something unusual!

EdCol S6 A9 RW 5792 28/04/22

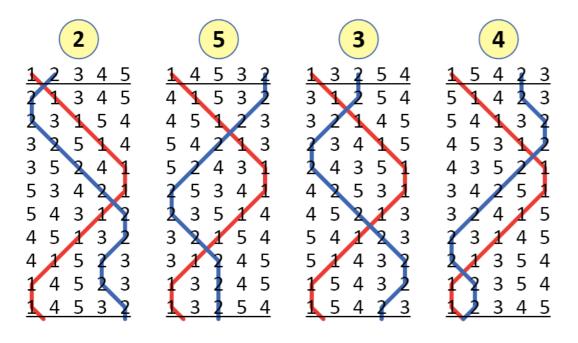
That's it for Bastow

Next up is All Saints

Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints
Banana Doubles
Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire
St Andrew's Differential
Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max

All Saints Doubles

All Saints Doubles



EdCol S6 A14 RW 5802 07/08/22 Quick to learn

No dodging

Easier for beginners than Plain Bob

Great confidence boost

How do we learn methods?

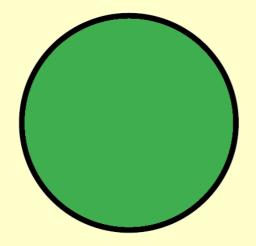
By rote (eg Cambridge)
Crankshafts each time at the back

By observing (eg 3rds/4ths in Kent)

What to do at the front?
2nds or long 3rds?
Does the treble take you off?

That's it for All Saints

Next up is Banana



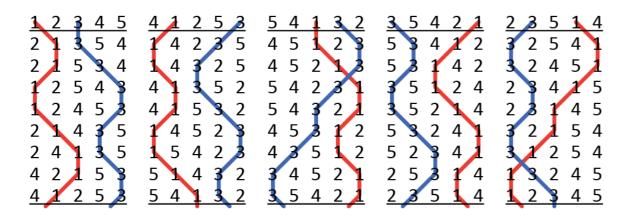
Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints

Banana Doubles

Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire
St Andrew's Differential
Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max

Banana Doubles

Banana Doubles



Another method that is quick to learn is Banana Doubles.

No dodging.

It's a principle.

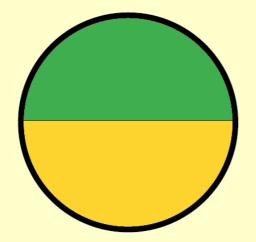
Crankshafts at front and back.

Places RIGHT at front and back, WRONG at thirds.

EdCol S6 A12 RW 5798 08/03/22

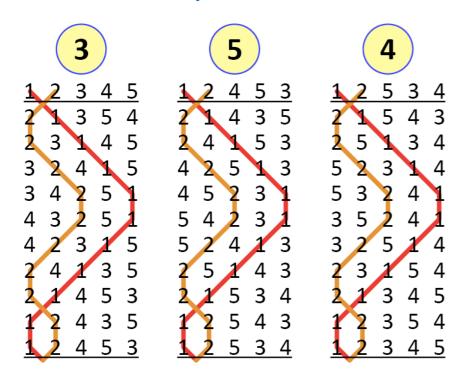
That's it for Banana

Next up is Poyle



Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints
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Poyle Doubles
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Poyle Doubles

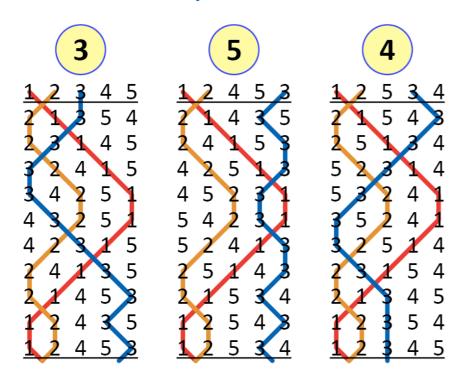


EdCol S6 A6 RW 5786 17/03/22 Here's a very unusual method!

Like Grandsire, the treble plain hunts and there's another bell that repeats the same work every lead in a plain course.

But unlike Grandsire, this bell does not plain hunt. What does it do?

