

GRAVE OF THE MONTH

William George New (1864-1927)



William was the son of a baker and corn merchant. He grew up in Bartholomew Street, Newbury. After taking over the business and marrying his wife, Ada, he had four daughters: Bertha, Nora, Gertrude and Phyllis. Sadly, Bertha died when she was five years old.

William must have done well for himself because, as well as employing people in his business, in each census of 1891, 1901 and 1911 he also employed a domestic servant.

He eventually gave up the bakery in favour of more milling, carrying this out at Ham Mills. Such was his success that he was able to build himself a new home in Porchester Road where both he and Ada lived until they died.

William liked to keep busy and held various community posts throughout his life including Chairman of the Guildhall and serving on the Newbury Board of Guardians, being especially interested in helping vagrants. He packed vegetables for the Fleet and was joint treasurer of Newbury Nursing Association.

He completed 22 years' service in the Royal Berks Yeomanry, looking very smart in his scarlet tunic, blue trousers and white-plumed brass helmet.

William died in September 1927, aged 63, after driving home from a holiday in Bognor Regis where he had suddenly been taken ill.

A service was conducted in the Primitive Methodist chapel where William had been both steward and treasurer.

More information is available on our website:

fnrcnewbury.org.uk/persondetails.asp?PersonID=542

and in the Newbury Weekly News archive dated 11th Sept 1927