

Sylvia Eyers

Sylvia was born in Barking and spent her childhood years in that part of Essex. She met and married her husband, David, and they moved to the Lexden area of Colchester.

They had twin boys, Richard and Tim, but when the children were still very young, David became seriously ill and died quite suddenly, leaving Sylvia to bring up the boys alone. She learnt to ring at All Saints, Shrub End, and was an active member of the band.

Sylvia, with her young family, moved to Layer-de-la-Haye and immediately became involved with the fund-raising for the bell and tower restoration. Once the bells were restored, she was a regular ringer and became treasurer of the Layer Ringers and archivist of all the documents relating to the history of the Layer tower and bells. This proved to be very useful later as there was a dispute over the correct weight of bell 3. She hardly ever missed a practice night and was always in attendance at NE District meetings.

Failing health meant Sylvia could no longer attend the District meetings but she continued to attend practices, although she gave up ringing and continued like this until she was no longer able to climb the steps to the ringing chamber. She was determined to remain as active as possible, though, and carried on in the role of treasurer. Her health deteriorated quite rapidly and she spent her last few months in the Cheviot Nursing Home where she died peacefully on Sunday, 24th August.

The funeral has taken place.

Martin Piper
Tower Captain
Layer-de-la-Haye
Colchester