

1901 CENSUS: RG13/1025. folio 39. page 15.
Abode: 10 Vernon-square, Ryde, IW.

Hollis B. FOWLER. Head. M. 35. Draper (employer). Ryde, IW.

Alice M. FOWLER. Wife. M. 35. Ryde, IW.

Hollis C. FOWLER. Son. 11. Ryde, IW.

Ethel F. WHITE. Serv. S. 18. General Servant Domestic. Ryde, IW.

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FOWLER H. Charley, house furnisher & decorations, 51 & 52 Union-street (Tel. No. Ryde 1) & antique dealer, 28 Union-street.

ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday October 5th, 1944.

CAPTAIN H.C. FOWLER.

Few townsmen could hope to equal the diversity of talents and accomplishments of Capt. **H. Charley FOWLER**, of Sutherland Lodge, St. John's Park, Ryde, who died in a local nursing home on Thursday from heart trouble, at the age of 54.

Capt. FOWLER was educated at the I.W. College, Ryde, and at Eastbourne College. He served his articles and took the preliminary examinations as an architect, but after the last war devoted his energies to interior decoration, building up an extensive business associated with his name at 51-2 Union Street, Ryde. He was honoured with the frequent patronage of H.M. Queen Mary, who presented him with a Royal Appointment. His most absorbing hobby was photography, at which he displayed outstanding talent. At the invitation of the late Sir Hedworth WILLIAMSON, Bt., he photographed King George V and Queen Mary at Appley Hall. Her Majesty was delighted with the studies and signed an enlargement of herself which she saw hanging in the Union Street art gallery during the last Cowes Week she attended. This autographing of a Royal portrait in a business house was without precedent, but the Queen expressed the wish to sign it "as a friend." A source of justifiable pride to Capt. FOWLER.

At the outbreak of the present war, Capt. FOWLER closed his business, devoted himself whole-heartedly to Civil Defence work. He was the first A.R.P. officer in Ryde, being one of the 1938 pioneers who did so much to get this country in a state of preparedness when it was "Peace in our time." When war did break out he became assistant to Gen. H.E. NEPEAN (then county A.R.P. officer), and was appointed county training officer, subsequently becoming Fire Guard Staff Officer for the Borough of Newport. He brought to all his work unrivalled energy and enthusiasm.

Latterly he had been studying for the Bar, and passed the preliminary examination in the summer as a member of Gray's Inn.

A past member of Ryde Council, Capt. FOWLER, as one of the most successful Parks and Entertainments Committee chairmen, achieved much in improving attractions for the enjoyment of the visitors. As a member of the Royal I.W. County Hospital Committee he will be remembered for organising a great Venetian bazaar at Ryde which yielded the hospital £1000. Capt. FOWLER was a past master of the Ryde (698) Lodge of Freemasons and a member of the East Medina Lodge (175).

Possessing brilliant artistic and creative abilities, it was scarcely surprising that Capt. FOWLER should be a skilful amateur actor and resourceful producer. The productions he gave twice a year at the Theatre Royal, Ryde, and on other Island stages will long be remembered for their all-round excellence. Under his inspired guidance and tuition, the Ryde Players established a reputation few could rival outside the West End. His own prowess as an actor and elocutionist was a by-word.

Sport held for him a life-long interest, and for many years he was president of Ryde Golf Club and a keen player. He was also an active president of the Mead Lawn Tennis Club, and a vice-president of Ryde Rowing Club.

The sympathy of the community will be felt with his widow and with his father, Mr. Hollis B. FOWLER, also a prominent Island resident.

The Funeral

The funeral service took place at St. John's Church on Monday. The Rev. E. T. H. ROYDS (vicar) officiated assisted by the Rev. C. HEALD (rector of Binstead). Mr. R. H. TOOGOOD was at the organ, and the choir led the singing of "Rock of Ages" and chanted Psalm 23 and the Nunc Dimittis.

The mourners were Mrs. H. C. FOWLER (widow), Mr. H. B. FOWLER (father), Mrs. HARRIS (cousin, also representing Mrs. WHEALE, aunt), Mr. and Mrs. F. PURCHASE (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr. C. A. G. BREBNER, Mrs. SHARP (housekeeper) and Mr. James BEAN (gardener).

