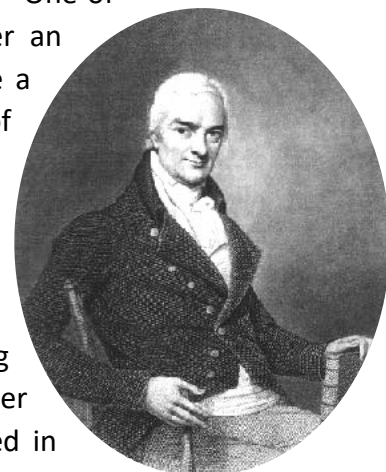


## The Haygarths, an extraordinarily talented family

Haygarth was a very common name in the Sedbergh and Garsdale area. One of the most famous sons was **John Haygarth** born in 1740 [ph7]. After an education at Sedbergh School, Edinburgh and Cambridge John became a talented physician who discovered new ways to prevent the spread of fever by isolation within hospitals and his research helped to develop smallpox vaccination.



**James Haygarth** and his wife **Nanny Moor** lived in Garsdale and had seven children. James worked as an agricultural labourer and had a down-to-earth approach to life, often appearing in newspapers being accused of assault, or being assaulted, usually together with his father **Matthew Haygarth** [1]. Most of James and Nanny's children continued in working class jobs in Lancashire. Eldest daughter, **Rosamund Haygarth**, married a butcher, **Thomas Sanderson**, and they had 15 children! [ph1].

**SEDBERGH PETTY SESSIONS.**  
**WEDNESDAY LAST.** — (Before the Rev. John Sedgwick and John Elam, Esq.)  
**ASSAULTS.** — Richard Burton, of Garsdale, was summoned for having committed an assault upon Matthew Haygarth, of the same place, on Sunday, the 21st of July last, and also with having committed an assault upon James Haygarth, the son of Matthew Haygarth, on Wednesday, the 31st of July.



James and Nanny's son **Matthew Haygarth**, born in 1853, was about 18 when the Settle and Carlisle Railway was constructed providing a wonderful employment opportunity. He began as a general 'railway servant' but was promoted to work as a railway signaller and lived in the railway cottages off Cammock Lane in Settle at the time of the 1881 census with the first of three wives, **Margaret Dowbiggin** and the first three of four children.

For some reason Matthew decided on a change in career and on 26th December 1882 joined the West Riding Police Force as a constable. As expected for a police constable, he was tall — 6 foot and 2 inches and had brown hair and blue eyes. By 1886 Matthew worked in Pudsey, West Leeds and crossed the path of **Sam Wood**, who had recently been released from prison and had 15 previous convictions, resulting in a headline 'Drunken Braggadocio and its Consequences'. Sam, whilst being drunk and riotous, believed there was 'not a bobby in Pudsey who could take him' and attempted to bite PC Haygarth for which he was fined 1 shilling plus a further 10 shillings for damage to Matthew's uniform and was sent back to prison for another two months [2]. It's likely this wouldn't have been his last stay as there was no attempt to rehabilitate prisoners in those days. In 1888 Matthew 'fell on the ice at Pudsey, when on night duty and cut his mouth and forehead.'

**DRUNKEN BRAGGADOCIO AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.**—Very often when gaol-birds come out of prison they "go in for a spree," as they call it, and not unfrequently make an early re-acquaintance with oakum and skilly. A Pudsey fellow, Sam Wood, is one of this class.

who requested him to go home. Prisoner threw himself down, used bad language, and said there was not a "bobby in Pudsey who could take him." He struck Haygarth and attempted to bite him. Police-constable Davies went to Haygarth's assistance, and they took prisoner to Stanningley, where they put him on a hand-cart, fastened him by ropes, and brought him to the police-station. Sam had been convicted 15 times. He

*11 Sep 1888 - Fell on the ice at Pudsey, when on night duty, & cut his mouth & forehead.*

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Margaret died in 1897 and has a fine gravestone in Keasden graveyard, for some reason. Matthew was relocated to Halifax where he had two more wives.

