

Katie Lockhart

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PIONEER WOMAN MAGISTRATE

DEATH OF MRS. K. LOCKHART

Mrs. Katie Lockhart, aged 84, of 5 Melbourne Street, Newport, the first woman member of the I.W. Labour party to be appointed a magistrate, died suddenly at St. Mary's Hospital, Newport, on Friday week.

Born at Tiverton, Devon, Mrs. Lockhart was the eldest of 12 children and started her working life at the age of 10 as a nannie for two boys who were senior to her in years. Her wages were only 1s. per week. She came to the Island as a young woman, and shortly after her marriage to George Henry Lockhart, who died last year, went to live in Portsmouth. Later she returned to Newport, where she made her home at Melbourne Street for over 50 years.

Mrs. Lockhart was appointed a magistrate in 1933. She served as a member of the Newport Magistrates' Division and the Juvenile Panel, but had been on the retired list for several years.

She was a keen member of the Island Labour Party, a member of the Executive Committee, and Secretary of the Newport branch for over 25 years. She retired in 1961. During the last war she was a member of the W.V.S. and worked at the Newport clothing exchange. She founded the West Country Association in the Island, was a member of the I.W. Society for the Blind, the Newport Afternoon Townswomen's Guild, and the Newport Victoria Sports Club. Her great love was stamp collecting, and she was a member of the Philatelic Society for many years. Mrs. Lockhart was a regular worshipper at the Baptist Church, and until recently had been a Camp Hill Prison and hospital visitor.

At the Guildhall, Newport, following the Remembrance Day church parade on Sunday, the Mayor (Ald. H. E. Harvey), referred to Mrs. Lockhart's valued services as a borough magistrate for many years, and to her devoted work on the behalf of many good causes in the town.

There was a large attendance at the funeral service at the Castlehold Baptist Church, Newport, on Wednesday, conducted by the Rev. H. J. Williams. The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Lockhart (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gray, and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Baker (sons-in-law and daughters), Mrs. M. Collins (sister-in-law), Mrs. C. Holbrook (niece), and Mr. B. Lockhart, Mr. J. Abraham, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Batchelor (grandchildren).

Among those present were Mr. W. G. Sibbick (chairman, Newport Magistrates), former colleagues of the Newport Bench, and representatives of the many organisations with which Mrs. Lockhart had been associated.

Interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery. Messrs. H. and E. Damp made the arrangements.

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