

Rupert Edward Barker (1896 – 1964)

The young Rupert Barker began his working life at a woollen mill and would later become a tailor – running his own business from his home at Arbour Cottage, Farnhill.

From a young age he was involved in music – singing tenor solos and serving as organist and choir master at Farnhill Methodist Chapel. In later life he would become a semi-professional singer, taking part in music festivals in northern England and in Wales.

Rupert's war service was with the Navy – serving on vessels that patrolled the Channel.



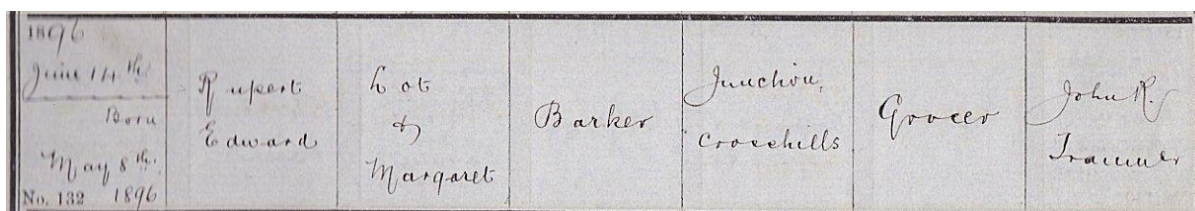
Photograph from Farnhill & Kildwick Local History Group

Returning to Farnhill his involvement in village life continued. He took part in various musical events and amateur dramatics and served the Methodist chapel in many capacities. During WW2 he became a War Reserve Constable, stationed in the Crosshills area.

Rupert died in 1964, after a brief illness – leaving a widow and a son, who was a police constable in the Derbyshire Constabulary.

Pre-war life

Rupert Edward Barker was born on 8th May 1896, and was baptised the following month at Farnhill Methodist Chapel.



Scan of the baptismal register of Farnhill Primitive Methodist Chapel
From the archive of the Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group

He was the second son of Lot Barker, born in Keighley in 1865, and Margaret Sugden Jackson (usually known as Margaret Sugden), born in Kildwick in 1866. They had been married in 1891.

Information about where Rupert was born is confused. The baptismal entry (above) says Junction, Crosshills; the 1901 census says Crosshills; whereas the 1911 census and his WW1 military documents say Kildwick.

The 1901 census shows that the four-year old Rupert and his mother, Margaret, were living in Farnhill, in the home of her father, Robert Sugden, at 7 South View.

At that time, Lot Barker was recorded as living in Poulton-le-Fylde, with Rupert's older brother Herbert and Horace Lund – who was the husband of Margaret's younger sister Annie. Lot's brother, Joe, was living in Morecambe at the time.

Note: Rupert's mother Margaret appears on the register of her birth and on her marriage certificate as Margaret Sugden Jackson. She was the daughter of Robert Sugden. How do we explain the different surnames ?

Robert Jackson, born 3rd March 1840, was the illegitimate son of a single woman, Margaret Jackson. When he married Grace Baron, in 1863, he was recorded as Robert Jackson. However, all of Robert and Grace's children, including their daughter Margaret, were given the middle name Sugden and, at some point, Robert himself started to use the surname Sugden.

Interestingly, Robert Jackson appears on two census returns, aged 11 and 21, living in the home of William Sugden, the Kildwick coal merchant. Aged 31, he and his new wife Grace were living there and Robert was referred to as Robert Sugden, the son of William.

Robert later joined Sugden's company, as a book-keeper.

It seems beyond doubt then that Robert was the illegitimate son of Margaret Jackson and William Sugden. This would make Robert's grandsons, Herbert and Rupert Barker, distant cousins of Thomas Edward Sugden, another of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers.

Robert Sugden, Rupert's grandfather, was a member of the committee of Kildwick and District Brass Band, and sometime conductor. In 1905 he gave land in the Arbour to the band so that they could build a practice hall. Although there is no evidence that Rupert joined the band, music was to play a very important part in his life.

Lot Barker died in 1905, in Silsden, and the 1911 census shows the remaining family members, Margaret and her two sons, living at 9 Mary Street, Farnhill. The 14-year old Rupert was recorded as a bobbin carrier on a spinning loom in a woollen mill. However this was not to become his career, as he was subsequently apprenticed to the tailor Henry Price of Silsden.

Note: Price would later become famous as Sir Henry Price, "the fifty shilling tailor". Price started his first shop in the front room of his home in Silsden and went on to make his fortune providing quality tailoring at an affordable cost. Price's "Fifty Shilling Tailors" subsequently expanded to employ twelve thousand staff and have five hundred outlets.

Rupert appears to have been a member of the Farnhill Methodist Chapel from a young age and by 1914 was singing as a soloist with the choir, as reported in the Keighley News (6/6/1914).

FARNHILL.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST ANNIVERSARY.

