TROYTE RINGING CENTRE:

MOVING ON FROM PLAIN BOB DOUBLES:
THE ST. SIMON'S GROUP:

BEFORE WE START:

This series of learning packages is based on the principle that progress in method ringing is best made by taking small steps from one "method" to the next. This was demonstrated by moving on from Plain Hunt to Plain Bob Doubles. So the question now arises as to what is the smallest step we can take when wanting to move on from Plain Bob Doubles. There are several possibilities. The one we will take is based on the idea that the treble acts as a sort of zip fastener. This means the treble joins together what is happening below its path with what is happening above its path. So if we look at Plain Bob Doubles it is plain hunting below the treble and plain bob above the treble. So our small step means we retain either the plain hunt below the treble or the plain bob above the treble. Personally I prefer retaining plain bob above the treble as this means we can use the same bobs in any new method as we used in Plain Bob Doubles. Therefore changing the method below the treble means we need to learn something else other than plain hunting.

This package is in three parts. Part 1 describes the plain courses of the principal methods included in this package. Part 2 looks at Bobs and extents in the methods, and Part 3 introduces the idea of combining two or more methods in one extent. Parts 1 and 2 are the necessary sections to enable you to learn and ring these methods with confidence. Part 3 is only an indication of what is possible on just five bells. Read through Part 3 after you have read Parts 1 and 2, but study Part 3 in detail later.

INTRODUCING THE ST. SIMON'S GROUP:

So St. Simon's is Plain Bob Doubles above the treble but not Plain Hunt below the treble.. We are going to replace the work below the treble with something else. This idea is shown diagrammatically as follow:

Plain Bob Doubles:			Now a new method (St. Simon's)
12345 +	1	2345	12345 +
21435 +	2 1	435	21435 +
24153 +	24 1	53	24153 +
42513 +	425	1 3	42513 +
45231 +	4523	1	24531 +
54321 +	5432	1	42351 +
53412 +	534	1 2	24315 +
35142 +	35 1	42	42135 +
31524 +	3 1	524	41253 +
13254 +	1	3254	14523 +
13524 -	1	3524	14253 -

We will start by comparing the Place Notation for each of these two methods:

Plain Bob: (5.1.5.1.)5.(1.5.1.5) le125
St. Simon's (5.1.5.3.)5.(3.5.1.5) le125

These two methods have a feature which is shared by many other methods which we shall come across in other packages. I have shown below some parts of each place notation in brackets because they are the mirror image of each other:

(5.1.5.1.) and (1.5.1.5.) are mirror images and (5.1.5.3.) and (3.5.1.5.) are mirror images

Methods which have this feature are called "Palindromic" and we can simplify the place notation to reflect this feature. Thus the place notation of Plain Bob Doubles is more simply stated as 5.1.5.1.5 le125 and the place notation of St, Simon's Doubles as 5.1.5.3.5 le125. If a method is not palindromic then the place notation has to be written out in full.

Remember the place notation is simply a code which contains all the information needed to write out a method, so that we can examine its structure and produce the "blue line" most of us need in order to learn and ring the method..

Some people can ring a method straight from the place notation. I've seen this done but I cannot do it. It is said that people who ring two handbells to methods can also ring methods simply by learning the place notation. This probably explains why I am not much good at ringing methods on handbells.

On the next page we will compare a plain course of St. Simon's with a plain course of Plain Bob.

THE STRUCTURE OF ST. SIMON'S BOB DOUBLES:

Now let's write out the rows of a plain course of St. Simon's Doubles and compare it with Plain Bob Doubles written alongside.

