William Alfred Gustar

Isle of Wight County Press – 31 January 1949

Death of a Newport Firm's Well Known Traveller.

MR. W. A. GUSTAR.

Regret will be felt among the Island farming community at the death on Friday week of Mr. William Alfred Gustar, of 8 Trafalgar Road, Newport, who, as a traveller for Messrs. J. W. Wooldridge, Ltd., was a familiar and welcome figure, affectionately known as "Farmer" Gustar. He began working with Messrs. Wooldridge as an errand boy at the age of 11, and later became a driver of their vehicles. In 1928 he was appointed traveller, and in that capacity increased his wide circle of friends. He loyally served the firm for 65 years. On completion of over 50 years' service in 1937, he was presented with a cheque by the directors. Mr. Gustar had been at work until three weeks before his death, which was due to a combination of asthma and acute bronchitis.

He was a member of the Newport Court of Foresters, and leaves two sons and two daughters, with whom much sympathy is felt.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, the service being held at St. John's Church. The Rev. E. A. B. Royds (vicar) officiated, and Miss D. Welby-Pryer, L.R.A.M. (organist), accompanied the hymn "Rock of Ages." The mourners were Messrs. C. and S. Gustar (sons), Mesdames N. Snow and E. Cooper (daughters), Mrs. K. Gustar (daughter-in-law), Messrs. A. Snow and T. Cooper (sons-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Gustar (brother and sister-in-law), Messrs. Paul and Peter Gustar, K. Snow, and B. Cooper (grandsons), and Mrs. K. Snow.

Messrs. J. W. Wooldridge, Ltd., were represented by Mr. W. C. A. Eyles, T.C., and Mrs. Eyles and Mrs. H. and Miss G. Eyles (directors), Mrs. D. B. Hunnybun, Miss C. Dillnutt, and Messrs. C. W. Launder, C. D. Hunnybun, F. Jolliffe, J. Dennis, J. Scott, W. R. Allen, C. C. Cook, H. E. Haley, A. Warren, W. Buckell, V. Hodges, D. Death, and H. H. Dallimore.

Others present included Mr. and Mrs. H. Hall, Mesdames T. Flux, T. Batchelor, A. Gustar, L. Draper, D. Stubbs, and M. Flux, the Misses M. Westmore (representing Mr. A. A. Westmore) and H. Flux, and Messrs. R. Snow, W. A. Toms, G. B. Richards, K. G. Butt, W. Barnes, D. H. Greenfield, A. Geary, G. Jackson, R. Cant, J. Radford, J. Young, F. W. Blake, E. Young, C. Stellar, J. Long, A. E. Attrill, S. V. King, E. B. Baker, J. H. Foss, H. J. Flux, W. Hendy, A. H. Taylor, A. Biles, and J. H. Sprake.

The interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery, and the many floral tributes included those from the directors of Messrs. J. W. Wooldridge, Ltd.; the staff; the neighbours of Trafalgar Road; and many farmers with whom Mr. Gustar had had dealings. Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son made the arrangements.

The family thank all relatives, friends, and neighbours for messages of sympathy and beautiful flowers sent; and also Mr. Eyles and Dr. Heathcote. Please accept this as the only acknowledgment.

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