

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 6th June 1959

The Late Mr. J. F. SIMMONS. – The death occurred on Sunday of **Mr. James Frederick SIMMONS**, aged 86, of 12 Pellhurst Road, who was well known as a talented string musician. He was a member of the Ryde Philharmonic Orchestra and in the days when the Theatre Royal provided live entertainment played in the theatre orchestra. Mr. SIMMONS enlisted as a boy of 14 in 1887 with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and served with the regiment until 1908, when he had reached the rank of colour-sergeant. Upon coming to the Island he joined the staff of the former Island Electric Light Co. as a clerk in 1914 and remained with them until his retirement in March 1946. During the last war he broke a leg when he slipped on snow and ice and this restricted his walking, which until then was a favourite pursuit. His wife died last July when they lived at 56 Pellhurst Road, and there is no family.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, when a service at Ryde Cemetery chapel was conducted by the Vicar of Holy Trinity (the Rev. H. E. GIBSON). The mourners included representatives of the Southern Electricity Authority and the Philharmonic Society.

Messrs. H. V. TAYLOR and Son made the arrangements.

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