

**William Henry Wadham**

**ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS**

**24 February 1945**

**CARISBROOKE**

**DEATH OF MR. W.H. WADHAM**

The death took place on Monday, after a very long illness borne with characteristic patience, of Mr. William Henry Wadham, aged 74, of Greylands, Clatterford-road, Carisbrooke, who for nearly 40 years, until ill-health caused his retirement, was a highly esteemed and outstandingly efficient local government officer in the Newport and Carisbrooke district. From the inception of parish councils in 1894 until 1930 he was the extremely able clerk to the Carisbrooke Parish Council, one of the most important parish authorities in the Island until the parish was absorbed by Newport in 1933. In that capacity, which was no sinecure in the days when local political feeling ran high in Carisbrooke and Gunville, Mr. Wadham built up a reputation for knowledge of local government law which was widely acknowledged in the Island. Associated with that office was the assistant overseership of the parish and rate collection, and he was also assistant overseer and collector of the poor rate in Newport for many years until overseers were abolished under the Local Government Act of 1925 and rating and valuation officers were appointed in their stead. He continued as rating officer at Carisbrooke with the assistance of his daughter until the amalgamation of the parish with Newport under the Review of Districts Order, 1933, since when he had been living in retirement. A man of great courtesy and boundless tact, it is safe to say that Mr. Wadham got through his life's work as a rate assessor and collector with fewer unpleasant incidents than most men who follow that calling; in fact it can truly be said that he was amongst the most popular men in the district.

The last surviving member of the family of Mr. William Winter Wadham, of Parkhurst, he attended Newport Grammar School, and on leaving entered the office of his grandfather, Mr. Henry Wadham, assistant overseer and appraiser, of 108 Carisbrooke-road, Newport, and eventually succeeded him as one of the assistant overseers of the borough. Like most men who spend busy lives in their calling, Mr. Wadham's abilities as a clerk and organiser were constantly in demand by local organisations in need of such help, and no one was ever more ready to give it than he. He voluntarily kept the accounts of the Parish Church, the parish charities, and the District Nursing Association for many years, while almost every special occasion in the village, such as celebrations of coronations and peace after the last war were organised by him always with great acceptance.

A work for which he will be remembered was the hon. Treasurership of the fund which some years ago was raised to recast Carisbrooke's famous peal of church bells, which was an instance of his devotion to the church. His extensive knowledge of local government law was acknowledged by the fact that from 1896 to 1924 he was the hon. secretary of the I.W. Assistant Overseers' Association, and on his retirement his colleagues presented him with a clock as a mark of appreciation of his helpfulness to them in that office. A lover of all field sports, particularly coursing, Mr. Wadham was one of the founders of the I.W. Coursing Association, which he served as hon. Secretary for some years, and on retirement in 1924 he was presented with a silver inkstand. Later he was hon. secretary of the I.W. County Coursing Club in its early days. For many years he resided at 30 Portland Terrace, Newport, and removed 18 years ago to Greylands, which he had built. Much sympathy is felt with Mrs. Wadham in the parting after nearly 49 years of happy married life, and with his only daughter. His only son, a bank clerk, was killed in a road accident at Romsey 16 years ago.

The funeral was on Thursday, a service being held in Carisbrooke Church and the interment in Carisbrooke Cemetery. The Vicar (the Rev. H. Ewbank), who officiated, referred to the deceased's deserved popularity in the parish, his devoted work for the church as sidesman and councillor, and his unflinching kindness and readiness to help others. The deceased's favourite hymn "Lead, kindly light" was sung, the 23rd psalm and the Nunc Dimittis chanted, and the organist (Mr. G.R. Barrett) played the slow movement of Mendelssohn's first sonata at the close.

The chief mourners were Mrs. Wadham, Miss D. Wadham (daughter), Mesdames F.G. Wadham and Shobridge (sisters-in-law), Mr. W. Barton (nephew), and Messrs. P., S., and W. Wadham and J. B. Alderslade (cousins). Others in the church were Messrs. E.C. Neat and H. Phillips (churchwardens), Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Morris, Aldermen W. Blake, J.P., and J. H. Deacon, Nurse Preston, Messrs. T. H. Sprake (master), S. Brown (ex-master), H. W. Minns (hon. Secretary, and C.C. Chiverton (of the I.W. County Coursing Club), Mesdames Ewbank, J. S. and W. Brown, (T.C.), W. H. Bullock, W. Barton, Cushen, Clark, Smith, Punch, Hilton Lower, G. F. Quinton, W. L. Bright, H. Gray, Hendy, Watts, and Miller, the Misses P. Brannon (also representing Mrs. G. A. Brannon), F. M. Brown, M. L. Haley, Smith, Callaway, and Attrill, and H. W. Lincoln, T.C., G. Norman, C.C., E. Taylor, F. Attrill, J. H. Knighton, T. E. W. Phillips, W. G. Sibbick, J.P., H. Webb, W. Lowe, H. M. Ablitt, A. A. Whitfield, M.B.E. (clerk to the R.D.C.), R. J. Philpot, S. Daish (also representing Mr. H. Daish and Mr. and Mrs. W. Guy), A. J. Symonds, and W. H. Baker. There were about 20 wreaths, including one from the I.W. County Coursing Club. Messrs. H and F. Damp made the arrangements.

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