

Biographical Record

JOHN MALCOLM TYLER (1929 – 2001)

Represented the Peterborough Diocesan Guild on the Central Council from 1972 - 1983, Honorary Member from 1985 - 1993 and attended 18 meetings

John Malcolm Tyler, FRCO, ARAM, LRAM, was born on 31st October 1929 at Werrington, Peterborough.

At the age of 14 he became the organist at a Peterborough Workhouse Institute Church and at 15 became organist at Whittlesey in Cambridgeshire, where he learned to ring in 1948 and where he rang his first peal, Plain Bob Minor, on 4th June 1949.

Other towers to which he was attached were Canterbury Cathedral, 1953-1956 and St John, Peterborough from 1967 onwards.

He gained the Henry Smart scholarship (Organ) at the Royal Academy of Music and was a presenter of classical music on Radio Northampton.

He was Master of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild from 1970 for several years.

He rang in a peal of 60 Spliced Surprise Major at Rothwell on March 10th 1973. He circled the tower at Thornhaugh on July 7th 1974 and at St. John, Peterborough on 13th September 1975. He completed the alphabet to peals of Surprise Major at Rothwell on 27th December 1974. He rang his 200th peal at Earls Barton on October 15th 1976.

He served on the Education Committee of the Central Council 1975-1978. At this time the Council was considering having graded ringing tests, as for musical instruments, and he did much work investigating this possibility, before the idea was shelved.

By profession he was a County Music Adviser to Northamptonshire County Education Committee. He had been the sub-organist at Canterbury Cathedral, at St John's Cathedral, Johannesburg and at Peterborough Cathedral.

He died on 5th February 2001 and his memorial service was held on May 15th.

