

1881 CENSUS: RG11/1180. Folio 68. Page 25.
Address: Alca Cottage, Weeks-road, Ryde, IW.

Sophia FOWLER. Head. Widow. 57. Ryde.
Joseph FOWLER. Son. Un. 25. Fisherman. Shanklin.
Harry FOWLER. Son. Un. 21. Fisherman. Shanklin.
William FOWLER. Son. 15. Scholar. Shanklin.
Alfred GODDARD. Nurse Child. 9. Scholar. Shanklin.
Jane NORTH. W. Widow. 86. Ryde.

1891 CENSUS: RG12/892. Folio 24. Page 41.
Address: 4 Weeks-road, Ryde, IW.

Sophia FOWLER. Head Widow. 56. Ryde, IW.
Harry FOWLER. Son. S. 28. Fisherman. Ryde, IW.
William FOWLER. Son. S. 24. Professional Cricketer. Ryde, IW.

ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 21st August 1947

AGED LONGSHOREMAN'S SUDDEN DEATH

Ryde has lost a notable character in the sudden death on Saturday evening of Mr. **William FOWLER**, aged 83, of 3, St. Mary's Passage, High-street. It appears that on Saturday afternoon a Mr. DRAWBRIDGE saw him on the shore at Players, digging bait, work to which Mr. FOWLER was accustomed for augmenting his old age pension.

Shortly before six o'clock Mr. DRAWBRIDGE noticed he was lying across a rock, as if asleep, but when he went over to him he appeared to be dead. Mr. DRAWBRIDGE and another passer-by tried to revive him without result. The Police and Dr. L.P.L. FIRMAN-EDWARDS were summoned, but the doctor could only pronounce life extinct.

The facts were reported to the Island Coroner, who dispensed with an inquest, death being due to natural causes.

A longshoreman, Mr. FOWLER was a familiar figure in the town for many years. More than sixty years ago he began playing cricket for Ryde, was their professional, and continued playing for a great number of seasons. He excelled in bowling, and had numerous fine achievements to his name. He never tired of recounting cricketing experiences of well over half a century ago, and even in recent years despite physical disability would have thought in terms of active participation in the game.

Only last summer he rowed in the veterans' race at Ryde Regatta, and there is little doubt that had death not so suddenly intervened by a matter of a few days he would have been competing to-day (Thursday) in the same event, as he had done for so many years.

Researched & typed by
Ann Barrett
Daphne Patterson
Marilyn Newsham