Matthew's youngest brother, **Robert Haygarth** [ph4], born in 1864, began his working life as an apprentice blacksmith in Hawes. In 1886, Robert married **Alice Thompson**, a cattle drover's daughter and they had three daughters although the eldest, **Agnes Mary Haygarth**, died aged two. Perhaps on brother Matthew's recommendation, in 1892 the family moved to Settle where they had another daughter, **Alice Haygarth**, who died in infancy, followed by four sons. Initially they lived on Belle Hill in Giggleswick before moving to Settle. Robert's life was to change when he met **Thomas Hall Harper**, also from Sedbergh. Thomas had moved to Settle with his family working as a draper but sold the business to **John William Hesleden** and set up as a 'cycle maker, agent and repairer.' Robert worked with Thomas for seven years before taking over the business with a yard at Goldielands, New Road (Station Road) [LSA]. Robert even moved into Thomas Hall Harper's house at Halsteads, Duke Street when Thomas moved to Leicester to become the managing director of a cycle retailer.

Cycling was an exciting new technology providing cheap independent travel well before the arrival of cars and was especially popular with women as it provided independent travel and a change in fashion, bloomers replacing long skirts. 'Velocipede mania' originated in New York in 1868 and quickly spread across the Atlantic, with one model, the 'Dandy Horse' thought to be in Settle by 1870, although it met a sad end in the wall of Rathmell Brow [CH]! Blacksmith **William Capstick** was also a tricycle tinkerer! It

was said 'bicycles cost less than a very bad horse and eat nothing, so should be useful. Bicycle riding, like skating combines the pleasure of personal display with the luxury of swift motion through the air'. Early bicycles, such as 'the boneshaker' and Penny Farthings were rather primitive and heavy, weighing in at 40lbs. Pneumatic tyres were introduced in the 1890s. Robert was at the forefront of this technology together with Thomas Hall Harper, **Arthur Overing** and **John Hunt**. There are many reports of cycle accidents and some spectacular achievements too. In the early 1900s **James Procter** from Bentham climbed Ingleborough with his bicycle and cycled around the summit! [LSA].



**ROBERT HAYGARTH,**  
(7 YEARS WITH MR. T. H. HARPER),  
**NEW ROAD, SETTLE,**  
Begs to inform the inhabitants of Settle and the surrounding district that he has purchased the business of  
**CYCLE & MOTOR AGENT** carried on for some time by Mr. T. H. Harper, and trusts by prompt attention to all orders to merit a continuance of the favours so long accorded to his predecessor.  
NEW MACHINES built to suit customers. Second-hand Machines taken in exchange.  
REPAIRS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO

And now I must go further back still, and tell of the coming of the velocipede to Settle. It was a crude bicycle, of French origin, suggested by the "Dandy Horse," which preceded it. The machine had two wooden wheels, shod with iron rims, the saddle was also made of wood, and mounted on an iron backbone, the pedals being on the front wheel. It would be about the year 1870 that it made its appearance in the streets of Settle. The rider made a somewhat triumphant progress through the streets, until, suddenly, the back-bone snapped in twain, and the rider found a hard seat on the roadway, much to the amusement of the spectators. About a week later, repairs having been effected, the rider, in negotiating Rathmell Brow, lost control of the machine, and crashed into the wall at the foot of the brow with disastrous consequences. Little more was heard of the machine, but I remember it gave an idea to William Capstick, then a veteran blacksmith in Settle, who made a tricycle for his son James, to ride on, and we boys had some rare fun out of it.

27. Accident to a young lady, who lost control of her bicycle whilst riding down Belle Hill, at Giggleswick, and dashed into the corner of the Post Office Buildings.—The Bradford Scientific Association in their first afternoon ramble of the season, visited Norber Boulders and Clapham.—Band of Hope Festival at Long Preston.—Mr. Jas. Procter, jun., of Bentham, climbed Ingleboro' with his bicycle and rode round the summit.

