

Biographical Record

Alan CARVETH (1929 – 2008)

Represented the Truro Diocesan Guild on the Central Council in 1956 only
and attended the meeting that year

Alan Carveth was born in Truro on 31st December 1929. He learned to ring at Kenwyn church in Truro in 1940 and later became a member of the Cathedral band in Truro. Alan rang his first peal, Grandsire Doubles, on 2nd March 1946 at Mabe in Cornwall.

Alan was a prominent peal ringer in Cornwall. On May 17th 1947 he rang the treble to a peal of Plain Bob Royal at Truro Cathedral; this was the first peal on ten bells and the first of Royal for the Guild. His first peal as conductor was at Carbis Bay on 9th May 1953 when he called Grandsire Triples. He rang in a peal at Lavenham in Suffolk on 26th October 1963, where all the ringers were named Alan; this was followed on 27th November 1965 by a peal at Twerton on Avon which was the first of Surprise by a band of Alans. With Anthony Davidson, he turned in the tenor at Exeter Cathedral to a peal on 4 November 1970. On November 24th 1971, Landulph became the 100th Cornish tower at which he had rung a peal and on 26th December 1974 following a peal at Lanivet he had rung peals on all the rings of 8 in Cornwall. This was followed on December 3rd 1977 by becoming the first person, with Anthony J Davidson, to ring a peal at all the ringable towers in Cornwall, when he rang a peal at Lewannick. He circled the towers to peals at Carbis Bay and Truro Cathedral. He rang 497 peals, of which he conducted 143. All his peals were on tower bells.

He was President of the Truro Diocesan Guild from 1954-1978. He was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1961 and rang several peals for the society. He was Master of the Truro Cathedral company from 1963-2002 and ran the ringing at Kenwyn church for many years before being formally elected as tower captain in 1988. He was a strong supporter of Kenwyn church, serving it in various capacities including that of churchwarden. Teaching recruits and ensuring a good standard of Sunday Service ringing were very important to Alan, who always gave learners much help and encouragement.

Alan served on the Diocesan Advisory Committee. This and other services which he had rendered led to him being appointed a Lay Canon of Truro Cathedral in 1995.

Apart from two years' service with the RAF Alan spent all his life in Truro. He worked for the family firm of commercial and wholesale stationers.

Alan died on 16th April 2008. His private cremation on April 25th was followed by a service of thanksgiving for his life Kenwyn church.

There was an obituary for him in An Clogh and in The Ringing World in 2008, pages 455, 510, 624 636-7.

