

Henry Barton Tharle

**Isle of Wight County Press
12 December 1931**

DEATH OF MR. H. B. THARLE, OF NEWPORT.

A Famous Island Marksman.

The death took place at his residence, Castle-road, Newport, on Tuesday, at the fine old age of 81, of Mr. Henry Barton Tharle, the grand old man of Island rifle shooting, whose reputation as a marksman under the shortened name of "Bart" extended far beyond the confines of the Wight. Mr. Tharle was the second of a notable trio of three generations of Tharles who have been Volunteers and outstandingly good marksmen. His father, Harry Tharle, was one of the earliest of Island Volunteers, he himself served in the Volunteers for 34 years, and his son is a well known rifleman as well as band-master of both the I.W. Rifles and Newport Town Bands. "Bart" was undoubtedly one of the best marksmen the Island has ever produced. In his early days he was a regular competitor at Bisley, being a contemporary of the late Col. W. T. Arnell, V.D., and on several occasions was numbered amongst the select in the Queen's Hundred. Year after year, with almost monotonous regularity, he was the champion shot of the Newport Companies of the I.W. Volunteers. He made three borough cups his own property, under the usual conditions of being won three times in succession or four times in all, and he was invariably amongst the leading scorers at the meeting of the Island and Hampshire Rifle Associations. On his retirement from the Volunteers 30 years ago he became one of the most enthusiastic devotees of miniature rifle shooting when that sport was being inaugurated. Since then he and his son George have been amongst the most consistent members of the Carisbrooke Rifle Club's League teams. He continued his visits to the range until his health failed some eight years ago, and to the last could be depended on to make a good score. Shooting, however, was not his only accomplishment. He was for 27 years the sergeant of the I.W. Volunteer battalion band, his instrument being the baritone, and those who took part in the old Newport and District Whist League will recall his skill at that game. He was a keen supporter of all outdoor sports, particularly of cricket and football. For some 50 years he had carried on a builder's and carpenter's business at Newport.

The funeral took place yesterday (Friday) at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The family mourners included his two sons George and Tom, Mr. W. Winship (son-in-law), and Mr. A. Tharle (nephew). Amongst others attending were three of his comrades in the I.W. Volunteer Band of 50 years ago (Messrs. W. H. Baker, G. Reynolds, and G. Gray), Mr. W. Blake, J.P., and Mr. Percy Wadham (representing the Carisbrooke Rifle Club), Mr. W. Standage, and the following present members of the I.W. Rifles' Band: Messrs. J. Baggs, S. Corr, E. Calvert, W. Thomas, A. Ellis, J. Mackenzie, T. Masterson, and F. Dear.—It is a remarkable co-incidence that Mr. Tharle's sister, Mrs. Callaghan, of East-street, Newport, passed away at a Ryde nursing home the day after his death (Wednesday).

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