

MARRIAGE: 30th March 1890 at Holy Trinity Church, Ryde, IW.  
William James RIGBY. 26. Bachelor. (father: Thomas RIGBY)  
& **Charlotte Ann SILSBURY**. 30 Spinster. (father: William SILSBURY)

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1901 CENSUS: RG13/1023. folio 45. page 2.  
Address: Asheys-road, Ryde, IW.

William J. RIGBY. Head. M. 37. Painter (House). Ryde, IW.

**Charlotte A. RIGBY. Wife. M. 40. St. Helens, IW.**

William C. RIGBY. Son. 10. Asheys, IW.

Eleanor A. RIGBY. Dau. 8. Asheys, IW.

Florence H. RIGBY. Dau. 5. Asheys, IW.

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*In 1911 **Charlotte** was living at 1 Asheys Cottage, Asheys-road, with her husband William, son Charles, and two daughters Eleanor and Florence. At this time she was using her middle name of Annie.*

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ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1947

Death Notice:-

**RIGBY.-** On May 26th, at the Royal I.W. County Hospital, Mrs. **Charlotte Annie RIGBY**, of 1 Asheys Cottages, Asheys Road, Ryde.

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### **FALL OVER STEP ACCELERATED OLD LADY'S DEATH**

The Island Coroner (Mr. R. E. A. WEBSTER) conducted an inquest at the Royal I.W. County Hospital on Friday on an 86-year-old Ryde woman who had died in the hospital the previous day five weeks after breaking her thigh. Sergt. J. BOND represented the Police.

The deceased was Mrs. Charlotte Annie RIGBY, wife of Mr. William James RIGBY, a retired milkman, of 1 Asheys Cottages, Asheys Road.

Dr. B. H. STOREY (house surgeon at the hospital) said that Mrs. RIGBY was admitted to hospital on May 23rd and that an X-ray confirmed a fracture of the neck of the femur of the left leg. Mrs. RIGBY was very frail, but was in full command of her faculties, apart from poor eyesight. Death was due to heart failure due to myocardial degeneration, accelerated by shock consequent upon a fracture of the neck of the left femur.

Mrs. Alice J. BAKER, of 2 Asheys Cottages, Asheys Road, said she was in Mrs. RIGBY's house at 2.15 p.m. on May 23rd. She left her neighbour's house for a few minutes, and on returning found Mrs. RIGBY lying on the ground by the back door. She made her comfortable, treated her for shock, and sent for Dr. T. SIM. She concluded Mrs. RIGBY had fallen over the back door step, which had always been a source of trouble. It was a wooden step, worn down in the middle, with a slat of wood nailed at either side, and witness concluded it dangerous, particularly for an old lady whose sight was not good. Witness had often said to Mrs. RIGBY, "Mind the step."

#### **Step "Defective and Dangerous."**

Mrs. Lilian May RIGBY, of 2 Carnation Cottages, Bettsworth Road, Ryde, said that in consequence of a telephone message she found her mother-in-law on the ground outside the back door. She was carried into the house, and Dr. SIM ordered her removal to hospital. Mrs. RIGBY

was almost blind. Both witness and her father-in-law had complained of the step to the person who collected the rent.

P.C. LARGE gave measurements of the step and said it appeared that Mrs. RIGBY caught her foot in the slat. He considered the condition of the step to be dangerous, especially to an old lady.

The Coroner recorded a verdict of death from natural causes, namely cardiac failure due to myocardial degeneration, accelerated by a fracture of the neck of the left femur, consequent upon tripping up and falling over a defective and dangerous step from the scullery door to the back yard at her home.

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Researched & typed by  
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