

The Sucksmith family of Underhill Farm

James Sucksmith and Frances (Fanny) Sucksmith née Hardcastle were definitely the parents of

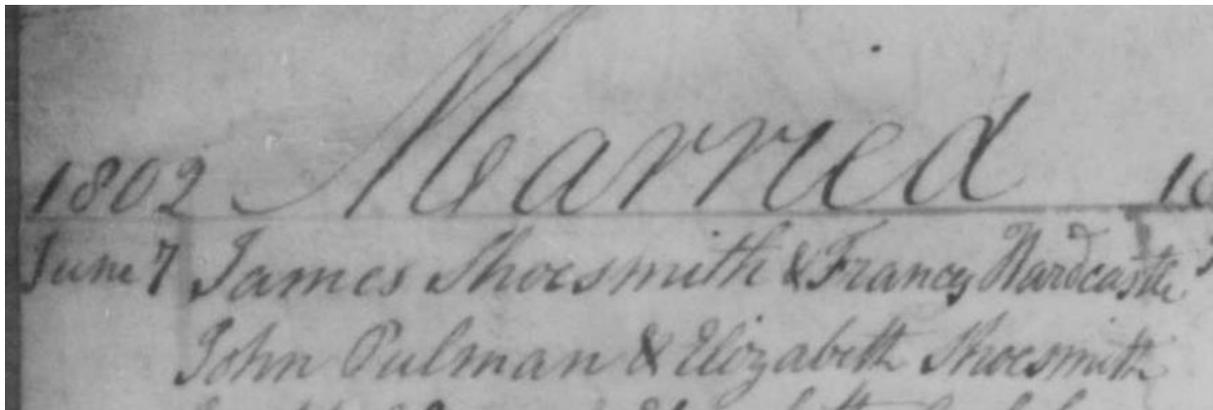
Elizabeth Sucksmith of Roydlands Farm

because as Anne Lister of Shibden Hall noted in an April 1835 diary entry she was the niece of

William Hardcastle of Roydlands Farm

who was Frances Hardcastle's brother.

James Sucksmith and Frances Hardcastle married on 7th June 1802 in Halifax although as you can see he used the surname Shoosmith which was interchangeable with Sucksmith. Both were recorded as being of Hipperholme parish and James was said to be a husbandman. Interestingly an Elizabeth Shoosmith was married the same day- a coincidence or an important clue?!



After this marriage date there are four possible Lightcliffe baptisms for Sucksmith children with father called James; namely Ann on 10th July 1803, William on 18th May 1806, John on 11th October 1807 and Elizabeth on 13th March 1808. A memorial inscription confirms that little William who was born in 1806, died on 11th March 1807 and was buried two days later, was the son of James and Frances. And we know that Elizabeth was their daughter. But nothing more has been found about a daughter Ann.

From 1810 the Lightcliffe baptisms recorded the names of both parents. From the image below you can see that this John Sucksmith was definitely their son.



And as no burial nor memorial inscription has been found for an infant John Sucksmith the conclusion is that the John Sucksmith baptised in 1807 must have been the son of another James Sucksmith of Norwood Green. Confusing, indeed!

Another James and John Sucksmith

There is a Lightcliffe burial for a 19-year-old John Sucksmith of Norwood Green on 22nd November 1826 which fits with the young man baptised in 1807. And just a few weeks earlier there was a burial on 2nd November 1826 of a 54-year-old James Sucksmith. It would seem quite possible that these two were father and son. Who knows! They will now be left and this article will concentrate on the family of James and Fanny Sucksmith.

