

GRAVE OF THE MONTH

Henry Flint J.P. (1808-1879)

Henry Flint was a successful coal merchant in the town. He was a member of the Town Council and was elected Mayor in 1859. He subsequently held the office of Alderman and only resigned due to advancing age and declining health.

Mr Flint was also a borough magistrate and continued to sit on the Bench to within a few weeks of his death.



Henry was a Liberal and a Baptist who was held in equal high regard by those who agreed with his beliefs, and those who didn't. In his early days he would take his father's horse and 'gig' into neighbouring villages to preach. He was respected for his sense of justice, equity and patience; a kind man who used his strong political and religious principles to make life better for others.

Philanthropy was important to Henry. He was a Trustee of the Municipal Charities, also of Coxedd's and Pearce's Charities, for many years treasurer of the Boys' British School, trustee of the Building Society from its commencement, and vice-president of the Literary Institution.

Although his funeral was held on a bitterly cold day there was not enough room in the chapel for all the mourners. Henry was remembered as a "gentle and intelligent man" whose life was "marked by a high and pure morality".*

More information is available on our website: www.fncnewbury.org.uk
and in the Newbury Weekly News archive (30/01/1879)*