

1901 CENSUS: RG13/1024. folio 78. page 13.

Address: Copsefield, Pelham Fields, Spencer-road, Ryde, IW.

William E. RATCLIFFE. Head. M. 80. Solicitor (employer). Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

Elizabeth R. RATCLIFFE. Wife. M. 78. Highbury, Middx.

Edgar R. RATCLIFFE. Son. S. 40. Solicitor (own account). Ryde, IW.

Gerald W. M. RATCLIFFE. Grandson. 13, Student. Ashe, IW.

Rosa RATCLIFFE. Dau-in-law. M. 47. Winchester, Hants.

Copsefield Stables:

Eliza BYFORD. Serv. S. 40. Ladys-maid Domestic. Braintree, Essex.

Alice M. WHITE. Serv. S. 25. Housekeeper Domestic. Cerne Abbot, Dorset.

Alice M. MARSHALL. Serv. S. 25. Parlourmaid Domestic. Newport, IW.

Priscilla M. BEALE. Serv. S. 22. Housemaid Domestic. Binstead, Hants.

MARRIAGE: 1910 (General Registrars ref: Portsmouth Reg Dist. Vol 2B. Page 1148)

Edgar R. RATCLIFFE & Priscilla M. BEALE

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 1st June 1940

FORMER RYDE SOLICITOR'S FATAL FALL

Formerly a well known solicitor at Ryde, Mr. **Edgar Rainier RATCLIFFE** met his death under tragic circumstances on Wednesday, when his dead body was found beneath his bed-room window at Thornleigh, Arnold-road, Binstead, where he had resided for some years. Deceased, who was 79 years of age, was a son of the late Mr. William E. RATCLIFFE, solicitor and steward of the Brigstocke Estate, and carried on his father's practice after his death. He retired many years ago and for a time lived at Nottingham. In earlier days he was a member of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club and a member of the Conservative Club.

Yesterday (Friday) the Deputy-Coronor (Francis A. JOYCE, Esq.) conducted an enquiry at Binstead Institute.

The widow, Priscilla RATCLIFFE, said her husband had been medically attended for heart trouble and had become very feeble. On Tuesday he retired to his bed-room, where he slept alone, about 10 p.m. and at 8 a.m. next day she was informed that her husband had been found on the cement stone outside his bed-room window, the ledge of which was very low. For a week or 10 days two white pigeons had been outside deceased's bed-room window and were continually cooing. She thought her husband, disturbed by them, opened the window to shoo them away when he overbalanced and fell out.

Bertram HILL, a sergeant of special constabulary at Ryde, said his chicken run extended to the rear of deceased's house and on taking a bucket of water to the chicken on Wednesday morning he saw deceased, wearing his pyjamas and bed socks, lying on the flagstone in a pool of blood, quite dead.

Dr. KENNEDY, of Wootton Bridge, said he had been attending deceased for heart trouble and a threatened stroke, and visited him on the previous Monday. Deceased had severe injuries to his skull and death must have been instantaneous.

The Coronor returned a verdict that deceased died as a result of an accidental fall from his bed-room window and expressed sympathy with the family.

The funeral takes place this (Saturday) afternoon.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 8th June 1940

BINSTEAD - FUNERAL

... of Mr. **Edgar Ranier RATCLIFFE**, whose death occurred under tragic circumstances, took place at the Cemetery on Saturday. The Rev. C. HEALD officiated and the mourners were Mr. and Mrs. R. RATCLIFFE (son and daughter-in-law) and Mr. W. RATCLIFFE (son). Among those present were Messrs. G. R. BRIGSTOCKE, C.A., Fred BOGER, L. FIELD, R. PRICE, and F. COOMBES (Binstead Lodge R.A.O.B.), C. LANGDON (representing Mr. G. FARDELL), J. E. P. CHAPMAN, D.E. MCGREGOR, H.P. GIBSON (also representing Mr. A. GIBSON), J. H. DOWN, and F. RIGBY. The floral tributes included those from the Ryde Conservative Club.

Mr. E. VENUS was the undertaker.

Researched by
Ann Barrett