

## Mr Herd

This glorious photo from the Horner Collection at The Museum of North Craven Life shows a well-dressed gentleman with a fine beard and curly hair, probably in his late twenties or early thirties. This was not a working-class man! The background is blurred and doesn't seem to have any relevance to the photo.

The Horner records tell us that this is Mr Herd of Settle and the photo was taken in 1868. Mr Herd was tricky to identify. Most men in the area with the surname Herd (or Hird), of about the right age were farm or railway labourers and were unlikely to be presented as well as this gentleman. In fact, the most likely candidate was never in Settle at the time of any census returns! Several members of this family had a severe case of wanderlust and so were found all over the world.

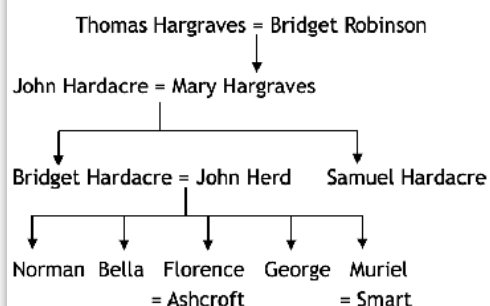


Mr Herd, 1868, photograph by the Horner Studio. Horner Collection©NCBPT (CC-BY 4.0)

**Bridget Hardacre** was the eldest daughter of **John Hardacre** of Long Preston and his wife **Mary Hargraves** of Settle. Mary's parents, **Thomas Hargraves** and **Bridget Robinson** and Bridget's brother, **William Hargraves** made a living as watchmakers and the quality of their memorial stones suggests they did well. Bridget's brother, **James Hargraves**, made his way to India where he died, aged 46.

John and Mary Hardacre made a living as Ale and Porter merchants, based at Settle's town hall. (In later years **Storer Clement Peberdy** and **William Clark** ran the Ale and Porter business at the Town Hall.) In January 1852, John and Mary looked after John's father, **Samuel Moore Hardacre**, during his final days. Samuel was a Baptist Minister and tailor in Long Preston 'where he had been for many years and was justly designated the Father of the Cause. He was a man of eminent piety, an affectionate Pastor and a faithful Minister. . . His end was at peace'[1]. This probably explains why John and Mary named their only son **Samuel Hardacre** and why they chose to be buried in the Zion Chapel burial ground. 32 year old son Samuel was buried

### The Hardacre and Herd families



On Saturday last, at the residence of his son, Mr John Hardacre, Settle, after 2 days' illness, the Rev. Samuel Moore Hardacre, of Long Preston, Baptist Minister, aged 79 years. Deceased was the Minister of the Baptist Chapel at Long Preston, where he had been many years, and was justly designated the Father of the Cause. He was a man of eminent piety, an affectionate Pastor, and a faithful Minister, and has left three sons and an extensive circle of friends to bemoan his loss. His end was peace.

Settle Graveyard Project

with them after his death in Japan. John and Mary's business generated enough to pay for eight years of education for Samuel at Giggleswick School and then he worked as a bank clerk — perhaps this work took him to Japan. At the time of his death, in 1871, Japanese officials were conducting diplomatic voyages to the West after a long period of global isolation, initiated by the new Emperor Meiji.



***In Affectionate Remembrance of Mary, wife of John Hardacre, Town Hall, Settle who died January 3rd 1866, aged 63 years. Also of Samuel, only son of the above who died near Yohokana, Japan, January 3rd 1871, aged 32 years. Also of the above John Hardacre who died April 24th, 1884, aged 73 years.***

Bridget, the elder of two daughters, born in 1843 and named after her maternal grandmother, also had a good education at Swan Hill Court school in Shrewsbury as one of 14 young ladies who 'enjoy the advantages of Education combined with the comforts of home'. This boarding school was under the leadership of **Miss Lydia Strutt** [2].

