

Transcript of Obituary of Edward Joseph Haskins (died November 1952)

Never Left School – Former Bishopstoke Teacher's Death

Connected with Bishopstoke School as pupil and teacher for almost sixty years, up to the time of his premature retirement owing to a breakdown in health in 1937, the death has taken place at the age of 77 of Mr Edward Joseph Haskins of Guest Road, Bishopstoke.

Mr Haskins was affectionately known to successive generations of Bishopstoke people as "Teddy", was one of the best-known residents of the village, and had been connected with a wide range of local activities.

He died last Thursday and a crowded congregation at the funeral service at St Mary's Parish Church on Monday afternoon included many past pupils of the school, as well as other former pupils who were themselves school friends of Mr Haskins.

Although he had been in poor health for some time, Mr Haskins had recovered from a recent illness and his passing was unexpected.

He was a native of Bishopstoke, and all his teaching service was performed at the school at which he had himself been a pupil.

He was trained at Hartley College, Southampton, and was a teacher for about 48 years.

He did much to encourage school sport, and was in charge of the Bishopstoke school football team which, under his guidance, went through a period of several years without being beaten.

The championships of the Eastleigh Schools' League and the six-a-side tournaments were won by Bishopstoke for a number of years in succession.

Mr Haskins never actually "left" Bishopstoke School, for he was indentured as a pupil teacher while in his early teens. The agreement which he still had in his possession, appointed him as a pupil teacher at a salary of £10 a year, with annual increments of £2.10s a year at the discretion of the School Managers.

He was a keen cricketer as a young man, and was a prominent member of the Bishopstoke Cricket Club. In his possession were score books of the club which went back to 1860.

Mr Haskins was for many years keenly interested in the work for Bishopstoke Men's Institute, in which he had held a variety of offices including the secretaryship.

He was also an official of the Bishopstoke Parochial Charities for many years, resigning the hon. Secretaryship only about a year ago.

A keen church-worker for a lengthy period until ill-health compelled him to curtail his public activities, Mr Haskins had been a member of the choir, was secretary of the Parochial Church Council for a lengthy period, and had held several of the offices in the church. He also read the lessons.

He always took leading parts in the comic operas which were written and produced at the then Parish Hall by a former Rector of Bishopstoke, the Rev. S N Sedgwick. There were in fact few activities in Bishopstoke in which Mr Haskins was not connected.

He was also one of the oldest members of the Hampshire Friendly Society which he joined in 1890.

Mr Haskins leaves two daughters, Miss Norah Haskins and Mrs D M Bennett and three grand-sons.

Funeral Service:

The funeral service on Monday was conducted by the Rector (the Rev RJ Allen) who paid a striking tribute to his life and work in Bishopstoke, and to his varied activities for the school, the church and the village. The service was choral and the cortege was met at the church door by the cross-bearer and choir. The hymns were The Lord is my Shepherd and Thine for Ever, and Mr AJ Hill was at the organ. The Nunc Dimittis was chanted.

Family mourners were Miss Norah Haskins (daughter); Mr and Mrs L W Bennett (daughter and son-in-law); John, Edward and James Bennett (grandsons) Mr H Taylor (brother-in-law) Mrs Complin and Mrs Kemp (nieces) Mr T Garlinge (representing Mrs Garlinge niece) Mr J Bugg and Mr H Delia (nephews).

Those in the congregation also included representatives of Bishopstoke Men's Institute, Bishopstoke Parochial Charities, Church organisations and other bodies.

Floral tributes included those from: Noan, Dorrie, Len and the boys; Carrie and Elsie; Vernon; Marjorie and Tom; Phyll, Pam and Jill, Nell (Kent); Herb and Gertie; Katie; Herbie and family; Dorothy; Tommy and Jenny; Mr John Trill and family; Miss B Brockhurst; H and E Ivill; Jack and Joan Meston (Singapore); Mrs McGregor and Ron, Mr and Mrs F Cherrett and Mr and Mrs S dunning; Mr and Mrs S Cook, Winnie and Wilf Roberts and Julia; the Bennett family; Mr and Mrs AJ Cox and family; Lionel and Kath Cawte and Margaret; Mr and Mrs Fox; Mr and Mrs Rowe; all at 11 Guest Road; members of Bishopstoke Men's Institute; and the chairman and trustees of the Bishopstoke Parochial Charities.

The internment was at Bishopstoke Churchyard. Mr W Bush carried out the funeral arrangements.