

Jeremiah Gomersall and family

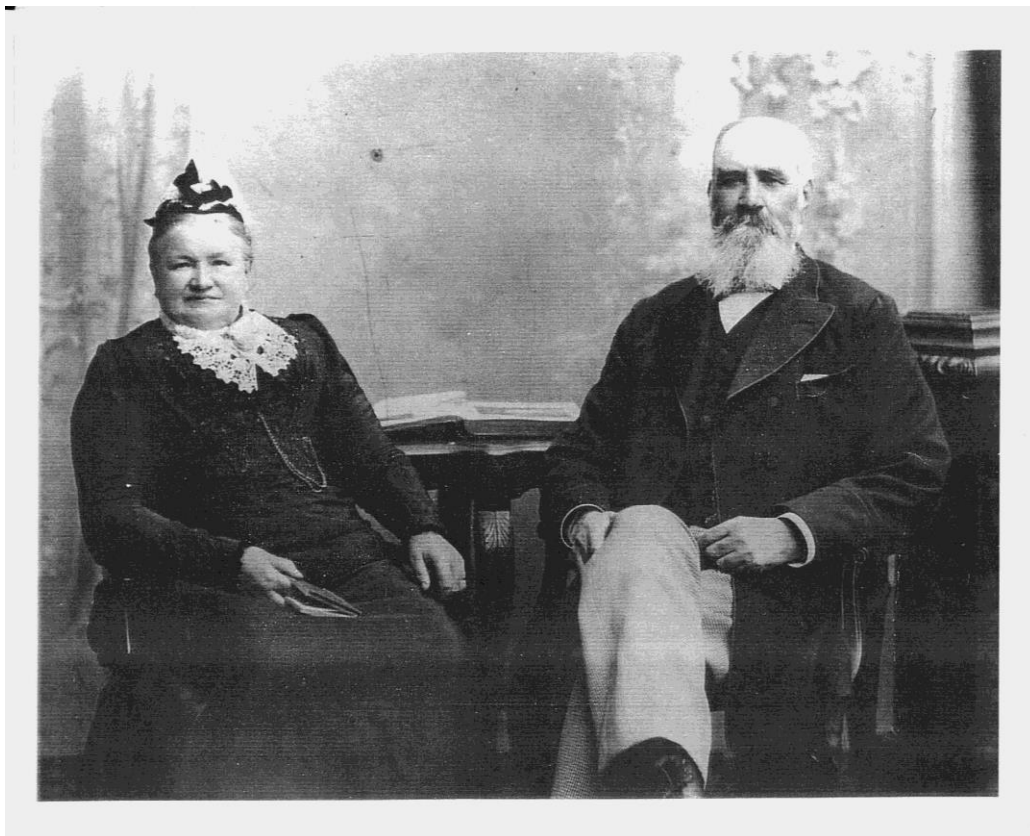
As noted in the article about

John Lister Hipperholme Postmaster

his eldest daughter Elizabeth Lister, born 8th December 1837, married Jeremiah Gomersall on New Year's Day 1855.

1855. Marriage solemnized at		in the Parish of <i>St. Peter</i> in the County of <i>York</i>						
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.
64	Jan ^y 1	Jeremiah Gomersall Elizabeth Lister	20	Bach ^r	Delov ^r	Hipperholme	William Gomersall John Lister	Delov ^r Carron
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after <i>banes</i> by us,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Jeremiah Gomersall & his Mark</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>John Lykes John Thomas</i>		

Fifty years later when they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary it was reported in various newspapers. This image from an Ancestry public family tree may well have been taken about this time.



6 January 1905

Hipperholme Golden Wedding

MR. AND MRS. J. GOMERSALL

On Sunday, the golden wedding was celebrated at Lightcliffe of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Gomersall, who were married on January 1st 1855, at Halifax Parish Church. Mr. Gomersall is in his 70th year, whilst Mrs. Gomersall is in her 68th year. Mr. Gomersall was born at Hove Edge, in January 1835, and has resided in the district practically the whole of his lifetime. He was engaged for any years in the stone industry. When the new railway line between Halifax and Bradford was commissioned in 1840, he was employed on the work, and was principally engaged in the excavation as necessary for the Hipperholme tunnel. About the year 1860 he was appointed to Messrs Shepherd and Bentley, a local stone firm, but he had previously worked for the same firm at Pearson Brow in 1853. He stayed with the firm about four years. In 1873 Mr. Gomersall bought a plot of ground in Lightcliffe, which he used for quarrying purposes and in 1876 he went to Hill Top as a partner in the firm Gomersall, Bentley and Butterfield. Two years later – in October 1878 – Mr. Gomersall agreed to pay the other two partners out, but in December of the same year he sold the ground back again to his former partners and came out of business himself. From that time on he has taken no further part in business matters.

Naturally Mr. Gomersall has many recollections of former days. He has cause, for instance, to remember the Plug Riots of 1842 which were organised as a protest against the introduction of machinery. One day, during the period of Mr. Gomersall's engagement at Hollow Quarry, Shelf, which was worked by the late Mr. Samuel Freeman, of Southowram, the rioters appeared on the scene and drove the

workmen out. Mr. Gomersall's father, along with others, followed the mob to Halifax, where the soldiers sent to quell disturbances were encountered and a man named Jonathan Booth was shot in the subsequent melee which occurred in the neighbourhood of Haley Hill.

The result of the potato blight of 1842-3 stamped themselves on Mr. Gomersall's memory, and in conversation with a 'News' representative he told of one potato field in the Hipperholme district which looked beautifully fresh and green in the afternoon but at dusk a sort of mist settled down on the crop and the following morning the tender plants were all black and worthless. Mr. Gomersall is not enamoured of the "good old days" and is of the opinion that conditions now are understandably better than they were sixty years ago when the average wage for "top men" at the quarries was 3s 6d a day and flour was 5s a stone.