Poyle Doubles



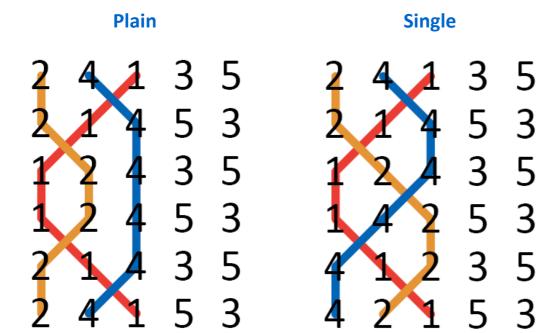
Other bells do long thirds, and a trip to the back for a crankshaft, with double dodges on either side.

Try a few plain courses.

Once everyone is familiar with the repeated work and the inside work...

...try a touch – they are arguably easier than Grandsire.

EdCol S6 A6 RW 5786 17/03/22



There's just one call (Single), which swaps the repeat-work bell with the bell making long thirds.

Bells doing their trip to the back are UNAFFECTED. So much easier than Grandsire!

EdCol S6 A6 RW 5786 17/03/22

60 120

2345 S 4253 4532 4325 S <u>2453</u> S 5234 5342 5423 S 2534 S 3245 3452 3524 S <u>2345</u>

It's easiest to call touches from the two. At each call you either leave or re-enter the repeated work.

For a 60, wait until it is about to come round, call a Single, then another Single three leads later to bring it round.

For a 120 (extent), always give yourself just one lead of repeated work.

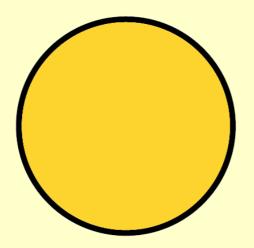
EdCol S6 A6 RW 5786 17/03/22

That's it for Poyle

Next up is St Clement's Triples

Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints
Banana Doubles
Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire

St Andrew's Differential
Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max



St Clement's Triples

How many twin-hunt methods do you ring?

Sadly, for most ringers, it's just one: GRANDSIRE

But we also ring Poyle!

But there are many minor methods that extend to triples methods by adding a second hunt bell. St Clement's is one of them. It is well worth learning – it is very musical, and a couple of plain courses make a good service touch.

The most obvious example of adding a second hunt bell is turning Plain Bob Minor into Grandsire Triples.

So when teaching St Clement's Triples, show how the extension from minor to triples works for Plain Bob and for St Clement's.

Plain Bob Minor to Grandsire Triples

EdCol S6 A2 RW 5778 21/01/22

Plain Bob Minor

In Plain Bob Minor, a bell makes seconds as the treble leads.

Plain Bob Minor to Grandsire Triples

EdCol S6 A2 RW 5778 21/01/22

Grandsire Triples

							1	3	4	ک	6	/
P	lain	Во	b N	/lin	or	7	1	3	5	4	7	6
1	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	1	4	5	6	7
2	1	4	3	6	5	3	2	4	1	6	5	7
2	4	1	6	3	5	3	4	2	6	1	7	5
4	2	6	1	5	3	4	3	6	2	7	1	5
4	6	2	5	1	3	4	6	3	7	2	5	1
6	4	5	2	3	1	6	4	7	3	5	2	1
6	5	4	3	2	1	6	7	4	5	3	1	2
5	6	3	4	1	2	7	6	5	4	1	3	2
5	3	6	1	4	2	7	5	6	1	4	2	3
3	5	1	6	2	4	5	7	1	6	2	4	3
3	1	5	2	6	4	5	1	7	2	6	3	4
1	3	2	5	4	6	1	5	2	7	3	6	4
1	3	5	2	6	4	1	2	5	3	7	4	6
3	1	2	5	4	6	2	1	5	7	3	6	4
3	2	1	4	5	6	2	5	1	3	7	4	6
2	3	4	1	6	5	5	2	3	1	4	7	6
2	4	3	6	1	5	5	3	2	4	1	6	7

In Plain Bob Minor, a bell makes seconds as the treble leads.

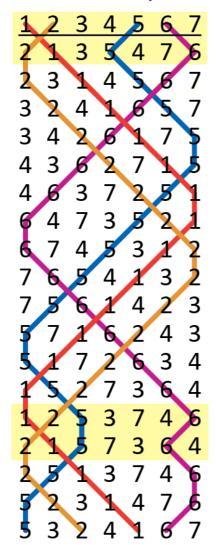
Adding a second hunt bell (orange line) means that the equivalent is now to makes thirds over both hunt bells.