Settle had two Cycling Clubs; the **North Ribblesdale Cycling Club** had been set up in 1884 and met at the Naked Man. **Settle Cycling Club** was established in 1890 and met at the Commercial Temperance Hotel. One of the groups was photographed in the gardens of Ashfield displaying a

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### NORTH RIBBLESDALE CYCLING CLUB.

ESTABLISHED 1884.  
 President—C. A. L. Swale, Esq.  
 Captain—C. Rawsthorne. Sub-Captain—A. E. Inman.  
 Hon. Sec.—C. Rawsthorne. Hon. Treas.—Geo. Whiteley,  
 6, Craven Cottages, Settle. Duke Street, Settle.  
 Committee—Messrs. M. Miller, J. Mitchell, W. Moorby, R. Parker,  
 J. Walthery, and J. Wrathall.  
 Buglers—Jas. Simpson and R. Brennand.  
 Head Quarters—NAKED MAN HOTEL, SETTLE.

### SETTLE CYCLING CLUB.

Established 1890.  
 President—Rev. R. C. Garnett, M.A.  
 Vice-Presidents—J. L. Brayshaw, Esq., J. A. Farrer, Esq., J.P.,  
 H. B. Shepherd, Esq., and Major Stackhouse.  
 Captain—Vacant. Sub-Captain—Mr. H. Roberts.  
 Treasurer—Mr. W. C. Hardacre. Secretary—Mr. C. Brown.  
 Committee—Messrs. J. Jackman, jun., R. Bulcock, and Joseph Handby.  
 Headquarters—Commercial Temperance Hotel, Settle.

wide variety of machines [ph5]. Robert didn't belong to either!

Robert also dealt in motor-cycles and was a tinkerer, advertising several times for 'an expert mechanic to undertake to make a speciality recently invented' [3] and may well have worked with



### SITUATION.

**WANTED, an expert mechanic to undertake to make a speciality recently invented. For full particulars apply Robert Haygarth, Chapel st., Settle, Yorkshire. 2/74a**

'Electric Billy' Slinger. He ventured into wireless radios and advertised his business as 'the best house in the district for Talking Machines and Records'[LSA]. Robert

acquired an additional shop on Duke Street in a shop now run by Peter Allen, running the business with his sons, R Haygarth and Sons. The business remained in the family for decades.

Alice died in 1932, aged 69 and Robert in 1936, aged 72. They are buried together in

**The best House in the district for Talking Machines and Records.**

Old E72 with their infant daughter Alice. The stone also commemorates the lives of their children Agnes Mary, James and Ethel (Dickinson). The kerbstones appear to have been added later.

**Remembered with love. Alice Haygarth 1863-1932. Robert Haygarth 1864-1936. Also James Haygarth and Ethel Dickinson son and daughter of the above.**

**Kerbstones: Robert Haygarth died Dec 1st 1936, aged 72 years. Also Alice his wife died June 3rd 1932 aged 69 years. Also James their son died Jan 1959 aged 64 years. Also Agnes Mary and Alice died in infancy.**



Robert and Alice's children? The family were all talented and musical and most stayed in Settle to brighten the community for the rest of their lives. Of the two surviving daughters, eldest **Annie Haygarth** [ph5] was taught by the church organist, **John Goddard Barker** and obtaining the Diploma of Associate of the Victoria College of Music aged 22. She used this qualification to teach piano and organ. One of her

6. Miss Annie Haygarth, of Settle (pupil of Mr. J. Goddard Barker) obtained the Diploma of Associate of the Victoria College of Music, London, at an examination in Pianoforte Playing held at Blackburn.

pupils was **Margaret Green**, daughter of **Charles Green**. Annie had also served an apprenticeship in dressmaking with **Susan Green**, Charles' sister [A]. In 1915 she married **Walter Yates** who was the headmaster of a boys' school in Shipley.



Annie [back row, left] and sister **Ethel Elizabeth** [back row, right] made up a one-off ladies' cricket team in



## Settle Graveyard Project

1907 [ph5], to play against the men's shopkeepers team. They were captained by **Mary Jane Bulcock**, holding the bat.

