

## **James Robert Henry Fairweather**



*(picture courtesy of Anne Harman, niece of James)*

### **Isle of Wight Country Press – 2 May 1942**

#### **THE ISLAND AND THE WAR.**

##### **DIED.**

Cadet James Robert Henry Fairweather, R.A.F., aged 22, fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Fairweather, of 39 Royal Exchange, Newport, as the result of a bathing tragedy at Torquay. A message received by his parents on Wednesday stated that he had been drowned while swimming. The deceased young man was well known and very popular at Newport. Before being called up as a volunteer for the R.A.F. three months ago he had been employed since leaving school by the Gas Company as a fitter. He was a former Barton School boy and Scout patrol leader. He was very keen on swimming. As a cadet in the R.A.F. he was doing admirably. Only a few days before his death he wrote to his parents saying that, although he had not the advantage of a secondary school education, as most of his fellow cadets had, he had managed to get 97 per cent of marks in his last examination, and was looking forward to commencing his flying training. Two of his brothers are serving in the Royal Corps of Signals in the Middle East.

### **Isle of Wight Country Press – 9 May 1942**

#### **NEWPORT**

**Young Airman's Funeral.** – The funeral took place on Tuesday at St. Paul's Church of Aircraftman 2 James Robert Henry Fairweather (Bobby), fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Fairweather, of 39 Royal-exchange, who lost his life whilst bathing at Torquay last week. The deceased was very popular, and loved by all who knew him. He was a keen and clever craftsman and an athlete and swimmer of no mean ability. Before joining the R.A.F. three months ago he was an esteemed member of the staff of the Newport Gas Company, and he was formerly a patrol leader of the Newport Boy Scouts. The chief mourners were Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Fairweather (parents), Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Fairweather (brother and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. S. Flux (brother-in-law and sister), Miss

M. Reed (fiancée), Mrs. E. Swan (cousin), Miss F. Donoghue, W.A.A.F. (cousin), Corpl. N. Wilson, R.A.F. (his instructor), Mr. S. W. Ibbotson, Mr. S. Holmes, and Mr. C. Grant (Newport Gas Company), Mr. E. G. Morris (head master, Barton School) senior scholars, and four senior Scouts of the (Old Guard) Newport troop.

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