This means that the dodging above this happens in 4-5 and 6-7, not 3-4 and 5-6, and happens just AFTER the treble leads.

Plain Bob Minor to Grandsire Triples

EdCol S6 A2 RW 5778 21/01/22

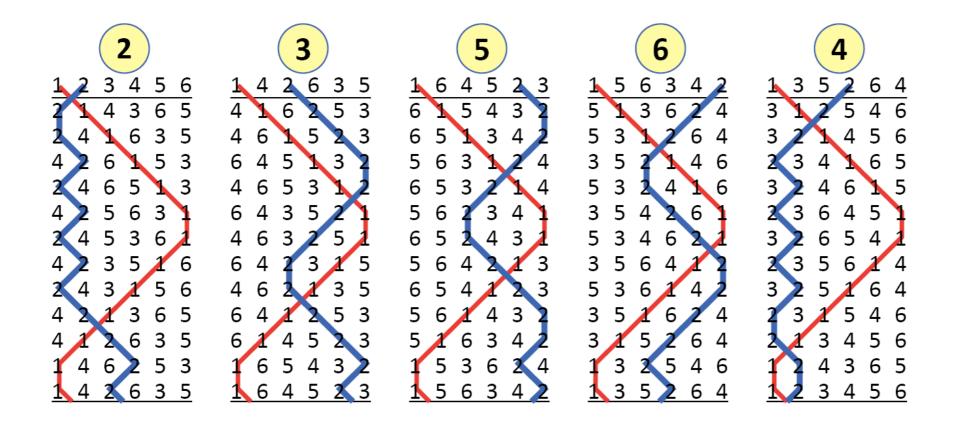
Grandsire Triples



Because the dodging happens one blow later, just after the treble lead, this means that the method STARTS with a dodge.

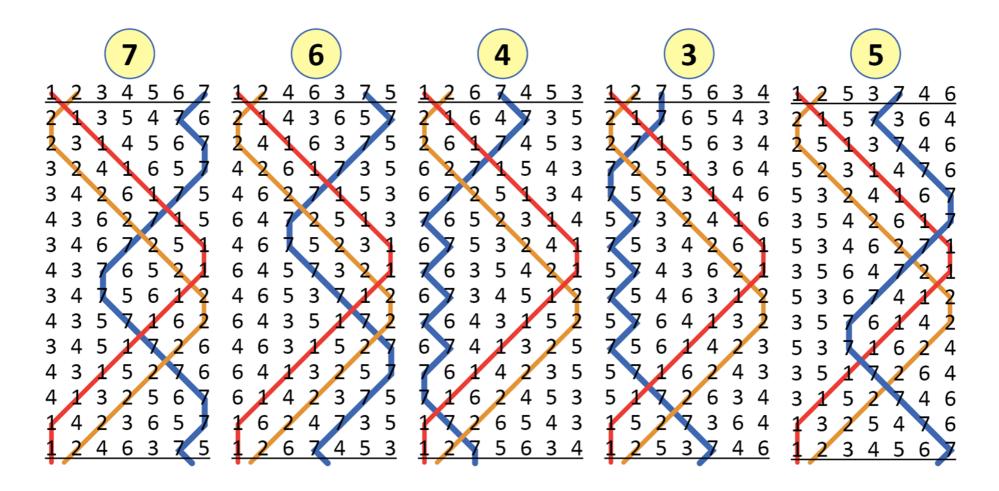
Exactly the same effects will be seen when we add a second hunt bell to St Clement's Minor.

St Clement's Minor



Most of the time in St Clement's is spent hunting between third place and the back, with dodges at the lead end . The dodges are in 3-4 and 5-6 . But you have two leads of frontwork, making seconds over the treble in the middle.

St Clement's Triples



Most of the time in St Clement's is spent hunting between third place and the back, with dodges at just after the lead end, and we start with a dodge. The dodges are in 3-4 and 5-6 4-5 and 6-7. But you have two leads of frontwork, making seconds over the treble thirds over the hunt bells in the middle.

St Clement's Triples

St Clement's Triples is well worth learning. It is about as difficult as Grandsire Triples, and makes a nice change!

Bobs and Singles work exactly as in Grandsire. See EdCol for some simple touches.

EdCol S6 A3 RW 5780 04/02/22

It shows that Grandsire is NOT the only twin-hunt method around.