Ethel Elizabeth was a regular star in performances by the Settle Amateur Operatic Society (SAOS) [ph5]. When she was 56, Ethel Elizabeth married **Charles William Todd Dickinson**, a Settle grocer and the youngest child of **John Dickinson** and his second wife, **Ann Todd**.

Robert and Alice's sons performed regularly in the orchestra of the SAOS. **James (Jimmy) Haygarth** [right, ph7] and **Matthew Thompson Haygarth** continued the business on Duke Street and Goldielands as cycle and motor mechanics, complete with petrol pumps with swing arms outside the store. They sold motor bikes, bicycles and wireless sets and offered their services as qualified electricians. They stored some wares above one of the shops, now Peggy's hairdresser, on Station Road, previously used by the **Horner family**. They also ran a taxi service and one of their most prestigious fares must have been transporting the crew and cast for the film *'Another Man's Poison'* filmed at Ashfield in 1950. Betty Davis was the star!

**Matthew Thompson Haygarth** served as a mechanic for both the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force during the war. Whilst playing the violin in the orchestra for a production of the SAOS Matthew caught the eye of **Annice Sidwells**, an extremely talented contralto singer who became one of Settle's most celebrated women. Annice had been trained in elocution and singing by **Miss Mary Benson** at Craven Terrace, once a week for four years and, as a result, became a star of the SOAS often performing alongside tenor **Jack Brassington**, a tenor. She performed on the wireless for the BBC in its earliest days, from 1926, made numerous '78' records and so became a national star. Annice and her sister Rosa were known to be invited up to Malham Tarn Hall by Walter Morrison, MP and coachman **Robert Battersby** rowed them around the Tarn. They were also invited to Walter Morrison's London residence at 77 Cromwell Road to attend cookery exhibitions. Annice was scouted and encouraged to train in London, but Matthew Haygarth went to visit her, wearing his trilby hat, and proposed to her in Poet's Corner in Westminster Abbey — what a romantic. They bought a ring on Bond Street. They both returned to Settle and married in 1928 and brother **Clifford Haygarth** was the best man [ph4].

Annice's parents had come to Settle from Staffordshire so that her father, **William Sidwells** could work as a railway



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signalman. In later life William took over the bakery business from **William Duxbury** on Cheapside, now occupied by Age UK. Annice had been apprenticed to the Duxbury's when she left school at 14, earning 1 shilling and sixpence! Annice's parents were buried in the graveyard in an unmarked grave, **New LX7**. In 1952 Matthew felt ill whilst performing in the orchestra for a production of *Pirates of Penzance* and went home without telling Annice who was on stage. He was dead by the time Annice got home after the show. After Matthew died Annice retired to Silverdale. Annice had a yellow mini that she called Buttercup after a character in *HMS Pinafore*, the first production she ever saw in Settle in 1914. She often drove Buttercup back to Settle to see family and old friends. Annice lived to the age of 99 but was brought back to Settle for burial with Matthew in **New E15**.

***In loving memory of Matthew Thompson Haygarth born 1900 died 1952 and Annice his wife born 1902 died 2001***

Matthew and Annie's daughter Sylvia was a talented artist and poet. Annice's brother **John William Sidwells** was another regular star of the SAOS [ph 5,6]. He continued running the shop in Cheapside and is buried in **New H40** with his wife **Gladys Ashworth**.

***In Loving Memory of John William Sidwells. Died Sept. 13th 1958 aged 63 years. Also Gladys wife of the above Died October 11th 1968 aged 74 years.***



Matthew and Annice had two daughters. In 1953 daughter Eileen married **David Couse Holmes**, the son of an insurance agent from Hull. David's father was called **Fred Holmes**. At the age of 63, Annice married David's father, Fred Holmes and they had 14 years together before Fred died.



