

Alfred Thomas Smith

Isle of Wight County Press – 17 October 1959

TAILOR AND SPORTSMAN

DEATH OF MR. A. T. SMITH, OF NEWPORT

The death took place on Sunday of Mr. Alfred Thomas Smith, of 36 Whitepit Lane, Newport, aged 73, formerly well known in the town as a tailor. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs, A. Smith and followed his father and grandfather in the tailoring trade, serving an apprenticeship first with his father, and after his death, with Mr. E. A. Hawkins, who formerly had an establishment in lower High Street. In the First World War he served for four years with the Royal Engineers mainly in France. Returning to civilian life he set up on his own account as a tailor at premises in upper High street, but later closed this business to become master tailor at Whitecroft Hospital, a position he held for 18 years, retiring on pension because of ill-health some years ago. Later he was a part-time assistant in the Southern Vectis Omnibus Company's uniform store, but his health prevented him continuing this work after four years. Mr. Smith was well known for his interest in the Royal I.W. County Hospital between the wars, and was appointed a life governor in recognition of his work for that institution, then supported by voluntary contributions. He was a keen supporter and vice-president of the Newport and Carisbrooke branch of the British Legion and also held vice-presidencies of the Trades Cricket Club, the Time-Limit Cricket League, and Newport Carnival, in all of which he was greatly interested. A skilful billiards player, he was for many years a well-known member of the Conservative Club, and during his connection with the bus company was an associate member of the Southern Vectis Sports Club. His death followed a long illness.

The funeral took place on Wednesday with British Legion honours. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and at the graveside at Carisbrooke Cemetery the standard bearer of the Newport and Carisbrooke branch (Mr. A. Pound) dipped the colours in a last salute. The service at St. John's Church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. S. F. Cooper).

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