

William Urry

1901 census, 33 Coppins Bridge, Newport

<i>William Urry</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>Innkeeper</i>	<i>Whippingham, Isle of Wight</i>
Charlotte Urry	Wife	60		Whippingham, Isle of Wight
John Urry	Son	27	Innkeeper's son	Ireland
Florence Urry	Daughter	23	General Servant	Whippingham, Isle of Wight
Arthur Urry	Son	16	Gas Company Clerk	Whippingham, Isle of Wight

Isle of Wight County Press – 10 October 1908

SAD DEATH OF A NEWPORT INN-KEEPER.

The Deputy Coroner for the Island (F. A. Joyce, Esq.) held an inquest at the White Lion Inn, Coppins-bridge, Newport, on Tuesday, on the body of William Urry, aged 75, who had held the licence of that inn for the long period of 33 years, and who was found dead in his bed-room on that morning with his jugular vein severed. In addition to being one of the oldest licensed victuallers in the Island, the deceased was a naval veteran and pensioner, and had served in the China War, for which he had the medal and four bars. Mr. W. Ouseley was foreman of the jury.

JOHN [EDWARD ? should be ALFRED] URRY, dairyman, identified the body as that of his father, who had been in infirm health for a great number of years, though he had not been altogether confined to his bed. During the past year he had been suffering from chronic asthma. Witness last saw his father alive on the previous night at 10.50, when he was downstairs and retired to bed. He was not then in very good health. That morning at about 9.45 witness was called by the servant, Miss Spanner, as he was coming down the street, and on going upstairs he found the deceased lying in rather a crouched position, with his head close to the wall. On removing him witness saw there was an injury to his throat. A razor, the property of witness's brother-in-law, was lying on the floor. It was kept on the dressing-table on the landing, and the deceased must have gone just outside his bed-room to fetch it. Dr. Foster was sent for directly, and on his arrival, almost as soon as witness, he pronounced life extinct. The deceased had never threatened to commit suicide to witness's knowledge. For the last three or four years the house had practically been managed by witness's sister. The deceased's life had been very happy, and witness could give no reason why he should have done this, except that he had been suffering from asthma, especially through the fogs, which had troubled him greatly, and he was light-headed at times. Deceased generally came downstairs between 12 and 1.

Replying to the foreman, WITNESS stated that his father received medical attention about nine months ago, when he had a very severe illness. His complaint did not require a medical man, as he doctored himself with a powder. He could sometimes tell by what the deceased said that he was not just the thing, and it was when the attack was very severe that he talked as if he were light-headed.

Mrs. HALL, daughter of the deceased, residing at the White Lion, said she last saw her father alive at about 9.30 that morning when he was sitting in a chair in his bed-room, with his clothes on. Witness asked him how he was that morning, as usual, and he answered that he was all right. She noticed he had not drunk his tea as he usually did. She asked if she should pull up the blind, and deceased said yes, if she liked, and witness did so. Witness had

the child in her arms, and deceased spoke to it and shook hands with it. Afterwards, whilst witness and Miss Spanner were downstairs, they heard a noise, and witness, thinking deceased had fallen out of his chair, asked Miss Spanner to go up. She did so at once, and went to speak to the deceased, taking his hand. She at once returned to witness, saying "Something has happened to your father," remarking that she had better go and tell witness's brother, adding "I won't tell you, Mrs. Hall." Witness waited for her brother, who arrived within a very few minutes, and he was the next to see the deceased. Witness went for the doctor. She did not really know what had happened, except that it was something very serious, and she asked the doctor to come at once, Her father had been rather depressed lately; she thought his complaint made him so, and especially the fogs. Witness thought he had been fairly happy; he had always spoken as if he were so. There was no one else upstairs at the time of the occurrence.

Dr. STANLEY FOSTER, who was sent for at about 9.50 that morning, said he found the deceased lying in the corner of the bed-room on his back, with his head on his chest. On the body being removed to the middle of the room witness saw what had happened. A lot of blood was coming from the region of the neck, which, on examination, witness found to have been cut and the left jugular vein severed. He should say there was no doubt the wound was a self-inflicted one, though he could not tell. A razor was lying on the floor. Witness thought the deceased had been standing in front of the looking-glass and had fallen over on to his side in the corner.

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased committed suicide by cutting his throat, and that he was temporarily insane at the time.

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