

Frederick William Dudley

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DEATH OF MR. F.W. DUDLEY At Newport

A well known and much-esteemed resident, a member of an old Newport family, passed away on Saturday in the person of Mr. Frederick William Dudley, of Woodleigh, Castle-road, who was within a few days of his 65th birthday. Mr. Dudley was a son of Mr. W.C. Dudley, who was the proprietor of a watchmaker's business at 46 High-street. He carried this on for some time after his father's death, and later privately followed his trade as a watch and clockmaker. For some seven years he found a congenial change of occupation as chief engineer's writer on the Union Castle liners, and while on one of his trips to South Africa some eight years ago he first suffered from an internal trouble which had since recurred at times and eventually caused his death after only a few days' serious illness. Since leaving the Union Castle Line he had resumed his work as a watch and clock repairer and was well known in many parts of the Island as responsible for the winding and maintenance of clocks at churches and public institutions. An exceptionally clever mechanic, he had specialised in model-making. His productions shown at the I.W. Model Engineering Society's exhibitions were always much admired. One of his outstanding works was a model of a South Coast pleasure steamer, "Lady Ethel," which gained him many prizes and was shown at several mainland exhibitions. It was a perfect working model, correct to the smallest detail, and was a wonderful example of skill and patient work. He had also made numerous other models of engines and ships and was a diligent student of the history of engine construction. His mechanical bent also found expression in his fondness for motor-boating, a pleasure in which he was very active. The possessor of a good bass voice, he was one of the oldest members of the Philharmonic Society. During the last war he served in the Volunteer Training Corps and he held the police special constables' long service medal, having been a special since 1926. Mr. Dudley was one of the special constabulary selected for service with the Observer Corps in 1935 and had been a very keen member of the local crew of watchers ever since, doing duty regularly from the outbreak of the war until about a fortnight before his death. His kindness and geniality endeared him to everyone and much sympathy is felt with his widow, four sons, and daughter in their great loss.

The funeral was on Wednesday, a service being held at the Parish Church and the interment being at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The Acting Vicar (the Rev. C.L.H. Beardmore) and the Vicar of St John's (the Rev. W.H. Mackinnon) officiated, and Mr. E.A. English (organist) accompanied the singing of the hymns "Now the labourer's task is o'er" and "On the Resurrection morning." The chief mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. R. Dudley, and Mr. and Mrs. K. Dudley (sons and daughters-in-law), Mr. G. Dudley (son), Miss D. Dudley (daughter), Mr. C.C. Dudley (brother), Mr. and Mrs. F.E. Cheek (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. A.E. King, Mr. Bird Cheverton, and Mr. A.A. Lewis. All

his colleagues of the Observer Corps who were not on duty or unavoidably absent attended, namely, Head Observer W.G. Sibbick and Observers E.H. Abraham, R.H. Allen, P. Appel, A.W. Bishop, H.A. Brown, A.E. Buckett, C.H. Gifford, G.S. Green, F.E. Hunter, R.T. Lawn, R.A. Sibley, W.S. Warne, and F.J. Webb. Mr. A.G. Harrison (president) represented the Newport Philharmonic Society, Mr. G.R. Barrett the I.W. Model Engineering Society, and others attending were Mrs. C. Taylor, Ald. Mrs. E.R. Chandler, J.P., who also represented her husband, Mr. W.P. Chandler, Ald. J.H. Deacon, Mr. W.H. Dann, J.P., Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Bullock, ex-Police Supt. W. Ayres (Cowes), Mr. and Mrs. R.H. Pritchard, Miss D. Sibbick (representing Capt. H.A. Drudge and the I.W. Conservative and Unionist Association), Mr. F. Chiverton (leader of the St. Thomas's Bible Class), Miss Osborne (president of the Barton Women's Institute which Mr. Dudley had often assisted as teller at annual meetings), Nurse Cheverton, Mesdames C. Eldridge, E.H. Abraham, F.J. Webb, Rann, Baker, Arthur King, L. Jordan, F. Hitchman, Newcombe, and Fry, the Misses Newland, Mugford, Beggs, Read, Oram and Scovell, and Messrs R.W. George, H.H. Gould, W.M. Alderslade, P.H. Millidge, W.L. Bright, P. Wadham, S.W. Ibbotson, S.F. Holmes, E.A. Huck, and H. Miller.

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