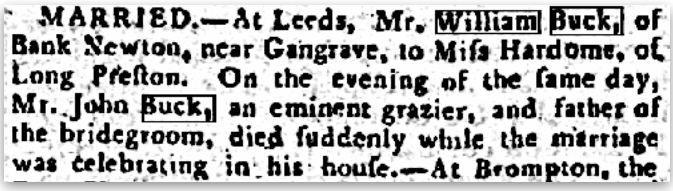
The Bucks

Dr Buck is one of Settle's best known characters and he was incredibly talented. His life is well documented by many others so this can only be a summary of his family.

William Buck, born in 1772 in Gargrave, signed up for the Craven Legion, a volunteer force to assist wit the Napoleonic Wars. He was promoted to the role of Lieutenant in 1804 for which he was obliged to pay £35 14s 6d for the uniform. William married **Ellen Hardacre** in Leeds in March 1806 and moved to live and work in Long Preston. Unfortunately William's father, **John Buck**, *'an eminent grazier' 'died suddenly while the marriage was celebrating in his house'[4]* Oh dear! Graziers were farmers involved in rearing, feeding or fattening livestock.


MARRIED.—At Leeds, Mr. William Buck, of Bank Newton, near Gangrave, to Miſs Hardome, of Long Preſton. On the evening of the ſame day, Mr. John Buck, an eminent grazier, and father of the bridegroom, died ſuddenly while the marriage was celebrating in his houſe.—At Brompton, the

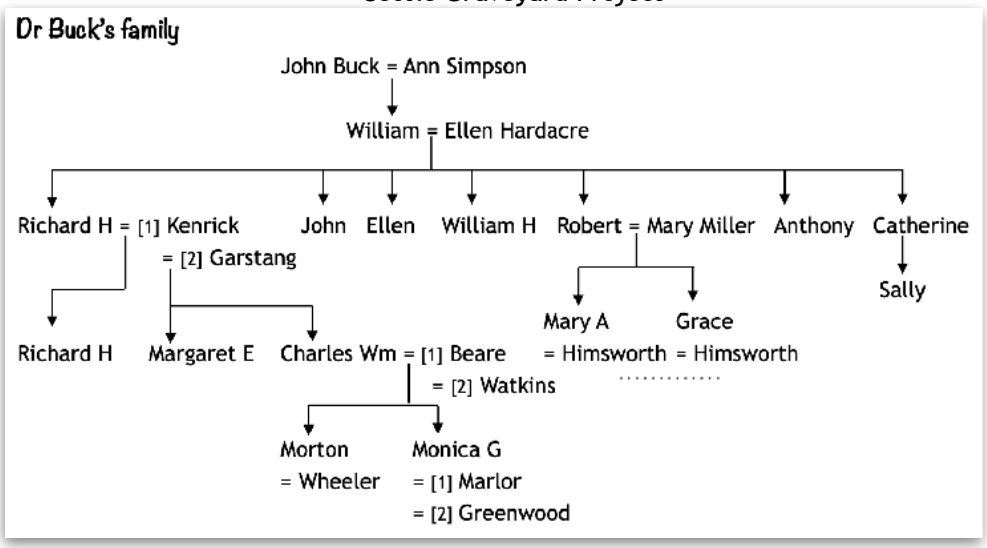
During the 1830s the family moved to Giggleswick from Long Preston and lived on Tems/Thames Street, living on 'independent means'. William died in 1848, leaving Ellen a reasonable inheritance. By the time of the 1861 census, widow Ellen had moved into the beautiful Rose Cottage on Church Street in Giggleswick, making a living as a proprietor of houses. Famously, **Russell Harty** later lived there. William and Ellen were buried back in Long Preston with three children.

In memory of the late William Buck of Giggleswick who died May 17th 1848, aged 75 years. Also Ellen, relict of the above. William Buck who died May 20th 1863 aged 85 years. And of the children of the above, John Buck who died October 23rd 1880 aged 74 years, Ellen Buck who died March 17th 1881 aged 65 years.