Other adverts tell us Bridget would have studied 'an extended English routine, the Latin, Italian and French languages, music and singing, drawing in pencil and colours etc. Miss Strutt has great pleasure assuring parents that the most scrupulous regard is paid in her establishment to the moral and religious instruction, the deportment, health and domestic comfort of the pupils committed in her care.' The school shut in 1864, after Bridget had left, and Lydia Strutt, aged 44, sold her possessions. The advert for the Grand Sale gives us a taste of Bridget's luxurious surroundings. She sold 'costly modern furniture in walnut, mahogany and rosewood, recherché (rare, exotic) vases, oil paintings by the first masters, English and Foreign birds in glass cases . . . 13 prime feather beds . . . Brussels carpets, Broadwood piano and other valuable effects'[3]. By the time of the next census Lydia Strutt worked as a lady housekeeper for a wealthy widowed landowner in Shrewsbury.

**SWAN HILL COURT, SHREWSBURY.**  
**MISS STRUTT** continues to receive a limited number of Young Ladies, who enjoy the advantages of Education combined with the comforts of a home. The Duties of her Establishment will RE-COMMENCE on Wednesday, the 29th of July.

**MR. THOMAS EDWARDS**  
**H**AS the pleasure to announce that he has received the commands of Miss Strutt, of Swan Hill Court, who is removing from town, to **SELL BY AUCTION**, the whole of the above effects, in the Music Hall, Shrewsbury, on Friday, February 5th, 1864.

**Grand SALE of costly modern Household FURNITURE** (in walnut, mahogany, and rosewood), *recherché* Vases and Ornaments, **OIL PAINTINGS** by the first masters, English and Foreign **BIRDS** (in glass cases), and other effects, comprising 13 prime feather beds, 12 sets of iron bedsteads, 6 pairs of linen and cotton sheets, 24

Meanwhile, Bridget Hardacre had left the school and, in 1866 when she was 23, Bridget married **John Herd** in Giggleswick Church. John described his occupation as a 'Sea Captain, Liverpool'. He was born on the Island of Tiree, just west of the Isle of Mull, but was brought up at Peterhead, Aberdeenshire after his dad married his second wife when John was just four.

1866. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Giggleswick in the County of York.								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
118	August 22 <sup>d</sup>	John Herd and Bridget Hardacre	full age	Bachelor	Sea Captain	Liverpool	William Herd Merchant	Merchant
			full age	Spinster		Settle	John Hardacre	Wine Merchant

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by James by me.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, John Herd in the Presence of us, Edward Hardacre Martha Anne Herd

## Settle Graveyard Project

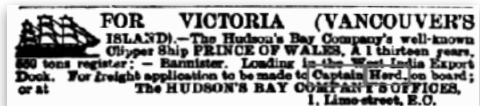
John was awarded a certificate of competency as a second mate in 1860 and, from there, became a ship's Captain in his own right. His photo was taken in 1868. At the time of the 1871 census John and Bridget were found in a house in Halifax, Nova Scotia on the east coast of Canada with their eldest two children, who were born back in Liverpool. John was the Captain of the RMS (Royal Mail Ship) *City of Halifax*, built in 1869 [ph2]. John and Bridget were not found together in subsequent census returns and were missing altogether from some, presumably at sea somewhere, but must have seen each other as they had another three children, all born in Liverpool. All members of the family found themselves in Settle/Giggleswick at some stage of their lives.

So, what did John get up to? Records are scarce and research suggests there may have been more than one Captain John Herd but we get a flavour of life on the seas. Newspaper articles indicate that Captain John Herd was a well respected mariner trusted with several responsibilities. In line with the 1871 census return, during the 1870s Capt. John Herd was working for the Hudson Bay Company in charge of a merchant Clipper Ship *Prince of Wales*, heading for Victoria, Vancouver Island[4]. Clippers were fast sailing vessels designed for speed with a long, narrow hull, a sharp bow, and a large sail area on three masts.

