

Harry Hargreaves (1896 – 1982)

Harry Hargreaves, although born above Kildwick, lived for a short time with his grandmother, in Sutton-in-Craven, before joining his parents and siblings after they moved to Starkey Lane, Farnhill.

After attending Kildwick school he worked at Bairstow's Mill in Sutton, as a worsted spinner.

At the age of nineteen he entered war service with the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment). His three older brothers also served in the same regiment.

It was probably a relief to Harry and also to his family when he was demobbed in 1919, as during his war service he seems to have suffered very much both physically and mentally and had been hospitalised with shell shock, tonsillitis, gunshot wounds and boils.

Becoming a farmer, he married and farmed in Silsden and Glusburn. After retirement he lived in Crosshills and died in 1982, leaving a widow.



Photograph courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle

Pre-war life

The 1901 census showed the Hargreaves family living at Great Slack, a farm on New Lane, Kildwick, above the road from Kildwick to Silsden.

The head of the household was John Edward Hargreaves, Harry's father, who was recorded as being a fishmonger, aged 35, born in Steeton. His wife, Mary Ann, was 34 and had been born in Cambridgeshire.

There were four children at Great Slack:

- Laurie, aged 11, born in Silsden
- Fred, aged 8, born in Kildwick
- Ben, aged 6, born in Kildwick
- Elizabeth Ann, aged 2, born in Kildwick

It appears that Harry was not living with the rest of his family at this time. He was recorded, aged 4 and born in Kildwick, living with his grandmother, Annie Hargreaves, at 10 Mill Street Sutton-in-Craven.

By the time of the 1911 census the family, including Harry, had moved to 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill; where they were living in four rooms.

Laurie had left the family home. He had married in 1909 and by 1911 he, his wife Alice, nee Emmett, and their one year-old daughter, Phyllis, were living in Sutton with the Emmett family. There had also been an addition to the Starkey Lane family: a daughter, Mary, who was aged three in 1911.

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 Pension than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and Sex.	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.	BIRTHPLACE of every person.
1 John Hargreaves	Head	45	Married 22 7 6 1	Fish Monger 922	Tork's Hulton
2 Mary Ann Hargreaves	Wife	43	Married 22 7 6 1		Not known. OX
3 Fild Hargreaves	Son	19	Single	Weaver Woolwid 84	Tork's Hildwicks
4 Ben Hargreaves	Son	16		Spinner Woolwid 843	Tork's Hildwicks
5 Harry Hargreaves	Son	14		Spinner Woolwid	Tork's Hildwicks
6 Eliza Ann Hargreaves	Daughter	12		School 390	Tork's Hildwicks
7 Mary Hargreaves	Daughter	3			Tork's Hildwicks

Extract from the 1911 census return for 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill
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Note: The "Particulars of Marriage" section records that John and Mary Ann had been married for 22 years, and had had seven children; six were still living, and one child born to the marriage (name unknown) had died.

Harry attended Kildwick school for six years, until 1909, by which time his attendance had been sufficient for him to leave and go to work. He was aged just twelve and a half.

His attendance certificate was signed by Thomas Appleby, the school headmaster.

SCHEDULE VI.

Board of Education.
Form 144 (a).

Certificate of School Attendance for the purpose of employment under Section 5, Elementary Education Act, 1876, or for total or partial exemption under the Bye-Laws.

*Kildwick C.E. *School.*

I hereby certify that the following particulars with respect to the Attendances made by the Child named below, at this School after attaining the age of 5 years, are correctly taken from the Registers of the School.

Name in full, and Residence of Child.	Number of Attendances made within the 12 months ending the 31st December
<i>Harry Hargreaves,</i>	1904 424
	1905 434
<i>17, Starkey Lane</i>	1906 405.
	1907 433.
<i>Farnhill</i>	1908 372.

Signed this *8th* day of *June* 19*09*

(L 5) *Thos. Appleby*
Principal Teacher of the above-named School.