St.S	P Bob
12345	12345
21435	21435
24153	24153
42513	42513
24531	45231
42351	54321
24315	53412
42135	35142
41253	31524
14523	13254
14253	13524
41523	31254
45132	32145
54312	23415
45321	24351
54231	42531
45213	45213
54123	54123
51432	51432
15342	15342
15432	15432
51342	51342
53124	53124
35214	35214
53241	32541
35421	23451
53412	24315
35142	42135
31524	41253
13254	14523
13524	14253
31254	41523
32145	45132
23415	54312
32451	53421
23541	35241
32514	32514
23154	23154
21345	21345
12435	12435
12345	12345

The first thing to note is the coursing order. With Plain Bob the working bells follow each other in the coursing order 2 4 5 3 whereas in St. Simon's there are two bells in 1-2 places for the whole lead. However, for the first lead of the plain course it is 2 and 4 working together. In the second lead it is 4 and 5 working together, in the third lead it is 5 and 3 and in the last lead it is 3 and 2. The path of the treble as it hunts up from the lead also follows bells in the same Plain Bob coursing order.

Look now at the lead head order:

St S	P Bob
4253	3524
5432	5432
3524	4253

Both methods have the same lead heads but they are not in the same order. The lead head order for Plain Bob is 2453 whilst the lead head order for St. Simon's is 2354. This difference in lead head order will have interesting consequences as we shall see later.

Let us now look at St. Simon's method structure in a little more detail.

I have shown the path of the 2nd bell in bold and alongside the number sequences I have written notes about what the 2nd bell is doing.

St. Simon's

1**2**345 The number 2 bell takes the treble from the lead. It is useful to remember
21435 that the bell which leads after the treble must lead for at least handstroke
24153 and backstroke to let the treble start hunting up and another bell to come
4**2**513 down to at least 2nds place. The bell which comes down is the 4th place
24531 bell which is the 2nd place bell's after bell.
4**2**351

24315 The 2 and the 4 then dodge together twice after which the 2 passes the
4**2**135 treble in 2-3 places and dodges in 3-4 places up with the bell which is
41**2**53 neither its course bell nor its after bell. In this case it is the 5th bell.
<u>14523</u>

14**2**53 At the lead head <u>the second bell becomes 3rds place bell.</u> It then hunts
415**2**3 up to 5ths place, makes two blows in 5ths and hunts down to third's
4513**2** place. It cannot go down to lead as the 4 and the 5 are dodging together
5431**2** in 1-2 places.
453**2**1

54**2**31 So it makes two blows in 3rds place and hunts up passing the treble in
45**2**13 3-4 places to make four blows in fifth's place and <u>becomes fifth's place</u>
541**2**3 <u>bell,</u> making fifth's place over its course bell and after bell.
5143**2**
<u>1534**2**</u>

1543**2** The second bell as fifth's place bell completes its four blows behind and
5134**2** hunts down to third's place, makes two blows in third's place and hunts
5312**4** up to pass the treble in 4-5 places and dodge in 3-4 down
35**2**14
53**2**41
354**2**1
5341**2**
3514**2**

3152**4** The second bell dodges in 3-4 down with the bell which is neither its
<u>13254</u> course bell nor its after bell, in this case it dodges with the 5th bell and
1352**4** <u>becomes 4th's place bell at the lead head</u>. Remember that the only
3125**4** bells which can be in 1-2 places when the treble is not there are the bells
3**2**145 which were in 2nds place and 4ths place at the previous lead head.
23415

3**2**451 The 2nd bell now dodges twice with its course bell in 1-2 places and
23541 leads full at hand and back stroke to allow its course bell to leave the
3**2**514 lead and the treble to come down to lead.
23154

21345 The 2nd bell now makes two blows in seconds place over the treble and
<u>12435</u> <u>becomes 2nds place bell</u> at the lead head.
1**2**345

Remember where you pass the treble as this tells you what to do next. If you pass the treble in 2-3 places you dodge in 3-4 up. If you pass the treble in 3-4 places

you make four blows in fifths. If you pass the treble in 4-5 places you dodge in 3-4 down.

Remember that you dodge in 3-4 places up and down with the bell which is neither your course bell nor your after bell.

Remember when you dodge in 3-4 down you have finished your "back" work, you become 4ths place bell and you start your "front" work with two dodges in 1-2 places with your after bell.

