

6 John Macgregor: Works Manager at the Naval Construction Engineering Works

John Macgregor does seem to have attracted genuine respect.



Left

AS
A MARK OF ESTEEM
FROM THE WORKING STAFF TO
JOHN MACGREGOR
WORKS MANAGER
ENGINEERING DEPT^{MNT}
V. S. & M. LTD
DIED 21ST SEPT. 1898



31 January 2013



Recorded on the grave:
Erected by Catherine Ness Maxwell
Macgregor, in memory of her dear
husband
John Macgregor
Died Sept 21st 1898
and of their darling daughter
Marjorie Helen Kirkland
who passed suddenly
Nov 17th 1898 aged 24

Poem on the first tier:
As sings the Lark and singing, soars
Thus Marjorie!
O! Silver voice! O heart of gold!
How fares it now with thee –
Free mong the free

*Mrs Macgregor is also recorded on
the grave as 'only child of Robert
Maxwell, of Maxwellton Place,
Glasgow, (the last Maxwell of
Maxwellton Place)*

The *Barrow Herald* Saturday September 24th 1898 reported:

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR JOHN MACGREGOR

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Macgregor, works manager in the engineering department of the Naval Construction Works, Barrow, which occurred at his residence, Michaelson Villas, Barrow Island, at about three o'clock on Wednesday morning. Mr. Macgregor had been in somewhat weak health for sometime past, and had only recently returned from a holiday in search of health. On Tuesday last he was engaged as usual in directing matters in the engine works until between ten and eleven o'clock, when he went home. He complained of feeling unwell later in the evening, and suddenly expired at three o'clock on Wednesday morning. Mr. Macgregor leaves a widow and two daughters and a son, and for them expressions of sympathy have been extended from all directions.

Mr. Macgregor, who came to Barrow with Mr. Bryce Douglas in 1888, was a very highly-esteemed official of the company, and Mr. Adamson, the managing-director of the works, has lost a valuable lieutenant in the death of Mr. Macgregor. He was thought much of by those under him, and when news of his death reached the yard there was a general expression of great regret. The flag of the works was run up half mast.

The funeral takes place this afternoon, leaving the house at 2.15 prompt.

The *Herald* Tuesday September 27th 1898 gave a detailed account of the funeral mourners and floral tributes, including the information that "The hearse containing the coffin (which was covered in beautiful wreaths) was drawn by four black horses, and was followed by a number of mourning and private carriages, and a very large number of mourners walked. Michaelson-road was lined with sympathetic bystanders."

Apart from those from individuals/couples, floral tributes included those from "Messrs. Vickers, Sons, and Maxim, Ltd., ... the Shipyard officials, the Shipyard foremen, the Shipyard blacksmiths and hammermen, the boilermakers, the engineers (a marble memento), &c. The Shipyard Temperance Band desired to play the 'Dead March' in procession to the cemetery, but the wishes of the family for a quiet funeral were respected.

We believe the foremen at the Shipyard purpose (*sic*) erecting a monument over the grave to deceased's memory."