

George Leal

1891 census, Cross Lanes, Whippingham

<i>George Leal</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>General Labourer</i>	<i>Whippingham, Isle of Wight</i>
Mary Leal	Wife	29		Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight

Isle of Wight Observer - 27 July 1895

NEWPORT

KILLED ON THE RAILWAY

The Island Coroner (Mr E. F. Blake) held an inquest at the Eagle, Cross Lane, Newport, on Monday, touching the death of George Leal, aged 38 years, a ganger in the employ of the Isle of Wight Central Railway Company, who was killed almost instantaneously on Saturday while engaged in unloading timber in the station yard.

Harry Arnold, labourer, living at Westminster Place, deposed that he and five other men, including the deceased, were engaged on Saturday morning in removing timber from a contractor's trolley, which had come from Parkhurst Forest on the previous night. They had lifted the lighter end of one of the "sticks" on to the wheel, and the deceased gave the word "all right" to throw it on to the stack. His head was on the other side of the piece of timber to what their's were, and it caught the deceased in falling and jammed his head between the "stick" and the one on the ground. They got the "stick" up and pulled the deceased out at once, but he showed no signs of life. Blood was flowing freely from his ears, mouth and nose, and a doctor was immediately sent for. He could not say if the deceased had been used to this work or not. The "stick" was between four and five cwt., and from 16 to 18 feet long. In reply to the jury witness said it was customary to lift the "sticks" by hand; there was no gear to do it with.

James Sexton, who was one of the men working with the timber, thought the deceased slipped on account of the timber being wet.

James Primer, labourer, and William John Pettyfor, inspector of the permanent way, also gave evidence.

Dr Waterworth stated that he saw the deceased in the Waiting Boom at the station almost immediately after the mishap. From an external examination he made he found a scalp wound on either side of the head. The concussion was quite sufficient to account for death.

The Coroner, in summing up, referred to the sad nature of the accident, and said the evidence did not point to blame being attachable to anyone.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

Isle of Wight County Press - 27 July 1895

NEWPORT

THE FUNERAL – of George Leal, the victim of the fatal accident at the Railway-station, took place at St. Paul's, Barton, on Tuesday, railway employees being the bearers. Floral mementoes were sent by the railway staff and others. We hear that a subscription has been started for the widow, with whom a vote of condolence was passed at the meeting of the P.S.A. on Sunday last, deceased having been a member of that Association. The President of the Association (the Rev. A. O. Lochore) conducted the funeral service.

Transcription by Tony Barton for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries © 2018/2022

<https://www.foncc.org.uk>