

## Carol Anne Hardwick 1941 – 2009



Carol was born in and lived her early life in South West London. She went to Exeter University where she met her first husband, Roger Bedding. They had three sons; Simon, Tim and Toby. Sadly Toby died in 1996.

Carol first learnt to ring at Bath Abbey in 1983 and was elected to the Bath and Wells Association in October. She rang at St Mary the Virgin Bathwick, St Michael with St Paul, and was a member of the band that rang for service at Christ Church. After the service they would rush to the Beehive pub to be first through the doors for the half price beer that had just been flushed through the tubes from the cellar. In 1993 she married Peter Hardwick and moved to Frome becoming a member of the band at St Andrew's, Mells. Peter and Carol were well known for the support and encouragement they gave to bellringers of all standards.

Carol rang many quarter peals and 18 peals but her greatest benefit to bell ringing was as an administrator. She held many posts at a local level for the Bath and Frome branches whilst serving on the General committee of the Bath and Wells Association, where she was General Secretary in two stints from 1988 to 1993 and 1999 to 2004 and Assistant Secretary from 2004 to 2008. Many people nationally will remember Carol as a Bath and Wells representative to the Central Council from 1988 where she was latterly Chair of the Bell Restoration Committee. Peter and Carol would go to the CC Meetings in their camper van. In recognition of all this work she was made an Honorary Life Member of the B&W in 2007.

Outside bell ringing she was very active, being involved with Bath Festival and various local music societies including the Oakfield Choir, where Peter sang bass. She helped with Friends of Somerset Churches and Chapels and Mells Daffodil Day. If that was not enough she was Church Warden at St Andrew's, Mells and PCC Secretary there.

The funeral service was very well attended with the Master of the Bath and Wells Association, three representatives of the Central Council and many local ringers present. A quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung after the service.

We extend our sympathy to Simon, Tim and Roger.

PETER NEIL