

Harry Bulcock (1896 – 1963)

Harry Bulcock lived in Farnhill and Eastburn as a child. He had a sister, nine years younger, and a step-brother, a month older than himself – his father having remarried after the death of Harry's mother.

On leaving school Harry worked in a woollen mill and entered the forces in 1916. Wounded, and hospitalised in Rouen, he later served in the Labour Corps.



Photograph courtesy of John Lofthouse

Returning to Farnhill, he married and subsequently worked for the Kildwick Gas Company.

Harry died in 1963. He and his wife had no children.

Pre-war life

Harry Bulcock was born in Farnhill on 13th August 1896 and was baptised at St. Andrew's, Kildwick, a few months later. He was the first child of William Bulcock, a coal carter originally from Lothersdale, and Ann (nee Holmes) of Eastburn.

The family appear to have lived initially in Starkey Lane, Farnhill, (possibly with William's parents, Peter and Isabella) before moving to 29 Newby Road, which is where they were living at the time of the 1901 census.

They then moved briefly to 56 Starkey Lane before moving out of the village to Eastburn for a number of years, settling at 3 Grange View.

While the family was living in Eastburn, William and Ann's second child, a daughter called Nellie, was born on 10th January 1905. Then, in September 1907, Ann died at the age of 36. She was buried in Kildwick churchyard on the 10th. Harry was aged 11; his sister Nellie was just two.

William remarried in 1909. His second wife was Sarah Ann Barlow, originally from Swinton. She already had a son, Ernest Gibson (subsequently a Farnhill WW1 Volunteer), who was a month older than Harry.

The reconstituted family returned to live in Farnhill, where the 1911 census recorded them living at 5 Kirkgate. By this time both Harry and Ernest were 14 and had left school. They were both recorded as being bobbin setters in a woollen mill.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.						
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.						
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, or for other than the preparation of Statistical Tables.						
NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last birthday) not over	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards	BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATION of every person
1 William Bulcock	Head	44	Married	Carter 270 Coal Merchant Worker	Lathersdale Yorks	
2 Sarah Bulcock	Wife	45	Married 1		Spinkton Yorks	
3 Harry Bulcock	Son	14		Bobbin setter in Loden Mill	Farnhill Yorks	
4 Nellie Bulcock	Daughter	6			Kantherston Yorks	
5 Ernest Bulcock	Son	14		Bobbin setter in Loden Mill	Bradford Yorks	

Extract from the 1911 census return for the Bulcock family, 5 Kirkgate, Farnhill
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WW1 service

Harry Bulcock's WW1 service records have not survived (70% of the records were destroyed during WW2, in the London blitz of 1940) but it is clear from other sources that he entered the forces in March 1916 and served as a member of 2/6th battalion the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment (Private, no. 267231).