Remember that in the middle of your front work you will make two blows over the treble in second's place and become second's place bell. You then dodge twice in 1-2 with your after bell, pass the treble in 2-3 and dodge in 3-4 up with the bell which is neither your course bell nor your after bell. You will now start your back work

Now things start to get interesting because there are options other than dodging in 1-2 with your course bell and your after bell. St. Simon's Doubles is the gateway to other methods simply by doing things other than just dodging in 1-2. What follows are four methods, including St. Simon's which are identical except in 1-2 places.

St. Simon's	St. Martin's	St. Osmund's	Eynsbury
12345	12345	12345	12345
21435	21435	21435	21435
24153	24153	24153	24153
42513	42513	24513	24513
24531	42531	42531	24531
42351	24351	24351	42351
24315	24315	42315	42315
42135	42135	42135	42135
41253	41253	41253	41253
14523	14523	14523	14523
14253	14253	14253	14253

These methods are so similar that it is easy to get muddled as to which is which. Conductors can be helpful by offering helpful advice such as:

St. Simon's has dodging in 1-2 places
St. Martin's has short places in 1-2 places
St. Osmund's has funny work in 1-2 places
Eynesbury has long places in 1-2 places.

PLACE NOTATION:

Once you are familiar with St. Simon's and can ring it with confidence, learning the other three methods takes only a few moments as they are all identical in every respect except when the 2nd and 4th place bells work together in 1-2 places

Here is the place notation for each of these four methods:

St. Simon's Doubles	5.1.5.3.5.	le125
St. Martin's Doubles	5.1.5.123.5.	le125
St. Osmund's Doubles	5.1.125.3.5	le125
Eynesbury Doubles.	5.1.125.123.5	le125

Remember to concentrate first on St. Simon's, then St. Martin's and then Eynesbury. St. Osmund's is a bit more tricky because the three blows at lead followed by a dodge and then two blows in second's place need care to get each blow in the right place.

THE NATURE OF THE ROWS:

Here I have written out two leads of each method with the nature of each row shown:

St. Simon's	St. Martin's	St. Osmund's	Eynesbury
12345 +	12345 +	12345 +	12345 +
21435 +	21435 +	21435 +	21435 +
24153 +	24153 +	24153 +	24153 +
42513 +	42513 +	24513 -	24513 -
24531 +	42531 -	42531 -	24531 +
42351 +	24351 -	24351 -	42351 +
24315 +	24315 +	42315 -	42315 -
42135 +	42135 +	42135 +	42135 +
41253 +	41253 +	41253 +	41253 +
14523 +	14523 +	14523 +	14523 +
14253 -	14253 -	14253 -	14253 -
41523 -	41523 -	41523 -	41523 -
45132 -	45132 -	45132 -	45132 -
54312 -	54312 -	45312 +	45312 +
45321 -	54321 +	54321 +	45321 -
54231 -	45231 +	45231 +	54231 -
45213 -	45213 -	54213 +	54213 +
54123 -	54123 -	54123 -	54123 -
51432 -	51432 -	51432 -	51432 -
15342 -	15342 -	15342 -	15342 -
15432+	15432 +	15432 +	15432 +

There are several things to note here. First the lead head rows 12345, 14253 and 15432 are identical for each method. Secondly the first two rows after each lead head and the three rows before each lead head are also identical. However the four rows at the half lead, when the treble is making two blows in fifth's place, have some differences so that each method includes rows that are not contained in these two leads in any of the other three methods.

Also note that in each of these methods the two leads shown contain a total of twenty rows ten of which are positive and ten are negative, so true extents can be obtained of each using bobs only. However, although it appears easy to swop from

one of these methods to any one of the others care is needed when changing from one method to another otherwise the touch may be false

HERE ARE SOME THINGS FOR YOU TO DO:

1. Write out a plain course of St. Simon's several times until you can do this without copying or making mistakes. We often make mistakes when method ringing simply because we do not remember quickly enough what is going to happen next

2. Write out a plain course of St.Martin's and write alongside some helpful notes for the ringer of the 3rd bell, as I did above for the ringer of the 2nd bell with St. Simon's. Pay particular attention to the bells making 3rd's place below the treble in St. Martin's

3. Write out the first two leads of St. Osmund's putting an "H" against each handstroke row and a "B" against each backstroke row. Compare St. Osmund's with the other three methods regarding what happens in 1-2 places for the number 4 bell.