The Rev. J. Pattinson, of Doncaster, conducted services at the Farnhill Primitive Methodist Chapel on Sunday last on the occasion of the school anniversary. In the morning a children's service was held, and solos were contributed by Miss D. Hill. At the afternoon service solos were sung by Miss Nelson and Mr. R. E. Barker, and the choir gave the anthem, "The Radiant Morn." The soloist in the evening was Mrs. E. Spencer and the choir rendered the anthem, "the day is past and over," the solos being taken by Miss B. Walmsley and Mr. R. E. Barker. Good congregations assembled, and the collection amounted to £19 1s. 6d.—an advance upon last year's amount of over a guinea.

By kind permission of Keighley News

On 5th June 1915, the 19-year old Rupert married local girl Maggie Mosley at Farnhill Chapel. The marriage was witnessed by his uncle, Fred Sugden, and Mary Nelson, who would, in 1919, become the wife of Rupert's brother Herbert.

| 1915. Marriage solemnized at <u>Primitive Methodist Chapel Farnhill</u> | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| in the District of <u>Leighston</u> in the County of <u>York</u> | | | | | | | | |
| No. | When Married. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Surname. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
| 53 | 5 th June 1915 | Rupert Edward Barker | 19 years | Bachelor | Tailor | 9 Mary Street Farnhill | Lot Barker Deceased | Grocer |
| | | Maggie Mosley | 21 years | Spinster | Cotton Weaver | 12 Striton Road Crosshills | Robert Mosley | Wine & Goods Weaver |
| Married in the <u>Primitive Methodist Chapel</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Primitive Methodists</u> by Licence by me, | | | | | | | | |
| This Marriage was solemnized between us, | | { <u>Rupert Edward Barker</u> | | in the Presence of us, | { <u>Fred Sugden</u> | | | |
| | | { <u>Maggie Mosley</u> | | | { <u>Mary Nelson</u> | | | |
| | | | | | { <u>James G. Middleton Minister</u> | | | |
| | | | | | { <u>M. L. Hemming Registrar</u> | | | |

Barker – Mosley wedding certificate
(c) Crown Copyright

Rupert and Maggie's only child, Herbert Kenneth, was born on 14th August 1915.

The Kildwick School pupil admissions records for 1918 to 1931 (the only years for which records have been found) record Herbert's attendance from 7/6/1920 (aged 4 years, 9 months) to 2/9/1927 – when he appears to have moved to another school. The reason for this is not known.

WW1 service

Although he must have volunteered to serve before Farnhill Parish Council drew up its Roll of Honour in January 1916, Rupert's active service did not begin until 14th September 1917.

Rupert's name was recorded on the Farnhill Methodist Chapel's roll of honour, but was added (as were a number of others) after it was officially unveiled on 9th July 1916. This suggests that although he volunteered before the introduction of conscription he was not called up until later in the conflict.

A late call-up certainly fits in with the appearance of Rupert's name in 1916 and 1917 newspaper reports of local musical events, in which he participated as either a singer or an accompanist.

