

# Beyond The Learning Curve

## Regina Bob Major

In this second article, we look at another method with a name suited to ringing for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Regina Bob Major is more difficult than Diamond Bob Triples, but should still be within the grasp of many bands.

As before, we'll start by 'walking around' the method, looking at it from different perspectives to spot features that might be helpful.

### The grid

The most striking feature of the grid (shown here in extended form) is the ring of places in the middle, underneath the Treble. They are all single places (like going in or out slow in Stedman) which can trip you up because they switch you from 'forward' to backward' hunting. But look closely, and you will see that they all come in pairs, either 3 & 5 or 4 & 6, so the backward hunting only lasts a couple of blows before the other place switches you back to normal hunting. You can think of it as a bit like an expanded version of Kent places.

Below this cluster of places two bells dodge on the front, and above the places a bell makes 7ths under the Treble.

The rest of the grid is all hunting, except at the lead end, which is like Plain Bob. Slightly less obvious from the diagram is the fact that the coursing order is preserved throughout, so the inside bells will always come on the back and on the front in coursing order (7532468 in the plain course) and you also meet them in that order. This is one feature that is easier to work out by looking at the method in 'Diary format'.

### The line

The lead end order is different from Plain Bob. It is a group b method (with lead end order 2, 6, 7, 3, 4, 8, 5 and back to 2). It is the same as Cambridge, but a more interesting comparison is with Double Bob, because the places and dodges at the half lead have the same as the 'upside down Plain Bob lead') at the half lead of Double Bob.

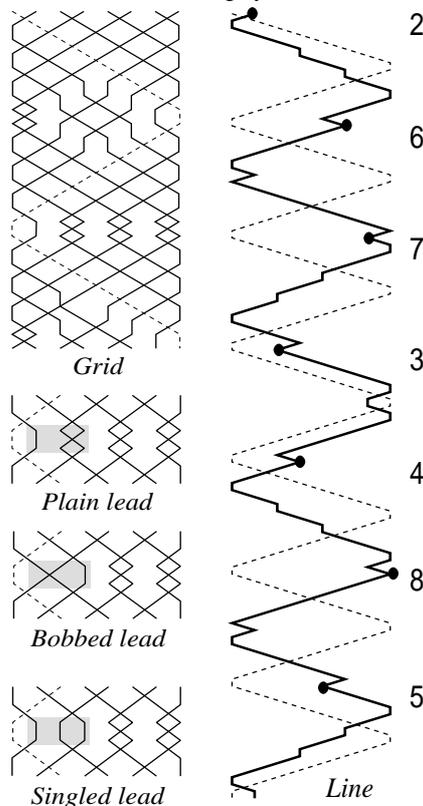
As expected, the places in the middle all appear in pairs and look like expanded Kent places. Unlike Kent, they are spread throughout the course, and alternate between up and down places. Remember too the slightly different positions, 3-5 and 4-6, which is easy to miss at a quick glance. With four working bells all doing this slightly unusual work around the same time, and in slightly different places, there is obvious scope for confusion. So learn this aspect of the method extra thoroughly.

Which places come where? As so often in a 'Treble dominated method', the answer relates to where the line meets the Treble. In all cases, the uppermost place is just below the Treble. So if you meet the Treble in 7-6 you make 6-4 places, and if you meet it in 6-5 you make 5-3 places. It is a bit harder on the way up, because you meet the Treble after making the places, but you can work out which is which from where you last met the Treble near the front. If you are hunting up hard on the Treble's heels, ie you turned it from lead, then you make 4-6 places, but if you are lower, having passed it in 2-3 down, then you make the lower places in 3-5.

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There are some similarities with Cambridge that might help. 6th place bell starts with lead & dodge (and this is mirrored at the end of 8th place bell, ie the run up to becoming 5th place bell, with a dodge & lead). 3rd place bell is the pivot bell, and it makes 7th under the Treble at the half lead.

Obviously these little rules aren't the whole story, and you still need to learn the line, starts and other features thoroughly.



### Calls

The bob and single are the same as Plain Bob, and with hunting either side of the lead (ie no places to confuse things) they should feel exactly the same too.

### Quarter peal

You need a composition for a (plain) group b method. There aren't any in *The Diary* but there are some published of, for example, Double Bob. Alternatively, you can use a composition for a group b Surprise method (of which there are lots) and double it with a single, as in this example:

```
1280 Regina Bob Major
23456 B W H
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52436 - -
23645 2 -
42635 - -
34256 - 2
32456 S
-----
2-part
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In the next article we will look at two suitably named Minor methods.

### Tail End

You can download this, and any other method, in Diary, Line or Grid format from: <http://www.boojum.org.uk/cgi-bin/line.pl>

The CC Compositions Committee will be publishing other compositions of peals and quarters for Diamond Jubilee methods.

For information on Jubilee ringing, see: <http://cccbr.org.uk/jubilee/>