

# Biographical Record

## **Herbert PIDLER (1907 – 1989)**

Represented the Devon Association on the Central Council from 1961-1984 and attended two meetings: 1964 (Truro) and 1974 (Exeter).

Herbert Pidler was born on 16th March 1907 in High Bickington, Devon, where his family had lived since at least the early 19th century. He married Doris Mary Gooding at High Bickington Methodist Church on 8th [??] September 1937. As a wedding gift, he gave her a china cabinet, and she gave him an oak writing bureau, while the ringers gave them both an inscribed 8-day clock. They lived at the family farm Dadlands until 1972, when after the untimely death of their son aged 32, they retired to Claydown, a house in the village. Herbert died on 1st October 1989, aged 82 and is buried in St Mary's Churchyard.

Herbert rang at High Bickington, an active call-change tower. He became first chairman and then president of the Devon Association. The exact dates are not known, but he was chairman in 1972 and 1974 and President in 1975 and 1977.

In 1972, he accepted the Central Council invitation for a Devon Call change competition during the Council weekend in London. He was one of the four judges of the competition, at St Vedast, Foster Lane; it attracted great interest and between 100 and 150 spectators. He attended the official reception where the certificates were presented, but did not stay for the Council meeting the following day.

He was a member of High Bickington Parish Council (at least in 1931, and probably much longer).

The only known picture of him shows him with handbells in front of a village carnival float depicting the church tower.

