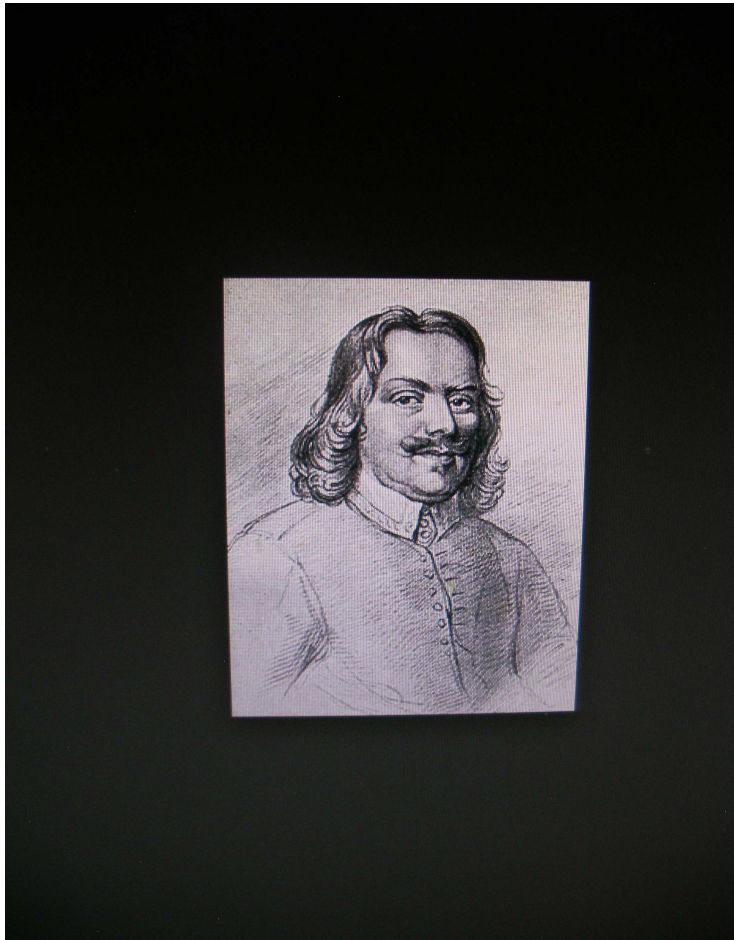


# **DID YOU KNOW JOHN BUNYAN WAS A RINGER?**



**Born in Elstow, Beds on November 30, 1628**

**Fact 1: Followed his father's trade of a tinker**

**Fact 2: Rang the fourth bell of the Elstow ring**

**Fact 3: Gave up in case a bell fell on him!**

**He died of a fever on August 31, 1688**

# **HAVE YOU HEARD OF BENJAMIN ANNABLE?**



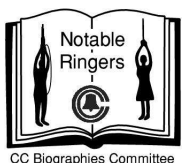
**We don't know what he looks like.  
He was born in the late 1690s.**

**Fact 1: A baker by trade**

**Fact 2: Master of the College Youths in 1746**

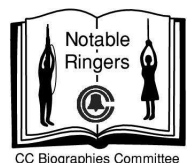
**Fact 3: He conducted the first peal on 12 bells**

**He died on February 1, 1756**



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# **THIS IS SIR HENRY CHAUNCEY**



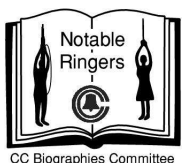
**He was born of an old Hertfordshire family  
in London in 1632**

**Fact 1: Judge and attorney-at-law**

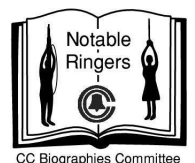
**Fact 2: First General of The Esquire Youths**

**Fact 3: Last judge to sentence a witch to death**

**He died on May 21, 1719**



**Central Council Biographies Committee**



# THIS IS WILLIAM DOUBLEDAY CROFTS



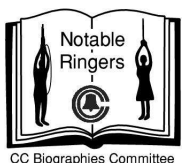
**He was born circa 1737**

**Fact 1: Solicitor and attorney-at-law**

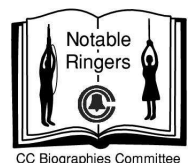
**Fact 2: Composer/conductor/peal ringer**