For nineteen years Mr. Gomersall was sub postmaster at Hipperholme. With respect to his work in a public capacity, Mr. Gomersall was a member of the old Local Board, one which he served for three years. When the Local Board was dissolved, and its place taken by the Urban District Council, Mr. Gomersall was a candidate for Council honours, and it is a remarkable coincidence that three of the candidates received exactly the same number of votes, viz., Mr. Gomersall, Mr. Manson and Mr. King. In the end the two former withdrew, leaving Mr. King in possession of the seat.

Mr. Gomersall owns considerable property in the neighbourhood of Ripley-street, Lightcliffe (which he built) and also at Skegness. Mr. and Mrs. Gomersall have two daughters living, (having buried two sons in their infancy) and there are nine grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, the two latter, by the way, being christened at Bramley Land Congregational Church, on Sunday last.

There are some interesting snippets of information in the above report.

William Gomersall senior, Jeremiah's great grandfather, was probably this William Gomersall who died in 1843 as the *Bradford Observer* for the 4th May 1843 explained.

SUDDEN DEATH – On Thursday last, Mr. William Gomersall, aged 95, of Hipperholme, whilst sitting in his chair, suddenly expired, He was never known to have a day's sickness during the whole of his long life.

William Gomersall senior had a son Jonas and then a grandson William. This write up will follow the grandson William and his family. Other members of Jonas Gomersall's family with Lightcliffe connections can be caught up with in

Jonas Gomersall and family

The grandson of William Gomersall senior and younger son of Jonas Gomersall, another William, was Jeremiah Gomersall's father. Delver William Gomersall married Maria Hemingway on 13th June 1831 in Halifax. They were both from Hipperholme. Maria may have been baptised at Lightcliffe on 3rd May 1810 the youngest child of Jonas Hemingway. William and Maria Gomersall had three children baptised at St. Matthew's: Frank on 30th October 1831, Esther on 26th May 1833 and Jeremiah on 1st March 1835. Martha Ann Gomersall was born on 4th March 1838 but no baptism record has been found. The little girl did not live long. Four-year-old Martha Ann Gomersall was buried in an unknown Lightcliffe plot on 29th January 1843. William and Maria Gomersall then had three more children: Mary born Q2 1842, Thomas born Q1 1846, and Sarah Ann born Q3 1849 but no baptism records have been found for them.

1841 census

William Gomersall	30	Stone delver
Maria Gomersall	30	
Frank Gomersall	9	
Esther Gomersall	8	
Jeremiah Gomersall	6	
Martha Gomersall	3	
Address Common Woodheads, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse		

1851 census

William Gomersall	Head	40	Stone Delver
Maria Gomersall	Wife	40	
Frank Gomersall	Son	19	ditto
Jeremiah Gomersall	Son	16	ditto
Mary Gomersall	Dau	9	Scholar
Thomas Gomersall	Son	5	ditto
Sarah Gomersall	Dau	1	
Address Hipperholme cum Brighthouse			

One of the four family weddings in the decade before the 1861 census was that of Jeremiah Gomersall and Elizabeth Lister on New Year's Day 1855 as the parish record at the top of this article shows. Elizabeth Lister already had a daughter Mary Hannah Lister who had been baptised at Halifax on 4th June 1854. Then she and Jeremiah had a son John William Gomersall who had a private Lightcliffe baptism on 30th September 1855 before he died in his infancy. Another daughter Martha Ann Gomersall was baptised at St. John's Church, Coley on 21st September 1856. Jeremiah and Elizabeth also had another son Sam who died in his infancy.

On 7th April 1861 Jeremiah, Elizabeth and family were recorded as being at Hipperholme Post Office, but a separate census entry has Elizabeth's parents, John and Sarah Lister, also at the Post Office, Hipperholme. Perhaps there was more than one flat above the Hipperholme Post Office although the census entries are not next to one another. The golden wedding article does suggest that Jeremiah Gomersall was the sub postmaster for nineteen years, perhaps with his mother-in-law as the postmaster. By 1871 Sarah Lister was a widow and a 'Rural Messenger'. She was still running the Hipperholme Post Office whilst living with her daughter and son-in-law in Towngate. It would be another five years before Sarah Lister retired. When she did, at Christmas 1876, she was presented with 'a purse containing 50 sovereigns' by the vicar of Coley, Rev. W. H. Waun, as a token of the respect that the community felt for her after thirty-six years as their post mistress

1861 census

Jeremiah Gomersall Head 26
 Stone cutter employing 2 men + boy
 Elizabeth Gomersall Wife 23 Silk peeler
 Mary Hannah Gomersall Dau 7 Scholar
 Martha Ann Gomersall Dau 4 ditto
 Address Post Office, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

1871 census

Jeremiah Gomersall Head 36 Stone Mason
 Elizabeth Gomersall Wife 34
 Mary H Gomersall Dau 17
 Martha A Gomersall Dau 14 Pupil Teacher
 Sarah Lister Mother (in law) 63 Rural Messenger
 George Lister Boarder 25 Farm Labourer
 Annie Brook Visitor 3
 Address Towngate, Hipperholme

Mary Hannah Lister Gomersall married a Hipperholme butcher, Henry Mitchell, on 2nd November 1874 in Halifax. Jane Hudson Mitchell, born 26th October 1875, was baptised at St. John's Church, Coley on 12th December 1875. William Gomersall Mitchell and Lucy Lister Mitchell, born 15th September 1878, were baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe on 5th August 1877 and 3rd November 1878 respectively. No baptism records have been found for John Edward Mitchell, born 1880, or Sarah Maria Mitchell born later, on 17th April 1882.

