

Harry Leach and family

Harry Leach, born early 1861, was the youngest surviving son of Thomas and Ellen Leach whose story has already been told in the article

Thomas and Ellen Leach

Harry may well have been born in Northowram but by the time of the 1871 census he was with his parents and unmarried siblings in Lightcliffe. On 3rd April 1881 he was a 20-year-old 'Silk Dyer' living with his widowed mother and two siblings in the Sugden Buildings in Lightcliffe, just up the road from Bailiffe Bridge.

During Q2 1887 he married Hannah Hoyle. She may or may not have been the Hannah Hoyle whose birth was registered in the Bradford district Q3 1862 which fits with her death details. Although on subsequent censuses her birthplace was given as Lightcliffe. No useful marriage record has been found.

Their first daughter Edith was born on 11th March 1888 and baptised at St. Matthew's Church on 20th May 1888 when her father was described as a 'Carpet Weaver' of Lightcliffe. This was his occupation on 5th April 189. Presumably he worked for the carpet manufacturers T.F. Firths & Sons Ltd., at Bailiffe Bridge, as many other members of his family did,

1891 census

Harry Leach	Head	30	Carpet Weaver
Hannah Leach	Wife	28	
Edith Leach	Dau	3	
Address Armitage Buildings, Lightcliffe			

More daughters Alice, Minnie, and Nellie were born on 16th July 1891, 3rd December 1893, and 2nd September 1897. All were baptised at St. Matthew's Church on 20th August 1891, 25th February 1894 and 10th October 1897 respectively. When Alice and Minnie were baptised, their father was still recorded as being a carpet weaver and their abode was Lightcliffe. But by the time Nellie was baptised the family had moved to the Rose & Crown Inn, Warley where Harry was a publican like his brother John and nephew William.

Read

John Leach and family

Harry, Hannah and four daughters were in Warley on 31st March 1901.

1901 census

Harry Leach	Head	39	Inn keeper
Hannah Leach	Wife	38	
Edith Leach	Dau	13	
Alice Leach	Dau	9	
Minnie Leach	Dau	7	
Nellie Leach	Dau	3	
Address Rose & Crown Inn, Warley, Halifax			

10-year-old Alice died on 13th August 1901 not long after the census was taken, presumably at Warley. But she was brought back to Lightcliffe for burial on 16th August 1901 with her Leach grandparents in Lightcliffe plot H1.



Her name appears at the bottom of the long memorial inscription on the stone above.

ALSO OF ALICE THE BELOVED DAUGHTER OF HARRY AND HANNAH LEACH

WHO DIED AUGUST 13TH 1901 AGED 10 YEARS

A year later another daughter Florence was born on 4th October 1902.

Then on 11th December 1903 the *Brighouse News* had this report.

TRANSFER OF THE SUN INN, LIGHTCLIFFE

Mr. Harry Leach of Cote Hill, Warley, applied for the transfer of the Sun Inn, Lightcliffe, to him, from William Eastwood.

Mr. Jardine, who appeared for the applicant stated that the reason the application was not made the previous week, was because of the illness of the present tenant. The Chairman informed Mr. Jardine that it was not their intention to grant applications out of session, however as this was an exceptional case, they would give their permission.



Here is Harry Leach in the doorway of the Sun Inn. You can see his name more clearly above the door in the image below. The sign above the double doors says 'Stables'. There is no way of knowing exactly when this photograph was taken but Harry is probably with his three older daughters, Edith, Minnie and Nellie.



Images from photographs kindly given to us by a relative David Ellis

1911 census

Harry Leach	Head 50	Publican
Hannah Leach	Wife 48	Assisting in Business
Edith Leach	Dau 23	ditto
Minnie Leach	Dau 17	ditto
Nellie Leach	Dau 13	Attending School
Florence Leach	Dau 8	Scholar
Walter Naylor	Servant 50	Servant
Address The Sun Inn, Lightcliffe		

The *Brighouse News* had these two reports on 31st October and 2nd November 1911

LIGHTCLIFFE LANDLORD'S DEATH

THE LATE MR. HARRY LEACH

It is with regret that we announce the death of Mr. Harry Leach, landlord of the Sun Inn, Lightcliffe which took place yesterday evening. Mr. Leach has suffered from diabetes, and despite the unremitting attention of Dr. Aspinall Mardsen, of Lightcliffe, who had also a consultation with Dr. Campbell, of Bradford, the patient was beyond all that human skill could do, and after being confined to bed about three weeks he passed away as above stated.

Mr. Leach has kept the well-known hostelry for eight years, was of a genial and kindly disposition, and had made a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. He was 50 years of age.

THE LATE MR. HARRY LEACH

Funeral at Lightcliffe

An Impressive Service

The funeral of the late Mr. Harry Leach, landlord of the Sun Inn, Lightcliffe, took place this afternoon. The cortege left the house at half past three, and the interment was at the graveyard of the Old Church, facing the deceased's house. The coffin was borne straight from the house to the graveyard by nephews of the deceased.

The Rev. R. P. Whittington, Vicar of Lightcliffe, officiated at the house and also in the church and at the graveside.

There was a large and sympathetic gathering, evidence of the respect and esteem in which Mr. Leach was held.

The family mourners were:- Mrs. Leach (widow), Edith, Winnie [sic], Nellie and Florrie (daughters), Mrs. Sharpe (sister), Mr. and Mrs. Ingham (brother in law and sister) Mrs. Armytage (sister), Mrs. Leach Halifax (sister in law); Mr. and Mrs. Sherton (brother in law and sister in law); Mr. and Mrs. Harrison (father in law and mother in law); Miss Greenwood (sister in law); with the following nephews and niece: Mr. W. Leach (Bingley), Miss W. Leach (Halifax), Mrs. W. Armstrong (Huddersfield), Mr. and Mrs. F. Stockwell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Bradley, Mrs. D. Tiplady, Mrs. G. Pickles, Miss A. Sharp, and the following cousins: Mr. and Mrs. A. Craven (Bradford), Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Smith (Skipton), Mr and Mrs. Haggas (Bradford), Mrs H. Leach (Bradford) Mrs. F. Pickles (Bradford), Mr. G. Jowett, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ackkroyd, Mr. and Mrs. J. Leach and Mr. B. Jowett, Baildon (uncle)

The coffin of brown oak, with heavy silver mountings bore the inscription.

HARRY LEACH
Died October 30th 1911
Aged 50

The many floral tributes with their messages from friends and family have been omitted from the funeral report. [There are enough family connections here already to extend the Leach family tree!] But amongst those who sent floral tributes were Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Aykroyd of Cliffe Hill, Lightcliffe.

On 2nd November 1911 Harry Leach was buried in plot P78 near to where his brother John Leach was buried in Lightcliffe plot P76. A tree growing by the plot has now caused the collapse of the headstone whose memorial inscription is now almost impossible to read. Thankfully, Arthur Blackburn recorded what it said when he visited about a hundred West Riding of Yorkshire churchyards in the late 1920s / early 1930s transcribing the memorial inscriptions.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
HARRY LEACH
OF LIGHTCLIFFE
WHO DIED OCTOBER 30TH 1911
AGED 50 YEARS.
THEY WILL BE DONE

LEACH Harry of The Sun Inn Wakefield-road Lightcliffe Halifax died 30 October 1911
Administration Wakefield 29 November to Hannah Leach. Effects £452 1s 4d

Two of his daughters would marry at St. Matthew's Church before the next census. Edith Leach married Harry Baume, a motor engineer of 13, Cross Hills, Halifax, on 9th January 1913. Harry Baume served from 1917 with Royal Army Service Corps in East Africa. He was demobilised in 1919. His military records show that he suffered from heart problems and malaria.

Minnie Leach married Frank Asquith on 27th October 1915. Their son Thomas Leach Asquith, born 12th December 1917, was baptised at St. Matthew's Church on 13th June 1918. The 1921 census and then the 1939 register have more information about the family.