4. Write out what you will do after you pass the treble in St. Simon's when you are going away from the lead and the treble is coming down to lead. Compare this with what you do when you are ringing Plain Bob Doubles.

RINGING TOUCHES OF METHODS IN THE ST. SIMON'S GROUP:

Remember that St. Simon's and the other three methods we have looked at in this group have Plain Bob above the treble. Therefore the Bobs used with these methods are Plain Bob "Bobs". This is why we suggest that you become confident ringing Plain Bob Doubles before starting with this group of methods.

CALLING BOBS IN THE ST. SIMON'S GROUP:

Let's recap by calling a Bob every lead in Plain Bob Doubles:

	12345		12354
	21435		21534
	24153		25143
	42513		52413
	45231		54231
	54321		45321
	53412		43512
	35142		34152
Bob	31524	Bob	31425
	13254		13245
	12354		12345

We did not get very far as the bells came back into rounds after the second bob.

However, let's try this with St. Simon's Bob Doubles. Write out a touch calling a Bob at every lead and see what happens.

12345	15423	13254	14532
21435	51243	31524	41352
24153	52134	35142	43125
42513	25314	53412	34215
24531	52341	35421	43251
42351	25431	53241	34521
24315	52413	35214	43512
42135	25143	53124	34152
Bob 41253	Bob 21534	Bob 51342	Bob 31425
14523	12354	15432	13245
15423	13254	14532	12345

So now we have a touch which is 40 rows long - the same length as a plain course of St. Simon's Bob Doubles. If you look at this touch carefully you will see that every row is different, that the treble plain hunts, that there are four working bells and every working bell does the same work, with each bell starting at a different place in the sequence. This is in fact another method. It has the place notation 5.1.5.3.5. le145. It is called Eaglethorpe Bob Doubles. You can do the same thing with St. Martin's. St. Osmund's and Eynesbury and you get three more new methods called Thurning Place, Wigsthorpe Bob and Armston Place. However, you cannot do this by calling a Bob at every lead of Plain Bob Doubles simply because that touch came round after the second Bob and therefore does not produce a plain course with one lead for each working bell. Also most ringers would say that ringing a method in which the plain course is produced only by having a Bob at every lead of another method (which is called a Bobbed course) does not produce a new method which is worth ringing.

EXTENTS OF METHODS IN THE ST. SIMON'S GROUP:

To reduce space we are going to write out the extents available using normal Plain Bob Bobs using the lead head rows only. In all four methods the lead heads are the same and they occur in the same order. The rows within each lead are however different for each method. St. Simon's, St.Martin's, St. Osman's and Eynesbury can use any of these eight extents. So there are eight different extents for each of these four methods using Bobs with which you are familiar.

2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	2345
4253	4253	-5423	4253	-5423	-5423	4253	-5423
5432	5432	2534	-3542	-3254	2534	-3542	-3254
3524	-2354	3245	4325	-4532	-4325	-2435	5342
-4235	5243	4352	2453	3425	-5243	-5324	-2453
3452	4532	-2543	5234	-5234	-3452	2543	-3524
5324	3425	4235	-4352	-4352	5324	-3425	-4235
2543	-5234	3452	5423	-2543	-4253	-5234	3452
-3425	3542	5324	2534	4235	-3542	-4352	-2534
2354	4325	-4253	3245	-5342	-2435	5423	-4325
5243	2453	5432	-5432	-2453	3254	-3254	-5243
4532	-3524	3524	3524	-3524	-4532	-4532	4532
-2345	2345	2345	2345	2345	-2345	-2345	-2345

In the first four extents the bell that runs in at the first bob, runs out at the second bob and makes the third bob. As in Plain Bob it is useful to remember the sequence IN OUT MAKE. In the last four extents the observation bell runs IN at the first bob, MAKES the second bob and runs OUT at the third bob (and these three bobs are in consecutive leads) and makes four blows in fifth's place at the next plain lead.