Indeed, if you want to try some others, try

Single Oxford

Double Oxford

Single Court

Double Court

Each of these extends from Minor to Triples with the addition of a second hunt bell.

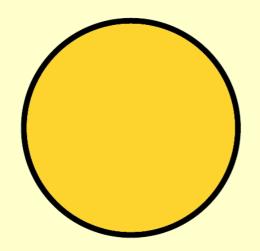
EdCol S4 A6 RW 5628 08/03/19

EdCol S6 A4 RW 5782 18/02/22

That's it for St Clement's Triples

That's it for St Clement's

Next up is St Andrew's Differential



Bastow/Bistow ...plus QP with Alliance **All Saints Banana Doubles Poyle Doubles** St Clement's Triples ... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire St Andrew's Differential

Double Dunkirk Splicing Stedman Littleport Little Max

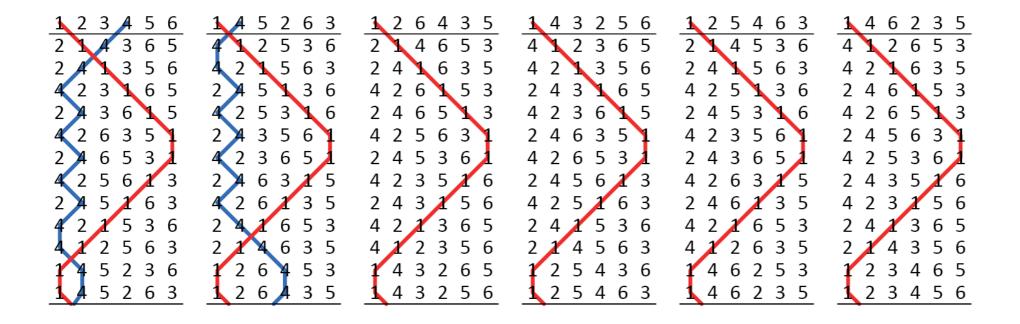
Repeated work

We've met PRINCIPALS like Stedman and Banana where **NO** bells repeat work in a plain course. They all do the full work, the same for each bell.

Most methods are TREBLE-DOMINATED with all working bells doing identical work in a plain course – such as Plain Bob, St Clement's Minor, Cambridge. Just **ONE** bell, the treble, does the same work every lead.

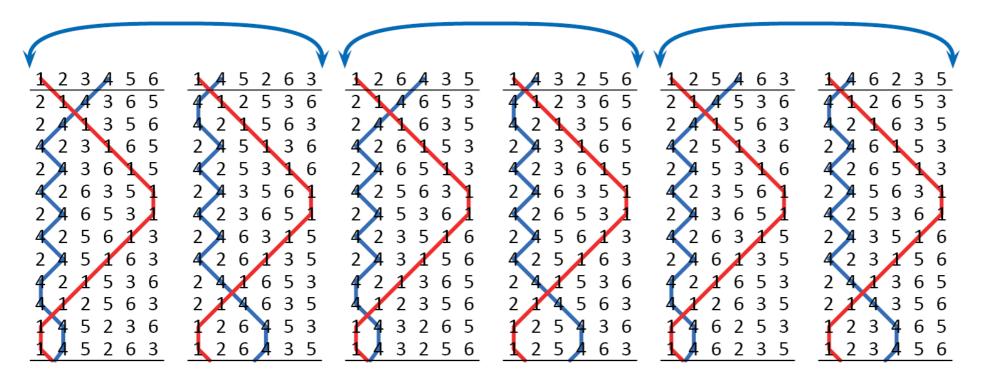
We have also met methods like Grandsire, Poyle, St Clement's Triples, where **TWO** bells (the treble and one other) repeat the same work every lead in a plain course. Often the repeated work is plain hunting (but not in Poyle).

How about a method where bells repeat a chunk of work that is longer than one lead?