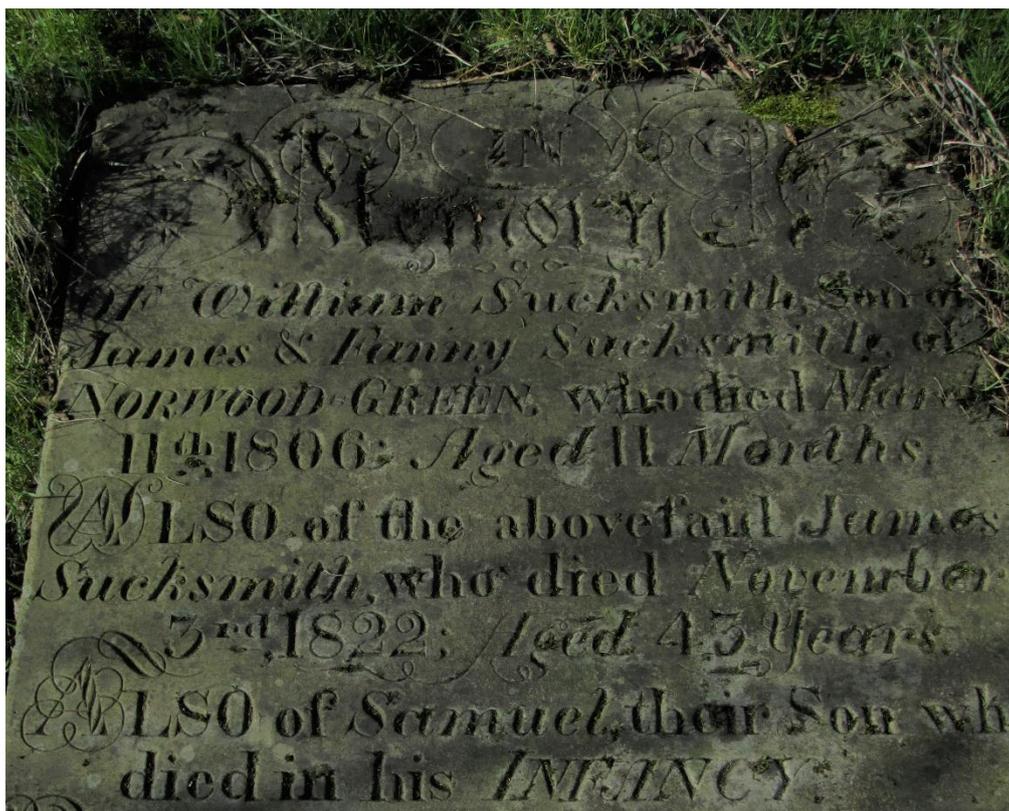
Lightcliffe, St Matthew > 1826				
No. 739.	James Sucksmith Norwood- Green	Nov ^r 2 nd	54 years	Thos. Bates Off. Min ^r
No. 740.	Jeremiah Hargreaves Common Incl	Nov ^r 8	81 years	W. Wilkinson Min ^r
No. 741.	Ellin dau ^r of St. d. John Sykes Sykes	Nov ^r 8	6 months	J. Watson Off. Min ^r
No. 742.	William Ellis Norwood Green	Nov. 12	28 years	W. Wilkinson Min ^r
No. 743.	George, Son of John Marsden - house	Nov. 22	2 Weeks	Thos. Bates Off. Min ^r
No. 744.	John, Son of James Sucksmith - Green	Nov. 22	19 years	Thos. Bates Off. Min ^r

Back to James and Frances Sucksmith

The Lightcliffe parish baptism register helpfully tells us that James and Fanny Sucksmith of Norwood Green had Mary baptised at St. Matthew's Church on 18th April 1813 and then Hannah on 29th September 1816, James on 13th December 1818 and Martha on 1st April 1821. On each occasion their father was recorded as being a farmer.

James Sucksmith died on 3rd November 1822 and was buried with his infant son in plot O*10 in the closed section of the churchyard. His wife, Fanny, may have been pregnant as a three-week-old baby Samuel Sucksmith, the son of James was buried in the churchyard on 14th March 1823. The memorial inscription on the Lightcliffe plot would appear to confirm that this was James and Fanny's son.

No. 536	Sam ^l . Son of James Sucksmith	Norwood Green	March 3 rd Weeks	J. Watson Off. Min ^r
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The top section of the ledger stone over plot O*6

**IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM SUCKSMITH
THE SON OF JAMES AND FANNY OF NORWOOD GREEN
WHO DIED MARCH 11TH 1806] AGED 11 MONTHS
[should be 1807 from the burial records and his baptism date]**

**ALSO OF THE ABOVE NAMED JAMES SUCKSMITH
WHO DIED NOVEMBER 3RD 1822 AGED 43 YEARS**

ALSO OF SAMUEL THEIR SON WHO DIED IN HIS INFANCY

The naming of this son, Samuel, by widow Fanny may have been after one of her Hardcastle ancestors, a few generations back, or it may have been a tribute to her husband's family.