Sister Martha Ann Gomersall then married William Holgate, a stone mason, Q3 1879. Their son Frank Holgate was born on 10th February 1880 in Lightcliffe.

1881 census

Jeremiah Gomersall Head 46 Stone Merchant
 Elizabeth Gomersall Wife 46
 Address Lightcliffe - with the Holgates next door

1881 census

Henry Mitchell Head 29 Butcher
 Mary H. Mitchell Wife 27
 Jane H. Mitchell Dau 5
 William G. Mitchell Son 3
 Lucy L. Mitchell Dau 2
 John E. Mitchell Son 10m
 Address Lightcliffe

1881 census

William Holgate Head 28 Stone Mason
 Martha A. Holgate Wife 24
 Frank Holgate Son 1
 Address Lightcliffe – next door to in laws

The butcher Henry Mitchell, the son-in law-of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Gomersall, died on 10th January 1887. He was buried in plot M53 in St. Matthew's churchyard on 13th January 1887. The thirty-five-year-old was the first occupant of that plot owned by his wife.

Martha Ann and William Holgate had four more children: Mary Elizabeth on 7th July 1884, Gerald in Q4 1885, Alice Marian in 1887 and Harry on 21st October 1888. Eighteen-week-old Gerald Holgate died on 31st January 1886. He was buried in an unknown Lightcliffe plot on 2nd February 1886.

It was in the 1880s that the children's maternal grandfather Jeremiah Gomersall built Ripley Street with some houses, probably those at the Wakefield Road end, being known as Gomersall Buildings. This was possibly the house behind the tree on the left in the image.



Jeremiah Gomersall also seems to have built some houses in Skegness, Lincolnshire. His wife was staying in a lodging house there in Gomersall Terrace on 5th April 1891.

1891 census

Jeremiah Gomersal	Head	56	
			Retired Stone Merchant
Mary Hannah Mitchell	Dau	37	Widow
			Setter at Carpet Works
Jane Mitchell	Grnddau	15	Carpet weaver
John Edward Mitchell	Grndson	10	Scholar
Maria Mitchell	Grnddau	9	Scholar
Address Gomersall Buildings, Halifax & Wakefield Rd, Lightcliffe			

1891 census

Anne Fletcher	Head	60	Lodging House Keeper
Elizabeth Gomersall	Visitor	54	Visitor
Minnie Shepherd	Servant	20	Servant Domestic
Address Gomersall Terrace, Skegness, LIN			

1891 census

William Holgate	Head	38	Mason
Martha Anne Holgate	Wife	34	
Mary Elizabeth Holgate	Dau	6	Scholar
Alice Marion Holgate	Dau	4	Scholar
Harry Holgate	Son	2	
Address Gomersall Buildings, Halifax & Wakefield Rd, Lightcliffe			

1891 census

Christopher Holgate	Head	64	Farmer
Marian Holgate	Wife	59	
Alice Holgate	Dau	29	
Miriam Holgate	Dau	20	
Frank Holgate	Grndson	11	
Address Hoyle House, Lightcliffe			

Not much had changed before the 1901 census. By then addresses were recorded not as Gomersall Buildings but simply as Ripley Street. It was named after the Ripley family of nearby Holme House. Sir Henry William Ripley was created a baronet in 1880.

1901 census

Jeremiah Gomersall	Head	66	
			Living on own Means
Elizabeth Gomersall	Wife	63	
Mary H Mitchell	Dau	47	Widow
Jane Mitchell	Grnddau	25	Carpet Setter
William Mitchell	Grndson	23	Silk Finisher
Lucy Mitchell	Grnddau	22	Dressmaker
John Mitchell	Grnd son	20	Carpet weaver
Sarah M Mitchell	Grnddau	18	Carpet setter
Address Ripley St., Lightcliffe			

1901 census

William Holgate	Head	48	Mason
Martha A Holgate	Wife	44	
Frank Holgate	Son	21	
			Mechanic Motor Car Maker
Mary E Holgate	Dau	16	Carpet Setter
Alice M Holgate	Dau	14	Carpet Minder
Harry Holgate	Son	12	
Address Ripley St., Lightcliffe			

In the next decade there was one Holgate wedding and five Mitchell weddings, many of which were reported in local newspapers – notice the similar wording.

No newspaper report has been found for when Jane Hudson Mitchell married Percy Fielding Q2 1903. Their daughter Marian Elizabeth Fielding was born Q4 1904.

Brighouse News 31 July 1903

LOCAL WEDDING. – On Wednesday morning the marriage was solemnized, at the Lightcliffe Congregational Church, of Mr. Frank Holgate of Lightcliffe, and Miss Florence Woodhouse, also of Lightcliffe. The bride was given away by her uncle (Councillor) Joseph Knowles. Luncheon was afterwards served at Holme Cottage. Later in the day the bride and bridegroom left for Southport, where the honeymoon is being spent.