It is worth while learning how to transpose lead heads. Here are two examples of what to do.

12345 This is the lead head row
21435
24153
42513
45231 *we will leave out the rows in italics*
54321
53412
35142
31524
13254
13524 This is the next lead head for a plain lead

Therefore if the next lead is also a plain lead the next lead head will have the same relationship with the row 13524 as 13524 had with rounds. Therefore the next head head will be 15432.

Let's now use an example of a different method having both a plain lead and a bobbed lead

12345		**12345**	
21435		*21435*	
24153		*24153*	
42513		*42513*	*we will leave out the rows in italics*
24531		*24531*	
42351		*42351*	
24315		*24315*	
42135		*42135*	
41253		*41253*	
14523		*14523*	
14253	Plain Lead Head	**15423**	Bob Lead head

So if the next lead is also a plain lead it will have the same relationship with 14253 as 14253 had with 12345. Therefore the bell which was in 4ths place at the previous lead head (5) will now be in 2nds place. The bell which was in 2nds place (4) will now be in 3rds place. The bell which was in thirds place (2) will now be in 5th's's place and the bell which was in 5th's place (3) will now be in 4th's place. So the next lead head will be 15432. Therefore the sequence of lead head rows is:

12345
14253
15432

If the next lead is a Bob Lead the lead head relationship with 15432 will be the same as the relationship between 15423 and rounds 12345 and so the next lead head row will be 12354. Therefore the sequence of lead head rows will be:

12345
14253
15432
- 12354

These are lead head rows for the first three leads of a extent with the 4 as observation bell. Because the treble is always first in the row at the lead head it is normal to leave the treble out when writing down the lead heads. I have left the treble in because when counting the position of the bells in the next lead head it is easy to forget that the treble is first in the row and the next bell is the second in the row.

Remember that the lead head order of St. Simon's (2354) is different from the lead head order of Plain Bob (2453) but the coursing order of all these methods is the same.

Remember that because the St. Simon's lead head order is 2354 there are four more possible extents available. There are four when the bobs are called when the observation bell is making four blows in fifth's place, and four more extents when the bobs are called at every lead EXCEPT when the observation bell is making four blows in fifth's place. Some ringers will find these last four extents difficult so it is worth ringing a few touches with a bob at every lead as preparation for these extra extents..

HERE ARE SOME MORE THINGS FOR YOU TO DO:

5. Write out all the rows in an extent of St. Simon's Bob Doubles which has a bob every time your chosen working bell makes four blows in fifth's place. Remember there will be three bobs before either the touch will come round or the coursing order will come back into the plain course order 2453

6. Write out the extent you have just chosen using only the lead head rows and write alongside each row what the coursing order is. Remember the coursing order after a bob changes from (observation bell) abc to (observation bell) bca.

Take a long break here and ring the four methods in the St. Simon's group several times or as often as you can before going further so that you can ring them with some confidence.

AN INTRODUCTION TO RINGING SPLICED DOUBLES:

Many first quarter peals have been rung on five bells with the tenor covering, these have often been in just one method, designed to help the first quarter pealer to gain confidence and to learn to concentrate.

It is also possible to ring eleven doubles methods to a quarter peal of doubles, or 42 methods to a peal of doubles simply by ringing a different method for each extent.

However, if you want to ring more than eleven methods to a quarter peal or more than 42 doubles methods to a peal you have to ring extents which have more than one method in them. This process is called splicing and we are just going to have a look at one way in which this can be done.

Just as an aside I rang my first peal of spliced Doubles on 04 July 1953 which was the first peal of spliced doubles for the Middlesex County Association & London Diocesan Guild. On 30 October 1954 I rang in a peal of 45 spliced Doubles methods which at that time was the most Doubles methods ever rung to a peal. We continued to ring peals of Doubles increasing the number of methods each time until 19 August 1960 when we rang 113 different methods to a peal at Hambledon in Buckinghamshire. Other bands have now rung more methods of spliced Doubles to peals. I really enjoyed these peals, I enjoyed the concentration and the quality of the ringing. I have tried to share this enjoyment with others since coming to live in Devon, but there has been little interest in journeying far beyond a few extents on a Bampton practice night.