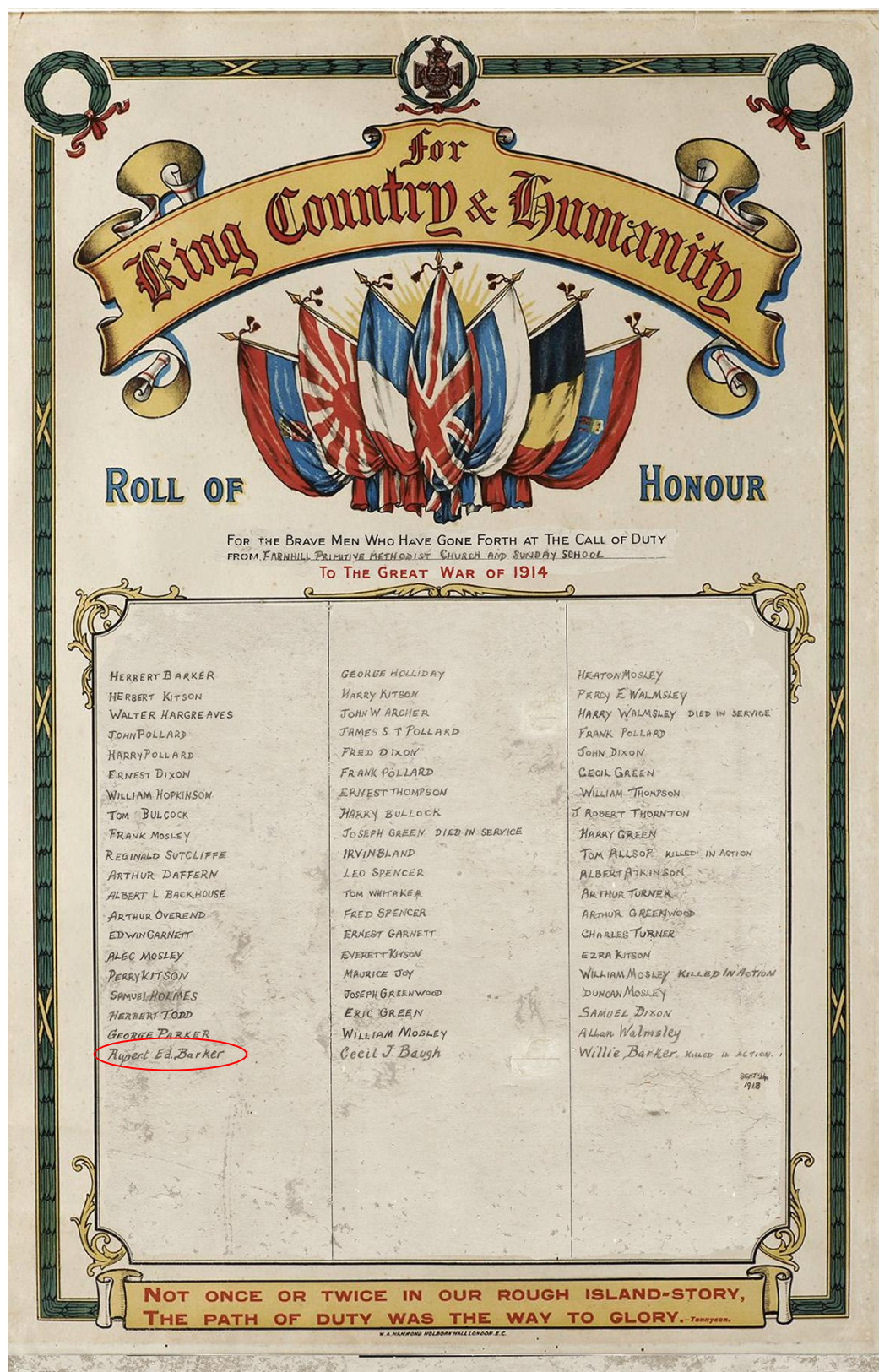
Rupert Edward Barker's WW1 service records show that he joined the Navy and that his "Period of Engagement" began on 14th September 1917. It started with an attachment to the administrative base Victory I, in Portsmouth, initially as an Ordinary Seaman before he was transferred to the RNRT (Royal Naval Reserve Trawler section), as a deckhand, on 14th November 1917.

For a month in March and April 1918 he served on Motor Launch ML 553, in Dover. This was one of 580 80-foot-long vessels built by the US Elco company and used by the Navy to defend the British coast and harbours from German submarines. They also participated in small cross-Channel operations.

On 16th April 1918 Rupert was transferred to HMS Arrogant.



A silk-work panel of HMS Arrogant, dating from WW1. From the-saleroom.com, 2015



The digitally-restored Farnhill Methodist Roll of Honour (1916)

Note: The names on the bottom three lines of the roll of honour, including that of Rupert Edward Barker, do not appear in newspaper reports of its unveiling and it is likely that they were added later.

HMS Arrogant formed part of the Dover Patrol, whose role was to monitor barriers and defences at the eastern end of the English Channel, aimed at preventing U-boats from gaining access.

Rupert was demobilised on 23rd February 1919.

| E IN ROYAL NAVY WHEN CALLED OUT BY PRO | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|--|--|---|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------|
| MENT OF SERVICE | | | | TERMINATION OF SERVICE | | | | | |
| R. V. 54 | | | | Report by Naval Officer | | | | | |
| ARRIVAL | | | | Port of Ship from which Discharged and Place of Discharge | Actual Date of Discharge | Rating on Discharge | Character | | RECORDS OF DISCHARGE |
| Destination | Date | | | | | | Ability | Conduct | |
| Vic I (Sec) from | 15-12-17 | | | | | | | | |
| Vic II (B2) | | | | | | | | | |
| M.L. 553 from Viceroy | 11-3-18 | | | Viceroy | 15-12-18 | B.H. | ✓ | Y.G. | |
| Arrogant | 16-12-18 | | | Arrogant | 23-2-19 | --- | Fair | --- | Discharged to Shore |

Extract from Rupert Barker's WW1 naval service record
Used under licence from the National Archive

Post-war life

Initially returning to his mother's home at 9 Mary Street, Farnhill, Rupert and his family very soon moved into the Arbour. He lived there for the rest of his life.

The 1921 census records the family living at the Arbour. Rupert gave his occupation as a Tailor's Cutter; working for Prices of Low Street, Keighley.

He very quickly became involved in the social life of the village – with music and cricket appearing to be his principal interests. This is attested by the appearance of his name in various newspaper reports throughout the 1920s and '30s, of which just a small selection are reproduced below by kind permission of the publishers.

KILDWICK & FARNHILL.

