

Reginald Maurice Flux

Isle of Wight County Press – 5 February 1972

SHIRE HORSE CHAMPION

DEATH OF MR. R. M. FLUX, OF GODSHILL

The days when fine Shire horses used to grace the Island agricultural scene are recalled by the death at his home, Scotland House, Godshill, on Tuesday, of Mr. Reginald Maurice Flux, aged 73, a doyen of the Island farming community and a member of one of its oldest families.

A native of Gurnard, Mr. Flux was born into a farming family and spent his early life with his parents at Thorness Farm until 1919, when he went into partnership with his father and two brothers at Birchmore, Blackwater. He branched out on his own account in 1928, shortly after the death of his first wife, and took over Stenbury and Stenbury New Barn, Whitwell. In 1931 he married Miss Lilian Attrill, of Ford Farm, and they celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary on Thursday week.

Mr. Flux acquired Ford Farm in 1937 and took over Scotland Farm in 1939, where he was joined by his only son, Mr. Jim Flux, who afterwards lived at Ford and moved to Scotland Farm when his father went to Scotland House in 1960.

As Messrs. R. M. Flux and Son they made their mark on the Island agricultural scene and the area around Whitwell and Godshill became the basis for a substantial holding of nearly 1000 acres. As well as their farming acumen, they made a name for themselves as owners of Shire horses and won many major awards at shows throughout the country. The impressive sight of these fine horses, braided and plaited, and with their gleaming harness, was always a stirring spectacle at the county shows and on other special occasions and Mr. Flux and his son and workmen brought considerable credit to the Island with their handsome turnouts. The most famous pair of Shires were Ford Supremo, who died in 1960, and Ford Hero, who died three years later. The passing of these great champions marked the end of an era after many years when they had been star show attractions.

Mr. Flux was a patron of the Royal I.W. Agricultural Society, a vice-president of the Ploughing Match Committee, in which his son, the champion on several occasions, is being followed by his son, Maurice, a vice-president of Shanklin Young Farmers' Club and of Godshill Cricket Club, a member of the National Farmers' Union and of the Needles Craft and Albany Mark Lodges of Freemasons.

Mr. Flux had not been in good health for some time and was suffering from failing eyesight, but his death was unexpected and came as a shock to his many friends. It occurred on the anniversary of his father's death in 1940.

The funeral service will take place today at Godshill Church at 11 a.m.

Isle of Wight County Press – 12 February 1972

THE LATE MR. R. M. FLUX

A large congregation, including representatives of the Island agricultural community and of many organisations with which he was associated, attended the funeral service on Saturday at Godshill Parish Church for Mr. Reginald Maurice Flux, aged 73, of Scotland House, Godshill, whose death was reported last week. The Rev. T. P. J. Hewitt, vicar, officiated and the service included the hymns “Rock of Ages” and “Abide with me,” the organist being Mrs. A. Honisett.

The mourners were: Mrs. Flux (widow), Mr. and Mrs. J. Burford, of Hurn (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Flux (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Burford, Miss Janette and Mr. Maurice Flux (grand-children), Mrs. F. Attrill (sister-in-law), Mrs. H. Buckett, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Buckett, Mr. S. Cosh (representing Mrs. Cosh), Mr. E. Strickland, Mr. and Mrs. A., Mr. and Mrs. L., Mr. and Mrs. C., and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gange, Mr. and Mrs. D. Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Flux, Mrs. A. Williams Mr. and Mrs. H. Abraham, Mr. E. Alexander, Mrs. I. Rendall, Mrs. M. Farrow, Mr. and Mrs. A. Morris, Miss E. Brown, Mrs. A. New, Mrs. M. Buckett, Miss A. Strickland, Mr. Roger Lee (nephews and nieces), Mr. and Mrs. R. Attrill and Mrs. M. Flux (cousins), Mr. F. S. Powell, and Mrs. M. Salter. Mr. O. W. Flux (brother), and Mr. F. R. Attrill (brother-in-law) were unable to attend. Mr. and Mrs. R. Etheridge represented other employees. Firms and organisations represented included Messrs. Roach, Pittis and Co., the National Westminster Bank, Needles and Albany Mark lodges of Freemasons, National Farmers’ Union, Sir Francis Pittis and Son, Frank Cheverton, Ltd., Pauls Foods, Unigate Foods, H. Steadman and Sons, Quarr Abbey, J. H. Linington, Ltd., Royal I.W. Agricultural Society Committee, L. R. Flux and Sons, the I.W. Ploughing Match Committee, Shanklin Young Farmers’ Club, S.C.A.T.S. and Messrs Creasey and Jeffery.

Interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery near the graves of his parents. Floral tributes included those from the staffs of Scotland and Ford Farms, Needles Lodge of Freemasons, Shanklin and District Young Farmers’ Club, the I.W. Car Club, Frank Cheverton, Ltd., Island Oils, Ltd., Rowe and Co., Ltd., Creasey and Jeffery, S. J. Stevens, J. H. Toogood and Son, Sandown, Ralph’s Nurseries, Unigate Dairies, Margaret’s Nurseries and Sir Francis Pittis and Son. Messrs. R. G. Reed, of Newport, made the arrangements.

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