

George Henry Locke

1911 England, Wales & Scotland Census
44 South-street, Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire, England

Name	Relationship	Status	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
<i>George Henry Locke</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Widower</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>Book binder</i>	<i>Bembridge, IOW</i>

Isle of Wight County Press
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DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN NEWPORT ODDFELLOW

Island Oddfellowship, particularly the “Earl Yarborough” Lodge at Newport, has lost a prominent and valued member by the death on Tuesday of Mr. George Henry Locke, of South-street, Newport, at the age of 73. For well over half a century the late Mr. Locke had been a member of the Lodge named, and during that long period he rendered loyal and devoted service in moulding the policy and reforming the management upon hoers which have largely helped it into the proud position which it occupies as one of the strongest and wealthiest lodges in the Manchester Unity. The deceased’s Friendly Society work was extended to other lodges in the I.W. district, of which he was a Past Grand Master, as well as a trustee, and he held the latter office till his death. Some six years ago the *Oddfellows Magazine* deservedly honoured Bro. Locke with a biographical sketch, in which it truly said of him that he was one “full of that love for the Order which promotes self-sacrificing efforts on its behalf”. Born a Bembridge in 1839 he started work in the book-binding business of his grandfather at Newport, and with a slight break during his absence at Poole he continued in that business till his death. He joined the “Earl Yarborough” Lodge in 1860 and immediately took a keen interest in its affairs, becoming N.G. two years later, and again serving in that office in 1864. He was one of a special committee appointed to revise the rules, and it was largely owing to his advocacy that the table of contributions and benefits which has for so long been in operation in the Lodge, was adopted; he was a warm advocate for the formation of the sick members’ contribution fund, which has been very popular and beneficial, and he rendered valuable assistance to his Lodge as chairman of the Finance Committee in connection with a reform of the financial arrangements, which marked the inauguration of prosperity for the Lodge. He was the senior trustee of the “Earl Yarborough” Lodge, to which office he was elected in 1880, and he was also sick pay officer for five years in the “sixties”. In 1867 he was largely. Instrumental in organizing the successful Oddfellows’ and Foresters’ fete at Carisbrooke Castle, and he took a foremost part in establishing the juvenile branch of the Lodge and also the “Tennyson” Lodge, Freshwater, and the “Simeon” Lodge, Calbourne, and assisted at the opening of the Whippingham, Shanklin, and “Lady Adele Cochrane” (Newport) Lodges, being trustee of the first and last of these. His valuable work for his Lodge was acknowledged in practical form, notably in 1889, when he was presented with a handsome watch and a purse of gold. He was also well-known in connection with the work of the I.W. district for the greater part of a half-century. He filled the office of Provincial Grand Master in 1868 and was presented with a framed emblem. He was one of the committee upon whom devolved the onerous duties of arranging for the accommodation of the A.M.C. of the Manchester Unity at Ryde in 1876. In 1885 he was elected district examining officer, and in July, 1906, trustees of the district, which he represented at three annual movable committees. He was also a member of the old “Friend in Need” Club at Newport, which disbursed some £32,000 in benefits among its members. Whilst Oddfellowship so largely monopolized his activities, he was in his younger days a member of the old Volunteers, which he joined in 1860, and in which he attained the rank of sergeant; he afterwards joined the band of the Newport companies. He was also a keen cricketer, being a batsman of

considerable prowess and afterwards an umpire of acknowledged ability, who never failed to command confidence. In his business as a book-binder he was more than once honoured with commissions to execute for the late Queen Victoria.

The funeral took place yesterday (Friday) at the Newport Cemetery. A service at the Parish-church preceded the interment. The Vicar (Rev. H. Edmund Sharpe, M.A.), officiated and Bro. H. Lower, Lecture Master, read the Oddfellows' service over the grave. Those also present included the Mayor of Newport (Mr. J. C. Millgate), Mr. R. Roach Pittis, J.P., and the following members of the "Earl Yarborough" Lodge of Oddfellows; Bros. Leonard Jordan, N.G., A. J. Parkinson, V.G., C. Steel, Par.Sec., C. D. Vibert, B.A., A. Scott, W. J. Rugg, G. Morris, J. B. Alderslade, H. Prouten, E. J. Wilton, T. Buckler, F. J. Martin, G. Dunford, B. Osborn, F. R. Allee, E. Earley, and C. H. Mallard, Bros. Daish and Honnsell, two old members of the "East Medina" (Ryde) Lodge, and Bro. Kent, of the "Loyal Hambrough" Lodge (Ventnor), Each Oddfellow wore a sprig of thyme, which was placed on the coffin. Mr. H. Parnell carried out the funeral arrangements.

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