

## Richard Usher Inskip (1896 – 1955)

Richard Usher Inskip was born in Mossley, Lancashire and he had ten brothers and sisters. His ancestors had been celebrated photographers and his father was a talented musician.

Moving to Yorkshire in 1904, the Inskip family lived in Hanover Street, Farnhill.

Richard worked at Woodrow's Mill and whilst serving in France was wounded at least four times before hostilities ceased.

After the war he returned to Farnhill and became a member of Kildwick Cricket Club and Kildwick and Farnhill Institute.

After marrying, he and his wife ran a grocer's shop in Bingley and adopted a child.

Richard Inskip died in the Bingley area in 1955.



Photograph courtesy  
of Freda Topham

### Pre-war life

Richard Usher Inskip was born in Mossley, Lancashire, on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1896. He was the fourth child (second son) of Richard and Mary Alice (nee Thornton). There would eventually be 11 children in total.

In the previous generation the Inskip family had contained a number of celebrated photographers. His grandfather, George Inskip, had a studio in Skipton and his great uncle, John, had one in Scarborough. There was also another family member, James, who had a photographic studio in Kent.

Richard's father was a cornet player of some renown and played in a number of brass bands, including Skipton Old Prize Band, Mossley Band, Kingston Mills, and others.

The 1901 census records Richard living with his parents in Mossley, where his father appears to have been running a fish and chip shop or a cafe (the entry is difficult to read).

The family appear to have made a permanent move to the Skipton area early in 1904, when the Craven Herald announced that Kildwick Brass Band had secured the services of a significant new player.

## KILDWICK. KILDWICK AND DISTRICT PRIZE BRASS BAND.—

It was felt that the Kildwick bandsmen have spent no idle hours during the winter, and since they have secured Mr Richard Inskip, solo cornet (late of Mossley), as a permanent addition, the progress they have made is marked, and they will have to be counted with in the forthcoming season's contests.

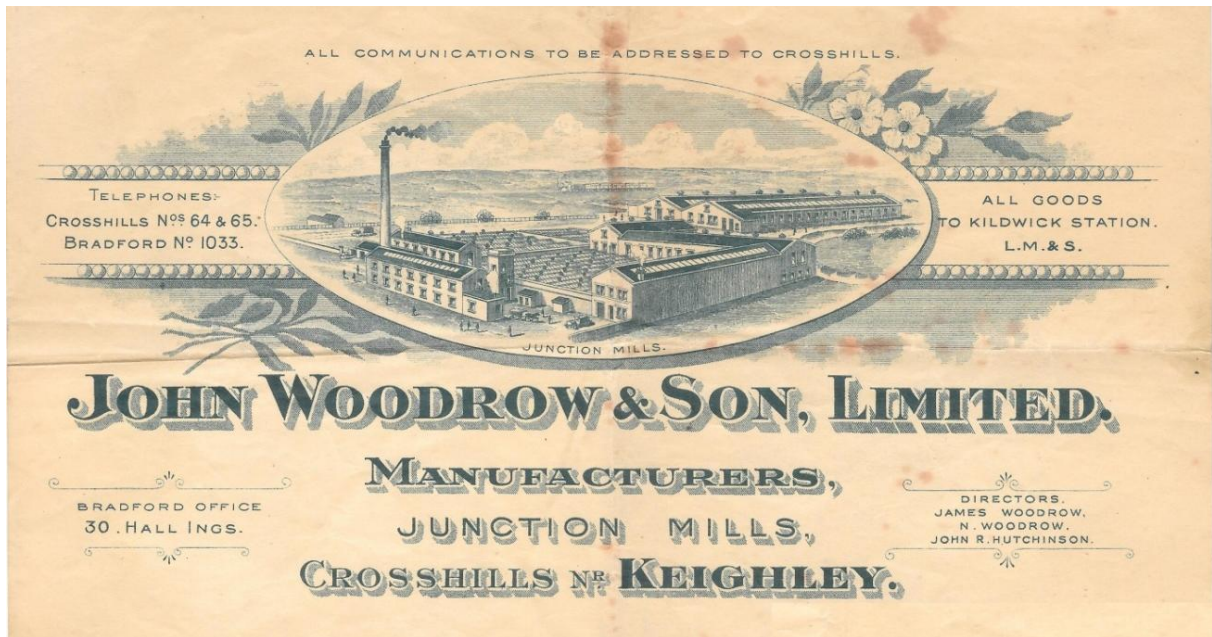
Report from Craven Herald, 22/01/1904; reproduced by kind permission of the Craven Herald

