

Emma Jane Brown

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A Former Mayoress of Newport

DEATH OF MRS. J. S. BROWN, OF CARISBROOKE

The death took place on Thursday at Clifton House, Carisbrooke of Mrs. Emma Jane Brown, widow of Capt. J. S. Brown, M.S.M., aged 82. Mayoress of Newport on three occasions and a beloved member of the women's section of the British Legion and many other organisations, Mrs. Brown was greatly respected.

Daughter of the village carpenter at Carisbrooke, Mr. C. Tosdevin, Mrs. Brown was married at Carisbrooke Church in 1891, when her husband was a corporal in the R.A.M.C., and she shared his Army life, including foreign service, and saw him rise to the rank of captain and quartermaster, which he held on his retirement in 1919. They then came to Carisbrooke, where Capt. Brown had previously purchased Clifton House, and he later inaugurated a bus service (subsequently purchased by the Southern Vectis Co.) between Newport and West Wight. Mrs. Brown was Mayoress in 1935, 1940, and 1941, and during the final mayoralty she and her husband celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, an event believed to be unique in the borough annals. With characteristic hospitality they entertained the members of the Corporation, the magistrates, and borough officials and their ladies to luncheon, when they received presentations to mark the occasion from the aldermen and councillors, magistrates, and borough officials. Mrs. Brown brought to her duties as Mayoress a kindly and homely solicitude for all sorts and conditions in the borough, and both she and her husband did much good work in a most unobtrusive way. She was a vice-president of the women's section of the British Legion for many years, and on the death of Miss Dawson Horan in 1946, accepted the presidency, an office she held at the time of her death. Her services to the Legion were recognised by the members of the section at the time of her golden wedding, when they presented her with a gold Legion badge. She was also closely associated with the work of the V.A.D., the Newport Victoria Sports Club, and the Carisbrooke Women's Institute.

The Funeral will be on Monday; service at Carisbrooke Church at 2 p.m.

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