

Arthur Brown (1873 – 1939)

Arthur Brown, one of six children, was born in Selby and lived as a child in Bradford and Keighley. Marrying when they were both 22, Arthur and his wife started their married life in Keighley and then moved to Farnhill.

Although he would have been 41 years of age when war broke out, it seems likely that Arthur Brown saw active service.

After the war the family lived in Keighley. Arthur had been a widower for just less than a year when he remarried. This relationship seems to have been a little unconventional as the couple lived mainly apart at different addresses.

Arthur Brown died in 1939 and is buried with his first wife in Utley Cemetery, Keighley.

No Photo Available

Pre-war life

Arthur Brown was born on 24th May 1873, in Selby, the fourth child – and fourth son – of what would eventually become a family of six children.

His parents, Charles and Mary Ann (nee Howcroft) were both from Selby, and Arthur's three older brothers had also been born there. However some time shortly after Arthur's birth, the family moved home. They first went to Bradford, where a daughter was born in 1877; and then to Keighley, where the family was completed with the birth of another son in 1883.

Charles appears to have had a range of occupations: on Arthur's birth certificate and on the 1871 census he was recorded, whilst still in Selby, as a "Chapel keeper"; then, in 1881, as a "Commercial Traveller"; and in 1891 as a "Cabinet Maker".

On December 21st 1895 Arthur Brown married Elizabeth Hannah Goldsborough in St. Peter's Church Keighley. They were both aged 22.

1895. Marriage solemnized at <u>St. Peter's Church</u> in the Parish of <u>St. Peter's Keighley</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.
233	December 21 st 1895	Arthur Brown	22	Bachelor	Mechanic	Barlow Terrace	Charles Brown	Emigrant Broker
		Elizabeth Hannah Goldsborough	22	Spinster	—	Balfour Street	Edward Goldsborough	Weaver
Married in the <u>Church of St. Peter</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <u>James</u> as after <u>Robert Standfield</u> by me, <u>R. Standfield, Vicar</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us, <u>Arthur Brown</u> in the Presence of <u>John Goldsborough</u> <u>Elizabeth Hannah Goldsborough</u> <u>Lucy Brown</u>								

Brown – Goldsborough marriage certificate
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The 1901 census recorded the couple living at 25 Harcourt Street, Keighley; with Arthur listed as a Foundry Labourer.

In 1904 Elizabeth's mother and father, Rennard and Mary, moved to Farnhill. Mary died in 1906, and Rennard continued to live in the village, at various addresses.

By the time of the 1911 census, in which Arthur was recorded as being a cotton weaver, he and Elizabeth had also moved to Farnhill.

They do not appear to have shared a house in Farnhill with Rennard – although they would later, in Keighley. Until 1914 they lived at 32 Starkey Lane, and then subsequently at 21 Main Street and, later still, at 54 Starkey Lane.

Note: The 1911 census actually records the address as “No. 52 Starkie Lane”. This is almost certainly an error, as it conflicts with the electoral rolls for the period 1911 to 1914.

WW1 service

Despite the fact that Arthur Brown would have been 41 when war broke out and does not appear to have had any prior military career, there are a number of pieces of evidence that he not only volunteered to serve – as suggested by the inclusion of his name on the Farnhill Parish Council Roll of Honour – but that he actually saw active service.

The first piece of evidence comes in an entry in the baptismal records of St. Andrew's Church Kildwick. On 7th July 1915, Arthur and Elizabeth Hannah Brown baptised their adopted daughter, Mildred Hannah. On the register Arthur gave his profession as “Soldier”.

A second piece of evidence comes from a newspaper report, in the West Yorkshire Pioneer of 15th November 1915. This described an event held in the Institute building, in Farnhill, arranged to “provide winter comforts for the lads serving with the Colours”. The piece ended with a list of the men who were “to be remembered”, which included Arthur Brown.

However, without definitive information about which regiment he served with, it has not proved possible to identify which of the many Arthur Browns who served in WW1 was the Arthur Brown from Farnhill.

Post-war life

Arthur Brown did not return to Farnhill at the end of the war. For a number of years from 1919, he and his family lived at 41 Fruit Street, Keighley.

Arthur and Elizabeth Hannah seem to have provided a home for a number of their relatives. The 1921 census records not only:

Arthur Brown, aged 48, Married; a labourer at a Gas Works, Dalton Lane, Keighley
 Elizabeth Hannah, aged 47, Wife
 Mildred Hannah, aged 7, Adopted daughter (both parents dead)

But also:

Florence Elizabeth Goldsborough, aged 12, Niece (both parents dead)
 Charles Henry Brown, aged 50, Boarder

In fact Charles Henry, recorded as a boarder, was Arthur's older brother and he would continue to live with them for at least a further two years. Rennard Goldsborough would join the family in 1924 and live with them, in Fruit Street, until he died later that year at the age of 85.

Elizabeth Hannah Brown died in June 1928, aged 54.

On 18th May 1929 the 55 year-old widower Arthur Brown married the 36 year-old widow Adeline Ettenfield (nee Ideson; b. 14/12/1892, in Addingham) at Christ Church in Oakworth. Both gave their address as 21 Dockroyd, Adeline's home, although Arthur was not registered there on the electoral roll.