If you would like to try ringing spliced doubles the Troyte Ringing Centre open practices at Bampton on Thursday evenings provide opportunities for you to dip your toes into these waters.

The following shows the first lead in two different methods. Their names are not important, just compare the rows and you will see that both methods contain the same rows but NOT in the same order. These and many other methods with the same feature are called <u>lead splicers.</u> You can change the method at any lead head and the touch or extent will be true.

12345	12345
21435	21435
24153	24153
24513	42513
24531	24531
42531	42531
42513	24513
42153	42153
41235	41235
14325	14325

There is another group of methods which have the same changes in a plain course obviously arranged differently. So you can change the method at each course end or at any one course end and the touch will still be true. However you must ring a whole course before you change the method again. For example Plain Bob and Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place are course splicers. So you can ring a whole course of Plain Bob, change the method to Rev Cant and ring a whole course of that, change the method again to Plain Bob and the bells will come into rounds at the course end, provided you called three bobs at the same place in each course. Methods with this feature are called <u>course splicers.</u>

Plain Bob, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Osmund's and Eynesbury are neither lead splicers nor course splicers. But we can introduce another new method:

12345	Now alongside	12345
21435	we will put	21435
24153	another method	24153
42513		42513
24531		24531
42351		24351
24315		42315
42135		24135
41253		21453
14523		12543
14253		12453

Compare these two methods carefully and you will notice that in the new method the half lead change is different. So the place notation for these two methods is:

St. Simon's Bob (5.1.5.3.) 5 (3.5.1.5) le 125

The new method (5.1.5.3.) 125 (3.5.1.5) le 125

This new method called Rugby Slow Course has 1-2 places made at the half lead and that is the only difference in place notation between it and St. Simon's. However it has great opportunities for us to splice it with St. Simon's. Let's look at a plain course

12345 +	Rugby Slow Course
21435 +	
24153 +	The first thing to note is that the 2nd bell comes back to its home
42513 +	position at each lead head row. This means that the plain course
24531 +	has only three heads - when the treble leads two bells stay in the
24351 -	same position for both leads of the treble. Therefore the three
42315 -	remaining bells can only occupy the three remaining places before
24135 -	a row repeats.
21453 -	
12543 -	Secondly the nature of the rows changes as a consequence of the
12453 +	125 places made at the half lead. Only one pair of bells changes
21543 +	position at the half lead so this changes both the lead head order
25134 +	and the coursing order.
52314 +	
25341 +	Therefore we can arrange these two methods to give us an extent
25431 -	which is achieved by carefully deciding when to change from St.
52413 -	Simon's Bob to Rugby Slow Course and vice versa.
25143 -	
21534 -	We will have an observation bell, and it can be any working bell
12354 -	2,3,4 or 5 and this bell will only ring plain courses of St. Simon's.
12534 +	When the observation bell dodges in 3-4 down we ring St. Simon's
21354 +	when the observation bell dodges in 3-4 up we ring Rugby Slow
23145 +	Course. No bobs are needed.
32415 +	
23451 +	We can do similar things with St. Martin's and St. Osmund's.
23541 -	
32514 -	
23154 -	
21345 -	So now I will write out an extent of spliced St. Simon's and Rugby
12435 -	Slow Course, with the St. Simon's rows in italics, the second bell
12345 +	as observation bell, and using no bobs.