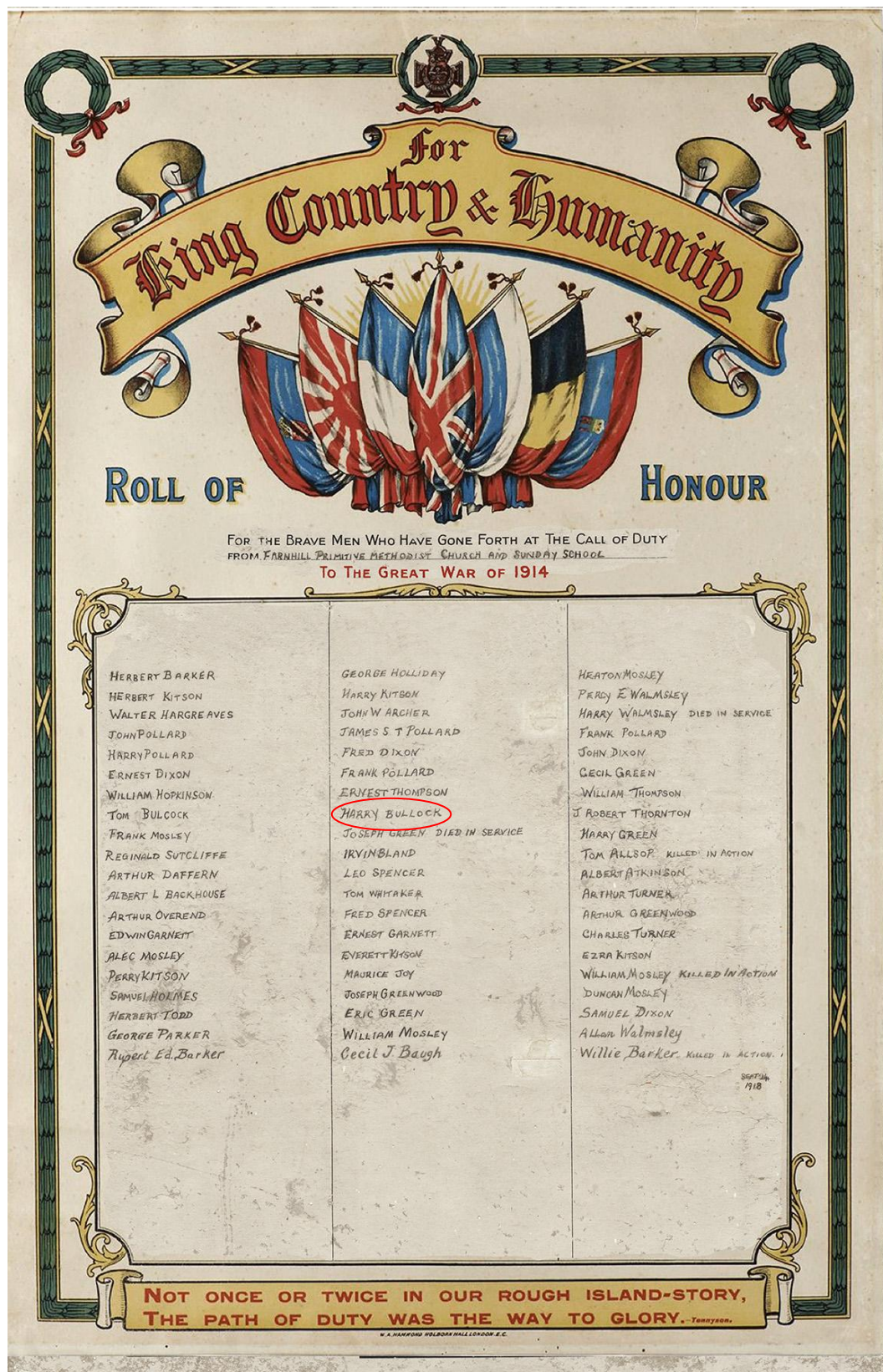
Harry Bulcock's name is among the list of men who were members of the battalion's "C" Company recorded in the book "Craven's Part in the Great War", which was published after the war.

NOMINAL ROLL 2/6th Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment.

