



## Bell Ringing by Instalments

Written by Peter D Wenham

Available from [www.pdg.btck.co.uk](http://www.pdg.btck.co.uk)



An important thing to learn about this method is that 3 and 4 have different starts to Plain Bob. From rounds:

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

You will see that 3 makes a handstroke blow in thirds place and goes IN to lead, while 4 also makes a handstroke blow in fourths place and goes OUT. **The general rule of “Odd bells out, even bells in” does not apply here.**

3 starts part-way through places DOWN, so it will do the four blows next. 4 is part-way through places UP, and will make seconds place next.

Making places requires a different technique to dodging. Following the blue line in the Diagrams book, look at places up; from lead you reach thirds place by striking over one bell (A) and the treble; strike over (A) again to make thirds place. Now hunt up over another bell, into fourths place (this will be a backstroke), pull handstroke **over the same bell** to make fourths place, then hunt up to fifths place to lay. Now look at the places down. Your last blow in fifths place is a handstroke, so you hunt down into fourths place on a backstroke. Pull over **the same bell again** on the handstroke to make fourths place, hunt down into thirds place on the backstroke, your handstroke (making thirds place) will be over the treble, and then there is only one other bell below you as you come down to lead, the bell you met coming into thirds place.

Long fifths is similar to Plain Bob, but you are making it over the two bells making 3-4 places so you strike over them in the order A-A-B-B, which is different to the A-B-A-B of Plain Bob.

Ringing by “Where you pass the treble” will also be familiar:

- Pass the treble in 4-5 up - make places down.
- Pass the treble in 3-4 up - four blows behind.
- Pass the treble in 2-3 up - make places up.
- Pass the treble in 1-2 up - Make seconds place and lead again.

**Reverse Canterbury bobs:** when a bob is called,

<b>Instead of:</b>	<b>You will:</b>	<b>And your next work is:</b>
Making seconds place	Make thirds place and lead again	Make long fifths
Making places up	Make thirds place and lead again	Make places down
Making places down	Make long fourths and go out	Make seconds place

- Long fifths: You are unaffected at a bob - except that you strike all four blows over the same bell!

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- Look at the bell making Long Fourths; it strikes over the two bells making Thirds, twice over each bell. (A-A-B-B again!)

5 4 3 1 2  
4 5 1 3 2  
4 1 5 2 3     (Bob called here.)  
1 4 5 2 3  
1 5 4 2 3     (Bob made here.)  
5 1 4 2 3  
5 4 1 3 2  
4 5 3 1 2

This “Reverse Canterbury Bob” occurs in other doubles methods, so it is worth learning thoroughly.

The 3-4 places in this method are used in other doubles methods. Also they are essentially the same as Kent Treble Bob places, which can be a help when learning Kent.



## St. Simons Bob Doubles.

St. Simons is one of a family of methods where the bells in the front two places do “Front work”. During this front work bells above seconds place cannot get to lead so they hunt down to make two blows in thirds place and hunt out again, This is known as “Thirds and out”. (Like singles in Bob minor.)

When the treble leads seconds place is made and there is dodging in 3-4, also “Long Fifths”, as in Plain Bob doubles, but the order of work is different. Each time the treble leads one bell leaves the front work and another bell joins the front work

Front work:

Double-dodge 1-2  
(Handstrokes at lead)

Lead

Seconds place  
over treble

Lead

Double-dodge 1-2.

(Backstrokes at lead)

This ends the frontwork.

