

MR. MORRIS EDWARDS



A DIRECTOR of York Flour Milling Co.

The Governor, Sir James Mitchell, Making a Presentation at Monday's Races. In the centre Mr. Morris Edwards, Chairman of the York Jockey Club



From the West Australian:

The Streets of York

Morris Edwards Drive

Hewitt Morris Edwards (1884-1958)

Known as H. Morris Edwards, the only son of Charles Edwards and Charlotte (Brown) Edwards. In 1896, at the age of only 12, he received a Certificate of Merit from the Royal Humane Society of Australasia. It was presented to him at the Oddfellows' Hall on Joaquina Street by the Governor Sir Gerard Smith who came to York by special train for the presentation ceremony. Young Hewitt had rescued a Miss Carson (a barmaid aged 25) from drowning in the York baths. Miss Carson had used a suspended rope to get to the middle of the river and a schoolboy had unfastened the end of the rope causing her to fall in. Hewitt dived in and pushed her to the bank with no help from the others present.

The Governor then offered to start a subscription list with £5 which could be put towards a silver watch and chain, suitably inscribed, for him to hand down to his children. This watch and chain was later presented to Hewitt Morris Edwards by the Mayor of York Mr K. Edwards.

Born in York, where his family had an established storekeeping business, Hewitt grew up at Hartleap and was educated at St. Peter's College in Adelaide; on the completion of his education Morris quickly extended the scope of the family businesses. He was known to have a big personality and a fine physique, following all forms of sport and racing. He became the director of 11 companies including the York Flour Milling Company, chosen by the Queen of the Netherlands to act as Consul for the Netherlands after the retirement of Sir Edward Wittenoom and was Chairman of the York Jockey Club for 31 years and a committee member of the W.A. Turf Club for 34 years.

He married Emily Morris in 1911 and they lived at Hillside in York though they travelled widely for business and pleasure.

In 1936 he lost his son in a shooting accident.

In the 1950s he was instrumental in producing a number of films showcasing York and its surrounds. One of these was filmed and shown at Hillside on the visit of the High Commissioner for New Zealand. The film was aimed to give visitors some idea of the countryside, crops and pastures of the York area. **Where is it now?**

He passed away in York 1958 and is buried at Karrakatta.