



From Farnhill to the Front

A commemoration of the lives of the 68 men from the village who volunteered to serve in the armed forces in WW1, and whose names were recorded on the Roll of Honour created by Farnhill Parish Council in February 1916.



During 2017 and 2018 the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Kildwick & Farnhill Institute, set out to research the lives of these 68 men – before, during, and after the Great War.

This booklet summarises the results of this research. Further details, including full biographies of all the men, can be found on the project website at:

www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers

If you have any further information about the men we have been researching, please email: **farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com**

<u>Roll of Honour.</u>		
Names of Farnhill Men serving in His Majesty's Navy or Army, or those killed or died in service (P.129), or those men who attested under Lord Derby's Scheme.		
Lidney Biggs.	Percy Walmesly	Harry Jowett
Walter Dawson	William Ward	Sam Holmes
	Robert Brown	Ephraim Sharpe
Herbert Barker	Ambrose Bower	J. Robert Thornton
Albert Bower	Cecil J. Baugh	Fred Hargreaves
Thos. Bulcock	Rupert Ed. Barker	Harry Hargreaves
Arthur Brown	Harry Barker	Ben Hargreaves
George Holliday	Harry Bulcock	Anthony Hargreaves
Arthur Hartley	John Clough	Cecil Green
Bird W. Holmes.	William Barker	Wm. Thompson
George Inskip	William Feather	Harry Pollard.
Richard Inskip	Joseph Green	Charles Hargreaves
Frank Lese	Harry Green	Charles Green
William Latham	John Hargreaves	Eric Green
Frank Pollard	John Hill	Peter Slack.
John Pollard	Fred Holmes	Cecil Rhodes
William Slack	Albert Kikon	Ernest Gibson
Charles Slack	Harry Kikon	John Wm. Dawson
John Sunderland	Herbert Kikon	James Pollard
Ben L. Smith	Thos. B. Spencer	Richard Slack
Joseph Smith	George L. Myers	Leo Spencer
Ernest Thompson	Harry Walmesly	T. E. Sugden.
John Whitham	Maurice Joy.	Thos. E. Thompson

BARKER, Harry – b. 6/11/1891, Silsden; d. 5/12/1950

Wife: Ethel (nee Bulcock) – b. 1888, Lothersdale; d.1955, Skipton

Married: 14/8/1911; Skipton Primitive Methodist Chapel

Children: Leonard, b. 1912; Dorothy, b. 1913; Harriet, b. 1919; Harry, b. 1923

Last known home address: 11 Belmont Bridge, Skipton (1950)

WW1 service

Service period: Attested before 24/12/1915; service ended after 26/4/1918

Regt.: Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 23 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Rather surprisingly for a Yorkshireman, Harry served with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and was wounded during the last major German offensive of the war.

BARKER, Herbert – b. 31/1/1894, Farnhill; d. 10/5/1927

Wife: Mary (nee Nelson) – b. 1893, Bingley; d. 1971 (as Mary Dixon)

Married: 6/9/1919; Farnhill Methodist Chapel

Children: Leslie Nelson, b.1920; Dorothy, b. 1925

Last known home address: 9 Mary Street, Farnhill (1927)

WW1 service

Service period: prior to 14/4/1915 – 22/2/1919

Regt: 1/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.

Medals: 1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 9 Mary Street, Farnhill

In June 1915 Herbert was reported to have sent German 'souvenirs' home to his mother – they were displayed at Kildwick School and in the village.

BARKER, Rupert Edward – b. 8/5/1896, Junction; d. 26/3/1964

Wife: Maggie (nee Mosley) – b. 1893, Farnhill; d. 1983, Derbyshire

Married: 5/6/1915; Farnhill Methodist Chapel

Children: Herbert Kenneth, b. 1915

Last known home address: Arbour Cottage, Farnhill (1964)

WW1 service

Service period: 14/9/1917 to 23/2/1919

Unit: Royal Naval Reserve Trawler section (RNRT)

Vessel: Victory I (14/9/1917 to 11/3/1918)

Motor Launch ML-553 (11/3/1918 to 15/4/1918)

HMS Arrogant (16/4/1918 to 23/2/1919)

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal, RNR Medal

Home address: 9 Mary Street; later Arbour Cottage, Farnhill

During WW1 Rupert Barker served in the Navy on vessels that formed part of the Dover Patrol, guarding the English Channel.

During WW2 he served as a War Reserve Constable.

BARKER, William (Willie)

– b. 14/12/1896, Farnhill; d. 24/9/1918, Northern France

WW1 service

Regt.: 11th battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal (neither were issued)

Home address: Arbour Cottage, Farnhill

Willie Barker was killed on his first day at the front. His mother refused to accept his medals which were subsequently destroyed.

BAUGH, Cecil James – b. 19/12/1897, Farnhill; d. 4/5/1976

Wife: Lilian Dutton (nee Fletcher) – b. 1898, Dawley, Shropshire;
d. 1974, Crosshills

Married: 13/10/1923; Skipton Register Office

Children: James Dennis, b. 1924

Last known home address: 15 Washburn Drive, Crosshills (1976)

WW1 service

Attested: 22/1/1916, Crosshills

Service period: 17/4/1918 to 23/10/1919

Regt.: 2nd battalion, Coldstream Guards

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 7 Hanover Street, Farnhill

One of the youngest of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers, Cecil volunteered just a month after his eighteenth birthday, in January 1916.

BIGGS, Sidney – b. 12/9/1896, Keighley; d. 12/2/1970

Last known home address: Flat 19 St Ives Mansions, Bingley (1970)

WW1 service

Service period: 12/9/1914 to 24/1/1920

Service details: Royal Navy

Vessel: HMS Cochrane (6/2/1916 to 18/2/1917)
HMS Monarch (23/11/1917 to 4/3/1920)
HMS Renown (9/3/1920 to 1/11/1920)

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: Middleton House, Main Street, Farnhill

Sidney Biggs joined the navy in September 1914, on his 18th birthday and was aboard HMS Cochrane during the Battle of Jutland.

After the war he ran sweet shops in Keighley, and later, in Bingley.