Poor Ellen, who died in 1863, aged 84, scarcely got a mention, just being the 'relict'. Son William died in 1893, not 1863 as clearly inscribed on the gravestone. Like many others, this gravestone would probably have been erected and inscribed well after the deaths when memory (and perhaps hearing) were confused.

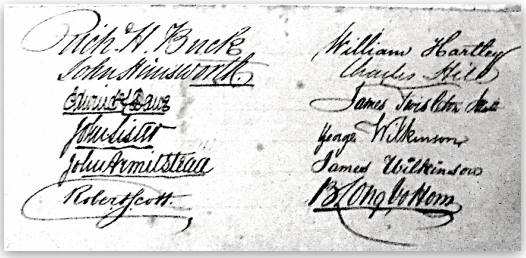
William and Ellen's eldest son, **John Buck**, worked as an agricultural labourer and lived with his spinster sister **Ellen Buck** and they were buried with their parents in Long Preston. William and Ellen's third son, **William Hardacre Buck,** worked as an agricultural/road/quarry labourer in Giggleswick. He married twice and had four daughters and a son and was also buried with his parents.

When he was 47, William and Ellen's fourth son, **Robert Buck,** a joiner, married 18 year old **Mary Miller** who gave birth to five daughters before he died, aged 56. Three daughters died in infancy and the remaining two daughters, **Mary Ann** and **Grace Buck** married brothers **Whitaker** and **Walter Himsworth** who were both labourers from Nelson. Poor widow Mary was only 27 when her husband died. She worked as a charwoman and moved closer to her married daughters in Colne but later returned to Giggleswick. Apparently, Mary was small in stature and fond of wearing a shawl, often sitting by the fireplace of her sweet shop on Church Street. She kept hens in order to sell their eggs. When she went to feed them, mischievous lads would pop into the shop to take a few sweets! She was known to use rather strong language in everyday speech, so much so that the vicar, ***Rev Theodore Brocklehurst***, spoke from the pulpit to warn children not to converse with her — not easy as she ran a sweet shop!*[B]* With other successful relations it's perhaps surprising that Mary was left to this fate. Generally, this family comprised hardworking folk, lower down the social scale. However there was one exception.



Second son **Richard Hardacre Buck** was the academic of the family and became a solicitor, having been articled to **John Hartley** of Giggleswick. He was a clerk to solicitor **William Foster** and was involved in the sale of Armistead Hall to ***William Cork*** after the bankruptcy of ***John Cowburn***. Richard lived in Kirkgate and then further down the road to Bond End, just below

Victoria Hall where ***John Jackson***, also a solicitor, had lived previously. Richard's first wife, **Sarah Kenrick**, died at the birth of their son **Richard Hardacre Buck (Jnr)**. After attending Giggleswick School Richard (Jnr) worked for a short time as a solicitor's clerk. He was one of one of several solicitor's clerks appealing to their employers to be given time off on a Saturday [*ph6*]. Other clerks included with ***James Twisleton***, ***John Armitstead***, ***John Lister*** and ***John Himsworth***. Later, Richard (Jnr), *'a dapper man with a small beard'* spent many years working for the Indian Civil Service. He retired to Craven Terrace back in Settle by 1895.



Richard's second wife was **Grace Garstang,** daughter of **Robert Garstang** and **Isabella Dixon. Robert** had been the innkeeper of the Hart's Head in Giggleswick which, at that point, was at the bottom of Belle Hill. Later, when the inn moved to the top of the hill, Robert re-built the property to form Garstangs Yard and Cravendale. Robert died in 1842, aged 61 but Isabella lived to the age of 86! Robert and Grace moved to live in another property on the other side of Kirkgate, eventually moving to Bond End, later inherited by Richard Hardacre Buck (Jnr). Richard Hardacre Buck (Snr) is buried at Giggleswick with Grace and son Richard. First wife Sarah was buried elsewhere in Giggleswick graveyard in an unmarked grave.

