

Charles Victor WHEELER

Born: 1887, Carisbrooke

Parents: George Wadham Wheeler and Mary Hawkins

Last known address: 110 East View Cottages, Arctic Road Cowes

Last known occupation: Baker

Service number: none

Service: Merchant Marine Service

Died: 11th November 1917

Age: 30

Buried: Northwood Cemetery

Family/descendants: Charles was the fifth child of George Wadham Wheeler and Mary Hawkins, who were married at St George's, Arreton in 1876. George was a carpenter all his working life. In the 1911 census he was listed as a carpenter working at the cement mills. George died in 1919 and Mary in 1924.

In 1909, Charles married Lottie Louisa Dyer at St John's Church, Newport. They had one daughter, Iris Eileen, born in 1913. Following Charles' death, Lottie married Harry George Aldridge Hallam in 1918 and had a son, Herbert, in the same year. There is no record of the deaths of Harry and Lottie on the Island but Herbert died in 1998. Iris married Arthur Nelson Compton in 1934 and had several children. She died in 1963.

Brothers: Fred (1877) and Harry Bertram (1880)

Sisters: Henrietta Lilian (1883), Cora Wadham (1885-1886), Florence Hilda (1891) and Dorothy Mabel (1894)

Wife: Lottie Louisa Dyer

Daughter: Iris Eileen (1913)

Northwood/Gurnard connection: the Wheeler family lived in Carisbrooke High Street until the early 1900s. In 1911 George and Mary were living in Parkhurst. Charles was a shop assistant in 1901 but in 1911 he and his wife were living at 110 East View Cottages, Arctic Road, Cowes and he was a baker. When Charles died, Lottie was living in Devonport House, Parkhurst.

War record: Charles was a cook in the Merchant Navy and was drowned at sea when his ship, the *SS Basil* (pictured), was lost at sea near the Owers Lightship, off Selsey Bill, Sussex. The *Basil* was owned by the Booth Shipping Company and was carrying ammunition from Southampton to Boulogne when she collided with a French vessel, the *Margaux*, in thick fog. The *Basil* sank almost and immediately over 40 lives were lost,



<http://www.wrecksite.eu/wreck>

including Charles, but the *Margaux* survived with extensive damage. Charles was buried in Northwood Cemetery. His death was reported in the *Isle of Wight County Press* on November 17th 1917.

Wheeler – Charles Victor Wheeler, age 30, R.N. Drowned at sea 11-11-1917. Husband of Lottie Louise Wheeler, Devonport House, Parkhurst.