

Robert Edward Shepard

Isle of Wight County Press – 13 May 1939

NEWPORT

Local Man's Sudden Death at Croydon.---Much regret was aroused among the many who knew and esteemed him as a fitter in the employ of the Gas Company at the news of the sudden death of Mr. Robert Edward Shepard, aged 53, of Brookfield, Carisbrooke-road, which occurred on Sunday night at the residence of his sister-in-law (Mrs. Samson) at Shirley, near Croydon. Mr. Shepard had accompanied his wife to Shirley on a week-end visit, leaving in apparently good health on Saturday morning. On Sunday he and his wife visited relatives at Beckenham, Kent, where his younger son Ivor was staying while preparing for an optician's examination. During the day Mr. Shepard showed no trace of illness, but on returning to his sister-in-law's house he suddenly collapsed and died. A medical man was in attendance within a few minutes, but he was then beyond human aid. Profound sympathy is felt with his widow and two sons and the other relatives in their bereavement under such particularly sad circumstances. Mr. Shepard was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Shepard, of 97 Upper St. James's-street. For many years he was employed as a fitter at the shipyard of Messrs. J. Samuel White and Co. at East Cowes, and he had served the Gas Company in a similar capacity since soon after the Great War. He was a very skilful and thorough workman, and he also applied his mechanical aptitude in the making of wireless apparatus, a hobby in which he showed remarkable ingenuity and ability. He was also a very keen and able gardener. His unfailing courtesy and cheerfulness won him the esteem of the many residents of the town with whom his work brought him into contact, and he was ever ready to go beyond the bounds of duty to do a kindness. His passing in the prime of life is deeply deplored. The sudden nature of his death necessitated inquiries by the Croydon Coroner, but a post-mortem examination revealed that death was due to heart trouble, and no inquest was held. The funeral will take place this (Saturday) afternoon; service at the Parish Church at 2.45.

Isle of Wight County Press – 20 May 1939

NEWPORT

The Funeral of Mr. R. E. Shepard, --- of Brookfield, Carisbrooke-road, whose sudden death at Shirley we recorded last week, took place on Saturday. The service in the Parish Church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. M. B. Hogg), and the choir, with Mr. A. H. Griffiths, A.R.C.M., at the organ, led the chanting of Psalm 23 and the singing of the hymn "Holy Father, cheer our way." At the close of the service Mr. Griffiths played "I know that my Redeemer liveth" (from Handel's "Messiah"), a solo which the late Mr. Shepard sang as a

choirboy of the Parish Church. The personal mourners were Mrs. Shepard (widow), Messrs. Ronald G. and Ivor N. Shepard (sons), Messrs. E. J. and P. Shepard, Mr. and Mrs. H. Shepard, and Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Shepard (brothers and sisters-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. F. Freeth, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Morris, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Holmes, and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Morris (brothers-in-law and sisters), Messrs. G. R. and R. A. Barrett (brothers-in-law), Mrs. Samson (sister-in-law), Mr. H. Shepard (uncle), Mr. and Mrs. C. Shepard, Mrs. S. Scott, and Mr. R. Samson (nephews and nieces), and Mr. S. O. Feben. The Newport Gas Co. was represented by Messrs. W. C. Black (director), S. W. Ibbotson (director, engineer, and manager), C. W. Grant (distribution superintendent), W. E. Voaden, F. A. Piper, and C. W. Bell (staff), A. F. Brett, F. G. Cooke, P. A. Guy, W. H. Brittan, G. E. Barber, F. Birch, S. Chiverton, V. Hayles, B. T. Butcher, C. Moses, and R. L. Barber (district staff), and F. W. Pardey, A. E. Chiverton, A. G. Harley, and F. Fleming (works staff). Others attending included Mr. and Mrs. G. T. and Miss J. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. C. Allee, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. S. Woodland, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. White, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Kemp, Mesdames G. H. Snellgrove, Cammell, C. Baker, Perry, Cosh, K. Westmore, E. Heal, F. Chiverton, E. Satherley, Cassford, F. Burgess, Watts, and A. C. Early, the Misses Jackman, M. Attrill, Webb, and T. White, and Messrs. P. Long, H. Mayes, A. T. Brown, H. Phillips, F. Chiverton, W. G. Sibbick, R. J. Philpot, C. J. Samuel, L. F. Rodaway, E. G. Feben, W. Watson, F. W. Wadmore, G. Webb, J. Snellgrove, H. Beacon, L. E. Dore, A. J. Taylor, W. A. Furmage, W. H. Baker, A. D. Callaway, W. C. Smith, T.C., J. W. Gibbs, W. Upton, and H. B. Wescomb. The 35 beautiful floral tributes included one inscribed : "With deepest sympathy from the directors, staff, and employees of the Newport (I.W.) Gas Co." The interment was at Newport cemetery. Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements, in conjunction with Messrs. Shakespeare, of Croydon.----Mrs. Shepard, Ronald and Ivor, and Mr. Barrett desire to acknowledge with deep gratitude the numerous expressions of sympathy and the many kindnesses extended to them in their sudden bereavement. They also sincerely thank all who sent such beautiful floral tokens of regard.

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