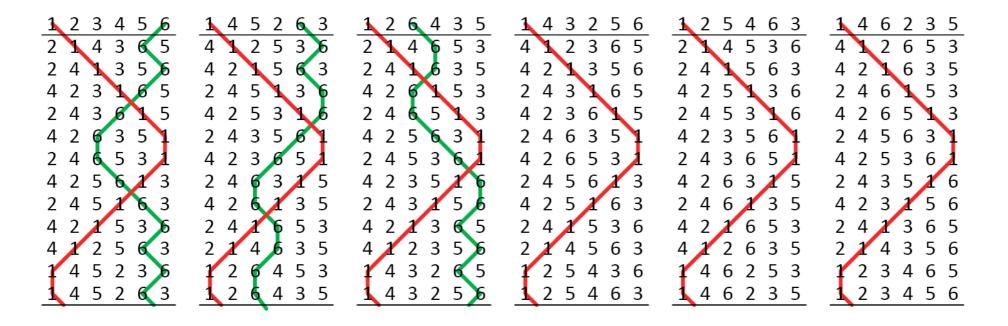
The 2 and the 4 each ring the same two-lead chunk. It is essentially the frontwork of St Clement's Minor.

2 and 4 ring a two-lead chunk three times.



The 2 and the 4 each ring the same two-lead chunk. It is essentially the frontwork of St Clement's Minor.

They repeat this work, ringing it three times in a plain course.

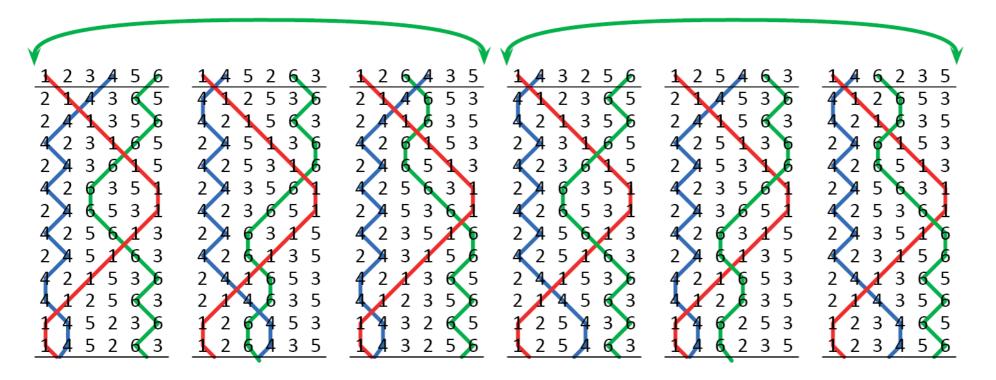


The 3, 5 and 6 have slightly harder work. There are two triple-dodges in 5-6 (lead-end in the middle dodge). These are preceded or followed by a lie.

There are two trips down the 3rd place. One is just 3rds and back. The other is 3rds, 4ths, 3rds (lead-end), 4ths, 3rds.

St Andrew's Differential

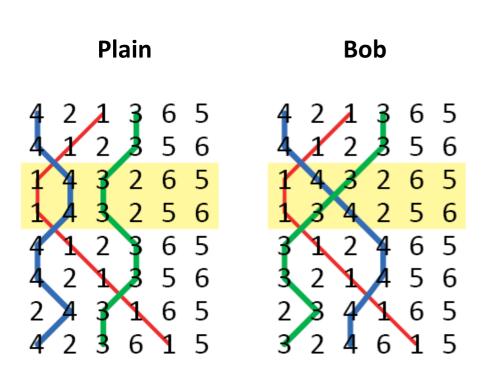
3, 5 and 6 ring a three-lead chunk twice.



The 3, 5 and 6 all ring this chunk of work twice in a plain course.

Ring a few plain courses, changing bells so that everyone gets to ring both the easier 2-lead pattern and the 3-lead pattern.

St Andrew's Differential



Then try a touch.

There's just one call. Bells in 5 and 6 dodge (unaffected), a bell makes 4ths (unaffected).

A bell runs out from 2 to 3, leaving one pattern and joining the other.

Meanwhile a bell runs in, 3 to 2, also changing from one pattern to the other.

A good touch is three homes from the 6. This leaves 5 and 6 unaffected, but 2, 3 and 4 each get to ring both of the patterns.

