

George Frederick Myers

(1885 – 1962)

George Frederick Myers, born in Bradford, was one of six children. His father owned a textile manufacturing company and employed his sons in the family firm. George would later run a textile firm of his own, in Keighley.

George's association with Farnhill began when he married a girl from Kildwick in 1908.

He began his army service in 1917 and was discharged in April 1919, suffering from a heart condition. He returned to live in Farnhill.

George's wife died in 1923 and he moved to Riddlesden. He married for a second time in 1925.

He died in 1962.



Pre-war life

George Frederick Myers was born in Bradford on 4th January 1885, the fifth of six children born to Frederick and Annie (nee Barker). Both his parents were from Bradford and his father had his own textile manufacturing company.

All his siblings had been baptised at Westgate Wesleyan Chapel, Bradford. The family tradition seems to have been to have the children baptised in pairs, and so it was that George was baptised along with his younger sister, Mabel Sarah, on 8th August 1892 – by which time he was already seven years old.

The 1891 census recorded the family living in the Manningham area of Bradford. George was at school but it appears that two of his older brothers, William aged 15 and John aged 14, may already have been working in the family business. By 1901 George may also have been employed by his father, as a clerk.

Civil Parish <i>Bradford</i>		Ecclesiastical Parish <i>St Paul</i>		County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District <i>Bradford</i>		Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District <i>Belton</i>		Rural District <i>Bradford</i>		Parliamentary Borough or Division <i>Bradford Western Division</i>		Town		
ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE		HOUSES		Name and Surname of each Person		RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
35	Do	1				Edw. Mell	Head	M	50		Wolfe's Manufacturing Employee			Do Bradford
						Annie Do	Wife	F	47					Do Do
						William E Do	Son	M	25		Do W.P.	Worker		Do Do
						John E Do	Son	M	24		Do Do	Do		Do Do
						Henry E Do	Son	M	22		Do Do	Do		Do Do
						Emily A Do	Daughter	F	20					Do Do
						George F Do	Son	M	16		H.C.C. Do Clerk	Do		Do Do
						Mabel E Do	Daughter	F	14		At School			Do Do

Extract from the 1901 census return for Queen's Street, Bradford – George F Myers working as a Clerk
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On 15th July 1908 George married Mary Green, from Kildwick, in St. Andrew's Church. The couple set up home at 11 South View, Farnhill.

By this time George may have branched out into business on his own account, as in the 1911 census he was recorded as being a worsted and cotton manufacturer.

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 Pension than the preparation of Statistical Tables.</i>									
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 George Frederick Myers	Head	26	Married	2	1	1	0	Worsted & cotton manufacturer	York's Bradford
2 Mary Myers	Wife	24	Married	2	1	1	0	Employed	York's Kildwick
3 Muriel Mary Myers	Daughter	11 months							York's Kildwick
4									
5									

Extract from the 1911 census return for the Myers household
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Note: The "Particulars of Marriage" section records that the couple had been married for two years. They had had a child, who was still living; no children born to the marriage had died.

The couple had a daughter, Muriel Mary, born 10th May 1910, and a son, George Michael, born 3rd April 1912.

WW1 service

George Frederick Myers attested his willingness to serve in the armed forces, and signed in the oath, on 4th December 1915. He was then assigned to the army reserve, where he stayed for almost 18 months.

At the end of April 1917 George received instructions to report to the Royal Army Service Corps' Mechanical Transport Depot in south-east London, where he began his service on 11th May (as Private, M/321313).

The role of the RASC was to provide logistical support to the fighting troops and George Myers may have been trained as a lorry driver. His records show that he passed a "Learners Test" on 21st May 1917.

He was sent over to France on 30th June 1917 where he served, with what might have been a short break elsewhere between 19th March and 3rd April 1918, until 5th March 1919.

Returned to the UK on 6th March 1919, George was discharged from the army on 29th April, as "No longer physically fit for War Service". The reason given was "DAH and Cardiac Enlargement".

Note: "DAH", or "Disordered Action of the Heart", also known as "Soldier's Heart" or "Effort Syndrome" was a catch-all term covering conditions resulting from a combination of over-exertion, mental stress and fatigue.

fce	DISCHARGED	pte	29-4-19
etc	NO LONGER PHYSICALLY FIT FOR WAR SERVICE. PARA. 392 III K.R.		
	Disability :- D.A.H. & Cardiac Enlargement		
	Address on Discharge South View Hildurch Kerghley York		

Extract from Private George Myers' WW1 service record – Statement of Service
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He was subsequently awarded a Silver War Badge (number B201572), in addition to his Victory and British War service medals.

