

Henry Blake

Isle of Wight County Press
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NEWPORT

Former Bus Proprietor's Death.—Well known in the town, and in Arreton, Newchurch, and Sandown as the former proprietor of Blake's Bus Service, Mr. Henry Blake, late of Norton, Hillside, died on Monday at the residence of his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. N. Blake, 5 Fairlee Road. Mr. Blake was employed for many years by Messrs. H. and F. Damp as a carpenter, but in about 1928 took over the bus service from Newport to Sandown via Downend and Newchurch operated by Mr. Cyril Cooke, and carried it on in association with his son until his retirement in 1948.

He drove one of the buses belonging to the service right through the war years. The service, which was subsequently carried on by Mr. Blake's son and his grandson, Mr. Peter Blake, until it was absorbed by the former Enterprise company in 1951, had a character of its own, and served as a carrier making purchases for country people and delivering goods to their homes.

Mr. Blake enjoyed good health until a few weeks ago. The funeral was on Wednesday, a service at the house preceding interment in Newport cemetery. The Vicar of St. Paul's (the Rev. L. J. D. Wheatley) officiated. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. H. W. N. Blake (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. P. V. Blake (grandson and grand-daughter), Mr. R. B. Cheverton (nephew), Mrs. B. Gulley (niece), and Messrs. S. Barlow and Vider. There were many floral tributes. The arrangements were made by Mr. R. G. W. Reed.

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