That's it for St Andrew's Differential

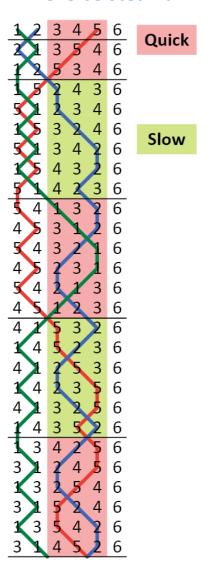
Next up is Double Dunkirk

Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints
Banana Doubles
Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire
St Andrew's Differential

Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max

A challenge for Stedman ringers

Reverse Stedman

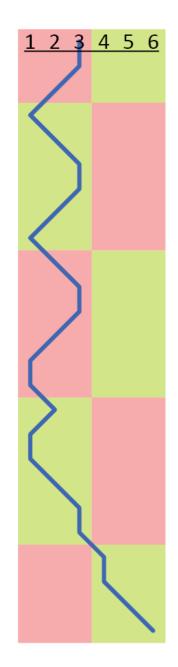


EdCol Xmas RW 5669 20/12/19 Here's a method we (in Brisbane) discovered by accident.

At practice in a 6-bell tower we had one beginner and five experienced ringers. We were looking for something where the beginner could cover, but was a challenge for us.

We decided to ring Stedman Doubles, but reversed (so dodging in 1-2, "frontwork" in 3,4,5).

What happened next week?



Next week we had six good ringers. We rang Reverse Stedman again for the newcomer.

But with six ringers, why not do Stedman frontwork on the front three, and reverse frontwork on the back three?

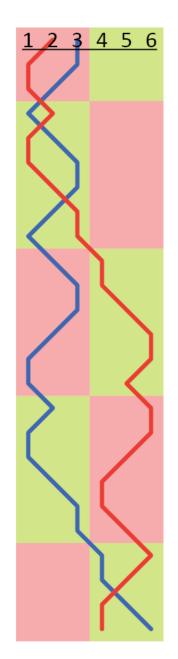
The starts for the 2 and 3 are like normal Stedman. In the diagram, the 3 finishes its normal frontwork, then enters the back three (in a SLOW six).

Quick

Slow

EdCol Xmas RW 5669 20/12/19

What happened next week?



We can similarly fill in what the 2 does.

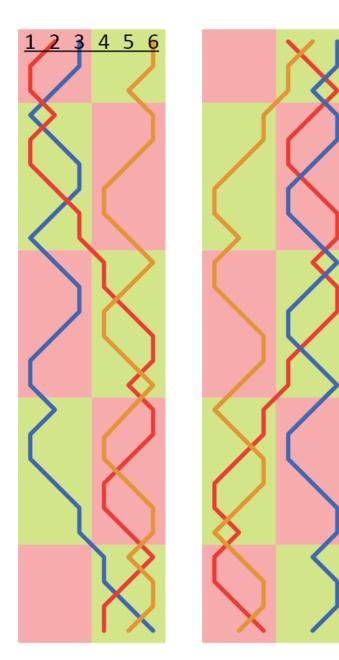
Notice that it also embarks on slow work when it moves to the back three.

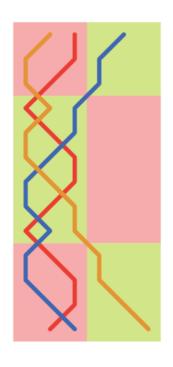
Quick

Slow

EdCol Xmas RW 5669 20/12/19

What happened next week?





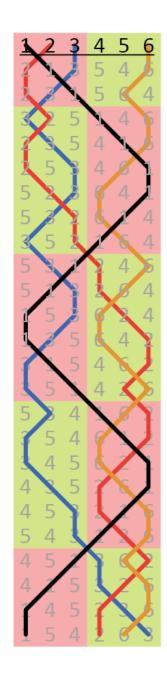
Quick

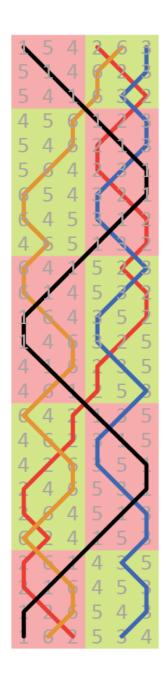
Slow

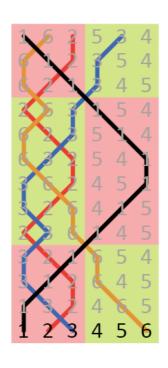
EdCol Xmas RW 5669 20/12/19 It's not too hard to fill in what other bells do, and keep the pattern going until it comes round.

But all the bells seem to do slow work all the time! So who does the quick Stedman work?

Double Dunkirk







Quick

Slow

EdCol Xmas RW 5669 20/12/19 It's only when we looked at the treble that we realised that it does ALL quick work.

And guess what – that's called plain hunting!