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regti. No.
MYERS George F.		A.S.C.	Pte	M/321313
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	RASC/101 B.222	22823		
BRITISH	do	do		
STAR				
Swthist RASC/3604				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				
				K. 1380

Private George Myers' WW1 Medal Card – showing eligibility for a Silver War Badge
Used under licence from the National Archive

321313 M/321313	Pte.	MYERS George Frederick "	N 20,572	4.12.15.	29.4.19.	Sickness	Para. of K.R.
						392	xvi

Extract from the RASC WW1 Silver War Badge Roll
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Note: Silver War Badges (SWB), sometimes known as the "Discharge Badge", the "Wound Badge" or "Services Rendered Badge", were first issued in September 1916. They were awarded to men who were unable to continue in the services due to illness or wounds sustained. They were intended to be worn on civilian clothing and so counteract the practice of "white-feathering" men who had wounds that rendered them unfit for war service, but which were not obvious from their outward appearance.

He was also given a pension of 15s 6d per month plus an additional 2s 4d per month for his two children, for what was judged to be a 20% disablement.

Rank (for pension) *Plg* Regimental No. *M/321313*
 Name (Surname first) *MYERS, George Frederick*
 Regiment or Corps *P. A. S. C. Clg. D/6 Blackheath*
 Date of Discharge *29.4.19* Age on Discharge *34* Marital Status *Married*
 Address on Discharge *South View, Kildwick, Kearsley, Yorks.*
 1. *D. A. H.* State whether attributable, aggravated, or non-attributable
 2. *Attributable*
 3. *Attributable*
 Degree of Disablement *20%*
 Weekly Pension or Allowance *5/6* from *30.4.19* to be reviewed in *52* weeks *Conditional*
 Allowances for *2* children *2/4* from *19.5.19*

Extract from Private George Myers' WW1 service record – Pension
 Used under licence from the National Archive

In 1920 payments were reduced to 8s per week for himself and 4s 8d per week for his two children and in April 1922 this was changed to a payment of 10s 6d per week for 35 weeks – although what happened after this is unclear.

Form No. S.B 36. *M.T.E. 7016*
 Surname *MYERS* Christian Names *George Frederick* Regional No. *4/M M/ N° 965*
 Unit and Regiment or Corps *P. A. S. C.* Regt. No. *M/321313* Rank *Plg*
 Date of Discharge *29.4.19* Year of Birth *1885* Marital Status *M*
 Address *South View, Kildwick, Kearsley Yorks* Date of commencement of Pension *30.4.19*
 Disabilities:— *D. A. H.* State whether attributable to or aggravated by Service or non-attributable:—
 1. *Attrib*
 2. *Attrib*
 3. *Attrib*
 4. *Attrib*
 Particulars of Awards for previous Service (if any).....

Date of Award or other Action	Degree of Disablement	Nature of Award			Weekly Rate			No. of Children under 16	Period of Award		REMARKS: Note—This column is to be used for explanatory remarks where necessary, e.g., that an award is made as 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 Pension, Conditional or Final	Man	Wife	Child		From	To	
<i>9.4.20</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>Art 10/11/19</i>	<i>P. C.</i>	<i>8/-</i>		<i>4/8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>29.4.20</i>	<i>29.4.21</i>		
<i>22.3.21</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>(1) 19</i>	<i>P. C.</i>	<i>8/-</i>		<i>3/6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3.9.19</i>	<i>25.4.21</i>		
<i>12.4.21</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>P. C.</i>	<i>8/-</i>		<i>4/8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>27.4.21</i>	<i>25.4.22</i>		
<i>18.4.22</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>Para 10/6</i>	<i>P. C.</i>	<i>8/-</i>		<i>4/8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1.3.22</i>	<i>35 weeks</i>	<i>no award paid</i>	

Extracts from GF Myers' WW1 pension ledger (SB 36)
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Post-war life

George Myers returned to Farnhill where he and his family continued to live for a number of years.

The 1921 census records the family living at 2 South View. George was working at his father's cotton and worsted manufacturing business in Bradford.

In 1924 the family moved to Riddlesden. The move away may have been triggered by the death of Mary Myers on 8th September 1923, aged 37. She was buried in Kildwick graveyard.



Mary Myers' gravestone in Kildwick graveyard – a cross with plinth, now laid flat

In Riddlesden the family initially lived at number 14 Hospital Road and then, from 1937, at number 37.

On 22nd July 1925 George married Margaret Anne Wilson of Rudston, near Bridlington. The wedding, which was at All Saints Church in Rudston, was witnessed by John Charles, one of George's older brothers.

