

DEATHS of FARR & PASSMORE 1929

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MOTORING TRAJEDY

Mr Dudley Robert Passmore and Miss Leila Madge Farr, both of whom were well-known in Birchington, were killed when the car in which they were travelling came into collision with another car on the Kingston by-pass at New Malden on Wednesday. (21st March).

It appears that Mr Passmore was driving the car towards London, when he drew out to pass another vehicle. According to an eyewitness, he swerved and collided with a car proceeding in the opposite direction.

The driver of the other car involved in the collision was unhurt. Mr Passmore resided at Hampton Court, Hampstead and beach Avenue, Minnis Bay and Miss Farr lived at Royal crescent, Holland Park and Epple Bay Road, Birchington.

[This account sheds light on a story that has circulated about their deaths for many years – which now proves to be totally fictitious! They were said to have been riding on Mr Farr's motorbike along a newly built section of the new Thanet Way and heading for Birchington for a weekend break. They were purported to be the first fatal accident on this road, known in later years for its bad accident rate.]

Jennie Burgess, Archivist - 2009