By the time of the 1911 census the 14 year-old Richard was living at 9 Hanover Street, Farnhill, with his father and ten siblings – his mother had died in 1910. With twelve people living in just four rooms the house must have been very crowded.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.											
<small>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.</small>											
<small>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.</small>											
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. Richard Inskip	Head	42	Widower	2	11	11	—	Wooler Super	Wooler	At Home	Skipton Yorks
2. Minnie Inskip	Daughter	20	Single					Wooler 250	Cotton	Wooler	Skipton "
3. Bessie Inskip	Daughter	19	Single					Wooler	Cotton	Wooler	Do "
4. George Inskip	Son	17	Single					Robbin Finner 63	Wooler	Wooler	Do "
5. Richard Inskip	Son	14	Single					Wooler 263	Wooler	Wooler	Do "
6. Louis Inskip	Son	11	Single					School	School	School	At Mossley Lancs
7. Alice Inskip	Daughter	10	Single					School	School	School	Do "
8. Lavinia Inskip	Daughter	8	Single					School	School	School	Do "
9. Maria Inskip	Son	6	Single								Brasshills Yorks
10. Maria Inskip	Daughter	4	Single								Do "
11. Phyllis Inskip	Daughter	4	Single								Do "
12. Harold Inskip	Son	3	Single								Do "

Extract from the 1911 census return for 9 Hanover Street, Farnhill  
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The census also recorded that Richard was working as a “Worsted Spinner”. Subsequent news reports suggest that this was at Woodrow’s Mill, Junction.



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## WW1 service

Richard Usher Inskip’s WW1 service records do not appear to have survived (over 70% of these records were destroyed in a fire during the WW2 London blitz). However a fragmentary account of his WW1 service can be constructed from other sources.

A newspaper report from the West Yorkshire Pioneer in November 1915 includes Richard in a list of the members of Kildwick and Farnhill Institute who would receive “Comforts for Our Lads”, suggesting that he had already left the village. A later report (West Yorkshire Pioneer, 1/7/1916) indicates that this might have happened in August 1915.

Richard joined the 9<sup>th</sup> battalion Duke of Wellington’s (West Riding) Regiment on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1916 as a Private (no. 17374) and was sent out to France around the end of May.

The 9<sup>th</sup> battalion’s regimental diary recorded that from 20<sup>th</sup> May to 10<sup>th</sup> June 1916 they were at a rest camp in Moule, south-east of Calais. On 10<sup>th</sup> June the battalion moved back towards the front near Amiens, where they spent the rest of the month in reconnaissance and training. On the 30<sup>th</sup>, the diary reported “All ranks in state of readiness to resume operations at once”.

The Battle of the Somme began the following day.

From the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> July, the battalion was in a front line trench and was involved in heavy fighting. It seems likely that it was in this period that Richard Inskip was wounded, as reported in the West Yorkshire Pioneer on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1916.



### Farnhill's Wounded Soldier.

Mr. Richd. Inskip, of Mary Street, Farnhill, has received official notification regarding his second son, Private Richard Inskip, of the 9th Duke of Wellington's, informing him that he is suffering from a gunshot wound in the foot, and is now in hospital in Cheshire. Private Inskip joined the forces in August, 1915, and went out to France about five weeks ago.

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Richard must have been discharged from hospital by March 1917, when he was transferred from the 9<sup>th</sup> battalion to 2/5<sup>th</sup> battalion. However, he would turn out to be something of a "lead magnet" and was wounded at least another three times before the end of the war – as the following newspaper reports show.

In May 1917, as reported by the West Yorkshire Pioneer (11/5/1917):

**FARNHILL.**  
**FARNHILL SOLDIERS WOUNDED.—**  
Mr. Richard Inskipp has received information that his son, Pte. Richard Inskipp, has been again wounded.

In November 1917, after being transferred to 2/6 battalion; also reported by the West Yorkshire Pioneer (30/11/1917):

**FARNHILL.**  
**SOLDIER WOUNDED.—**Mr. Richard Inskip, of Hanover Street, Farnhill, has received word that his second son, Richard, has been wounded in the right hand during the recent engagement in France. Pte. Rd. Inskip is in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and has been wounded twice previously. He is now at a base hospital, and expects to be sent to England shortly. His brother George is also in the same regiment, but did not take part in the engagement, as he was on duty with his officer at a hospital. Before enlisting, Pte. Rd. Inskip was employed by Messrs. John Woodrow and Son.

**Note:** Richard's older brother George, mentioned above, was killed in action in France on 27<sup>th</sup> November 1917, just three days before this report was published.

In March 1918, as reported in the Craven Herald (5/4/1918):

**The Wounded.**  
 Mr. Richard Inskip, Farnhill, has also received information that his son, Private R. Inskip, is wounded and that he is in hospital at Bradford. This is the fourth time Private Inskip has been wounded. This wound is in his foot.

It seems likely that after being wounded for the fourth time, Richard was transferred from the Duke of Wellington's Regiment to the Royal Defence Corps, a unit which performed only domestic service.

98283	Pte.	INSKIP, Richard	2/W. Rid. R.	Pta.	17.374	1(a)	21.4.16	3	7.16
			2/5 " "	"	"	1(a)	9.5.17	7	5.17
			2/6 " "	"	"	1(a)	11.3.17	27	11.17
			2/ " " "	"	"	1(a)	19.3.16	31	3.16 ✓

Extract from the WW1 Medal Roll of the Royal Defence Corps –  
 showing Richard Inskip's prior service with the West Riding Regiment, ending on 31/3/1918  
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Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
INSKIP	W. Rid. R.	Pte	14344
Richard	R. D. C.		98283
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	TP/102 B18	2096	
BATT-H			
STAR			
Theatre of War			
Date of entry therein			

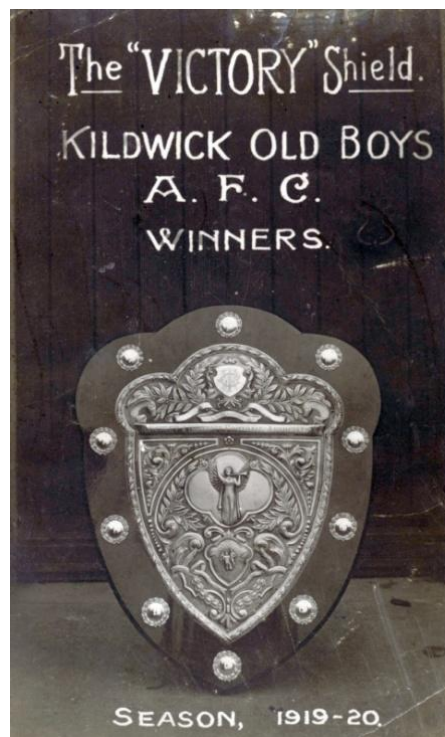
Richard Inskip's WW1 Medal Card – service with the West Riding Regiment and Royal Defence Corps  
 Used under licence from the National Archive



## Post-war life

After the war, Richard returned to Farnhill.

As post-war life resumed in the village, Richard became a playing member of the newly reformed Kildwick Old Boys' football club and was in the team that won the Keighley and District second division championship in the 1919-1920 season. (His name appears in a report of the club's success published by the Keighley News.)



The Kildwick Old Boys' Football Club, 1920; including Richard Inskip - second from left, front row ?  
From the Farnhill and Kildwick History Group archive.

The 1921 census records Richard living at home, 9 Hanover Street, with his parents and various siblings. He was working as a labourer with a haulage company in Keighley.

Richard was also a member of the post-war Kildwick Albion cricket club, and was a member of the 1922 team that won the Wilberforce Cup.



Kildwick Albion Cricket Club, 1922. Richard Inskip is second from right on the back row;  
his younger brother Maurice is second from left in the middle row (seated)  
Photograph courtesy of Keighley and District Digital Archive

After the team finished bottom of the league in 1925, Richard was appointed team captain for the 1926 season (Craven Herald 12/2/1926).

Richard also continued to be a member of the Kildwick and Farnhill Institute. His name appeared in connection with several events held there, including a billiards competition in April 1928 (Craven Herald, 6/4/1928) when he was a semi-finalist.

He was employed, for a while at least, at the Kildwick Parish Gas Company, as a driver.

On 24<sup>th</sup> September 1932, at the age of 36, Richard married at St. Thomas' Church, Sutton-in-Craven. His wife was a local woman, Hetty Nelson, whose sister Mary was married to another of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers, Herbert Barker. The marriage was witnessed by Charles Hargreaves, who was also a Farnhill WW1 Volunteer and a member of the 1922 Kildwick Albion cricket team.





