

## William Joseph Connolly

### 1911 census - 37 Hearn Street, Newport

|                         |             |           |                              |                        |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>William Connolly</b> | <b>Head</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>Cellar Man In Brewery</b> | <b>Guernsey</b>        |
| Kate Connolly           | Wife        | 48        |                              | Newport, Isle of Wight |
| Hilda Connolly          | Daughter    | 15        | Dress Maker                  | Newport, Isle of Wight |
| Arthur Connolly         | Son         | 13        | Office Boy                   | Newport, Isle of Wight |
| Winifred Connolly       | Daughter    | 10        |                              | Newport, Isle of Wight |
| Ethel Connolly          | Daughter    | 7         |                              | Newport, Isle of Wight |
| Harold Connolly         | Son         | 5         |                              | Newport, Isle of Wight |
| James Wills             | Boarder     | 60        | Marine Store Labourer        | Newport, Isle of Wight |

### Isle of Wight County Press – 1 January 1916

#### NEWPORT

**SOLDIER AND MUSICIAN.** – Much regret is felt at the death, on Christmas-eve, of Mr. William J. Connolly, of Hearn-street, at the age of 58. Deceased had been laid up for some months with nerve paralysis, but the end came unexpectedly. The late Mr. Connolly, who was well known and much respected, especially in musical circles, served in the Royal Berkshire Regiment (the old 66<sup>th</sup>) for 12 years, and saw active service in the Afghan war during the late 'seventies. He was with the defending force at the siege of Kandahar when that place was relieved by the column under the late Field Marshall Lord Roberts after their magnificent historic march from Kabul. He was also at the battle of Maiwand. Mr. Connolly had the medal for that campaign. After leaving the Army he was employed at the Royal Brewery, and for 28 years – until his last illness – he faithfully served Messrs. Mew, Langton, and Co., Ltd. During that period he took a prominent part in the musical life of the town. He was a valued and talented member of the Battalion Band of the old Island Volunteers, and after the retirement of the late Mr. J. G. Jones was for some time Bandmaster of the Newport Volunteer Band; he was a member of the St. Paul's and Newport Town Band and of the Newport Amateur Orchestral Society, being a skilful player of the big bass viol, and was often a member of the orchestra engaged at local entertainments, dances, &c. Of sterling character, well read, thoughtful, and of more than ordinary intellectual capacity, his friendship was valued by very many, who admired his many excellent qualities. His patriotism was evidenced by his military service, and two of his sons are now serving, one as a sergeant in the I.W. Rifles and another as a member of the Island Co. of Royal Engineers, whilst a third has enrolled under Lord Derby's recruiting scheme. Much sympathy is felt for the widow and family in their heavy bereavement.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, the first part of of the service being at the Roman Catholic Church, of which he was a valued member, the Rev. Father A'Heerne officiating. The personal mourners were William, Bart, and Arthur (sons), Amy, Hilda, and Winifred (daughters), Mr. James Wills (brother-in-law), and Miss Dorothy Creal. There were also present Messrs. E. J. Airs and F. Burton (representing the Newport Amateur Orchestral Society), Capt. Frank King and Mr. S. J. Ibbotson (Newport Philharmonic Society), Messrs. H. J. Osborne, W. D. Peachey (bandmaster of the St. Paul's and Newport Town Band), E. J. H. Quarrier, L. Pesca, and F. Spanner (sec. of the Foresters, of which the deceased was a member). Mr. J. H. Jackson (conductor of the Newport Philharmonic Society) was unavoidably prevented from being present owing to absence from the Island. The Royal Brewery was represented by Messrs. R. Mytton, G. Gifford, W. Chiverton, B. Leigh, and A. and C. Cooke (the last two being home on leave from war service). Bro. G. Matthews,

chief ranger of the Foresters, was present and read the Foresters' service at the graveside, and Bros. P. Scott, C. Eldridge (trustees), W. Chiverton, and B. Prince acted as bearers.

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