

## **Ann Williams**

**Isle of Wight County Press – 14 January 1956**

### **NEWPORT**

**The Late Mrs. A. Williams.**--The funeral took place on Wednesday week at St. Andrew's Church of Mrs. Ann Williams, of 4 Albany Place, where she had been living with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. Williams. Mrs. Williams died at the age of 97 on December 31<sup>st</sup>, and leaves eight sons and six daughters. A native of Gosport, Mrs. Williams married at the age of 18 in 1877 and she and her husband, who was a prison officer, moved about the country as he was transferred to different prisons. They came to the Island 55 years ago, when Mr. Williams was transferred from Portland Prison to Parkhurst. They had 14 children, all of whom are living, eight of them on the Island. Mrs. Williams had over 140 descendants, 75 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren. Her father was a survivor of a famous wreck – the sinking of the troopship Birkenhead, off the Cape of Good Hope in 1852, with the loss of 454 lives. Mr. Williams died at the age of 78 in 1931, and, at the outbreak of the last world war, Mrs. Williams went to live with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. G. Milligan, at the Broadway, Totland. She stayed with them for 13 years, and when they moved to Ryde in May last year, she returned to her old home at Albany Place to live with her son and his wife. Up to the time of her death Mrs. Williams was very active, and, until two years ago, insisted on walking to the polling station to cast her vote. She had many hobbies, including crochet, and she enjoyed singing old music-hall songs, and could recite long passages from the Bible. Shortly before her death her sight began to fail. She was a regular worshipper at St. John's Church. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. J. Souttar, and the mourners were Messrs. William and Alfred Williams (sons), Mr. and Mrs. A. Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Williams (sons and daughters-in-law), Mrs. N. Noble and Mrs. D. Milligan (daughters), Mr. and Mrs. M. Brown and Mr. and Mrs. B. Jolliffe (sons-in-law and daughters), Mrs. J. Gould (grandchild, who represented Mrs. F. Gould, daughter), and Mrs. H. Jolliffe. The interment took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery.

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