In loving memory of Richard Hardacre Buck of Settle who died Dec'r 15th 1880 aged 72 years. "My times are in Thy hand." (Psalm 31st.) Also of Grace Buck his widow who died Oct. 20th 1893 in her 80th year. Also R. H. Buck Jr died Dec. 28 1921 aged 81 years. B8/28

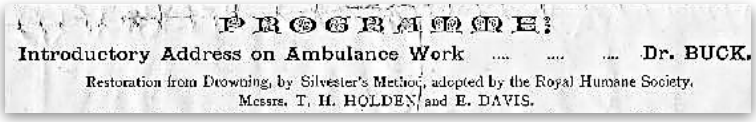
Richard and Grace's only son was **Charles William Buck**, born in 1851 *[ph1]*. They also had a daughter, **Margaret Ellen Buck**, who, for some reason, was brought up by grandparents, aunts and uncles and later married a vicar, living in Lincolnshire.

After an education at Giggleswick School and medical colleges in Manchester

and London, Charles qualified as a surgeon at the Royal College of Surgeons. In 1875 he turned down an offer of a partnership with **Dr Deighton** of Clapham set up his own successful business 'operating' from the Buck's Kirkgate property. Then Charles moved to work in Duke Street, in the property now occupied by Nelson's shoe shop. Business went so well that he went into partnership with **Dr Williamson** which lasted until Dr Williamson was appointed surgeon to the Manchester Ship canal Company in 1886. In 1890 Charles took over in the large house in the centre of the row in the Market Place in below Constitution Hill *[ph2]*. The previous occupant of the property was ***Dr James Hartley***. The surgery was on the ground floor and Charles also did his rounds by horse and trap. Charles soon brought medical practices up-to-date, relatively speaking. This included making his own medicines instead of relying on creative old wives' remedies and apothecaries. Charles worked for some years with young surgeon ***John Clark*** before his premature death of pneumonia on *SS Rotomahana*.

Inevitably, Charles was the surgeon involved in the medical cases of numerous graveyard residents. He diagnosed ***Sarah Ann Hart***, a Wesleyan Minister's niece, with *'religious melancholy and a bronchial cold'* shortly before she took her own life in 1897. Support for mental health in the 19th century was non-existent. In 1879 he cared for ***Pickles Wolfenden***, the innkeeper at the Plough Inn at Wigglesworth, when he fell from his horse and cart on the way to the station — he later died of an infection. In 1902 Charles was the surgeon to send ***Thomas Ralph*** to Leeds Hospital for an amputation after a quarrying accident — Thomas later died. Charles certified the death by kidney failure of ***Sergeant Major William Field Hook***, registrar and drill instructor for the North Craven Rifles and also that of 80 year old ***Agnes Atkinson***, the widow of a billiard table proprietor, of a heart condition and apoplexy.

As a surgeon Charles became a pillar of the Settle community and took an active part in running groups such as St John's Ambulance, on this occasion ***Elias Davis*** and ***Thomas Henry Holden*** delivered a talk on 'Restoration from Drowning, by Silvester's Method'*[ph2]*.

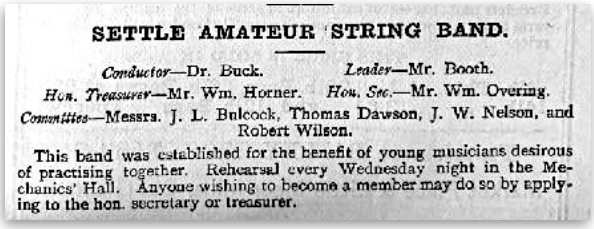


PROGRAMME!

Introductory Address on Ambulance Work .... Dr. BUCK.

Restoration from Drowning, by Silvester's Method, adopted by the Royal Humane Society. Messrs. T. H. HOLDEN and E. DAVIS.