Brighouse News 13 October 1905

INTERESTING WEDDING – A wedding of considerable local interest took place yesterday at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe. The contracting parties were Mr. William Gomersall Mitchell, eldest son of the late Mr. Henry Mitchell and Mrs Mitchell, South View House, Lightcliffe, and Miss Mary Hannah Waddington, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs, F. H. Waddington, North Edge-terrace, Hipperholme. The Officiating minister was the Rev. C. Coore, King Cross, Halifax. The bride, who was given away by her father, Mr Harry

Waddington, was dressed in pale blue voile with yoke of guipure lace, draped with white chiffon and lace, and wore a white cloth hat with sable fur and white feather. The bridesmaids were Miss Maria Mitchell (sister of the bride), Miss Hannah Sugden, Miss Elsie Lee (niece of the bride) and Miss Florence Hoare. The two former wore dresses of resida green voile with frills of lace and drapings of pale pink laffeta chiffon, with ribbon velvet to match and picture hats of black trimmed white crepe de chine and plumes: whilst the two younger bridesmaids wore white silk dresses with liberty hats. The bride and bridesmaids carried handsome bouquets of choice mixed flower, gifts of the bridegroom. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. J. E. Mitchell (brother) as best man, and Mr. Fearnley Hoyle was present in the capacity of groomsman. As the bridal party enter the church, suitable wedding music was performed on the organ by Mr. W. H. Robertshaw. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Liberal Club by Mr. and Mrs. Waddington (bride's parents). Later in the day the newly married couple left for Bishop Auckland, where they will take up their

residence. There was a large array of beautiful and costly presents. Both parties are well-known in the district. For five years Mr. Mitchell was secretary of Lightcliffe Liberal Club, and took a great interest in all matters relating to the cause of Liberalism. He was formerly on the staff of this journal, leaving some twelve months ago to take up a responsible position on the staff of the "Northern Echo" at Bishop Auckland.

Brighouse News 4 January 1907

AN INTERESTING WEDDING – A pretty wedding in which considerable local interest was taken, took place at Lightcliffe Congregational Church on New Year's Day. The contracting parties were Mr. George Percy Bunce, younger son of Coun. J. Bunce, Sunny Vale Gardens, Hipperholme, and Miss Sarah Maria Mitchell, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Mitchell, South View House, Lightcliffe, and granddaughter of Mr. J. Gomersall. There were a large number of people present in the church to witness the ceremony. Mr. F. Mallinson presided at the organ and played appropriate selections, and prior to the ceremony which was conducted by the Rev. Mark Pearson (Congregational) of Northowram, the hymn "Come, Holy Spirit," was sung. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. J. E. Mitchell, wore a charming dress of white embroidery and picture hat, trimmed with ostrich feathers, Miss Lucy Mitchell, sister of the bride, and Miss M. A. Farnell, cousin of the bridegroom, were bridesmaid, and wore heliotrope and white voile, with hats to match. Miss Amy Bunce and Miss Marion Fielding, who were attired in dresses of white embroidered silk, trimmed with insertion, and who wore hats to match, acted as attendants and added charm to the ceremony. The bride and bridesmaids carried exquisite shower bouquets, and the children had baskets of white and heliotrope

flowers, all being the gifts of the bridegroom. Mr. Fearnley Hoyle, of Lightcliffe, officiated in the capacity of best man, and Mr. J. F. Bunce, brother of the bridegroom, was the groomsmen. After the ceremony about 80 quests were received by Mrs. Mitchell (mother of the bride) at Sunny Vale Gardens, where tea was served, and the rest of the evening was spent in a social manner. Amongst those who contributed towards the evening's enjoyment were Miss Collins (Bailiffe Bridge), Mrs. Silverside (Wakefield) Mrs. Whiteley (Halifax), Messrs. L. Brook (Brighouse), and R. Farnell (Todmorden), and other quests. The room had been gaily decorated, and everything passed off in a pleasant manner. The newly married couple, who have been the recipients of numerous and costly presents, will take up their residence at Lake Lea, Hipperholme.

Halifax Daily Guardian 21 August 1909

LIGHTCLIFFE WEDDING

CEREMONY TODAY

An interesting wedding took place at the Lightcliffe Congregational Church this morning, the contracting parties being Mr. John Edward Mitchell, of Lightcliffe the youngest son of the late Mr. Henry Mitchell, and Miss Lucy Whiteley, of Hipperholme, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Whiteley.

The bride was attended by Miss Alice Holgate, cousin of the bridegroom, and Miss Katie Lambert, a friend of the bride; while Mr. W. G. Mitchell of Bishop Auckland, brother of the bridegroom, officiated as best man.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. D. French, and a reception was afterwards held at the home of the bride's parents. Later in the day the bride and bridegroom left for Morecambe where the honeymoon is being spent.

No newspaper article has been found for the wedding of Lucy Lister Mitchell and Fearnley Hoyle in October 1907. Fearnley Hoyle, the son of Charles Henry Hoyle and his wife Mary Ann née Fearnley, was born on 5th October 1878 and baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe on 1st June 1879. On the 1901 census he was a carpet weaver living with his parents in Ripley Street.

Percy and Jane Hudson Fielding lost their two-year-old daughter Marian Elizabeth on 16th January 1907 just a few days after she had been a 'charming attendant' at her aunt Sarah Maria Mitchell's wedding. She was buried in plot M54 owned by her father Percy in Lightcliffe churchyard on 18th January 1907. This was next to the plot M53 where her paternal grandfather Henry Mitchell was buried. A son, Jack Gomersall Fielding, was born Q3 1908.

Brighouse News 14 June 1907

ILLNESS OF MR. WM. HOLGATE – We are sorry to learn of the serious illness of Mr. Wm. Holgate, mason, of Ripley-street, Lightcliffe, a gentleman very well-known in the district and highly respected, Mr. Holgate has taken a deep interest in the Lightcliffe P.S.A. Society ever since that society's formation, and has rendered valuable assistance as a member of the present committee and as a past registration secretary. We understand that Mr. Holgate who is at present in the Bradford Infirmary, went under an operation yesterday.

