

William Rooke

Isle of Wight County Press 13 November 1937

EAST COWES

Prison Officer's Death.- The death occurred on Sunday at the age of 44, of Mr. William Rooke, a warder at Parkhurst Prison, living at 4 Nicholson-street. The son of a prison officer who had been at Parkhurst, he enlisted in the army while his father was at Portland, and during the war served with the 219th Anti-Aircraft Battery. His battery was with the 1/5 Hants Howitzer Battery, R.F.A., who were under Lieut-Col. H. G. Thomson at the siege of Kut, and deceased, with many Island men, was taken prisoner by the Turks. He was at that time a trumpeter. He left the army as a sergeant, for the prison service nine years ago. At first he was stationed at Parkhurst and was transferred to Dartmoor 6 1/2 years ago, where he was present during the mutiny. His health had been failing latterly, and in August he came back to Parkhurst. Mr. Rooke was married at Carisbrooke in 1919, and besides the widow he leaves a son and a daughter in bereavement.

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PARKHURST

The Late Prison Officer Rooke.- The funeral of Prison Officer W. Rooke, whose obituary notice appears by error under East Cowes news on page 16, took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Thursday, when the Rev. Basil Williams (prison chaplain) officiated, and a bugler of the 2nd Battalion the Queen's Royal Regiment sounded the Last Post and Reveille. The mourners were the widow, Mr. J. and Miss W. Rooke (son and daughter), Mrs. Hayles (mother-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. A. Buckler (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), and Mr. R. Ivory. Col. S. W. Lushington (deputy governor at Parkhurst), Mr. A. Odell (steward), and Mr. E. Pack (clerical officer) attended, and Hospital Chief Officer Shaw and P.O. French had charge of a party of warders, who acted as bearers, and also the following Officers Forge, Reynolds, Sprake, Racket, Pomeroy, and Berry. Messrs. S. H. White and W. R. Fifield represented Camp Hill Borstal Institution, and the last named, with Mr. J. Parsons (Parkhurst), also represented the R.A.O.B.. Others attending were Capt. H. A. Drudge and Mr. W. Porter (1/5th Hants Howitzer Battery), the first named also represented Lieut.-Col. H. G. Thomson, and B.Q.M.S. Lewis (219th Anti-Aircraft Battery). The wreaths included those from the Governor and staff, Parkhurst Prison; the Governor and staff, Dartmoor Prison; the Beatrice Lodge, No. 718 R.A.O.B.; and the Dutchy Lodge, R.A.O.B., Princetown.

Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,
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