Now dodge 3-4 up

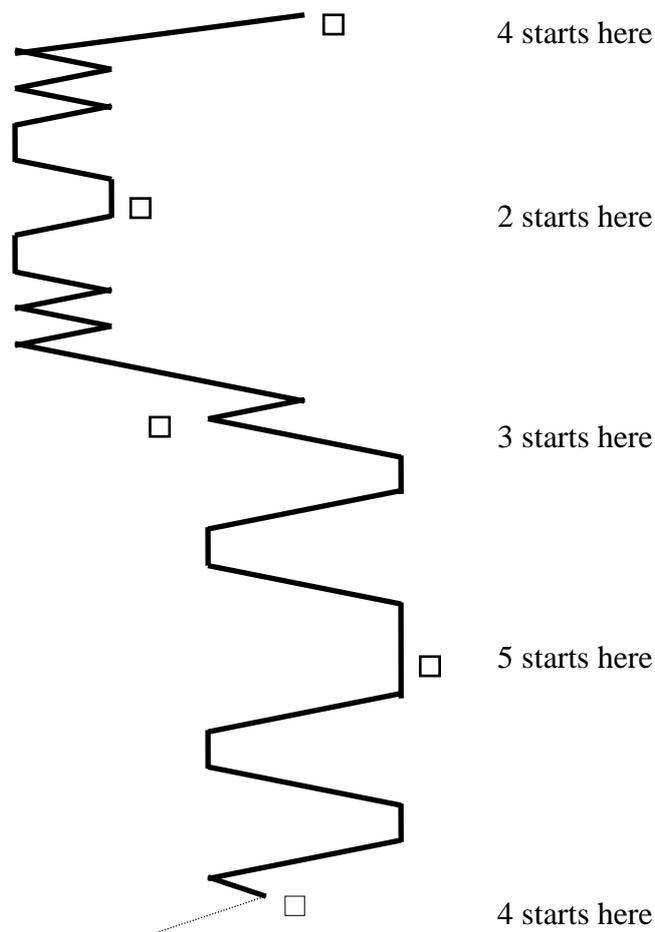
Thirds and out

Long fifths

Thirds and out

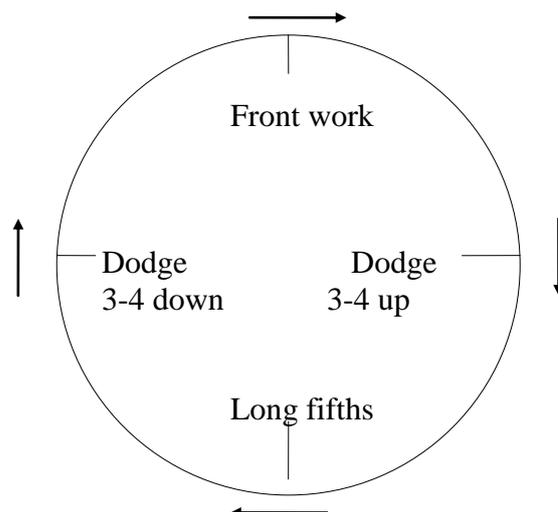
Dodge 3-4 down

and join the front work





**Circle of work:**



Notice that the dodging occurs in **reverse order** to Plain Bob doubles.

**BOBS.**

Bobs in St. Simons are like Plain Bob - Run in, Run out and Make the bob (which is fourths place and go in). However, a bob changes your next work considerably compared to Plain Bob:

**At a bob:**

Instead of:	You will:	And the follow-on work is:
Making seconds place	Leave the front work and run out (no dodge in 3-4)	Lay, make thirds and out, then long fifths. (As 3 starts from rounds.)
Dodging 3-4 down	Run in.	Front work after seconds place. (As 2 starts from rounds.)
Dodging 3-4 up (after the front work)	Make the bob, fourths place and in.	Start the front work <u>all over again</u> . (As 4 starts from rounds.)

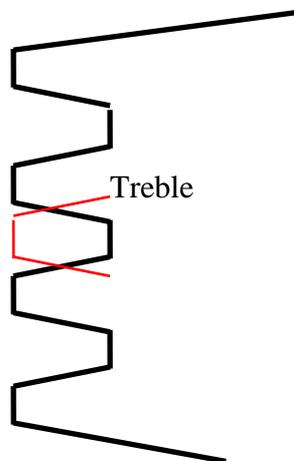
Like Plain Bob, the bell making long fifths is unaffected.

As mentioned previously, St. Simons is one of a family of similar methods; its cousins are St. Martins Bob, St. Nicholas Bob and Winchendon Place.



