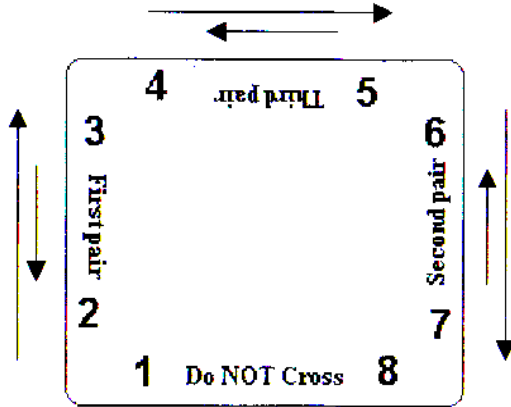


Handbell Dancing

The idea of this “dance” is to mimic the sound of churchbells when they ring changes.

For 8 handbells in an octave.

Four ringers hold a handbell in each hand, highest note in their right hand. The treble is number one. Place a piece of paper or cardboard on the floor, marked out as in the diagram below.



The ringers then stand outside the square, facing each other across the middle, their bells corresponding to the numbers on the paper.

Starting always with the bell in position 1, the ringers ring clockwise around the circle twice through ie. **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8**

Then the ringers in the first pair swap places. Ringers moving clockwise should move out around the back of the ringer moving anticlockwise. Then the ringers ring the bells starting with the bell that is now in Position 1. (Twice through)

This produces **3 4 1 2 5 6 7 8 3 4 1 2 5 6 7 8**

Then the ringers in the second pair swap places. Again they ring twice around starting with the bell in No 1 position. This produces **3 4 1 2 7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2 7 8 5 6**

Next the ringers in the third pair swap places and all ring around clockwise starting with the bell in no 1 position. This produces **3 4 7 8 1 2 5 6 3 4 7 8 1 2 5 6**

You will see the Do NOT cross on the diagram. There is no 4th pair.

The ringers in the	1 st pair position now swap places.	7 8 3 4 1 2 5 6 7 8 3 4 1 2 5 6
	2 nd pair	7 8 3 4 5 6 1 2 7 8 3 4 5 6 1 2
	3 rd pair	7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2 7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2
	1 st pair	5 6 7 8 3 4 1 2 5 6 7 8 3 4 1 2
	2 nd pair	5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4
	3 rd pair	5 6 1 2 7 8 3 4 5 6 1 2 7 8 3 4
	1 st pair	1 2 5 6 7 8 3 4 1 2 5 6 7 8 3 4
	2 nd pair	1 2 5 6 3 4 7 8 1 2 5 6 3 4 7 8
	3 rd pair	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

When done with clean, even striking it can produce a pleasing sound, and something visual for an audience. Tie a bright ribbon or scarf to the treble (1) bell and tell the audience to watch it move.

Acknowledgement: Thanks go to The Harlaxton Chimes