ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 3rd February 1940

Well Known Townsman's Death.- The death occurred rather suddenly on Monday at 5 Victoria-place of Mr. Wilfred Ethelbert AUSTIN, for many years principal of an old-established bill posting business. He had been ailing for two months, and had a seizure on Sunday. Popularly known as "Tit" AUSTIN, he succeeded his father, the late Mr. Alfred AUSTIN, in the business., established half a century ago. He was a founder of the Ryde Working Men's Club, and for several years organised the annual Guy Fawkes procession and celebrations in aid of the County Hospital. In recognition of these services he was made a life governor. Several years ago he was the licensee of the old Wheatsheaf Inn, Nelson-street. His bonhomie and kindly disposition won him many friends, and the deepest sympathy has been extended to the widow and family.

Canon MOXON officiated at the funeral service in the Parish Church on Wednesday. The mourners were: Mrs. W. E. AUSTIN (widow), Mr. A. A. AUSTIN (son), Mrs. STOCK, Mrs. FRY, and Mrs. THORPE (daughters), Messrs. I. V. STOCK, E. FRY, and B. W. G. THORPE (sons-in-law). The beautiful flowers included those from the Town-hall office staff. Among those present were Mr. P. J. MILSOM, (I.W. Theatres, Ltd.) and Mrs. MILSOM, Mrs. and Miss P. HOGG, Mr. F. MELLANBY, Mr. T. W. RAYNBIRD, and Mr. J. L. BUCKLEY.

Mr. C. LANGDON was the undertaker.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Kate MacDonell