

## Timothy Tooley Green, gardener at Whitefriars and Ashfield

The wonderfully named **Timothy Tooley Green** was the only surviving child of **Thomas Matthew Green** and his first wife **Hannah Tooley** in Witton on the north east coast of Norfolk. Timothy (Snr) did not have much luck in marriage – Hannah was the first of four wives who died at the birth of Timothy's brother **George**, who also died. Thomas (Snr) followed in his father's footsteps working a warrener all his life, maintaining rabbit warrens and producing rabbit meat for the landowners. The rabbit warrens were the property of the landowners, of course.



Timothy (Snr) lived until the age of 81. Upon his death in 1885, his death notice revealed he had been a Primitive Methodist local preacher for nearly 60 years in the North Walsham circuit [1].

**GRAVES.—**On the 12th inst., at Witton, Timothy Green, aged 81, for nearly sixty years a Primitive Methodist local preacher in the North Walsham circuit.

Timothy Tooley Green, born in 1832, obviously decided that the rabbit trade wasn't for him. He started his career as an errand boy in nearby North Walsham. There he met and married **Margaret Anna Elizabeth Bunn**, a shoemaker's daughter. After marrying in 1856, Timothy worked as a gardener. By 1874 they had brought the family to Langcliffe where the youngest of eight children, son **John Frederick Cavendish Green**, was born and died.

19th century gardeners were not the domestic gardeners we think of today. Houses didn't have gardens as such; families kept pigs and wildfowl in back yards for a bit of extra food. 'Gardeners' worked in the grounds of the large estates – think Capability Brown in Settle. As gravestones show, despite being in service to someone else, this was a lucrative occupation.

Timothy must have been a very well respected gardener. As soon as 1876 Timothy was involved in the running of the North Ribblesdale Agricultural Show and regularly contributed items, not for competition but to decorate the show amidst monster fruit and vegetables. He even grew a strawberry with a circumference of 8½ inches! [2]



vegetables. Probably the most noteworthy feature was a monster vegetable marrow belonging to Mr. S. Bolton, which it was stated weighed 14lbs. Mr. T. Green supplied a large number of choice ferns (not for competition), which were artistically displayed above the competing exhibits. Mr. T. Henderson, gardener,

### SETTLE.

Mr. T. T. Green, of Settle, has cultivated a strawberry which measures 8½ inches in circumference at the broadest part.

By the time of the 1881 census the family lived at Bridge End. During the 1880s, Timothy and the family moved to live at Ashfield, tending the estate gardens for landlady **Mary Armistead**. His vinery and flowers were known to be the best quality [ph1]. Timothy's advert in 1886 [LSA] explained that he worked on the

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gardens of both Ashfield and Whitefriars, both highly respected – a busy man.

Margaret died in 1891 aged 55 and was buried in the Old graveyard. Two years later Timothy married widow **Phoebe Payne** who was born Phoebe Green and was his first cousin. Phoebe's first husband was **Henry Payne**, a gamekeeper turned innkeeper. They had run a couple of inns in the Welsh borders until Henry died in 1889. Timothy left Settle to join Phoebe, leaving the grown up children behind. As was custom and practice, Timothy took over the license soon after he married Phoebe [3]. Timothy still kept up his links back in Settle. In 1894 he was thanked for his valuable service to the St John's Ambulance class [2].

**TRANSFER.**  
The licence of the New Inn, Gledrid, Chirk, was transferred from Phoebe Elizabeth Payne to Timothy Tooley Green.

Unfortunately Phoebe died in 1904, aged 68. Timothy came back to Settle and lived in Victoria Street, a 'retired gardener', with daughter Susan. He died at Halsteads, aged 90 and was buried with Margaret and 37 year old daughter Lucy who had died in 1900.

*Wife Margaret Green Margaret A. L. Green died Feb 18 1891 returned to God. Lucy Green daughter died Sep 15 1900. Timothy Green died July 16<sup>th</sup> 1922 in his 91<sup>st</sup> year. Peace and rest, Old B30*



**S. GREEN & B. HARRIS,**  
**Cosmopolitan Dressmakers,**

Victoria Street, **SETTLE.**

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Bodice Patterns Cut, 1/6; Skirt Patterns, 1/- each.

THE LATEST AND MOST IMPROVED METHOD USED.

A TRUE FIT GUARANTEED, NO FITTING ON NEEDED.

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**A TRIAL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.**

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY EXECUTED.



When Timothy went to Chirk to be with Phoebe, daughters **Anna Elizabeth**, **Lucy** and **Susan** (in age order) [ph1] lived together in Victoria Street and became good friends with **Bessie Harris**, (left). She had moved to Settle with her widowed mother from Cornwall. Her mother **Elizabeth Annear** had been married to **Philip Harris**, a miner but he died soon after their marriage. Miners had an appalling life expectancy. Bessie was born many years after her father's death. The families had both moved to Settle with hopes of a new life with good housing and wages which didn't always transpire.

**T. T. GREEN,**  
**Gardener, Seedsman, Florist, &c.,**  
**DUKE STREET, SETTLE.**

GARDENS, ASHFIELD AND WHITEFRIARS.

