

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

8689

Wreck Book, p. 35/33

Date of writing this report 28th December 1933

Name Steel S.S. "Culmore" of Londonderry Tons (Net 181 Gross 469)

Pauley When 1931 - 7 Casualty notice sent to Owner x Owner's reply x

Name W A Wilson
Address 24 Northlands Road, Southampton

Previously before Date
Committee Last Minute
Particulars of Classification
+100 A1 12.33 S.S. No. 3 11.33 +LMC 11.33

Casualty 13th December, 1933

Particulars of Casualty

In response to signals for assistance from an unknown steamer of about 500 tons, the Aldeburgh lifeboat put to sea on the 13th December. The vessel in distress was seen to have a list of about 40° to starboard & before the lifeboat could reach her she suddenly disappeared.

A letter, dated 15th December, has been received from the Owner, in which he states that

"my v.s. 'Culmore' left Blyth at about 11.15 on the night of the 11th December & has failed to arrive at her destination at Strood Dock, Sunderland that a steamer believed to have been the 'Culmore' foundered with all hands on the 13th December about four miles off the Suffolk Coast at Aldeburgh, & that the bodies of some members of the crew have been identified as those belonging to the 'Culmore'. The lifeboats answering the description of the 'Culmore's' & one lifebuoy with 'Culmore Londonderry', printed thereon, has also been washed up off Bawdsey, & I therefore conclude there is no doubt that this boat has been lost."

Upon inquiry at Lloyd's it is stated that no application has yet been received to post this vessel as "missing"

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Harwich, Dec. 13. - Aldeburgh lifeboat arrived at Harwich at 3.30 this afternoon; coastguard reports put to sea at 11 a.m. in response to signals for assistance from an unknown steamer of about 500 tons having a list of 40 degrees to starboard; two flags flying. Before the lifeboat could reach the steamer she suddenly disappeared; fear total loss. - Lloyd's Agent.

CULMORE. - Harwich, Dec. 14. - Walton coastguard reports that two lifeboats about 25 ft. long, painted lead colour, no name, one lifebuoy marked "Culmore, London", painted red and white, also some hatches washed ashore about two miles south of Shingle Street. (Note. - Steamer Culmore, of Londonderry, left Blyth on Dec. 11 for Rochester. See "Vessel in Distress" off Aldeburgh" in issue of Dec. 11.)

London, Dec. 14. - Early to-day a quantity of wreckage, two lifeboats and one lifebuoy, together with a number of hatches, were washed ashore at Shingle Street, near Orford Haven. The lifebuoy was painted red and white and bore the name "Culmore, London." It is therefore presumed that the steamer that disappeared on Wednesday (Dec. 13) before the lifeboats could reach her was the Culmore. The vessel is owned by W. A. Wilson, of Southampton. Later to-day two bodies, presumably those of sailors, were washed ashore at Felixstowe beach. The names of the crew of the steamer Culmore are: Captain F. S. Rowson, of Brighton, the master; the mate, J. Davis, of Southampton; chief engineer, F. James, of Southampton; second engineer, R. Viant, of Eastleigh; fireman, W. Ward, of Southampton; fireman, F. Baldwin, of Southampton; seaman, C. Simpson, address not known; A. Churchill, believed to live in the Isle of Wight, and H. Packham, of Southampton. Two more bodies, believed to be those of two members of the crew of the Culmore, have been found on Felixstowe beach, making four in all recovered to-day. The vessel was on a voyage from Blyth to Strood, Rochester, with coal. The owner stated to-day: The Culmore was a steel screw steamer of 439 tons gross, and was registered at Londonderry. She had only been recently surveyed and registered again on Nov. 20. She was a seaworthy vessel, and it is hard to understand how she foundered. The gale must have been very severe. She had a good crew, some of whom had been employed by me for many years. This is the first of my vessels to have been lost. I have had one report that she was fighting her way north again.

A representative of Messrs. Groom & Son, of Harwich, has been to Felixstowe to try to identify the four bodies which have been washed up. Two of them were found on Felixstowe beach, and two at Bawdsey nearby. - From papers found on one of them he came to the conclusion that he was the master, Captain F. S. Rowson, of Brighton, and two of the others appeared to be the firemen, Ward and Baldwin.

CULMORE. - London, Dec. 17. - A verdict of drowning by misadventure through rough seas was given at an inquest held at Felixstowe yesterday on four members of the crew of the steamer Culmore. The four men were: Frederick Stanley Rowson, of Egremont Place, Brighton, the master; Robert Briant, Barton Road, Eastleigh, Hants; Harold Packham, Norwich Road, Southampton; and Frederick Baldwin, Trinity Road, Southampton.

8th February 1934

Upon further inquiry at Lloyd's it is stated that the Underwriters have settled this case as a total loss.

Suggested Record Lost 12.33
Date of Committee Fri. 29 DEC 1933

Committee's Minute Lost 12.33
W A Wilson

General Committee Thursday, 4th January 1934

Defaced

Lloyd's Register Foundation

Character Assigned

Wreck Book S. 12.33 S.S. No. 3 11.33

W580-0011

W580-0012

Suggested
Record. Lost 12.33.

FRI. 9 FEB 1934

Lost 12.33 RB

in Lloyd's 9/2

in Owen 16/2

MP



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