Pte. E. Thompson.	Pte. E. C. Atkins.	Pte. S. W. Dean.	Pte. J. Hobson.	Coy. Qt.-Master Sergt.
L. Cpl. J. W. Tate.	Pte. W. Atkinson.	Pte. H. Dixon.	L. Cpl. F. Haworth.	E. J. Norton.
Pte. H. Taylor.	Pte. J. W. Bailey.	Pte. H. Dobson.	Pte. W. R. Hull.	L. Cpl. A. Nichols.
Pte. J. C. Taylor.	Pte. W. Bailey.	Pte. G. Downie.	Pte. R. Howell.	Pte. W. Organ.
Pte. T. Taylor.	Cpl. A. N. Barrett.	Pte. E. Drake.	Pte. H. Huby.	Pte. H. Omerod.
Pte. E. Teale.	Pte. W. J. Branker.	Pte. F. Dugdale.	Pte. A. Ingham.	Pte. S. Ormondroyd.
Pte. H. Tillotson.	Pte. C. Bainbridge.	Sgt. E. Dewhurst.	Pte. J. Jowett.	Pte. P. Overend.
Pte. W. Toothill.	Pte. H. Bancroft.	L. Cpl. P. Dransfield.	Sgt. J. B. Jackson.	Pte. H. Pike.
Pte. D. Threlfall.	Pte. J. H. Beard.	Pte. M. Egan.	Pte. J. Kaye.	Pte. T. Parker.
Pte. E. Thwaites.	Pte. T. F. Bellerby.	Pte. H. Emmott.	Pte. J. A. Keay.	Pte. J. Parkinson.
Pte. W. Tuer.	Pte. S. Bentley.	Pte. D. Everitt.	Pte. W. Kew.	Pte. J. Pass.
Pte. S. Turner.	Pte. W. Binns.	L. Cpl. S. A. Exley.	Pte. W. Kershaw.	Pte. A. Pighills.
Pte. T. Turner.	Pte. H. Boyd.	Pte. A. Exley.	Pte. A. Lawson.	Pte. T. Preston.
Pte. T. E. Vickers.	Pte. H. Boocock.	Pte. J. A. Fender.	Pte. R. Lawson.	Pte. H. Ralph.
Sgt. J. T. Walton.	Pte. E. Bowker.	Pte. L. Fieldsend.	Pte. R. Leadbetter.	Sgt. H. Roo.
Cpl. A. West.	Pte. J. C. Bowker.	Pte. S. G. Fisher.	L. Sgt. D. Long.	Pte. E. R. Raine.
Dr. F. Watkinson.	Pte. W. Bracewell.	Pte. H. B. Forrest.	L. Cpl. J. W. Lister.	Pte. J. Reynard.
Pte. D. Walkington.	Pte. W. Bramall.	Pte. A. Ford.	Pte. W. J. C. Letheron.	Pte. W. Ridge.
Pte. D. Walsh.	Pte. J. H. Brayshaw.	Pte. T. Foster.	Pte. S. Little.	Pte. A. Roberts.
Pte. R. J. Waterworth.	Pte. A. Briggs.	Pte. L. W. Fox.	Pte. T. Lobley.	Pte. J. H. Robertshaw.
Pte. E. Watson.	Pte. H. Brotherton.	Pte. R. J. Goodwin.	Pte. H. Lund.	Pte. A. Robinson.
Pte. F. Watson.	Pte. C. S. Brooks.	Pte. F. Green.	Pte. J. Lupton.	Pte. A. V. Robinson.
Pte. J. A. West.	Pte. J. W. Brown.	Pte. A. Greenwood.	Pte. I. Marshall.	Pte. C. Robinson.
Pte. D. Whittaker.	Pte. E. Brown.	Pte. J. E. Greenwood.	Pte. L. W. Marshall.	Pte. H. Ratcliffe.
Pte. W. Whittaker.	Pte. B. E. Brown.	Pte. J. T. Gilbert.	Pte. W. A. Marshall.	Pte. H. Rothwell.
Pte. R. Whiteley.	Pte. W. Bruce.	Pte. E. Gill.	Pte. N. S. Metcalfe.	Coy. Sergt.-Major
Pte. H. J. Whiting.	Pte. H. Bulcock.	Pte. E. Gill.	Pte. A. E. Mills.	W. C. Rogers
Pte. J. W. Wilkinson.	Pte. W. C. Burnett.	Pte. E. Gornall.	Pte. F. Mitchell.	Pte. A. Shackleton.
Pte. W. Wilkinson.	Cpl. G. Burrow.	Pte. W. Greenacre.	Pte. L. P. Mitchell.	Pte. H. Shackleton.
Pte. A. G. Wilson.	Pte. J. Breare.	Dr. J. Godfrey.	Pte. M. MacDonnell.	Pte. M. Shannon.
Pte. C. B. Wilson.	L. Cpl. H. Bilton.	Cpl. S. Gardiner.	Pte. J. McGlynn.	Pte. M. Sheriff.
Pte. G. Wilson.	Cpl. T. Bownass.	Sgt. R. V. Gee.	Pte. H. MacNulty.	Pte. S. J. Siddall.
Pte. H. Wilson.	Pte. N. V. Capstick.	Cpl. A. Hebden.	Pte. J. T. Moorby.	Pte. H. Simpson.
Pte. T. Willoughby.	Pte. H. Capstick.	Dr. J. Haworth.	Pte. E. Moorhouse.	Pte. G. Singleton.
Pte. T. Wood.	Pte. W. Cartledge.	Cpl. A. Haworth.	Pte. S. T. Moon.	Pte. A. Sherwin.
Pte. E. Woodhead.	Pte. M. Cartwright.	Pte. A. D. Hargreaves.	Pte. J. Mosley.	Pte. T. M. Smales.
Pte. T. W. Wool.	Pte. W. Cawdrey.	Pte. J. Harper.	Cpl. G. Mudd.	Pte. A. V. Smith.
Pte. E. Wrathall.	Pte. H. Chester.	Pte. W. Hall.	Pte. J. Moran.	Pte. A. Smith.
Pte. J. Wright.	Pte. R. Clapham.	Pte. E. Herrington.	Pte. C. H. Myers.	Pte. E. Smith.
Pte. H. Wrigglesworth.	Pte. T. Clemmett.	Pte. T. E. Hewitt.	Sgt. F. T. Metcalfe.	Pte. H. Smith.
Pte. H. Young.	Pte. T. Coates.	Pte. S. Hind.	Sgt. J. S. Mooney.	Pte. I. G. Smith.
	Pte. A. E. Crabtree.	Pte. T. Hawxwell.	Dr. W. Marshall.	Pte. Wm. Smith.
	Pte. F. T. Crowe.	Pte. A. Holgate.	Pte. C. Neal.	Pte. Wa. Smith.
	L. Sgt. G. B. Creasey.	Pte. J. Horner.	Pte. E. Nixon.	Pte. R. Smith.
	L. Cpl. H. A. Clayton.	Pte. A. Horseman.	Pte. C. Nortolk.	Pte. W. H. Smith.
	O.R.-Sgt. E. Cooper.	Pte. L. W. Hopkins.		Pte. W. B. Spencer.

