

Biographical Record

Frank Ivie HAIRS (1887 – 1988)

Represented the Sussex County Association on the Central Council from 1939 - 1951, was an Honorary Member from 1951 - 1968 and attended 21 meetings

Frank Ivie Hairs was born on December 27th 1887 in Brixton, South London.

He learned to ring at St. Mary's Clapham and subsequently was attached to St. John's Waterloo Road, St. Margaret's, Westminster, St. Peter's Brighton and Withyham.

He rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary's Clapham on 27th February 1906. He rang in the longest length of Grandsire Caters in hand (8099 changes) at that time and rang three handbell peals in one day: Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob. He rang a peal of Stedman Caters in hand, with his wife, on their wedding day in January 1916. A list of his first 300 peals was printed on page 807 in 'The Ringing World' 19th December 1924. He rang peals to celebrate his 90th, 91st and 92nd birthdays, all at Withyham in Sussex. He rang a total of 648 peals, of which 186 were in hand.

He was a member of the Central Council's Standing Committee 1945-1968 and a member of the Ringing World Committee from 1951-1966.

He was Master of the Sussex County Association 1944-1950 and became a Vice-President in 1975. Being the Association's oldest member at the time, he was invited to the Centenary Dinner in 1985 but had to decline as he was due to be gliding that day. (He had served with the R.N.A.S. during the first World War).

He worked as a compositor in the printing industry.

He died on 18th January 1988, aged 99. His funeral took place at Salisbury Crematorium on January 25th.

Biographical notes: 'The Ringing World' in 1977, page 883.

Obituary : 'The Ringing World' in 1988, pages 178 and 179.