

Cecil James Baugh (1897 – 1976)

Cecil Baugh was only one year old when his father died. He and his mother then went to live with his mother's family in Main Street Farnhill. To provide for herself and her young son, Margaret Baugh worked in the local mills. In 1908, she married William Crossley; two years later Cecil's half-brother was born and, in 1917, twin girls.

Volunteering in 1916, Cecil did not start his war service until 1918 – serving in the Coldstream Guards. Returning to the UK with his regiment in 1919, he was discharged and returned to Farnhill where he was involved with the Methodist chapel.

Cecil married his cousin in 1923; they had one son and lived in Crosshills. The Baughs celebrated their Golden Wedding, in 1973, and Cecil died in 1976 aged 78 – having survived his wife by two years.



Photograph by kind permission of Helen Moran

Pre-war life

Cecil Baugh (always pronounced "Cee-cil") was born on the 19th December 1897 and baptised at Farnhill Methodist Chapel in March 1898.

1898 March 13 th	Cecil James	William James & Margaret	Baugh	Farnhill	Porter (Railway)	Witnessed by John R. Francis Mentore Mosley
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Cecil Baugh's entry in the Farnhill Methodist Chapel baptismal register
Scanned by Farnhill & Kildwick History Group

He was the only child of William James Baugh, a railway employee at Kildwick Goods Yard, originally from Shropshire, and Margaret (nee Walmsley) of Main Street, Farnhill.

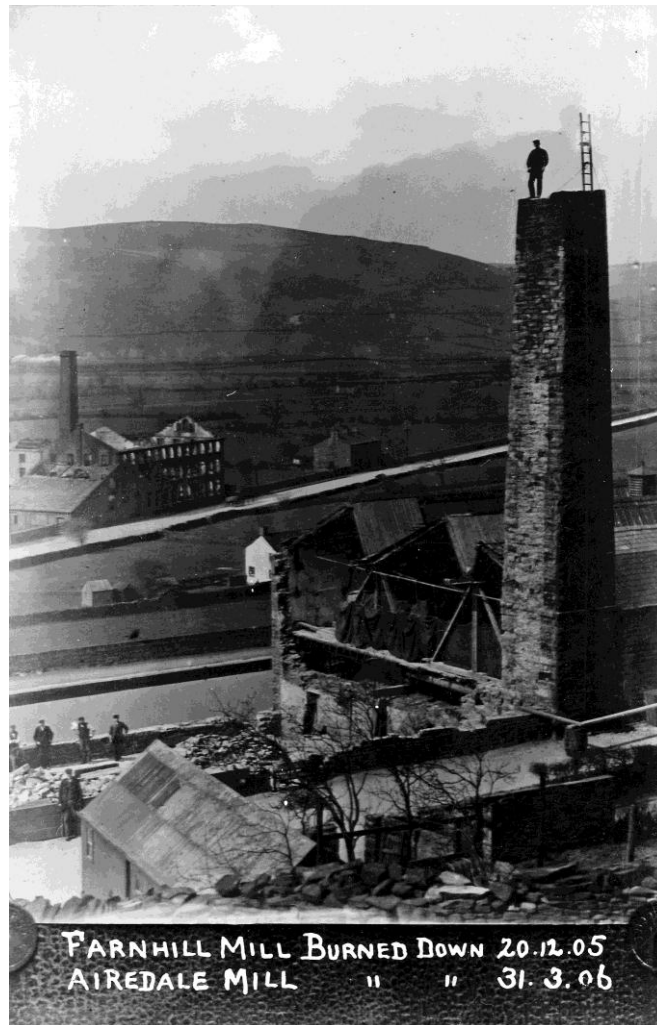
In March 1899, when Cecil was only one year old, his father died of nephritis (kidney infection); he was just 21.

Margaret and young Cecil moved back to live with her family, and the 1901 census recorded the two of them living with Margaret's parents, James and Elizabeth Walmsley, her sister Beatrice, and six year-old brother Percy (who would also become one of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers) at 25 Main Street, Farnhill.

ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES				Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Condition as to Marriage	Age last Birthday or		PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account
	Inhabited	Uninhabited	Not in Occupation	Building				Male	Female		
29 Main St	/			2	Jane Walsley	Head	Single	58		Retired Cotton Weaver	
25 - 20 -	/			4	James Walsley	Head	Mar	49		Worsted yarn Spinner	Worker
					Elizabeth	Wife	Mar	47			
					Margaret Baugh	Daughter	Wid.	24		Worsted Twister	Worker
					Bertha A Walsley	Daughter	S.	15		Worsted Twister	Worker
					Percy	Son	S.	6			
					Cecil J Baugh	Grandson	S.	3			

Extract from the 1901 census, showing 25 Main Street, Farnhill
Used under licence from the National Archive

In order to provide for herself and Cecil, the widowed Margaret worked as a worsted weave twister at Farnhill Mill. When that burnt down, in December 1905, she was fortunate enough to get work at Airedale Mill on the main Skipton road. When that also burnt down, in March 1906, she found employment at Bradley Mill.



