ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 11th May 1957

Veteran Bellringer's Funeral - The funeral took place on Tuesday at All Saints' Church, where for over 30 years he had been a bellringer, of Mr. **Percy Thomas LONG**, aged 81, of 13 Edward Street. He was a member of an old local family and he would recall that his grandfather, who was a builder in Hill Street lived to be a centenarian and that he could remember him at 90 superintending work on All Saints' Church roof. Mr. LONG was a member of the Winchester Guild of Change Ringers on June 1st 1889, and was a member of the Parish Church bellringers until 1945. He had rung the muffled bells at the deaths of QUEEN VICTORIA, KING EDWARD VII, and KING GEORGE V.

The service was conducted by the Vicar the Rev. R.M. WADE, M.B.E. The family mourners were Mrs. LONG (widow) Mr. and Mrs. M.F. LONG (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. W.P. LONG (son), and Mr. E. ADAMS (brother-in-law). Past and present members of the bellringers' guild were present. The interment took place at Ryde Cemetery and the wreaths included one from the residents of Edward Street.

Messrs. J.H. PERKIS and Son were the undertakers.

On Tuesday evening at the Parish Church, the guild of ringers from Newport and Ryde rang? of? doubles and triples and? doubles in memory of Mr. LONG.

NB: In the last paragraph three of the words cannot be read, a question mark is in their place

Research & typed by Ann Barrett Margaret Truckel