12345	*St. Simon's*	*12453*	*12534*
21435		*21543*	*21354*
24153		*25134*	*23145*
42513		*52314*	*32415*
24531		*25341*	*23451*
42351		*52431*	*32541*
24315		*25413*	*23514*
42135		*52143*	*32154*
41253		*51234*	*31245*
14523		*15324*	*13425*
14253	Rugby SC	15234	13245
41523		51324	31425
45132		53142	34152
54312		35412	43512
45321		53421	34521
45231		53241	34251
54213		35214	43215
45123		53124	34125
41532		51342	31452
14352		15432	13542
14532		15342	13452
41352		51432	31542
43125		54123	35124
34215		45213	53214
43251		54231	35241
43521		54321	35421
34512		45312	53412
43152		54132	35142
41325		51423	31524
14235		15243	13254
14325	*St. Simon's*	*15423*	*13524*
41235		*51243*	*31254*
42153		*52134*	*32145*
24513		*25314*	*23415*
42531		*52341*	*32451*
24351		*25431*	*23541*
42315		*52413*	*32514*
24135		*25143*	*23154*
21453		*21534*	*21345*
12543		*12354*	*12435*
12453		12534	12345

So here is an extent (120 rows) of spliced St. Simon's Bob and Rugby Slow Course, rung without bobs using the second bell as observation, the observation bell only rings plain courses of St.Simon's. The method starts with St. Simon's so everyone can get off to a good start. The method is changed to Rugby Slow Course as the second bell dodges in 3-4 up and changes back to St. Simon's Bob as the second bell dodges in 3-4 down. As you ring this, if you want to of course, you will find many different signposts during the five minutes or so of ringing. These are the easiest extents of

spliced doubles that I know. There are similar variants for St. Martin's and St. Osmund's.

Here are the half lead 1-2 place variants for St. Simon's, St. Martin's and St. Osmund's. I have not given the 1-2 variant for Eynesbury because it has one of the bells in each lead which only leads. It is true but is generally considered not worth ringing.

St. Simon's	St. Martin's	St. Osmund-s
12345	12345	12345
21435	21435	21435
24153	24153	24153
42513	42513	24513
24531	42531	42531
24351	42351	42351
42315	42315	24315
24135	24135	24135
21453	21453	21453
12543	12543	12543
12453	12453	12453

These three new methods are called Rugby Slow Course, Slapton Slow Course and Merton Slow Course.

It is also possible to have the place notation 345 at the half lead. This gives four new methods of which one will splice with St. Simon's Bob, one with St. Martin's Bob, one with St. Osmund's Bob and the last with Eynesbury. St. Simon's Bob also will splice with another method which has 145 at the half lead which is called St. Edmund's Slow Course.

On the next page I has written out an extent of spliced St. Martin's Bob Doubles together with its 3-4 variant which is called Welford Bob. I have chosen the number 3 bell as observation bell, so the method will be changed to Welford Bob when the observation bell is dodging in 3-4 down and becomes 4th's place bell. And the method will be changed to St. Martin's Bob when the observation bell is dodging in 3-4 up and becomes 3rd's place bell. Therefore the observation bell only rings plain courses of St.Martin's.

12345	*St.Martin's*	*14352*	*15324*
21435		*41532*	*51234*
24153		*45123*	*52143*
42513		*54213*	*25413*
42531		*54231*	*25431*
24351		*45321*	*52341*
24315		*45312*	*52314*
42135		*54132*	*25134*
41253		*51423*	*21543*
14523		*15243*	*12453*
14253		*15423*	*12543*
41523		*51243*	*21453*
45132		*52134*	*24135*
54312		*25314*	*42315*
54321		*25341*	*42351*
45231		*52431*	*24531*
45213		*52413*	*24513*
54123		*25143*	*42153*
51432		*21534*	*41235*
15342		*12354*	*14325*
15432	Welford	12534	14235
51342		21354	41325
53124		23145	43152
35214		32415	34512
35241		32451	34521
53241		23451	43521
53214		23415	43512
35124		32145	34152
31542		31254	31425
13452		13524	13245
13542		13254	13425
31452		31524	31245
34125		35142	32154
43215		53412	23514
43251		53421	23541
34251		35421	32541
34215		35412	32514
43125		53142	23154
41352		51324	21345
14532		15234	12435
14352		*15324*	*12345*

All the St.Simon's group of methods (St. Simon's. St. Martin's.St. Osmund's and Eynesbury) accommodate spliced extents incorporating two leads with their appropriate 1-2 and 3-4 variants except we don't normally use the 1-2 variant with Eynesbury and St. Simon's has an additional 1-4 half lead variant called St. Edmund's Slow Course. These extents do not use Bobs and any working bell can be used as the observation bell and the change of method is positioned so that the observation bell rings plain courses of the parent method. In the following chart I have given the place notations of each method together with their names.

