

## **Albert Daniel Callaway**

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### **CRAFTSMAN, CHURCHMAN AND ODD FELLOW**

#### **MR. A. D. CALLAWAY OF NEWPORT**

A large circle of friends in the Island learned with regret on Saturday of the sudden death in the Royal I.W. County Hospital, Ryde, of Mr. Albert Daniel Callaway, of Sherborne, Medina Avenue, Newport, aged 76. In spite of advancing years, Mr. Callaway had continued to do sign writing, for which he had won an enviable reputation throughout the South of England, and the last engagement he fulfilled before his death was to record in gold leaf the name of the Mayor (Mr. E. C. Pearson) on the borough's roll of honour in the Guildhall. The following day he was taken ill and removed to the County Hospital, where he died on the day after admission. He leaves three daughters, with whom much sympathy is expressed.

He was a native of Godshill, but had lived in Newport for the last 47 years, throughout the whole of that time being closely associated with the Parish Church as a bell ringer for some 30 years, a chorister for at least 15 years, and as a vice-president of the Bible Class. He was 70 years of age when he began to take an active interest in the Bible Class, and he became a popular speaker both there and at St. John's Men's Bible Class. Mrs. Callaway died in 1945, since when his sister, Mrs. E. Chiverton, has kept house for him.

As a sign writer, Mr. Callaway had few equals, and many examples of his fine work are to be seen on local shop fronts and notice boards. The notice boards of the Parish Church are his work, and also the miniatures with the Vicar's model of the church. As St. Thomas's Bible Class were responsible for the king and queen carnival float at this year's carnival, Mr. Callaway was called upon to write the "Carnival Charter" which was presented to the Mayor at the crowning ceremony.

Mr. Callaway will be long remembered for his work for Island Odd Fellowship. He was a Past Noble Grand of the Earl Yarborough Lodge of Odd Fellows, serving on the committee of management for many years; he was also a Past Provincial Grand Master of the Isle of Wight District and founder member of the John B. Alderslade Provincial Lodge of Past Granada.

Mr. Callaway was a member of the Newport Bowling Club and a keen supporter of Newport Football Club.

The funeral at the Parish Church on Tuesday was largely attended, the congregation including representatives of all departments of church activity and all lodges of Island Oddfellows. Later in the day, as a special tribute, the bellringers of St. Thomas's Church and fellow members of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers, under Mr. D. R. Reed, rang a quarter peal (1280 changes) of grandsire triples with half muffled clappers, and the following day the Godshill ringers also rang a muffled peal. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. R. Farnsworth), and with the full choir were Mr. R. Chiverton (lay reader and president of the Bible Class, who returned from his London holiday to attend) and Captain J. W. R. Dukes, of the Church Army Anchorage Home,

deputising for Capt. L. Gray. Miss K. Lower was at the organ for the singing of Mr. Callaway's favourite hymn "Breathe on me, breath of God," and Tennyson's "Crossing the bar."

The Vicar said that association with Mr. Callaway always brought out the best in one, and he was never known to refuse to help anyone. Though a humble man, he had a wonderful sense of humour. His memory would be of the most helpful man he had known.

The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Cheverton, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Williams, and Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Allee (sons-in-laws and daughters.), Mrs. A. Bradley, Mrs. R. Kingswell, and Mrs. E. Chiverton (sisters), Mr. and Mrs. C. Callaway (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs. F. Callaway (sister-in-law), Mr. E. Young (brother-in-law), and Mr. W. Callaway, Mr. F. Callaway, and Mrs. C. Young (nephews and niece). Interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery beside his wife, and there were 50 floral tributes. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements.

*Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,*  
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