

SALVATION ARMY FUNERAL – *Service at the Barracks*

After many years a prominent member of the Salvation Army in Ryde with which her husband is also associated, Mrs. **Harriet Elizabeth FURMIDGE**, the wife of Mr. H.W.FURMIDGE, passed away at “Pappinghe,” 6 Park-road, on April 7, aged 69. A public funeral was accorded her on Thursday, when the cortege started from her late residence and proceeded to the Barracks in Green-street. Several motor cars were at the disposal of the mourners and friends, ladies and officers of the Army wearing white sashes, also following together with an augmented band from Newport and Cowes, which under the direction of Mr. WARNE, played the “Dead March” in “Saul” en route. The general public also showed their sense of respect to the deceased and her husband by attending the service. The coffin bearing several wreaths was brought in front of the rostrum which was draped in purple and white muslin and on each side an officer bearing the Army flag stood at attention. Those present included Mr. E.T.MINTER J.P., Mr. C.NICHOLLS, Mr. J.E.HIBBERD, Adjutant PIKE (Newport), Bandmaster WOOTTON (Cowes), etc.

Capt. PURSER took the service which opened with the singing of “Lead Kindly Light,” followed by the reading of the lesson, Mrs. WARNE (wife of Bandmaster) then rendered unaccompanied “There is a beautiful land on high,” which was very effective.

Ensign PARKER (Bristol), a son-in-law of the deceased, then delivered an address, remarking that the last time he spoke there when he appealed to the men and women to seek the truth he said that when he returned probably some of those present would have passed away. Little did he think that it would be their loved one who had gone. He spoke of her from his two years’ intimate knowledge, of one who was always the same in and out of her home, and one who was true and loyal to her Saviour and to the principles of the Salvation Army its doctrines and teaching. Coming up the street he felt amazed by the number of people who remarked upon her fine character and one who always had a smile for them. She had passed the barrier and Jordan and was now in the beautiful city with her Jesus and Christ. They could say they had lost a mother and personally he felt she had been a mother to him and the other children. There was nothing too much for her to do in the home life and her services towards the sick and suffering were well-known. The battle was won so was the victory and she was today with One whom she loved. The deceased’s favourite hymn, “I do not ask Thee, Lord,” was next sung.

Capt. PURSEY said the congregation and the service that afternoon was sufficient in itself in showing their honour and esteem to one who was a true soldier of the Salvation Army. His text was that which was asked by St. James, “What is your life?” and what would it all amount to? During the last few months he had seen sufficient of the late Mrs. FURMIDGE to make his heart go out towards her and to feel that she was something in his life. She was one who could never be forgotten. For almost 42 years she had been at work for the Army and she would always shine forth as a wonderful Christian soldier. She never tolerated anything that was wrong and her life was a

brilliant example not only of her daily work but of cheerfulness and joy. She would always live in their memories and would never die. The speaker referred to the useful influence she always exercised and to the goodness of her life.

The procession was afterwards reformed and proceeded to the Cemetery via High-street and Hill-street, the band again playing the funeral march. Mr Harry TAYLOR, Green-street was in charge of the arrangements.

The mourners included Mr. FURMIDGE (husband), Bessie and Walter PARKER, Alice and Walter BARTLETT, Amy and F.W. COLLIS and Dot and Charlie PAIN (daughters and sons-in-law), Phyllis and Reg PARKER (grandchildren), George and Richard and Samuel HOLLIS (brothers) etc.

Capt. PURSER officiated at the graveside and Lieut. KNOTT read the service. The hymn, "Nearer my God to Thee" was sung. The following is a list of wreaths:

From her loving husband, Harry, daughter Bessie, Walt., (Phyllis, Reg and Jim); daughter Alice, Wally and Miriam; daughter Amy and Fred; daughter Dot and Charlie; Harry and Gladys (grandchildren); sister Hannah and family; brother George, Annie and Fran; brother Dick and family; sister Kate, Alice and Reg; brother Sam, Emmie and Phil; neice Sarah, Pem and Clarence; neice Tot, Fred and Annie; nephew Alf and Annie and family; nephew Jim and Lily; nephew Will and Ciss; Corps; Home League; Lt.-Com. and Mrs. MUNRO, R.N.; Mrs. UPTON; Mr. and Mrs. EMERY; Mr. and Mrs. AUSTIN; Sergt-Major HAYLES (Harry) and Elsie; Mr. and Mrs. WEST, Emmie and Dorothy; George PEARSON and family; Mr. and Mrs. PAUL; Amy and Wally DRAPER; Arthur NORRIS; "Cissy"; Mr. and Mrs. ABBOTT; George and Lily BAKER; Mr. and Mrs. WARNE; Vernon and Nellie WARNE; Dolly and Leslie ALLEN; Mr. and Mrs. CASTLE; Reg and Florrie HAYLES; Miss Kate PLUMBLEY, Chrissie BURDEN.
