

William Francis Hale

1911 census – 2 Broadlands Terrace, Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight

<i>William Francis Hale</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>Police Pensioner</i>	<i>Penton Near Andover, Hamp.</i>
Margaret Jane Hale	Daughter	30		East Cowes, IW
Charles William Anstee Hale	Son	24	Solicitor's Clerk	Yarmouth, IW
Alfred James Hale	Son	22	Painter Paperhanger	Selborne, Hamp.

Isle of Wight County Press – 14 October 1911

DEATH OF THE EX-DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE.

THE LATE SUPT. FRANK HALE.

POLICE FUNERAL AT NEWPORT.

We regret to record the death, which took place on Sunday morning, of Mr. William Francis (Frank) Hale, ex-Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable of the Isle of Wight Constabulary, at the age of 59. The deceased, who retired from the police force 5½ years ago with a prospect of many years well-deserved superannuation, had been unwell for about a year, and the recent death of his wife was a heavy loss, from the effects of which he was unable to recover in his weak state of health. The late Mr. Hale was a native of Penton Mewsey, near Andover, where his father, who recently visited him, is still residing and is in very good health, though 84 years of age. Mr. Hale spent his early years in his father's boot and shoemaking business, joining the Hants Constabulary, at the age of 20, in May 1872. Prior to coming to the Isle of Wight he was stationed at Gosport and Shirley. Cowes was his first station in the Island, and he was afterwards at Godshill, Brading, Yarmouth (on promotion to sergeant), and Elmfield before his promotion to inspector, in 1892, when he was transferred to head-quarters at Newport, where he completed his service in March 1906. In 1896 he was promoted to be superintendent in succession to the late Supt. J. Gibson, and just three years before his retirement he was appointed to the Deputy Chief Constableship. He thus served under three Chief Constables; Capt. Forrest (Hampshire) and Mr. Hastings Lees and Capt. H. G. Adams-Connor, M.V.O., D.L. (Isle of Wight), and his promotion from the ranks to the Deputy Chief Constableship demonstrates the ability and efficiency of his service during a period of nearly 34 years. He was very popular in the force, and won the confidence and high esteem of the authorities and public generally. At the commencement of his police service in Hampshire the late Mr. Hale gained quick promotion by a smart and resourceful piece of detective work in connection with a breach of the Licensing Act at Christchurch, and secured a conviction with a fine of £100 and costs in a case of selling beer without a licence. Mr. Hale's service in the Island dates back to the exciting days of smuggling, when fines of £100 were not uncommon. He was on duty at most of the historic public functions in the Island during his 30 years' service here, notably at the marriage of the Royal Governor, the funeral of the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, the landing of Lord Roberts at East Cowes to visit the late Queen Victoria at Osborne on the

occasion of his return from the South African War, the removal of the body of the late Queen Victoria from the Island, and public functions associated with the Jubilee and Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria and the Coronation of King Edward, as well as the visits of King Edward and the German Emperor to Cowes. Mr. Hale has a brother a retired superintendent of the Hants Constabulary, and one of his sons is at present serving in that force. The deepest sympathy of his many friends is with his family in their irreparable bereavement.

The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon, the first part of the service being held at the Newport Parish-church, and the interment was at Newport Cemetery. The Vicar of Newport (the Rev. H. Edmund Sharpe) officiated in the presence of a number of sympathising relatives and friends, the latter including 24 uniformed officers of the Isle of Wight Constabulary, who were serving in the Force before the late Mr. Hale's retirement and who voluntarily expresses a wish to pay this last tribute of respect to their late superintendent, and were granted the necessary facilities for doing so. In the unavoidable absence of the Chief Constable (Capt. H. G. Adams-Connor, M.V.O., D.L., who was away from the Island), the Deputy Chief Constable (Supt. J. H. Gallaway) was present in charge of the police mourners, who were Inspectors J. Salter (chief clerk), T. Cass (Newport), J. Bignell (Cowes), and H. Hawkins (Sandown), Sergrts. Hutchin (Newport), Bennett (East Cowes), Evans (head-quarters), G. Ryall (Cowes), Sibbick (Yarmouth), Mew (Ventnor), and Foyle (Newport), and P.C.s Skeats, Russell, Tiley, Herrington, A. Stevens, Harris, Rampton, Simmonds, Edwards, Cooper, Layery, and Fry. There were also present ex-Insp. Matthews, ex-Sergts. A. Adams, T. Spanner, and J. Sharp (County Constabulary), and ex-P.C. Newnham (Ryde Police), Insp. Marshall, N.S.P.C.C., Town-Sergt. Osborn (Newport), and Messrs. C. Steel, T.C., J. W. Marshall, A. E. Stark, H. Allen, and H. Tullidge, and others, including the wives of police officers past and present. The family mourners were deceased's sons and daughters, Mr. G. T. Hale, Mrs. M. Bennett (Bembridge), P.C. Frank Hale (Hants Constabulary, in uniform), Mrs. J. J. Harrison (Brockley, S.E.), Mr. William C. Hale, and Mr. James Hale, Mr. Tom Hale (Basingstoke) (brother), Mrs. G. T. Hale (daughter-in-law), Mr. A. Bennett (son-in-law), Miss Minnie Wyatt (Penton Mewsey), Miss Cook (house-keeper), and Miss Alice Bennett. The polished elm coffin was covered with beautiful floral tributes Mr. W. H. Bullock carried out the funeral arrangements. To his great regret, Mr. William Ayres, ex-superintendent of the County Police and probation officer, of Cowes, who was associated with the late Mr. Hale during the greater part of his police service, was prevented from attending the funeral owing to a previous engagement, which he was unable to forgo.

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