

# Biographical Record

## Tom CLARK(E) (1908 – 1967)

Represented the East Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Association on the Central Council from 1933 to 1939 and attended 7 Council meetings

Tom Clark was born in Gainsborough in the first quarter of 1908. He learnt to ring around 1925 and was present from 1926, to 1929 at the tower AGMs in January. In 1928 he was elected steeple keeper.

He rang his first peal in September 1927 – Treble to Grandsire Triples. Two week later he rang inside to a quarter of Plain Bob Major, and the following week he rang his first peal of Plain Bob Major. By the end of the year he had rung five peals including Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Caters, and he rang four more in 1928, all with either the Lincoln Diocesan Guild or the North Notts Association.

He moved to Sutton in Ashfield, and his next five peals, all of multi Minor were rung for the East Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Association between 1930 and 1931. In 1934 he joined the Midland Counties Association, for which he rang all but one of his remaining peals, two jointly with the Sherwood Youths. Many were Plain Bob Major, with a few Stedman, Double Norwich or Treble Bob and two of Royal – Plain Bob and Kent. His last known peal was in July 1939, a total of 33.

In 1933 Tom became Ringing Master of the East Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Association, a post he held until the war. For a while (definitely in 1937) he was also District President of the Midland Counties Association.

While at Sutton he developed a link with the band at Kirkby in Ashfield, where he rang in a local band quarter peal in March 1930. Between 1933 and 1934 he moved to Kirkby, living at 63, Kings Way, East Kirkby. At some point he became tower captain and built up a new band. In 1937 Kirkby was the first band to be awarded the Jubilee Shield for making most progress. All of the band apart from him were under 21. In September that year he conducted the band's first peal since 1929, with all except him ringing their first peals.

Little is known of him after the war apart from an incident around 1950 when the ringers at Kirkby were struggling and someone suggested that to make headway they needed Tom Clark. At the time Tom was living in Forest Street. He told the person who went to find him that he didn't do much ringing but he went along and helped them to ring some Bob Doubles.

He died in the first quarter of 1967, aged 59, in the Basford District (which includes Kirkby).