So this Stedman-based method turns out NOT to be a principle, but a normal method. It is called Double Dunkirk.

That's it for Double Dunkirk

Next up is Splicing Stedman

Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints
Banana Doubles
Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire
St Andrew's Differential
Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max

Splicing Stedman

While on the subject of Stedman Doubles, how about splicing it?

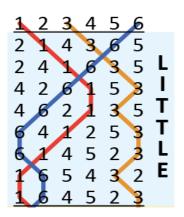
Splicing is not that uncommon, and is a great way of reinforcing confidence in methods the band knows quite well.

But splicing Stedman is unusual, and we are going to splice Stedman *Doubles* with some *minor* methods. This will require some understanding of transposition of coursing orders.

If this prompts you or your band to want to find out more about transposing coursing orders, here's a reference:

EdCol S3 A8 RW 5576 09/03/18

Go Little



Splicing Stedman

In this demonstration, unlike real life, we are going to go for a really short touch. Stedman, with a minor method at each end.

So let's start with something short... Little Bob.

Go Little Stedman

Splicing Stedman

In this demonstration, unlike real life, we are going to go for a really short touch. Stedman, with a minor method at each end.

So let's start with something short... Little Bob.

And then go into Stedman.

Notice that 3 becomes the cover bell, and the treble goes into 4-5 dodging.

Go Little Stedman Single

Splicing Stedman

We want the treble back leading as soon as possible, so that we can call the final method change.

So call a Single at the start of the six.

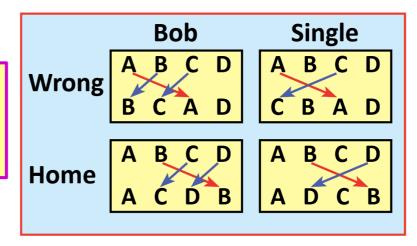
How are we going to get this to come round? The Stedman and the Single have jumbled the coursing order.

If we were plain hunting, the bells would lead 4, 2, 3, 6, 5. So the coursing order (with 6 written last as usual), is 5423(6).

Go Little Stedman Single

Splicing Stedman

EdCol S3 A8 RW 5576 09/03/18



So we need to change the coursing order from 5423(6) to 5324(6) which is what will get us to rounds. A study of coursing order transpositions tells us that a **Home Single** will do the trick!

We want this to happen as soon as possible, so let's choose a method that will get the tenor from 5th to 6th place in the next lead.

17/12/21

EdCol Xmas

RW 5573

St Clement's is one such method.

Go Little Stedman Single **St Clement's** Single That's all

Splicing Stedman

So change the method to St Clement's, and don't forget the Single.

That's all!

Go Little Stedman Single **St Clement's** Single That's all

Splicing Stedman

Here's the full touch.

In real life you would probably call something much longer.

The coursing order coming out of the Stedman shows that, to get it to come round, we need a Home Single.

We choose St Clement's to get to this Home Single quickly.

Expert conductors do this sort of calculation in their head while ringing!

Coursing order 5423(6)

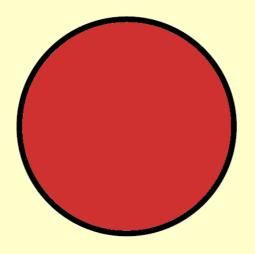
We want 5324(6) So we need Home Single

That's it for Splicing Stedman

One last method

Little Port Little Maximus

Bastow/Bistow
...plus QP with Alliance
All Saints
Banana Doubles
Poyle Doubles
St Clement's Triples
... plus Plain Bob to Grandsire
St Andrew's Differential
Double Dunkirk
Splicing Stedman
Littleport Little Max



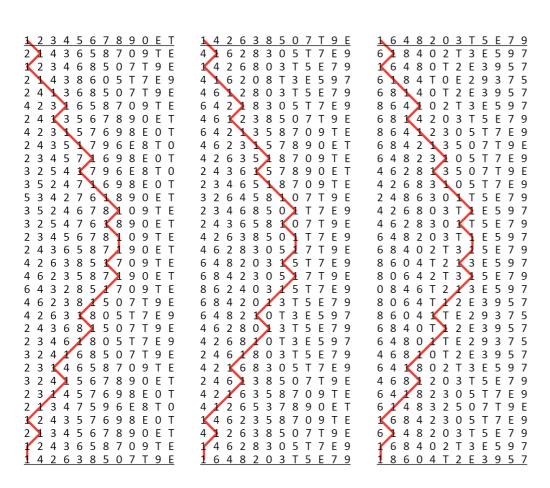
How about maximus?