**Fact 3: Mainstay of Society of Sherwood Youths**

**He died on November 29, 1809**



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# THIS IS SAMUEL THURSTON



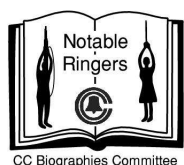
**He was born in Norwich, February 19, 1789**

**Fact 1: He was a stonemason**

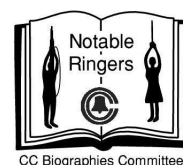
**Fact 2: Leading ringer of the Norwich Scholars**

**Fact 3: Memorial to him under Mancroft tower**

**He died on January 9, 1841**



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# HENRY THOMAS ELLACOMBE



H. T. ELLACOMBE.

*From a miniature painted in 1817*

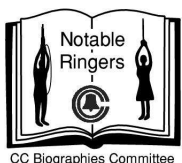
**He was born on May 15, 1790, and this miniature was painted in 1817.**

**Fact 1: Worked as an engineer with Brunel**

**Fact 2: Well-known priest/campanologist**

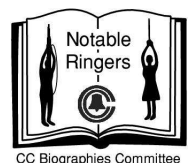
**Fact 3: Historian and writer of bell histories**

**He died on August 6, 1885**



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# THIS IS ALICE WHITE



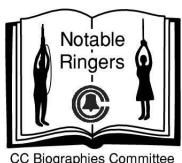
**She was born in Basingstoke on October 8, 1880.**

**Fact 1: First lady to ring a tower bell peal**

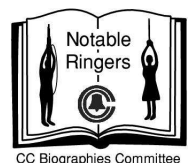
**Fact 2: Emigrated as Mrs Sullivan to Canada**

**Fact 3: Lived a further 83 years after her first peal!**

**She died on August 25, 1979**



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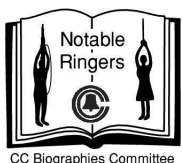
# MR AND MRS ROBERT WHITTINGTON



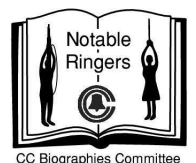
**Robert was born in 1868  
His wife was born in 1870**

- Fact 1: First married couple to ring a towerbell peal**
- Fact 2: Cycled to over 400 towers on their tandem**
- Fact 3: Recorded over 100,000 miles in doing so**

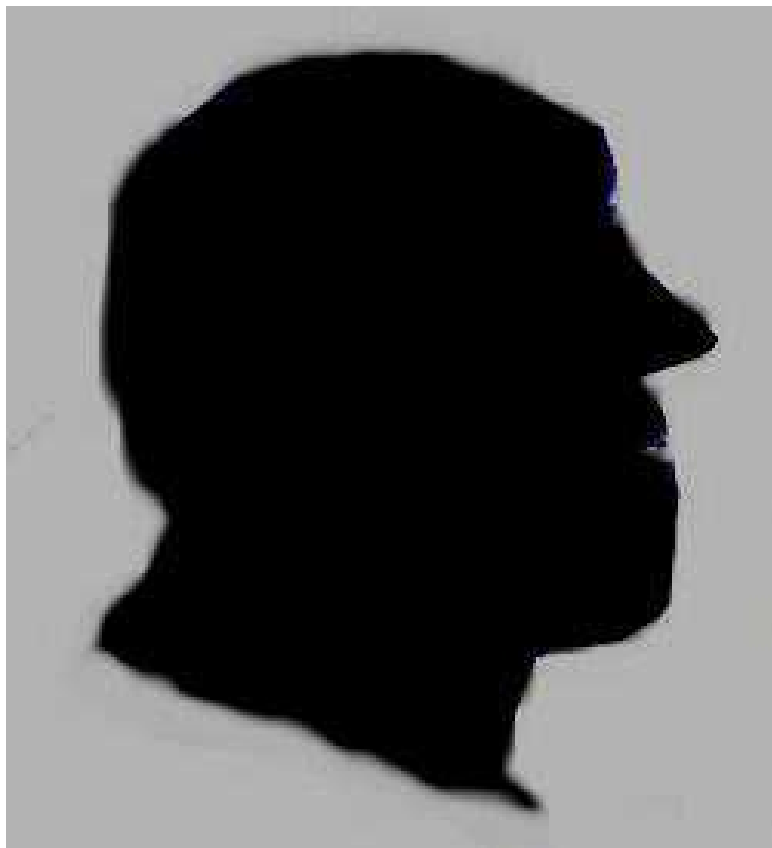
**Robert died June 1, 1957, his wife June 25, 1945**



