



Heddington

VILLAGE STALWART DIES AGED 72

Mr. Richard Cole, aged 72, of Stockley Farm, near Calne, well-known figure in Wiltshire public life, died last Wednesday in hospital at Bath.

He was president of Calne NFU branch and John Bentley School Association and chairman of Calne Without parish council.

Educated at Bentley Grammar School, Mr. Cole a retired farmer, was active in the affairs of many organisations in Heddington and Stockley over a long period.

President of Heddington and Stockley Amateur Dramatic Society, he was chairman of the villages' amenities committee, which organises the annual steam fair, treasurer of Heddington village hall management committee, a school manager and churchwarden for 44 years.

He belonged to the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils.

He wrote several books on local history, the most recent appeared last year.

In July he and his wife met the Queen when they were guests for the second time at a Royal garden party at Buckingham Palace.

He was chairman of Heddington Cub Scouts committee for 25 years, captain of Heddington Cricket Club for 33 years, a member of the area post office advisory committee and a vice-president of Goatacre Cricket Club.

He was chairman of Calne Deanery Synod for 14 years and a member of Salisbury Diocesan Synod.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.

The funeral service is at St. Andrew's Church, Heddington at 2.30 p.m. today (August 29), be followed by interment in the churchyard.

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