

The Bradleys

Lawrence Bradley, a huckster (street seller) of Langcliffe and his first wife **Mary Isherwood** had five daughters and one son. Lawrence, known as 'Tal', was quite a character, organising the Langcliffe Green Fair. As well as trading livestock there were sports '*such as quoits, skittles, spell and knur, some very exciting encounters being witnessed*' [CH]. Knur and Spell is sometimes known as 'Poor Man's Golf', originating on the Yorkshire Moors. Lawrence charged people to play the games and did a roaring trade selling '*fruit, nuts, pop and 'swaggering Dick' the latter being a popular confection largely made of brown sugar and treacle, the adhesiveness of which between the teeth was observably painful.*' Lovely!

Langcliffe Fairs.
It is not generally known that Langcliffe Green was at one time used as a fair ground. Pens of sheep were often to be seen and on a fair day these were supplemented by a gathering together of a few cattle and horses. Sometimes there was the additional spectacle of a stag being broken in. Sports, too, were carried on such as quoits, skittles, spell and knur, some very exciting encounters being witnessed, often ending in pitched battles.

Lawrence Bradley, more familiarly known as "Tal," was in the main the organiser of these competitions, since he it was who supplied the wherewithal to play at the games, charging so much per hour. He, too, was further alive to his pocket interests, for he did a roaring trade amongst the assembled crowds of men, women and children by the sale of fruit, nuts, pop and "swaggering Dick," the latter being a popular confection largely made of brown sugar and treacle, the adhesiveness of which between the teeth was observedly painful.

Lawrence and Mary's only son was **James Bradley** who started working as a railway labourer but then, when he married **Hannah Ayrton** in May 1873, became a greengrocer. Hannah was one of 12 children of **Thomas** and **Jane Ayrton** who were also grocers on Kirkgate. James and Hannah lived in Procter's Row and had five children. James died in the workhouse infirmary in 1899 when he was 50 and Hannah stayed in the same house until her death 20 years later. They were buried in *Old E25* with their spinster daughter Alice Bradley whose name didn't make the gravestone when she died in 1949, aged 59.



In Loving Memory of James Bradley died Jan'y 18th 1899 aged 50 years. Also of Hannah wife of the above died July 8th 1919 aged 73 years. At Rest, Old E25

The remaining children had mixed fortunes. James and Hannah's eldest son, **Thomas Bradley**, married **Rachel Annie Quinney** who had come to the area with her sister **Martha Quinney** from Warwickshire to work in service at Giggleswick school. Thomas worked as a monumental mason for **John Hardy** and they lived in 8 Mains View, running alongside the railway, with their three daughters, **Dorothy**,



Florrie and **Ada** who remained spinsters. Dorothy [ph1] was a schoolmistress and, in 1947, became the headmistress of the infants' school in Upper Settle, taking over from **Miss Laycock**. Dorothy was known to be very strict and didn't hold back from using the cane! Thomas and Rachel's daughters **Ada** and **Florence Mabel Bradley** both worked at the mill. Florrie regularly performed with the Settle Amateur Operatic Society [ph2].



On 28 January 1960 at 1.45am, during a blizzard and deep snow, there was a fatal rail accident on the embankment just outside their house when the express passenger train from Glasgow to London collided with a goods train. Five passengers died and nine were injured in

TRAINS COLLIDE NEAR JAN. 29TH SETTLE 1960 Five dead and nine injured in Craven's worst rail crash

Five people lost their lives and nine were injured early yesterday (Thursday) when an express passenger train travelling from Glasgow St. Enoch to London St. Pancras was in collision with an express goods train travelling from Hunslet (Leeds) to Carlisle. The collision occurred about ½ mile north of Settle Station, and it is believed that the engine of the goods train became derailed and collided with several of the coaches of the passenger train, travelling in the opposite direction. Severe damage was caused to the coaches of the passenger train, but it was not derailed.

GOODS GUARD.

