1901 CENSUS: RG13/1234. folio 11. page 14. Address: 41 Dollis-road, Finchley, Middx.

Walter THORPE. Head. M. 30. Agent Tea Taster. Camden Town, London.

Clara THORPE. Wife. M. 31. Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Henry THORPE. Son. 2. Finchley.

Daisy YOUNG. Serv. S. 19. Gen Serv Domestic. Barkway, Herts.

In 1911 **Henry** (12) was living at Ash Villa, East Barnet-road, New Barnet, Herts, with his parents, Walter Gale THORPE (40) & Clara THORPE (41), and his brother Bernard Walter Gale THORPE (7)

1920 & 1927 KELLY's DIRECTORY of Hampshire & Isle of Wight - pages 723 & 737 **THORPE Clara** (Mrs.), tobacconist, 50 Union-street, Ryde, IW.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Sat 2nd November 1929

WIRELESS OPERATOR'S TRAGIC DEATH.---On Monday Mrs. C. THORPE, tobacconist and newsagent, of 50 Union-street, received the tragic news that her eldest son, Wireless Operator Henry Joseph THORPE, had died at sea as the result of an accident. Subsequently, when fuller information was supplied by the ship's captain, it transpired that deceased was found at the bottom of the hold of the s.s. Aldington Court, a cargo boat of the Court Line, on Saturday, with a fractured skull. The accident is thought to have occurred during a heavy gale while the vessel was in the North Sea on her way to Antwerp.

Mr. THORPE was a wireless operator of considerable ability, who had been in the employ of the Marconi Company for 10 years. Twice he had received honourable mention, once by Mr. BRUCE when he was Prime Minister of Australia and at the time a passenger on the P. And O. Boat Mooltan. Only 31 years of age, he was a single man with a distinctly promising career before him. He was attached to the Aldington Court on her maiden voyage to China and Japan, and this was the vessel's second trip. She was bound from Middlesbrough to Antwerp, and from thence to London before proceeding to South Africa.

The shock to Mrs. THORPE was intensified by the fact that her son had written a few days previously notifying her of his coming home for a few days' leave when the vessel touched London. He is now buried at Antwerp. In his younger days Mr. THORPE was an apprentice in the employ of Mr. Hollis FOWLER, but as soon as he reached military age during the war he was attached to the R.A.F. and soon made progress as a wireless operator. It was after demobilisation that he joined the Marconi Company.

The captain of the Aldington Court and the whole of the ship's crew have expressed their deep sympathy with Mrs. THORPE in the loss of a good son and capable young man, who was popular both afloat and ashore.

Researched by Ann Barrett