

From the Ringing World, 5/3/76 :-

Obituary PERCY G. YEO (1901-1976)

After a short period in the Bristol Royal Infirmary, Percy Yeo (75) died on 27th Jan., having patiently borne increasing pain over the last few years. At the funeral service on 30th January in Long Ashton Parish Church prior to cremation, the Rev. I. F. Westmacott recalled Percy's unfailingly courteous and uncomplaining disposition and absence of "huff and puff". He was undoubtedly a member of the first eleven.

The name of Yeo has been synonymous with ringing at Long Ashton since Percy's father George Yeo started market gardening there in the 1880's. Percy learnt to ring in 1915 when he left the choir, and became a member of the Bath and Wells Association in 1917, serving as Chew Branch secretary from 1920 to 1957 (when his son David succeeded him in that office). In recognition of his 37 years service he was elected a life member in 1958.

Percy only rang in one peal - Grandsire Triples with his brother and son-to celebrate his parents' golden wedding in 1949, but other peals at Long Ashton record his marriage in September 1927 and his completion of 50 years ringing in 1965.

He worked in the market garden until 1961, when the ground was sold for housing development-aptly named Yeomeads-but his gardening activities did not cease then. He took on the care of the garden of the Bishop of Clifton in neighbouring Leigh Woods. As a servant of the church he served on the P.C.C. for over 50 years, was churchwarden from 1945 to 1948, P.C.C. secretary for many years, and latterly parish clerk until his death. His presence in the tower and village will be sadly missed.

As a last tribute members of the Chew Branch rang a half-muffled quarter peal in the evening following the funeral.

Long Ashton, Avon-Jan. 30. 1260 Grandsire Triples: T. G. Phillips 1. J. Brain 2. Diana Bridle 3, P. J. England 4. M. J. Horseman 5. R. C. Kippin 6. J. H. Gilbert (cond) 7. N. J. Newton 8.

Donations to the Bath and Wells D.A. Bell Fund in lieu of wreaths totalled £40- a gratifying sum.