

# Biographical Record

## **Tudor Parry Edwards (1934 – 2013)**

Represented the University of Bristol Society on the Central Council from 1960 to 1975 and attended 14 meetings

Tudor Parry Edwards was born on July 10th 1934 at Pentre in South Wales, where he was to learn to ring in 1952. When he went up to Bristol University he was a very inexperienced ringer, but that was soon to change as his ringing career continued at St. Thomas in Bristol. Albert Tyler took Tudor under his wing and the two became lifelong friends. Tudor's first peal, Grandsire Doubles, was at St. Michael's in Bristol on May 17th 1954. His first peal as conductor was Stedman Caters at St. Stephen's Bristol rung on 5th March 1958, this being a taste of what was to come as Tudor was to excel in calling peals of Stedman.

Tudor stayed at Bristol University to complete his degree and his PhD in Chemistry. His university days over, he went to work in Reading for ICI. From here he was able to go to College Youths practices in London. He had been made a member of the College Youths in 1957 and became a very active member, ringing 429 peals for the Society and attending 61 Annual Dinners. In 1961 Tudor's work took him to Lancashire, first to Widnes and then to Fleetwood. During his time there, he made many more ringing friends. He encouraged members of the Liverpool Society of Change Ringers to such an extent that eventually he was made an Honorary Life Member of that Society. During this time he became a member of a band in the Manchester area ringing peals of Spliced Surprise Maximus, which culminated in peals of 50 methods in 1969 and 110 methods in 1972.

Tudor enjoyed taking part in peal tours. He was a member of Wilfred Williams touring band from 1959 to 1979 and in 1963 he joined the 'Around' tours on the first of these tours in 1963 and went on every one until 2013.

In the mid 1960s Tudor left Lancashire to return to his native Wales. He changed his career and took up teaching at Porth County Grammar School where he taught chemistry and mathematics. He stayed in this position for 30 years, but after the Grammar School became a Comprehensive School and the standard of both education and discipline suffered, he left, taking early retirement.

Towards the end of his life, Tudor had three ambitions, all of which he realised; one was to ring 3000 peals, another to ring 1000 peals for the Llandaff & Monmouth Diocesan Association and the last one to ring peals in 1000 towers.

In total Tudor rang 3123 peals; he conducted 714 of these. He rang 458 peals of Stedman Cinques of which he called 252. He rang 1038 peals for the Llandaff & Monmouth Diocesan Association, of which he conducted 201. He rang peals on 1010 towers.

Tudor had several other interests apart from ringing. He enjoyed various sports, both as a spectator and as a player: rugby, cricket and snooker. He particularly enjoyed watching Welsh Rugby. He also enjoyed travelling and had visited many places during his life.

Tudor was diagnosed with lung cancer early in 2013 and he died on 20 May 2013. His funeral was held at Pentre, where he had been born and learned to ring.



*His obituary and an appreciation appeared in The Ringing World on July 26th 2013.*