

Biographical Record

Robert WARNER (born Robert Warner Marriage) (1886 – 1949)

Represented the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths on the Central Council
from 1921 - 1923 and attended 0 meetings

Robert Warner Marriage (he later adopted the name Warner by deed poll) was born in late 1886 in Chelmsford. His mother Edith, was the daughter of Robert Warner (II), who owned John Warner & Sons, which operated as hydraulic and sanitary engineers, brass and bell foundry, brasiers and coppersmiths, and had works at the Crescent Foundry in Cripplegate, which was sold in 1890. In 1896 Robert (II) bequeathed to his grandson Robert (then aged 10) another business at Walton-on-Naze, which folded not long afterwards.

Robert Warner Marriage's father, Andrew, was originally a farmer, but was trading as a hydraulic engineer around the time of Robert's birth. In 1891 he formed a limited company and moved the foundry and works to Spelman Street, Spitalfields

Robert went to boarding school at Felsted, near Dunmow before joining his father's business, which by this time included bell and other non-ferrous founding at Spelman Street, and iron founding at nearby Osborne Street.. In 1911, Robert was described as a mill founder, when lodging in London with his younger brother Andrew, who was described as a bell founder.

When Andrew was killed in the War, Robert took over his father's business, He disposed of the Spelman Street foundry, and over the years set up other businesses including a bell foundry in Richmond, where their last bell was cast in 1924. The business ran down after the war, and was finally wound up.

Robert was admitted to the Founders' Company in 1912, and became its Master in 1933. He was a prosperous man, and when he died on 8th June 1949, he bequeathed the bulk of his estate, over £20,000, to the Founders' Company to establish a fellowship in metallurgical research as applied to bell founding practice, and now modified to provide student bursaries in metallurgy and materials engineering, and an associated lecture, named after him.

Little is known of Robert's ringing career, other than that he was a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, and was their Central Council representative for three years, albeit an inactive one.