In 1878 Capt. John Herd was the man behind a 'Remarkable Salvage Feat' when a fine new steamer ship 'Munroe' 'got ashore on the rocks near Oporto on the river Douro in Portugal. 'It was considered by many that there was not the slightest chance of saving the vessel' but Captain Herd succeeded. 'There is little doubt that had it not been for the courage and resolution shown by Capt Herd, backed up by the salvage crew, the steamer would have been a wreck.' As a result of this the authorities placed buoys right up the Douro [5].

In 1879 Capt. John Herd was selected to be on the Board of Inquiry to investigate the causes of the stranding of the barque *Scottish Bard*. There were five sittings taking witness statements from members of the crew. They concluded that Captain Lamb was guilty of imprudence and want of common judgements and his Master's certificate was suspended for six months. The Chief Officer was also suspended for three months [6].

Captain Herd was still working as a 'master mariner' at the time of the 1911 census, even at the age of 72 and lived to the ripe old age of 94!



hours longer. The steamer is a new one, having been built at Sunderland last year, and there is little doubt that had it not been for the courage and resolution shown by Capt. Herd, backed up by the salvage crew, the steamer would have been a wreck. At the time of the disaster there was not a single buoy in the river to mark the dangerous places, but the indignation amongst the shippers has been so great that the authorities have now placed buoys right up the Douro.

**OFFICIAL REPORT.**  
**STRANDING OF THE SCOTTISH BARD.**  
Marine Board Office, Brisbane, Feb. 28, 1879.  
Report of the Board of Inquiry appointed by the Marine Board in Brisbane to investigate and report upon the causes which led to the stranding of the barque *Scottish Bard* (1,816 tons register), of Ayr (N.B.), and commanded by George Stevens Lamb, as Master, on Swain Reef, on the 19th January last.  
The Board consisted of four members—viz. Captain R. M. Hunter, of Rockhampton, Merchant, and Captain John Herd, of the barque *Chilli*, as Assessors, and Captain M. S. Rundle, Harbour Master, and Theo. P. Pugh, Police Magistrate, acting as Justices of the Peace. The Board have held five sittings

## Settle Graveyard Project

What about John and Bridget's children? John and Bridget were generous in naming their children! Several of them were brought up outside the family. Eldest **William Norman Francis Herd**, known as Norman, died of congestion of the brain, an early description of a stroke, aged just five, in Nova Scotia. Eldest daughter, **Bridget Edith Mary Isabella Herd**, known as Bella, remained a spinster. There are no records for her early years, but she worked as a housekeeper in Southport when she was 32 and, at the time of the 1911 census lived with her mum, Bridget in Duke Street, near the current Post Office in Settle. Meanwhile John was in Kent with one of their sons. Bridget died in 1916, aged 73. At the time of the 1921 census, Bella was found with her father and a niece, **Margaret Ashcroft**, living at Pendle View in Giggleswick.

Margaret was the daughter of **Jessie Lilian Florence Herd**, known as Florence, John and Bridget's second daughter. Florence was 26 when she married **Henry Ashcroft** and they lived in London. Henry worked as a bookkeeper, cashier and secretary for a shipping company. They had four children before Henry died, aged just 41. Florence brought her two sons to live in Cragfield, near Whelpstone Grove in Settle so that they could be day pupils at Giggleswick School. Unfortunately, their son **Peter Ashcroft** died in 1926, aged just 19. Florence spent her last days in Birkenhead.

John and Bridget's only surviving son, **John George Manners McKaig Herd**, known simply as George spent his early years with his younger sister **Margaret Muriel de Militants Herd**, known as Muriel, at the house of a solicitor in Liverpool. George was educated in Middlesex and then at Cambridge University. He became a music master in Somerset and then as a schoolmaster (of music), organist and choirmaster in Mortlake. In 1911 George *'the popular organist at Mortlake*

*Parish Church, will be leaving Mortlake to take up an appointment as director of music at Glenalmond, a fine public school in Scotland.'* [7]. John remained single and was living at Pendle View in Giggleswick when he died, aged 50. Meanwhile, at the time of the 1901 census on 31 March, Muriel lived with her mother in Duke Street. They had a visitor living with them called **Edward Howard Smart**, a maths lecturer from Portsmouth. In August 1902 Muriel and Edward married and lived in Orpington, Kent. By the time of the 1921 census Edward was the Head of Maths at Birkbeck College. Edward and Muriel didn't have children but, over the years, had servants and visitors including Muriel's dad, John Herd and a niece, **Bridget Ashcroft**. Edward died in 1945 but in 1951 *'the substance of his lectures to advanced students in the University of London'* were published [8].