Social Evening.—On Saturday evening a social evening was held in the Village Institute for the workers who took part in the garden party at Kildwick Hall. A good tea was prepared and served by the gentlemen on a beautifully decorated table. After tea songs and recitations were given by Mrs. W. Heaton and Mrs. C. Hill. Mr. Edward Barker played for dancing and a very enjoyable evening was spent. About £2 was raised for the Institute funds.

From Craven Herald, 19/9/1919

ELOCUTIONARY RECITALS.

During last week-end Mr. Edward F. French, the well-known elocutionist, paid a visit to the Farnhill Primitive Methodist Church in connection with the choir anniversary. On Saturday evening, before a crowded audience presided over by the Rev. T. Ladlay, Mr. French gave in the school a series of recitals, and fully upheld the high reputation won by him on his previous visit. His best numbers were "Craven" and a boy's story, "The Roman Road." Mr. French also gave monologues, and Miss Dorothy Hill contributed songs, and Mr. Leo Spencer violin solos. A trio was given by Miss V. Spencer and Messrs. F. and L. Spencer, and the choir sang two part-songs. Mr. R. E. Barker was the accompanist.

On Sunday the pulpit was occupied in the morning by Mr. A. J. Clayton (Cononley), and at the afternoon service Mr. French gave a number of recitals and Miss Dorothy Hill a solo, and the choir an anthem. At the evening service, which was chiefly taken up with recitals by Mr. French, there was a crowded congregation. The last recital of Mr. French, "The Singing of the Magnificat" (with organ accompaniment), was splendid. Miss Hill gave a solo and the choir anthems. Mr. E. Spencer was conductor, and Mr. R. E. Barker presided at the organ. The proceeds for the choir funds amounted to over £19.

From Keighley News, 8/11/1919

Cricketers' Pie Supper.—In aid of the funds of the Kildwick Albion Cricket Club, a pie supper and social was held in the Farnhill Institute yesterday evening week and was well patronised. A satisfactory number of people sat down to supper, which was served by members of the club. At the social which followed, Mr. L. E. Hargreaves presided. Dancing, the music for which was supplied by Mr. S. Overend, was interspersed with vocal and instrumental items. Songs were sung by Miss Maud Stewart, Mr. Sam. Tillotson and Mr. Harry Dearden. Mr. W. Whitaker contributed violin solos, and Mr. L. E. Hargreaves was responsible for a collection of humorous stories. Mr. R. E. Barker was accompanist for the singing. The proceeds, after all expenses had been paid, amounted to £3 12.

From Craven Herald, 18/11/1927

In 1921, Rupert played the part of Robin Hood in an amateur performance of the popular two-act comic operetta, "King of Sherwood", at a garden party held at Kildwick Hall. The event was reported in the Craven Herald (8/7/1921).

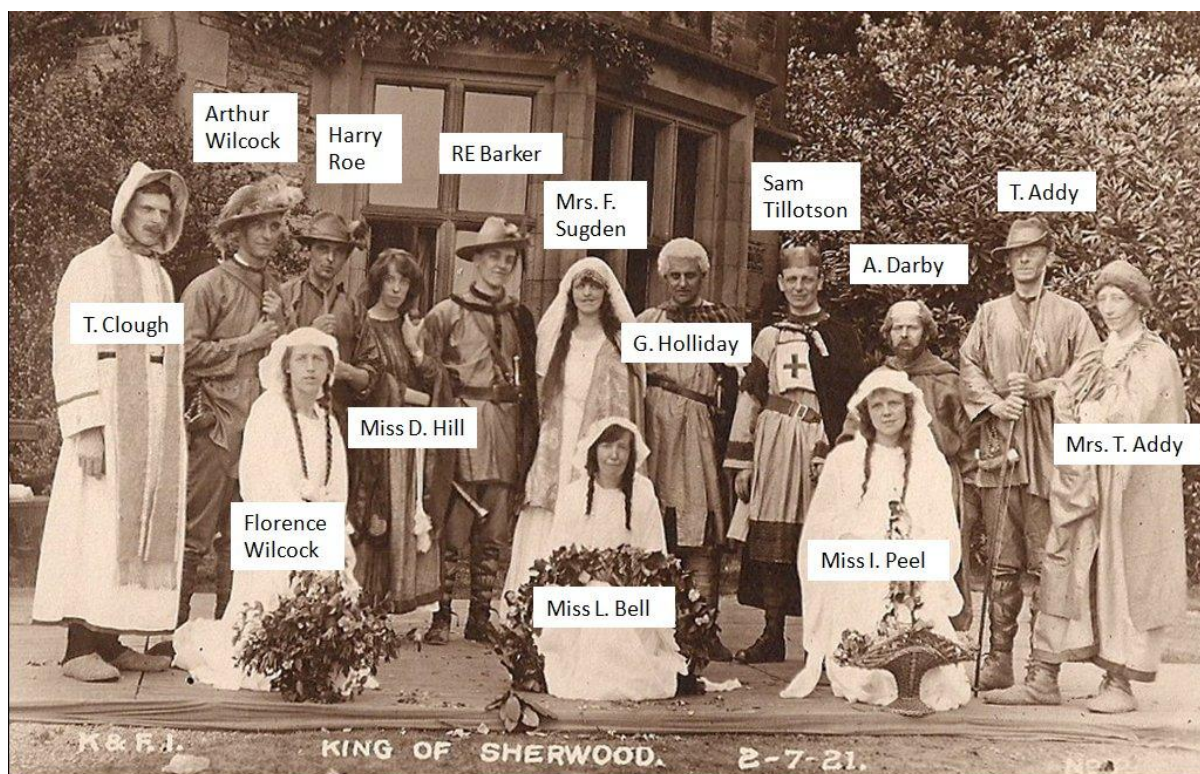
The annual garden party organised by the Kildwick and Farnhill Institute, which took place on Saturday in the grounds of Kildwick Hall (kindly lent by Messrs. Brigg), took the form of an "Olde Time Fayre." The various stalls were in charge of ladies wearing quaint and ancient costumes, and there were afternoon and evening performances on the lawn of the operetta "The King of Sherwood". The principal characters were:-

