

Albert Leslie Blow

Isle of Wight County Press 23 November 1935

A NEWPORT CYCLIST'S DEATH.

NIGHT COLLISION WITH DOG OR CAT.

The third Island road fatality in a few days, that of Albert Leslie Blow, aged 21, living with his parents at 12 Worsley-road, Hunnyhill, who was thrown from his bicycle in collision with a cat or dog while riding along the Blackwater-road on Monday, was inquired into by the Acting-Deputy Coroner (Dr. H. Y. Mansfield) at the High-street Methodist School, Ryde, on Thursday. Mr. D. Wheeler was foreman of the jury and P.S. Butcher represented the police.

Albert Blow, the father of the deceased, a platelayer, said his son was a very keen cyclist and until recently was a member of the Vectis Roads Cycling Club. At 6.20 p.m. on Monday he left home to go for a ride on his bicycle. He was quite well and had never received medical attention. At about 7.30 his son returned home and sat down in a chair, saying he had had another spill near Brookside, Blackwater-road. Two or three weeks ago his son told him that while riding with someone else, they ran into a cat at Lushington-shute. Deceased told him that a white dog ran out and he pitched on his head. He rode a racing bicycle with dropped handle-bars. Witness asked if he felt all right and he said "Yes." He appeared more concerned about his bicycle than himself. His son's condition gave him no cause for alarm, and after that witness went out with his wife. They returned half an hour later. His wife bathed a graze on his son's head, which he said ached, and he drank some lemonade. At about 10 o'clock they retired to bed, but shortly afterwards his son called out to his mother and when they went to his bedroom they found that he was much worse. He complained of pains in the head and began vomiting. Dr. Raymond was sent for and before his arrival the deceased had become unconscious. Dr. Raymond advised his removal to the County Hospital and that was done in the ambulance. His son told him that there were two more riders with him, but he did not say who they were.

George Thomas Clay, a basket-maker, of 10 South-street, Newport, said deceased called at his house and said he had had a nasty spill at Shide Mill. He said he heard a dog bark and immediately it flew at him and the impact threw him over the handle-bars. They bathed two small cuts on his head and he walked to his home, nearly a mile away.

Frederick Webster Fidgeon, a bank cashier, of Brookside, Blackwater-road, Newport, said that about 7 p.m. on Monday he heard a knock at his back door and on going there he saw deceased. He said he had had a smash and had run over a cat. He asked him in and gave him a glass of water. Witness saw two superficial cuts on his head, which deceased said ached.

Some iodine was placed on the cuts and witness offered to drive him home, but as soon as they got out into the fresh air deceased said he felt very much better and at once went to get his bicycle. After spending some time adjusting a mudguard deceased went off seeming quite all right.

P.S. Turnbull, said he had failed to find any witnesses of the accident.

Dr. John R. McElroy, house surgeon at the County Hospital, said deceased died shortly after admission at 12.30 a. m. on Tuesday. He had made a post-mortem examination and found a fracture over the right ear about the size of a sixpence, and a large mass of blood over the brain from a ruptured artery which had caused compression of the brain. No doubt deceased was knocked out by the fall and after coming to walked home, and the internal bleeding was going on all the time. Death was due to compression of the brain following hemorrhage.

The Coroner said he thought it a straightforward case. Perhaps deceased got a bit muddled as to whether it was a dog or cat he ran into.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death and the foreman expressed sincere sympathy with the parents, an expression in which the Coroner joined. The jury handed their fees to the father.

Isle of Wight County Press 30 November 1935

Newport

CYCLING ACCIDENT VICTIM'S FUNERAL.---- The funeral of Mr. Albert Leslie Blow, of 12 Worsley-road, who died as the result of injuries received in a cycling accident at Shide Mill last week, took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Saturday. The Rev. D. Hendy Davies, B.A., officiated. The following fellow members of the Vectis Roads Cycling Club, Messrs. F. R. Pope (hon. racing secretary), S. Gradwell, H. A. Fennell, W. H. Warne, P. Stevens, and G. Glaire acted as bearers. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. A Blow (parents), Mr. and Mrs. G. Brading (uncle and aunt), Mrs. J. Brading, and Mrs. Leigh (aunts), Miss K. Leigh (cousin), Miss G. O'Rourke, and Mr. L. Clay. Messrs. R. E. Hannam (hon. secretary), I. J. Dexter, G. T. Clay, B. Gubbins, J. T. Matthews, J. F. Choat, and L. J. Ranger, represented the cycling club, and Mr. J. Simmonds, of Messrs. Larby's, where the deceased was employed, was also present. There were numerous floral tributes, including wreaths from the Vectis Roads C.C., and the staff of Messrs. Larby's. Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son carried out the arrangements.

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