

John Edmund Kirby

Isle of Wight County Press

15 December 1934

NEWPORT

DEATH OF Mr. J. KIRBY.- A well known and highly esteemed tradesman of the borough passed away on Wednesday, after a long illness, in the person of Mr. John Edmund Kirby, pork butcher, of 78 Upper St. James's-street, at the age of 58. A native of the town (his father used to carry on business as a poulterer and fruiterer in the Upper High -street). Mr. Kirby started his working life as an employee of the late Mr. E. J. Wray, grocer, of Carisbrooke-road. Later he became the genial landlord of the Crispin and Bedford Inns, and after a short period in business as a tobacconist in the Upper High-street he commenced about 25 years ago the pork butcher's business in Upper St. James's-street, which has flourished under his direction, with the able assistance of his wife and son. Mr. Kirby's quiet but cheerful manner and generous disposition gained him a wide circle of friends who greatly deplore his early death and deeply sympathise with his wife and son, who have been prominent in the musical life of the town. Mr. Kirby was for a time, until his health failed two years ago, the exceedingly popular master of the I.W. County Coursing Club. He was also a vice president of the Newport Victoria Sports Club, and of the Conservative Club, on the committee of which he had served for many years. At a meeting of the Conservative Club Committee on Wednesday tribute was paid to his many unostentatious services to the cause and the club, and a resolution of sympathy was passed with his family. The funeral will take place on Sunday, service at St. John's Church at 2.15 p.m.

Isle of Wight County Press

22 December 1934

FUNERAL OF MR. J. KIRBY, OF NEWPORT.

The large attendance and a beautiful display of over 80 floral tributes at his funeral on Sunday bore eloquent testimony to the esteem enjoyed by the late Mr. John Edmund Kirby, pork butcher, of Upper St. James's-street, Newport, whose death after a long illness, at the age of 58, we recorded last week. The service was held in St. John's Church and the interment followed at Carisbrooke Cemetery. About 50 of Mr. Kirby's brethren of the Albany Lodge of Freemasons formed a guard of honour at the entrance to the church and sang their closing ode during the service. Their Chaplain (the Rev. W. H. Mackinnon, vicar of St. John's) officiated and read the Masonic obituary oration. Miss D. Welby-Pryer, L.R.A.M. (organist), accompanied the singing of the hymn "Rock of ages" and the Masonic Ode, and played Mendelssohn's "Funeral March" at the close. The attendance included representatives of the numerous local sporting and other organisations of which Mr. Kirby was a generous supporter.

The chief mourners were Mrs. J. Kirby (widow), Mr. J. Kirby (son), Mr. and Mrs. C. Hamilton (brother-in-law and sister), Messrs. E. and A. Kirby (brothers), Mr. A. Kirby,

junior (nephew), Mesdames Goater and Mumford (sisters-in-law), Mr. J. E. Killeen (uncle), Mr. C. B. Killeen (cousin), and Messrs. F. Johnson and B. Couling (employees).

[only main mourners transcribed]

Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son efficiently made the arrangements.- Mrs. Kirby and Mr. J. Kirby express gratitude to Dr. C. K. Sylvester, Nurse Cooper, and Mr. B. W. Mee for their devoted attention and to all for messages of sympathy and floral tributes.

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