A double tragedy for Farnhill
Photograph from the Farnhill and Kildwick History Group archive

In 1908 Margaret married Wilfred Crossley who had been living at 2 South View, Farnhill with his brother Albert, who was married to Margaret's older sister, Emily.

Margaret, Wilfred and Cecil made their home in 7 Hanover Street, Farnhill, which at the time was one of a row of back to back terrace houses. In 1910 Cecil's half-brother, Harry Crossley, was born.

The family of four were recorded on the 1911 census, by which time Cecil had already left school and was working as a "Doffer" in one of the local mills.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.													
<i>Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.</i> <i>The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions than the preparation of Statistical Tables.</i>													
1	NAME AND SURNAME	2	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	3	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.			14
						4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1	Wilfred Crossley		Head	34		Married	2	1	1	Stone mason & Waller	Builder & Conductor	Worker	Elsworth Yorks
2	Margaret Crossley		wife	34		Married	2	1	1				Farnhill Yorks
3	Harry Crossley		Son	9 months									Farnhill Yorks
4	Cecil James Baugh		Stepson	13						Doffer (Worsted Spinning)		Worker	Farnhill Yorks

Extract from the 1911 census return for 7 Hanover Street, Farnhill
Used under licence from the National Archive

Note: The "Particulars of Marriage" section records that the couple had been married for two years, and had had one child (Harry). That child was living and no children born to the marriage had died.

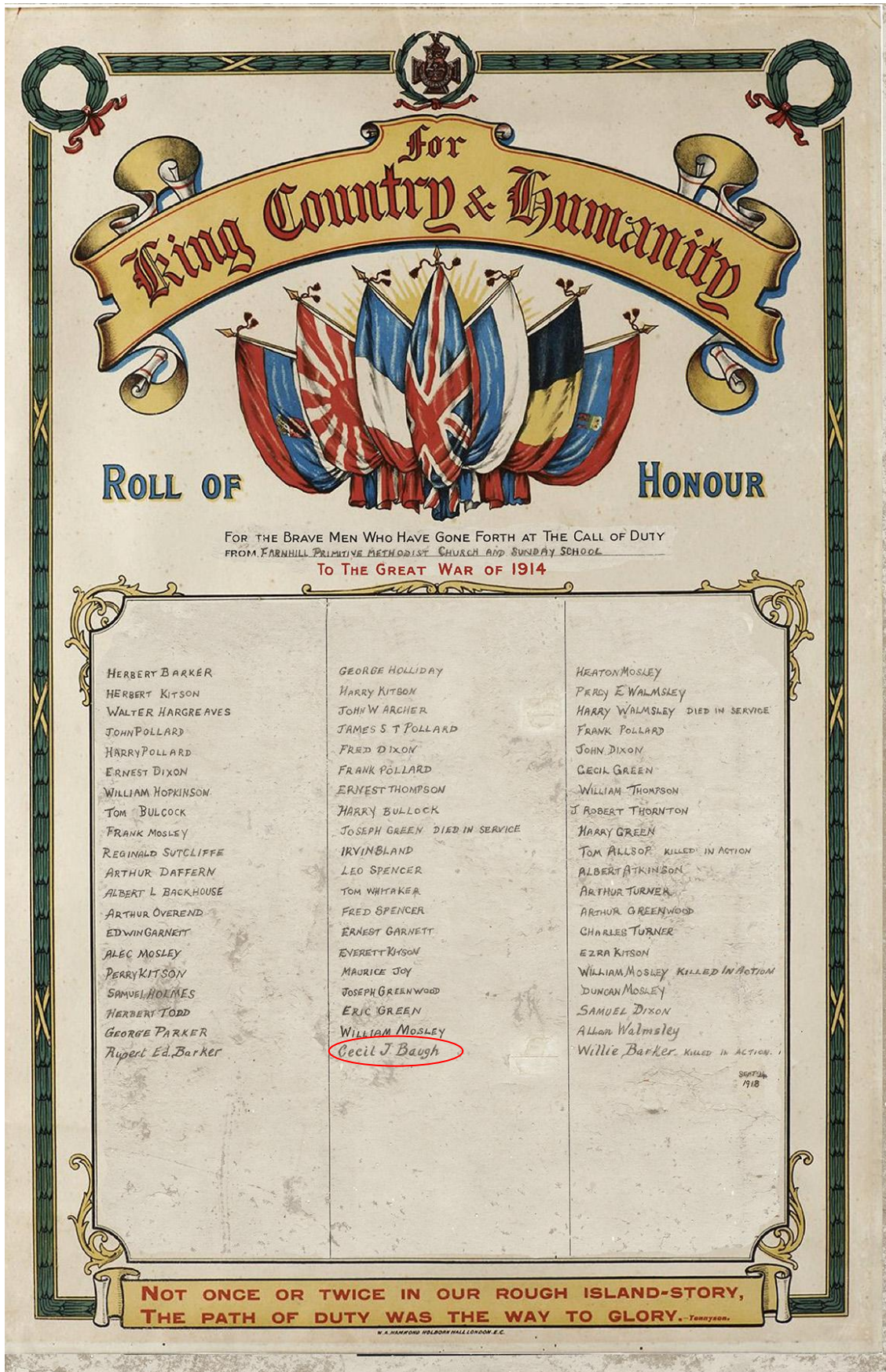
Twin girls, Mary and Elizabeth, were born to Wilfred and Margaret in 1917.

