

William Edwin Errill

Isle of Wight County Press 11 February 1978

Man dies in fumes tragedy

AN ISLAND man died, his wife was found unconscious, and another woman was discovered delirious in a bungalow on Saturday night overcome by fumes from a central heating boiler.

The dead man was Mr. William Errill, 79, of Chatfield Lodge, Newport.

His wife, Mabel, also 79, was taken to Worthing Hospital seriously ill and placed in intensive care.

The tragedy happened at the home of Mrs. Winnie Cooper, 81, of Palatine Road, Worthing. Her son called at her home and could not get in.

He broke a window and found his mother delirious in bed and the other couple in another bedroom. The house was filled with carbon monoxide fumes.

The three pensioners had returned on Thursday week from a pensioners' holiday at Benidorm.

A theory is that while they were away, storms and rain had dislodged soot in the boiler flue. When the three returned home they lit the boiler without realising that the flue was blocked.

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