* Enter name in full, and state whether a Public Elementary, or Certified Efficient, School.

Harry Hargreaves' school attendance certificate
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

By the time of the 1911 census, taken when he was 14, Harry was working full-time as a worsted spinner at Bairstow's Mill in Sutton.



A George Whiteoak photograph of Bairstow's Mill, Sutton. Probably taken immediately prior to WW1.
(By kind permission of Keighley and District Digital Archive)

WW1 service

Harry attested his willingness to serve when called-upon on 11th December 1915, at Crosshills; the day after his older brother Ben. He was 19 years of age.

As was usual for those who attested he was assigned to the Army Reserve, but was called up almost immediately.

On 26th January 1916, Harry entered service with 11th battalion the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment (service number 11/18447). This was two days after his brother Ben started with the same unit. After training he was, like Ben, transferred to 3/5 battalion on 8th June 1916 and, on the 20th, was shipped over to France with the 1/5 battalion (service number 242159).

STATEMENT of the SERVICES of No. <i>11/18447</i> Name <i>Harry Hargreaves</i>		Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of Pension		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of Entries
Corps	Depot				years	days	
General Service		Attested	<i>Rte</i>	<i>See 11/15</i>			<i>J. W. ...</i>
General Service		To Army Reserve		<i>See 12/15</i>			
<i>W.R.R.</i>	<i>D</i>	Mobilized		<i>26/1/16</i>			
	<i>11</i>	Posted		<i>29-1-16</i>			
	<i>8/5</i>	<i>Transferred</i>	<i>Pts.</i>	<i>8-6-1916</i>			<i>H. Wargue Major</i>
	<i>4/6</i>	<i>Posted</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>30-6-16</i>			

"Statement of Services" from Harry Hargreaves WW1 service record – posted to France with 1/5 battalion on 20/6/1916
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Harry Hargreaves in uniform – taken at Hall & Siggers' studio, Keighley
Courtesy of Elaine Priestley



Harry Hargreaves' identity tags
Courtesy of Elaine Priestley

The Regimental War Diary for 1/5 West Riding Regiment reports that the field strength was supplemented with 262 men on 26th June 1916; presumably this number included Ben and Harry Hargreaves.



Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle

His pay book shows that he received the sum of 6d per day for his service.

11TH (SERVICE) DIV. BUNGE OF WELLINGTONS REGT.

Regiment or Corps
Group 11 (Camps Toronto) *S. Th...*
 "A" COMPANY

Squadron, Battery, or Company

No. *242158* *18447* Rank *Pte.*

NAME in full *Harry Hargreaves*

Date of Attestation *11/12/15* and

Age on Enlistment *19*

If appointed to a unit formed on Mobilization, the designation of such unit should be clearly stated here—

NOTE.—The account of the soldier while on active service will be kept in the Office of the Paymaster paying the Base Depot of his Unit, or by the Paymaster at the Record Office Station of his Unit, and all communications relating to his accounts should be addressed accordingly.

Rates of—		s.	d.
Pay	...	1	—
Proficiency Pay	...		
Service Pay	...		
Corps Pay or Engineer Pay	...		
Total	...	1	—
Deduct Allotment or Compulsory Stoppage	...		6
† NET DAILY RATE FOR ISSUE—			6
(words) <i>Sixpence</i>			

Harry Hargreaves
 Signature of Soldier

Walter R. ...
 O. C. Company, etc.

Date and Station *Brockton* **2 MAY 1916**

† Subject to amendments (if any) on page 4.

Harry Hargreaves' pay book
 (Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

Harry seems to have gone through the Somme offensive of 1916 without mishap. However, his army medical record does show that he was hospitalised for most of April 1917; something that was reported in the local press (Keighley News, 21/4/1917).

FARNHILL.