Brighouse News 21 June 1907

FUNERAL OF MR. W. HOLGATE –The esteem in which the late Mr. William Holgate of Ripley-street, Lightcliffe, who died yesterday week in the Bradford Royal Infirmary, aged 54 years, was shown on Saturday last, when the interment took place at Brighouse cemetery. At the house a short service was conducted by the Rev. H. A. Kennedy (vicar), the Rev. J. Wilson, retired minister, of Lightcliffe, officiating at the cemetery. The funeral was largely attended, among the organisations represented being the Lightcliffe P.S.A. Society, the Lightcliffe Liberal association, Bailiffe Bridge Liberal Association, Brighouse Fanciers' Association and the Halifax Fanciers' Association. Deceased was actively connected with all these

societies. Among the gentleman present, some of whom attended as representatives of the organisations previously mentioned, were the following:-- Couns, J. Knowles, J. Crabtree, T. Holgate, and W. Bune, Messrs. T. Wressell, E. Sharp. J. Blackburn, C. D. Jagger, D. Thornton. P. Robertshaw, T. C. Dawson (Manchester) S. Pollard, G .H. Norcliffe (Galgate), W. Norcliffe, S. Stocks, E. Ellis, O. Wade, W. Wade, and others. There were a number of beautiful floral tributes, one each being sent by the following:- Wife and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gomersall and family, Frank and Florrie (son and daughter-in-law), Harry and Lizzie (brother and sister-in-law) Sisters and brothers, Messrs, S. Stocks, W. Norcliffe, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Jagger and family, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Helliwell, Miriam and Willie (sister and brother-in-law). There were also floral emblems from the Lightcliffe P.S.A. Society, Lightcliffe Liberal Club, Brighouse Fanciers' Association and Halifax Fanciers' Association. The deceased gentleman was the eldest son of the late Mr. Christopher Holgate, of Hoyle House Farm, Lightcliffe, He was actively connected with the local P.S.A. Society and the Liberal Club, and was also a vice-president of the Bailiffe Bridge Liberal Association. He was the first caretaker of the Lightcliffe Liberal Club, and was an enthusiastic worker on behalf of Liberalism in the district. He was well-known and highly respected and much sympathy is felt with this widow and family in their time of trouble.

The Pleasant Sunday Afternoon (P.S.A) movement was a non-Conformist Church national organisation whose basic aim was to win over working-class men to Nonconformist churches. The movement was started in 1875 by Mr. John Blackham, a liner draper from West Bromwich and a deacon of the Ebenezer Congregational church, Hilltop, West Bromwich.

PSA meetings were generally held on Sunday afternoons, revolved around bible study and prayers. Meetings were meant to be relatively brief (up to 45 minutes), interesting, not over-educational nor boring and friendly - the three B's - Brief, Bright and Brotherly

Frank, William Holgate's eldest son, and Florence Holgate had two daughters Rebecca Winifred and Alice Marian born on 21st July 1904 and 7th March 1907 whose births were registered in the Bradford and then Skipton districts. Aged just 29 years, Florence Holgate née Woodhouse, died on 7th April 1908 also in the Skipton district. She was brought back to Lightcliffe for burial in the Lightcliffe plot F42 at the time owned by her uncle Joseph Knowles, a wool merchant of Holme Cottage, with whom she had been living in 1901.

Parish of Hipperholme

No. of Assessment.	No. of Plot.	Christian Names and Surnames of Occupiers.	Christian Names and Surnames of Owners, with their Residences.	Description of Property— If an Inn, do. the name or sign, by which known.	No. of Flats.	Street, Place, Name, and Precise Situation of Property.	These Data			Reference to Map.	Extent as determined by Values.				Original Gross Value	Insurances for		
							Estimated Extent.	Gross Annual Value.	Ratable Value.		Acres.	R.	P.	V.		Fire	Life	Other
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
4910	1179	Chas Sellars	Jeremiah Gomersall	House	1	2 Ripley Str.	✓	4	6	23.77				90	120	164		
4911	1180	Martha Ann Holgate	Jeremiah Gomersall	1 Ripley Str.	1	3	✓	8	6	10				114	170	150		
4912	1	Jesse Rushworth	"	"	1	14	✓	8	10	7				112	140	122		
4913	2	Bercy Fielding	"	"	1	5	✓	8	10	7				100	140	122		
4914	3	Chas. Hy. Hoyle	"	"	1	6	✓	8	10	7				105	140	122		
4915	4	Allen Knight	"	"	1	7	✓	8	10	7				105	140	122		
4916	5	John Edward Mitchell	"	"	1	8	✓	8	10	7				120	140	122		
4917	6	Jas Blackburn	"	"	1	9	✓	10	8	10				114	160	135		
4918	7	Frank Marsden	"	"	1	10	✓	6	10	5				90	90	75		
4919	8	Thos Marsden	"	"	1	11	✓	8	10	7				70	120	103		
4920	9	Lease Turner	"	"	1	12	✓	8	10	7				100	120	103		
4921	1190	Henry Booth	"	"	1	13	✓	8	10	7				100	120	103		
4922	1	Lawton Whitley	"	"	1	14	✓	8	10	7				100	120	103		
4923	2	Alice Renshaw	"	"	1	15	✓	8	10	7				100	120	103		
4924	3	Leonard Lee	"	"	1	16	✓	8	10	7				108	130	103		
4925	4	Earnley Hoyle	"	"	1	17	✓	8	10	7				108	120	103		
4926	5	Ben. Hewson Hartley	"	"	1	18	✓	8	10	7				100	120	103		
4927	6	Leonard Orrell	"	"	1	19	✓	8	10	7				170	120	100		
4928	7	Geo. Howells	"	"	1	20	✓	8	10	7				250	120	100		
4929	8	John Wm Culman	"	"	1	21	✓	8	10	7				150	120	103		
Total								164	10	138	10							

The 1910 West Yorkshire Tax Valuation list above for Ripley Street, Hipperholme has Jeremiah Gomersall owning all 29 houses. He lived at No 1 which along with Nos 22 to 29 are on other pages. Notice members of his family living at Nos. 3, 5, 8 and 17 and the Hoyles at No 6.