Robert and Alice's third son, **Richard Moore Haygarth**, was managed to make a career out of performing, teaching music and tuning pianos and had '*successfully taught over 400 pupils to play the piano*'. He often moved house in Settle but many people remember his classes at Sansbury Place, next to Overdale, on Duke Street. In 1949 he spent £1900 purchasing 2 Parks View in Upper Settle from **Nellie Haining**. Richard was well respected. He performed regularly with renowned singers from all over the country, usually raising money for various charities. He was the organist at Bolton Abbey, called upon to play at weddings and funerals of the gentry and the famous. He was also the organist at St Margaret's church in Bentham, a member of the Royal Marines Band and even a cinema organist at a Scottish naval base. In 1934 he married **Dorothy Green**, the daughter of **Charles Green**, mentioned above.

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Dorothy died in 1941, aged just 37 and is buried in the unmarked *New IX22*. Three years later Richard married **Annie Lawton** from Queensbury who was his second cousin, the granddaughter of Matthew Haygarth, the policeman. Youngest brother Clifford was the best man again. The organist was the son of the conductor of the famous Black Dyke Brass Band. They had a honeymoon in Scarborough. Richard died in 1982, aged 78 and Annie died in 1992, aged 85.



Robert and Alice's youngest son **Clifford** became a decorator and media sign painter with his shop in a building on Duke Street next to the current Post Office nearly opposite the end of Station Road. Clifford was 'accomplished cello player and popular member of the *Settle Orchestra*' and, as such had inherited **Dr Charles William Buck's** cello, perhaps because sister Ethel was good friends with Monica Buck, Dr Buck's daughter. 'On a cold wet or snowy night, up would trundle this clapped-out decorator's van at the steps of Settle High School. Clifford would get out, slowly and unhurriedly, his comforting pipe always in his mouth. He threw open the back doors of his van and seemingly dragged out from under a pile of dust marked sheets, buckets, brushes, a pair of ladders and dried up cans of paint, his elegant looking cello. There was no case of course.' [B]

Clifford married his childhood sweetheart **Ellen Lindsay (Linny) Roberts**, the daughter of **John William Roberts** who worked for the *Hargers*. Elsie's mother was the granddaughter of **Thomas Love** and **Matilda Woodcraft**. Elsie was the Brown Owl of Langcliffe Brownies and a hockey player. At their wedding Brownies and hockey players formed a guard of honour with an archway of hockey sticks! Clifford and Elsie lived at 14 Halsteads Cottages and had two sheepdogs, Shep and Glen [ph4]. According to Charles Green [A], Clifford always liked his pets and, as a child, had two birds, called Priscilla and Pauline. Clifford and Linny named their house Cliffgarth! They were buried in the New graveyard K56.



**Remembered with love, a treasured husband and father, Clifford Haygarth, 'cellist, died 17th November 1975, aged 66 years. Also a dear wife and mother, Ellen Lindsay Haygarth, died 20th April in 1982, aged 71 years, sweethearts from childhood**

As we know the sons were all musically talented. In this photo [ph5] of the performance of *The Gondoliers* by the SAOS in 1949, on the front row Clifford played Buck's cello to the right of **Herbert Grisedale** on the double bass. Matthew is with the violin to the left of Mrs Fuddy and Jimmy is with his violin two to her right.



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*This account has been compiled by Sarah Lister 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.*

*The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project and can be found on [dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle](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'.*

*Newspaper cuttings with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 — Westmorland Gazette, 2 — Leeds Times, 3 — Cycling, 4 — Lancaster Guardian*

*LSA - Lambert's Settle Almanac, A — the diaries of Charles Green with the kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust, B — Mr Elgar and Dr Buck, a musical friendship by WR Mitchell*

*ph1 — credited to family descendants via Ancestry.co.uk, username Wallg1957, ph3 — credited to [sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk](http://sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk), ph4 — credited to the Back in Settle facebook site, posted by descendant Jaqueline Haygarth ph5 — kindly provided by John Reid, ph6 — credited to the Back in Settle facebook site, posted by Tina Courtney, ph7 — credited to the Back in Settle facebook site, posted by descendant Graeme Lawson, ph9 — credited to Wikipedia*

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