Method	1-2 variant	3-4 variant	1-4 variant
St. Simons Bob 5.1.5.3.5. le125	Rugby SC 5.1.5.3.125 le125	Braywood Bob 5.1.5.3.345. le125	St. Edmund's SC 5.1.5.3.145. le 125
St. Martin's Bob 5.1.5.123.5. le125	Slapton SC 5.1.5.123.125. le125	Welford Bob 5.1.5.123.345. le125	None
St Osmund's Bob 5.1.125.3.5. le125	Merton SC 5.1.125.3.125 le125	Longworth Bob 5.1.125.3.345.le125	None
Eynesbury Bob 5.1.125.123.5. le125	None	Sutton-on-Trent Bob 5.1.125.123.345.le125	None

In addition Plain Bob has 1-2 and 3-4 half lead variants but some ringers find these a little more difficult to ring.

Plain Bob 5.1.5.1.5. le 125	Boxford Bob 5.1.5.1.125 le125	Candlesby SC 5.1.5.1.345 le125	None

So now there are 15 methods just a couple of steps away from Plain Bob Doubles. May be they are worth a try sometime?

SUMMARY:

This package has been put together to show that there are a significant number of methods that can be rung by making just a few small steps beyond Plain Bob Doubles. This is possible by replacing the plain hunting below the treble in Plain Bob Doubles with other methods, and retaining Plain Bob above the treble and still using the same bobs as were used when ringing Plain Bob Doubles.

The changes we have introduced take place around the half lead. That is when the treble is lying two blows in fifth's place. One of the objectives here has been to help you observe what the treble is doing as it goes plain hunting. Of course it is also fun to ring the treble and to watch as each bell does what it should (or what it shouldn't do) each time it passes your bell.

A thought for the future. The methods below the treble which we have introduced in this package can also be rung with other methods above the treble in place of Plain Bob Doubles. The Troyte Ringing Centre is here to encourage you to join us in exploring this journey.

FURTHER STUDY OPPORTUNITIES:

Here are some other publications on Doubles methods which are also available through the Librarian of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. His contact details are shown in the Annual Report of the Guild.

Adams, Chris Ringing circles: a guide to learning methods
CCCBR 48pp 2000

Bamforth, Stuart I *An introduction to ringing multi method doubles*
The Whiting Society

Bamforth, Stuart I *A compendium of plain doubles methods*
The Whiting Society 108 pp 2016

Coleman, Steve The bellringer's early companion
Sue Coleman 439pp 2008

Coleman, Steve The method ringer's companion
Sue Coleman 437pp 2008

Copson, Pam One per-learner book
Sherbourne 40pp 4th ed. 1992

Copson, Pam The follow-on book for bell-ringers
Sherbourne 40pp 2nd ed 1988

Copson, Pam The ringers exercise book
Sherbourne 24pp 1987

Grave, Karl Carry on counting, an introduction to
Plain hunting and the plain course of
Plain Bob Doubles
The Whiting Society 40pp 2009

Grave Karl Doubles or quit: or how to conquer
Plain Bob Doubles
The Whiting Society 92pp 2013

Harrison John A & Lewis Catherine The new ringer's book
CCCBR 156pp 2012

Penny Pip Ringer's guide to learning the ropes
Association of Ringing Teachers 80pp 2nd ed 2017

All the above titles are part of the "Learners' Library" collection which is stored with the Guild Librarian in Tiverton. The titles in italics may not yet be in the Learners Library.

Ring me on 01398 331843 or email me on michael.r.hatchett@gmail.com if there are parts of this package which I have not made sufficiently clear for you or if you have any questions.