

Frederick Arthur Jolliffe

Isle of Wight Times – 25 October 1906

Shocking Accident.

A shocking accident occurred at the Gunville brickyard, near Carisbrooke, on Thursday. A young man, named Fred. Jolliffe, accidentally came into contact with a shaft which was revolving, with the result that his clothes became entangled, and he was carried round and round until discovered in a semi-unconscious condition. Both ankles and one knee were dislocated, several ribs were broken, and he was badly lacerated. He was also suffering from severe shock. He was attended by Dr. Underhill, and removed in a critical condition to the County Hospital.

Portsmouth Evening News - 26 October 1906

WHIRLED TO DEATH.

ISLAND BRICKWORKS FATALITY.

LAD'S TERRIBLE INJURIES.

On Thursday afternoon the Acting Deputy Coroner for the Island (Mr J. Eldridge) held an inquest at Carisbrooke on the body of Fred. Arthur Jolliffe, 18, of Gunville, who was fatally injured whilst employed at the Gunville Brickworks of Messrs. Pritchett and Co. on the previous Thursday through his clothes becoming entangled in overheard shafting. – Captain Edwards, H.M. Inspector of Factories, was present, and Mr. A. T. Ivens represented the relatives.

Deceased's father, John Jolliffe, brick burner at the works, said shortly after his son went to work, at six o'clock, on the 18th inst., he met with the accident, and when asked how it happened, deceased said he went on the roof of an old shed to put a brick on a loose board which the wind had blown up when the shafting started running, and caught his jacket behind and whirled him round and round.

Thos. Wm. Woodford, 16, who handed the bricks up to deceased on the roof, said that immediately after deceased called out and he saw him going round on the shaft. He called out to Mr. Scott, who ran to the engine-house, and the engine was quickly stopped. Deceased's legs were beaten against the roof boards as he went round.

George Scott, brickmaker, said the deceased went on to the roof of a temporary shed to adjust the position of some planks which were placed in such a position for shelter from the weather that they had to be removed every time the door was opened. Deceased went on the

roof of his own free will without instructions. The deceased's boots were knocked off his feet, and one, which had the heel torn off, was thrown a considerable distance.

Other witnesses gave similar evidence, including the engine driver Stay, who said who said the engine was running and the shaft was revolving before the lad went on the roof, which was a short distance below the shaft. He did not give any signal before starting his engine, though he had gone round since and asked whether it was all right before starting.

Mr. F. J. Pritchett, managing director of the owners of the brickyard, said that the shafting was quite independent of the machinery, and as it was in a safe and suitable position some 7½ft. from the ground the instructions were to keep the shaft running for the whole working hours, and no signal of starting was necessary. It was no one's duty to go on the roof of the shed and thus come into contact with the shafting.

Dr. Smith, of the Royal County Hospital (where deceased died), and Dr. Underhill described the socking injuries, which included the smashing of both ankles and knee bones, and the very bad fracture of several ribs and internal injuries, as well as injuries to the head. Deceased was in a hopeless condition, and peritonitis supervened, with the result that he died on the 23rd inst.

Captain Edwards, H.M. Inspector of Factories, said that no blame attached to the owners of the brickworks, as the shafting was in a safe and suitable position, and no warning of the starting of the engine was necessary.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," and suggested that the temporary shed should be made a fixture, as far as the roof was concerned, or removed; and they expressed sympathy with the relatives.

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