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# THIS IS JOHN DAY



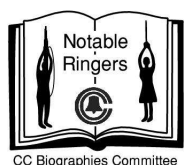
**This silhouette represents a man called John Day, born in 1749. (Not the John Day from Birmingham known to most ringers!)**

**Fact 1: Learned to ring at Bromley in 1773**

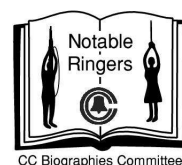
**Fact 2: A breeches-maker**

**Fact 3: Conducted the first eight peals of the Trinity Youths**

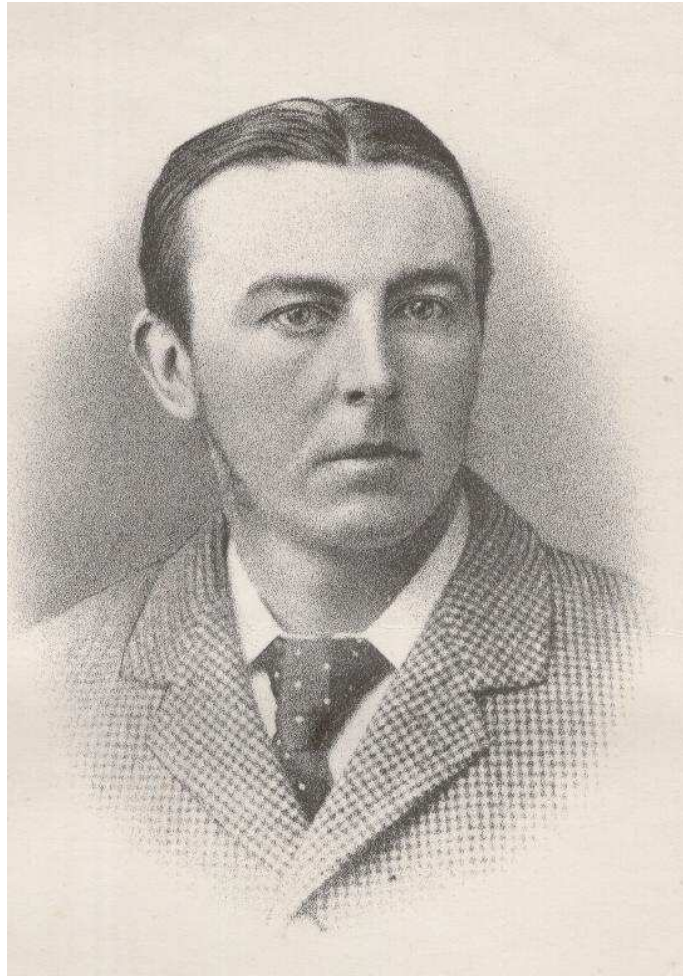
**We do not know when he died.**



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# SIR ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD



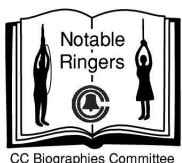
**He was born in 1849,  
second son of Sir Thomas Heywood, Bart.**

**Fact 1: First President of Central Council (28 years)**

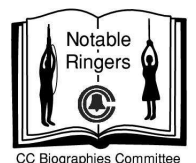
**Fact 2: Author, composer, peal ringer**

**Fact 3: Built 4 mile railway around his estate**

**He died April 20, 1916**



**Central Council Biographies Committee**



## **ELSIE HAIRS née BENNETT**



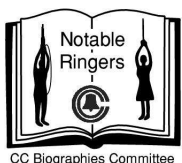
**She was born in Guildford on October 22, 1892**

