Cosimo Di Giacca

1911 census: 4 South Street, Newport

Cosimo DiJaccia	Head 8	83	Street Musician	Italy
Philomena DiJaccia	Wife 4	48	Street Musician	Italy
Louisa DiJaccia	Daughter 1	17	Street Musician	Newport, Isle of Wight
Antonio Polino	Relative 5	51	Street Musician	Italy
Theresa Polino	Relative 1	19	Street Musician	Brighton, Sussex
Joseph Polino	Relative 1	14	School	Brighton, Sussex
Benjamin Polino	Relative 1	11	School	Brighton, Sussex

Isle of Wight County Press – 5 February 1916

NEWPORT

FUNERAL OF OLDEST BARREL-ORGAN PLAYER. – The funeral took place at St. Paul's Cemetery, Barton, on Monday, of Cosimo Di Giacca, aged 84, who claimed to be the first to travel in England with a barrel-organ. He arrived from Italy at Bristol in 1854, and his first organ, which was patronised by the late Queen Victoria, is still in use. It was made by a Clerkenwell firm. The Rev. Father J. J. Ahern, of the local Roman Catholic Church, officiated at the obsequies, which were attended by deceased's widow, two daughters (Mrs. Salero and Mrs. Meakin), and two sons-in-law (Pte. Meakin, Royal Fusiliers, and Driver Salero, R.F.A.). Another son-in-law is at the Front serving in the R.F.A. The mourners also included eight or nine grandchildren and a number of the Italian colony at Newport and elsewhere. The Alien Restriction Act prevented compatriots of deceased on the mainland from being present. There were floral tributes from the widow and family, grandchildren, and other Italians, including the Salero, Farari, Porcelli, and Rossi families. The polished coffin was conveyed to the place of interment in a hearse followed by five carriages, and there was a considerable attendance of the general public. Mr. Oliver Hamilton carried out the funeral arrangements.

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