BOWER, Albert Edgar – b. 12/9/1894, Keighley; d. 11/1/1970

Wife: Elizabeth Ann (nee Frobisher) – b. 1895, Keighley; d. 1980, Keighley

Married: 20/11/1915; St. Andrew's Church, Keighley

Children: Lucy, b. 1920; Lily, b. 1922; Vera, b. 1926; Ambrose, b. 1928;
Annie, b. 1929; Selwyn, b. 1930; Alvis, b. 1936

Last known home address: 5 Chapel St., Silsden (1970)

WW1 service

Service period: prior to 14/4/1915 to 2/4/1919

Regt.: 1/6th and 2/4th Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.

Medals: 1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 50 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

The Bower family moved to Farnhill, from Keighley, in 1911. They lived in a house next to the canal and rescued a number of children who fell in.

Wounded at the Battle of the Somme, Albert survived the war and later moved to Silsden where he worked as a stonemason and bricklayer.

BOWER, Ambrose – b. 5/7/1885, Keighley; d. 26/10/1917, in Flanders

Wife: Hannah Louisa (nee Davis) – b. 1891, London;
d. 1946, Keighley (as Hannah L. Smith)

Married: 25/6/1910; St. Mary's Church, Eastwood, Keighley

Children: Annie, b. 1911; Albert, b. 1913

WW1 service

Disembarkation date: 5/10/1914

Regt.: Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment

Medals: 1914 Star (with clasp), British War Medal, Victory Medal,
MM (Military Medal), for gallantry in action on the Somme.

Home address: Pitt Street, Keighley

Ambrose Bower was one of two Farnhill WW1 Volunteers who won a Military Medal. He was killed in action in 1917, and is commemorated on the Keighley Roll of Honour.

BROWN, Arthur – b. 24/5/1873, Selby; d. 27/7/1939

Wife (1): Elizabeth Hannah (nee Goldsborough) – b. 1873, Bingley;
d. 1928, Keighley

Married: 21/12/1895; St. Peter's Church, Keighley

Wife (2): Adeline Ettenfield (nee Ideson) – b. 1892, Addingham;
d. 1972, Bradford (as Adeline Shuttleworth)

Married: 18/5/1929; Christ Church, Oakworth

Children: Mildred Hannah, b. 1913 (adopted)

Last known home address: 12 Laisteridge Court, Bradford (1939)

WW1 service

No service details known.

Arthur Brown, the oldest of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers, was already 41 years old, married, with a young child when war broke out.

BROWN, Robert Hugh – b. 2/2/1889, Farnhill; d. 7/2/1954

Last known home address: 1 Bucklar Hill, Farnhill (1954)

WW1 service

Service period: March 1916 to at least October 1918

Regt: Royal Field Artillery (RFA)

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 27 Newby Road, Farnhill

During the war Robert suffered trench fever, shell-shock, and was seriously wounded.

He never married and lived with his surviving siblings.

BULCOCK, Harry – b. 13/8/1896, Farnhill; d. 15/12/1963

Wife: Annie (nee Pickles) – b. 1894, Keighley; d. 1971, Crosshills

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

Last known home address: 12 Main Street, Farnhill (1963)

WW1 service

Service period: started March 1916

Regt.: 2/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment;
Labour Corps

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 5 Kirkgate, Farnhill

Harry suffered an injury in May 1917 that resulted in him being transferred from front-line service to the Labour Corps.

He served in the Kildwick Home Guard during WW2.

BULCOCK, Thomas – b. 13/9/1885, Lothersdale; d. *unknown*, in Canada?

Wife: Annie (nee Clough) – b. 1881, Farnhill; d. 1940, Crosshills

Married: 1/9/1909; St. Andrew's, Kildwick

Last known home address: 33 Starkey Lane, Farnhill (1923)

WW1 service

Attested: 12/9/1914

Service period: 26/8/1915 to 1/2/1919

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: 1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 33 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

After the war, Thomas Bulcock and his wife emigrated to Canada. She returned in the 1930s; we assume that he remained in Canada, and died there.

CLOUGH, John William – b. 26/10/1887, Farnhill; d. 14/6/1968

Wife: Alice (nee Ramsden) – b. 1889, Crosshills; d. 1966, Crosshills

Married: 16/9/1916; Sutton Chapel

Children: William Denis, b. 1922; Benjamin Allan, b. 1924

Last known home address: 61 Main Street, Crosshills (1968)

WW1 service

No details known. France ?

Apart from his war-time service, John William Clough spent all his working life at Bairstow's Mill – starting before he was 13.

He was chairman of the entertainments committee of Keighley Gala and died in 1968, on the eve of Keighley Gala.

DAWSON, John William – b. 23/12/1881, Farnhill; d. 19/12/1955

Wife: Annie (nee Hargreaves) – b. 1884, Sutton; d. 1949, Sutton

Married: 1/8/1911; St. Andrew's Kildwick

Last known home address: Rose Cottage, 73 Main Street, Farnhill (1955)

WW1 service

Service period: started May 1917 (?)

Regt.: Royal Field Artillery (RFA)

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: Rose Cottage, 73 Main Street, Farnhill

John William Dawson was one of a family of 13 children.

Little is known of his war service. After the war he returned to Farnhill and resumed his trade as a house painter and decorator.

DAWSON, Walter – b. 29/6/1892, Farnhill; d. 5/2/1917, in France

Wife: Lena (nee Fortune) – b. 1893, Skipton; d. 1966, Keighley (as Lena Teal)

Married: 5/7/1916; Silsden Primitive Methodist Chapel

WW1 service

Attested: 25/11/1915

Service period: 10/7/1916 to 5/2/1917

Unit: Hawke Bn. Royal Naval Division

Home address: 7 Newby Road, Farnhill

A keen and talented footballer, Walter Dawson worked as a wool and weaving overlooker at Woodrow's Mill in Junction.

He died of wounds received on the Somme, in February 1917, and was buried in France.

FEATHER, William – b. 5/6/1878, Farnhill; d. 31/12/1957

Wife: Minnie (nee Watson) – b. 1882, Halifax; d. 1978, Hampton

Married: 26/4/1904; St. Andrew's, Kildwick

Children: John Overton, b. 1905; Barbara Watson, b. 1906;

Venice Mary, b. 1917

Last known home address: 5 Mary Street, Farnhill (1957)

WW1 service

No details known.

