

**Jane Pittis**

**Isle of Wight County Press  
3 October 1931**

**NEWPORT**

**Death of Miss Jane Pittis.**— A notable link with memorable events in the history of the borough has been severed by the death on Wednesday night at her residence in Lower St. James's-street, of Miss Jane Pittis at the ripe age of 90. The deceased was a highly esteemed member of an old and honoured Island family, being the daughter of the late Sir Francis Pittis, J.P., who was eight times Mayor of Newport and was one of the most prominent and capable of the city fathers of his or any other day.

Miss Pittis efficiently acted as Mayoress during the last mayoralty of her distinguished father, in the memorable Jubilee year of Queen Victoria in 1887, when Her Majesty visited the borough and received in St. James's-square an address of congratulations from the Mayor, aldermen, and burgesses. On that historic occasion Miss Pittis presented a bouquet to the Queen on behalf of the town. It was in this year that Miss Pittis's father received the honour of knighthood from Queen Victoria, whose Jubilee is commemorated by the clock tower which was then added to the Town-hall.

Practically throughout her long life Miss Pittis was a devoted and loyal worker in connection with St. Thomas's Church, having been for 55 years the capable superintendent of the Girls' Sunday-school. In recognition of her highly valued services in that capacity she received a silver teapot on the completion of her jubilee in 1918, and she received a travelling clock on the completion of 30 years' service, and a tray and epergne in earlier years. She continued her work as Sunday-school superintendent until 1923.

Devoted to the welfare of girls in particular, Miss Pittis started the branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, of which she was secretary for 30 years, and was presented with a rose bowl on her retirement. She succeeded her mother as a member of the Blue School Foundation, which afforded her welcome scope for zealous interest and activity in the training of girls. The funeral takes place to-day (Saturday). A Service will be held in the Parish Church at mid-day.

**Isle of Wight County Press  
10 October 1931**

**NEWPORT**

**Funeral of Miss Jane Pittis.**—The choir and congregation of the Parish Church and the staff of the Sunday-school, with which the late Miss Jane Pittis had been so closely associated throughout her long and useful life, paid fitting tribute to her memory by their presence at the funeral service held in St. Thomas's Church on Saturday.

The large congregation included the Mayor (Mrs. E. R. Chandler, T.C.), the Deputy Mayor (Mr. W. Blake, J.P.), Mesdames A. D. W. Eldridge, B.Sc., A. W. Drew, K. Westmore, F. Cheverton, J. Eldridge, Truscott, Blake (Arreton), R. Bird Cheverton, Good, Moorman, Lower, Dudley, H. J. Way, S. W. Sutton, Snow, and Wareham, and the Misses Stratton, Wright, Atkinson, Way, E. Snow, Bull, Taylor, Liddell, Oram, and Brigden, and many representatives of St. Thomas's Mothers' Meeting, of which the deceased had been one of the principal leaders. She was also a member of the Blue School Foundation, which was represented by Mrs. A. E. Harvey, the only other lady member, and Mr. E. F. Wray, T.C..

Others present were Mrs. G. H. Yelf (representing the Central Habitation of the Primrose League), Ald. A. E. Harvey, J.P., and Messrs. W. D. W. Buckell and F. Whittington (representing the C.E. School managers), the Rev. Dr. S. W. Sutton, Capt. H. G. Adams-Connor, M.V.O., D.L., Dr. C. K. Sylvester, Messrs. R. Bird Cheverton, J.P., W. J. Whittington, J.P., H. Sheppard, J.P., C.C., L. Jordan, J.P., W. H. Dann, J.P., F. Damp T.C., E. R. Dore, T.C., G. A. Brannon, F. Cheverton, E. Huck, W. Upton, A. Snow, S. Elliott, and L. J. D. Wheatley, B.Sc. (head-master of Newport Grammar School), and two senior scholars.

The chief mourners were Miss Waterworth and Miss. L. Waterworth (nieces), Lieut.-Col. G. F. Waterworth, D.S.O. (nephew), and Mrs. Waterworth, Mrs. Robey F. Eldridge, Mr. James Eldridge, and Mr. R. J. Eldridge (cousins), Mr. H. E. Stratton, Mr. A. H. Dockrill (executor), Mrs. Surman (nurse), and the Misses Stephens and Grimes (domestic staff).

The service was conducted by the Rev. J. F. S. Glynn, B.A. (vicar),, assisted by the Rev. Miles Atkinson. The choir beautifully rendered the hymns "Now the labourer's task is o'er" and "Peace, perfect peace", and chanted the Nunc Dimittis at the close. The organist (Mr. H. W. Stubbington, F.R.C.O.) ably played "O rest in the Lord" (Mendelssohn), a funeral march by the same composer, and the Dead March in "Saul" (Handel). The interment took place in the family grave in Newport Cemetery.

Among those unable to attend were Ald. F. E. Whitcher, J.P., who had been associated with the deceased longer than any other member on the Blue School Charity, and Mr. W. H. P. Chandler, head-master of the C.E. School. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. Moorman and Son.

*Transcription by Ian Roach for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries © 2020*  
<https://www.foncc.org.uk>