

Biographical Record

DOUGLAS HERBERT ROOKE (1935 – 2010)

Represented of the Southwell Diocesan Guild on the Central Council
from 1960 – 1965 and attended 2 meetings

Douglas Herbert Rooke was born on April 5th 1935 at Warsop in Nottinghamshire, where he learned to ring in 1945, being taught by Joe Reader and his father, Herbert Rooke. He rang open bells for the first time on VE day.

He was attached to Warsop 1945-1969 and then to Grantham 1969-1977.

He rang his first peal, seven plain minor methods, at North Muskham on 16th October 1948. His first peal as conductor, Oxford Treble Bob Minor, was on 15th August 1950, at Warsop.

He rang over 200 peals in total.

In 1954 he joined the Rambling Ringers and the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1958.

He was the Secretary of the Mansfield District of the Southwell Diocesan Guild 1958-1963. In 1959 he became Acting Peal Secretary for the Southwell Diocesan Guild and retained that office for four years.

His notable ringing performances included: turning the tenor in and conducting peals at East Retford on 5th August 1961 and Southwell Minster on 26th November 1960; 23 Treble Bob Minor methods spliced at Ordsall on 22nd December 1951; seven Treble Bob Minor methods non-conducted at Warsop on 7th January 1956.

He earned his living in several ways: at different times he was a painter and decorator, an oil rig worker, a bread roundsman, a milk roundsman and a shop owner.

He died on 6th February 2010 and his funeral was held at Great Gonerby on February 17th 2010.

*Obituary in 'The Ringing World'
on 9th April 2010, page 352.*

