

Joseph Henry Greenfield

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DEATH AND FUNERAL OF MR. J. H. GREENFIELD OF CARISBROOKE

THE VICAR'S TRIBUTE

Carisbrooke has lost one of its oldest and most valued residents by the death on Saturday evening at his residence, The Mount, of Mr. Joseph Henry Greenfield. Although within a week or two of his 88th birthday the deceased had enjoyed fairly good health, and as recently as Friday was walking in his garden. The end came rather unexpectedly but quite peacefully, death being due to heart failure.

The deceased was widely known and will be affectionately remembered in the Carisbrooke district by reason of his extremely helpful association with all worthy causes in the parish, notably in connection with the church, the schools, and the cottage garden show.

Besides being the senior sidesman Mr. Greenfield worked on behalf of the Parish Church in very many spheres. An authority on the architecture and history of the ancient structure he was the author of the informative pamphlet published by the Church Council for the information of visitors. He was of great assistance to the churchwardens in the preparation of the church accounts, a task to which he devoted a great deal of time and care. For some years he was the leader of a men's Bible-class which met at his residence. Mr. Greenfield was a lay reader and at one time held the office of secretary of the Island Lay Readers' Association.

His connection with local education began when he was head teacher in the boys department of the National School (now the Church Sunday-school) some 60 odd years ago. It was here that he first met Mrs. Greenfield who, as Miss Ledger, was head teacher of the girl's department. Under Mr. Greenfield's headmastership in 1877 the scholars marched from the old school premises to the new and more commodious Council School. Although continuing his scholastic career the late Mr. Greenfield did not long remain headmaster of the new school, for in the same year he accepted a post under H.M. Prison Commissioners as schoolmaster at Woking Prison, subsequently moving to Chatham, Portland, and Parkhurst, at which latter station he remained until his retirement from the prison service in 1910.

Very many happy associations for Mr. and Mrs. Greenfield were revived in 1927, when the Carisbrooke School celebrated its jubilee. They were the guests of honour on three occasions, being entertained by the school staff on March 11th in that year (the actual date of the jubilee), and at the reunion of old scholars in the following June, while a few weeks later they were the recipients of two photographs taken at the reunion, together with an illuminated address and an album containing the signatures of a large number of the old scholars. Mr. Greenfield did a very great work for education in the locality, and at the jubilee celebration was described as a pioneer in that direction. In spite of his great age Mr. Greenfield maintained his interest in his old school to the last. He was present at the Empire-day celebrations this year and gave an admirably patriotic talk to the children.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Carisbrooke Cottage Garden Society, and for 30 years occupied the chair at the society's meetings, retaining his keen interest even after this period, when for some years he held office as president and vice-president. There was no harder worker on show day than Mr. Greenfield.

His other activities included membership of the I.W. Natural History Society, the botanical side of the society's activities attracting his special interest. Of a kindly and quietly generous disposition the late

Mr. Greenfield will be much missed in the Carisbrooke district, and the sympathy of a wide circle of friends is extended to the widow and her only son, Mr. P. Greenfield, in their irreparable loss.

THE FUNERAL

took place on Tuesday, the first part of the service being held in St. Mary's Church. The Rev. H. Ewbank (vicar) officiated, and the cortege was met at the church door by Messrs. R. J. Philpot and T. E. W. Phillips (churchwardens), carrying their wands of office.

In the course of a tribute to the deceased the Vicar said that for over half a century Mr. Greenfield had been one of the chief leaders in the life of the parish. He was the oldest member of the church, and had held many official positions in connection with it, and was respected in them all. The Vicar went on to refer to the deceased's many activities, not only in the church, but also in local affairs, and said that all needing help would naturally turn to him, knowing full well that they would find in him a ready helper and a generous friend. In matters of charity he was truly one of those who did not let his left hand know what his right hand was doing, and he never thought of self in any of his actions. The white flower of a blameless life would ever bloom on his grave.

The mourners were Mr. Percy Greenfield, of Warlington (son), Mr. Fred Greenfield, of Brighton (nephew), Mr. A. W. Ledger, of Canterbury (brother-in-law), Mr. G. Norman (headmaster of the Carisbrooke Council School), Mr. W. H. Wadham, and Mr. R. Fisk.

The high esteem in which the deceased was held was evidenced by the large congregation including many of his old scholars, and representatives of public bodies with which he was connected.

The St. George's flag was flown at half-mast on the church tower and on Sunday and Tuesday the bellringers rang muffled peals in memory of Mr. Greenfield.

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