

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October 1886

NARROW ESCAPE OF A RYDE PILOT. - On Sunday a rather serious accident occurred to Mr. **W. COOTE**, the well-known Trinity pilot of Ryde. It seems he had been engaged to pilot the transport *Geelong* from Portsmouth Harbour to the Nab. Having accomplished this duty he was leaving the transport for the wherry he had engaged to bring him back when the rope ladder he was descending broke and he fell into the water. Mr. **BARKER**, who was in the wherry, cut his painter, ran astern, and succeeded in catching Mr. **COOTE**, and with the assistance of a boats' crew from the *Geelong* got him into the wherry, not much the worse for an immersion which might have proved serious as it was dark at the time.

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