The parents of Lance-Corporal John Stott, of Farnhill, have received information during the week that their son, who is in the West Riding Regiment, is in hospital suffering from severe shell shock.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hargreaves, of Farnhill, have received news this week that their son, Private Harry Hargreaves, is in hospital in France as a "hospital case." He is in the West Riding Regiment, and is one of three brothers serving with the forces. At the time of enlistment he was employed by Messrs. T. and M. Bairstow, Sutton Mills.

With kind permission of Keighley News

This was a case of tonsillitis – although at some point during the war he was gassed.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

5899 Regiment or Corps *West Riding* *St. Col. COMMANDING*
 44777 Rank *Private* Name *Harry Hargreaves* **5 WEST RIDING REGIMENT.**

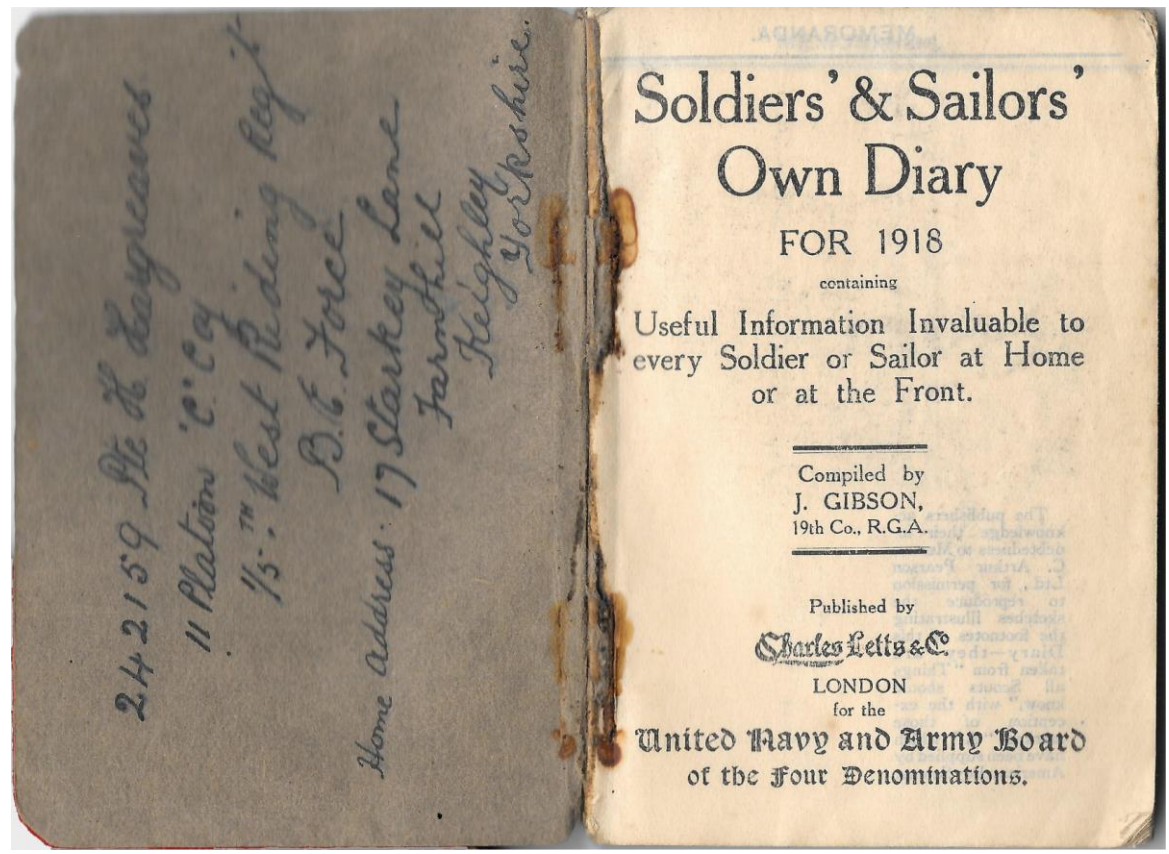
Enlisted (a) *1/12/15* Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) *1/12/15*
 Date of promotion to } Date of appointment } Numerical position on }
 present rank } to lance rank } roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) *Bomber*