*Robin Hood, Mr. R. E. Barker;
Maid Marian, Mrs. F. Sugden;
King Richard, Mr. Sam Tillotson;
Abbot, Mr. T. Clough;
Sheriff, Mr. G. Holliday;
Little John, Mr. T. Addy;
Much, Mr. A. Wilcock;
Friar Tuck, Mr. A. Darby;
Will Scarlett, Mr. E. Green;
Dame Scarlett, Miss D. Hill;
Sir Richard Lea, Mr. F. Sugden;
Edith, Mrs. T. Addy;
Dorothy, Miss L. Bell; and
Ella, Miss I. Peel.*

Although each member of the company acquitted themselves well, Mr. A. Darby's clever impersonation of Friar Tuck is worthy of mention. Much credit was due to Mr. T. Appleby, the coach, and Mr. E. Spencer, who was responsible for the musical part of the programme. Mr. Julius Spencer's orchestra accompanied. During the interval, tea was served in the courtyard. At the close, a vote of thanks was accorded Messrs. Brigg and also all those who had assisted to make the effort a success. The proceeds, amounting to over £65, were for the Institute funds.

| |
|---|
| <p>Note: George Holliday, who played the part of Sheriff was also one of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers; and Julius Spencer, who was in charge of the orchestra, was the father of Leo Spencer, another of the Farnhill Volunteers.</p> |
|---|

Here is the cast of that production, in a photograph taken at Kildwick Hall.

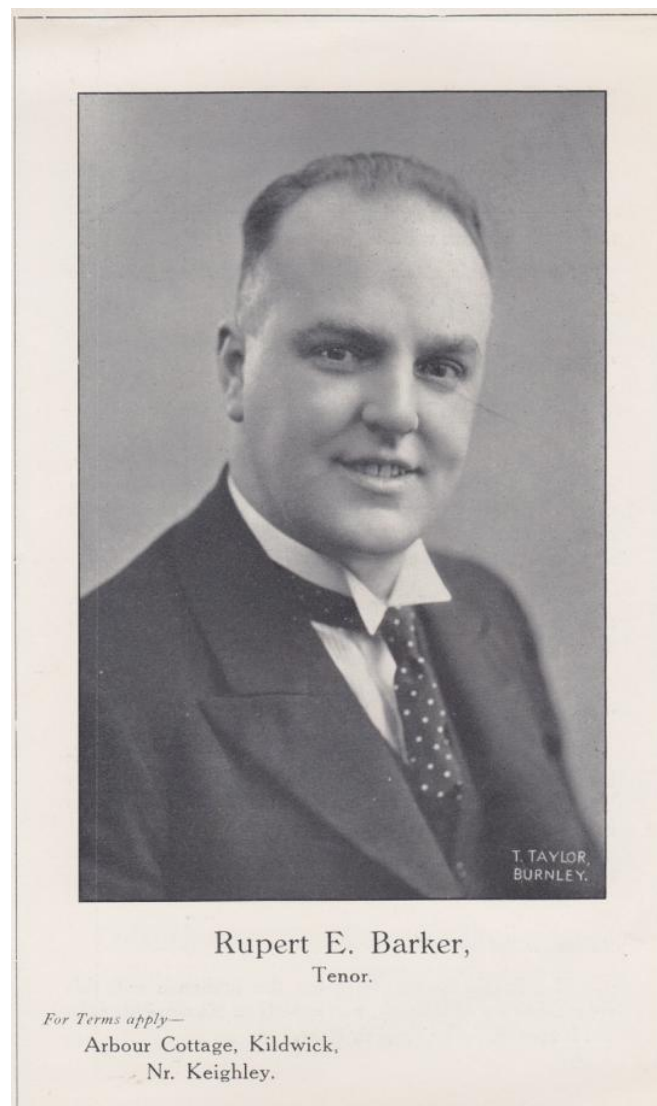


Photograph from the Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group archive

Rupert was elected as one of the trustees of Farnhill Methodist Chapel in 1918 and subsequently played an active part in chapel matters. In 1921 he served as assistant to the treasurer (his brother Herbert) and from around 1922 until 1940 he was the chapel's organist, for which he was paid the sum of £5 every six months.