Readers will regret to learn that Mr. [George] Manners Herd, the popular organist at Mortlake Parish Church, will be leaving Mortlake shortly to take up an appointment as director of music at Glenalmond, a fine public school in Scotland. Mr. Herd came to Mortlake in May, 1906, and during his stay has made many friends whom he will be sorry to leave behind. He, however, hopes to come occasionally "to the old place and to see the dear old church that he has grown so fond of."

April will see the publication of *Interpretation of X-ray Diffraction Photographs* (42s.), an authoritative textbook for students and research workers in crystallography, by N. F. M. Henry, Ph.D., H. Lipson, D.Sc., and W. A. Wooster, Sc.D. *Advanced Dynamics*, in two volumes (36s. each), embodying the substance of the lectures given by the late Edward Howard Smart to advanced students in the University of London, will appear in May.

Several members of the family were buried in Giggleswick churchyard with huge, high quality memorial stones of identical style in front of the church. They are positioned close to each other and next to the stone for Bridget Hardacre's grandparents.

Back row:

***In loving memory of Bridget wife of Captain Herd who died October 3rd 1916 aged 73. Also of Henry Ashcroft son-in-law of the above who died at Muswell Hill October 2nd 1913 aged 41. Also of Peter, dearly loved son of Florence and the above Henry Ashcroft, who died February 1st 1926 aged 19. Also of Captain John Herd, dearly loved husband of the above Bridget Herd died at Birkenhead July 1933. They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed but abideth forever.***

## Settle Graveyard Project

**Sacred to the memory of Thomas Hargraves who died 12th Nov'r 1835 aged 61 years. Also Bridget Hargraves his wife who died in Liverpool 25th May 1845 aged 69 years. Also of James Hargraves who died at Akyab Aracan\* February 17th 1852 aged 46 years. Also of William eldest son of the above Thomas and Bridget Hargraves who died at Settle February 10th 1861 aged 53 years. Also Elizabeth\*\* widow of the above William Hargraves who died at Bolton March 12th 1872 aged 64 years. A1c/9**



\*Akyab Aracan is in India, James died when India was ruled by the British East India Company \*\* maiden name Elizabeth Hayhurst  
Front Row:

***In loving memory of George Manners Herd, M.A. (Cantab) dearly loved son of Captain and the late Mrs Herd of Giggleswick born April 24th 1877 died Sep. 8th 1927. "The Lord is my shepherd: He leadeth me" Also Bella Herd, their dearly loved eldest daughter died May 8th 1928 aged 58 years. A1c/13***

***In loving memory of Muriel very dearly loved wife of Edward Howard Smart and the youngest daughter of Captain and Mrs Herd born Jan. 2nd 1880 died Oct. 8th 1944. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God". Also Edward Howard Smart M.A. Cantab. dearly loved husband of the above, born July 9th 1875 died Dec. 18th 1945. "The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God" A1c/14***



*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'. 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 – Kendal Mercury, 2 – Shrewsbury Chronicle, 3 – Eddowes's Shrewsbury Journal, 4, 6 – Shipping and Mercantile Gazette, 5 – Sunderland Daily Echo, 7 – Richmond Herald, 8 – Bookseller*

*ph1 – Image 2022.1.68.114 from the Horner Photographic Studio Collection provided courtesy of the Museum of North Craven Life, ph2 – North Cumberland Historical and Genealogy Society Facebook post*



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*Marriage documentation via [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk), courtesy of The National Archives.*

*Giggleswick memorial stone inscriptions credited to Nigel Mussett's 'An Illustrated Directory of Memorials and Inscriptions'*