WW1 service

Cecil volunteered just a month after his eighteenth birthday, in January 1916. He attested his willingness to serve when called upon, swearing his oath to local magistrate James Bairstow at Crosshills. This was just ahead of, and may have been prompted by, the forthcoming introduction of conscription just a few days later.

As was usual for those who attested, he was assigned to a Special Reserves class (Class 8, in Cecil's case) which, together with his age, would determine when he was called up for service.

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



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

Cecil's military records show that he started his service, as a private in the Coldstream Guards (service number 24647), on 17th April 1918 and, after training, he was sent to France – travelling from Folkestone to Boulogne on 1st November 1918. After a few days in a depot camp, he joined the 2nd battalion on the 9th November – just 2 days before the Armistice.

INDEXED
 MEM. 808627 D
 REGION
 NO. JOINED
 RESERVE
 DATE

Form B. 2512
 Army Form B. 2512
 Card No. 497

SHORT SERVICE.

(For the duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve).

ATTESTATION OF

No. 24647 Name Cecil James Baugh Corps Coldstream Guards

Questions to be put to the Recruit, before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name? ... Cecil James Baugh
2. What is your full Address? ... 7 Kanover St Sarnwell Rugsley
3. Are you a British Subject? ... Yes
4. What is your Age? ... 18 Years 1 Month
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... Machine Tool Turner
6. Are you Married? ... no
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, which? ... no
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... Yes
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... Yes
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... Yes Name Sgt Sandall Corps PPR
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? ... Yes

I, Cecil James Baugh, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Cecil James Baugh SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
 J. S. Watson Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN, BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Cecil James Baugh, swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at cross Hill on this 22nd day of January 1916.

Signature of the Justice J. S. Watson

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the Coldstream Guards.

If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date APR 17 1918 19 18

Place HALIFAX

FOR OFFICE APPROVING OFFICER.
 J. S. Watson
 LIEUT. POSTING OFFICE APPROVING OFFICER.
 FOR OFF. WEST RIDING RECEPTION DEPOT.

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
 ‡ Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz. — (Name) on the (Date).

Cecil Baugh's attestation form, showing the date on which he volunteered (22nd January 1916) and the date on which his service with the Coldstream Guards started (17th April 1918)

Used under licence from the National Archive

Like many of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers, Cecil's service did not end with the Armistice, and his military records show that he was admitted to a field hospital on 15th December 1918 and stayed for almost a month. No further details were included.

On 26th February 1919, 2nd battalion Coldstream Guards returned to the UK from Dunkirk.

Cecil was finally discharged from the army and transferred to the reserves on the 23rd October 1919. He was subsequently awarded the British War Medal and Allied Victory Medal in acknowledgement of his service.

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
BAUGH Cecil J.		C. Gds	Pte	24647
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	CG/101 ^B /15	1204		
BRITISH	- do -	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1390

Medal card for Private Cecil Baugh, Coldstream Guards (service number 24647)
Used under licence from the National Archive

Post-war life

After the war Cecil returned to Farnhill, and the electoral rolls for 1919 to 1923 show him living back with his parents in Hanover Street.

Even before he was officially discharged from the army, Cecil was elected to be a Trustee of Farnhill Methodist Chapel in May 1918. He would later join the choir.

The 1921 census records Cecil as being an Iron Turner, working for Lund's at Eastburn.

On the 13th October 1923 Cecil Baugh married Lilian (Lily) Dutton Fletcher, his cousin, at Skipton Register Office. The marriage was witnessed by, amongst others, Percy Edward Walmsley, Cecil's uncle.

