

1933 REGISTER OF ELECTORS - Lainston Grange, Appley Rise, Ryde, IW.
MERRILL Kathleen Eleanor.
MERRILL Crighton.

1935 KELLY's DIRECTORY of Ryde & Surrounds - pages 62 & 161
MERRILL Crighton LL.B. solicitor, 2 St. Thomas-street, Ryde, IW.

MARRIAGE: 1937 Methodist Church, Binstead. (IW Registrars ref: RO88/236)
Crighton MERRILL & Dora Madaline TRAVES

1947 REGISTER OF ELECTORS - Upway, Newnham-road, Binstead, IW.
MERRILL Crighton.
MERRILL Dora M.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 8th June 1963

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. C. MERRILL
Well-known Solicitor and Councillor

The death occurred suddenly on Tuesday at his home, Upway, Newnham-road, Binstead, of Mr. **Crighton MERRILL**.

Mr. MERRILL's illness was known to his colleagues in the legal profession and to his fellow councillors on Ryde Town Council. Although his condition had deteriorated in recent weeks his death came as a severe shock. He was admitted to hospital six weeks ago, but was allowed to return to his home a week before his death.

Mr. MERRILL was a well-known figure in Island courts and in the council chambers of the County Council and Ryde Town Council.

Crighton MERRILL came to the Island as a child from High Barnett. He was educated at Ryde School after which he obtained his degree at the London Law School. He was articled with ROACH PITTIS of Newport, with the late Mr. H. R. PALMER before establishing his own practice in High-street, Ryde. later he moved to St. Thomas's-street, Ryde.

He joined the I.W. Law Society in 1935 and in 1958-1959 was elected president. Mr. MERRILL was a member of the Binstead Methodist Church. Most of his spare time was devoted to his local government work.

He was first elected to the Ryde Town Council as a representative of the Ashey and Binstead Ward in 1938. He continued to serve until 1942, when he joined the Royal Army Pay Corps. At the end of the war Mr. MERRILL returned to his practice, but it was not until 1955 that he resumed council work. He was then elected to the County Council as the Binstead Ward representative. He resigned in 1961 and the same year he was elected to Ryde Town Council.

COURT TRIBUTES

"On Wednesday at the resumed sitting of the county magistrates at Ryde Town Hall, Sir Charles BARING, Bt. D.L., (chairman) said "For many years Mr. MERRILL practised in these courts -- in fact for more than 30 years. Speaking on behalf of the Island county magistrates we remember him for the high integrity he always displayed. He was zealous in promoting his client's case but he always maintained the high standard of professional duty."

Mr. P. H. ROLF, speaking on behalf of the legal profession, said "His death has been a grievous blow to us all. We have known him as an advocate of considerable merit and distinction. He was respected by one and all and he conducted himself in a way which added distinction to our profession. He was assisted by an innate sense of humour and many people in all walks of life will be the poorer for his passing."

Mr. J. C. M. ELDRIDGE associated himself with Mr. ROLF's remarks, and further tributes were paid by Inspector F. L. ALLAN on behalf of the police, and Mr. H. M. IRELAND (magistrates' clerk).

Tributes to Mr. MERRILL were also made when the Ryde Borough Magistrates sat at the Town Hall on Thursday. Ald. S. R. BIRD (chairman and a council colleague) said "Mr. MERRILL has appeared in this court on many occasions and we all have admired his advocacy, great consideration, conscientiousness and his courtesy. The legal profession in this borough has lost a worthy representative."

Ald. BIRD's remarks were endorsed by Mr. H. H. JOHNSON, who said that Mr. MERRILL's death was not only an enormous loss to his clients and to his profession, but to the many aspects of public life with which he had been associated.

Mr. MERRILL's family -- he leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters -- asked that yesterday's service at the Binstead Methodist Church should be held privately. Cremation followed at Whippingham.

CREMATION: 7th June 1963 at The Crematorium, Whippingham, IW.

Crighton MERRILL aged 51

entry no: 911

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