

# Biographical Record

## FREDERICK EDWARD COLLINS

Representative of the Surrey Association 1946 - 1965

Honorary Member from 1965 - 1980

Life Member from 1980

Attended 40 meetings

Born at Ringwood, Hampshire on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1901.

He began ringing at Ringwood in October 1916 and was later attached to St Peter, South Croydon 1925-1932 and St John, Croydon 1937-1967 where he was Ringing Master 1954-1967. On his retirement in 1967, he returned to live in Ringwood and rang there, being Tower Secretary for a time.

His first peal, Grandsire Triples, was at Dibden, Hampshire on November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1922. His total of 580 peals, included several notable ones: he rang Stedman Cinques on the tenth at St. Paul's Cathedral in 1953 for the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; he rang two peals at Exeter Cathedral and rang a peal of Stedman Cinques on the tenth at Liverpool Cathedral.

He featured in the Ringing World article 'Servants of the Exercise' No 30 (RW 22.7.1960)

He served the Surrey Association in several capacities: he was Northern District Master, General Master and Liaison Officer to the Guildford Guild. In 1953 he was Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Whilst a member of the Central Council he served on the Towers and Belfries Committee 1962-1980. During this time he performed numerous inspections on behalf of the Council and it was as a result of his work on this Committee that he was made a Life Member of the Council. After his retirement he became Adviser on Bells for the Salisbury DAC.

When he left school, Ted worked for an engineering firm, taking a seven year apprenticeship. On being made redundant in 1925, he successfully applied for a job as a bell-hanger with Gillett and Johnston in Croydon. He left this work in 1936, after he was married and did not wish to spend so much time travelling around the country, and joined the maintenance department of the Croydon Gas Company, remaining there for the rest of his working life.

Amongst his other interests was Freemasonry - he rang in a number of Masonic peals.

He was an expert carpenter and enjoyed gardening and brewing his own beer and wine.

He died on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1994. His funeral took place at Ringwood on 9<sup>th</sup> June, followed by cremation at Bournemouth.

*Obituary/appreciations in 'The Ringing World' in 1994 on pages 600, 815 and 839.*