1929		Marriage solemnized at <i>Christ Church</i> in the <i>Parish</i> of <i>Oakworth</i> in the County of <i>York</i>						
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.
491	May 18/29	Arthur Brown.	54	Widower	Draper	21 Dockroyd	Charles Brown deceased.	Centleman.
	1929	Adeline Ettenfield	36	Widow.	—	21 Dockroyd.	Thomas Cooper Ideson.	Farm-hand

Married in the *Parish* Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Church of England* by *Jack Price* or after *Laws* by me, *Robert Midall* Vicar.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Arthur Brown* and *Adeline Ettenfield* in the Presence of us, *Jack Price* and *Glady's Ideson*

Brown – Ettenfield marriage certificate
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Adeline's first marriage had been to Henry Ettenfield in 1912, when they were both aged just 20. They had five children before Henry died in 1928.

Arthur and Adeline's relationship seems to have been a little unusual, insofar as they rarely seem to have lived together. In fact, between 1930 and 1939 there was only one year when they were at the same address on the electoral roll. On the other hand, both seemed to have lived with other people. Adeline lived with a man called Thomas McCannish, for at least four years, at three different addresses; she also gave a home to at least one of the children from her previous marriage (Doris Ettenfield is on the roll at the same address from 1935 to 1937). Arthur, in the meantime, lived his final few years at the same address as a woman called Daisy Mabel Mary O'Brien, in Bradford.

	Adeline's address	Who else at this address ?	Arthur's address	Who else at this address ?
1930	21 Dockroyd	Thomas McCornish	41 Fruit Street	Alone
1931	109 Bradford St.	Thomas Bertram Mc Cannish	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
1932	109 Bradford St.	Thomas Bertram Mc Cannish	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
1933	9 Victoria Terrace	Thomas McCornish	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
1934	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
1935	7 Harcourt St.	Doris Ettenfield Elsie Horner	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
1936	7 Harcourt St.	Doris Ettenfield Edward Conway	<i>not found</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
1937	50 Thwaites – Adeline & Arthur, with Doris Ettenfield			
1938	50 Thwaites	Alone	12 Laisteridge Court, Bradford	Daisy Mabel Mary O'Brien
1939	50 Thwaites	Alone	12 Laisteridge Court, Bradford	Daisy Mabel Mary O'Brien

Arthur Brown died of heart failure in St. Luke's Hospital Bradford on 27th July 1939, and was buried in Utley cemetery, in the same grave as his first wife, Elizabeth Hannah. He was aged 66.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					BRADFORD				
1939 DEATH in the Sub-district of Little Horton					in the County Borough of Bradford				
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
518	Twenty Seventh July 1939 St Luke's Hospital U.D.	Arthur BROWN	Male	66 years	of 12 Laisteridge Court Bradford U.D. formerly a Master Butcher	1.a. Cardiac Failure b. Chronic Myocarditis Certified by A.M. Morris M.B.	John C. Fletcher Nephew "Kiln Bank" Riddlesden Keighley	Twenty Eighth July 1939	J. R. Hinkins Deputy Registrar

Extract from Arthur Brown's death certificate
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His death was reported by the husband of his niece, Edith (the daughter of his sister Lucy). Arthur was recorded as being a "former Master Butcher", which was just one of his many occupations (1891 census), and his home address was given as 12 Laisteridge Court, Bradford.



Laisteridge Court Bradford, in the 1930s
Photograph from Ancestry (Public Member area).

Postscript

Adeline continued to live at 50 Thwaites until at least 1958. In 1943 she married for a third time, this time to Albert Shuttleworth.

Albert died in 1961, aged 74.

Adeline Shuttleworth died in 1972, aged 79.

Mildred Hannah, Arthur and Elizabeth Hannah's adopted daughter, married Tom Holdsworth, in Keighley, in 1931. They had at least two children. Mildred died in 1998. Their descendants may still be living in the area.

Arthur Brown – a life in summary

Born: 24/5/1873, Selby

Died: 27/7/1939, St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford **Aged:** 66

Home address: 12 Laisteridge Court, Bradford

Parents

Father: Charles; b. 1845, Drax (Selby); bapt. 4/10/1845
d. 5/1/1929, Keighley; buried 8/1/1929, Utley

Mother: Mary Ann (nee Howcroft); b. 1847, Selby;
d. 25/12/1907, Keighley; buried 28/12/1907, Utley

Married: 1866, Selby (Registration district)

Siblings

Thomas; b. 1866 Selby; m. Jane

George; b. 1869, Selby; m. Mary Ann Heaps, 1894, Keighley (Registration district)

Charles Henry; b. 1871, Selby; m. Annie; d. December 1951, Worth Valley (Registration district)

Lucy; b. 7/6/1876, Bradford; m. John Sawley, 1908, Keighley (Registration district);
d. 22/3/1932, Keighley

Herbert; b. 24/8/1883, Keighley; m. Elizabeth Ann Lund, July 1906; d. 24/12/1950, Keighley

Marriage

Wife: (1) Elizabeth Hannah Goldsborough; b. 1873, Bingley;
d. June 1928 - buried at Utley cemetery
(2) Adeline Ettenfield (nee Ideson); b. 14/12/1892, Addingham;
d. 1972 Bradford (Registration district) – as Adeline Shuttleworth

Date: (1) 21/12/1895, at St. Peter's Church, Keighley
(2) 18/5/1929, at Christ Church, Oakworth

Children

Mildred Hannah, b. 31/8/1913 (adopted daughter); baptised Kildwick 7/7/1915;
m. Tom Holdsworth, 29/8/1931, St. Mary's Church, Eastwood, Keighley;
d. 1998, Keighley (Registration district)

WW1 service

No service details known.

