

Southern Argus (Port Elliot, SA : 1866 - 1954), Thursday 11 August 1910, page 3

THE LATE MR. R. CARRUTHERS.

After a somewhat lingering illness from which it had been hoped he would recover, Mr. Richard Carruthers, one of the Strathalbyn district's best known residents, passed away peacefully on Thursday night last, at the ripe old age of 83 years, fifty-eight of which had been spent in the neighbourhood. Mr. Carruthers, with his wife came to South Australia in 1852, and after spending about six months at Mt» Barker, he took up land at Angas Plains and started on his own account, gradually extending his holdings, success attending his labours from the first. In 1870 he retired from business, let his farms and came to reside at Strathalbyn, purchasing a couple of sections here ('Hill Foot' and 'Brigend') and the newly built house in which he spent the remainder of his life. He was shortly after this elected as a member of the local District Council, and later on served for several years as a town councillor, and for two terms was Mayor of Strathalbyn. He took a keen interest in municipal matters, and also in mining matters, his ventures on the stock exchange as a rule turning out satisfactory for him. Mrs. Carruthers, who died just two years ago, was a sister of the late Mr. George Davidson, of Angas Plains, with whom Mr. Carruthers was a good deal associated in business in tile early days, another sister

marrying the late Mr. Thos. Graham, of Blackwood, Strathalbyn. He leaves no family, the only child born to them having died in infancy, Mr. Carruthers was of very genial nature, and up till very recently was remarkably hale and hearty, his activity equalling that of many men a score of years his junior. He was a staunch supporter of the football and cricket clubs, of the Presbyterian Church and the Agricultural Society, to which latter he recently made the generous gift of the new show grounds, a beautiful block of land twelve acres in extent. He looked forward very enthusiastically to formally opening the grounds in October next, and it was hoped by the Society that he might be spared to do so, as he would have been thus able to throw open for inspection grounds fitted up and arranged perhaps better than any other similar ones in the State. It was not to be, however, but though he has passed away his name will ever be honoured in the town's history, and his memory live long after him. He was laid to rest in the Strathalbyn cemetery, when a very large procession of traps — over sixty — followed the hearse to the grave, round which had previously gathered scores of people, who were anxious to show their respect to the dead townsman. The Strathalbyn footballers preceded the hearse to the cemetery gates, where the members of the Agricultural Society's Ground Committee took place next to the relatives. The Rev, G. C. Love, M.A., B.D. conducted the funeral service.