

## James Lancelot Gubbins

### 1891 census, 102 Carisbrooke Road, Carisbrooke

<i>James L Gubbins</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>Bookseller &amp; Stationers</i>	<i>Newport, Isle of Wight</i>
Sarah S Gubbins	Wife	59		Calcutta India
James Wincer	Son-in-law	38	Retired Solicitors Clerk	Wallsall
Sophia P Wincer	Daughter	26		Newport, Isle of Wight
James M Wincer	Grandson	2		Wallsall
Annie Holbrook	Servant	20		Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight
Kate Dyer	Servant	16		Arreton, Isle of Wight

### ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS - 11th July 1891

#### DEATH OF MR J.L. GUBBINS

Early on Monday morning last there passed away, at the age of 73, Mr. James Lancelot Gubbins, a highly-esteemed inhabitant of Newport, and a member of the well-known firm of Messrs. J. & W. Gubbins, of that town. The deceased was born at Hazards House, now the residence of his brother, Mr. W.T. Gubbins, and with exception of brief intervals when he was pursuing his musical studies in London, his whole life was spent in his native town. Possessing a natural aptitude and an ardent love for music, the violin being his favourite instrument, he became when quite a young man a pupil of Signor Mori, the first violinist then in London and under that eminent professor's training he rapidly developed into a splendid player. It may be recorded as an item of interest that one of his first public appearances in Newport was on the occasion of the visit of Princess (now Queen) Victoria to Newport, with her mother, the Duchess of Kent, in connection with a Bazaar at the National Schools. Responding to an appeal made to them, Mr. J.L. Gubbins and his brother George, who had studied the harp under Signor Bochsa, gave their services on that occasion, and played a number of selections, winning warm praise from the Royal visitors. From that time the services of the talented Newport violinist were in constant request, and whenever a call was made for his assistance in behalf of any public or philanthropic object, it was always most readily and gratuitously rendered. With the enthusiasm of a true musician he spared no pains to promote the cultivation of music in the town. Many years ago, during the vicarage of the Rev. Joseph Maude, he conducted a class at the National Schools for the study of Hullah's system, and many amateurs who afterwards achieved local distinction obtained their first knowledge of the art of singing under the tuition and direction of Mr. J.L. Gubbins. He was for about 40 years organist of St James's Congregational Church, and many who read these lines will recall pleasant recollections of the successful oratorio performances given there under his leadership. As leader of the orchestra at the concerts of the Newport Choral Society, dated from the Rev. W.H. Nutter's time down to the present year, his presence had become indispensable, and it may be truly said of him that he was the mainstay of the Newport Orchestral Society - a body of instrumentalists of whom Newport has good reason to be proud. By none will he be more missed than by this friendly band of musicians, with whom he loved to associate and whom he led with such conspicuous skill. Though the deceased had absented himself from business for some seven weeks prior to his death, he was not confined to the house, and so recently as the Friday before his death he took a carriage drive. As we have said, the end came in the early hours of Monday morning, when he passed peacefully away, his wife, his daughter, and his only surviving brother being with him. His son, who is living in Paris, had not then returned to Newport. The funeral took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Thursday, the service being performed by the Rev. E Boucher James, vicar of Carisbrooke. In addition to the relatives of the deceased, amongst whom were his son and daughter, Mr. W.T. Gubbins and members of his family, Mr. Woodyear, of Cowes, and Mr. E.J. Upward, J.P., a number of friends were present, including the Mayor (Ald. John Lock), the ex-Mayor (Ald. W.C. Way, J.P.), the Rev. W.H. Nutter, Major Way, president, and Mr. E.J. Airs, hon. sec., of the Newport Orchestral Society, Mr. John Roach, hon. sec. of the Newport Choral Society, Messrs. H. Shepard, W. Bright, D.S. Pring, H.W. Morey, R. Barnes, W. Dudley, Hawker, Jackson, and others. On the coffin were placed a number of beautiful floral wreaths. Mr. J. Bevis had the conduct of the funeral arrangements. In the town shops were partially closed, and the blinds of many private houses were drawn, marking the public respect in which the deceased was held.

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