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 26, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
<i>14.4.17</i>	<i>1/12/15</i>	<i>Adm. Tonsillitis</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>9.4.17</i>	<i>62 2872</i>
<i>14.4.17</i>	<i>54 CC8</i>	<i>do do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>11.4.17</i>	<i>62 2959</i>
<i>12.4.17</i>	<i>30 Gen</i>	<i>do. nypd etc</i>	<i>Calais</i>	<i>12.4.17</i>	<i>62 2945</i>
<i>15.4.17</i>	<i>4 CD</i>	<i>do. Tonsillitis</i>	<i>Bombone</i>	<i>15.4.17</i>	<i>62 2720</i>
<i>24.4.17</i>	<i>34500</i>	<i>Joined</i>	<i>Gravel</i>	<i>26.4.17</i>	<i>62 2720</i>
<i>9.5.17</i>	<i>9m</i>	<i>Rejoined 9m</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>8.5.17</i>	<i>do.</i>

Extract from Harry Hargreaves' Active Service Casualty Form – hospital admission for tonsillitis April/May 1917
 Used under licence from the National Archive

Harry's 1918 Soldier's diary has survived.



Harry Hargreaves' 1918 Soldier's diary
 (Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

A [transcript of the diary](#) has been made. It describes Harry's final 10 months' service in the field with the HQ Corps of 5th battalion West Riding Regiment.

On 20th July 1918, Harry sustained gunshot wounds in the arm and buttock and was hospitalised in France. He returned to the field on 9th September 1918, but less than 10 days later he was re-admitted to hospital for a further month suffering from boils on his leg.

Doc to 29: 5.4.19

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 918, Army Form A. 86, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 918, Army Form A. 86, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
22.7.18	Os. Bn.	Wounded.	Fields	20.7.18	00132
	50ccs	arm. sub arm. buttock	do	21.7.18	04860
	10ccs	arm. sub arm. buttock	do	22.7.18	04860
	4ccs	- do	do	20.7.18	04860
	14 Cond. Depot.	- do	do	14.8.18	04860
	3 Depot.	Joined	do	27.9.18	Roll
	4 Banquet	arm. Boils, leg	do	14.11.18	04860
	3 Depot	Joined.	do	11.10.18	Roll
	11.	Joined	Fields	9.10.18	do
		From 22.10.18 to 5.11.18	FIELD		
	D. C.	EFFICIENCY PAY CLASS	FIELD	4.12.17	07810
	Bn.	Selected for Cadre	do	14.12.17	List
		TRANSFERRED TO ENGLAND		28 APR 1919	

Hubbundy

Extract from Harry Hargreaves' WW1 service record showing admissions to hospital for gunshot wounds (July – Sept 1918) and boils (Sept/Oct 1918)
Used under licence from the National Archive

His diary records that he returned to his unit on 7th October 1918 as they continued to press back the German lines. On 20th October, the day that the 5th battalion began its final advance, Harry was given leave; he arrived in England on the 23rd and did not return to duty until after the Armistice was signed.

Harry's service record suggests that he was selected for post-war service in Germany as a member of the battalion's HQ staff, and this is confirmed by photographs kept by the family.



Harry Hargreaves, front-row centre, with other members of the HQ staff, 1919
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)



Believed to be the head of the household that Harry was billeted with in Germany, 1919
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

Post-war life

Harry was finally demobilized on 6th June 1919 and returned to Farnhill.

The 1921 census records Harry as living back at the family home, 17 Starkey Lane, with his parents and various siblings. He is recorded as working as a worsted warp twister at Bairstow' Mill.

In January 1922 he received the Victory medal and British War medal due to him for his service.



