

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS ELECTED
AT THE 2009 GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

David Purnell

We, the South Petherton Ringers, have felt for some time that our Tower Captain, David Purnell, should be recognised for his "outstanding service" in the recruitment and training of new ringers over the past years. His enthusiasm and passion for teaching the art of bellringing to all age groups has resulted in a strong and committed band at South Petherton. He has also trained ringers for other towers, including the forming and training of a complete new band for Crewkerne, which has enabled their bells to be rung regularly for Sunday services again.

At present he has a group of nine children under tuition, four of whom have rung their first quarter peal and ring regularly for service. This, in addition to the steady stream of adult learners, entails almost daily training sessions.

Besides his work at Petherton tower, David has served the Association as Treasurer on two occasions: from 1994 - 98, and in 2006 when he stepped in to hold the fort when nobody else was prepared to do it.

Due to David, the Association now boasts a superb new twelve at South Petherton. Members will also recall his previous involvement in the augmentation at Midsomer Norton. He has been instrumental in entering a band from South Petherton in the National 12 Bell Contest several times, organising practices, and thus improving twelve bell ringing in this area.

We feel that his dedication to ringing within the Association deserves recognition, and we would like to suggest that he be made an Honorary Life Member.