



## Obituary

# Philip Kimber

November 1942 – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023



Philip was born at Coleraine in November 1942 and died 5th October 2023 aged 80 yrs. His father was a Church of Ireland minister who became rector of Holy Trinity Ballylesson (Drumbo) in 1946 when Philip was aged 4yrs.

At age of 11yrs he learnt to ring there, and this was the start of an interest which became his greatest life passion. He rarely missed ringing for Sunday service and practice nights. For many years he was tower steeple keeper and was often praised for his good maintenance of the bells when inspections were carried out by various bell hangers. He met his wife Lil through ringing at Ballylesson, marrying in April 1976 and they had two children (both of whom had their spells of learning there in due course).

Philip was acknowledged as a good teacher of ringing and for many years off and on was tower Ringing Master always happy to step down or up to plate as need required. With the augmentation of the tower to 8 bells Philip took a great interest in change ringing and became very proficient in Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman moving on to Surprise methods. He was a member of virtually all Ballylesson teams when they won the Cunningham, Adamson, and Murphy Cups on many occasions. He also rang in numerous Quarter Peals and a number of Peals. He was not one to seek office beyond tower level but used his skills when asked to allow ringers to progress in other towers. He had a family association with St Fachtna's Roscarberry and travelled down at the time of their restoration and augmentation.

Philip was one of those quiet ringers who faithfully performed their service through ringing to church and District and will be sadly missed by all in the exercise in the Northern District of I.A, C.R.

Don McLean