Let's finish up with something harder!

You are running a 12-bell practice. You have dealt with the less experienced, ringing plain hunt, call changes, treble bobbing, Bastow Max and Little Bob Max.

Now you want something to challenge the half-dozen experts who are Bristol Max ringers, while also being suitable for those who are not up to surprise maximus but are solid on surprise major methods.

The first three leads of a plain course

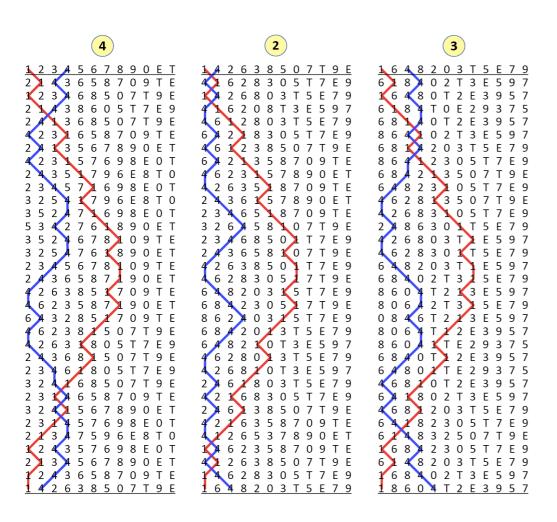


The answer could be Littleport Little Surprise Maximus.

It is a "little" method: the treble does treble-bobbing only up to 8th place.

This makes each lead the same length as a lead of surprise major.

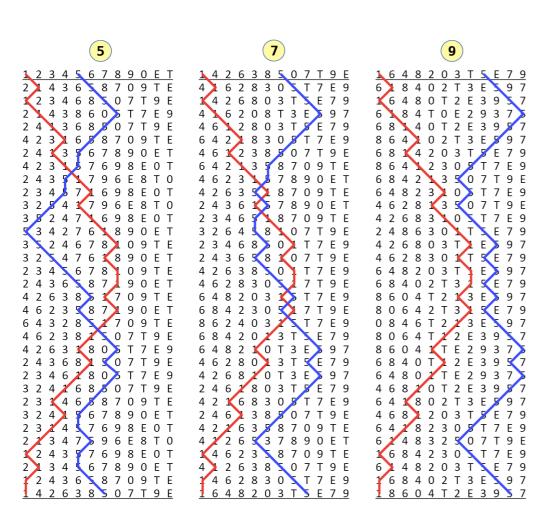
The first three leads of a plain course



The work of the 2, 3 and 4 (shown here) is exactly the same as Bristol Major.

And these bells stay in the front four, making ropesight easier for them.

The first three leads of a plain course

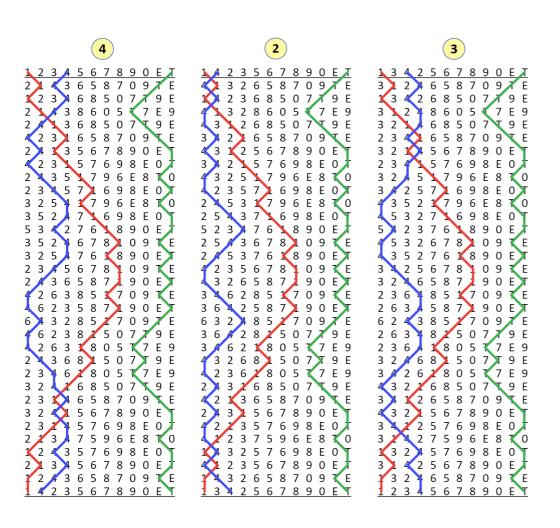


The work of the 5 (shown here) and the 6 are also the same as Bristol Major.

But the other bells (7 to 12) are harder. The lines for the 7 and 9 are shown.

Put your black zone ringers on these back six bells!

A Bob course is three leads



A bob course works just like in Bristol Major. It is just three leads long.

The 2, 3 and 4 each make the Bob once, and remain in the front four at all times, doing the work of Bristol Major.

All the other bells repeat the same work in each of the three leads. (Such as the 12, shown in green.)

So even your black zone ringers have to learn only one lead.



The End Thanks for your time!

Teaching with Unusual Methods

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