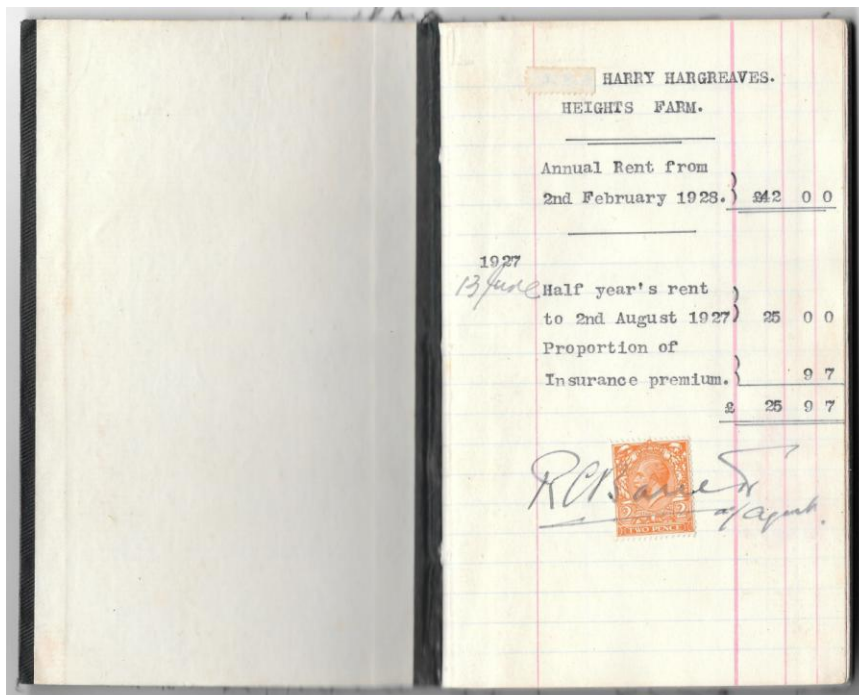
Harry Hargreaves' Victory medal (left) and British War medal (right), with the original cardboard box (Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

Harry continued to live at home, with his parents, until at least 1926.

In 1927 he began farming at Heights Farm, Silsden – initially renting the property, but eventually purchasing it.



Heights Farm Silsden
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)



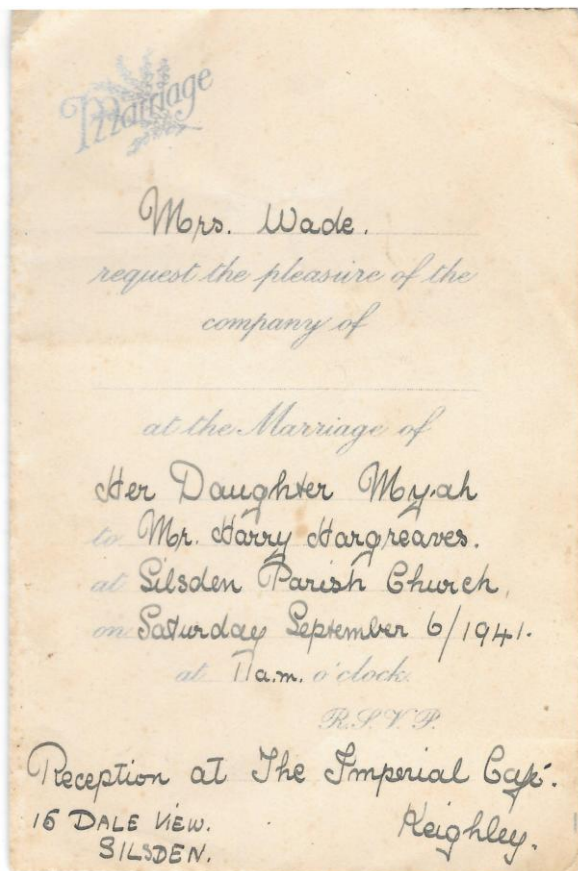
The first page of Harry Hargreaves' rent book for Heights Farm
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

For quite a while Harry lived at Heights Farm with his father; and, for a few years in the early 1930s, his brother Fred also lived there with them. In 1931 John Edward Hargreaves (Harry's father) was listed as a Farmer in the Craven Almanac, but gave 17 Starkey Lane as his address.

On the 1939 Register, created in September 1939 in preparation for WW2 rationing, Harry and John Edward were recorded living together at Heights Farm.

(The electoral roll shows Harry's mother, Mary Ann, continuing to live at 17 Starkey Lane until her death in March 1951.)

In September 1941 Harry married Maria Wade, known as Myah, in St. James' Church Silsden. She was the daughter of the late Frank Wade, of Pickersgill Farm Silsden.



Harry Hargreaves married Myah Wade 6/9/1941
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

The couple continued to farm at Heights Farm until the early 1970s, when they moved to Croft Head Farm in Glusburn.



Croft Head Farm, Glusburn
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

They subsequently retired to Church Street, Crosshills.

Harry Hargreaves died on 1st December 1982, aged 86.



Harry Hargreaves (1896 – 1982)
(Courtesy of Andrew Whittam and Jo Birtwhistle)

The following obituary appeared in the Craven Herald on 10th December 1982:

Mr. H. Hargreaves

A man who became a farmer on his doctor's advice after being gassed during the 1914-18 War died in hospital at the age of 86.

He was Mr. Harry Hargreaves, of Church Street, Crosshills, who farmed in the South Craven area for 30 years. He retired at 60 to Croft Head Farm, Ryecroft Way, Glusburn, and later moved to Cross Hills.

Born at Slack Farm, Silsden Moor, he attended Kildwick Primary School which he left at 13. He worked as a twister at Bairstow's mill, Sutton, prior to serving during the First World War.

Well-known in the area, he was a member of Sutton Men's Forum, the O.A.P.A. Rest Centre at Cross Hills, the Royal British Legion, and the Men's Society of Silsden Parish Church.

His one hobby was reading.

Mr. Hargreaves leaves a wife.

Postscript

Maria Hargreaves died on 20th June 1988, aged 83.

Harry and Maria had no children, and there are no direct descendants. Of Harry's siblings, only one brother is known to have married and had children.

Descendants of Maria's family live in southern Scotland.

Harry Hargreaves – a life in summary

Born: 20/11/1896, Kildwick
Baptised: 15/4/1900, Kildwick
Died: 1/12/1982 **Aged:** 86
Home address: 3 Church Street, Crosshills

Parents

Father: John Edward; b. 10/2/1866, Steeton; d. 11/6/1945, Farnhill
Mother: Mary Ann (nee Pamment); b. 1866, Isleham (Cambs.);
d. March 1951, Farnhill; buried 7/3/1951, Kildwick St. Andrew's
Married: 4/8/1888, Kildwick

Siblings

Laurie; b. 1890, Silsden; m. Alice Emmett, 1909, Bradford (Registration district); d. 1924
Fred; b. 8/6/1892, Kildwick;
m. Eva Smith (nee Horne) – divorced, 23/12/1943, at Keighley Register Office;
d. 17/10/1975, Oakworth
Ben; 21/11/1894, Kildwick; d. 4/7/1926, Farnhill
Elizabeth Ann; b. 1899, Kildwick;
Mary; b. 1908, Kildwick;

plus one other who died prior to the 1911 census

WW1 service

Attested: 11/12/1915, Crosshills
Service period: 26/1/1916 to 6/6/1919
Regt.: West Riding Regiment (Private, no. 5899, 11/18447, 242159)
Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal
Home address: 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Relationship to other volunteers

Fred Hargreaves – brother
Ben Hargreaves – brother

Note: There appears to be no relationship between these brothers and the other Hargreaves family of Farnhill.

Marriage

Wife: Maria Wade (known as Myah); b. 29/1/1905, Silsden; d. 20/6/1988, Crosshills
Date: 6/9/1941, Silsden Parish Church