It is clear that Rupert also acted as treasurer for the Kildwick & Farnhill Institute at some point in the inter-war years. The project has seen records of his Institute membership fees for the years 1937 to 1939 being waived because he was "Honorary Treasurer".

Rupert became a semi-professional singer. The photograph shown below makes up the front page of his professional calling card.



A review of one of Rupert's performances was included on one of the inside pages.

"Daily Express." *By R. Stephen Williams.*

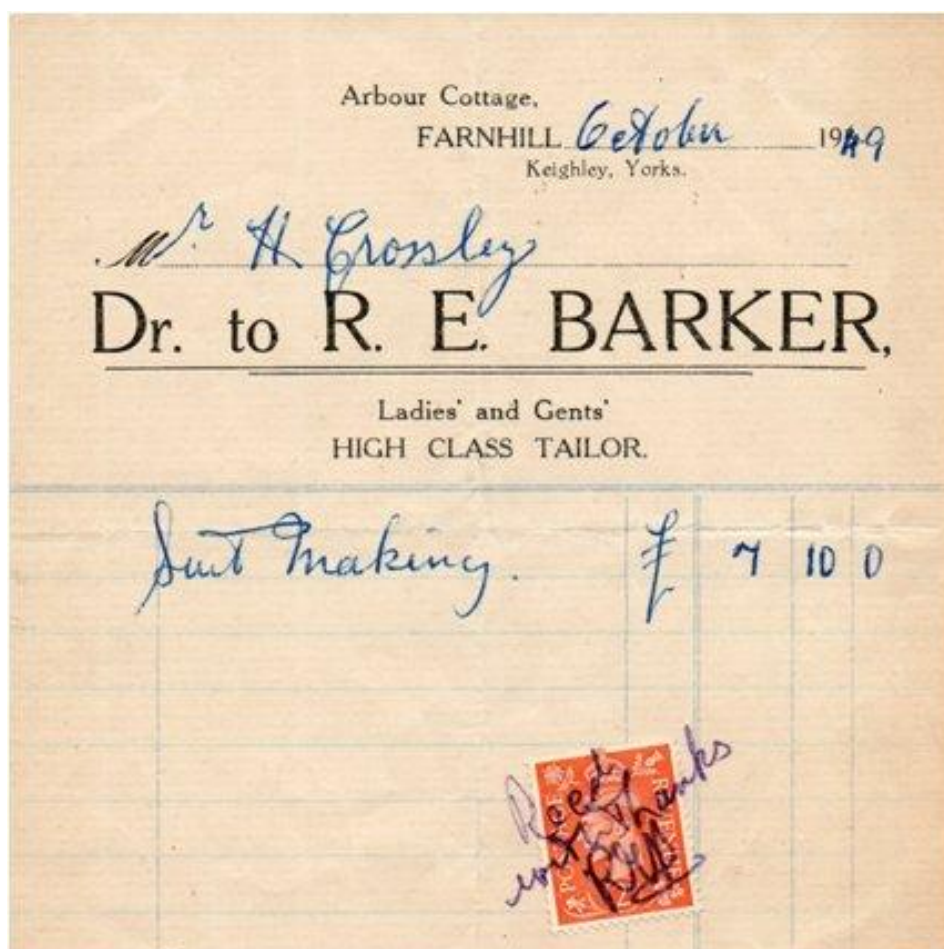
WONDER VOICE OF THE FESTIVAL.

..... the miracle worker was Mr. R. E. Barker, of Kildwick; he has a voice of true tenor quality robust and resonant. He has what I believe is called "fire."

He sang this afternoon with magnificent spirit. In colloquial language, he "let us have it."

From the Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group archive

Rupert's full-time job was as a tailor, a business that he ran from his home.



From the Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group archive
– the bill for Harry Crossley's wedding suit

On the 1939 Register, compiled in September of that year to enable the issuing of WW2 ration cards, the Barker household was made up of Rupert and Maggie, their son Herbert Kenneth, and Rupert's mother Margaret. Rupert was listed as being a Master Tailor and Herbert as being a Police Constable and a Class B reserve of the Coldstream Guards.

| | | | | | | |
|----|------------------|---|----|-----------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Barker Rupert E | ✓ | 19 | 2 May 40 | 19 | Tailor Master |
| 2 | Barker Maggie | ✓ | 28 | June 40 | 19 | Weaver Cut Silt |
| 3* | Barker Herbert K | ✓ | 14 | April 40 | 19 | Police Constable 2nd Class |
| 4 | Barker Margaret | ✓ | 2 | 29 May 40 | 19 | Widow Gen. Justice |

Special Constable *MR. G. Smith*
Class B reserve *1st Coldstream Guards*
Reg. No 2655758

Barker family on the 1939 Register
Used under licence from the National Archive

It seems likely that Herbert later moved to Derbyshire, where he married in 1942. The couple had a son in 1945.

