

MR REES LEYSHON - recollected by his daughter

We came to Wheatley in 1891. My father was then twenty-nine. In addition to being schoolmaster, he was also the organist (self-taught) and choirmaster; he had evening classes for young men who had left school. He used to do some land-measuring for the farmers, and he kept and looked after bees. He was an expert carpenter and had much artistic ability. He took a great interest in his pupils as individuals, and he inspired much affection.

Mrs Life (a former pupil) wrote, 'I remember Mrs Leyshon turning out the most wonderful needlework from her pupils. She once carried off 70 prizes from about the same number of entries. Mr Leyshon managed to teach arithmetic to a whole class of very medium scholars. I tried for forty years to follow his example - never did I achieve it. I know that when I went to the Grammar School I was placed in Form III - but could assist Form VI girls with homework.

DEATH OF MR REES LEYSHON, JP (September 1926)

The death occurred on Tuesday week at Bryn, Wheatley, of Mr Rees Leyshon, who was for thirty-four years headmaster of Wheatley School. Mr Leyshon retired from his post in December last, owing to illness. He had always taken an active part in the life of the village, having been organist of the Parish Church until last year, and Vice-chairman of the Parochial Church Council, and Churchwarden. He was for eight years Chairman of the Urban District Council, and consequently a magistrate on the Bullingdon Bench, also district Commissioner for Boy Scouts and hon. Secretary of the Conservative Association, treasurer of the Wheatley Habitation of the Primrose League, and secretary' of the Wheatley Hospital Aid Committee. Letters from his old pupils and from his associates in the various activities in which he had been engaged have shown how much love and respect he had won on all sides and how great his loss will be felt.