1921 census

Hannah Leach Head 58 Home Duties
 Nellie Leach Dau 23 Secretary Dr. Mills
 Florrie Leach Dau 18 Clerk
 Address 41 Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe

1921 census

Harry Baume Head 31 Taxi Driver
 Edith Baume Wife 33 Home Duties
 Dorothy Baume Dau 7 Scholar
 Address 34 Bubwith Rd, Halifax

1921 census

Frank Asquith Head 39
 Technical traveller for Aniline Dye Manufacturer
 Minnie Asquith Wife 27
 Thomas Leach Asquith Son 3
 Jean Mary Asquith Dau Under 1/12
 Annie Mary Sean Nurse 57
 Address Lynn Cottage, Lightcliffe

1939 register

Hannah Leach	02 Sep 1862	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Widowed	81	1
Nellie Leach	02 Sep 1897	Secretary Dispenser Doctor	Single	81	2
Florence Leach	04 Oct 1902	Bookkeeper Doctor	Single	81	3

Address 96, Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe

1939 register

Harry Baume	16 Oct 1889	Motor Mechanic	Married	74	1
Edith Baume	11 Mar 1888	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married	74	2
Dorothy Baume (Edwards)	24 Oct 1913	Invoice Clerk Marks & Spencer	Single	74	3
Peter Baume	04 May 1923	Student	Single	74	4

Address 34 Bubwith Grove, Halifax, Halifax C.B.

1939 register

Frank Asquith	10 May 1882	Labour Chemist Traveller Dye Makers	Married	113	1
Minnie Asquith	03 Dec 1893	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married	113	2
Thomas L Asquith	17 Dec 1917	Dye Mfrs Colour Chemist Control Labour	Single	113	3
Jean M Asquith (Bottomley)	30 May 1921	Invoice Typist Toffee Manufacturer	Single	113	4
Margaret Asquith (Keighley)	25 Jan 1925	At School	Single	113	5

Address 3 Sutherland Road, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B.,

During Q2 1944, as the update to the 1939 register shows, Jean Mary Asquith married George Bottomley. Four years later her father died.

ASQUITH Frank of 112 West-avenue Lightcliffe near Halifax died 23 December 1948 at Scalebor Park Burley Yorkshire Probate London 23 March to Minnie Asquith widow and Walter France accountant. Effects £6669 9s 4d

Halifax Evening Courier 11th November 1953

Mrs Hannah Leach

The death occurred yesterday at the age of 91, of Mrs Hannah Leach of 118 Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe. Mr Harry Leach was for about ten years the licensee of the Sun Inn, Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe.

Mrs Leach leaves four daughters, three grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Hannah Leach was buried with her husband Harry in Lightcliffe plot P78. You can just about make out the memorial inscription to her which probably said: -

ALSO HANNAH BELOVED WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED NOVEMBER 10TH 1953, AGED 91 YEARS



Harry Baume died on 23rd October 1965. His widow ninety-year-old Edith Baume née Leach had her death recorded in the Llanfyllin district of Powys, Wales in Q4 1978.

Two of her sisters predeceased her. Widow Minnie Asquith née Leach died in 1973.

ASQUITH, Minnie of 116 Wakefield Rd Lightcliffe Halifax died 19 August 1973
Probate Leeds 20 December £2016

A year later Nellie Leach died on 6th December 1974. She was cremated on 10th December 1974. Her ashes may have been interred behind St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe but there is no commemorative stone.

OBITUARY

Miss Florence Leach

Retired doctor's receptionist Miss Florence Leach has died at the Royal Halifax Infirmary, aged 85.

Miss Leach, of Wakefield Road, Hipperholme, was receptionist at Hipperholme for the late Dr Robert Lawson for more than 40 years. She retired about 13 years ago.

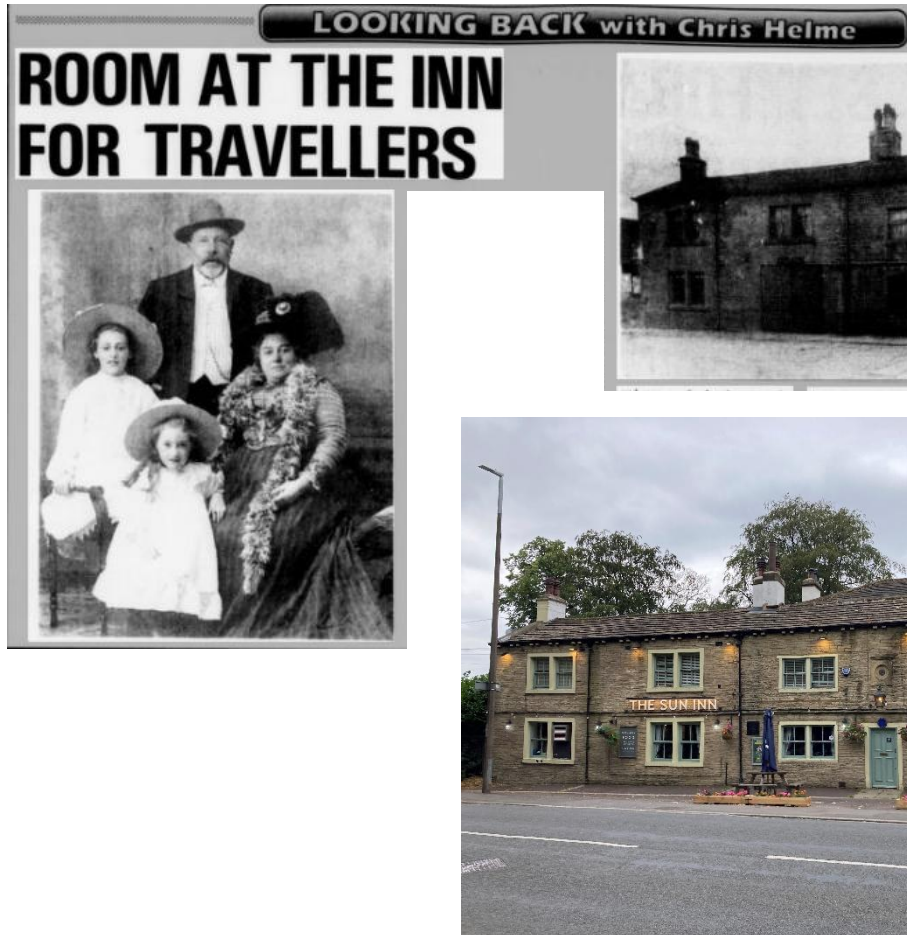
She was a Cub leader in Lightcliffe during the second world war and was a Sunday school teacher at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe, for many years.

This memorial stone marks where Florence Leach's ashes were interred behind St. Matthew's Church. There is also a probate record for her.



LEACH, Florence of 51 Wakefield Rd Hipperholme Halifax died 9 May 1988 Probate Leeds 28 June Not exceeding £70000.

On 17th June 1994 the late Chris Helme, a local historian, had an article published in the *Brighouse Echo*. It featured a portrait of Harry and Hannah Leach with two of their daughters in a very formal pose. It also had the earlier image (page3) – not that easy to see here – of the Sun Inn with the roof line and chimneys in the positions they are in today.



Opposite The Sun Inn is the churchyard where Harry, his wife, a daughter, his parents, some brother and sisters as well as many nieces and nephews were buried. Further up Wakefield is St. Matthew's Church where another daughter, Florence, and then a granddaughter and her husband, George and Jean Mary Bottomley, are remembered. Some members of this extended Leach family travelled far beyond the Halifax area, in some cases to the USA,

[Read **Thomas Alfred Leach and family.**]

but not Harry. He and most members of his immediate family remained in the Lightcliffe area forever.



D. M. Barker

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