

David Alexander Griffiths

Isle of Wight County Press – 4 February 1939

PARKHURST

Death of a Prison Officer. – The death occurred at 7 Nicholson-street, Parkhurst, on Monday week, of Prison Officer David Alexander Griffiths, aged 57. Mr. Griffiths was an ex-Master at Arms in the Royal Navy, joining the service as a boy in May, 1896, and had served in a number of H.M. ships, including the Northampton, Royal Sovereign, Camperdown, Good Hope, and lastly H.M.S. Britannia, which was sunk after being hit by a torpedo in November 1918. In October, 1920, Mr. Griffiths joined the Prison service, and was first at Portsmouth before coming to Parkhurst, where he has been for the last 18 years. He possessed a charming disposition, and his death at such an early age is keenly regretted by his colleagues at the Prison. Sympathy is felt with the widow in her sad loss. The funeral was at Milton Church, Portsmouth, on Friday week. As the cortège left the house some 30 officers, with the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Chief Officer Batterbury, lined the road, and marched behind the coffin as far as the entrance to the Prison. Among those attending the funeral were Principle Officer Sheath, Officer Caplin, and Hospital Officer Forge (representing the Governor and staff of H.M. Prison, Parkhurst), and a principal officer and four officers from Portsmouth Prison. The mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. F. Medcraft (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), and Mrs. Forge. A bugler from the Naval Barracks, Portsmouth, sounded the “Last Post” and “Reveille” at the graveside. Among the numerous floral tributes were wreaths from the Governor and staff of H.M. Prison, Parkhurst ; the Governor and staff of H.M. Prison, Portsmouth ; and Parkhurst friends.

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