

1901 CENSUS: RG13/1023. folio 15. page 52.  
Abode: Binstead House Garden House, Binstead, IW.

George TOPP Head. M. 58. Gardener Domestic. Sturminster Newton, Dorset.  
Elizabeth TOPP. Wife. M. 54. Ringwood, Hants.  
Louisa TOPP. Dau. S. 24. General Servant Domestic. Binstead, IW.  
**Edwin TOPP. Son. 11. Binstead, IW.**

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*Inn 1911 **Edwin** (21) was living at 7 Arthur-street with parents George (68) & Elizabeth (64), and his brother John (30). **Edwin** was listed as a Shop Assistant for a Dealer in Boots.*

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MARRIAGE: 1916 (2<sup>nd</sup> ¼) at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, High-street, Ryde  
**Edwin Philip TOPP & Eveline May REED** (other name WILKINSON)

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1920 KELLY's DIRECTORY of Hampshire & Isle of Wight – page 723  
**TOPP E. P. & Co.**, wholesale confectioners, 96 High-street, Ryde, IW.

1927 KELLY's DIRECTORY of Hampshire & Isle of Wight – page 737  
**TOPP E. P. & Co.**, wholesale confectioners, 96 High-street, Ryde, IW.

1933 REGISTER OF ELECTORS – 96 High-street, Ryde  
**TOPP Edwin Philip**  
TOPP Evelyn May

1947 REGISTER OF ELECTORS – 96 High-street, Ryde  
**TOPP Edwin P.**  
TOPP Eveline M.

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ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> 1952, page 7.

### FORMER BOWLS CHAMPION'S DEATH

Mr. **Edwin Philip TOPP**, aged 62. of 96 High-street, Ryde, a former England bowls champion, died at a local nursing home on Wednesday. A native of Binstead, he had lived in the Island all his life, and for the last 33 years had been in business in Ryde as a confectioner and newsagent. For several years he was organist at the Primitive Methodist Church, High-street, and when the Methodists united he became organist at the Garfield-road Church, continuing until ill-health occasioned his retirement.

In the sphere of bowls he won an unrivalled reputation for an Island player. From 1920 for more than 10 years, he was acknowledged the finest bowler in the country. His outstanding year year of 1931, when he became the only Island player ever to have won the English Bowling Association singles title. In a memorable final he beat his opponent by 21 shots to 8. The next year he was selected for the England trials match, but illness robbed him of his chance of playing for his country, and the probability of a successful internation career, as in the opinion of many experienced judges he was one of the most brilliant bowlers the game has known. The truer the green the more clearly was his skill demonstrated. He first represented the Island in 1923, and he continued as a county player until 1950, with one break of three years. In Ryde he did much for the game. Apart from the playing skill which gained him many championship awards, he served the local club as hon. secretary, and

many present-day bowlers benefited from his tuition. A few years before the war he was responsible for starting the indoor bowling-rink at Edward-street, Ryde, where novices were introduced to the game during the winter. Mr. TOPP was formerly an enthusiastic member of Ryde Harriers.

He leaves a wife. His only son lost his life in 1941, when a Portsmouth-Ryde steamer was sunk by enemy action. The funeral will take place at the Ryde Methodist Church on Monday at 2 o'clock.

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ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1952, page 2.

**FORMER CHAMPION BOWLER  
THE LATE MR. E. P. TOPP OF RYDE**

The funeral of Mr. **Edwin Philip TOPP**, of 96 High-street, Ryde, a well known Island bowler and former national champion, took place on Monday. A service at the Methodist Church was conducted by the Rev. T. J. FOINETTE, who said that Mr. TOPP had done a great deal for the church. The organist, Mr. H. BRADING, J.P., accompanied the hymns "God of the living" and "For those we love within the veil."

The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. J. TOPP (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs. P. ANDREWS (sister), Mr. A. G. WILKINSON (brother-in-law), Mr. J. WHITFIELD (cousin), Miss M. DICKERSON (cousin), Mr. and Mrs. A. J. WHEELER, and Mrs BATTERSBY.

The I.W. County Bowling Association was represented by Messrs. H. E. DAY (president), E. WILSON (hon. treasurer, also representing Mr. W. T. COLLINS, J.P., hon secretary), L. GUY (junior vice-president), H. G. OCCOMORE (senior vice-president), G. NORMAN, H. J. COOPER, and A. S. FRAMPTON (past presidents); The Ryde Bowling Club by Messrs. H. ROGERS, T.C. (hon. secretary, also representing Mr. W. J. G. NEW), E. BRADING, W. D. LOVE, C. W. ADAMS, A. AINLEY, A. J. TANCOCK, W. H. MICHIE, L. J. WAIT, W. E. SELF (also representing Messrs. FARDELL's), F. STRIVENS, A. HIRST, B. BUCKETT, F. A. BRICKELL, and R. LOFTS, Mrs. H. NORTH, Mrs. BRADING, Mrs. E. WILSON (ladies secretary), and Mr. W. WEARN (former captain and hon. secretary and hon. treasurer); Newport B.C. by Messrs. A. H. COOKE, D. BURDEN, B. COOPER, and T. H. EDMONDS; Sandown B.C. by Messrs. E. G. WICKHAM, A. W. CORNEY, C. H. SIMMONDS, A. V. JACKMAN, and A. H. GUY; Cowes B.C. by Mr. G. H. BALLINGER; Bembridge B.C. by Mr. W. FREARSON; and J. S. WHITE's B.C. by Mr. G. D. FISHER.

The National Federation of Newsagents was represented by Mr. S. WROATH (president), Mr. J. D. JONES (hon. secretary), Mr. S. E. GREENHAM (hon. treasurer, also representing A. W. YOUNG Ltd.), and Mr. S. F. SEARS (Messrs. ROBERTS and WRATE Ltd.).

Others attending included Mr. W. A. ATTRILL (Ryde Regatta Committee), Mr. A. ROBINSON (National Provincial Bank), Mrs. CLARK (Messrs. J. P. CLARK), Mrs. M. HALSTED (Garfield-road Sisterhood), Mr. F. CHIVERTON (Messrs. UPWARD & RICH), Mr. and Mrs. E. J. GATRALL (High-street Methodist Church), Mr. J. H. DYER (Messrs. HOLBROOK), Mr. and Mrs. S. ADAMS, Miss GRAY, and Mrs. SHIRLEY (High-street Methodist Church). Members of the staff present were Mrs. E. ORAM, Miss S. HUMBER, Miss J. SAVAGE, and Mr. H. LANGFORD. Among the wreaths were those from the staff: the County Bowling Association; Ryde Bowling Club; trustees and late members of Ryde Methodist Church, High-street; National Federation of Retail Newsagents, I.W. branch; and fellow tradesmen in Upper High-street.

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