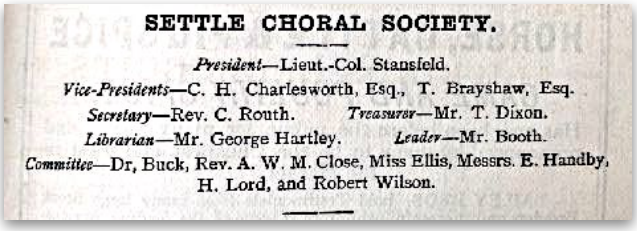
Talented musician Charles had a life long partnership with Settle's musical groups, leading the orchestra of the Settle Amateur Dramatic Society and stayed with it as it became the Settle Amateur Operatic Society. He led the Settle Amateur String Band and was on the committee of Settle Choral Society in the good company of ***Margaret Ann Ellis***, amongst others *[LSA]*.



SETTLE AMATEUR STRING BAND.

Conductor—Dr. Buck. *Leader*—Mr. Booth.
Hon. Treasurer—Mr. Wm. Horner. *Hon. Sec.*—Mr. Wm. Overing.
Committee—Messrs. J. L. Bulcock, Thomas Dawson, J. W. Nelson, and Robert Wilson.

This band was established for the benefit of young musicians desirous of practising together. Rehearsal every Wednesday night in the Mechanics' Hall. Anyone wishing to become a member may do so by applying to the hon. secretary or treasurer.



SETTLE CHORAL SOCIETY.

President—Lieut.-Col. Stansfeld.
Vice-Presidents—C. H. Charlesworth, Esq., T. Brayshaw, Esq.
Secretary—Rev. C. Routh. *Treasurer*—Mr. T. Dixon.
Librarian—Mr. George Hartley. *Leader*—Mr. Booth.
Committee—Dr, Buck, Rev. A. W. M. Close, Miss Ellis, Messrs. E. Handby, H. Lord, and Robert Wilson.

Famously, Charles first met the composer **Edward Elgar** in 1882 when he was persuaded to perform with Elgar's orchestra to celebrate the last evening of a British Medical Association event. A good friendship was established. Elgar sometimes visited Charles in Settle, sleeping in the first floor room above the surgery. Charles introduced Elgar to his friends including the ***Wilkinson Newsholmes*** who had previously lived as neighbours in Kirkgate but had moved to Hellifield Green. Elgar and **Sarah Annie Wilkinson Newsholme** became romantically attached for a while. The research for this project unearthed a historically significant photo of Sarah Annie *[ph5, tall white hat]* with Elgar standing behind her and Dr Buck on her right.

Dr Buck and Elgar were also friends with accountant and musician **Charles Henry Best** and his wife ***Sarah Smith*** who lived at Mainsfield in Giggleswick. A plaque on the wall of Charles' house in the Market Place commemorates Elgar's visits.

Edward Elgar and Charles had a mutual musical friend, **John Beare**, and in 1884, Charles married John's sister **Emma Foote Beare** *[B]*. Emma gave birth to a son and a daughter but died after a long illness, *'cheerfully and heroically borne'* in 1902. This could have been tuberculosis. She was *'of a kindly nature, probably without a single enemy and her whole life was a beautiful example of loving sympathy and and inspiration to all who were associated with her'[5]*. Later that year Charles bought six cottages in Church Street, Giggleswick from the estate of James Twisleton for £414.

a long illness cheerfully and heroically borne. The deceased lady was of a kindly nature, probably without a single enemy, and her whole life was a beautiful example of loving sympathy and an inspiration to all who were associated with her. Her remains were interred at Giggleswick Church on Monday, the

In 1897, before Emma died Dr Buck and his half-brother, Richard, were two of the twelve 'notables' from the town invited to have a photo taken *[ph8, back row, 3rd left and 1st right]* with ***Edward Duckett***,*[front centre]* the self-made international multi-millionaire who left Settle on his 21st birthday to make his fortune in Australia at the start of the Gold Rush. Edward ran an ironmongery business called *'The Golden Horseshoe'*, featured in the photograph, and returned in 1897 to sort out his business affairs in England.