## **St. Martins Bob Doubles.**

St. Martins front work is based on places instead of dodging, otherwise it is similar to St. Simons.



When you can ring St. Simons, St. Martins should not be difficult because the rest of the work, dodges, long fifths and the “thirds and outs” joining them are just the same as St. Simons. Study this in the Diagrams book. Also, bobs are made just the same as in St. Simons; remember that when you have run in or made the bob you go in to places, not dodging!





**At a bob:**

<b>Instead of:</b>	<b>You will:</b>	<b>And the next work is:</b>
Making seconds place	Make thirds place and lead again.	Start the front work all over again. (As 3 starts from rounds.)
Making places up	Make thirds place and lead again	Do the second half of the front work again. (as 2 starts from rounds.)
Making places down	Make long fourths and out.	“Thirds and out” to long fifths. (As 4 starts from rounds.)

The bell making long fifths is **unaffected**.

## **Winchendon Place Doubles.**

Study the Blue Line in the Diagrams book and you will see that this method has no dodges; it has the “places” front work of St. Martins, the 3-4 places of St. Nicholas, and Reverse Canterbury bobs. The rules for bobs are the same as for St. Nicholas, provided you remember to lead full when you go into the front work.

### **What to do at bobs - for any method..**

It has been mentioned elsewhere in this series that the easiest way of dealing with calls in any method is the “Place Bells” concept, which is easy to understand if you know where each working bell starts from rounds. If you are “Fourths place bell” you ring as 4 starts from rounds.

You become a different place bell each time the treble leads, based on your position at the treble’s backstroke lead; if you are then in fourths place you become “Fourths place bell” for that lead.

- So if, at a bob, you **run in**, this makes you **seconds place bell** and your next work is the work of the **second as it starts from rounds**.
- Similarly, if you **run out** you become **thirds place bell** and ring as **3 starts from rounds**.
- If you **make the bob** you become **fourths place bell** so ring as **4 starts from rounds**.



This way, if you know the starts for each bell, you don't have to learn any extra rules for what to do after calls. The "Plain Bob" bob has been used here as the example, but it works similarly for Reverse Canterbury and other types of calls. The important thing is the **place** you are in at the treble's **backstroke** lead: you are then that place bell.

## **All Saints Doubles.**

This is another method that has no dodging; these methods can be useful when ringing on heavy-going fives!

Study the Blue Line in the Diagrams book; you will see that at each treble lead the front three bells work as at a Grandsire single while the bells in 4-5 make fifths place - fourths place - fifths place, otherwise known as "Crankshafts". The full order of work is:

Seconds place over the treble.  
Crankshafts. (Turn the treble from the back.)  
Long Thirds.  
Crankshafts. (Treble turns you from the back.)

Note the starts:

- 2 leads (as having made seconds place).
- 3 makes one blow in thirds and goes in.
- 4 makes one blow in fourths and goes out.
- 5 makes one blow in fifths and goes in.

The bobs are plain leads of Reverse Canterbury! If you are making seconds place you are unaffected. Otherwise:

### **At a Bob:**

<b>Instead of:</b>	<b>You will now:</b>	<b>And you become:</b>
Making Long Thirds	Make 3-4 places up.	Fourths place bell.
Finishing Crankshafts	Make 3-4 places down.	Thirds place bell.
Starting Crankshafts	Make Long Fifths.	Fifths place bell.

In the Diagrams book you will find many other doubles methods to vary your ringing, but if you want to study doubles seriously you should consider buying the Central Council book on doubles methods. Not only will you meet a wide variety of methods and variations (see below) but also a wider variety of calls, including Extremes and Omits.

### **Variations.**

Where a method has been altered, perhaps by using different calls, this should be styled a variation rather than a different method. A typical example of a variation is April Day, which is the plain course of Plain Bob but the calls (called as Bobs) are actually Grandsire singles. Try it sometime - it's fun to be dodging in 3-4 at plain leads and double-dodging in 4-5 at the calls!