From his death age James Sucksmith/Shoesmith was born about 1779. A James Shoesmith son of Samuel Shoesmith was baptised on 9th September 1779 at Wibsey. But then an Elizabeth Sucksmith the daughter of Samuel Sucksmith was baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe on 13th July 1783. Were these the possible Shoesmith brother and sister who were married that same day in Halifax in 1802?

Eldest daughter Mary Sucksmith married Philemon Bancroft on 3rd March 1832 in Halifax. The Bancrofts were another Lightcliffe family whose story will be told in

The Bancroft family

Then her sister Hannah Sucksmith married John Broadley on 4th May 1835. Although she used the name Ann Shoesmith and not Hannah Sucksmith subsequent records suggest that this was the daughter of James and Frances Sucksmith. Her family's story has already been told in

The Broadleys of Norwood Green

On 6th June 1841 widow Fanny was at home, probably Under the Hill Farm, with three unmarried adult children.

1841 census

Fanny Sucksmith 60
John Sucksmith 30 Ag Lab
James Sucksmith 20
Martha Sucksmith 20
Address Norwood Green, Brighthouse, Halifax

Martha Sucksmith married John Walton on 3rd April 1842 and then moved out of the area so will not be followed. A year later her brother James Sucksmith married Hannah Tattersall Q2 1843. Their first daughter Fanny was baptised at St. John's Church, Coley on 15th September 1850.

1851 census

Fanny Sucksmith Head 70 Farmer
of 17 acres employing 2 outdoor men
John Sucksmith Son 40 Farmer's Son
Sucksmith Broadley Grndsn 7
Address
Norwood Green, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

1851 census

James Sucksmith Head 32 Woolcomber
Hannah Sucksmith Wife 25 Housewife
Fanny Sucksmith Dau 8 mo
Address
Norwood Green, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

John Sucksmith/Shoesmith married Sarah Taylor née Sucksmith. They had a daughter Emily baptised at St. Matthew's on 1st April 1855 and then he disappeared. Read more in

The Taylor Sucksmiths

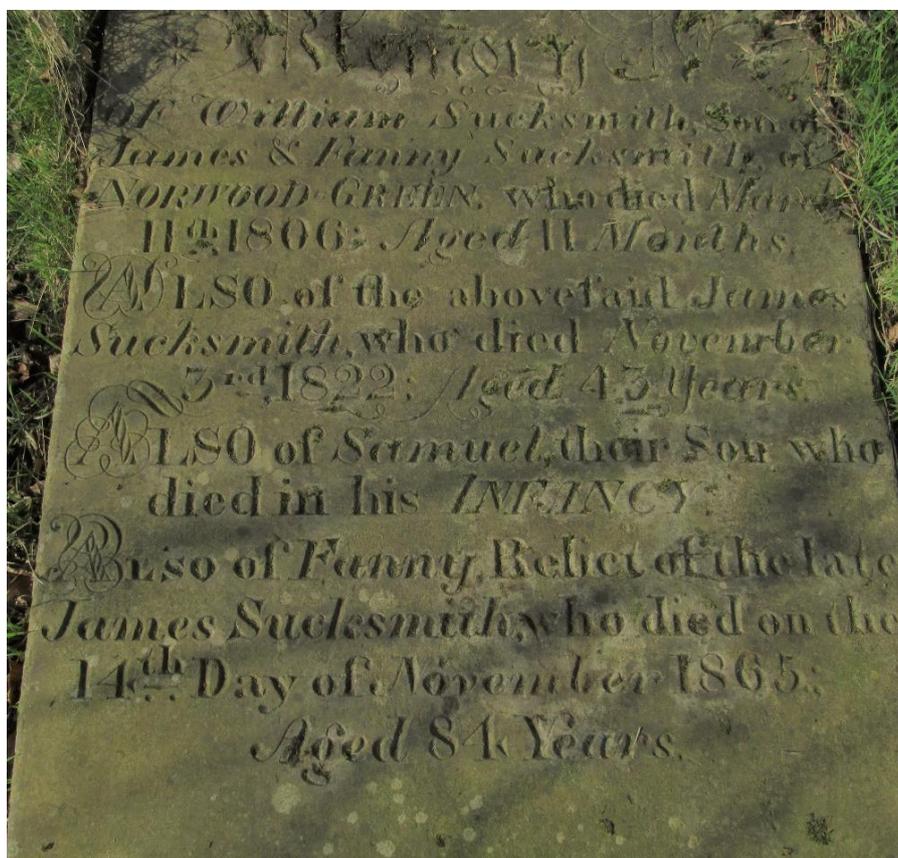
Sisters Sarah Anne and Mary Sucksmith, the daughters of James and Hannah Sucksmith, were also baptised at Coley on 28th November 1852 and 29th October 1854. A son Edward Sucksmith was born Q4 1858.

