

Walter Guy

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AN ESTEEMED NEWPORTONIAN

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DEATH OF MR. WALTER GUY

The death occurred on Saturday, at his residence, Oakmeade, Cypress Road, Newport, of Mr. Walter Guy, aged 73, one of the Island capital's best known and most popular business men, who was also prominent as a churchman and sportsman. A son of Mr. Samuel Guy, who founded the corn and seed business at 115 Pyle Street (now known as S. Guy, Ltd.) 86 years ago, Mr. Walter Guy had been associated with the business from his youth, first as assistant to his father, then as its proprietor, and later as managing director after it was formed into a company about 20 years ago, until five years ago, when he retired, but he had continued to take an active interest in the business. He enjoyed the friendship and confidence of a wide circle of farmers, poultry-keepers, and horticulturists in all parts of the Island who were his customers.

A devoted churchman, Mr. Guy was vicar's warden at St. John's Church for 20 years from 1926 to 1946, and was previously a sidesman. He had rendered outstanding service as local treasurer of the Church Missionary Society for 46 years until his retirement last year. It was largely due to his enthusiasm in the missionary cause that St. John's Church built up a notable record in raising money for the C.M.S., the parish being for many years among the leading parishes in the Island in this respect. He was devotedly supported in this work by his wife, and on his retirement from the treasurership last year he received a letter from the headquarters of the C.M.S. thanking him for his long and generous service and announcing his election as a life governor of the society. He was also for about 20 years the local treasurer of the London Jews' Missionary Society (now the Church Mission to the Jews).

Mr. Guy was also widely esteemed as a sportsman. A keen cricketer and footballer in his younger days, he was one of the founders of the Newport Trades C.C. and had for many years been its popular president. He also enjoyed billiards and snooker as a member and vice-president of the Newport Liberal Club, and he was a constant supporter of the Newport Football Club, of which he was a vice-president. He was also well-known in Freemasonry, being a Past Master of the Albany Lodge and Chapter. A keen horticulturist, his garden was always a picture of orderly beauty.

Mr. Guy had been in failing health for about two years and had been seriously ill for about three months. He had made good progress in recent weeks, but the end came suddenly, and much sympathy is felt with Mrs. Guy in her unexpected bereavement.

THE FUNERAL

A large congregation, representative of Mr. Guy's business, church, and sporting interests, attended the funeral service at St. John's Church on Wednesday. Worshipful Master C. Damp and a large number of members of the Albany Lodge of Freemasons attended. Wor. Bro. W. H. Margham (chaplain) read the Masonic oration, and the brethren sang their closing ode. Miss D. Welby-Pryer, L.R.A.M. (organist), accompanied the singing of the hymns "Once more with chaste'n'd joy," "Jesus lives," and "God be in my head," and Psalm 121. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. S. F. Cooper), who said that the more one learned of Mr. Guy the more one liked and respected him. He had rendered most devoted service to that church as a warden, but his main interest had been the Church Missionary Society, which he faithfully served for 46 years as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Guy possessed a calm and deep-rooted faith which was apparent to all who knew him, and he was an example in the town and in the church. The chief mourners were : Mrs. Guy (widow), Messrs. N. and I. Williams, Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. R. Daish, Mrs. Walkden, Mr. and Mrs. R. Eason, and Mr. and Mrs. T. Slater (nephews and nieces), and Miss M. Alderslade (cousin). The firm of S. Guy, Ltd. was represented by Mr. H. Heal (former partner), Mr. J. E. Heal (director), and Mr. J. Regan (representing the staff). Others present represented the C.M.S., C.M.J., British and Foreign Bible Society, businesses with which Mr. Guy was associated, the farming community, poultry-keepers, and horticulturists, Newport Liberal Club, Newport Football Club, Newport Cricket Club, Newport Trades Cricket Club, and the congregation of St. John's Church. Cremation took place at Stoneham, Southampton, and the ashes will be scattered on the grave, in Carisbrooke Cemetery, of Mr. Guy's great friend, the Rev. Walter Mackinnon, a former vicar of St. John's, whose warden he was for some years. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements. There were no flowers, by request.

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