The guard of the goods train, Mr. Frederick George Atkinson, Moor View Road, Skipton, described the collision to a Craven Herald and Pioneer reporter. "It threw me about like a shuttlecock," he said. "I was just going for my snack when the train hit us. It was just like a bomb going off."

Four spinster sisters, who live in Mains View, Settle—a row of terrace houses running alongside the railway embankment—earned the praise of over 100 passengers, police, firemen and ambulance men for their efforts to provide hot drinks during blizzard conditions.

"HISSING STEAM"

For four hours they made tea for a constant procession of people whom they invited into their home, evidence of which could be seen by snow-sodden carpets.

Miss Florence Bradley said that she heard a "terrible hissing of steam," and called to her sister. Her sister said that she heard brakes being applied.

The two sisters then went to the window and saw that a crash had occurred on the embankment.

Three doctors then arrived, said Miss Florence. They were two brothers, Dr. David and Dr. Tony Hyslop, and Dr. O'Connor, all of whom are local practitioners.

"We immediately went down and put kettles on," said Miss Florence.

'Craven's worst rail crash.' [ph3] 61 people survived and escaped injury. 'It was just like a bomb going off'.

Leonard Wilson, the chief of Settle's ambulance service and driver of the Settle ambulance, a Rolls Royce, led the response by 11 ambulance crews. Our spinster sisters 'earned the praise of over 100 passengers, police, firemen and ambulance men for their efforts to provide hot drinks during blizzard conditions. For four hours they made tea for a constant procession of people whom they invited into their home, evidence of which could be seen by the snow-sodden carpets'... As soon as the sisters heard 'the terrible hissing of steam... we immediately went down and put kettles on, said Miss Florence.' Settle's doctors **David** and **Anthony Hyslop** and Dr Connor attended to the casualties. It appeared that the piston rod on the express train had broken and swung across the other line causing the goods train to derail.

Thomas, Rachel Annie and Ada are buried together in **New K17**. The stone remembers Florrie but she was not buried in the graveyard, possibly cremated. Dorothy died in 1999, aged 94 and is buried in the newest section of the graveyard,

In loving memory of Thomas Bradley who died Dec 3rd 1934, aged 56, 'In Gods Keeping'. Also Rachel Annie, his beloved wife, who died May 11th 1957, aged 83 years. Ada Bradley, their daughter who died Feb 2nd 1958, aged 52 years. Florence Mabel Bradley who died Oct 1st 1974, aged 67 years.



James and Hannah's eldest daughter, **Mary Jane Bradley**, married **William Donoghue** from Carlisle, a mechanic and mason working for the Midland Railway, and they had six children. Mary Jane had a photo taken of the eldest two sons, **Jim** and **Tom Donoghue** [ph1]. They also adopted an infant, **Margaret Jackson**, born in Kendal. Unfortunately, sometime after youngest daughter **Dorothy Donoghue** was born (and died) in 1923, William 'absconded from the district', going to stay with his aunt in Carlisle, leaving his wife with no means of support to bring up the children. He had been out of work for two years. William was sentenced to a month in gaol. Records for him stop after that and Mary Jane and the children remained near some of her siblings on Procter's Row. Mary Jane was buried with her son William Donoghue in **Old A25**. The grave has an open book memorial stone and is just behind the grave of her grandparents, Thomas and Jane Ayrton.

LABOURER SENTENCED.

Later in the day a special court was held, Colonel J. Birkbeck presiding, with Mr. J. Harger.

At this court William Donoghue, general labourer, of 12, Procter's Row, Settle, was charged with absconding from the district on 11 November last, and leaving his wife and two children chargeable to the Poor-law authorities. Defendant pleaded "Not guilty."



