

Mr Percy R. H. Waters

Rushworth Chronicle

9 November, 1934

Death has removed from our midst a resident who was widely known and esteemed and one of the most familiar personages in the town, in the person of Mr. Percy R. H. Waters passed away on Monday last in the Mooroopna Hospital, at the age of 76 years.

He had not been in his usual health during the past few months, but was able to get about as usual. A few days ago, however, on the advice of his doctor, he went as an inpatient to the Mooroopna Hospital. He, however, grew gradually worse and passed peacefully away.

The late Mr. Waters was born in Great Baddow, Essex, England. He left England in the latter part of 1887 and went to Port Fairy where he resided for a while. He then went to Healesville and subsequently came to reside in Rushworth in 1888.

He was employed at Hillers (now D. Wilson and Co.'s store for a while. He then entered the service of the State Rivers and Water Commission and was a channel guard for many years.

Mr. Waters paid two visits to England and was there in 1914, when the war broke out. For some years he lived in a home he purchased at the south end of the town where his hospitality was often dispensed to his many friends and callers.

He was a prominent member of the Jubilee Masonic Lodge, Rushworth, which he joined on November 1st, 1896. He was W. M. of this Lodge in 1900, secretary for nine years, and treasurer for two years, which position he held at the time of his death. He was a Past Grand Lodge Officer and P. M. of Waranga Mark Masonic Lodge, Murchison.

He took part in nearly every social movement in the town to which he gave great assistance. He was a good churchman having been Secretary to the Vestry and member of the Vestry in connection with St. Paul's Church of England, Rushworth, and acted as Verger for many years.

His cheery face and happy disposition will be much missed in the town and the deepest regret has been expressed by all at the passing of a good townsman and familiar friend.

The remains were brought from Mooroopna and conveyed to St. Paul's Church where a funeral service was held, the choir rendering the psalm for the Burial of the Dead, and the Rector, Rev. W. A. Williams delivered a eulogy on the good work done by the deceased for the church.

The remains were then conveyed to the Rushworth Cemetery the funeral cortege being headed by members of the Jubilee Masonic Lodge. The burial service of the Church of England was conducted by Rev W. A. Williams, and the Masonic service was read by Wor. Bro. P. H. Peart. The coffin was borne to the grave by Bros. J. Binks, G. G. Brown, A. W. Furphy and Alf McLeod. Bros. J. Binks, G. G. Brown, A. W. Furphy and Alf McLeod. There were many floral tributes.

A wreath ordered by the deceased's niece, Mrs Dorothy Overall, by cable from England, arrived too late Rushworth to be placed on the coffin before interment. It has since been placed on the grave by the Secretary of the Jubilee Lodge (Mr. P. H. Peart).