

# Biographical Record

## LEONARD STILWELL (1890 – 1985)

Represented the Sussex County Association on the Central Council from 1951 - 1956, Honorary Member from 1957 - 1969 and attended 11 meetings

He was born on February 20<sup>th</sup> 1890 at Pulborough in Sussex, which is where he learned to ring in 1903.

He rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, at Pulborough on October 6<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Subsequently he was attached to Old Windsor 1906-1908, Windsor St. John the Baptist 1908-1915, Henley on Thames 1915-1916, Horsham 1949-1957 and Heene, Worthing 1957-1967.

He was the Sussex Secretary 1940-1944, Peal Secretary 1956-1962, Trustee 1956-1963 and Vice-President in 1962.

He took part in Great Adventure II to Australia in 1965. He also visited Canada, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe today) and South Africa to ring.

He was a member of the Central Council Biographies Committee 1952-1966. During that time he compiled a list of all the ringers who had been Central Council members since the Council was formed, and the dates of their membership.

He rang in silent peals of Stedman Triples, Cambridge Surprise Major, Yorkshire Surprise Major and Superlative Surprise Major for the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

On October 6<sup>th</sup> 1974, he rang a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Windsor to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his first peal.

He rang his 1000<sup>th</sup> peal, Yorkshire Surprise Major on May 31<sup>st</sup> 1975, at the age of 85, at Windsor Parish Church.

He rang 1000 tower bell peals, of which he conducted 76, and 2 handbell peals. 432 peals were rung for the Sussex County Association and 291 for the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

He rang peals in 315 towers, of which he 'circled' 32.

By trade, he was a corn merchant, later becoming a baker.

He died on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1985 and his funeral took place at Heene on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Obituary and other references in the Ringing World for 1985, pages 231, 358, 362, 536 and 977*