Jeremiah Gomersall died on 28th December 1910 in the home he built in Ripley Street as the *Halifax Daily Guardian* reported on 29th December 1910.

DEATH OF MR. J. GOMERSALL

Well-known Lightcliffe Man

Long Connected with the Stone Trade

We regret to record the death of Mr. Jeremiah Gomersall, which took place at his residence, Ripley Street, Lightcliffe, on Wednesday afternoon, after a lengthy illness. The condition of the deceased gentleman, who had attained 75 years of age, reached a critical stage a week ago, and on Tuesday he became completely unconscious, death following from heart failure. He leaves a widow, two daughters, nine grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

In his early life Mr. Gomersall was closely connected with the quarrying industry and started to work in the delphs at the age of seven. In that year, known as the "Plug Plot Year", the quarrymen of the district had an unenviable time of it, the plug drawers of Halifax coming over the hills and driving them all out of the quarries. In 1853 he was engaged as a journeyman for Messrs. Bentley and Shepherd and subsequently undertook quarrying operations on his own behalf. He was the first to quarry the Hill Top district, at Lightcliffe, which is now famous for the production of Messrs. Jos. Brooke and Sons. Ltd., of the patent "Non slip" stone. His

operations extended over the whole district, which is now regarded as one of the foremost throughout Yorkshire. He was a large property owner, both at Lightcliffe and Skegness, the Lincolnshire watering hole. In his early life he was for a number of years the nominal postmaster at Hipperholme.

Mr. Gomersall always took a deep interest in local affairs and sat on the old Hipperholme Local Board from 1900 – 3. He was one of the founders of the Hipperholme and Lightcliffe Liberal Club and was connected with the Blossom of Friendship Friendly Society, officiating for a number of years as a trustee. He retired from active work about thirty years ago but was often called upon to advise about boring operations. When the Sutherland Walker Estate, which includes what is now known as the Crow Nest Estate, was put on the market he was engaged as an expert, and went down every well in the district in search of stone.

Mr. and Mrs. Gomersall celebrated their golden wedding on 1st January 1905, having been married on 1st January 1855, the day of the great storm which blew down what was then known as the Stannary Wall.

The funeral has been fixed to take place on Saturday at Lightcliffe Old Church at 3 p.m.

Jeremiah Gomersall was buried with his son in law, Henry Mitchell, in the Lightcliffe plot M53 owned by his daughter Mary Hannah Mitchell on 31st December 1910.

1911 census

Elizabeth Gomersall Head 73 Widow
Mary Hannah Mitchell Dau 57 Widow
Address
South View House, 1 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe

1911 census

John Edward Mitchell Head 30 Weaver
Lucy Mitchell Wife 29
Clifford Mitchell Son 1
Address 8 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe

1911 census

Percy Fielding Head 37 Bootmaker
Jane Hudson Fielding Wife 35
Jack Gomersall Fielding Son 2
Address 5 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe

1911 census

George P Bunce Head 30 Caterer
Sarah M Bunce Wife 28
Address Lake Lea, Sutcliffe Road, Hipperholme

1911 census

Fearnley Hoyle Head 32 Carpet Weaver
Lucy Lister Hoyle Wife 32
Address 17 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe

1911 census

Martha Ann Holgate Head 54 Widow
Mary Elizabeth Holgate Dau 26 Carpet Setter
Alice Marion Holgate Dau 24 Carpet Setter
Harry Holgate Son 22
Fitter Motor manufacturer
Alice Marion Holgate Grnddau 4
Address 3 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe

In both the 1911 and 1921 censuses William Gomersall Mitchell was a journalist living in Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham and working for a North of England newspaper, presumably *The Northern Echo* still. No further records have been found for him.

Notice that Frank Holgate's motherless daughter, Alice Marion Holgate, was living with her paternal grandmother in Ripley Street where many of her relatives resided. Frank Holgate married Mary Robinson, Q3 1908, in the Settle district. By the 31st March 1911 the family were living in Derby. He was a 'Motor Engine (tester)' for a motor car manufacturer. This was almost certainly Rolls Royce as by 1921 this was his employer for whom he was 'Motor Engineer Foreman Tester'. He would later move to Richmond Surrey where he died on 18th July 1937.

On 7th July 1912, in Halifax, Mary Elizabeth Holgate married George Jagger, son of Charles Dewick and Emma Jane Jagger. Their son Dennis Jagger was born on 2nd August 1914.

Jeremiah Gomersall's wife Elizabeth née Lister died on 4th August 1913. She was buried with her husband in plot M53 in St. Matthew's churchyard on 6th August 1913. Their other widowed daughter Martha Ann Holgate died ten days after her mother's funeral on 16th August 1913. The fifty-six-year-old was buried with her daughter-in-law, Florence née Woodhouse, in plot F42, then owned by her son Frank Holgate, on 18th August 1913.

2130	B 8	July 31 st	August 2 nd 1913	Sarah Hannah Nicholl	67 years	Mitchell Nicholl
2131	M 53	Aug: 4 th	Aug: 6 th 1913	Elizabeth Gomersall	75 years	Mary Hannah Mitchell
2132	J. 64	Aug 13 th	Aug 18 th 1913	George Peattie Avison	74 years	
2133	F 42	Aug 16 th	Aug 18 th 1913	Martha Ann Holgate	56 years	Frank Holgate

Notice also the burial of Sarah Hannah Nicholl, the mother of Isaac Holroyd Nicholl in Lightcliffe plot B8. The Nicholls were one of the Ripley Street families on the 1911 census.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF FLORENCE HOLGATE

BORN JAN.23RD 1879

DIED APRIL 7TH 1908

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

MARTHA ANN, THE BELOVED WIFE OF WILLIAM HOLGATE

AND MOTHER-IN-LAW OF THE ABOVE

DIED AUGUST 16TH 1913 AGED 56 YEARS

HOLGATE Martha Ann of 3 Ripley-street Lightcliffe Halifax widow died 15 August 1913 Administration Wakefield 18 September to Harry Holgate motor mechanic. Effects £77 7s 6d.

