

## Robert Wallace

**Robert Wallace** and his wife arrived on the Isle of Wight after the 1881 Census. He died in 1890 before the 1891 Census. Robert and Margueritte first appear in the local newspapers from 1883 onwards. These articles deal mainly with agriculture and their interest in showing their livestock particularly poultry and pigeons. Margueritte also sang at charity concerts on the island. She is always referred to as Madame Wallace rather than Mrs Wallace. Often mentioned with them is Monsieur Louis Boulabert, who was named as the chief mourner at Robert's funeral.

### Isle of Wight Observer

15 March 1890

DEATH OF MR. R. W. WALLACE.-We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. R. W. Wallace, of Broadfield, Merstone, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst., from the effects of the influenza epidemic which has spread throughout the country. The deceased gentleman was well known all over the country amongst those who took an interest in poultry and kindred subjects. He was a noted breeder of poultry, and often contributed valuable articles on that subject to the various poultry papers. He was present at, and evidently deeply interested in, the late show of the Isle of Wight Poultry and Pigeon Association in Ryde, at which he won several prizes. He undertook to send us a critical article upon the show. But it was not to be. The week after the show he wrote telling us how unwell he had been, and later on came another letter stating that he was no better. It was, however, only thought to be a temporary indisposition, and the news of his death came with quite a shock to many of his friends. That Mr. Wallace possessed a genial disposition, and made friends wherever he went, was proved by the long procession of carriages at the funeral, which took place on Friday last. The coffin, of polished elm, and which was covered with floral tributes of affection, bore the simple inscription "Robert William Wallace. Died March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1890. Aged 42 years." The coffin was conveyed to the Roman Catholic Church at Newport, where the first portion of the service took place. A funeral mass, including the Dies irae, was sung, Mr. Salter, organist of S. Marie's, Ryde, presiding at the organ.. Then followed the first part of the burial service. The Rev. Father Mooney was the celebrant, and the Rev. Canon Fryer, and the Revs. Fathers Davis of Cowes, and Ellard, of Shanklin, officiated as assistant priests. The procession then proceeded to Carisbrooke Cemetery, where the concluding portion of the burial service was performed. M. L. Boulabert was the chief mourner, and among others present were Dr. Waterworth and Dr. Groves, medical attendants, and Messrs. F. B. Meager, J. R. Blake, John Hills, H. J. Webb (Cowes), A. D. George, J. George, jun., G.A. Brannon, R. Woodward, G. Knight, J. W. Kellaway, W. L. Griffiths, Williams, Parsons, and others. Among contributors of the floral wreaths &c., were Mesdames Wallace and Pagny (cross), Mrs. Buckland Blackwell, and Dr. Gumboult (cross), Mr. L. Boulabert, Mr. and Mrs. F. Hoddinot, Mr. and Mrs. F. Meager, Master Victor Meager ("To dear Godpapa who is in heaven"). Mrs. Watts and Miss Meager, Miss Boxer and Major-General Boxer (cross), Mrs. Faulkner, Miss McCromack, The Members of the Poultry Association (cross), Mr. and Mrs. Hills, Misses Hills (cross), Mrs. G. Conquest, and others.

Isle of Wight County Press

8 March 1890

(excerpt)

.....Dr. Gumboult, a doctor of some eminence in Paris, who is uncle of Madame Wallace, came from that city to attend on Mr. Wallace, but arrived too late, and was immediately summoned to return in consequence of the severe illness of his daughter.

Probate (from Ancestry)

19 March 1890

Personal Estate £372 0s 11d

Administration of the Personal Estate of **Robert William Wallace** late of Brookfield House Merston in the Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton who died 3 March 1890 at Brookfield House was granted at the Principal Registry to Margueritte Wallace of Brookfield House Widow the Relict.

Isle of Wight County Press  
Various dates from April 1890

Advertisements were placed in these newspapers, by auctioneers Pittis and by Madame Wallace and Monsieur Boulabert. These all indicate that following the death of **Robert Wallace**, Madame Wallace and Monsieur Boulabert left the island. A considerable amount of modern furniture, mainly French was offered for sale. Also agricultural equipment, poultry appliances, Newfoundland and Smooth Fox Terriers.

*Research and transcription by Sally Wills for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries © 2018*

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