Richard and Hetty's wedding photograph  
By kind permission of Freda Topham

19 <u>32</u> Marriage solemnized at the <u>Parish Church</u> in the <u>Parish</u> <u>of Sutton in Caven</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
486	Sept 24	Richard Inskip	36	Bachelor	Motor Driver	9 Hawker St Farnhill	Richard Inskip	Retired Fish Merchant
	1932	Hetty Nelson	32	Spinster	Weaver	"Ecclestone" Wolm Lane Sutton	Joseph John Nelson	Retired Sutton Master
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Established Church</u> by <u>Richard Inskip</u> or after <u>Banns</u> by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Richard Inskip</u>	in the Presence of us,		<u>Joseph John Nelson</u> <u>Charles Hargrave</u> <u>Elai Wilcock</u>	<u>R. H. Butterworth</u> Vicar of Cawling		

Inskip – Nelson marriage certificate  
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Shortly after they married the couple lived in Sutton for a while, perhaps to be close to Hetty's parents, before moving to 6 Keighley Road, Bingley, where they ran a grocery shop.



The couple are believed to have adopted a child, Marie, who may have come originally from London.

In 1947 the family moved to 8 Longwood View, Bingley; close to the present location of Crossflatts railway station.

On 12<sup>th</sup> July 1955, Richard collapsed in the street near his home and died in the ambulance on the way to hospital. A post-mortem revealed he had had a heart attack. He was 58 years old.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT		WORTH VALLEY							
1955		DEATH in the Sub-district of Bingley				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
200	Twelfth July 1955 In an ambulance between Crossflatts and Bingley.	Richard Usher INSKIP	Male	58 Years	Motor Driver	R. coronary occlusion notified by Stephen E. Brown Coroner for Bingley & District of Yorkshire after post-mortem without inquest.	Widow of deceased Mrs. Betty Inskip 8 Longwood View Crossflatts, Bingley.	Fifteenth July 1955	E. H. Clark Registrar

Richard Usher Inskip's death certificate  
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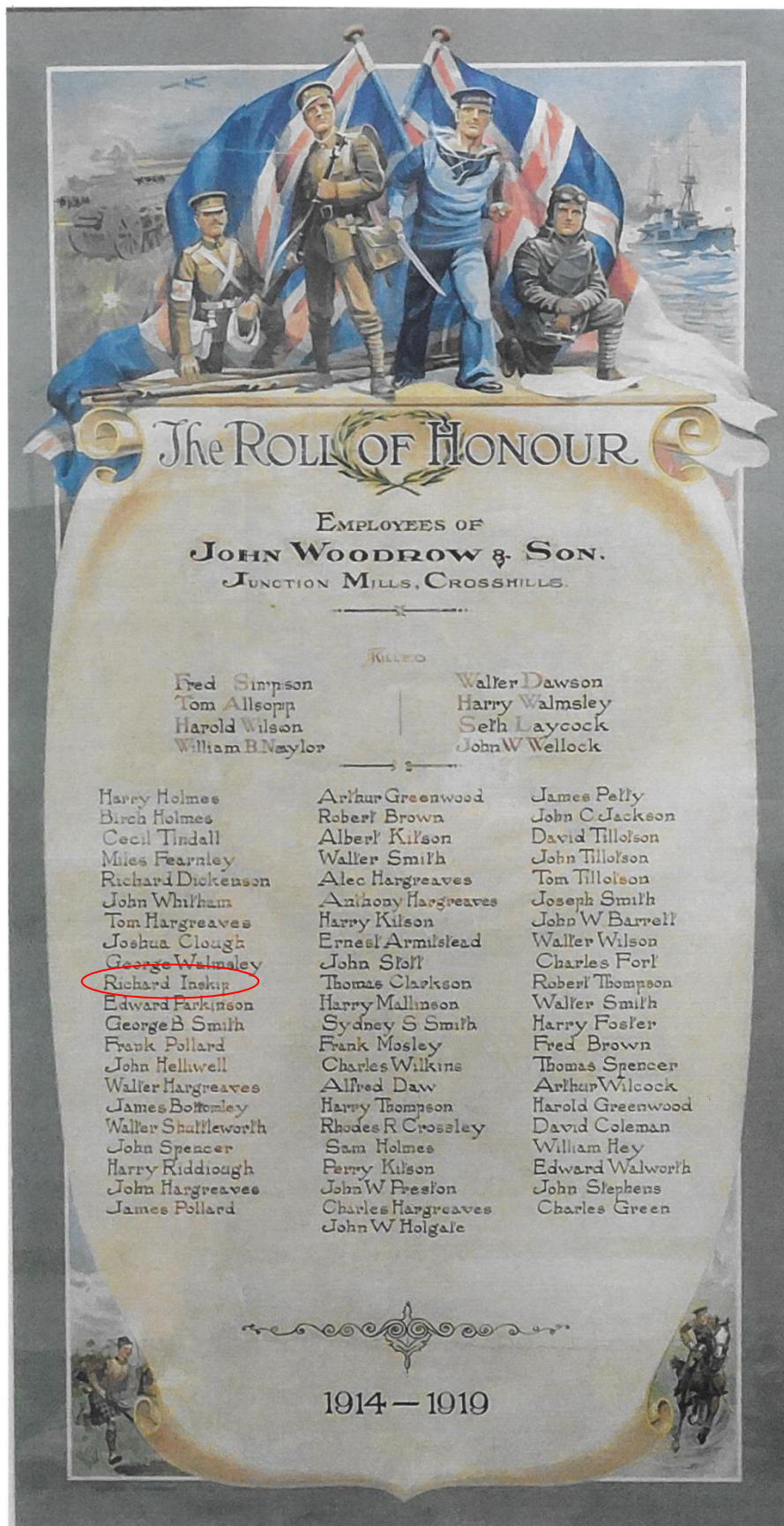
A short obituary appeared a few days later in the Keighley News.