Motor Mechanic Harry Holgate of Hipperholme served on H.M.S. Pembroke during WW1. He has a *R.A.F. Airman's Service* record as an Air Mechanic in 1914, rising to Chief Mechanic in 1918. In 1939 he lived in Surrey and worked as a tool maker for an aircraft manufacturer.

Mary Hannah Mitchell, died on 11th February 1919. She was buried with her husband and parents in plot M53 in St. Matthew's churchyard on 15th February 1919 with the headstone featured below which now leans on its plinth.

MITCHELL Mary Hannah of 5 Ripley-street Lightcliffe Halifax widow died 11 February 1919 Probate Wakefield 28 March to William Gomersall Mitchell journalist. Effects £134 8s 10d



IN LOVING MEMORY OF JEREMIAH GOMERSALL OF LIGHTCLIFFE
WHO DIED DECEMBER 28TH 1910 AGED 75 YEARS

ALSO OF ELIZABETH WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED AUGUST 4TH 1913 AGED 75 YEARS

ALSO OF HENRY MITCHELL
WHO DIED JANUARY 20TH 1887 AGED 35 YEARS

IN THE MIDST OF LIFE WE ARE IN DEATH

ALSO OF MARY HANNAH WIDOW OF THE ABOVE HENRY MITCHELL
WHO DIED FEBRUARY 11TH 1919 IN HER 65TH YEAR.

AT REST

ALSO OF MARIAN ELIZABETH THE DAUGHTER OF PERCY AND JANE
FIELDING WHO DIED JANUARY 16TH 1907 AGED 2 YEARS

FOR OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The memorial inscription to little Marian Elizabeth Fielding, who was actually buried in plot M54, is not visible in the above images. But it is possible to see where it was inscribed on the plinth. It was obviously readable when Arthur Blackburn transcribed the inscriptions in the late 1920s/ early 1930s.



1921 census

Percy Fielding	Head	47	Boot Dealer	Own Account
Jane Hudson Fielding	Wife	45	Home Duties	-
Jack G Fielding	Son	12	-	-

Address 6, Ripley Street, Lightcliffe, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

Fearnley	Hoyle	Head	42	Carpet Weaver	T F Firth & Sons Carpet Manufacturers
Lucy Lister	Hoyle	Wife	42	Home Duties	-
Norman	Hoyle	Son	8	-	-

Address 1, Ripley Street, Lightcliffe, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

John Edward Mitchell	Head	41	Carpet Loom Turner	T F Firth & Ltd Carpet Manufacturers
Lucy Mitchell	Wife	39	-	-
Clifford Mitchell	Son	11	-	-
Harold Mitchell	Son	7	-	-
Donald M Mitchell	Son	5	-	-

Address 8, Ripley Street, Lightcliffe, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

George Jagger	Head	35	House Painter	Employer
Mary Elizabeth Jagger	Wife	36	Home Duties	-
Dennis Jagger	Son	6	-	-

Address 29, Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

George and Sarah Maria Bunce have not been found on the 1921 census but as they were still at Sunny Vale in 1939 they were presumably still resided n the area on 19th June 1921.

More information about the **SUNNY VALE PLEASURE GARDENS – ‘A POSTCARD FROM SUNNY BUNCES’** can be found in Chris Helme’s book available online at

[Chris Helme - Online Store](#)

John Edward Mitchell died on 23rd July 1936. He was buried on 27th July 1936 in Lightcliffe plot S40.

MITCHELL John Edward of 8 Ripley-street Lightcliffe near Halifax died 23 July 1936 at 22 Marlborough-road Morecambe and Heysham Lancashire Probate Wakefield 10 September to George Percy Bunce pleasure ground proprietor. Effects £950 14s 9d

This left the remaining family members at the following local addresses when the 1939 register was taken in September 1939.

1939 register

Percy Fielding	09 Mar 1874	Shoe Repairer -	Married	254	1
Jane H Fielding	26 Oct 1875	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married	254	2

Address 6 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1939 register

Fearnley Hoyle	05 Oct 1878	Carpet Weaver	Married	229	1
Lucy L Hoyle	15 Sep 1878	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married	229	2
Norman Hoyle	03 Jun 1913	Building Society Clerk	Single	229	3

Address 4 Cliffe Avenue, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1939 register

Lucy Mitchell	04 Aug 1881	Unpaid Domestic Duties-	Married	256	1
Harold Mitchell	08 Aug 1913	Corporate Accountant	Married	256	2
Donald W Mitchell	15 Jan 1916	Carpet Loom Tuner -	Single	256	3

Address 8 Ripley Street, Lightcliffe, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1939 register

Clifford Mitchell	26 Dec 1909	Butcher Slaughterman & Shop Keeper	Married	300	1
Annie Mitchell	31 Dec 1914	Postal Counter Clerk (Ten)	Married	300	2

Address 39 East Street, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1939 register

George Jagger	30 Apr 1886	Master House Painter	Married	10	1
Mary E Jagger	17 Jul 1884	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married	10	2

Closed entry

Frank Barrett	24 Jun 1930	At School	Single	10	3
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Address 23 Craig Raptor Wakefield Road, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1939 register

George P Bunce	27 Sep 1880	Refreshment Contractor & Caterer (Manager)	Married		
Sarah M Bunce	17 Apr 1882	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married		

Address "Maranol" Sunnyvale, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

The following probate records then tell you what happened to most of Jeremiah Gomersall's descendants and their other halves.