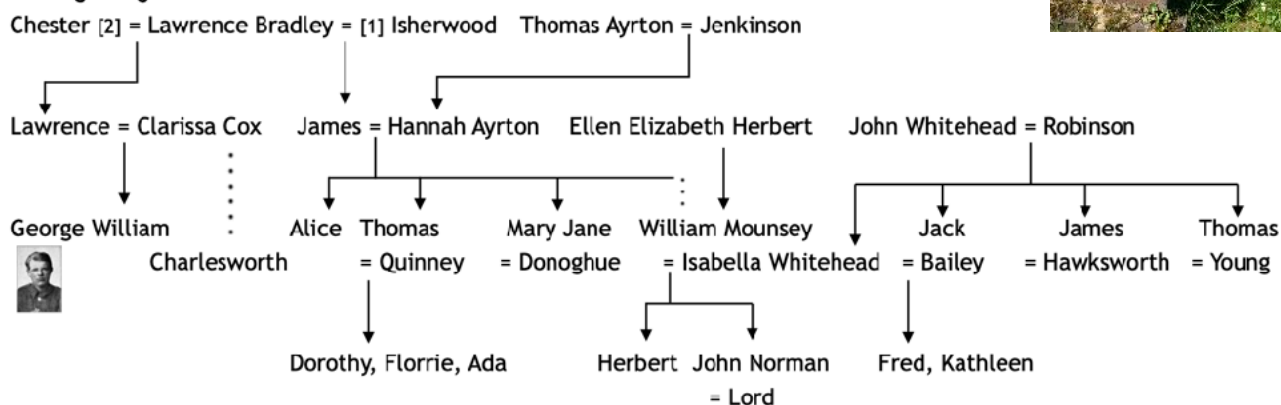
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Affectionate remembrance of a dear mother Mary Jane Donoghue who departed this life 5th April 1958 aged 77 years. William Donoghue 1920 – 1967. Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end, OldA25



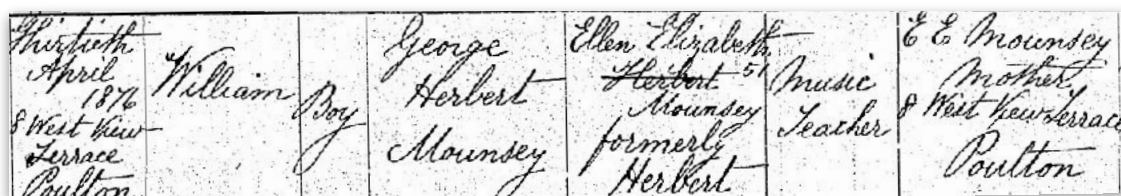
In affectionate memory of Thomas Ayrton of Settle, who died June 26th 1881 aged 73 years. Also of Jane, wife of the above who died April 21st 1886 aged 74 years, AncB17

Bradley family

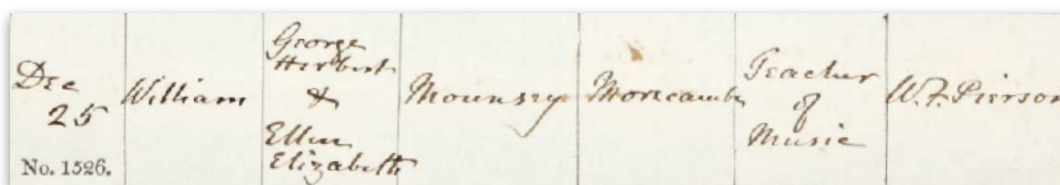


At the time of the 1891 census James and Hannah Bradley had an adopted son living with them, a couple of years older than their eldest son, Thomas. He was **William Mounsey** from Morecambe. At the time of the 1881 census William was living with Hannah's parents described as a 'boarder'. William was still with James and Hannah at the time of the 1901 census, working as a joiner.

So, who was William Mounsey? William's birth certificate says that he was born on 30 April 1876 in West View Terrace in Morecambe. His father is named as **George Herbert Mounsey**, a music teacher, and his mother was **Ellen Elizabeth Mounsey**, nee Herbert, although there was an error writing the certificate and there were excess Herberts.