A gifted violinist, William was involved a number of musical events in the village.

His wife, Minnie, came from Halifax and was a domestic servant for the Brigg family at Kildwick Hall. They gave her a set of silver spoons as a wedding present.

GIBSON, Ernest – b. 21/7/1896, Bradford; d. 9/3/1964

Wife: Edith (nee Dawson) – b. 1900, Skipton; d. 1981, Silsden

Married: 4/6/1927; Silsden Primitive Methodist Chapel

Children: Jean Margaret, b. 1933; Betty, b. 1940

Last known home address: 20 South View Terrace, Silsden (1964)

WW1 service

Army service started 21st May 1917. No further details known.

After the war, both Ernest and Edith were active members of the Silsden branch of the Labour Party, with Ernest eventually becoming its vice-chairman.

GREEN, Cecil – b. 7/4/1893, Farnhill; d. 11/12/1968

Wife (1): Isabella (nee Rochester) – b. 1873, Ryton, Co. Durham;

d. 1929/1930, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Married (1): 22/2/1919, Christ Church, Penrith

Wife (2): Marjorie (nee Douglas) – b. 24/2/1907, d. 10/4/2000

Married (2): 18/6/1932; St. Hilda's Church, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Children: John Peter, b. 1933; Meretta I., b. 1936

Last known home address: 4 Norma Crescent, Whitley Bay (1968)

WW1 service

Service period: 11/12/1915 to 10/4/1919

Regt.: 5th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: 7 Mary Street, Farnhill

Cecil was seriously wounded in March 1918 and spent the next 18 months in a Military Hospital in Penrith (and later Liverpool) – his first wife was one of the hospital nurses in Penrith. He moved to the North East, working as a tailor and then running his own grocery business.

GREEN, Charles – b. 28/8/1898, Farnhill; d. 28/2/1972

Wife: May (nee Gallagher) – b. 1894, Skipton; d. 1966, Skipton

Married: 7/6/1924; Silsden, St. James

Children: Barbara May, b. 1937

Last known home address: 35 South View Terrace, Silsden (1972)

WW1 service

Prince of Wales' Own (West Yorkshire) Regiment. No further details known.

Home address: 11 Mary Street, Farnhill

Charles began serving in 1917 but a wound, received a year later, ended his military career. After the war he lived in Silsden and the Ripon area.

GREEN, Eric – b. 26/2/1898, Farnhill; d. 3/8/1951

Wife: Annie (nee Mosley) – b. 1901, Skipton; d. 1983, Sutton

Married: 9/8/1919; Farnhill Methodist Chapel

Children: Madge, b. 1919

Last known home address: 103, Keighley Rd, Cowling (1951)

WW1 service

Service period: February 1917 to December 1918

Regt: Durham Light Infantry

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 33 Main Street, Farnhill

Eric Green was captured and made a Prisoner of War in March 1918 and, after the Armistice, is believed to have made his own way back to Farnhill.

For many years after the war he ran a butcher's shop in Cowling.

GREEN, Harry – b. 29/5/1893, Farnhill; d. *unknown* (after 1947)

Wife: Ethel (nee Earnshaw) – b. 1892, Holmfirth; d. 1977, Steeton

Married: 9/4/1921; Steeton

Children: Jack Hamilton, b. 1921; Allan, b. 1927; Margaret, b. 1930

Last known home address: “Avalon”, Starkey Lane, Farnhill (1947)

WW1 service

Service period: 29/2/1916 to 29/11/1918 (invalided out)

Regt.: Duke of Wellington’s (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: 11 Mary Street, later 25 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Harry was admitted to a military hospital suffering from trench fever during the Battle of Passchendaele, and was discharged on medical grounds.

Returning to the local area, Harry became a “canal bank ranger”.

GREEN, Joseph – b. 16/2/1889, Farnhill; d. 13/11/1916, in France

WW1 service

Signed-up: January 1916

Service started: June 1916

Regt.: Royal Engineers - Inland Water Transport

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 11 Mary Street, Farnhill

A canal boatman in civilian life, Joseph Green began his service with the Royal Engineers early in 1916. He died, in his sleep, of a kidney infection in November 1916, and was buried in Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

HARGREAVES, Anthony Dean – b. 11/10/1895, Farnhill; d. 16/2/1975

Wife (1): Alice (nee Thompson) – b. 1900, Eastburn; d. 1946, Farnhill

Married: 23/7/1927; St. Andrew’s, Kildwick

Wife (2): Eva Shepherd (nee Rushworth)

Married: 28/3/1959; Skipton Register Office

Children: John, b. 1928

Last known home address: Bankfield, Main Street, Farnhill (1975)

WW1 service

Service period: October 1916 (?) to after 13/12/1918

Regt.: 2/6th, 1/4th Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt;
Labour Corps; 44th battalion Royal Fusiliers

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 10 Main Street, Farnhill

Anthony Dean Hargreaves was wounded several times and, by the end of the war, was considered unfit for front-line duty.

He and his wife lived at the junction of Grange Road and Main Street, Farnhill.

HARGREAVES, Ben – b. 21/11/1894, Kildwick; d. 4/7/1926

Last known home address: 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill (1926)

WW1 service

Attested: 10/12/1915, Crosshills

Service period: Mobilised 24/1/1916; in France from 20/6/1916

Regt.: 11th, 3/5th, 1/5th Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.;
Royal Army Medical Corps

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Ben Hargreaves was wounded and gassed during the war and never fully regained his health.

Charles (Charlie) Hargreaves – b. 27/2/1898 (Farnhill); d. 2/9/1981

Wife: Lois (nee Smith) – b. 1902, Eastburn; d. 1983, Sutton

Married: 12/11/1932; Eastburn Methodist Church

Children: Brian, b. 1935

Last known home address: Fernhill, 37 Boundary Avenue, Sutton (1981)

WW1 service

Service period: 9/10/1916 to 2/3/1919 (possibly later)

Unit: Motor Transport Section (RFA / RGA ?)
34 Squadron RFC (later RAF); 249 Sea Squadron (?)