**Fact 1: Rang 75 peals in hand before first in tower**

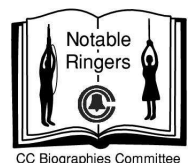
**Fact 2: First lady to ring three peals in a day**

**Fact 3: College Youth in 1917**

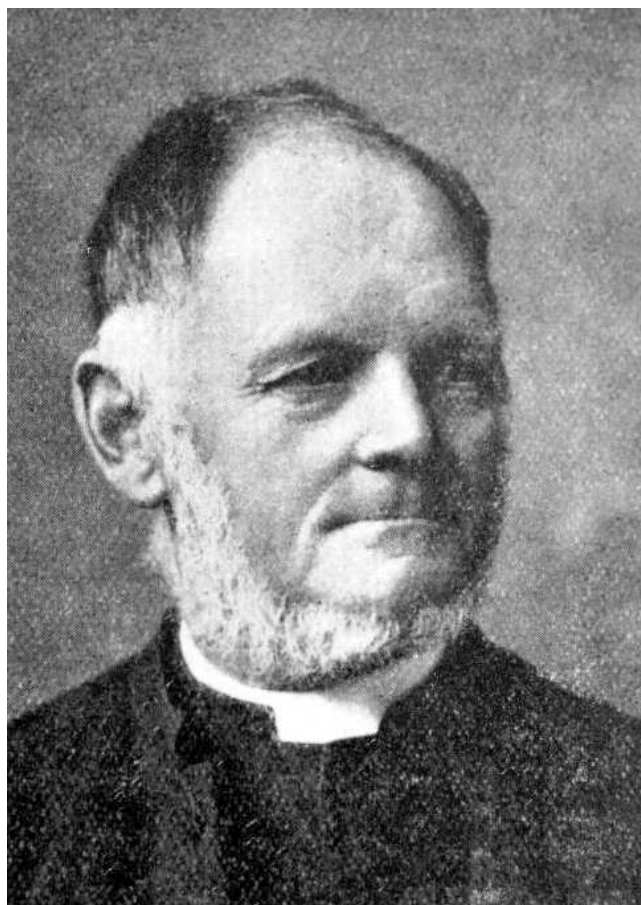
**She died on May 20, 1969**



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# **A GREAT DEAL IS KNOWN ABOUT THE REVD. F. E. ROBINSON**



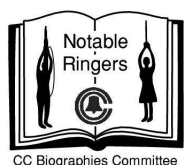
**He was born on January 16, 1833,  
and Vicar of Drayton, Oxon for 30 years**

**Fact 1: First man to ring 1,000 peals**

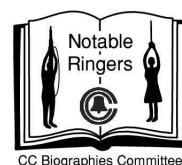
**Fact 2: Wrote a 637pp book on his life (pub 1908)**

**Fact 3: Excellent wood carver**

**He died on February 16, 1910**



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# **WE'RE SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON**



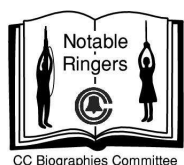
**Born on June 18, 1844 second son of Revd John  
Snowdon, Vicar of Ilkley, Yorks**

**Fact 1: Excellent peal ringer and conductor**

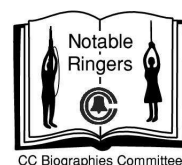
**Fact 2: Author; co-founder of The Bell News**

**Fact 3: Good athlete; swimmer, climber**

**He died of typhoid fever on Nov. 16, 1885**



**Central Council Biographies Committee**



# **BIOGRAPHIES COMMITTEE**

**Were these glimpses of former ringers interesting?**

**Would you like to know more about them?**

**Are you interested in former ringers in your area?**

**Does your tower have an interesting history?**

**Does your local society have an interesting history?**

**Are you interested in the history of ringing?**

**Contact the Biographies Committee or**

**Contact your local society archivist/librarian.**

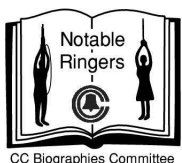
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## **BIOGRAPHIC RECORDS**

**Accounts of the lives of nearly a thousand ringers**

**Downloadable from:**

**[cccbr.org.uk/services/biographies/records/](http://cccbr.org.uk/services/biographies/records/)**



**Central Council Biographies Committee**