Eight months later, on Christmas Day 1876 William was baptised at Settle church with the same parental information and address in Morecambe. So, why was he baptised in Settle? William's



parents had distinctive, unusual names. The trouble is, there is no marriage documentation for George Herbert Mounsey and Ellen Elizabeth Herbert. In fact, despite extensive research there don't appear to be any records for them. It would appear that William was the illegitimate son of **Ellen Elizabeth Herbert**, herself a teacher of music, who came from Burton Leonard between Ripon and Harrogate. In the following censuses she was found teaching music in Burton-upon-Trent and in Leeds. William's father was possibly called George Mounsey. It's quite possible that

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Ellen Elizabeth gave birth to William, nursed him and then came to Settle, arranging for him to be baptised before handing him over to the Ayrtons to look after him while she worked. It would have been incredibly difficult for a single woman to work with an infant and so it's not too far of a stretch to imagine that she would have paid some friendly people to look after him, and this became a full-time arrangement. Such was the stigma of illegitimacy that Ellen Elizabeth, along with many others, went to the extent of fabricating details for the birth certificate and baptism. As it transpired, William's eldest son was named **Herbert Mounsey**.

So, what happened to William? Soon after the 1901 census William married **Isabella Whitehead**, the eldest daughter of 11 children of **John Whitehead** and his wife **Susannah Robinson** from the Kendal area [ph3]. John had worked as an overlooker (foreman) in a mill, but the family arrived in Settle in 1890 and John became a carter at the Coop. They retired back to Rochdale, Lancashire by 1911.



Several of the children, including Isabella, stayed in Settle and had families of their own. As well as working in the mill Isabella was a nurse, helping with house visits and probably the nursing division of St John's Ambulance in Settle. William and Isabella had two sons, **Herbert Mounsey** and **John Norman Mounsey** and lived just a couple of doors down from adoptive brother Thomas Bradley. Herbert became a relief railway signalman, based in Hellifield with his wife, **Hilda Dennis**. William died in 1924, aged just 48. Son **John Norman Mounsey** stayed in Settle with his mum in Mains View and worked as a furnishing shop salesman, for the **Harger Furnishers** on Station Road. Isabella died in 1945, aged 68 and was buried with William in the unmarked plot Old JX26.

In 1942, before Isabella died, son John Norman Mounsey, aged 35, married **Mary Lord**, the youngest of four daughters of **Charles Lord** by his second wife **Mary Ann Lord** (Charles' second cousin) who lived at Greenhead in Upper Settle. Mary was a very bright young woman, being top of her class at Settle High school for several years with 100% attendance and no lates! Mary also

SETTLE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.					
Term ending <u>April 4th 1928</u>					
Name <u>Mary Lord</u>	Age <u>16-1</u>	Average Age of Form <u>14-11.</u>			
Form <u>VIIA</u>	Percentage of Marks <u>71.4</u>	Place in Form <u>1.</u>	No. of Girls in Form <u>18</u>		
No. of times Absent <u>1</u>	A.M. <u>1</u>	No. of times Late <u>1</u>	A.M. <u>1</u>	P.M. <u>1</u>	

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worked in the office for the Hargers so this was probably a workplace romance! She performed for the Settle Amateur Operatic Society [ph2, left] with **Mary (Simpson) Fairhurst**. They had three sons, one of whom currently trades from the same building as the Harger retail shop.



Several of Isabella's siblings stayed in the area. Isabella's brother **John (Jack) Whitehead** joined the police force when he was 22 and served at Normanton and then Brighouse. 'He distinguished himself by his plucky tackling and arrest of a thief who had brutally attacked a clerk to rob him of a considerable sum' [CH] after which he was promoted

to the rank of Sergeant and transferred to Tadcaster and Earby. Then he was promoted to become an Inspector at Heckmondwike. After 27 years' service he retired to Horton-in-Ribblesdale and then Settle. Retirement provided the time to take up more sports, especially bowls, golf,

cricket, football and angling. He was an active member of the Rotary Club and a member of Giggleswick Church Choir, with a fine baritone voice. During WW2 he was an instructor (in first aid and safety) and storekeeper for the Ewecross ARP. In 1907 John married **Ivy Marian Bailey** of Grantham who had come to Settle to work in domestic service and they had a son **Frederick Whitehead** and a daughter **Kathleen Whitehead**, living on the Ingfield estate. Kathleen married

During that time he distinguished himself by his plucky tackling and arrest of a thief who had brutally attacked a clerk to rob him of a considerable sum, which was recovered. A well-merited promotion came when he was transferred to Tadcaster with the rank of Sergeant, and in 1923, two-and-a-half years later, he was appointed to Earby.



