

William Toogood

Isle of Wight County Press 7 May 1966

NEWPORT

Greetings for Centenarian.- Mr. William Toogood, who celebrated his 100th birthday in St. Catherine's Ward of St. Mary's Hospital recently was overwhelmed by the number and variety of greetings. Friends expressing good wishes by way of telegram, letter or visit, included the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. A. T. Drudge), Alderman Mark Woodnutt, M.P. and Mr. Woodnutt, Canon W. M. B. Hogg, of Inverness, Scotland (former vicar of Newport), Mr. E. M. H. Joyce (chairman of the House Committee) and Mrs. Joyce and representatives of many organisations. Mr. Toogood's daughter, Mrs. May Hayton, thanked these people and the matron, doctors and ward staff for their skill, care and kindness - which made her father's centenary year possible and so enjoyable.

Isle of Wight County Press 1 October 1966

DEATH OF NEWPORT CENTENARIAN

One of the two male centenarians on the Island, Mr. William Toogood, aged 100, died at St. Mary's Hospital, Newport, on Monday.

Until November, 1964, when he was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, with a sudden illness, Mr. Toogood lived at 20 Clarence Road, Newport, with his daughter, Mrs. E. M. Hayton, who celebrated her 70th birthday on the same day that he became a centenarian - in April of this year.

Mr. Toogood, who spent all his life in the town, was born in Newport, and although he never went to school, taught himself to read and write. He was well known in the district as a "Jack of all trades," but spent most of his early life in the building business. He helped to burn the bricks used in the construction of Whitecroft Hospital and assisted with the building of the local waterworks and recreation ground. At first he worked for Mr. D. Bartlett, who had a building business in Pyle Street, but later started his own concern in Union Street, retiring in 1935.

In 1945 his Chapel Street home was badly damaged in an air raid and he moved to Clarence Road. His wife, whom he married at Carisbrooke Church in 1890, was a well-known member of the British Red Cross Society Voluntary Aid Detachment. She died in 1957, seven years after they celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary.

Until his illness, Mr. Toogood was extremely active, taking long walks around the town and busying himself with his favourite hobby, gardening. He was an active member of the Bonhomie Club of Southampton and the Newport Darby and Joan Club, being about the oldest member of both organisations.

His 87 years of smoking did not seem to harm him but he was a lifelong teetotaler. He had seven children, four daughters and two sons who presented him with 14 grandchildren. There were also 11 great-grandchildren and four great-great- grandchildren.

When Mr. Toogood celebrated his 100th birthday at St. Mary's Hospital a party was staged by the staff in his honour. The Mayor of Newport (Alderman A. T. Drudge) then read a letter of congratulations from the Queen.

Relatives were sorry to learn that the Rev. S. F. Cooper would be absent on holiday and unable to attend the funeral service at St. John's Church, Newport, yesterday. Mr. Cooper was a personal friend of Mr. Toogood, visiting him regularly at the hospital.

Isle of Wight County Press – 8 October 1966

NEWPORT

Centenarian's Funeral.- A service was held at St. John's Church on Friday week for Mr. William Toogood, aged 100, whose death was reported last week. The Rev. L. J. D. Wheatley officiated, and the mourners were Mesdames M. Hayton, E. Woodmore and I. Andrews (daughters), Messrs. A. and B. Toogood (son and grandson), Mr. W. Andrews (son-in-law), Mrs. E. Whittle (niece), Mrs. H. Warder and Mr. Butler, of St. Mary's Hospital. Also present were members of the R.A.O.B. and the Darby and Joan Club. Interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery. Messrs. O. C. Hamilton and Son made the arrangements.

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