

George Henry Matthews

Isle of Wight County Press – 25 January 1941

NEWPORT

Well Known Railwayman's Death.--The death took place suddenly on Monday morning at his residence, 7 Cæsar's-road of Mr. George Henry (Harry) Matthews, aged 64, who had spent all his working life in the service of the I.W. Central and Southern Railways, successively as porter, guard, station foreman, signalman, and ticket collector. Mr. Matthews was the second son of he late Mr. E. Matthews (County Court bailiff and borough mace-bearer). His wife, who was prominent in local Forestry and as a worker for Carisbrooke Church and the Women's Institute, died in March last, since when he had been cared for by his sister-in-law (Miss Cogger). Mr. Matthews was at work last week, but he had been suffering from heart trouble for some years, and he passed away in his sleep. He was held in much esteem by his fellow railwayman and other friends. The funeral took place on Thursday, a service being held at Carisbrooke Church, where the deceased had been a sidesman for many years, and the interment at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The Vicar (the Rev. H. Ewbank) officiated and Mr. G. R. Barrett (organist) accompanied the hymn "The King of love" and played "O rest in the Lord." Six railwaymen in uniform acted as bearers and about 20 other railwaymen followed. The family mourners were Messrs. W., C. G., C., and E. Matthews (brothers), Mrs. Shoosmith (sister), Miss Cogger and Mesdames W., C. G., and C. Matthews (sisters-in-law), Mr. G. Matthews (cousin), and Mr. E. Cogger (brother-in-law). Mrs. H. T. Read (sister) was prevented from attending. The bearers were Station Foreman J. Fish, Signalman H. Blundy, Guards G. Pocock, S. Hebbes, and W. Dibden, and Porter E. Bennett, and the other employees of the Southern Railway attending were Inspector V. Churchill (traffic department), Stationmasters H. Hill (Cowes) and G. Radford (Newport), Inspector W. Macklin (engineering department), and Messrs. H. Thompson, A. Hayter, E. W. Landon, J.P. (secretary of the branch of the N.U.R.), H. Hooper, L. Turner, A. J. Darke, F. Rodaway, W. Bale, C. W. Joiner, J. Sewell, H. R. Watson, R. Southwall, G. Prince, G. Hale, A. Enticott, W. White, A. L. Pullinger, and A. Jolliffe. Others attending included Messrs. G. Ranger, H. Chiverton, C. Prangnell, and F. Young (former Colleagues on the railway), H. Phillips and E. O. Neat (churchwardens), and H. Green (Newport Tent of Rechabites). The wreaths included those from the Vicar and congregation of Carisbrooke Church; members of the Newport branch of the N.U.R.; and neighbours in Cæsar's-road. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements. – The family and Miss Cogger are grateful to all who sent messages of sympathy and flowers and to the railwaymen for their tributes of respects. Will all please accept this as an acknowledgment of their kindness.

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