1861 census

James Sucksmith Head 43 Farmer of 16 acres
Hannah Sucksmith Wife 35Wife
Fanny Sucksmith Dau 10
Sarah Ann Sucksmith Dau 8
Mary Sucksmith Dau 6
Edward Sucksmith Son 2
Thomas Broadley Nephew 17 Ag Lab
Fanny Sucksmith Mother 80 Retired farmer
Address
Norwood Green, Hipperholme with Brighthouse

Three-year-old Edward Sucksmith of Norwood Green died on 16th January 1862. He was buried in Lightcliffe churchyard on 19th January 1862 and remembered later on his parents' headstone over plot Q65

His grandmother Fanny Sucksmith née Hardcastle died on 14th November 1865. She was buried with her husband, who she had outlived by over forty years, and young sons in plot O*10 on 18th November 1865.



**ALSO OF FANNY RELICT OF THE LATE JAMES SUCKSMITH
WHO DIED ON THE 14TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1865 AGED 84 YEARS**

The only surviving Sucksmith son, James, died on 15th June 1869. He was buried at St. Matthew's on 19th June 1869 in plot Q65. His eldest daughter Fanny married Adam Hargreaves on 27th September 1870. Their daughter Hannah was baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe on 14th May 1871 when Adam was a colliery steward.

1871 census

Hannah Sucksmith Head 45 Widow
Farmer of 21 acres
Sarah Ann Sucksmith Dau 18
Mary Ann Sucksmith Dau 16
Address Norwood Green

1871 census

Adam Hargreaves Head 26 Manager Coal Mines
Fanny Hargreaves Wife 20
Hannah Hargreaves Dau 1/12
Address Hartshead Top, Cleckheaton

Ada Hargreaves was born on 11th April 1873 and baptised at Hartshead on 7th December 1873. Her older sister Hannah Hargreaves died on 21st June 1875 aged just four years and 3 months. She was buried three days later in Lightcliffe plot Q66 next to her maternal grandfather, James Sucksmith, who she never knew. And then little Ada died on 21st October 1876 she too was buried in plot Q66 owned by her father on 24th October 1876.

Adam and Fanny Hargreaves brought their son Arthur back to Lightcliffe from Cleckheaton to be baptised there on 2nd April 1876. But another son Alfred born 24th December 1877 and daughter Clara born 20th January 1880 were baptised at Hartshead on 10th March 1878 and 14th March 1880 respectively.

Meanwhile their aunt, their mother's sister, Sarah Ann married farm servant William Booth, on 11th June 1873, she used the surname Shoosmith for herself and her father James. But her sister Mary signed her name as Mary Sucksmith.

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1813-1935 for Sarah Ann Shoosmith
Halifax, St John the Baptist > 1873

1873. Marriage solemnized at *St. John's Church in the Parochial of Halifax* in the County of *York*

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.
44	June 11 1873	William Booth	22	Bachelor	Farmer	Halifax	William Booth	Farmer
		Sarah Ann Shoosmith	21	Spinster		Halifax	James Shoosmith	Farmer

Married in the *St. John's Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by *Ralph Browde* as after *13 years* by me.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *William Booth his & wife* in the Presence of us, *Squire Birkby his & wife* *Mary Sucksmith*

William and Sarah Booth had five sons baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe before the next census; James on 4th January 1874, William on 7th March 1875, Jacob born 11th February 1877 on 1st April 1877, Edward born 11th March 1879 on 1st June 1879 and Fred born 17th January 1881 on 6th March 1881. For each baptism William was recorded as being a farmer at Norwood Green. This was probably at Under the Hill Farm, Norwood Green, working for his widowed mother-in-law, Hannah Sucksmith as confirmed by the 1881 census.

