

MARRIAGE: 24<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1848 Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge.  
**William Harry WALLIS**. Full/age. Bachelor. (father: Jeremiah WALLIS)  
& Hannah NETTEN. Full/age. Spinster. (father: William NETTEN).

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1871 CENSUS: RG10/1165. folio 79. page 36.  
Address: 14 High-street, Ryde, IW.

**William Harry WALLIS. Head. Mar. 50. Auctioneer & Furniture Dealer empl. 1 man.  
Bembridge, IW.**

Hannah WALLIS. Wife. Mar. 48. Portsea, Hants.  
Jeremiah WALLIS. Son. Unm. 17. Auctioneer's Shopman. Ryde.  
Sophia WALLIS. Dau. Unm. 15. Scholar. Ryde.  
George WALLIS. Son. Unm. 13. Scholar. Ryde.  
Emily WALLIS. Dau. Unm. 6. Scholar. Ryde.

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1881 CENSUS: RG11/1179. folio 14. page 21.  
Address: 41 Star-street, Ryde, IW.

**William Harry WALLIS. Head. Mar. 60. Auctioneer. Bembridge, IW.**

Hannah WALLIS. Wife. Mar. 58. Portsmouth, Hants.  
Jeremiah WALLIS. Son. Unm. 27. Book Keeper Clerk. Ryde, IW.  
Sophia WALLIS. Dau. Unm. 25. Ryde, IW.  
Emily WALLIS. Dau. Unm. 16. Ryde, IW.

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1891 CENSUS: RG12/890. folio 109. page 15.  
Address: 55 Park-road, Ryde, IW.

**William WALLIS. Head. M. 70. Living on own means. Brading, IW.**

Hannah WALLIS. Wife. M. 68. Portsea, Hants.  
Sophia WALLIS. Dau. S. 35. Ryde, IW.

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ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 1893.

### **DEATH OF MR. W.H. WALLIS**

We much regret to record the death, on Friday last, of Mr. **William Harry WALLIS**, a very old townsman and for many years a respected and influential public man. Mr. Wallis was a native of Bembridge, where his father followed the avocation of a pilot. There must be something about a pilot's life which gives excellent training to the mental as well as the physical organisation, for it has been noted that men sprung from this class are, as a rule, generally remarkable for sound common-sense and intellectual capacity. Our departed townsman was not an exception. After serving part of his apprenticeship with a local cabinet maker, who failed, he completed his term with the late Mr. MARVIN. When still quite a young man he started in business for himself (in 1848) as an auctioneer and upholsterer in the High Street, and soon worked up a good business. He was an excellent auctioneer, and was very good at repartee. His intellectual qualifications led him to take a prominent part in the town matters, and he joined the old Board of Commissioners. When the town became incorporated Mr. WALLIS was elected one of the first councillors, and continued in office till 1872, when the trouble about the purchase of the Gas Works commenced. The deceased, with the rest of the council, went out on

that occasion, but was re-elected in 1873. In 1879 he was made an Alderman, and finally retired in 1889. for many years the deceased was a power in the Council, and brought to bear on every question a fund of information and clear common-sense, which seldom failed to convince. He made the finances of the borough his special study, and even after he had retired was often appealed to give information on borough matters. It may possibly be owing to the worry incidental to the troublous times of 1872, that shortly after that year our worthy old townsman gave signs of declining vigour, and became subject to fits of vertigo, which necessitated change of air and scene. As he did not seem to improve much, he gave up attending to business, from which he retired long before he severed his connection with the Town Council. This wise step doubtless contributed to his attainment of the fairly good age of 72. Our departed townsman lent valuable support to many of the older institutions of the town. He was a member of the committee of the old Literary Institute, and for many years assisted in its management. There used to be a Debating Society held in connection with the Institute, and one of our earliest recollections is the admiration we felt at the displays of dialectical skill between the deceased and such men as the late Mr, George RIDDETT, Mr. T.DASHWOOD, Mr. W. GABELL, Mr. Jabez HUGHES, &c. It may be that we look back upon the past through the rosy halo of youthful enthusiasm, but really it seems to us that, taken as a whole tradesman of that generation were men of superior intellectual calibre to the present. At all events, it is a noteworthy fact that at the present time, debates and discussions are mainly confined to the juniors, and Ryde has now no place where men can meet, irrespective of creed or party, for public discussion. Mr. WALLIS not only supported the Institution mentioned, but East Medina Lodge of Oddfellows, which he joined in 1850. Of those old members, few alas! remain. Mr. WALLIS was on several occasions offered the Mayoralty, but declined it, and for some years has lived an exceedingly quiet and retired life, amusing himself with his paint box and palette. He was quite self taught, but often succeeded in obtaining excellent effects, and his chief delight was to paint the scenes of his childhood, as his memory presented them before "improvements" had destroyed their picturesqueness. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon at the Cemetery, and, by the wish of the deceased, was as quiet and unpretending as possible. The Mayor (Ald. ELLERY), Ald. R. COLENUTT, Ald. J. DASHWOOD, Councillors COOMBES and POLLARD, showed their respect by attending. The chief mourners were the two sons and the two nephews of the deceased, and Mr. T.A. BUTLER represented the Oddfellows.

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ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 1893

Death Notice:-

**WALLIS ..** On April 21, at his residence, Star Street, Ryde, **W.H. WALLIS**, aged 72.

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ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 1893

### **DEATH OF MR. W.H. WALLIS**

Another old and respected resident of the town departed this life on Friday last, at his residence, Star street. We refer to Mr. **W.H. WALLIS**, who for many years was one of our most prominent townsmen, taking an active part in all that concerned the welfare of the town. Coming from Bembridge, where his father was a pilot, he was apprenticed in Ryde to a cabinet maker in Pier street, who failed, and he completed his term with the late Mr. MARVIN. IN 1848 he started in business in Ryde, and for many years was one of the leading auctioneers of the town. Mr WALLIS served as a Commissioner for many years, and on the incorporation of the town was one of the first Councillors, remaining in office without a break until 1872, when Mr. LEACH was Mayor. He was however, re-elected in 1873, was made Alderman in 79, and finally retired from the Council in '89. He was on several occasions offered the post of Mayor,

but declined that honour. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon at the cemetery, and by the express wish of the deceased it was a very quiet affair, Mr. SIMMONDS being the undertaker. The Mayor (Ald. ELLERY), Aldermen COLENUTT and DASHWOOD, and Councillors COOMBES and POLLARD were present, besides the two sons and two nephews of the deceased. Deceased was 72 years of age. His tastes were of an artistic character, he was a good judge of works of art, and was himself no mean artist.

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Researched & typed by  
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