Home address: 10 Main Street, Farnhill

Working in a woollen mill from the age of 12, Charlie began active service in the artillery in 1916 before being transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. He later married and his only son was a renowned, professional artist.

HARGREAVES, Fred – b. 8/6/1892, Kildwick; d. 17/10/1975

Wife: Eva Smith (nee Horne)

Married: 23/12/1943; Keighley Register Office

Last known home address: 5 Harewood Hill, Oakworth (1975)

WW1 service

Service period: 29/2/1916 to 31/7/1918 (invalided out)

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Fred Hargreaves began service in France in February 1917 but was discharged in 1918 after being wounded in the left arm.

In 1927 he emigrated to Australia, but returned home in the 1930s and became a farmer in Silsden.

HARGREAVES, Harry – b. 20/11/1896, Kildwick; d. 1/12/1982

Wife: Maria (nee Wade) – b. 1905, Silsden; d. 1988, Crosshills

Married: 6/9/1941; Silsden Parish Church

Last known home address: 3 Church Street, Crosshills

WW1 service

Attested: 11/12/1915, Crosshills

Service period: 26/1/1916 to 6/6/1919

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 17 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Harry signed up at the age of nineteen and served in France with the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment – sustaining gunshot wounds in 1918.

After the war he farmed in Silsden and later in Glusburn.

HARGREAVES, John – b. 16/4/1893, Kildwick; d. 22/12/1961

Wife: Sarah Elizabeth (nee Wagstaff) – b.1892, Keighley; d. 1974, Sutton

Married: 13/12/1926; St. Thomas, Sutton-in-Craven

Last known home address: 9 Main Street, Crosshills (1961)

WW1 service

Attested: 26/11/1915

Service period: 22/1/1916 to 2/4/1919

Regt. Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Home address: 10 Main Street, Farnhill

John Hargreaves was a churchwarden and sidesman at St Andrew's Kildwick. He was also a founder member of Kildwick Church Brotherhood.

After the war, he served on the committee of Kildwick Old Boys' Football Club, and was team umpire for Kildwick Albion Cricket Club.

HARTLEY (James) Arthur – b. 18/3/1896, Farnhill; d. *unknown*

Wife: Florence Isabel (nee Batty) – b. 1890, Halifax; d. 1961, Garstang ?

Married: 3/7/1917; Wesleyan Chapel, Halifax

Children: Margaret, b. 1919; Jack, b. 1923

Last known home address: 60 Bollingbroke Street, Bradford (1939)

WW1 service

Attested: 26/5/1915, Brighouse

Service period: 27/12/1915 to 17/2/1919

Regt.: 168 (Huddersfield) Brigade, Royal Field Artillery

Medals: 1915 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 4 Bruce Street, Halifax

James Arthur Hartley joined the Royal Field Artillery as a Gunner in May 1915, and was later promoted to Sergeant.

After demobilisation, he joined Bradford City Police Force. He served for almost 27 years and retired, with the rank of Inspector, in 1946.

HILL, John – b. 11/7/1875, Farnhill; d. 26/1/1940

Last known home address: 11, Mary Street, Farnhill (1940)

WW1 service

Service details not known.

John Hill lived at 11 Mary Street with his half-sister Kate Wilcock and her family. He was a bell-ringer at St. Andrew's Church, Kildwick.

HOLLIDAY, George– b. 10/10/1885, Knaresborough; d. 17/08/1982

Wife (1): Anne (nee Kitson) – b. 1882, Farnhill; d. 1933, Farnhill

Married: 7/2/1911; Farnhill Methodist Chapel

Wife (2): Gertrude (nee Wood) – b. 1893, Bradford; d. 1963, Farnhill

Married: 30/12/1933; St. Andrew's, Kildwick

Last known home address: 72 Colne Road, Crosshills (1982)

WW1 service

6th Reserve Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment. No further details.

George Holliday was the Farnhill milkman and keen on amateur dramatics.

HOLMES, Fred– b. 11/5/1881, Farnhill; d. 6/1/1937

Wife: Jessie (nee Williams) – b. 1877, Manchester

Married: 1/8/1904; St Andrew's, Kildwick

Children: Wilfred, b. 1905; John, b. 1907

Last known home address: 8 Upper Marsh, Oxenhope (1937)

WW1 service

Service details not known.

Fred Holmes and his family left Farnhill in 1923 – they lived in Keighley, Haworth and Oxenhope.

HOLMES, Sam – b. 7/2/1889, Farnhill; d. 7/1/1947

Wife: Lilian (nee Mosley) – b. 1880, Skipton; d. 1959, Cononley

Married: 24/6/1922; St John's, Cononley

Last known home address: Spring Bank, Cononley (1947)

WW1 service

No service details known.

Sam Holmes was a committee member of Kildwick Old Boys' Football Club, when the team won the "Victory Trophy" in 1919.

HOLMES, William Birch – b. 11/9/1892, Kildwick; d. 23/11/1981

Wife: Alice (nee Clough) – b. 1896, Crosshills; d. 1969

Married: 23/7/1921; Ebenezer Chapel, Crosshills

Children: Phyllis Margaret, b. 1925

Last known home address: 2 Ravensville, Crosshills (1981)

WW1 service

Service period: 7/9/1914 to 3/5/1917

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: 1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: The Old Post Office, Kildwick

The grandson of Kildwick's postmaster, William began his war service in 1914 but was discharged in 1916 after being wounded.

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

WW1 service

Signed-up: September 1914

Regt.: 2/6th battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 9 Hanover Street, Farnhill

Employed at Bairstow's Mill before the war, George Inskip was one of 32 officers and men of his battalion killed in an engagement during the Battle of Cambrai in November 1917. His name is included on the Cambrai Memorial.

INSKIP, Richard Usher – b. 14/8/1896 (Mossley, Lancs.); d. 12/7/1955

Wife: Hetty (nee Nelson) – b. 1900, Pontefract; d. 1969, Crossflatts

Married: 24/9/1932; Sutton Parish Church

Children: Marie, an adopted daughter (from London ?)