1881 census

Hannah Sucksmith Head 55 Widow
Farmer of 20 acres employing 1 man
Mary Sucksmith Dau 26 Silk Weaver
Address Under the Hill, Norwood Green

1881 census

Adam Hargreaves Head 37
Colliery Steward Mine ???
Fanny Hargreaves Wife 30
Arthur Hargreaves Son 5
Alfred Hargreaves Son 3
Clara Hargreaves Dau 1
Address Moor Top, Cleckheaton

1881 census

William Booth Head 29 Farmer's Man
Sarah A. Booth Wife 28
James Booth Son 8 Scholar
William Booth Son 7 ditto
Jacob Booth Son 5 ditto
Edward Booth Son 2
Fred Booth Son 3 mo
Address Under the Hill, Norwood Green

Before the 1901 census William and Sarah Ann Booth completed their family of eleven children with Fanny Booth born 1st April 1892 and then Emily born 15th November 1900.

1901 census

Hannah Sucksmith Head 76 Widow Farmer
James Booth Grandson 27 Carter on Farm
Fred Booth Grandson 20 Overlooker at Carpet Mill
Address Under Hill Farm House, Norwood Green

Emily Booth Dau 1
Address Under Hill Farm Building, Norwood Green

Jacob Booth married Bessie Dwight on 28th February 1898 in Halifax.

1901 census

Adam Hargreaves Head 57
Colliery Manager Mine Man
Arthur Hargreaves Son 25 Colliery Under Manager
Clara Hargreaves Dau 21 Housekeeper
John Hargreaves Son 17
Colliery Under Manager Assistant
Emily Hargreaves Dau 16 Milliner
Mary Sucksmith Sister-in-law 46 Housekeeper
Address New Lane, Hartshead Moor, ,
Cleckheaton

1901 census

Jacob Booth Head 24 Greenfrocser
Bessie Booth Wife 23
Lawrence Booth Son 2
Address Wells Building, Norwood Green

William Booth married Ellen Hanson on 27th October 1900 in Wyke and then lived with her parents in Wyke.

1901 census

William Booth Head 49 Cattle Man on Farm
Sarah Ann Booth Wife 49
Edward Booth Son 22 ?Yarn? Dyers Labourer
Ernest Booth Son 13
Mary Hannah Booth Dau 18 Worsted Weaver
Ada Booth Dau 16 ditto
Annie Booth Dau 13
Duster Washer at Mill (half time)
Fanny Booth Dau 8

1901 census

Joseph Hanson Head 53
Plate Mill Worker Iron Furnace
Martha Hanson Wife 51
Ellen Booth Dau 26
William Booth Son-in-law 26 Dyers Labourer
2 sons, & 2 other daughters & a nephew
Address 4 Fountain Terrace, Wyke

Hannah Sucksmith née Tattersall, the widow of James Sucksmith died aged 80 on Christmas Eve 1905. She was buried with her husband and son on 28th December 1905.



1911 census

Mary Sucksmith Head 56
James Booth Nephew 37
Farmer's Son working on Farm
Fred Booth Nephew 30 Carpet Packer
Address Underhill, Norwood Green & Coley

1911 census

William Booth Head 60 Farmer
Sarah Ann Booth Wife 59
Edward Booth Son 32 Worsted Dyers Labourer
Mary Hannah Booth Dau 28 Stuff Presser
Ernest Booth Son 23 Calico Printer Labourer
Annie Booth Dau 23 Worsted Cloth Weaver
Fanny Booth Dau 19 Farmer's Daughter Dairy Work
Emily Booth Dau 11 School
Address Underhill Farm, Norwood Green & Coley

1911 census

Jacob Booth Head 34 Greengrocer's Assistant
Bessie Booth Wife 33
Lawrence Booth Son 12 School
Amy Booth Dau 6
Elsie Booth Dau 4
Winifred Booth Dau 1
Address Chapel Place, Norwood Green & Coley

1911 census

William Booth Head 36 Dyers Labourer
Ellen Booth Wife 36
Mary Alice Booth Dau 4/12
Address Prospect Place, Norwood Green & Coley

Twin Ernest Booth married Lottie Rogers Q4 1915 in the Halifax district. Lottie was the only child of Lewis Rogers , a carpet weaver, and Emma Rogers née Booth of Bailiffe Bridge who married on 25th October 1885 in St. John's Church, Halifax.

