

Biographical Record

MICHAEL JACK PRYOR (1918 – 2006)

Represented the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association on the Central Council from 1972 – 1977 and attended 6 meetings

Jack Pryor, as he was known, was born on 16th December 1918 at Harwell in Berkshire, where he began to ring in 1937.

He was a member of the band at the following churches: Faringdon 1946-1954; Marple 1954-1958; St. John, Cardiff from 1958.

His first peal, Plain Bob Major, was at West Wycombe in Buckinghamshire on 24th July 1943. He rang a peal of 10,000 Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Llanfeigan on 3rd July 1965.

Jack conducted his first attempt for a twelve bell peal at Ashton-under-Lyne on 22nd March 1970 (the 1000th peal for both Robert B Smith and Bernard F L Groves).

He rang his 100th peal for the Llandaff & Monmouth Association at Cardiff on April 26th 1973. He rang 227 peals in total.

He was Secretary of the Vale of White Horse Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild 1951-1954, and General Secretary of the Llandaff & Monmouth Association 1962-1972.

Jack was a gifted teacher of ringing with the ability to inspire those he taught. While at Marple he taught a group of ringers many of whom became well known for their ringing achievements: including Robert B Smith (conductor of the record peal of 42,320 Plain Bob Major), Frank Osbaldiston, Alec Osbaldiston, Margaret Mackay (who later married Alec Osbaldiston), William Dowse, Christine Macnair (who became Christine Darby), Alan McFall and Bernard Groves. He also taught several others at Marple and then taught still more people at Cardiff.

By profession he was an electrical engineer.

He died on 30th March 2006.

His funeral was held at St. Augustine's Rumney, Cardiff on 11th April, followed by cremation at Thornhill Crematorium. His ashes were scattered near the tower in Rumney church yard.