BUNCE George Percy of Maranoa 8 Cliffe-avenue Lightcliffe Halifax died 1 January 1948 at Duke of York Home Bradford Probate Wakefield 12 May to Sarah Maria Bunce widow. Effects £10391 17s 7d

FIELDING Jane Hudson of 6 Ripley-street Lightcliffe Brighouse Yorkshire (wife of Percy Fielding) died 4 February 1951 at The General Hospital Halifax Probate Wakefield 2 May to Jack Gomersall Fielding chartered electrical engineer. Effects £105 14s 5d.

The death of Jane's husband Percy Fielding was registered in the Halifax district Q4 1956. George Jagger probably died Q4 1958 in the Calder district. Fearnley Hoyle's death on 19th December 1958 was also recorded in the Calder district. He was cremated on 22nd December 1958 in West Yorkshire.

The two widowed Mitchell sisters, Lucy Lister Hoyle and Sarah Maria Bunce, then moved to Bridlington to live with Lucy's son Norman Hoyle.

HOYLE Lucy Lister of 85 Cardigan Road Bridlington Yorkshire widow died 2 March 1960 at Bampton Lane Hospital Bridlington Probate York 24 March to Norman Hoyle building society manager. Effects £2721 9s 4d

BUNCE Sarah Maria of 85 Cardigan Road Bridlington Yorkshire widow died 1 July 1964 Probate Wakefield 12 August to John Wilson retired gas engineer and Norman Hoyle building society manager. £8488

Halifax Evening Courier 18th September 1964

£8,488 WILL OF FORMER BRIGHOUSE MAYORESS

Diamond ring bequest

Mrs Sarah Maria Bunce of 85, Cardigan Road, Bridlington, a former magistrate and Mayoress of Brighouse, who died on 1 July this year, widow of George P. Bunce, Mayor of Brighouse, 1942 – 44, left £8,488 0s 0d, gross £8,400 2s 0d net (duty paid £336).

She left:

£50 and her diamond ring to “my friend” Ada Riseley, of Lane Ends Terrace, Hipperholme;

£25 each to “my friend” George Wade and “my friend” Nora Wade of Wood Lane, Hipperholme;

£25 to John Wilson, and the remainder of her property variously to her nephews and nieces and great nephews and great-nieces. Probate has been granted to her nephew, Mr. Norman Hoyle, of the same address, and Mr. John Wilson, of 38, Hustler Road, Bridlington

Sister-in-law Lucy Mitchell née Whiteley was buried with her husband John Edward Mitchell in the Lightcliffe plot S40 on 14th December 1965. As their headstone says she died on 9th December 1965 aged 84 years old.



MITCHELL Lucy of 8 Ripley Street Lightcliffe Brighouse Yorkshire died 9 December 1965 at St. Johns Hospital Halifax Probate London 31 January to Harold Mitchell master boot and shoe repairer, £18101

Their sons' deaths were recorded either in the Calder or Halifax district. Clifford Mitchell in Halifax in April 1980 and Donald W Mitchell and Harold Mitchell in the Calder district in October 1968 and June 1999. Harold Mitchell probably died on 2nd June 1999 according to a probate record.

Alison Marion Holgate the second daughter of Frank Holgate and his first wife Florence née Woodhouse became a nurse. She worked at the Royal Infirmary Halifax 1933 – 1936 where she qualified. There are many records of her travelling to Nigeria as a 'Missionary Nurse' from 1947 through the 1950s. She died in the Cleveland district in January 1979.

Her aunt Mary Elizabeth Jagger née Holgate, granddaughter of Jeremiah Gomersall died on 12th December 1973.

JAGGER Mary Elizabeth of 43 Wakefield Rd Lightcliffe Halifax died 12 December 1973
Probate Leeds 16 January [1974] £1441

Neither she nor her husband George Jagger were buried in the churchyard, but his parents were, with these almost impossible to read memorial inscriptions on the kerbstones around plot O18.



They were Charles Dewick Jagger and his wife Emma Jane Jagger née Sykes.

The following announcement and then the article tell you more.

Halifax Evening Courier
22 October 1925

JAGGER – On Oct. 21st, 1925, at her residence, Green Mount, Lightcliffe, Emma Jane, the beloved wife of Charles. D. Jagger, in her 64th year. Interment at Lightcliffe Church on Saturday, Oct 24th, at Three p.m., cortege leaving the house at 2.30. – Friends please accept this the only intimation.



They were buried in plot O18 in St. Matthew's churchyard with their names inscribed on the side kerbstones in the above image.

Halifax Evening Courier
13 Ma y 1946

MR. C. D. JAGGER

The funeral took place at Lightcliffe Church on Saturday of Mr. C. D. Jagger, painter and decorator, of Lightcliffe, who died at the home of his son, 5, Well Green-avenue, Brighouse. He was 85 years of age. The services were conducted by Canon H. L. Taylor.

The mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jagger (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. George Jagger (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. D. Jagger, Mrs. Greenwood (sister), Mr. George Greenwood (nephew) Mr. and Mrs. J. Jagger, Mrs. F. Smith, Mr. Eric Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Ashton, Mr. Fred Wilson, Mr. J. Sykes, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lister, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lister (nephews and nieces), Mr. Busfield, Mrs. Milner, Mrs. Potter, Mr. and Miss Proctor, Mr. C. Dockerey.

Mr. Harry Best, of Wakefield-road, Lightcliffe, was the undertaker.

D.M.Barker

October 2024