

MR. H. RIVERS –

Former Royal Marine bandmaster and first world war veteran, Mr. **Henry RIVERS** died on June 16 at his home 43 St. Michael's-avenue, Swanmore, aged 79. Born in Lambeth, London, he joined the Royal Marines as a boy and at 28 became bandmaster at Eastney Barracks. In the 1914-18 war, he conducted the R.M. Band which played on board H.M.S. "Renown" as the stricken ship sank. His service took him to many parts of the globe and he visited all the continents except Australasia. When on board H.M.S. "Durban" in China, he conducted orchestras and bands before audiences of foreign diplomats. Among his compositions was an operetta entitled "Catch That Spy" for which he received an engraved baton from the ship's officers. In the last war he served with the Civil Defence at Gosport. Upon his moving to the Island he took up violin tuition. He leaves a widow, and two daughters by his first marriage. The funeral service took place at St. Michael's Church, Swanmore, last Wednesday, when the Vicar, the Rev. M.O.H.CATON, officiated. Principal mourners were Mrs. Winifred Mary Evelyn RIVERS, widow; Miss W.M.RIVERS, daughter; Mr. and Mrs. P.BRICES, son-in-law and daughter. Interment followed at Ryde Cemetery.

NB: Mr. RIVERS 2nd marriage is listed in the IW Registrars index as being circa 1935, to Winifred M.E. HEALEY at St. Michael's Church, Swanmore.