

Norman George Shears

Isle of Wight County Press - 15th of February, 1964.

PROMINENT BUSINESSMAN

DEATH OF MR. NORMAN G. SHEARS, J.P.

Mr. Norman George Shears, J.P., of Littledown, Nodgham Lane, Carisbrooke, a prominent figure in the Island's business, professional and public life, died at his home on Wednesday, aged 55. He had been in failing health for some time.

A native of Bournemouth, Mr. Shears came to the Island during the 1939-45 war as a surveyor for the War Department. After the war he went into practice as a quantity surveyor in premises at Lower St. James's Street, Newport. He was joined in partnership in 1949 by Mr. F. J. Wools, of Ryde, and together they operated the well-known firm of quantity surveyors from premises at 26a St. James's Street. Mr. Shears retired from practice three years ago when he purchased the civil engineering firm of Wall Brothers, of which he was chairman until his death.

Since coming to the Island Mr. Shears gave many years of valued public service. He was elected to the County Council in 1954 as Conservative member for the Fairlee division of Newport. He was appointed chairman of the County Roads Committee in 1955, a position he held until his retirement from the council in 1961. He also served on the County Planning Finance, Staff, Civil Defence, Standing Joint, Children's, Parliamentary and Transport, and Selection committees.

In January, 1957, he took his oaths as a Justice of the Peace for the Petty Sessional Division of Newport, and last sat on the Bench in November. A member of the Rotary Club, he became president in 1959-60. In 1958 he was chairman and organiser of one of the club's most successful ventures in recent years – a careers exhibition for Island youth.

A past chairman of the Newport branch of the I.W. Conservative Association, he was former president of the Newport section of Young Conservatives. He was also a vice-president of the Association, one of its three trustees, and a member of the Executive and Finance and General Purposes committees.

A member of the Albany Lodge of Freemasons, Mr. Shears was also a member of the County Club, Newport Business and Professional Association, the Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce, and was joint hon. secretary of the Folly Regatta Committee, in which he took a lively interest.

Mr. Shears leaves a widow and one sister. The funeral service will take place today at St Mary's Church, Carisbrooke, at 12.30 p.m.

Isle of Wight County Press - 29th of February, 1964.

MR. NORMAN G. SHEARS, J.P.

LARGE REPRESENTATION AT FUNERAL SERVICE.

A measure of the esteem in which he was held throughout the Island was reflected in the large representation at the funeral service for Norman G. Shears, J.P., of Littledown, Nodgham Lane, Carisbrooke, at St. Mary's Church, Carisbrooke, on Saturday.

The principal mourners were Mrs. Shears (widow), Mrs. G. A. Langdon (sister), Mr. H. Shears (cousin), and Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Wools.

Led by Alderman Mark Woodnutt M.P., and Mrs. Woodnutt, the congregation included representatives of many of the Island's business, professional, and public bodies with which Mr. Shears had been associated.

The vicar (the Rev. W. M. A. Potts) officiated, and the former vicar (the Rev. J. Souttar), was represented by Mrs. Souttar. The service included the hymn "Lead us, Heavenly Father," and the 23rd Psalm.

Among the firms and organisations represented were Messrs. Wall Brothers (Civil Engineers) Ltd.; Messrs. F. J. Wools; Albany Lodge of Freemasons; Rotary clubs of Newport, Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, and Ventnor; Inner Wheel; Rotary International; Newport Magistrates; I.W. Magistrates' Clerk's Office; County Council; Newport and Ryde town councils; Ventnor Council; The I.W. Rural District Council; I.W. Conservative Association; Newport and Carisbrooke branches of the Conservative Association; Newport Young Conservatives; Conservative Ladies' Luncheon Club; Cowes Harbour Commissioners; British Road Services; I.W. County Club; Carisbrooke Cottage Garden Society; National Employers' Insurance Companies; Folly Regatta Committee; Messrs. Duke Brothers; Reg Wells, Ltd; Hampshire and I.W. Architectural Association; Messrs. F. W. Blake and Son; Owen G. Day, Ltd.; I.W. Chamber of Commerce; Messrs. H. W. Morey and Son; Messrs. A. A. and R. J. Westmore; Island Oils, Ltd.; Board of Visitors, Parkhurst Prison; I.W. County Press, Ltd.; Weeks, Ltd; Gubbins and Ball, Ltd.; Westmore Coal and Trading Co., Ltd.; Gould, Hibberd and Randall.; Newport Repertory Club; Newport Round Table; Parkhurst Prison; Messrs. D. A. Marshall and W. C. A. Eyles; Messrs. W. Hurst; Barclays Bank, Ltd.; and Newport Rowing Club.

The floral tributes included those from Newport, Sandown, and Ventnor Rotary clubs; Newport Magistrates and the clerk to the justices; I.W. Conservative Association; Folly Regatta Committee; directors and members of the County Club; Newport Rowing Club; Albany Lodge of Freemasons; outside staff of Messrs. Wall Brothers; directors of Island Oils, Ltd.; Fowlers (I.W.), Ltd.; Management and staff of J. K. Alderslade Ltd.; and the directors and staff of Messrs. Duke Brothers.

Interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The arrangements were made by Messrs. H. and F. Damp, Ltd.

At Monday's sitting of Newport Magistrates, tributes to Mr. Shears' service as a magistrate were paid by the chairman (Lt.-Colonel C. W. Brannon, M.C., T.D., D.L.) and Chief Inspector P. W. Baldwin on behalf of Chief Superintendent P. W. Paddon and Island police officers. Both expressed sympathy with the family.

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