

## George Thomas Gifford

Isle of Wight County Press – 7 April 1917

### NEWPORT

**DEATH OF MR. GEORGE GIFFORD.** – With regret we record the death of Mr. George Thomas Gifford, who passed away at his residence in St. John's-road on Wednesday last, at the age of 65. The deceased held a responsible position at the Royal-Brewery, where he had been employed for 40 years, and he leaves behind him a record of most diligent and faithful service. The announcement of his death will revive many memories in old cricketers. In the palmy "Shide" days there was no more familiar figure on the cricket-ground than George Gifford, and while his splendid gifts as a player commanded universal admiration, his affable personal qualities won for him the sincere regard of all who came in contact with him. As a batsman he was highly skilled, but, perhaps, it was as a wicket-keeper that he achieved the topmost heights of local cricket fame. The writer once heard an eminent county cricketer describe him as "a magician behind the wickets." The most lightening-like deliveries had no terror for him, and no batsman dared take liberties when George Gifford was behind him. He was a genuine sportsman, and his epitaph might well read: "He always played the game." To his widow and the other members of the bereaved family – two sons and four daughters – the deepest sympathy will be extended. One of his sons is with the Isle of Wight Rifles serving somewhere near Palestine. The funeral takes place at Carisbrooke Cemetery this (Saturday) afternoon, leaving the house at 2.30.

Isle of Wight County Press – 14 April 1917

### NEWPORT

**THE LATE MR. GEORGE GIFFORD.** – The funeral of Mr. George T. Gifford, the well known cricketer, took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Saturday, the Rev. E. W. T. Greenshield officiating. In addition to the deceased's son and three daughters, representatives of the Royal Brewery and the Newport Cricket Club attended. ... The Rev. E. W. T. Greenshield paid a touching tribute to deceased's estimable qualities, his amiable disposition, and his powers at cricket, saying that such good fellows as George Gifford, who always "played the game," were a valuable asset to any community, especially in such trying times as these. A number of floral tributes bore testimony to the esteem and affection in which deceased was held. ...

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