A year after Emma died, Charles married **Ella Margaret Watkins,** the daughter of Archdeacon Watkins of York, who was a talented horticulturalist and they lived in York. Tragically, she died

in 1907 just four years after their marriage and it was then that Charles retired, moving to back to Cravendale in Giggleswick which he had inherited from the Garstangs. Charles *[B]* was known to be consoled by his violin and cello and smoking a pipe. In 1905 Dr Buck went into partnership with ***Albert Charles Adams Lovegrove*** from Sevenoaks, Kent who had *'long and varied experience both at home and abroad' [ph9]* planning for succession upon his retirement, and that's exactly how it worked out.

DR. C. W. BUCK

Settle Naturalist and Musician

The death occurred at Belle Vue, Giggleswick, yesterday, of Dr. Charles William Buck, aged 81.

Dr. Buck entered Owen's College, and in 1875 took the Degree of the Royal College of Surgeons of England which, at that time, was a double qualification in Surgery and Medicine. The following year he commenced practice in Settle and his business grew so rapidly that he took Dr. Williamson into partnership. In 1886, Dr. Williamson was appointed Surgeon to the Manchester Shop Canal.

HOMELY AND KIND.

So far we have only seen the doctor as a musician. But the village people also know him as the kindly gentleman who went into the lowliest homestead and bounced the youngsters on his knee and chatted just as interestedly with the farm man as he gossiped with Sir Edward Elgar, a close friend of his, in his cottage sanctum.

He was something of a picturesque figure. Sometimes he seemed to have walked straight from the Victorian days when he wore his old-fashioned cap and cape.

His home it was as remarkable as he himself was. His rooms are lined with antique treasures and curios. He was a confirmed votary of the weed, and in his rooms the visitor was sometimes astonished to see a basket arrayed with 20 or 30 pipes ready primed with tobacco. He would smoke steadily through them in a day, never lighting the same pipe twice.

This project is indebted to Charles *[ph4]* as, in later years, he transcribed the diaries of the ***William Lodge Paley to*** provide a unique insight into early 19th century life in Settle. Charles suffered with liver problems for several years before his death in 1932, aged 81. He was nursed by ***Lily Annie Close*** who lived with him at Cravendale in what used to be his music room. Lily Annie and her brother's family lived there for many years afterwards so Charles must have left a generous legacy for them. His obituaries *[1,2]* portray an intelligent, gentle and caring man. Charles was buried with his first wife, Emma and son **Morton Buck** in Giggleswick graveyard in a (currently rather overgrown) grave *B8/95* with an understated memorial inscription.

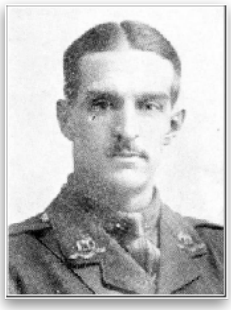
Morton Buck Jan. 25 1921. E. F. B, Oct. 3 1902. C. W. B, Nov. 22 1932.

James Riley described, *'Dr Buck's aquiline features peeped through his beard like an alert sparrowhawk… His low, dark music room with its log fire was stacked with albums and sheet music and it always seemed that the score that he wanted was at the bottom of the pile. But enthusiasm made up for our technical limitations and the doctor, blowing showers of sparks from his pipe like a locomotive, would shout encouragement as we galloped along. Dr Buck had a little terrier called Brunhilde which would slip into the room and station herself under her master's chair, adding her own notes to the confusion.'[A].* Buck owned 50 pipes. The music room at the back of Cravendale had linoleum patterned with marks of cello spikes after years of playing.

11. Mr. J. Goddard Barker, A.R.C.O., organist and choirmaster, gave an Organ Recital on the new instrument at Settle Parish Church. The soloists were Mrs. Morton Buck and Miss Monica Buck, of Giggleswick.