MR. J. WHITEHEAD

Harold Lambert of the successful Settle printing family. Frederick was a successful mechanic and motor engineer and ran his successful business on Goldielands [LSA], later bought out by the **Ellis** family. Frederick married **Peggy Alderson** whose step father was **Billy Hastings**, the wine and spirit merchant shop near the Post Office. Jack and Ivy Marian are buried in the New graveyard 126, close to brother Thomas



shop near the Post Office. Jack and Ivy Marian are buried in the New graveyard 126, close to brother



In loving memory of John Whitehead born Oct 6th 1882 Died Aug 23rd 1941. Marian Whitehead born Nov 25th 1882 died Sept 16th 1973

In 1896 Isabella's seven year old brother, **James Whitehead**, also won an award for 100% attendance at the primary school. He became a

Prizes for never missing an absence during the school year.
Fred Griswold, Lizzie Robinson
Minton Frankland, Amy Frankland
Fred Glove, Jas Whitehead, and
Tom L. Frankland.

hairdresser and worked for **James Hunt** at the Town Hall [ph5]. He



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married **Eileen Hawksworth** of Hellifield and they had at least five children. Unfortunately, James died when he was just 46 and was buried with his sister Isabella Mounsey in the unmarked *Old JX26*. James' wife and children went their separate ways after that.

John and Susannah's eldest son **Thomas Whitehead** became a carter working for **James Young**, a 'farming and carting contractor.' At the age of 18 Thomas signed up for part time military service and, in 1908, signed up full time with the 6th battalion of the Duke of Wellington's regiment and remained with them until 1913. In 1899 he had married **Jane Young**, the daughter of his employer and they had six children although little **James** and **Lena** died as infants and are buried in the unmarked *Old DX43*. After the war Thomas worked as a groundsman and they lived on Victoria Street. Thomas and Jane are buried together in *New I29*.



Treasured memories of our dearly loved parents, Jane Whitehead 1879 - 1947, Thomas whitehead 1873 - 1963

Three of their daughters are buried together in *New F60* and their son **John Richard Whitehead**, a dairy farmer at Lodge Farm was buried with his wife **Maggie Ann Taylor** in *New F38*

Treasured memories of dearly loved sister Agnes May Whitehead, (Cissie) 1901-1986, also Ann Agnes Whitehead 1915-2004, Marjorie Whitehead 1911-2004



In loving memory of John Richard Whitehead who died January 10th 1958 aged 57 years. Also Maggie Annie wife of the above who died February 5th 1982 aged 80 years. Worthy of remembrance.

Going back to the original Lawrence Bradley, he had a further two sons with his second wife, **Alice Chester**. The younger of these, another **Lawrence Bradley**, a quarryman, married **Clarissa Cox** and had five children, living in Lower Croft cottages. Clarissa was the daughter of **Joshua Marsden Cox** [ph6] who came to Settle from Derbyshire to work as an overlooker at the mill. Lawrence was only 38 when he died in 1906 and his youngest daughter was six.



All three of Lawrence and Clarissa's sons served in the war. Second son, **George William Bradley** [ph7] was with the Duke of Wellington's regiment when he died of blood poisoning arising from wounds received in action. His left arm had been broken when he attempted to rescue a wounded officer. He had been a Drum-Major of the Settle Cadets. When she heard the news of his injuries mum Clarissa went over to Boulogne and stayed with him until he was buried. He died in the No 13 Stationary Hospital at Boulogne on 9 September 1915. He was 21 and is remembered on Settle's war memorial.