1923. Marriage solemnized at <i>The Register Office Skipton</i> in the District of <i>Skipton</i> in the County of <i>York</i>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Column—	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.
	23	October	<i>Cecil James Baugh</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Surveyor</i>	<i>Blunover Street Skipton</i>	<i>William James Baugh (deceased)</i>	<i>Barley Porter</i>
		1923	<i>Lilian Dutton Fletcher</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>Spinster</i>	<i>Worked as Spinster</i>	<i>30 Lothersdale Road Crosshills</i>	<i>Samuel Dutton</i>	<i>General Labourer</i>
Married in the <i>Register Office</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the _____ by <i>Perceval</i> by me,									
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Cecil James Baugh</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>Percy Edward Walmsley</i>		<i>W. J. Stater</i>	
		<i>Lilian Dutton Fletcher</i>				<i>Sarah Shuttleworth</i>		<i>M. K. H. J. Stater</i>	

Cecil Baugh – Lilian Dutton Fletcher, marriage certificate
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The couple set up home together at Lily's old home, 3 Lothersdale Road, Crosshills, which is where their only child, a son called James Dennis (known as Dennis), was born on the 14th September 1924. (Dennis would become a postman in Crosshills during the 1970s, and lived in Holme Lane.)

By 1926, however, the family had moved to 14 Milligan Fields, Crosshills. This would be Cecil and Lily's home for over 40 years.

They moved to 15 Washburn Drive, Crosshills, in 1971, which is where they celebrated 50 years of marriage in 1973.

Lily Baugh died in 1974.

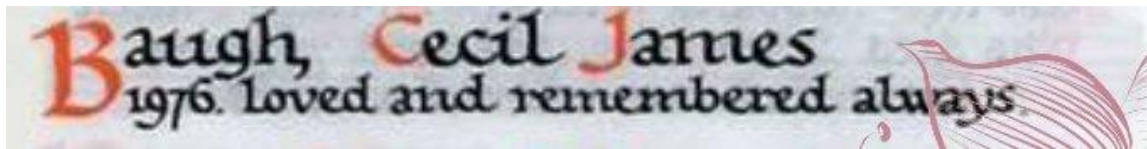
The photograph below shows Cecil in 1975, aged 77, with his half-sister Mary Barnett (nee Crossley).



Photograph courtesy of Helen Moran

Cecil James Baugh died, at his home, on 4th May 1976. He was aged 78.

He is commemorated in the Skipton crematorium Book of Remembrance.



Postscript

Cecil and Lily's son, Dennis, married but had no children.

Cecil's half-brother and sisters married and had children, and there are descendants still living in the local area.

Cecil James Baugh – a life in summary

Born: 19/12/1897, Farnhill
Baptised: 13/3/1898, Farnhill Methodist Chapel
Died: 4/5/1976 **Aged:** 78
Home address: 15 Washburn Drive, Crosshills

Parents

Father: William James; b.1877, Dawley, Shropshire; d. 1899, Farnhill
Mother: Margaret (nee Walmsley); b. 9/9/1876, Farnhill; d. 23/3/1966, Crosshills
Married: 18/9/1897, Skipton (Registration district)

Siblings

Harry Crossley (half-brother); b. 3/7/1910, Farnhill; m1. Elizabeth Jeffers, divorced late 1940s;
m2. Gladys Rishworth, 20/5/1950, Farnhill Methodist Chapel; d. 20/3/1994
Mary Crossley (half-sister) b. 7/2/1917, Farnhill; bapt. 8/4/1917, Farnhill Methodist Chapel;
m. John R. Barnett, 1936, Skipton (Registration district); d. 21/3/2008
Elizabeth Crossley (half-sister), b. 7/2/1917, Farnhill; bapt. 8/4/1917, Farnhill Methodist Chapel;
m. Stanley Taylor, 7/10/1939; d. 4/3/1973

Relationship to other volunteers

Percy Edward Walmsley (Cecil was his nephew)

WW1 service

Attested: 22/1/1916, Crosshills
Service period: 17/4/1918 to 23/10/1919
Regt.: 2nd battalion, Coldstream Guards (Private, no. 24647)
Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal
Home address: 7 Hanover Street, Farnhill

Marriage

Wife: Lilian Dutton Fletcher; b. 18/3/1898, Dawley, Shropshire; d. 1974, Crosshills
Date: 13/10/1923, Skipton Register Office

Children

James Dennis; b. 14/9/1924, Farnhill; m. Georgina Alexandra (?);
d. 31/5/1996, Keighley (Registration district)