Last known home address: 8 Longwood View, Crossflatts (1955)

WW1 service

Signed-up: August 1915

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.;
Royal Defence Corps

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 9 Hanover Street, Farnhill

Richard Inskip was wounded at least four times during the war.

After the war he returned to Farnhill where he became a member of Kildwick Cricket Club, and Kildwick and Farnhill Institute. He married in 1932; he and his wife ran a grocer's shop in Bingley.

JOWETT, Harry (see THOMPSON, Harry)

JOY, Maurice – b. 21/10/1891, Farnhill; d. 2/3/1963

Wife: Hilda Abbott (nee Smith) – b. 1893, Bradford; d. 1956, Cononley

Married: 30/4/1927; St. John's, Cononley

Last known home address: 6 St. John's Cross, Cononley (1963)

WW1 service details

Service details not known. Army – Salonika ?

Young Maurice lived with his family at 63 Main Street, Farnhill. He attended Kildwick School. After the war, was very much involved with the Farnhill Lodge of the Oddfellows.

KITSON, Albert – b. 26/11/1888, Farnhill; d. 21/12/1956

Wife (1): Annetta (nee Haslam) – b. 1890; d. 1940, Farnhill

Married: 15/4/1922; Farnhill Methodist Chapel

Wife (2): Alice (nee Jobling) – b. 1894, Richmond; d. 1972, Staincliffe

Married: 15/8/1942; Ickornshaw Methodist Church

Children: Katharine May, b. 1923

Last known home address: 71 Main Street, Farnhill (1956)

WW1 service

Service period: 14/2/1916 to 17/9/1919

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 67 Main Street, Farnhill

Albert Kitson was a prominent member of the Oddfellows lodge that met in Farnhill. He was also vice-captain of Kildwick Albion Cricket Club when war broke out.

KITSON, Harry – b. 4/3/1897, Farnhill; d. 5/2/1974

Wife: Alice May (nee Hancock) – b. 1898; d. 1975, Staincliffe

Married: 28/11/1925; Skipton Register Office

Children: Charles, b. 1926

Last known home address: 67, Main Street, Farnhill (1974)

WW1 service

Service period: March 1916 to 18/10/1919

Regt.: 2/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 67 Main Street, Farnhill

Harry was seriously wounded in May 1917 and his subsequent service was at a home camp.

In 1945, he played a major role in the WW2 Welcome Home Committee.

KITSON, Herbert – b. 24/1/1877, Kildwick; d. 3/1/1937

Wife: Sarah (nee Peart) – b. 1876, Eston, Middlesbrough; d. 1929

Married: 22/7/1899; Farnhill Methodist Chapel

Children: Clifford, b. 1902; Evelyn, b. 1904

Last known home address: Lyncliffe, Mary Street (1937)

WW1 service

No service details known.

Herbert Kitson, a staunch member of the Methodist Chapel, ran a joinery workshop in Main Street, Farnhill. The business, by then operated by his son, Clifford, made parts for Mosquito aircraft during WW2.

LATHAM, William (Willie) – b. 22/11/1890, Eastburn; d. *unknown*

Wife: Elsie (nee Greenwood) – b. 1891, Farnhill; d. *unknown*

Married: 26/7/1916; St. Andrew's, Kildwick

Children: Thomas Stanley and William (twins, b. 1918)

Last known home address: 46 Ryeland St, Crosshills (1919)

WW1 service

Service period: 2/2/1915 to 11/4/1919

Unit: Royal Navy

Vessel: HMS Colossus (10/5/1915 to 17/4/1918)

Medals: 1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: Hellifield House, 77 Main Street, Farnhill

News reports of the time describe Willie Latham's wedding, in Kildwick, just a month after he saw action, aboard HMS Colossus, at Jutland.

Nothing certain is known of Willie or his wife, Elsie, after 1919.

LEESE, Frank– b. 20/9/1891, Skipton; d. 16/5/1975

Wife: Florence Ellen (nee Croasdale); b. 1889, Burnley; d. 1968, Burnley

Married: 12/6/1926; Wesleyan School Chapel, Collingwood Street, Colne

Last known home address: Woodside Hostel, Burnley Road, Padiham (1975)

WW1 service

No service details known.

After the war Frank lived in Crosshills, Colne, and nearby Barrowford. He lived the last years of his life as a resident of a Lancashire council run home for the elderly.

MYERS, George Frederick – b. 4/1/1885, Bradford; d. 18/11/1962

Wife (1): Mary (nee Green) – b. 1886, Kildwick; d. 8/9/1923, Farnhill

Married: 15/7/1908; St. Andrew's, Kildwick

Wife (2): Margaret Anne (nee Wilson) – b. 1885, Rudston; d. 1944, Keighley

Married: 22/7/1925; Rudston, near Bridlington

Children: Muriel Mary, b. 1910; George Michael, b. 1912

Last known home address: 37 Hospital Road, Riddlesden (1962)

WW1 service

Attested: 4/12/1915

Service period: 11/5/1917 to 29/4/1919

Regt: Royal Army Service Corps

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: 11 South View, Farnhill

George Frederick Myers, was the son of a textile manufacturer in Bradford, and would later run a textile firm of his own, in Keighley.

His army service, which began in 1917, ended when he was found to be suffering from a heart condition.

POLLARD, Frank – b. 15/3/1893 (Farnhill), d. 1/10/1932

Last known home address: Fernleigh, Kildwick Road, Crosshills (1932)

WW1 service

Attested: 7/2/1916

Service period: 2/4/1916 – 18/11/1919 (discharged on medical grounds)

Regt.: York and Lancaster Regiment

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: The Arbour, Farnhill

During the war Frank was twice wounded twice in the right leg, which had to be amputated.

Returning to the local area, he lived with his sister Martha Ann and her husband – in The Arbour, Farnhill – and then , later, in Crosshills.

