

ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 17th January 1935

Death Notice:

MATTHEWS. – On Jan. 8, at the County Hospital, Ryde, Mrs. **Sarah Jane MATTHEWS** (75) of 2 Simeon Street, Ryde.

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RYDE WIDOW'S DEATH

No Relation to Fall in Street

The sudden death of Mrs. Sarah Jane MATTHEWS, aged 75, of 2 Simeon Street, Ryde, widow of Mr. William John MATTHEWS, was the subject of an inquiry by the Deputy Coroner (Mr. F.A. JOYCE) at the High Street Methodist Schoolroom on Saturday morning. On the previous Tuesday deceased fell down in Trinity Street, and became unconscious and died at the County Hospital on Thursday. Inspector H. ROGERS represented the police.

Lena WITHERS, wife of William WITHERS, of 8 Cross Street, said deceased was her mother, who had been living by herself at 2 Simeon Street, for the last two years. Witness had seen her frequently and she had complained of pains in her heart since an illness four years ago. On the Monday previous her mother visited her and at that time she complained of a pain in her side. On Tuesday deceased was brought to her house in the afternoon unconscious and later Dr. Firman EDWARDS ordered her removal to the County Hospital where she remained unconscious until her death on Thursday.

Arthur FOSTER, baker and confectioner of 10 George Street, said that at 1.30 p.m. the previous Tuesday he was delivering bread in Trinity street and saw deceased standing against the back gate of St. Alban's. She told him she was feeling unwell and asked him if he would tell them below. He went down to the area basement and Mr. MUNFORD came to deceased's assistance. She then seemed all right. Witness went on with his delivery about 20 yards away and had been gone about two minutes when he heard someone call out and saw that deceased had fallen, apparently backwards, in the street. He lifted her up and she told him she had fallen down. She then began to vomit and became unconscious. He carried deceased to the area of St. Alban's and then called for Dr. EDWARDS.

Dr. Barbara Coville WELSH, house surgeon at the County Hospital, said deceased was unconscious when admitted on Tuesday evening and there was a slight bruise over the left eye. She gradually became worse and died on Thursday. As a result of a post mortem examination witness found that death was due to cerebral haemorrhage which was spontaneous and not due to the fall. It had arisen from degeneration of the arteries of the brain.

In returning a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence the Coroner commended Mr. FOSTER for his promptitude and told Mrs. WITHERS that she might be sure that everything was done for her mother that could be done.