During WW2, Rupert became a War Reserve Constable and there is an anecdote, frequently recounted by his contemporaries, that he once gave a young man a slap across the face for paying rather too much attention to the contents of an open-top car parked outside the White Lion in Kildwick.

Former Farnhill resident Keith Bunnett recalls the accident that caused Rupert to retire from the police. On a dark night in 1945, riding home on his bicycle, his long heavy coat fell across the rear lamp and he was hit from behind by a motorist who failed to see him.

After WW2 Rupert continued to play a part in village life and in October 1948 was the general manager for a production of "Royal Romance – a play with music", written and produced by Farnhill sisters Dorothy and Mary Hill, and put on by Kildwick and District Young Players in the Farnhill Methodist school-room to raise funds for the charity Dr Barnado's.

Rupert Edward Barker died on 26th March 1964; he was aged 67. His death was reported in the Craven Herald.

Farnhill

LOSS TO FARNHILL.—The death occurred in hospital, on Thursday week, after a brief illness, of Mr. Rupert Edward Barker, of Arbour Cottage Farnhill. Mr. Barker, who was 67, was well known and highly respected throughout South Craven. A native of Farnhill, he had served the village organisations conscientiously for many years. A tailor by trade he served his apprenticeship with the late Sir Henry Price (who started in business at Silsden), and eventually opened his own business in Farnhill. He gave this up during the last war on joining the Police War Reserve, being stationed in the Cross Hills area. He was discharged as the result of an injury in an accident. Since that time he had worked at Redman Smith's Textiles, at Junction Mills, Cross Hills. Mr. Barker served in the Royal Navy during the first world war. A keen cricketer, he was a member of the Kildwick Albion Club which played in the Craven League, and for his services over many years he was made a life member. He served Farnhill Methodist church in many capacities. He was a trustee and he served for many years as organist and choirmaster. Mr. Barker had a fine tenor voice and appeared on concert platforms throughout the North of England. He won principal awards at many Northern music festivals. His services during the past few years have been called on by many churches in South Craven as conductor for oratorios, and also as organist. Mr. Barker was always interested in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute, and for many years served on the management committee, and gave an active lead in many functions. His advice and help in the village will be greatly missed. Mr. Barker leaves a widow and one son. The funeral took place on Tuesday, when a service in Farnhill Methodist Church was attended by numerous friends and representatives of various organisations. The Rev. P. D. Parker, of Farnhill officiated. Cremation at Skipton followed.

And in two issues of the Keighley News:

FARNHILL

MUSICIAN'S DEATH

Mr. Rupert Edward Barker, Arbour Cottage, Farnhill, who died on Wednesday, won a wide reputation as a musician during an active lifetime. He died in hospital after a short illness.

Mr. Barker was formerly a tenor vocalist who won many prizes at leading musical festivals in Wales and the North of England. His services were in great demand as soloist and he was also a capable organist. For years he was the choirmaster at Farnhill Methodist Church and often conducted neighbouring choirs at musical services. He was a trustee of the Farnhill Methodist Church and also of the local village institute.

He leaves a widow and son.

FARNHILL

LATE MR. R. E. BARKER

Representatives of all sections of Farnhill Methodism were present at the funeral service of Mr. Rupert Edward Barker, of Farnhill, on Easter Tuesday morning at the Methodist Church, Farnhill. Past and present members of the choir occupied the choir stalls and the church was nearly full to capacity with relatives, workmates and representatives of various organisations with which Mr. Barker had been connected. The service was conducted, prior to cremation at Skipton by the Rev. Desmond Parker, and Mr. Harry Crossby was organist.

Reproduced by kind permission of Keighley News

Note: The organist was Harry Crossley, not Crossby. He took over from Rupert as organist at Farnhill Methodist Chapel.

He is commemorated in the Skipton crematorium Book of Remembrance.



Postscript

After Rupert died Maggie continued to live in The Arbour for another 18 months or so. She was not included on the electoral roll after 1966. It seems likely that she went to live with or near her son Herbert. She died somewhere in the Buxton area, in 1983.

Rupert and Maggie's son, Herbert Kenneth, died in the High Peak area of Cheshire, in 2006. It is possible that descendants are still living in the Derbyshire/Cheshire area.

Appendix – Memories of Mr. and Mrs. Barker by Anne Paton and her sister Christine

I arrived in Farnhill with my parents, Rev. and Mrs. R. Hodgkinson, in August 1937. Christine was born in the Manse [39 Main Street, Farnhill], in August 1938. These are the memories of young children.

