

DEATH of Mr. H. E. E. JESTON

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WORKED FOR BIRCHINGTON

For many years Chairman of the old Parish Council and an active worker in village organisations, Mr Henry E. Eyre Jeston of Grenham House School Birchington died on Tuesday 17th February at the age of 77.

Mr Jeston was chairman of the Parish Council at the time the village was incorporated in the borough of Margate and was one of those who fought against the change.

He came to the village in 1904 and entered into partnership with the late Mr B. Ransome in running The Bay School. After this school was closed** he became Joint headmaster of Grenham House School, which opened in 1911.

Mr Jeston was made a Justice of the Peace 20 years ago and was still on the supplementary List.

He was President of Birchington United Services Club for 21 years [beginning at its inception in 1924], President of the Cricket Club since 1929, [the club used Grenham House cricket pitch for all their home matches], and President of the Cheerful Sparrows, which was disbanded recently. [This group raised money for Margate Hospital.] At one time he was vice-chairman of the Parochial Church Council.

Mr Jeston was also a keen worker for the Scouts, the British Legion and the Conservative Association. He leaves a widow and one son.

Cremation takes place at Charing [our nearest crematorium at this date] on Monday, after a service at All Saints Church at 1.30pm.

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** The Bay School, which was housed in two properties in the long terrace in Minnis Road, only closed because the two men had funded the building of their new school, which they named Grenham House, after the bay just to the north of them. The site they chose was on the north side of the railway station, next door to the Bungalow Hotel, now the site of Homebirch and Hunting Gate.

At the time, the road was only made up as far as the corner of Semaphore Road, as the insistence of Mr Butterworth, Surveyor for Margate Borough and in charge of making up all Birchington's roads eventually. The School was originally listed under Lyell Road and when the road was extended to the beginning of Green Road it was named Grenham Road in honour of the school.