Among those present were: Mr. P. E. WHITE (County A.R.P. Controller, representing Sir Godfrey BARING, Bt., chairman of the County Emergency Committee), Brig.-Gen H. E. NEPEAN (County communications officer), Capt. H. A. DRUDGE (County A.R.P. transport and ambulance officer), Dr. J. FAIRLY (county medical officer, also representing Mr. S. GREGSON, county architect), Dr. W. S. WALLACE (deputy county medical officer), Mr. A. H. HUGHES (former county accountant), Mr. Francis BURTON (I.W. Chamber of Commerce), the Mayor of Newport (Ald W. BLAKE, J.P.)

Mr. Robert PRESTON (former town clerk of Newport), Mr. K. W. JOHNSTONE (former A.R.P. Officer, Newport), Mr. R. J. MACHIN (Borough accountant, representing the staff of Newport Corporation), Squadron Leader I. R. I. SCAMBLER (Fire Guard Officer, Newport), Mr. E. W. JOLLIFFE (deputy sub-controller representing Ryde and Bembridge Civil Defence), Dr. A. C. LIESCHING (representing the Medical Staff committee, County Hospital, and Mrs. LIESCHING, captain of the women's section, Ryde Golf Club), Miss WILLIAMSON (former matron, County Hospital), Mr. T. J. FAWDREY (town clerk), and Mr. J. AITCHISON (borough treasurer, Ryde).

Dr. T. SIM, W.M., Messrs. E. P. MARVIN, H. WORDSWORTH, C. W. VINCENT, R. E. A. WEBSTER, E. TREND, W. E. GRIFFIN (Ryde Lodge Freemasons, 698), Lieut.-Col. C. L. ELLERY, O.B.E., Ald. E. C. LOADER, W. G. F. SUTTON, Malcolm OSBORNE, F. W. C. HARVEY, R. WEARNE, and E. SALTER (East Medina Lodge, 175), Mr. Uffa FOX (W.M. Medina Lodge, 35).

Mr. H. P. CHIVERTON, T.C. (hon. sec. Ryde Golf Club and also representing the I.W. Golfer's Alliance), Lieut.-Col. C. W. BRANNON, M.C., T.D., M.L., Mr. L. P. MEW, Mr. R. ACHESON, O.B.E., and Mr. E. POLLINGTON (County Club), Dr. F. HECKFORD (also representing Mrs. HECKFORD), Mr. H. WORDSWORTH (Ryde Amateur Players), Dr. G. A. UPCOTT-GILL, Lieut.-Col. J. E. RHODES (president British Legion), Mr. C. D. MUCKLOW (Mead Lawn Tennis Club), Major A. DENNIS (churchwarden), the Misses JAMES, REASON and Mrs. FULLER (representing the staff of S. FOWLER and Co.), Mr. B. F. HOLNESS (Ryde Rowing Club), Messrs. R. SHEPPARD, J. BUSHELL. and BLACKLOCK and Miss PARKER (former employees), Mrs COCKS (representing Capt. K. COCKS).

Messrs. H. F. WADE, G. FARDELL, E. I. GODFREY, F. V. GREEN, F. FORER, E. F. BROWN, G. F. ROBERTS, F. G. P. FLANDER, J. ROGERS, B.A., G. J. and J. WHITEWOOD, S. S. BUCHALL, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McISAAC and Miss P. K. TURNER (representing Ryde School), Capt. and Mrs F. WARSAP and Mr. Arthur WOOD, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. LEAL, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. HULSE, Mr. T. KEELEY, Mrs. F. POTT, Mrs. A. W. THOMPSON, Mrs. E. T. H. ROYDS, Miss L. OSBORNE, Mrs. P. LANGDON, Miss SIBBICK, N.F.S., Mrs. MILNE, W.A.P.C., Mrs. M. LOADER, Mrs. C. L. ELLERY, Mrs. L. NEWNHAM, Mrs. Hayward CARPENTER, Mrs. BLACKLOCK.

Ald. A. F. WRIGHT, J.P., and the Misses A. and B. BROOKE were prevented from attending.