**CROSSFLATTS**  
**FATAL COLLAPSE**

Mr. Richard Inskip (58), of Longwood View, Crossflatts, collapsed and died on the main road near his home on Tuesday evening. For the past nine years he had been a van driver with A. C. R. Wilson and Co., textile engineers and metal brokers, Crossflatts, and he was a member of the Ryshworth Club. Mr. Inskip leaves a widow and one daughter.

Richard Usher Inskip's obituary  
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His name is recorded on the WW1 Roll of Honour of men employed by Woodrow's Mill at Junction.



With thanks to BurberryGroup, PLC

## Postscript

In 1958, the Inskip's daughter married and this may have triggered Hetty's move from Longwood View to Chapel Street, Bingley, which is where she was living when she died in 1969. She was aged 68.

It is not known whether Richard and Hetty's daughter had children but a number of Richard's siblings married and had children, and members of these families still live in the area.



## Richard Usher Inskip – a life in summary

**Born:** 14/8/1896, Mossley, Lancashire

**Died:** 12/7/1955 **Aged:** 58

**Home address:** 8 Longwood View, Crossflatts

### Parents

**Father:** Richard; b. 1869, Skipton (Registration district);  
d. June 1939; buried 30/6/1939, Crosshills Ebenezer Chapel

**Mother:** Mary Alice (nee Thornton); b. 12/10/1868, Bradley; bapt. 5/4/1884; d. July 1910;  
buried 9/7/1910 Crosshills Ebenezer Chapel

**Married:** 1889, Skipton (Registration district)

### Siblings

Minnie, b. 9/6/1890, Skipton; m1. Henry (Harry) Pass, 1914, Skipton (Registration district);  
m2. Arthur P. Harrison, 1951, Wharfedale (Registration district); d. 25/10/1964, Morecambe

Celia, b. 23/1/1892, Skipton; m. Symon Frise, 20/8/1927, Kildwick;  
d. 1971, Huddersfield (Registration district)

George, b. 1/6/1893, Skipton; d. 27/11/1917, Northern France

Louis, b. 1/6/1899, Mossley (Lancashire); d. 1953, Sutton

Alice, b. 25/2/1901, Mossley (Lancashire); d. 11/9/1982, Steeton

Lavinia, b. 10/2/1903, Mossley (Lancashire);

m. Wilfred Clarkson, 9/5/1928, Farnhill Methodist Chapel; d. 1994, Silsden

Maurice, b. 19/11/1904, Crosshills; m. Kathleen Margaret Smith, 30/6/1928, Kildwick;  
d. 1964, Sutton

Phyllis, b. 31/7/1906, Crosshills; m. Hugh Shackleton, 8/7/1933, Kildwick; d. 6/4/1990, Steeton

Doris, b. 31/7/1906, Crosshills; d. 27/7/2001, Silsden

Harold, b. 2/10/1908, Crosshills; m. Mary Evelyn Hebson, 1940, Skipton (Registration district);  
d. 1981, Silsden

### WW1 service

**Signed-up:** August 1915

**Regt.:** Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment / Royal Defence Corps

**Medals:** British War Medal, Victory Medal

**Home address:** 9 Hanover Street, Farnhill

### Relationship to other volunteers

George Inskip – brother

Herbert Barker – brother-in-law (from 1932)

## Marriage

**Wife:** Hetty (nee Nelson); b. 21/8/1900, Pontefract (Registration district);  
d. 20/4/1969, Crossflatts

**Date:** 24/9/1932, Sutton Parish Church

## Children

Marie, an adopted daughter (from London ?);

m. Brian Charles Maries, 1958, Worth Valley (Registration district)

