

MARRIAGE: 1862 at Independent Chapel, George-street, Ryde  
**Alfred John PURNELL & Emily Blandford BENHAM**

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1871 CENSUS: RG10/1165. Folio 77. Page 34.  
Address: High-street, Ryde, IW.

**John Alfred PURNELL. Head. Mar. 32. Upholsterer. Ryde.**  
Emily Blandford PURNELL. Wife. Mar. 30. Brighton, Sussex.  
Alfred George PURNELL. Son. 7. Scholar. Ryde.  
James Benham PURNELL. Son. 5. Scholar. Ryde.  
Emily Blandford PURNELL. Dau. 2. Ryde.  
Mary SNOW. Serv. Unm. 15. Domestic Servant. Ryde.

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1878 WHITE'S DIRECTORY of Hampshire & Isle of Wight – page 481  
**PURNELL John Alfred**, auctioneer, upholsterer and undertaker, 7 High-street, Ryde & Sandown.

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1881 CENSUS: RG11/1178. Folio 75. Page 40.  
Address: High-street, Ryde, IW.

**John A. PURNELL. Head. Mar. 42. Auctioneer & Upholsterer, Ryde, IW.**  
Emily B. PURNELL. Wife. Mar. 40. Brighton, Sussex.  
Alfred G. PURNELL. Son. Unm. 19. Father's Asst. Ryde, IW.  
Jas. B. PURNELL. Son. Unm. 17. Father's Asst. Ryde, IW.  
Emily B. PURNELL. Dau. 12. Scholar. Ryde, IW.  
Ninette PURNELL. Dau. 9. Scholar. Ryde, IW.  
Fredk W. PURNELL. Son. 7. Scholar. Ryde, IW.  
Chas E. PURNELL. Son. 5. Scholar. Ryde, IW.  
Clyde H. PURNELL. Son. 3. Infant. Ryde, IW.  
Mary L. PURNELL. Dau. 1. Infant. Ryde, IW.  
Clement A. PURNELL. Son. 2wks. Infant. Ryde, IW.  
Mary WOODLEY. Nurse. Wid. 55. Nurse (Sms). Chudleach, Devon.  
Sarah HARDING. Serv. Unm. 19. Genl Serv. Shorwell, IW.  
Ellen DUNFORD. Serv. Unm. 15. Nurse (Dom). Ryde, IW.

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ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Sat 11th October 1884

Death Notice:-

**PURNELL..** On the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., at Beulah Spa, Upper Norwood, of heart disease, Mr. John Alfred PURNELL, aged 46 years.

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ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Sat 11th October 1884

**DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN TOWNSMAN.**---We deeply regret to record the somewhat sudden death of Mr. John Alfred PURNELL, who has for so many years carried on the business of an upholsterer and auctioneer, in the High-street. Mr. PURNELL's health had been visibly failing for some time, and occasioned his friends much anxiety. About a week ago he went to Beulah Spah, Upper Norwood, with Mrs. PURNELL, for a change of air and scene, as well as for medical treatment. He seemed to improve somewhat, and it was hoped that he would return home quite recovered. He attended the Congregational Church at Norwood on Sunday morning, and, while there, was suddenly seized with some sort of spasm, which caused him intense pain. He was immediately removed, medical assistance called in, and everything done for him, and after some time he became easier. The doctor who was in attendance expressed the belief that he would recover, but Mr. PURNELL himself entertained no such

hope, and said he knew he was dying. He resigned himself, with Christian resignation, to his fate, and gave instructions to his wife in regard to his affairs. He died calmly and peacefully early the following morning.

As a townsman Mr. PURNELL will be greatly missed. He always took an active interest in public matters, and for several years was a valuable member of the Town Council. Ill health compelled him to resign that position, but he did not cease to take an interest in public affairs. He was one of the principal originators of the Esplanade regatta, and the Esplanade bicycle races he also helped to organise and carry out. This year he was elected one of the secretaries of the Ryde Royal Regatta committee, and as usual worked most energetically.

Mr. PURNELL leaves a widow and a very large family to mourn their irreparable loss, and we need hardly say that the deepest sympathy is everywhere expressed for them in their bereavement. Mr. PURNELL's remains were brought to Ryde on Tuesday, and will be interred in the Cemetery today (Saturday) at 11 o'clock.

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Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle Saturday 11 October 1884, Issue 5391

Sudden death of Mr. J. A. PURNELL – Much regret was expressed in Ryde on Monday when it became known that Mr. PURNELL, jun., had received a telegram from London informing him of the sudden death of his father. It seems that Mr. and Mrs. PURNELL went to one of the London churches on Sunday, and while there he was attacked with heart disease, and shortly after expired. Mr. PURNELL was one of the best-known men in Ryde, and was highly respected. Great sympathy is generally expressed for the bereaved family. It is intended to bring the remains home for interment.

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Researched & typed by  
Ann Barrett  
Carol Strong