POLLARD, Harry– b. 28/11/1894, Farnhill; d. 30/10/1971

Wife: Eleanor (nee Walmsley) – b. 1888, Skipton; d. 1956, Bradley

Married: 19/5/1917; Methodist Chapel, Grange Road, Skipton

Children: Mary, b. 1918; Margaret, b. 1920

Last known home address: 2 Hill Crest, Bradley (1971)

WW1 service

Service period: 12/10/1914 to 13/11/1914 (discharged as unfit)

Regt.: 6th Reserve, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Home address: 61 Main Street, Farnhill

Although he volunteered, Harry was discharged on medical grounds before seeing active service. (He may have rejoined the army subsequently.)

At the end of WW2 he was on a local committee that provided support for returning servicemen and women.

POLLARD, James S. T. – b. 28/6/1889, Farnhill; d. 7/10/1919

Last known home address: Arbour House, Farnhill (1919)

WW1 service

Attested: 11/12/1915

Service period: 15/2/1916 – 2/10/1919

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: The Arbour, Farnhill

James Scarborough Theodore Pollard was one of four brothers who volunteered to serve in WW1.

He died of pneumonia (possibly 'flu) in 1919, just a few weeks after returning home.

POLLARD, John – b. 18/5/1885, Farnhill; d. 4/11/1919, in France

Last known home address: unknown (Ludlow or Todmorden ?)

Wife: Ada Blanche (nee Thomas); b. 1887, Tenbury; d. 1982, Todmorden

Married: 9/1/1906; Skipton Register Office

Children: Cyril James, b. 1907; William Ambrose, b. 1908

WW1 service

Service period: 9/9/1914 – 17/8/1915; 10/5/1919 (?) – 4/11/1919

Regt.: 2nd battalion York and Lancaster Regiment;
39th (Service) battalion Northumberland Fusiliers

Medals: 1914 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: unknown

John Pollard was recalled from the army reserves at the start of the war and served until the end of his period of engagement, in August 1915.

He rejoined the army after the Armistice and died, of pneumonia, in France in 1919.

RHODES, Cecil – b. 20/12/1898, Keighley; d. 5/5/1962

Wife: Florence Julia Greenfield (nee Day) – b. 1897 (Natal, S. Africa), d. 1976

Married: 18/5/1929; Ilkley

Children: Jean, b. 1931

Last known home address: 18 Ash Grove, Ilkley (1962)

WW1 service

No service details known.

Home address: 56 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Cecil Rhodes was born in the Keighley area in 1898, and his family lived in Leeds, Derbyshire and Crosshills, before settling in Farnhill during WW1.

After the war, Cecil became a painter and decorator and, by 1939, he was living with his wife and daughter in Ilkley.

SHARPE, Ephraim – b. 6/2/1876, Halifax; d. 11/5/1945

Wife: Clara (nee Hartley) – b. 1876, Cowling; d. 1959, Sutton-in-Craven

Married: 28/9/1902; Sutton Baptist Chapel

Children: James Ernest, b. 1903; Joseph Clifford, b. 1906; Myra, b. 1908; Leslie Granville, b. 1911; Kenneth Hartley, b. 1913; Cecil William, b. 1914; Stanley Gordon, b. 1919

Last known home address: 12 Mary Street, Farnhill (1945)

WW1 service

Service period: Uncertain; only 23/10/1918 to 24/2/1919 is documented

Branch: RAF

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: Mary Street, Farnhill

Ephraim Sharpe, a baker specialising in oatcakes, was almost 40 when he volunteered; married, with at least five children.

SLACK, Charles (Charlie) – b. 1/3/1889, Silsden Moor; d. 20/4/1965

Wife: Elsie Melinda (nee Shackleton) – b. 1891, Keighley; d. 1984, Bradford

Married: 27/12/1920; Keighley Parish Church

Children: Peter R., b. 1924; Donald, b. 1926; Charlie B., b. 1927

Last known home address: 22 Kensington St, Keighley (1965)

WW1 service

Service period: 3/12/1914 to 30/04/1916

Regt.: 2/6 battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: Silver War Badge

Home address: Heather Cottage, Grange Road, Farnhill

Charles attested early in the war but was discharged as medically unfit in April 1916, suffering from a range of health problems.

Two of his three sons served during WW2.

SLACK, Peter – b. 3/1/1892, Silsden Moor; d. 25/5/1975

Wife: Mary (nee Whitham) – b. 1895, Addingham; d. 1977, Keighley

Married: 28/9/1920; Silsden Wesleyan Chapel

Children: Derek A., b. 1925; Mary, b. 1930

Last known home address: 92 Braithwaite Road, Keighley (1975)

WW1 service

Service period: start date unknown; end date 14/2/1919 (?)

Regt: Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire) Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: Heather Cottage, Grange Road, Farnhill

Peter Slack was a member of the Farnhill Institute committee, and post-war treasurer of Kildwick Old Boys' Football Club. He was also secretary to Farnhill Parish Council.

He married in 1920 and the couple moved to Keighley, where Peter worked for Keighley Corporation Waterworks.

SLACK, Richard – b. 28/9/1886, Silsden Moor; d. 3/1/1965

Wife: Alice (nee Smith) – b. 1882, Bingley; d. 1953, Bingley

Married: 1/8/1922; Zion Chapel, Bingley

Children: Margaret, b. 1926

Last known home address: 2 Percy Street, Bingley (1965)

WW1 service

Service period: 14/8/1916 to 30/4/1920

Service: Royal Flying Corps (RFC) / Royal Air Force (RAF)

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: Heather Cottage, Grange Road, Farnhill

During WW1 Richard served as a "rigger" in the RFC (later the RAF), using his civilian skills as a joiner.

Richard returned to service in the RAF during WW2, training RAF craftsmen and technicians.

SLACK, William Lister – b. 26/12/1887, Silsden Moor; d. 16/3/1919

Last known home address: Heather Cottage (1919)

William Lister Slack served in the Merchant Navy throughout WW1. He returned to the village on 1st March 1919 and died, of 'flu, on the 16th.

SMITH, Ben Thornton – b. 21/11/1890, Farnhill; d. 14/3/1967

Wife: Edith (nee Telford); b. 1886, Drighlington; d *after 1967*

Married: 26/3/1921; Drighlington Parish Church

Children: Winifred, b. 1923

Last known home address: 64, Starkey Lane, Farnhill (1967)

WW1 service

Service period: 12/4/1915 to 15/6/1919

Regt./Unit: Royal Army Service Corps

Medals: 1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal

Home address: 62 Starkey Lane, Farnhill

Benjamin was a wheelwright and served for a short time with Bradford City Police.

