

# Biographical Record

## WILLIAM HENRY COLES

Representative of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild in 1950

Attended 1 meeting

William Henry Coles was born in 1905 at Staplegrove near Taunton in Somerset.

He learned to ring at Staplegrove in 1921, where he rang his first peal, Grandsire Doubles, on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1924.

He was attached to St. George, Wilton, Taunton 1925-1931 and to St John the Baptist in Hillingdon 1931-1975. When he retired in 1975 he joined the band at St. Mary Redcliffe in Bristol until in 1977 he moved to Coalpit Heath, where he rang until his death.

He rang a peal of 7200 Surprise Minor at Wilton, Taunton, a record then for the Bath & Wells Association. He rang in the first peal of Double Norwich rung west of Bristol at St. James, Taunton and he was in the first peal of Major rung at Sherborne Abbey.

He was steeple keeper at Hillingdon for four years and captain for two years.

He was a Vice-President of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild 1946-1958.

He was a Freemason and a founder member of the Clavis Lodge.

He worked as an aircraft engineer.

He died on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1984 and his funeral service was held on 25<sup>th</sup> July at Coalpit Heath, after which he was cremated at Canford crematorium, Bristol. His ashes were interred in the family grave at Staplegrove.