

Owen George Day

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NEWPORT BUSINESSMAN'S SUDDEN DEATH

MR. OWEN G. DAY

The death occurred suddenly on Monday of one of Newport's best known businessmen, Mr. Owen George Day, of Olanda, 211 Carisbrooke Road. Mr. Day, who was 58, founded the business of Owen G. Day, Ltd., wholesale decorators' merchants, in Holyrood Street, in 1949. He was walking near his office in Watchbell Lane when he collapsed with a heart attack, and was taken by ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital, but died on admittance.

Mr. Day was the second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Day, of Cowes, the well known building family, whose business is now run by the elder son, Mr. H. E. Day. Mr. Owen Day was educated at the York Street School and served an apprenticeship in the ironmongery trade at Messrs. Holt, of Southampton, was then for a time with Messrs. Stedalls of London, and then returned to Cowes as manager of Messrs. Mays ship chandlery department. On the outbreak of hostilities in the 1914-18 war, he joined the cycling corps, but later transferred to the Northumberland Fusiliers. He returned from France to be commissioned in the Durham Light Infantry, and served with them until the Armistice, attaining the rank of captain. After the war he was on the headquarters staff of the Army of the Rhine at Cologne, and came back to this country in 1919. He joined Messrs. Lankasters, of Southampton, Ironmongers and ship chandlers, as assistant manager, and came to Messrs. Dibbens, of Newport, in 1929, to take a similar appointment. He was appointed manager of Messrs. J. K. Alderslade in 1939, and when Messrs. Walpamur took over the firm in 1949 the staff presented him with an inscribed gold watch as a mark of their esteem. He left to set up his own business, which is to be continued by his only son, Alan.

In his younger days Mr. Day took a great interest in choral singing, and was a member of The Gleemen, and founder-secretary of the East Cowes Choral Society. He sang frequently at the Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational churches. Mr. Day was a popular member of Newport Rotary Club, and gave valued service as a member of its council, chairman of the International Service committee, and as club president in 1946. He was also a founder member of the Island branch of Toc H, and for several years was district chairman. He was vice-chairman of the Further Education Sub-committee of the County Education Committee, vice-president of the I.W. Ironmongers' Association, an associate member of the Master Builders' Federation, a committee member of the Newport Business and Professional Association, and a founder member of the Wholesale Paint Merchants' Association. He leaves a widow and son, with whom much sympathy is felt.

The funeral service at the Congregational Church, Newport, yesterday, was conducted by the Rev. Dr. N. Spoor and preceded cremation at Southampton. The ashes were scattered in the rose garden there, and floral tributes in the form of bunches of flowers went to the South Hants Hospital. The 23rd Psalm and the hymn "Abide with me" were sung. The large attendance included representatives of trade and business houses, the Rotary Club, and Toc H. The committal ceremony was performed by the Rev. G. Seymour of Bitterne

Congregational Church. The family mourners were Mrs. L. E. Day (widow), Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Day (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. H. E. Day, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Day, and Mr. R. J. Day (brothers and sister-in-law), Mr. J. Day and Miss E. Day (nephew and niece), Mr. G. and Miss C. Debenham (cousins), Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Dallimore, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Hooper, and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bull. The arrangements were made by Messrs. H. and F. Damp.

*Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,
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