1885. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Halifax in the County of York

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.
373	October 25	Lewis Rogers	32	Bach	Carpet Weaver	Bailiffe Bridge Hipperholme	Abraham Rogers	Coal Miner
	1885	Emma Booth	26	sp	-	Bailiffe Bridge Hipperholme	Thomas Booth	Welder

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Procurator by me, _____

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Lewis Rogers } in the presence of us, { Staac Rogers }
 { Emma Booth } { Joseph Sagar } R. Plumstedman

Lewis Rogers was originally from Crompton, Lancashire. He and Emma had their daughter Lottie, born 29th November 1885, baptised at St. Matthew's Church on 10th February 1886. This was where her mother had been baptised on 28th February 1859. Emma Booth was a daughter of Thomas and Harriet Booth. The parish record states that at the time this Booth family also lived in Norwood Green and her father, Thomas, was a 'Labourer'. By 1871 this Booth family had moved to Bailiffe Bridge.

Whether these Booths were in anyway related to Ernest Booth's family has not been explored; but it is perfectly possible. It is also quite possible that Emma Booth's parents were the 65-year-old Thomas Booth of Bailiffe Bridge and then the 79-year-old Harriet Booth of Field Top, Bailiffe Bridge who were buried in unknown Lightcliffe graves on 7th March 1885 and 18th October 1907 respectively.

Lewis Rogers did not live to see his only daughter marry. A year previously he had passed away on 10th February 1914. He was buried at Lightcliffe on 13th February 1914 aged 60 years in plot S10 which was then marked by this cross.



ROGERS Lewis of 7 New-street Bailiffe Bridge Brighouse Yorkshire died 10 February 1914 Administration Wakefield 27 April to Emma Rogers widow. Effects £222 10s 7d

William Booth, son of William and Sarah Ann, died in October 1916. After a coroner's report – not found – he was buried at Wyke. At the time of the 1921 census his widow, Ellen, was living with an unmarried Hanson sister. The whereabouts of some of the rest of the family including who their employer was if they were employed was recorded on the 1921 census taken on 19th June 1921.

1921 census

Mary Sucksmith	Head	66	Household Duties	William Booth
James Booth	Nephew	48	Farm Labourer	Assisting Father In General Farm Work

Address Underhill Farm, Norwood Green, Norwood Green & Coley, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

William Booth	Head	69	Farmer Employer
Sarah Ann Booth	Wife	68	House Hold Duties
Edward Booth	Son	42	Dyers Labourer Edward Ripley & Sons Bowling Dyeworks Bfd
Fred Booth	Son	40	Carpet Warehouseman T F Firth & Sons Ltd
Mary Hannah Booth	Dau	38	Dress Goods Weaver H??d Robinson & Son
Annie Booth	Dau	33	Clerk Weaver Earnhaw & Fletcher Cloth Manufacturers
Fanny Booth	Dau	29	House Hold Duties
Emily Booth	Dau	21	Cloth Weaver John Walker & Sons Morden Woollen Out Of Work

Address Underhill Farm, Norwood Green, Norwood Green & Coley, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

Jacob Booth	Head	44	Farm Labourer Emily & Colliers Fruit Merchants
Bessie Booth	Wife	43	Household Duties -
Lawrence Booth	Son	22	(Hawking) Green Grocer Emiles & Colliers
Amy Booth	Dau	16	Cafe Waitress Sault Merchants Cooperative Society
Elsie Booth	Dau	14	Home Duties -
Winifred Booth	Dau	12	

Address Carr Farm, Norwood Green, Norwood Green & Coley, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

Emma Rogers	Head	62	Home Duties -
Ernest Booth	Son-in-law	33	Dyers Labourer Edward Ripley & Sons
Lottie Booth	Daughter	36	Home Duties -
Lewis Booth	Grandson	5	
John H Booth	Lodger	64	Unemployed

Address 7, New Street, Bailiff Bridge, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

Mary Sucksmith, of Underhill Farm, continued to be helped by her sister Sarah Ann and the Booth family.

Their story and hers is completed in

The Booth family of Underhill Farm

D.M.Barker

September 2023