

# Biographical Record

## **WILLIAM ALFRED THEOBALD (1913 – 1992)**

Represented the North American Guild on the Central Council  
from 1973 - 1981 and attended 5 meetings

He was born on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1913 at Islington in London.

He learned to ring at Portsmouth Cathedral in 1934.

Subsequently he was attached to all four Salisbury towers, then to St. Mary's Holloway. Later he was unattached for at least 25 years.

He rang his first peal, Grandsire Doubles at St. Paul, Salisbury.

He took part in the first peal of Spliced Surprise Major rung outside the British Isles at Vancouver on June 16<sup>th</sup> 1973.

He rang in the Bi-Centenary peal of Stedman Caters at Washington Cathedral

He did not keep records of his peals but thought he had rung about 600, of which he had conducted approximately 100.

He was made a Freeman of the City of London and a complimentary peal was rung on handbells on August 12<sup>th</sup> 1974.

He was a member of the Central Council Public Relations Committee 1978-1981.

He was made an Honorary Life Member of the North American Guild in 1992.

He worked on aircraft before and during the war then worked for over 30 years at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. During his employment at Whitechapel he hung many peals of bells in the USA and rang at every ringing tower on the North American continent.

He died on July 8<sup>th</sup> 1992 and was cremated on July 17<sup>th</sup>

There was a memorial service for him at St. Botolph's, Aldgate on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1992.

