

## Arthur Henry Wells

A H Wells enlisted in the Royal Fusiliers in 1899 and first saw action in the Second Boer War. He was in Burma in 1903 and then India. Amongst his many medals was the Tibet medal with Gyantse battle clasp for the Younghusband 'mission' which marched over the Himalayas into Tibet in 1904. This medal was presented by the King at Winsor Castle in June 1906. He took his new wife off to India in 1907 and to Dublin in 1910 for the Irish troubles up to 1913. He was wounded at Gallipoli in 1915 but recovered to fight on the western front in France where he briefly held a field commission. He was later transferred to The Machine Gun Corp and is believed to have been sent to Russia to fight with the White Russians in 1919, before his discharge in 1920.



A H Wells as Company Sergeant Major  
At Newport in 1914 with wife Lillian (nee Stay)

*Written by John Farthing for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries (c) 2017*  
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### CARISBROOKE

**Old Soldier's Death.**- The funeral took place on Friday week of Mr. Arthur Henry Wells, aged 74, of 119 Pitfield Terrace, whose death occurred the previous Monday. Mr. Wells, one of the few holders of the medal struck for the Tibet Expedition at the beginning of the century, came to the Island on his return from Tibet in 1903. Serving with the 1st Battalion the Royal Fusiliers he was stationed at Parkhurst for several years, and in April 1907, married Miss L. Stay. After his marriage he served in India and Ireland before the outbreak of the first world war, when he was wounded fighting in the Dardanelles. Upon his return to this country he helped to form the Machine Gun Corps, in which he was an instructor. He retired from the Army after 22 years' service and joined the staff of the Vectis Cement Mills in 1920, where he completed nearly 24 years before retiring when the mill closed. Mr. Wells will best be remembered locally for his enthusiasm and skill as a gardener, although he only took it up as a hobby on his retirement and had since gained many awards. When the Cottage Garden Society was revived six years ago he handed over one of his trophies, won in a show organised by the former horticultural society, for competition, and was a keen supporter of the new society. Two days before he died Mr. Wells was helping prepare for the first autumn horticultural show staged in the village, at which his youngest son, Mr. R. C. Wells, won the championship cup. From its inception he was one of the keenest supporters of the local football team. At the beginning of the 1939-45 war, when the Local Defence Volunteers were formed, later becoming the Home Guard, he was one of the first to enrol. The funeral service at St. Mary's Church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. Souttar). The principal mourners were Mrs. Wells (widow), Mr. and Mrs. A. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. C. Wells, and Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Wells (sons and daughters-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. P. Way (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. P. Robinson and daughter (son-in-law and grand-daughter), Mesdames B. Hazell and B. Cooper (sisters-in-law), and Mr. B. Stay (brother-in-law). Among the many floral tributes were those from the Cottage Garden Society, the Football Club, his former employees at the Vectis Cement Works, the Mothers' Union, and the Women's Institute. The arrangements were made by Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son. - Mrs. Wells and family wish to thank Dr. Broadhead for his very kind attention and would like to thank neighbours and friends for messages of sympathy and beautiful floral tributes.

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

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