During his WW1 service with the Royal Army Service Corps he rose to the rank of Sergeant. He married in 1921 and his only daughter, Winifred, became well known in the local area.

SMITH, Joseph – b. 1/1/1883, Dent; d. 19/9/1914, in France

Wife: Mary Elizabeth (nee Grainger) – b. 1886, Ripon;

d. 1935, Keighley (as Mary Elizabeth Newhouse)

Married: 16/7/1910; St. Thomas's Church, Sutton-in-Craven

Children: Cecilia, b. 1910; Clarence Alfred, b. 1914

Last known home address: 15 Bucklar Hill, Farnhill (1914)

WW1 service

Signed-up: 5/8/1914 (recalled from the Reserves)

Regt.: 2nd battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: 1914 Mons Star, with clasp; British War Medal; Victory Medal

Home address: 15 Bucklar Hill, Farnhill

Joseph Smith, the first war casualty from Kildwick parish, was killed in action on the River Marne, in September 1914.

In 1922 his daughter helped to unveil the Kildwick War Memorial.

SPENCER, Leo – b. 31/12/1896, Farnhill; d. 11/9/1985

Wife: Annie (nee Smith) – b. 1898; d. 1972, Worth Valley area

Married: 15/12/1920; St. Andrew's Kildwick

Children: Betty, b. 1922; Mary Cryer, b. 1923

Last known home address: 8 Laurel Croft, Embsay

WW1 service

Service period: 19/7/1915 to 15/6/1918

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: Victory Medal, British War Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: Crag End Cottage, 1 Grange Road, Farnhill

Born in Farnhill, Leo was an accomplished violinist and took part in many musical events in the village.

Early in December 1917 he was wounded by a shell burst – an injury that resulted in his discharge.

SPENCER, Thomas Beckwith – b. 12/4/1883, Farnhill; d. 1970

Wife: Dora (nee Hirth) – b. 1890, Forest Hill, London; d. 1956, Riddlesden

Married: 26/6/1915; St. Andrew's Kildwick

Children: Beckwith, b. 1916; Freda Mary, b. 1919

Last known home address: Four Winds, Ilkley Road, Morton Banks (1970)

WW1 service

Service details not known.

Thomas Beckwith Spencer's family lived at Oak Bank, on Main Street, Farnhill. His father was the local sanitary inspector.

In 1915 Thomas married Dora Hirth, the daughter of German parents.

SUGDEN, Thomas Edward – b. 21/6/1886, Kildwick; d. 22/6/1955

Wife (1): Marjorie (nee Thompson) – b. 1905, Grimsby;

d. 1984 (as Marjorie Walker, Victoria BC, Canada)

Married: 20/1/1927; Eastgate Baptist Chapel, Louth; marriage dissolved

Wife (2): Mary Elizabeth Parker – b. 1909, Haworth; d. 1974, Oxenhope

Married: 8/7/1946; Bradford Register Office

Children: Edward Adam Nicholas, b. 1937; Anne C., b. 1940

Last known home address: Old Hall, Oxenhope (1955)

WW1 service

Attested: 11/12/1915

Service period: 31/3/1917 to 22/3/1919

Regt: Honourable Artillery Company

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: Holme Bank, Kildwick

The son of a local coal merchant Thomas qualified as a solicitor, and set up a practice in Keighley.

During WW1 he served with the Honourable Artillery Company, in Palestine.

Married in 1917, he divorced and then lived with his second wife in Oxenhope. His first wife and her second husband emigrated to Canada.

SUNDERLAND, John – b. 13/9/1884, Little Lever, Lancs; d. 28/1/1947

Wife (1): Mary Ann (nee Jackson) – b. 1883, Lancaster; d. 1923, Little Lever

Married: 22/4/1905; St. Paul's Church, Scotforth, Lancaster

Wife (2): Elizabeth – d. 1957, Morecambe

Married: unknown

Children: Alice Jane, b. 1906; Elizabeth, b. 1908; George Arthur, b. 1910;

Tom Michael, b. 1912

Last known home address: 2 Halden Rd, Morecambe (1947)

WW1 service

Service period: 2/11/1914 to 22/11/1916 (to reserves); discharged 26/4/1918

Regt.: 1st battalion, King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment;

3rd Garrison battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers

Medals: 1914 Mons Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal,

Silver War Badge

Home address: 8 Bright Street, Farnhill

A professional soldier, John saw action from very early in the war. He was wounded in November 1914 – an injury that ended his front-line service.

Not a local man, he and his family moved back to Lancashire after the war.

THOMPSON, Ernest – b. 1/12/1888, Skipton; d. 27/10/1957

Wife (1): Edith (nee Smith) – b. 1890, Crosshills; d. 1943, Steeton

Married: 22/11/1919; Keighley Register Office

Wife (2): Caroline Elizabeth Race – b. 1897, Rillington; d. 1971, Staincliffe

Married: 27/3/1946; St. Stephen's, Steeton

Last known home address: 51 Sun Street, Eastburn

WW1 service

Regt: Royal Field Artillery (RFA)

Home address: 53 Airedale (Skipton Road), Farnhill

Ernest lived with his aunt and uncle on Skipton Road.

He served with the Royal Field Artillery during the war and married in 1919.

He married for a second time in 1943, following the death of his first wife.

THOMPSON, Harry (aka JOWETT, Harry)

– b. 13/2/1889, Stanley near Wakefield; d. 10/3/1926

Wife: Mary Ann Dolly Smith – b. 1881, Crosshills; d. 1954, Worth Valley

Married: 9/9/1916; Silsden St. James

Children: Edith, b. 1917; Jack, b. 1920; Mary, b. 1921

Last known home address: 56 Keighley Rd, Silsden (1926)

WW1 service

Service details uncertain. Probably Gunner, Royal Field Artillery.

Harry Thompson was born in a workhouse in Stanley near Wakefield.