Charles and Emma's son, **Morton Buck**, was educated at Giggleswick School and married the Vicar of Rathmell's daughter, **Erica Littlewood Wheeler,** just eight years before his death in 1921, aged 35 and predeceasing his father. Widow Erica became a radiographer, living in Surrey. In 1913 Charles' daughter-in-law Mrs Morton Buck and daughter **Monica Garstang Buck** performed with Settle Church organist ***John Goddard Barker*** to test out the new organ *[LSA].*

Charles' daughter Monica Garstang Buck also enjoyed performances with the Settle Amateur Operatic Society *[ph1, left].* She first married **Eric Marlor** whose parents had moved to live in Close House, Giggleswick on the proceeds of a Bradford Yarn business. 2nd Lieutenant Eric Marlor *[ph3]* served in the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment was killed on 3rd May 1917 on the Western Front, aged 27. Widow Monica, aged 47 then married a distinguished artist, **Orlando Greenwood,** who made a success of his career after a humble upbringing in Nelson. They settled in Surrey. There were no children and so this marked the end of Dr Buck's line.



William and Ellen's fifth son was **Anthony Buck** and **Catherine Buck** was the youngest of their two daughters. Anthony worked mainly as a shoemaker, with a short period as a schoolmaster and sister Catherine kept house and helped out with the business. Catherine, aged 31, had an illegitimate daughter **Sarah Jane (Sally) Buck** who lived with them on Tems Street, Giggleswick. Anthony and Catherine Buck are buried in the churchyard at Settle Church which seems strange — they lived in Giggleswick all their lives and most of the Buck family are buried in Long Preston or Giggleswick graveyards. Was this something to do with the embarrassment of an illegitimate child? or, perhaps, had there been a falling out — it often happens, doesn't it?

Anthony Buck Born June 1821 died Dec 1890, Catherine born Dec 1st 1825, died May 26th 1904. Old B2/3

Catherine and Anthony have a grave plot each — being close to the edge of the churchyard the first three graves in this row are shallow, containing just one person. After Anthony's death, Catherine moved back into Rose Cottage with daughter Sally until she died. Sally initially worked as a schoolteacher. In later life she was housekeeper to her cousin, Richard Hardacre Buck, the dapper solicitor, when he retired to live at 14 Craven Terrace until he died. Then, Sally *[B], 'a well built woman who bustled bout with a shawl over her shoulders, lived at top house of t'flags, a modest place with a living room, a tiny kitchen entered up two steps and diminutive bedrooms.'* She own a red-crested parrot, called Susie, which she let out on fine days. Sally trained Susie to smoke a pipe, do simple sums, drink out of a goblet and salute pictures of the Royal Family. Local lads tried to teach it to swear! Sally took Susie to local parties to perform and raise money for charity. Sally lived to the age of 87 and was buried in Giggleswick churchyard in an unmarked grave.

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. The 'Old Settle' family tree on ancestry.co.uk includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on 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.

Newspaper cuttings with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 — Morecambe Guardian, 2 —Yorkshire Post, 3 — Leeds Mercury, 4 — Hereford Journal, 5 — Lancaster Standard

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

A — Listening and Remembering, Memoirs of a Settle Boy by James F Riley, B — Gossip from Giggleswick and Dr Buck and Elgar by Bill Mitchell

ph1 — with the kind permission of the Settle Amateur Operatic Society, thanks to John Reid, ph2 — credited to the Back in Settle Facebook Page, ph3 — credited to Craven's Part in the Great War, ph4 — with thanks to the Craven Herald and Pioneer, ph5,7,8 — with thanks to descendant John Maidment, ph6 — photo with the kind permission of Pamela Jordan, ph9 — with thanks to Giggleswick Church Archives

SETTLE
Amateur String Band.
THE ANCIENT MYSTERY PLAY,
"ST. GEORGE,"
TO BE GIVEN
EASTER TUESDAY, 1894,
IN THE VICTORIA HALL.
As nearly as possible in the style of fifty years ago.
WORDS AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC COLLECTED AND ARRANGED BY
REV. A. CROFTON & C. W. BUCK
PRICE, ONE SHILLING.