A page from "Craven's Part in the Great War" listing men of 2/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment

Harry's name was included on Farnhill Methodist Chapel's Roll of Honour, which was unveiled on 9th July 1916.



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

The war diary of 2/6 battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment records that an inspection was carried out by the GOC (General Officer Commanding) of the Northern Army at its Bedford headquarters at 12:45pm on 3rd February 1917, and later that day it received the order to embark on the 5th.

The battalion, a total of 33 officers and 953 men, including Private Harry Bulcock, sailed from Southampton to Le Havre on three vessels: Mona's Queen, Caesarea and Huntscraft, arriving at 8am on 6th February 1917. By the 17th they were in the front line.

In May 1917, 2/6 battalion were in action near Mory, south-east of the town of Arras; their principal objective being to secure a railway embankment. The Regimental diary reports that between 13th and 20th May the battalion suffered the loss of one man killed and a further eight wounded.

It seems likely that Harry was one of the eight men wounded at this time, as on the 18th he was admitted to hospital in Rouen with a gunshot wound to the right knee. This was a category XI wound – defined as "Gunshot wound with direct penetration or perforation of the larger joints". It required his subsequent transfer to the Royal Free Hospital in London, as reported in the Craven Herald on 25th May.

KILDWICK.
Wounded.—Mr. and Mrs. William Bulcock, of Kirkgate, Kildwick, have received information from the War Office that their son, Pte. Harry Bulcock, of the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, was wounded in the knee by a gunshot wound, the bullet passing straight through. Pte. Bulcock has been removed from the hospital in Rouen to the Royal Free Hospital, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.

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Harry was not discharged from hospital until 23rd August 1917.

It seems unlikely that he returned to the West Riding Regiment. His medal card suggests that he also served in the Labour Corps (Private, no. 647222). This unit was formed in January 1917, to provide the manpower required to build and maintain roads, railways, buildings, camps, etc. both in the UK and abroad. The Corps was manned by officers and other ranks who had been medically rated below the condition needed for front line service. Many were men, like Harry, who had been wounded.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
BULCOCK	West Riding R.	Pte	267231
	Lab. C.		647222
Harry			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	LC/10, B260	26502	
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Harry Bulcock's WW1 Medal Card, showing service in both West Riding Regiment and Labour Corps
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No further information is available on Harry Bulcock's subsequent WW1 service, although it is known that he was discharged on 11th October 1919.

As a result of his wounds he was awarded a pension of 8s (40p) per week for what was judged to be a 20% disability. Payments continued until at least 1924.

Form No. S.B. 36.

Surname BULCOCK Christian Names Harry Regional No. 4/M B/ N° 2141

Unit and Regiment or Corps Labour Regtl. No. 647222 Rank Pte

Date of Discharge 11. 10. 19 Year of Birth 1896 Marital Status { S. = Single
W. = Widower
M. = Married }

Address Kingsgate, Kildwick, Ilkley Date of commencement of Pension 12. 18. 19

Disabilities:— State whether attributable to or aggravated by Service or non-attributable:—

1. 2. 3. 4.

Particulars of Awards for previous Service (if any):—

AWARDS OF PENSION, GRATUITY OR WEEKLY ALLOWANCE.									
Date of Award or other Action	Degree of Disablement	Nature of Award			Weekly Rate			Period of Award	REMARKS: Note—This column is to be used for explanatory remarks where necessary, e.g., that an award is made or revised under Article 9, or as the result of an appeal to the Tribunal, or for increase of Pension
		Art. under which granted (and Warrant if necessary)	Whether Pension Gratuity or Weekly Allowance	Whether Permanent, Conditional or Final	Man	Wife	Child		
16/3/21					8/-			13/4	
16/4/24					8/-			11/4	
19/8/23	20%		P. B.		8/-			11/4	
								8/4	

Extracts from Harry Bulcock's WW1 pension ledger (SB 36)
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Post-war life

Harry returned to the village and lived at 5 Kirkgate, with his family, for several years.

The 1921 census recorded Harry as working for Kildwick Gas Company, and this was the industry he would remain in for the rest of his working life. He would subsequently become a clerk with both the Kildwick company and, later, with the North Eastern Gas Board.

On 4th June 1927 Harry and his sister Nellie were the witnesses when their step-brother Ernest Gibson married at the Methodist Chapel in Silsden.

A few months later, on 18th August, Nellie again acted as witness at a wedding. This time it was Harry who was the groom, marrying Annie Pickles of Oakworth, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Temple Street, Keighley.

1927 Marriage solemnized at Wesley Chapel, Temple Street in the District of Keighley in the County of York.								
Column— No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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.
202	August 18 th 1927	Harry Bulcock	30 years	Bachelor	Collector for Kildwick Gas Company	Kirkgate Kildwick	William Bulcock	Carter
		Annie Pickles	33 years	Spinster	Housekeeper Domestic	27 Commercial Street Oakworth	John Pickles (deceased)	
Married in the Wesleyan Chapel according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Wesleyan Methodist Church by Certificate								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		Harry Bulcock Annie Pickles		in the Presence of us,		Arthur Pickles Nellie Bulcock		And in the Presence of Sydney Pearson Jacoby Authorised Person for Lind Park Chapel.

Bulcock – Pickles marriage certificate
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On the marriage certificate Harry was described as a “Collector for Kildwick Gas Company”.

The couple set up home at 9 Staincliffe Street, Farnhill.

Note: Staincliffe Street (or Back Staincliffe Street, as it was sometimes known) was the name given to a terrace of small dwellings, each typically just two or three rooms, that formed the rear basements of properties that had their fronts on Main Street, close to its junction with Grange Road. The rooms have since been incorporated into the Main Street properties.

During WW2 Harry joined the Kildwick Home Guard.



Photograph courtesy of John Lofthouse

At some point during WW2 the couple moved to 12 Main Street, Farnhill.

Note: Former Farnhill resident Keith Bunnett remembers his own family living at 12 Main Street before WW2. He recalls that Harry and Annie Bulcock moved into the house when the Bunnetts moved next door to number 14 which, unlike number 12, had electricity.

Harry's father, William, died in 1946; and his step-mother, Sarah Ann, in 1951.

Harry Bulcock died of heart disease, at home, on 15th December 1963; he was aged 67. Annie was present when he died.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT				Staincliffe					
1963 DEATH in the Sub-district of Cross Hills				in the County of York (W.R.)					
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
169	15 th December 1963 12, Main Street Farnhill	Harry BULCOCK	Male	67 years	gasworks clerk. (Retired)	I (a) Myocardial Degeneration (b) Chronic Bronchitis Certified by A. Wickett M.B.	H. Bulcock Widow of Deceased Present at the death 12 Main Street Farnhill.	Sixteenth Evening 1963	R. E. Sharpe Registrar

Harry Bulcock's death certificate
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Postscript

Annie Bulcock left Farnhill shortly after Harry's death. She died on 24th February 1971, at 5 Valley View, Greenway, Crosshills; aged 77.

Harry and Annie had no children.

Harry Bulcock – a life in summary

Born: 13/8/1896, Farnhill

Baptised: 27/12/1896, Kildwick

Died: 15/12/1963; 12 Main Street, Farnhill **Aged:** 67

Parents

Father: William; b. 9/10/1866, Lothersdale; d. 1946, Skipton (Registration district)

Mother: Ann (nee Holmes); b. 11/1/1871, Eastburn; d. 1907, Eastburn; buried 10/9/1907, Kildwick

Married: 17/2/1896, Steeton Parish Church

William was remarried, in 1909, to Sarah Ann Barlow.

Siblings

Nellie; b. 10/1/1905, Eastburn; m. Ernest Craven, 1933

Ernest Gibson (step-brother); b. 19/7/1896, Bradford

Relationship to other volunteers

Thomas Bulcock – was Harry's paternal uncle

Ernest Gibson – step-brother, 1909 (son of William Bulcock's second wife, Sarah Ann Barlow)

WW1 service

Service period: March 1916 to 11/10/1919

Regt.: 2/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment (Private, no. 267231)
Labour Corps (Private, no. 647222)

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 5 Kirkgate, Farnhill

Marriage

Wife: Annie Pickles; b. 14/2/1894, Keighley (Registration district); d. 24/2/1971, Crosshills

Date: 18/8/1927; Wesley Chapel, Temple Street, Keighley

Children

None known.