**Hot-house Grapes, Peaches, Outdoor Fruit and**  
**Vegetables in season.**

**CUT FLOWERS, BEDDING & OTHER PLANTS.**

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*Floral Wreaths, Crosses, and Bouquets made to order.*

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**Virgin Cork always on hand; Cork Hanging Baskets**  
**and Baskets. Window Boxes & Cases made to order.**

**ST. JOHN AMBULANCE CLASS.**—During the winter months a class has been held in the Court House which has been attended by townsmen and members of the police force, for instruction in "First Aid" and general ambulance work. Dr. Buck and Dr. Shepherd have been the instructors, with such success that every member passed an examination held on Tuesday, February 27th, by Dr. Matcalf, of Clapham, some of the police doing remarkably well. At the closing meeting, held on Monday last, votes of thanks were unanimously passed to the honorary instructors and also to Mr. T. T. Green, who has rendered valuable service to the class in many ways, and presentations were made to these three gentlemen as tokens of gratitude felt to them for their kindly help.

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Sister Lucy Green had died in 1900 and Anna Elizabeth in 1907. Susan ran a 'cosmopolitan dressmakers' business together with Bessie Harris but this partnership was to end when Bessie married Frederic (Fred) Riley. Susan continued the business whilst looking after her ageing father [LSA], but when he died, she worked as a housekeeper for the Rileys in their Church Street shop.



The life of the Rileys is beautifully detailed in the autobiographical book by James F Riley [A] and was profiled in an exhibition at the Folly.

Fred [ph1] was a cotton mill manager's son was from Bolton. After a slump in their fortunes, the family moved to Settle in the late 1890s and Fred began work as an engine driver at Langcliffe paper mill. He was a man of wide-ranging talents, coupled with great energy, a zest for life and a gift for communicating his enthusiasms to others. Fred and his family threw themselves into local life and formed a music group 'The Marzials' [ph1], named after a contemporary composer of popular ballads. They hired out their services as entertainers and rapidly recruited new members.



One new member was the 'beautiful Bessie Harris' who played second violin. Romance blossomed and Fred and Bessie were married in 1905, making their first home in Victoria Street with two children. They were active members of Zion Congregational Church and Fred was soon organising nature rambles for the Sunday School children and giving lantern slide lectures with titles such as 'Wonders of the Wayside'. He conducted the orchestra and wrote and produced plays in aid of church funds.



Fred was a prolific writer, publishing two full-length books and numerous shorter works, illustrated with his own photographs. He was much in demand as a lecturer and as an extrovert, he was a natural performer and delighted in entertaining his audience.



In the early 1920s Fred, supported by Bessie, opened a bookshop in Church Street, which not only helped to supplement the family income but also provided an outlet for his publications and photographs, many of which were produced as postcards



[ph2].



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After a day at the mill Fred would return home, go into the shop until 8 pm and then get down to his writing. In later life, Fred rented a cottage in Feizor, which gave him a bolt hole in which to write, the pleasures of a fruitful garden and a place to display his own 'museum' of local curiosities. Fred and Bessie are buried in the New graveyard.

*In loving memory of Frederic Riley of Green Bank, Settle Died 8th Jan 1960 aged 81 years And of Elizabeth His wife Died 32rd May 1960 Aged 85 years For Ever Safe, For Ever Blest, New D6*



Susan Green remained a spinster and when she died, aged 81, was buried with sister Anna Elizabeth in the Old Graveyard.

*In Loving Memory of Susan Green Born May 17th 1868 Died July 20th 1952. Anna E Green born 1858, died November 1907 In heavenly love abiding, Old F30*



Timothy and Margaret's son **Charles Green** continued work as a gardener. He married **Catherine Cheetham** whose family had moved to Settle from Derbyshire (see *Rawsthorne*) and they had two daughters. At the time of the 1939 pre-war register they lived in East View on Duke Street. At the age of 74 Charles was still working as a gardener but Catherine was registered blind. They lived with their daughter **Margaret Edith** who, at the age of 56, married 65 year old **John Albert Bunn**, a first cousin once removed who had worked on the railway.

Charles and Catherine's daughter **Dorothy** married **Richard Moore Haygarth**, the son of **Robert Haygarth**, one of Settle's earliest cycle mechanics. Unfortunately, Dorothy died seven years later aged 37 and is buried in the New graveyard in an unmarked grave IX22.

Charles and Catherine were cremated and their remains are in the New graveyard New J34

Timothy and Margaret's son **George Tooley Green** became a storeman in the north east. Son **Timothy Green** was the captain of the Settle and District Ambulance Association [ph1] before he went to the bright lights of London to work in a photographic studio.



...JR...

*This account has been compiled as part of the Settle Graveyard Project which has recorded gravestone inscriptions, updated church records and researched the lives of those buried. It has been written in good faith with no offence intended. If I have inadvertently included errors or breached any copyright I apologise and would welcome corrections.*

*Life stories can be found on [dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle-graveyard-project](http://dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle-graveyard-project). The 'Old Settle' family tree on [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk) includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on [settleresearch@gmail.com](mailto:settleresearch@gmail.com). Latest news and events are on the Facebook page 'Settle Graveyard Project'.*

*Illustrations kindly provided by Teresa Gordon. The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project*

A – *Listening and Remembering, Memoirs of a Settle Boy* by James F Riley

*Settle Graveyard Project*

*Newspaper cuttings with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 – Norwich Mercury, 2 – Lancaster Gazette, 3 – Wrexham advertiser*

*ph1 – photo with the kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust, ph2 – photos of the Riley Collection posted on the Back in Settle Facebook site, from the Folly collection.*

*LSA - Lambert's Settle Almanac, with the kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust*