

Walter James Watts

Kelly's Directory 1898

Watts Thos. & Sons, engineers, machinists & agricultural implement mas. Lukely machine works, Carisbrooke rd.

1861 census, Eight Bells, Carisbrooke

Thomas Watts	Head	39	Victualler, Engineer & Machinist employing 2 men & son	Dursley, Glos.
Jane Watts	Wife	44		Newport, Hampshire
Sarah Elizabeth Watts	Daughter	16		United States
Walter James Watts	Son	14	Scholar	Swindon, Wiltshire
James Warner	Lodger	21	Gentleman	London

1871 census, Lukely House, Carisbrooke Road, Carisbrooke

Thomas Watts	Head	49	Engine Maker & Machinist employing 4 men & 1 boy	Dursley, Glos.
Jane Watts	Wife	54		Newport, Hampshire
Walter James Watts	Son	24	Engine Maker & Machinist	New Swindon, Wilts.
Fanny Mary Watts	D-in-law	29	Engine Maker's wife	Shorwell, Hampshire

1901 census, Lukely Works, Carisbrooke Road, Carisbrooke

Walter J. Watts	Head	54	Mechanical Engineer	Swindon, Wiltshire
Fanny M. Watts	Wife	59		Shorwell, I.W.
Elizabeth M. Watts	Daughter	29	Music Teacher	Newport, I.W.
Lila F. Watts	Daughter	26	Music Teacher	Newport, I.W.

1911 census, Fairview, Castle Road, Newport

Walter James Watts	Head	64	Married Retired Mech Engineer	Swindon, Wiltshire
Fanny Mary Watts	Wife	69	Married 40 years	Shorwell, Isle of Wight
Elizabeth Mary Watts	Daughter	39	Single	Newport, Isle of Wight

Isle of Wight Observer – 31 July 1920

ISLAND CYCLIST FATALITY.

At the Carisbrooke Sunday School on Saturday, the Acting Deputy Coroner, Mr. W.H. Thirkell, held an inquest on the body of Mr. Walter James Watts, aged 73, retired engineer, of Newport, who died on the previous Thursday from concussion, resulting from a fall from his bicycle on the Carisbrooke-Bowcombe road.

The evidence was to the effect that at about 4.30 p.m. on Monday deceased collided with a schoolboy named Albert Parker, who was knocked down, and when he got up he saw that deceased had fallen from his machine, deceased being in the road with the bicycle on top of him. Parker denied that the stick which he had in his hand came in contact with the bicycle. Deceased was picked up in a more or less unconscious condition and removed home in a motor, where according to Dr. Raymond he was suffering from concussion of the brain, and died without regaining consciousness.

Deceased was a retired engineer, and a relative said he invented the free-wheel device for cycles, but did not patent it as it was considered too dangerous until brakes were introduced.

The Coroner said they regretted that one who had been cycling for 60 years, and whose invention had greatly enhanced the pleasure of cycling for many years, should have met his death in that tragic manner when cycling, and they expressed sympathy with the relatives.

A verdict of “Accidental death” was returned, no blame being attributed to anyone.

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