Soon after this Clarissa adopted **Wilfred Reginald Charlesworth**, born in 1912, the illegitimate infant son of a barmaid, **Myra Charlesworth**, who had come to work in Settle from Staffordshire. Wilfred was fathered by **Robert William Bell** [ph7, below] who appears to have enjoyed his last few days in Settle before heading off to fight. Robert knew about Wilfred, naming both Myra as his mother and Clarissa Bradley as his adopted mother

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in his war documentation. Robert William Bell, a joiner, also died during the war. He joined 'Tunstill's Men' in September 1914 and never had any leave before he was killed in action on the Western Front on 5 October 1916 aged 30.



Myra had another illegitimate son, **Malcolm Ball Charlesworth**, born in 1915, fathered by **James Henry Ball**, a married man who ran the lodging house in Upper Settle with his wife and family. After Malcolm's birth Myra moved to Barnsley leaving Wilfred to be adopted by Clarissa Bradley and Malcolm to be looked after by James Henry Ball and his wife. There may have been some interesting discussions in that house! Wilfred became a farm bailiff at Hornby Castle. Clarissa died in 1933, aged 69 and was buried with Lawrence in the unmarked grave *Old EX50*. Adopted children in Settle have much to be thankful for in this family!

The original Lawrence Bradley had an older brother William, known as Bill. Records tell us he was 'a relic of the Peninsular War, a pensioner who was made armourer when the Volunteer Corps was formed by Col. Morrison, and he lived in Tems Street' with his family and a lodger. Apparently, Bill's lodger thought it would be hilarious to bring a blind horse called Bracken, which belonged to an old huckster, into Bill's kitchen. Nancy, Bill's daughter or mother, was roused by the curious pattering of Bracken's feet on the flagged floor below. She heard the door open, followed by an awful yell and a fall as the terrified lodger walked in and dropped to the floor in fright! [ph8]

A relic of the Peninsular War was Bill Bradley, a pensioner who was made armourer when the Volunteer Corps was formed by Col. Morrison, and he lived in Tems Street. An old huckster in the village, by name Edmondson, kept a blind horse called "Bracken," who was generally turned out on Mill Hill to fend for itself.

Now old Bill had a lodger who generally spent his evenings at the Settle pubs until wiring out time; so some of the village wags who knew his habits conceived the plan of leading Bracken down to old Bill's chateau and, as the door was left unlocked, putting the horse into the kitchen.

As the couple had sought slumber in the room above, Nancy was roused by the curious pattering of Bracken's feet on the flagged floor below, and roused Bill who only told her to go to sleep. Very shortly she heard the door open, followed by an awful yell and a fall as the terrified lodger walked in to poor old Bracken's side and dropped on to the floor in his fright. Old Bill by this time had got the candle lit and descended the stairs with martial valour to find the horse and lodger as guests of his establishment.

As the latter had looked on the wine when it was red, some time elapsed before he could get on to his feet and face his hairy adversary, and by this Nancy had come on the scene to assist her helpmate in unravelling the mystery, and Bill in his "cutty sark" had to lead Bracken out before they could persuade the lodger that it was not a visit from the infernal regions, and one can easily imagine that to walk into a hairy monster in the dark kitchen would be a thrilling experience to most people.



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 graveyard project](http://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'.

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CH - with the kind permission of the Craven Herald and Pioneer

ph1 – credited to family descendants via Ancestry.co.uk, username Teresa Donoghue, ph2 – with kind permission go the Settle Amateur Operatic Society, via John Reid, ph3 – kindly provided by John Reid, ph4 – credited to family descendants via Ancestry.co.uk, username Michael Halley, ph5 – photo credited

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to the Back in Settle Facebook site, posted Mick Harrison, ph6 – with thanks to Paul Cochrane, ph7 – credited to Craven's Part in the Great War, ph8 – with thanks to the Giggleswick Church archives.

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