

Edmund Cogger

Isle of Wight County Press - 21 February 1914

**YESTERDAY
MISSING NEWPORT MAN.**

REWARD OFFERED FOR INFORMATION.

Up till last evening no news had been received of the whereabouts of Mr. Edmund Cogger, aged 63 years, who has been missing from his home at Caesars-road, Newport, since 10.30 a.m. on Thursday February 12. His wife has offered a reward of £5 for information as to his whereabouts, which it is asked should be given to a police officer by anyone in a position to do so, without delay. The police have issued a notice bearing a portrait of the 'missing man' and the following description: "Height 5ft. 4ins., stout build, dark hair turning grey, rather thin on top, grey moustache, and side whiskers clipped short. Dressed when last seen in blue serge jacket and waistcoat, black cloth trousers, black overcoat, white collar, red and blue tie, black silk neckerchief, with red stripe, black laced boots, and yachting cap." He has been in a low state of health for some time and it is feared some ill has befallen him.

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**LATE ITEMS
MISSING NEWPORT MAN.**

Yesterday (Friday) the Island Police received information from Chichester that a much decomposed body of a man, and unrecognisable, which had apparently been in the water five or six weeks, had been found washed up at West Wittering, near that city. The description of the clothing received appears to be identical with that worn by the late Mr. Edmund Cogger, of Caesars-road, Newport, who has been missing since February 12, when he was in bad health and suffering from depression. The description of the clothing on the body has been furnished to the widow and other relatives, who propose to visit the mainland to-day for the purpose of inspecting it with a view to identification.

Isle of Wight County Press - 28 March 1914

WASHED UP ON THE SUSSEX COAST.

OPEN VERDICT.- FUNERAL AT NEWPORT.

As forecasted in our last issue, the body which was found washed up on the Sussex coast at West Wittering, some miles from Chichester, has been identified as that of Edmund Cogger, who mysteriously disappeared from his home at Newport on the morning of February 12th, and of whose movements afterwards very little definite information has

been obtained beyond the statement that he was seen to enter the Newport Railway-station on that day, and it is suggested took the Sandown train. In more than one previous case the body of a person lost from the east coast of the Island has been picked up on the Sussex coast.

The inquest was held on Saturday afternoon by the Coroner for Chichester (J. W. Loader Cooper, Esq.).

RUTH COGGER, widow of the deceased, of 28 Caesars-road, Newport, identified the body as that of her husband, saying she knew it by the clothing. She stated that she last saw her husband alive at 10.15 a.m. on February 12th, when on gong upstairs about her work, she left him in the kitchen. When she returned a few minutes later he had gone out, a fact to which she attached no importance till she found he did not return to dinner. Later she became alarmed, as her husband had been in bad health, and in the evening she informed the police. On the 13th February she was told that her husband had been seen going into Newport Railway-station at 10.30 a.m. on the 12th, and she heard nothing more of him till last Friday evening, when she was told that a body had been washed ashore at Wittering. She said the deceased was 63 years of age, and a cabinet-maker and upholsterer. He had been ill for about three months previous to his disappearance, and had been attended by a doctor on the day before he disappeared. He had suffered from gastritis and deafness, and had been very sleepless. His illness had much depressed him, but she had never heard him threaten his life, nor had she thought he would attempt it.

Evidence of identification (by the clothing) was also given by JOHN SPENCER DUFFETT, an engine driver, of Melbourne-street, Newport, a nephew of the deceased.

The finding of the body at 6 a.m. on Friday, in the sand about a mile and a half west of Rackham Manor, was described by THOMAS GEORGE GOODMAN, a coastguard, and

P.C. M. HAMPSHIRE, who assisted in removing it to the Old House at Home, said he found 12s. 8d. in deceased's pockets.

The CORONER having pointed out that there was nothing to show how the deceased came by his death,

The jury returned an open verdict of "Found dead."

The funeral took place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Thursday, the Rev. Arthur Jones (Congregational) officiating. The personal mourners were Mrs. Cogger (widow), Mrs. Dyer and Mrs. Woodford (sisters), Mr. H. Cogger, Mr. J. Duffey, and Mr. C. Dyer (nephews), Mrs. Matthew Saunders, Mrs. C. Burt, and Mrs. Matthews (nieces), Mr. W. Cogger and Mr. H. W. Dore (cousins), Mrs. Haytor, Mrs. Jupp, Mrs. Colenutt and Mrs. Gill (sisters-in-law), Mr. White (an old friend), and Mr. G. H. Brown (executor). The deceased was one of the oldest members of Court Island Foresters and also of the local Shepherds and had taken very great interest in the latter Society, of which he was a trustee. There were a good number of members present, amongst them being Bros. E. J. Mills, C.R. (who read the service of the Order), G. Jones, P.C.R., B. Prince, and C. Eldridge, P.C.R. (D.S. of the Shepherds). The three last acted as bearers with Messrs. H. Appel, W. Clark, and W. Matthews. Mr. J. R. Wise (secretary), Mr. C. Smith (registrar), and several other members

represented the P.S.A. Society. The deceased had been a member for some 19 years, and had only missed four attendances. Mr. F. Spanner was the undertaker.

At Sunday's service of the P.S.A. Society at the Congregational Church a resolution of sympathy and condolence was passed with the widow of deceased.

Mrs. Cogger desires to return heartfelt thanks for the many kind inquiries, letters, and expressions of sympathy with her in her bereavement, and to gratefully acknowledge the services of the police, the Boy Scouts, and others in searching for her late dear husband.

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