Christine and I always think of Mr and Mrs Barker as Auntie and Uncle Barker. They lived opposite to us up the hillside, above the triangle of land which during the war held a few struggling allotments. They took a kindly interest in the very young family in the Manse and we often saw them as we passed Arbour Cottage on walks to the moor.

They were stalwart members of Father's congregation at the chapel, involved in everything that went on. We do not know whether Uncle Barker ever held any chapel office, e.g. chapel steward, and I have only the faintest glimmer of a memory that he may have sometimes played the organ. Auntie Barker was always part of any catering done by "the Ladies".

Both were kindly and generous in their willingness to help anyone who needed it, including nursing in their own bedroom a lady who had no one to help her after losing a leg to cancer. I believe she was with them several months, nursed until she died.

They were immensely kind to Christine and me. After a war-time winter, they turned up at the Manse with a splendid model dolls' house made from magazine instructions out of matchboxes, with carpets, curtains and furniture. They made it on the winter evenings. Obviously they had a lot of fun making it together and we loved it. It survived many years of use, passing down to our younger sister.

In October 1943, Christine and I stayed with Auntie and Uncle Barker for two weeks. After a month away in the isolation hospital suffering from scarlet fever, we were still unable to go home as our new baby sister was only six weeks old.

We were upset to find we were not going home, but we only have happy memories of our time in Arbour Cottage – playing in the garden, Uncle Barker producing their old Halma board for a game in the evening, not to mention the excitement of seeing him change the fragile gas mantle and turn on the gas light.

We came out of hospital shaken and still poorly, but after two weeks of Auntie and Uncle's loving care we walked home down the snicket happy and well.

In the summer of the following year we left Farnhill when Father moved to a new appointment, in August 1944, in Royton near Oldham – more than fifty mill chimneys pouring out black smoke at the end of our street.

Sometime during the next year, probably before the end of the war, Mother and Father were deeply upset by very bad news from Farnhill. We were told that Uncle Barker had had a terrible accident. He was found left for dead with severe head injuries and had not been expected to recover.

I remember that this was when Mother told me that Uncle Barker had been out on his bicycle, on his rounds as a policeman. I do not know where the accident happened, but no mention was made of it being in Farnhill.

Beyond all expectation, Uncle Barker recovered, after months of care. Mother said that far from his usual cheerful and kindly self Auntie had months of struggle with a difficult and fractious patient – the effects of the head injuries.

In the following years our parents made several moves around Lancashire and Cheshire and kept in touch with Farnhill. Christine and I eventually married and moved South. We never went back to Farnhill.

My last record of contact with Auntie and Uncle Barker is in the list Mother kept before my wedding in April 1963 of the names and addresses of people who sent wedding gifts, so that I could write to them.

Auntie and Uncle Barker were still living at Arbour Cottage, Main Street, Farnhill, and though unable to come to the wedding, sent a pair of linen pillowcases trimmed with pink and white crochet “for Anne’s bottom drawer” and a very nice fibre-glass tray. The pillowcases have long gone, but the tray is still in regular use – I think they would be pleased.

It has been a great pleasure to Christine and me to remember them. They were what my granny would have called “the soul of kindness”.

Rupert Edward Barker – a life in summary

Born: 8/5/1896, Junction, Crosshills
Baptised: 14/6/1896, Farnhill Methodist Chapel
Died: 26/3/1964, General Hospital, Skipton **Aged:** 67
Home address: Arbour Cottage, Farnhill

Parents

Father: Lot; b. 1865, Keighley; d. 2/3/1905, Silsden
Mother: Margaret Sugden Jackson; b. 29/3/1866, Farnhill;
d. 1946, Skipton (Registration district)
Married: 1891, Skipton (Registration district)

Siblings

Herbert; b. 31/1/1894, Farnhill; d. 10/5/1927, Farnhill

Relationship to other volunteers

Herbert Barker – brother
William (Willie) Barker – paternal cousin
Thomas Edward Sugden – distant cousin

Marriage

Wife: Maggie (nee Mosley); b. 28/6/1893, Farnhill; d. 1983, Derbyshire
Date: 5/6/1915, Farnhill Methodist Chapel

WW1 service

Service period: 14/9/1917 to 23/2/1919
Service no: DA 19006, later J77723
Unit: Royal Naval Reserve Trawler section (RNRT)
Rank: Ordinary Seaman / Deck Hand
Vessel: Victory I (14/9/1917 to 11/3/1918)
Motor Launch ML-553 (11/3/1918 to 15/4/1918)
HMS Arrogant (16/4/1918 to 23/2/1919)
Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal, RNR Medal
Home address: 9 Mary Street; later Arbour Cottage, Farnhill

Children

Herbert Kenneth, b. 14/8/1915; baptised at Farnhill Methodist Chapel, 3/10/1915;
m. Olive M. Bentley, 1942, Ilkeston (Registration district); d. 2006, High Peak, Cheshire