1925		Marriage solemnized at <u>All Saints Church</u> in the <u>Rudston</u> Parish 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.
319	July 22 nd 1925	George Frederick Myers	40	Widower	Stuff man manufacturer	Hospital Lane Riddlesden, Keighley	Frederick Myers	Stuff man factor.
		Margaret Anne Wilson	40	Spinster		Little Harper Rudston.	William Wilson (Deceased).	Farmer.
Married in the <u>Rudston Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by <u>Special</u> or after <u>Special</u> by me,		This Marriage was solemnized between us, <u>George Frederick Myers</u> and <u>Margaret Ann Wilson</u>		in the Presence of us, <u>Alfred Thomas Wilson</u> and <u>John Charles Myers</u>		<u>J. H. Alderson</u> Vicar.		

Myers – Wilson marriage certificate
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Margaret came to live in Riddlesden, and on the 1928 electoral roll 14 Hospital Road was recorded as having the name “Rudston” – presumably given to the house by George and Margaret Anne.

Around this time the couple were also on the electoral register as the owners of business premises in Lawkholme Lane, Keighley. This matches with their entry on the 1939 register (taken when WW2 ration cards were being issued) which recorded George as being “Textile Manufacturer, Lawkholme Weaving Co. Ltd.” – presumably this was located in Lawkholme Lane.

1	Myers	George F.	M	4 Jan	85	M	Textile Manufacturer (Lawkholme Weaving Co Ltd Commission Manf & Weavers)
2	Myers	Margaret A	F	7 April	85	M	Unpaid domestic duties

Extract from the 1939 Register for 37 Hospital Road, Riddlesden
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Margaret Anne Myers died in 1944.

George Michael Myers, George’s only son, died on 7th January 1962 at his home in West Morton. He was 49 years old. He left a wife and daughter.

George Frederick Myers died on 18th November 1962; he was aged 77.

Postscript

Muriel Mary Myers, George’s only surviving child, left 37 Hospital Road shortly after her father died. She herself died, somewhere in the Keighley area, in 1980. She was unmarried.

George’s only grandchild, George Michael’s daughter, is known to have married, although whether or not she had children is not known.

A number of George’s siblings are known to have married and had children and there may be descendants living in the Keighley area.

George Frederick Myers – a life in summary

Born: 4/1/1885, Bradford
Baptised: 8/8/1892, Bradford Wesleyan Chapel
Died: 18/11/1962 **Aged:** 77
Home address: 37 Hospital Road, Riddlesden

Parents

Father: Frederick; b. 16/12/1850, Manningham; d. 30/10/1926, Riddlesden
Mother: Annie (nee Barker); b. 20/8/1853, Bradford; bapt. 3/4/1861, Bradford St. Peter's
d. 1911, Keighley (Registration district)
Married: 1874, Bradford (Registration district)

Siblings

William Edward; b. 1875, Bradford; bapt. 4/6/1877, Westgate Wesleyan Chapel, Bradford;
m. Annie Gell, 30/8/1914, Bingley; d. 1938, North Bierley (Registration district)
John Charles; b. 1876, Bradford; bapt. 4/6/1877, Westgate Wesleyan Chapel, Bradford;
m. Elsie May Hobson, 3/1/1915, Girdlington; d. 26/7/1954, Worth Valley (Registration district)
Henry Emsley; b. 1878, Bradford; bapt. 29/7/1883, Westgate Wesleyan Chapel, Bradford
Emily Annie; b. 1881, Bradford; bapt. 29/7/1883, Westgate Wesleyan Chapel, Bradford;
m. Herbert Greenhough Naylor, 8/9/1909, Crossflatts; d. 9/10/1947, Baildon
Mabel Sarah; b. 1886, Bradford; bapt. 8/8/1892, Bradford Wesleyan Chapel;
m. Thomas Elliot, 28/4/1919, Heaton; d. 18/6/1946, Misterton, Nottinghamshire

WW1 service

Attested: 4/12/1915
Service period: 11/5/1917 to 29/4/1919
Regt: Royal Army Service Corps; Private, no. M/321313
Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal, Silver War Badge
Home address: 11 South View, Farnhill

Marriage

Wife: (1) Mary Green; b. 1886, Kildwick; d. 8/9/1923, Farnhill; buried 11/9/1923, Kildwick
(2) Margaret Anne Wilson of Little Thorpe, Rudston; b. 7/4/1885;
d. 1944, Keighley (Registration district)
Date: (1) 15/7/1908, at St. Andrew's Kildwick
(2) 22/7/1925, at Rudston near Bridlington

Children

Muriel Mary, b. 10/5/1910, Farnhill; d. 1980 Keighley (Registration district)

George Michael, b. 3/4/1912, Farnhill; m. Daisy Longthorne, 12/10/1933, Riddlesden;
d. 7/1/1962, West Morton

