

Thomas Cecil Letcher

Isle of Wight County Press - 18 November 1950

GURNARD

Sudden Death of Mr. T. C. Letcher.- The death occurred suddenly at his home on Thursday of Mr. Thomas Cecil Letcher, of The Vineries, Worsley Road. Mr. Letcher, who was 62 and a retired naval architect, had been suffering from gastric influenza. When his wife returned home from shopping at about 5 p.m. she found him dead. The facts have been reported to the Coroner. A freeman of the City of London, Mr. Letcher was formerly in business as a designer and boatbuilder. He was a Freemason, a member of the Cowes Conservative Club, and the hon. musical director of the Cowes Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society. He was also the organist at the Mill Hill Methodist Church for a number of years. The funeral will take place at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Tuesday, following a service at the Mil Hill Methodist Church, Cowes, at 2.30 p.m.

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The Late Mr. T. C. Letcher.

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT COWES FUNERAL

Brother Freemasons and fellow members of the Cowes Operatic and Dramatic Society were among the large attendance at the funeral on Tuesday, of Mr. Thomas Cecil Letcher, of the Vineries, Worsley Road, Gurnard, whose sudden death was reported last week. A service was held in the Cowes Mill Hill, Methodist Church, and the interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The Rev. F. W. Hargreaves officiated, Mr. T. Smith was at the organ, and the hymns "Now the labourer's task is o'er" and "Jesus, Lover of my soul" were sung. The Masonic rites were conducted by the Rev. H. J. Nichols (chaplain and rector of Northwood).

The family mourners were: Mrs. T. C. Letcher (widow), Miss Christine Letcher (also representing Lt.-Comdr. and Mrs. Draper (daughters and son-in-law), and Mrs. S. T. Flannery (daughters), Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Letcher (brother and sister-in-law), Captain and Mrs. J. W. Wilson (brother-in-law and sister), Miss D. M. Brown (sister-in-law), and Mrs. I. Brown and Mr. Brown (sister-in-law and nephew).

The Freemasons attending were Messrs. H. A. Barlow, H.S., and B. Benzie, R. G. Burke, H. E. Day, T. G. Hale, A. Jackman, R. Westbrook, A. B. Woodyear, Uffa Fox, H. C. Wingham (who also represented Mr. A. O. Purdy, C.C., mayor of Newport), F. O. Mason, E. W. Ballard, R., A. J., and E. White, F. J. Petty, , B. Groves, J. Webster, E. W. F. Williams, W. H. Spidey, W. Newnham, D. Mitchell, C. F. J. Hill, R. M. Browne, G. W. Hughes, R. S. Curry, F. Dinnis, E. J. Powell, A. Phillips, J. Temple Smith, J. Seymour, J. W. Blunt, J. Hillier, E. Sibley, and L. A. Jackson, and Captains G. E. C. Barton, G. Sinclair, and H. Rowe. The Cowes Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society was represented by Mrs. H. S. Benzie, Messrs. W. F. Burnett, G. Scadding, S. C. Wadham, M. G. Watts, E. H. Tuffin, H. Stafford, and A. E. Caws, Mesdames J. Hillier (also representing Mrs. Clark), G. Waring and P. James, and the Misses J. Wingham (also representing Miss P. Kirk), J. Mutlett, and E. Woodyear. Among others present were Messrs. W. J. Tucker, N. Raper, E. Reader, A. W. Day, and D. Richardson (representing the Southern Electricity Board), Captain J. R. Carter, Messrs. A. Jones and A. Willstead, and Mrs. W. H. Shepard (representing the Mill Hill Methodist Church), Messrs. B. Webb, R. A. Tarrant, and E. D. Ransom (representing the Cowes Carnival Committee), Mr. S. R.

Jones (representing Cowes Conservative Club, Mrs. D. M. Ilton (representing the Gurnard Conservative association), and many friends.

There were no floral tributes, by request, but the Rev. F. W. Hargreaves announced that instead small gifts could be sent to the Medina Lodge of Freemasons to be forwarded to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The arrangements were made by Messrs. W. G. Thomas.

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