

George Henry Dunford

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VETERAN NEWPORT CRAFTSMAN

THE LATE MR. G. H. DUNFORD

Well known during his long business life at Newport, as a bookbinder and newsagent, Mr. Gorge Henry Dunford, formerly of 7 Lower St. James's Street, died on Monday at the age of 91. He leaves a son and daughter. Mr. Dunford did much work for the royal household and had the honour of attending Osborne Cottage at the command of Princess Henry of Battenberg to teach H.R.H. Princess Ena of Battenberg the art of bookbinding. He won many honours at exhibitions and competed with bookbinders from all over the world. At Grantham he was awarded a silver medal, and at Edinburgh a bronze medal. In each case these were the highest offered. At an Island exhibition he gained the silver medal and won many prizes and diplomas. As an outstanding craftsman, he was engaged to design and bind presentation copies of books recording important events in the Island. In co-operation with the late Mr. Percy Stone and other Island craftsmen he embossed a table chair presented to Princess Beatrice, and the inaugural banner of the London Vectensian Masonic Lodge. Mr. Dunford was also a keen horticulturalist and won many prizes. For some years he was a member of the local corps of the Salvation Army and played in the band. In late years he became a member of the Newport Congregational Church and was a well-known speaker. In addition to being the Grand Master of a local lodge of Oddfellows, he was also a provincial grand master. In earlier years he was a member of the Newport Trades cricket Club and was noted for his "swipe to leg."

The funeral was on Thursday. A service at the Congregational Church was conducted by the minister (the Rev. Dr. N. Spoor), who mentioned that the Island had lost a master craftsman. The hymn "Abide with me" and the 23rd Psalm were sung. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. H. Dunford (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. Morrison (daughter), Miss J. Morrison (grand-daughter), Mrs. A. Dunford (sister-in-law), Mrs. Cousins (niece), and Mr. C. Dunford (nephew). Organisations represented were Elmdon Old People's Home, Shanklin, by the matron and members; the I.W. Oddfellows by Messrs. H. M. Ablitt and T. Buckler (district secretary and treasurer, respectively); the Earl Yarborough Lodge of Oddfellows and the I.W. District Oddfellows. The interment followed at Newport Cemetery. Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son made the arrangements.

Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,

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