

William Newman

Isle of Wight County Press

27 May 1944

NEWPORT

Death of South African War Veteran – The death occurred after a long illness at his residence, Spurlings, Castle-hill, Carisbrooke, on Monday, of Mr. William Newman, aged 67, who was very well known in the borough and surrounding district as a former postman. He had been a Territorial soldier, and standard bearer of the Island branch of the South African War Veterans' Association. His cheery good nature won him many friends. He leaves a widow (his second wife) and a daughter by his first marriage. Mr. Newman was a native of Fareham. He served for nine years in the Hampshire Regiment, seeing active service and being wounded in the South African war. Leaving the Army after the war he joined the Post Office outdoor staff at Newport and continued as a postman until his retirement eight years ago, being for a long time the postman in the Gatcombe, Chillerton, and Billingham district. He joined the I.W. (Princess Beatrice's) Rifles in 1908, rising to the rank of sergeant, and was a very keen and popular member of the battalion until 1918, when he was discharged as no longer physically fit, after he had been to Gallipoli with the battalion and had again been wounded. For a time following the last war he was a member of the British Legion, and since the formation of the Island branch of the South African War Veterans' Association he had taken a keen interest in it as standard bearer. On retirement from the Post Office he was awarded the King's Imperial Service Medal. The funeral was on Thursday in Carisbrooke Cemetery, the Rev. W. E. Perry officiating. Very appropriate was the fact that as the coffin was being lowered into the grave there was a salute of artillery fire from the Salute the Soldier display at the Recreation Ground. The chief mourners were the widow, Mrs. Bretell (daughter), and Mr. and Mrs E. Newman (brother and sister-in-law). The Newport Post Office staff was represented by Messrs. C. Guy, H. E. Croucher, and F. W. Small, Assistant Inspector W. Reynolds, and Postmen P. Hayles, S. I. Carter, and F. W. Cooper, the South African Veterans' Association by Major F. J. Smith (chairman), Mr. W. Ferguson (hon. secretary), and Mr. H. Godwin (hon. treasurer), the Old Contemptibles' Association by Lieut.-Col, Rev. J. H. Connor, D. S. O., the I.W. Rifles Comrades' Association by Messrs. A. C. Early (hon. secretary), H. G. Peachey, W. O. Minns, and A. W. Bishop, and the Services Recreation-rooms and canteen, at which Mr. Newman had been a valued worker, by Messrs. A. C. Early (hon. secretary), H. Morris and A. Wood. Others present were Messrs. W. W. Watson and E. Capelhorn (former colleagues at the Post Office), the Rev. W. H. Mackinnon, Mr. G. Norman, Mrs. R.T. Lawn (representing her husband, of the South African Veterans' Association), Mrs. F. Hitchman (representing her husband, Postman Hitchman), Mrs. Wells, and Mrs. Jacobs. The floral tributes included those from the head postmaster and staff; the South African Veterans' Association; the I.W. Rifles Comrades' Association; the services recreation-rooms and Canteen; and friends at Castle-hill. -The widow and daughter express their sincere appreciation of the messages of sympathy, the floral tributes, and the presence of representatives of the organisations in which Mr. Newman was interested.

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