He is recorded on the Volunteers' list as Harry Jowett – his step-father's surname.

THOMPSON, Thomas Edward – b. 8/6/1882, Skipton; d. 14/12/1954

Wife (1): Eden Ellen (nee Pickles) – b. 1880, Skipton; d. 1938, Skipton

Married: 17/6/1908; St Peter's Chapel of Ease, Hebden

Wife (2): Winifred Hebblewhite – b. 1882, Buckden; d. 1968 Staincliffe

Married: 25/11/1939; Sutton-in-Craven Baptist Chapel

Last known home address: 17 High Hartley Street, Glusburn (1954)

WW1 service

Army Service Corps / Royal Army Service Corps

Before the war Thomas was employed as a coachman, at Kildwick Hall.

He and his wife moved to Glusburn in 1920, where he was employed as a driver at Horsfall's Mill.

THOMPSON, William – b. 21/9/1893, Skipton; d. *unknown*

Wife: Mary (nee Spencer) – b. 1894, Eastburn; d. *unknown*

Marriage: 31/7/1926; St. Andrew's, Kildwick

Last known home address: 42 Main Road, Eastburn (1939)

WW1 service

Attested: 8/2/1916

Regt.: York and Lancs. Regt.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

William was reported as "missing in action" in 1917 but later found to be a Prisoner of War.

Nothing is known of William after September 1939.

THORNTON, John Robert – b. 17/2/1895, Farnhill; d. 31/7/1959

Wife: Carrie (nee Foster) – b. 1898, Settle; d. 1975, Farnhill

Married: 14/2/1920; Christ Church, Skipton

Children: Gladys, b. 1921; Charlie, b. 1925; Clifford, b. 1930

Last known home address: 15 Starkey Lane, Farnhill (1959)

WW1 service

Attested: 11/12/1915, Crosshills

Service started: 26/1/1916

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment;
195 Company, Machine Gun Corps

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: Kirkgate, Farnhill

John Robert Thornton was born in Farnhill and was a boatman on the Leeds-Liverpool canal.

He was injured at the Battle of Messines in 1917 but re-joined the army in 1923, and served for four years.

WALMSLEY, Harry – b. 4/8/1893, Farnhill;
d. 14/12/1916; in London, of wounds

WW1 service

Attested: 11/12/1915, Crosshills

Service started: 22/1/1916

Regt.: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Home address: 5 Hanover Street, Farnhill

Newspaper reports describe the sad return of Harry Walmsley's body to Farnhill and subsequent burial in Kildwick churchyard.

WALMSLEY, Percy Edward – b. 29/6/1894, Farnhill; d. 22/2/1986

Wife: Ethel Mary Jane (nee Beedom) – b. 1890, Ellenthorpe; d. 1957

Married: 1/5/1915; Keighley Register Office

Children: Eileen, b. 1915; Alec, b. 1921

Last known home address: 25 Starkey Lane, Farnhill (1986)

WW1 service

Service period: 12/10/1914 to 4/2/1919

Regt.: 1/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment;
4th battalion Yorkshire Regiment

Medals: 1915 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal, Silver War Badge

Home address: 25 Main Street, Farnhill

During WW1 Percy Walmsley was sunk twice on the same day crossing the Channel – an interesting experience for an Army man.

When he died, in 1986, Percy was the last surviving Farnhill WW1 Volunteer.

WARD, William – b. 20/5/1889, Keighley; d. 25/4/1963

Wife: Jane (nee Earnshaw) – b. 1890, Glusburn; d. 1963, Farnhill

Married: 12/1/1915; St. Peter's, Keighley

Children: Edna, b. 1916; Herbert, b. 1919; Doris, b. 1921; Norman, b. 1926

Last known home address: 1 Kirkgate, Farnhill (1963)

WW1 service

Mobilized: 8/8/1914 (from Royal Field Artillery Special Reserve)

Service period: 9/8/1914 to 18/10/1915

Regt: Royal Field Artillery (RFA)

Medals: not known

Home address: 16 Lustre Street, Keighley

William Ward served with various units of the Royal Field Artillery, before and during WW1.

William and his family lived in Kirkgate, Farnhill, in the property which had formerly been the Ship Inn.

WHITHAM, John Spencer – b. 15/4/1885, Haworth; d. 17/7/1950

Wife: Sarah Jane (nee Beadman) – b. 1886, Appleby Magna, Leicestershire;
d. 1966, Cowling

Married: 20/11/1920; St. Hilda's, Moira, Leicestershire

Children: Elizabeth Marian, b. 1921

Last known home address: 5 Middleton, Cowling (1950)

WW1 service

Service period: 7/12/1914 to 5/4/1919

Regt.: 2/6, 5th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.

Medals: British War Medal; Victory Medal; Military Medal (MM)

Home address: 9 Bucklar Hill, Farnhill

John Spencer Whitham was born in Haworth and moved to Farnhill, with his two brothers, after the death of their mother and father.

He served as a stretcher bearer with the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment and was awarded the Military Medal for great bravery and acts of gallantry on the field.



Row 1: Rupert Edward Barker, Willie Barker, Cecil Baugh, Albert Bower, Ambrose Bower, Robert Hugh Brown, Harry Bulcock

Row 2: John William Clough, John William Dawson, Walter Dawson, William Feather, Cecil Green, Eric Green, Joseph Green, Anthony Dean Hargreaves

Row 3: Ben Hargreaves, Charles Hargreaves, Fred Hargreaves, Harry Hargreaves, John Hargreaves, George Holliday

Row 4: George Inskip, Richard Usher Inskip, Harry Kitson, Herbert Kitson, Ephraim Sharpe, Charles Slack

Row 5: Peter Slack, Richard Slack, William Lister Slack, Joseph Smith, Leo Spencer, Harry Thompson

Row 6: William Thompson, Harry Walmsley, Percy Walmsley, William Ward, John Spencer Whitham

The Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who helped us compile this commemorative booklet.

Particular thanks are due to the families of the 68 men named on the Farnhill Parish Council Roll of Honour, and people who knew them, who were willing to share their recollections, photographs and documents with us.



www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers