

## The Pohlmann family

Six Pohlmanns were buried in Lightcliffe churchyard. Two of them were first cousins, probably the great grandsons of a Daniel Johannes David Pohlmann.

According to an article in the *Halifax Daily Courier and Guardian* from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 1963 Daniel Johannes David Pohlmann was the grandson of a Johann(es) Burchard Pohlmann who made harpsichords in Germany about 1700. His son, Johann(es) Christoph David Pohlmann, first took holy orders but then followed his father's occupation. Apparently, he went to London after the Seven Years War (1756 – 1763) continuing to make harpsichords and then making pianofortes. He would appear to be the Johannes Pohlmann mentioned in the 1894 advertisement and named above the keyboard.



**JOHANNES POHLMANN, Maker of the First Pianoforte in England, 1788.**  
**STEAM MANUFACTORIES.**  
**HALIFAX**

**NINE MEDALS AWARDED AT LONDON, LEEDS & YORK.**

**SPECIAL COMMENDATION FROM JURORS**  
Non-Corrosive Silverised Wire Merchants. Patent Psalms Pianofortes.  
Manufacturers of the "Noiseless" Patent Piano Pedals.

**FOR EXCELLENCE OF TONE & WORKMANSHIP.**

**POHLMANN & SON,**  
Pianoforte, Organ, and Music Warehouse,  
**HALL STREET & PRINCESS STREET, HALIFAX.**

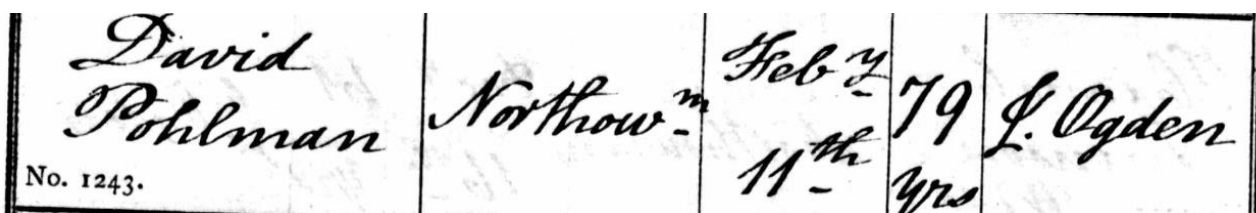
Patentees of the Iron Double Frames for the "Paragon" & "Piano d'Artiste" Upright Grands

**NINE Prize Medals Awarded at the Great Exhibitions for Excellence of Tone and Workmanship.**



However, the information above is difficult, if not, impossible to check. But a memorial inscription on ledger stone by the church wall of St. John's Church, Coley just a few miles from Halifax would appear to confirm the German ancestry of a Daniel John (Johannes) David Pohlman.

DANIEL JOHN DAVID POHLMAN  
OF NORTHWRAM  
A NATIVE OF HAMBURG IN GERMANY  
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 6<sup>TH</sup> OF FEBRUARY 1836  
IN THE 80<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF HIS AGE.  
ALSO OF MARY WIFE OF  
DAVID POHLMAN WHO  
DEPARTED THIS LIFE MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>  
1837 AGED 71 YEARS



There are then entries on the *Prerogative & Exchequer Courts Of York Probate Index, 1688-1858* and the *Index To Death Duty Registers 1796-1903* for the year 1836.

50 Pohlman David of Wall close Northowram P Halifax . . . . . £. 1500

Pohlman David Northowram York Pohlman Sheriff Halifax 1836 603

The Coley parish records also have baptism records for a son David – presumably the named executor - on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1790, daughters Susanna on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1792 and Sarah on 26 April 1795 and finally son Henry on 16<sup>th</sup> December 1798, all with father, David Pohlman, a warehouseman or labourer, of Northowram.

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> Henry son of David Pohlman Northowram

The youngest son, Henry Pohlman, married Sarah Hartley on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1820 in Halifax. He was a bookbinder and Sarah's family were booksellers. They had Maria born 1822, Henry William born 27<sup>th</sup> April 1823, Edward born 4<sup>th</sup> February 1825, Elizabeth born 1827 and Jane born 27<sup>th</sup> July 1830. Henry William, Edward and Elizabeth were 'batch' baptised on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1828 in Halifax. Jane was baptised with a Hartley cousin on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1836 by the Halifax curate William Gurney, later incumbent at Lightcliffe. Read [Reverend William Gurney updated.pdf](#)

In 1823 Henry Pohlman is credited with founding the Halifax firm Pohlmann & Pohlmann, pianoforte manufacturers. As well as selling music and musical instruments he promoted musical concerts including one in 1832 given by the Italian violinist Niccolo Paganini.

1841 census

Henry Pohlman 40 Music Seller  
 Sarah Pohlman 40  
 Henry Wm Pohlman 15  
 Maria Pohlman 15  
 Elizabeth Pohlman 13  
 Jane Pohlman 10  
 Address Green Hill, Halifax

1851 census

Henry Pohlman Head 52 Widower Music Seller  
 Maria Pohlman Dau 29  
 Edward Pohlman Son 26 Pianoforte Tuner  
 Elizabeth Pohlman Dau 23  
 Jane Pohlman Dau 20  
 Sarah Wood Servant 17 House Servant  
 Address 5 Wentworth Terrace, Halifax

On 6<sup>th</sup> June 1841, 15-year-old Edward Pohlman was lodging in Westminster as he was apprenticed to the London pianoforte manufacturer, Ralph Allison. Two Allison brothers manufactured pianos at a premises in Oxford Street from 1837.

Sarah Pohlman née Hartley died on 4<sup>th</sup> November 1850 and was buried in Lister Lane Cemetery, Halifax. Henry William Pohlman has not been found in the 1851 census. But by then he and his brother Edward may have been in partnership as pianoforte manufacturers. This partnership was dissolved in 1858. The company then traded as Pohlmann & Son. [The double 'n' at the end of the surname started to be used more frequently but not exclusively]

There were four Pohlmann marriages in the next decade. Henry William Pohlmann married Henrietta Elise Emma Glave of Hamburg, Germany on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1852 in Halifax. She was the daughter of a wine merchant. Both Henry William and his father Henry were said to be 'Music Sellers'. His sister Maria Pohlman married an 'Attorney's Clerk', Adam Crossfield Foster, on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1855 also in Halifax. By then her father Henry Pohlmann was recorded as being a 'Pianoforte Maker'. Thirty-two-year-old Edward Pohlmann married Elizabeth Ogden Garnett in Huddersfield, where his bride was from, on Christmas Eve 1857. Then finally the youngest daughter Jane Pohlman married a widower, a surgeon and general practitioner, Thomas Blakledge Garstang Q3 1860 in the Halifax district. They lived in Bolton, Lancashire.

1861 census

Henry Pohlman Head 61 Proprietor of Houses  
 Elizabeth Pohlman Dau 33  
 Mary Cheetham Servant 28 House Servant  
 Address Wentworth Terrace, Halifax

Johanne F E Glave Visitor 18  
 Visiting Sister-in-law from Hamburg  
 Mary Ann Hopkinson Servant 17 Servant  
 Address Waterhouse St. Halifax

1861 census

Henry William Pohlmann Head 36 Pianoforte  
 Maker & Music Seller 8 Men, 4 Apps & 2 Boys  
 Henriette Eliza Emma Pohlmann Wife 32  
 Henry Willm Pohlmann Son 8 Scholar  
 Arthur Philip Pohlmann Son 4  
 George Herbert Pohlmann Son 1

1861 census

Edward Pohlman Head 36 Music Dealer  
 Elizabeth A Pohlman Wife 37  
 Fred Pohlman Son 2  
 Edward Pohlman Son 6/12  
 Elizabeth A G Cawthra Servant 7 Nurse  
*[surely this should be 17 or more]*  
 Address 22 Parkinson Lane, Halifax

As you can see both Henry William Pohlmann and his brother Edward Pohlmann had sons before the census was taken. Henry William junior, born 21<sup>st</sup> February 1853, was baptised 19<sup>th</sup> April 1853, brother Francis Edward was baptised 10<sup>th</sup> July 1855, but he died Q1 1856, brother Arthur Philp was baptised 28<sup>th</sup> April 1857 and finally George Herbert was baptised 6<sup>th</sup> December 1859. Fred and Edward junior were born 29<sup>th</sup> June 1858 and 1860 but 'batch' baptised with a younger brother Albert on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1871.

It is the first cousins Arthur Philip Pohlmann and then Fred Pohlmann who along with their aunts Elizabeth Pohlmann and Jane Garstang eventually have Lightcliffe and Hipperholme connections.

1871 census

Henry Pohlman Head 71 Retired Music Seller  
Elizabeth Pohlman Dau 40 Housekeeper  
Ann Servant 16 Domestic Servant  
Address 5 Wentworth Terrace, Halifax

1871 census

Henry W Pohlman Head 47 Pianoforte maker  
Henrietta E E Pohlman Wife 42  
Henry W Pohlman Son 18 Piano forte maker  
Arthur Phillip Pohlman Son 14 Scholar  
George H Pohlman Son 11 ditto  
Address 38 Gibbet St., Halifax

1871 census

Edward Pohlman Head 46 Music Dealer  
Elizabeth Ogden Pohlman Wife 43  
Edward Pohlman Son 10 Scholar  
Albert Pohlman Son 8 Scholar  
Address Wheatley, Ovenden, Halifax

Fred Pohlman was a 12-year-old pupil boarding at Rishworth School near Halifax.

Seventy-five-year-old Henry Pohlman died on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1872. He was buried with his wife Sarah in Lister Lane Cemetery on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1872.

The Will of Henry Pohlman late of Halifax in the County of York Gentleman who died 8 August 1872 at Halifax was proved at the Principal Registry by Henry William Pohlman of Halifax Pianoforte Manufacturer the Son Thomas Blackledge Garstang of Bolton in the County of Lancaster Surgeon and Adam Crossfield Foster of Halifax Solicitor the Executors. Effects under £9,000 *Re sworn Dec 1874 under £12,000*

Two years later his eldest son Henry William Pohlmann died probably resulting in that change to the probate record.

The Will of Henry William Pohlmann late of Halifax in the County of York Pianoforte Manufacturer who died 18 June 1874 at the "Bedford" Hotel Southampton-row in the County of Middlesex was proved at the Principal Registry by Adam Crossfield Foster of Halifax Solicitor and Willam Henry Baxendale of Sowerby in the County of York Book-keeper the surviving Executors. Effects under £8,000.

Henry Wiliam Pohlmann junior married Mary Hannah Townsend on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1876 in Halifax. He was recorded as a 'Piano Forte Manufacturer. This was also the rank or profession given when his brother, Arthur Philip Pohlmann, married Hannah Maria Baines on 28<sup>th</sup> April 1880. She was the eldest of the ten children of Frederick Baines, a land steward and professional land agent, and his wife Amelia née Leigh. A younger brother was William Simpson Baines, a Hipperholme councillor who was very involved with St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe where there is a window dedicated to him. In 1871 the Baines family lived in Halifax but then moved to the house Elm Royd in Lightcliffe before the 1881 census was taken. Most of the Baines siblings did not marry 'living on own means' together at Elm Royd, Lightcliffe, even after their parents died.

1881 census

Henrietta E.E. Pohlman Head 52 Annuitant  
George H. Pohlman Son 21 Pianoforte maker  
Mary H. ??? 34 Servant  
Address 38 Gibbet St., Halifax

1881 census

Edward Pohlman Head 56  
Retired Pianoforte Maker  
Elizabeth Pohlman Wife 57  
Fred Pohlman Son 22 Pianoforte Case Maker  
Edward Pohlman Son 20 Pianoforte finisher  
Albert Pohlman Son 18 Telegraph Engineer  
Address 7 Parkinson House, Halifax

Notice all the family members working for the family firm now called Pohlmann & Son

1881 census

Henry W. Pohlman Head 28 Pianoforte  
Music Publisher 13 Men, 15 Boys, 31 Men  
Mary H. Pohlman Wife 28  
Beatrice Pohlman Dau 3  
Henry Pohlman Son 1  
Infant Pohlman Son 1w  
Jane Kidd Nurse 52 Nurse  
Hermine Bethe Aunt 48  
Elizabeth Morley Servant 18 Servant  
Address Grange, Ovenden, Halifax

Arthur Philip Pohlman and his new wife have not been found on the 1881 census – they may have been in Lightcliffe - neither has his spinster aunt Elizabeth Pohlmann.



Elizabeth Pohlmann née Garnett was buried on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1884 at King Cross, Halifax as was her husband Edward Pohlmann after his death two years later.

The Will of Edward Pohlmann late of Halifax in the County of York Gentleman who died 27 November 1886 at Halifax was proved at the Principal Registry by Fred Pohlman and Edward Pohlmann Pianoforte Makers and Albert Pohlmann Mechanical Engineer all of Halifax the Sons the Executors. Personal Estate £106

On 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1885 George Herbert Pohlmann married Annie Whitehead in Todmorden. They then moved to Dublin, Ireland where George Herbert continued to be a pianoforte maker and dealer. Their son George Cecil Pohlmann was born there on 17<sup>th</sup> May 1886 but not baptised until 11<sup>th</sup> October 1887 in Halifax. About the same time his cousin, Clifford Frederick Glave Pohlmann, eldest son of Arthur Philip and Hannah Maria Pohlmann was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1886. He was baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1886.

Arthur Philip Pohlmann, of Roydlands, Lightcliffe, is listed in many local newspapers as a prize winner at local shows from the late 1880s onwards in. Apparently, he was a keen pigeon fancier, and he also showed poultry and rabbits at local agricultural shows. There is even a reference to him showing a Jersey bull and Guernsey cow in 1897! So presumably he had some land in the Lightcliffe area which he farmed.

1891 census

Henriette E E Pholmann Head 62  
Living on own Means  
George H Pholmann Son 31  
Pianoforte Manufacturer  
Annie Pholmann Dau-in-law 33  
George C Pholmann Grndson 4  
Bertha F H Glave Sister 58 Sister  
Mary H Bowland Servant 52 Servant  
Address  
4 Brackenbed Grange, Wheatley, Ovenden,  
Halifax

1891 census

Henry William Pohlmann Head 38  
Pianoforte manufacturer  
Mary Hannah Pohlmann Wife 38  
Beatrice Mary Lilian Pohlmann Dau 13 Scholar  
Henry William Louis Pohlmann Son 11 ditto  
George Percy Carlyle Pohlmann Son 10 ditto  
Harold Clive Pohlman Son 8 ditto  
Charles Victor Pohlman Son 6 ditto  
Emily Dorothea Pohlmann Dau 4  
Elsie Winfred Pohlmann Dau 2  
Address Gibbett Street, Halifax

1891 census

Arthur P Pohlmann Head 34  
Living on own means  
Hannah M Pohlmann Wife 38  
Clifford F Pohlmann Son 4  
Sarah Jackson Servant 19 Servant  
Address 6 Victoria Place, Hipperholme cum  
Brighouse

1891 census

Elizabeth Pohlman Head 62  
Living on own means  
Jane Garstang Sister 60 Widow ditto  
Beatrice J Garstang Great Niece 4  
Sarah Woock? Servant 56  
Address Cobden Terrace, Denholmegate Rd.,  
Hipperholme cum Brighouse

1891 census

Fred Pohlmann Head 32  
Pianoforte Manufacturer  
Edward Pohlmann Brother 30 ditto  
Albert Pohlmann Brother 28  
Electrical Engineer  
Fanny Uttley Servant 39 Housekeeper  
Address 113 Parkinson Lane, Halifax

Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann was born 21<sup>st</sup> July 1891, and, like his brother Clifford, he was baptised at Lightcliffe on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1891. But no baptism record has been found for the younger brother Andrew Philip D'Arcy Pohlmann born Q1 1894. Their uncle Henry William Pohlman junior was buried in Stoney Royd Cemetery, Halifax at the end of September 1891.

POHLMANN Henry William of 6 Hunger Hill Halifax Yorkshire pianoforte manufacturer died 21 September 1891 Probate London 18 March [1892] to Herbert Townsend bank clerk and Thomas Hutcheson Bonthron Black insurance secretary Effects £10273 4s 5d

From the *Brighouse and Rastrick Gazette* noted on 24<sup>th</sup> September 1891.

Arthur Philip Pohlmann, Victoria Terrace, Lightcliffe claimed a vote as owner of freehold dwelling houses at Roydlands, Lightcliffe, in the Hipperholme Local Board district, they were worth £517 and had belonged to him for 3 years.

Arthur Philip and Hannah Maria Pohlmann then seem to have moved to a property in Roydlands, Lightcliffe. This was the address given in many newspaper notices when Arthur Philip Pohlmann was letting or selling houses. Was he a land agent as his father-in-law had been? Or was he just looking after houses owned by the family? Parkinson House presumably on Parkinson Lane, Halifax and other houses on Roydlands Terrace, Lightcliffe frequently came up to let or sell with Arthur Philip Pohlmann being the person to contact.

Meanwhile Fred Pohlmann married Sarah Peel in Q2 1893. On the 1881 census she was a music teacher living in Halifax with her parents Thomas and Martha Peel. The newlyweds were in Hipperholme when their eldest son Henry Edward – sorry about all the Henrys! - was born on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1893. He was baptised at Lightcliffe Church on Christmas Eve 1893. When daughter, Sarah Elizabeth born 4<sup>th</sup> June 1896, and then son, Reginald Peel born 4<sup>th</sup> August 1898 were baptised at St. Matthew's on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1896 and 25<sup>th</sup> September 1898, the family's address was Oakleigh on Denholme gate Road, Hipperholme. No baptism record has been found for the next son Arnold Pohlmann born on 29<sup>th</sup> August 1900.

The *Halifax Evening Courier* for 19<sup>th</sup> October 1895 reported.

#### **MR. ALBERT POHLMANN**

Many of our readers will learn with regret that Mr. Albert Pohlmann, youngest son of the late Mr. Edward Pohlmann, of Parkinson House, Halifax, died on Saturday, at the age of 32 years. He had been suffering for the last four years and died from Bright's disease. Deceased was a mechanical engineer and took great interest in his profession and from time to time he has patented several ingenious contraptions one of which is much used in connections with bicycles others being of benefit in the home. Deceased leaves a widow and one child. The funeral took place at St. Paul's. King Cross on Wednesday. Many beautiful wreaths had been received from sympathising friends. Mr. Turner, New Bank was the undertaker.

The *Leeds Mercury* for 11<sup>th</sup> September 1897 had this announcement.

**POHLMANN** – Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, at the residence of her niece, Mrs. S. K. Garstang, Bolton. Miss Elizabeth Pohlmann of Lightcliffe. Interred at Lister-lane Cemetery Halifax on Tuesday, Friends please accept this the only intimation.

The *Halifax Evening Courier* for 13<sup>th</sup> November 1897 had this report.

**DEATH OF MRS. H. W. POHLMANN.**— The death took place on Saturday afternoon, about two o'clock, at Brackenbed Grange, Halifax of Mrs Pohlmann, aged 68 years, widow of the late Henry William Pohlmann, eldest son of the founder of the well-known pianoforte business in Halifax. Mrs Pohlmann was a native of Hamburg, Germany, and was for about fifty years a prominent member of St. James's Church, The funeral took place on Wednesday at Lister-lane Cemetery. Prior to the interment a service was held at St. James's Church, conducted by the Rev. H.R.B.S. Streeten, the vicar. This gentleman also took the service at the grave side. The mourners were Mrs. Glave, Mr. and Mrs. A.P. Pohlmann, Mr. and Mrs. George Pohlmann, Mr. Louis Pohlmann, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pohlmann, Mr. Louis Foster, Mr. Ronald Foster, and Mr. W. H. Baxendale. There was a vast number of floral tributes.

POHLMANN Henriette Elise Emma of 4 Brackenbed Grange widow died 6 November 1897 Probate London 11 February to William Henry Baxendale accountant and Louis Pohlmann Foster solicitor. Effect £588 1s 10d

1901 census

Arthur P Pohlmann Head 43  
Retired Pianoforte Manufacturer  
Hannah M Pohlmann Wife 48  
Clifford F G Pohlmann Son 14  
Basil L B Pohlmann Son 9  
Andrew P Darcy Pohlmann Son 7  
Hermine P B Glave Aunt 68  
Isabella Burgen Servant 25 Servant  
Address Roydlands, Hipperholme cum  
Brighthouse

39-year-old Edward Pohlmann junior , Fred's brother, was a 'Piano Maker' boarding in Halifax.

1901 census

Fred Pohlmann Head 42  
Merchant Piano Forte Manufacturer  
Sarah Pohlmann Wife 38  
Thomas Peel Father-in-law 74  
Widower Living on own Means  
Henry E Pohlmann Son 7  
Sarah E Pohlmann Dau 4  
Reginald P Pohlmann Son 2  
Arnold Pohlmann Son 7/12  
Martha Crick Servant 17  
General Dom. Servant  
Ethel Day Servant 13 Domestic Nurse Servant  
Address Oakleigh, Denholmgate Road,  
Hipperholme

The two Pohlmann cousins seem to have been very active in the Hipperholme and Lightcliffe community. Both appear in newspaper reports raising local issues as well as proposing and seconding ward councillors.

Fred Pohlmann stood as a Liberal candidate in 1907 saying that he had lived in the area for 14 years. Although he was unsuccessful then he was elected as a councillor in 1908. He was also a member of the Lightcliffe Freemasons' Lodge.



1911 census

Arthur P Pohlmann Head 54 Private Means  
Hannah M Pohlmann Wife 58  
Basil L B Pohlmann Son 19  
Andrew P D Pohlmann Son 17  
Address 10 – 11 Roydlands, Wakefield Rd.,  
Lightcliffe

Clifford Pohlmann, Arthur and Hannah's eldest son, has not been found on the 1911 census.

His uncle 51-year-old Halifax born George Herbert Pohlmann was still a 'Pianoforte Maker' living in Palmerston Park, Dublin as he was in 1901. However, in the decade in between he had lost his wife.

1911 census

Fred Pohlmann Head 52  
Pianoforte Manufacturer  
Sarah Pohlmann Wife 49  
Henry Ed Pohlmann Son 17 Apprentice  
Sarah E Pohlmann Dau 14 School  
Reggie P Pohlmann Son 12 ditto  
Arnold Pohlmann Son 9 ditto  
William Pohlmann Son 7 ditto  
Mary E Smith Servant 32 Domestic Servant  
Elsie May Tatham Servant 17 Domestic Servant  
Address Oakleigh, Brighthouse Rd.,  
Hipperholme

Fred Pohlmann's bachelor brother Edward Pohlmann junior aged 50 was again boarding in Halifax working for the family firm as a 'Pianoforte frame maker'

Clifford Frederick Glave Pohlmann married Mildred Emma Hooson in January 1914. He may well have been a 'Patent Clockmaker', his given occupation on military records.



The Great War had significant consequences for individuals as well as the family business. Most of the first and second cousins, sons of (the late) Henry William Pohlmann, Arthur Philip Pohlmann and Fred Pohlmann were the 'wrong' age. And even an older relative the solicitor Louis Pohlmann Foster, eldest son of Adam Crossfield Foster and his wife Maria née Pohlmann born 1856, became involved. In 1879 he had been appointed to Second Lieutenant with the 4<sup>th</sup> West Riding of Yorkshire Rifle Volunteer Corps, but he came out of military retirement as reported in the *Halifax Daily Guardian* 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1915

## From the "Gazette".

### TERRITORIAL FORCES

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment – Major Louis Pohlmann Foster retired list, late 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Battalion the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to be major temporary, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Henry Edward Pohlmann also joined the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, promoted to Second Lieutenant as noted in the *Halifax Evening Courier* 8<sup>th</sup> April 1916

Lce-Cpl. H.E. Pohlmann. First 4<sup>th</sup> W. R. Regiment, son of Mr. F. Pohlmann, has been granted a commission as Sec-Lt.

But then on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1916 he was on a wounded list.

His younger brother Reginald Peel Pohlman, having completed his education at Hipperholme Grammar School, joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1916.

Their second cousins, brothers Clifford Frederick Grave Pohlmann and Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann also joined up. Clifford enlisted on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1916 in Halifax with the Horse Transport division of the Royal Army Service Corps. Whereas Basil enlisted with the local Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment. Their younger brother Andrew Philip D'Arcy Pohlman then had an appeal turned down – it does not say what for but presumably it was against his enlistment - as reported in the *Halifax Evening Courier* 8<sup>th</sup> December 1916

The appeal of A.P. D. Pohlmann, aged 22, of no occupation, was dismissed.

There was a happier announcement in the *Halifax Daily Guardian* for 4<sup>th</sup> January 1917. Henry Edward Pohlmann was recorded as being a 'Military Officer on the marriage certificate. Perhaps he was on leave or still recovering from being wounded.

### MARRIAGES

POHLMANN – POLLARD – Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Wrangthorn Church, by the Rev. H. J. Tomkins, Henry Edward, Sec-Lieut. Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, the eldest son of Fred Pohlmann, Oakleigh, Hipperholme (Pohlmann and Son) to Ethel only daughter of Mr. W. Pollard, Hyde Park, Leeds.

Another Pohlmann, Private Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann, appeared on a wounded list published in the *Halifax Daily Guardian* for 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1917.

### WOUNDED

Yorkshire Regiment .....  
Duke of Wellington's Regiment .....  
Pohlmann, B., 4995 (Hipperholme)

Meanwhile the address of Arthur Philip Pohlmann, on his letting and selling adverts in newspapers - again often featuring Parkinson House - changed from Roydlands, Lightcliffe to No.7 Within Fields, Southowram in 1915 and then to Hall Street, Halifax in 1917. Hall Street was where the Pohlmann pianos were made but there must also have been some houses or flats there owned by the family. Hall Street was the address the Pohlmanns used when advertising for employees. In 1916 they advertised for "YOUNG WOMEN to assist in Piano Making; to replace men (who) joined the Forces".



**Hall Street, Halifax**

(image from David Glover, Halifax Antiquarian Society)

Then this announcement appeared in the *Halifax Daily Guardian* on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1917.

### DEATHS

POHLMANN – Private Andrew Philip D’Arcy on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Pohlmann, of Roydlands, Lightcliffe. Interment Saturday next, September 29<sup>th</sup>, at Lightcliffe Church, cortege leaving house at 12 o’clock. Friends, please accept this (the only) intimation

Registration District HALIFAX.									
1917. DEATHS in the Sub-District of BRIGHOUSE in the County of YORKS (W.R.).									
Columns—	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	
No.	When and Where Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
326	24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1917 15 Wakefield Road Hipperholme W.P.	Andrew Philip D'Arcy Pohlmann	male	23	Private West Riding Yeomanry Regiment	(1) Pleuro pneumonia (2) Lymphocoe Certified by J. Alexander Gentle M.D.	J. A. Baines Uncle In attendance 17 Wakefield Road Hipperholme	24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1917	Tom Denham Registrar.

Notice that the young man had pneumonia and that his uncle James Arthur Baines was the informant.

Andrew Philip D’Arcy Pohlmann was the first occupant of plot O11, in the middle section of Lightcliffe churchyard. The plot has no headstone.

POHLMANN Andrew Philip D’Arcy of 19 Roydlands Lightcliffe Yorkshire died 24 September 1917 Administration London 29 October to William Lomas solicitor’s clerk. Effects £1356 10s 11d

Just a few days before, on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1917, the *Halifax Daily Guardian* published this update about the training of Lieutenant Reginal P. Pohlmann with the Royal Flying Corps.

### Flight from Newcastle to Folkestone

The many friends of Lieutenant Reginald Pohlmann, of Oakleigh, Hipperholme, who joined the R.F.C. last November, will be interested to receive information of his recent movement. He commenced his preliminary examination at York, and from there he was sent to Doncaster, where he quickly passed a course of machine gun training. He then went to Lincoln, and there won his “wings.” Three weeks ago, he was ordered to Newcastle, whence he made a flight to Folkestone. His only stop was at Grantham, where he alighted for the necessary “fill up”. Restarting, he journeyed to Lymm, near Folkestone. The whole distance was covered in 4 hours 10 minutes. He has since been drafted to France.

*Halifax Daily Guardian* 18 February 1918

## 2ND-LIEUT. R. P. POHLMANN

### Hipperholme Officer Missing

#### Sequel to a Bombing Raid

News has been received of a sad, if not fatal, accident in France to Second Lieutenant Reginald P. Pohlmann, of the Royal Flying Corps, and son of Mr. Fred. Pohlmann, Oakleigh, Hipperholme.

Major Chester S. Duffers, O.C. Squadron R.F.C. sent the following letter to Mr. and Mrs. Pohlmann: " I greatly regret having to announce that your son Second-Lieut. R.P. Pohlmann, is missing. It is a great blow to me and to all the squadron. I took a particular interest in your son. I knew him at home and gave him his first instructions in Flying at Doncaster. He has done most exceptionally good work in France and carried out all instructions entrusted to him with the greatest bravery and skill. I could always rely on him, and his loss is a great one to the squadron and to the R.F.C.. I was very fond indeed of your son, and proud to have him in my squadron. Will you and Mrs Pohlmann please accept my most sincere sympathy."

It appears that Second Lieutenant Pohlmann was last seen flying at a height of 1½ miles, with a bombing party of six, of which he was the sub-leader. The objective was successfully carried out, and immediately on their return they were attacked by German fighting machines. An unlucky shot set Lieut. Pohlmann's petrol tank on fire, and the last that was seen of him was when his machine was falling to the ground.

The officer was only 19 years of age, was educated at Hipperholme Grammar School, and joined the Royal Flying Corps in February 1916, going out to France in September of last year.

His last letter home to his mother was written on January 30<sup>th</sup>, and received on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, in which he sent his congratulation on her birthday. He proved himself an adept at flying and his memorable flight from Doncaster to Bournemouth is still green.

All possible enquiries are being made by the military authorities as to his fate.

He has another brother, Lieut. H. E. Pohlmann, in the same squadron.

*Halifax Evening Courier* 01 March 1918

### **Sec- Lt. Pohlmann's Death.**

It is with regret that we publish the news that 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Reginald P. Pohlmann, Royal Flying Corps, previously reported missing on Feb. 5, 1918, whilst flying over enemy country, is now definitely stated to have been killed in action on that date. The information has been conveyed to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. Pohlmann, Oakleigh, Hipperholme, by Lord Lucan for the British Red Cross and Order of St. John. The sad news was received from Germany by the Red Cross via their Copenhagen depot. The sympathy of many friends will be extended to the family in their bereavement.



**POHLMANN, 2nd Lt. Reginald Peel. 25th Sqdn. Royal Flying Corps. 5th Feb., 1918. Age 19. Son of Fred and Sarah Pohlmann, of "Oakleigh," Hipperholme, Halifax, Yorks. VII. C. 3.**

The remains of Second Lieutenant R . P. Pohlmann were eventually buried in Harlebeke New British Cemetery, Belgium with this headstone.

(images from Malcolm Bull's Calderdale Companion)



Reginald Peel Pohlmann is also remembered on the Roll of Honour in St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe and at Hipperholme Grammar School.

POHLMANN Reginal Peel of Oakleigh Hipperholme near Halifax died 5 February 1918 in France Administration London 7 June to Fred Pohlmann pianoforte manufacturer. Effects £86.

The February newspaper article mentions that his older brother Lieut. Henry Edward Pohlmann was also with the same R.F.C. squadron. He had served with the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment and had been wounded. He was then 'attached' as an 'Observer' to the R.F.C.'s No. 22 squadron on 27<sup>th</sup> November 1917 before being transferred to R.F.C.'s No. 25 squadron on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1917.

Another brother, 18-year-old Arnold Pohlmann, enlisted with the Royal Flying Corps on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1918 near the end of the war. The youngest brother, Frederick William Pohlmann, was too young. A cousin George Percy Carlyle Pohlmann, the son of Henry William Pohlmann, also served with the R. F. C. as a Gunner. His older brother Henry William Louis Pohlmann was with Royal Ordnance Corps.

Private Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann, after being wounded when with the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, then served with the Labour Corps. His older brother Clifford Frederick Grave Pohlmann was 'exposed to gas' at Armentieres, France in January 1918. He would eventually be discharged just before the end of the war, in October 1918, as being no longer fit to serve.

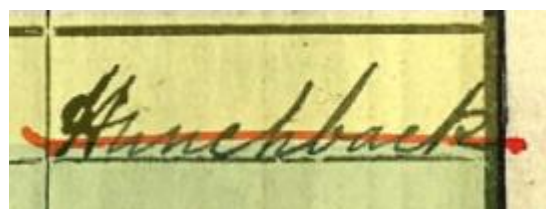
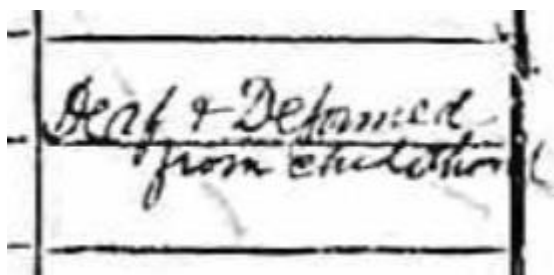
But before then his father, Arthur Philip Pohlmann, died.

## HALIFAX MAN'S LONELY DEATH

The deputy coroner, Mr. E. W. Norris, held an inquest at noon today at the Coroner's Court on the body of Arthur Philip Pohlmann (64), who was found dead on Friday night at his residence, 12a Hall-street, Halifax. Mr. Fred Pohlmann, Oakleigh, Hipperholme, identified the body as that of his cousin, Arthur Philip Pohlmann. He had no occupation. Witness last saw him on the Tuesday before his death at 11:30 a.m., when he seemed in a poor way. He was walking very slowly and panting, and his face had a blue look. P.C. Wm. Mullin, Halifax Borough police, received information at 8.35 p.m. on the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst., and in consequence went to the deceased's house in Hall-street. He

found the door locked and bolted. He forced the door and found deceased dead in a chair with his right arm hung over the side of the chair by the fire. The room seemed in order. Dr. Crossley Wright spoke to making a postmortem examination on Saturday. The body was that of an elderly man beginning to show signs of decomposition, the man having possibly been dead for three days. His lungs were considerably congested showing signs of recent pleurisy. The heart was exceedingly flabby and dilated, and there was evidence of disease of the arterial walls. He had probably died of acute bronchitis, which had accelerated the heart weakness, bringing about heart failure. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

The inquest did not reveal some of the information added to Arthur Philip Pohlmann's census records. 1891 - 'Deaf & Deformed from childhood', 1911 - 'Hunchback'



*Halifax Daily Guardian 27<sup>th</sup> March 1918*

POHLMANN.—At Hall-street, Halifax Arthur Philip Pohlmann, in his 62<sup>nd</sup> year. Interment at Lightcliffe Church, tomorrow (Thursday) at 2-30. Friends, please accept this intimation.

Arthur Philip Pohlmann was buried with his youngest son in plot O11 of St. Matthew's churchyard on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1918.

POHLMANN Arthur Philip of 12a Hall-street Halifax last seen alive on 18 March dead body found 22 March 1918 Probate London to William Lomas solicitor's clerk. Effects £2814 4s 7d

His aunt Bertha was buried with her sister and brother-in-law in Lister Lane Cemetery.

GLAVE Hemine Frederike Bertha of 40 Heath-crescent Halifax spinster died 9 December 1918 Probate London 7 November to Louis Pohlmann Foster solicitor. Effects £5

1921 census

Hannah Maria Pohlmann Head 68 Home Duties  
Basil L B Pohlmann Son 29 None  
Address 19 Wakefield Rd., Lightcliffe

1921 census

Clifford Pohlmann Head 35  
Mildred Emma Pohlmann Wife 33  
Ruth Maria Pohlman Dau 6  
Address 27 Denholmegate Road, Hipperholme

1921 census

George Cecil Pohlman Head 35 Manager  
Alice Williams Servant 18 Servant  
George Herbert Pohlman Father 61  
Pianoforte Maker Tuner Repairer No fixed place  
Address 1, The Triangle, Kensington, London & Middlesex

POHLMANN George Herbert of 1 The Triangle St. Quintins Park North Kensington Middlesex died 13 December [1921] Administration (with Will) London 23 February [1923] to George Cecil Pohlmann manager, Effects £6616 9s 6d

1921 census

Fred Pohlmann Head 62  
Pianomaker Employer Own Account  
Sarah Pohlmann Wife 59  
Sarah Elizabeth Pohlmann Dau 25 School  
Teacher Lightcliffe Schools West Riding E.A  
Arnold Pohlmann Son 20  
Pianomaker Pohlmann & Son  
Fredrick William Pohlmann Son 18  
Pianomaker Pohlmann & Son  
Elsie May Smith Servant 20 Servant  
Address Oakleigh, Hipperholme

1921 census

Henry Edward Pohlmann Head 27  
Piano Manufacturer & Dealer  
Ethel Pohlmann Wife 27  
Reginald Pollard Pohlmann Son 3  
Fanny Cooper Servant 19 Servant  
Address Merville, St. Giles Rd., Lightcliffe

Again, Fred Pohlmann's brother, Edward Pohlmann junior aged 60 was a Piano Maker / Repairer living at 1 Walton Court, Halifax

By September 1921 the surviving soldiers had returned home. Fred Pohlmann's sons and his brother Edward were working with him in the family business. No occupation was recorded for Clifford Pohlmann, and it says 'None' under occupation for his brother Basil Pohlmann living with his mother, Hannah Maria Pohlmann née Baines.

Fred Pohlmann was involved in the acquiring of land that became Hipperholme and Lightcliffe Memorial Stray for which he was one of the generous donors.

*Halifax Evening Courier* 7<sup>th</sup> July 1925

DEATH OF MR. EDWARD POHLMANN –

The death took place yesterday of Mr. Edward Pohlmann, Gibbet-street who was connected with the firm of Messrs. Pohlmann and Son, piano manufacturers and dealers, Princess -street and Hall-street. Aged 64 he was son of the late Mr. Edward Pohlmann, of Parkinson House, Halifax, and younger brother of Mr. Fred Pohlmann, Hipperholme. He was formerly for several years, connected with King Cross W.M. Club, but had been ill for the last twelve months.

Edward Pohlmann (junior) was buried on 9<sup>th</sup> July at St. Paul's Church, King Cross, Halifax.

Hannah Maria Pohlmann née Baines died on 9<sup>th</sup> May 1928 aged 75. Three days later she was buried with her husband and son in the known but unmarked Lightcliffe plot O11.

POHLMANN Hannah Maria of Roydlands Lightcliffe Yorkshire widow died 9 May 1928 Probate London 21 November to Clifford Frederick Glave Pohlmann and Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann gentlemen and Harry Craven clerk. Effects £4257 13s 5d

Henry William Pohlmann's family

Her late husband's nephews, sons of his older deceased brother Henry William Pohlmann, will now be caught up with as some of them worked for the family business. The eldest two, Henry William Louis Pohlmann and George Percy Carlyle Pohlmann, served in and survived WW1. But it does not look as if the younger brothers, Harold Clive Pohlmann and Charles Victor Pohlmann, were involved.

After the war Henry William Louis Pohlmann worked as a piano maker and dealer presumably for the family firm, Pohlmann & Son. He lived with his wife and daughter in Harrogate, Yorkshire where he died.

POHLMANN Henry William Louis of 204 Kings Road Harrogate died 30 January 1961 Probate York 19 July to Graham Muir Smeeton cost accountant. Effects £1862 0s 1d

Neither George Percy Carlyle Pohlmann, a wool merchant, nor his brother Harold Clive Pohlmann ever married nor did their sisters Emily Dorothe Pohlmann and Elsie Winifred Pohlmann. The brothers and sisters lived together in Brook Street, Ilkley. Emily died there on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1939 and Elsie on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. George Percy Carlyle Pohlmann was buried with his sisters in Ilkley Cemetery.

POHLMANN George Percy Carlyle of 1 Westville-avenue Ilkley Yorkshire died 11 May 1957 Probate London 12 July to Harold Clive Pohlmann retired bank manager. Effects £932 19s 11d

POHLMANN Harold Clive of 1 Westville Avenue Ilkley Yorkshire died 5 June 1967 at Haversham Court Nursing Home Ilkley Probate London 21 November to Yorkshire Bank Limited, £10576



On the 1911 census the youngest brother Charles Victor Pohlmann was a piano salesman boarding in Harrogate. Presumably he, like his older brother, Henry William Louis Pohlmann, was working there for the family firm. By 1921 the 37-year-old bachelor, a former piano tuner, was an inmate at a Huddersfield mental hospital where he died on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1933.

POHLMANN Charles Victor of Storthes Hall Mental Hospital Kirkburton near Huddersfield died 20 September 1933 Administration London 4 November to George Percy Carlyle Pohlmann merchant. Effects £1710 6s 8d

### Fred Pohlmann's family

Fred Pohlmann's youngest two sons, Arthur and Frederick William Pohlmann, lived with their parents at Oakleigh, Hipperholme until at least 1925. Both were recorded as piano makers in 1921. When the 1939 register was taken Arthur Pohlmann was living with his older brother and family.

#### 1939 register

Henry E Pohlmann	05 Nov 1893	Radio & Piano Dealer (Master)	Married	264	1
Ethel Pohlmann	20 Mar 1894	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married	264	2
Reginald P Pohlmann	23 Feb 1918	Articled Clerk To Chartered Accountant	Single	264	3
Margaret E Pohlmann (Douglas)	07 Nov 1921	Post Office Telephonist	Single	264	4
Arnold Pohlmann	29 Aug 1900	Radio Dealer & Service Engineer	Single	264	5

Address 138 Skircoat Moor Road, Halifax, Halifax C.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

Frederick William Pohlmann has not been found on the 1939 register. That might be because after Territorial Army service with the 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Wellington's at Huddersfield he became a second lieutenant serving with the Royal Regiment of Artillery 1939 to 1945.

Fred Pohlmann's granddaughter, the daughter of Henry Edward Pohlmann was a Post Office telephonist in 1939. Margaret Elizabeth Pohlmann then appears on military lists from 1940 working as a telephonist in London. On 20<sup>th</sup> January 1944, in Halifax, she married Flying Officer Frederick Walter Douglas, D.F.M., R.A.F. who was a member of a Halifax bomber crew. He died in 1989; she died in Sevenoaks in 2009.

In 1921 Fred Pohlmann's daughter Sarah was a teacher at Lightcliffe School as her Teaching Certificate confirms. She got a mention in John Brooke's book *Educating the Generations* on page 23 describing the effects the Great War had on the school 'There was sadness too... and again when the airman brother of Miss Pohlman, a teacher, recorded as having been shot down, and that 'his machine had fallen in flames in German territory'.'. Then in 1922 there are records suggesting that she travelled in May to New York and then returned from Quebec in the October. She married John Fenwick Q1 1925 in the Halifax district.

The certificate below suggests that they lived in Sheffield for a time but on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1939 they were in Bramhope, Leeds, with her parents visiting them. John Fenwick died there on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1969. His 98-year-old widow, Sarah Elizabeth Fenwick née Pohlmann, died at Goldsborough Hall Nursing Home, Knaresborough on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1993.

# TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION  
\* (Established by Act of Parliament and Constituted by Orders in Council.)

C.



Register Entry concerning: FENWICK, SARAH ELIZABETH (née POHLMANN).

Date of Registration: 1st September, 1920. Register Number: 55287.

Professional Address: 30, Bents Road,  
Eccleshall, SHEFFIELD.

Attainments:

Board of Education Certificate.

Training in Teaching: Avery Hill Training College, London.

Experience:

Assistant Mistress -  
Park Lane Council School, Leeds. 1916;  
Lightcliffe National School, Yorks. 1917-1921;  
Private Governess, 1921-1925;

## 1939 register

John Fenwick 07 Sep 1883 Assistant Dist Manager To Ltd Food Dist Ltd Married 36 1

The record for this person is officially closed.

Sarah E Fenwick 04 Jun 1896 Unpaid Domestic Duties Married 36 3

The record for this person is officially closed.

Fred Pohlmann 29 Jun 1858 Piano Manufacturer Retired Married 36 5

Sarah Pohlmann 29 Jan 1862 Unpaid Domestic Duties Married 36 6

Address Washburn House Keldside, Creskeld Lane, Bramhope, Bramhope, Wharfedale R.D.,  
Yorkshire (West Riding), England

## Arthur Philip Pohlmann's family

Arthur Philip Pohlmann's surviving sons were at these Hipperholme and Lightcliffe addresses in 1939 but do not appear to have been involved at all with the Pohlmann & Son business. Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann had married Winifred Hollas on 11<sup>th</sup> January 1928 in Elland where she was from. They had a daughter Joyce Leigh Baines Pohlmann born Q3 1929

## 1939 register

Clifford Pohlmann 22 May 1886 Independent Means Married 91 1

Address 26, Denholme Gate Road, Hipperholme, Brighouse,

His wife, Mildred Emma Pohlmann née Hooson, was with their married daughter Ruth Smith and her husband in Halifax.

## 1939 register

Basil L. B. Pohlmann 31 July 1890 Independent Means Married 9 1

Winifred Pohlmann 20 May 1903 U. D. D. Married 9 2

The record for this person is officially closed.

Address 17, Roydlands, Lightcliffe, Brighouse

From the *Halifax Evening Courier* 9<sup>th</sup> August 1944

POHLMANN – On August 8 1944 Clifford Frederick Glave Pohlmann, aged 58 years, of 17 Roydlands, Wakefield-road, Lightcliffe. Interment Lightcliffe Old Church on Friday August 11, at 12 noon, Friends please accept this (the only) intimation.

Clifford Pohlmann was buried with his parents and younger brother in plot O11 in Lightcliffe churchyard on 11<sup>th</sup> August 1944. This plot has no headstone.

POHLMANN Clifford Frederick Glave of 27b Denholme Gate-road Hipperholme near Halifax died 8 August 1944 Probate Llandudno 2 October to Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann of no occupation and Winifred Pohlmann (wife of the said Basil Leigh Baines Pohlmann). Effects £1291 2s

His widow Mildred Emma Pohlmann née Hooson, died aged 64 years, Q2 1953.

His brother died in Morecambe in 1963.

POHLMANN Basil Leigh Baines of 19 Sandylands Morecambe Lancashire died 12 January 1963 Probate London 9 August to Winifred Pohlmann widow Effects £8975 13s

*Halifax Evening Courier* 5<sup>th</sup> April 1945

#### **MR. FRED POHLMANN**

The interment took place at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe on Tuesday of Mr. Fred Pohlmann 93 Green Park Road, Halifax, aged 86. Canon H.L. Talyor, M.A. (vicar) conducted the services at the house, church and graveside. He leaves a widow, three sons and a daughter.

The mourners were: Mrs. F. Pohlmann (widow), Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Pohlmann (son and daughter in law), Mr. A. Pohlmann (son) Mr. F. W. Pohlmann (son), Mr. and Mrs Fenwick (son in law and daughter), Messrs

Basil and Percy Pohlmann (cousins) Flying Officer and Mrs. F.W. Douglas, Mrs. and Miss May Moore, Mr. C. E. Brook, Mr. and Mrs H. Binns.

[Various Freemasons' Lodges were represented.]

Among the friends attending were: Mr. H. D. Helliwell (representing Jubb, Booth and Helliwell, solicitors) and Mr. Maudsley (Horace Rhodes and Co.)

The undertaker was Mr. John Lawson, Skircoat Green

Fred Pohlmann, aged 86, was buried in plot 1A35 near the east wall in the middle section of St. Matthew's churchyard on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1945.

POHLMANN Fred of 98 Green Park-road Halifax died 30 March 1945 at 166 Gibbet-street Halifax Probate Llandudno 6 June to Henry Edward Pohlmann and Arnold Pohlmann piano dealers and Sarah Elizabeth Fenwick (wife of John Fenwick) Effects £716

Just a few months later his widow Sarah Pohlmann née Peel died on 5<sup>th</sup> December. She too was buried at Lightcliffe with her husband in plot 1A35 on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1945. This Pohlmann plot along with the one for the family of Arthur Philip Pohlmann, Fred Pohlmann's first cousin, plot O11, has no headstone and so no dedication on a memorial inscription. It is interesting to speculate whether either memorial inscription would have mentioned the two WW1 casualties, second cousins, Private Andrew Philip D'Arcy Pohlmann and Second Lieutenant Reginal Peel Pohlmann.

POHLMANN Sarah of 93 Green Park-road Halifax widow died 3 December 1945  
Probate Llandudno 20 February [1946] to Arnold Pohlmann piano dealer and John Fenwick company district manager. Effects £1336 1s 5d

By then the family firm of Pohlmann & Son was run by Fred and Sarah Pohlmann's three sons and possibly the daughter. Henry and Frederick William Pohlmann oversaw the manufacturing of pianos which ceased in the 1930s although the firm still sold pianos. Apparently, Arnold Pohlmann and his sister managed the shops selling radios as well as pianos; they would later sell televisions. The advertisements for radios rather than just pianos start in the 1930s as reflected in the brothers' occupations on the 1939 register.

Arnold Pohlmann married Elizabeth May Moore on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1946. They lived in Halifax. His younger brother Frederick William Pohlmann married a widow, Mrs Ivy Wartho née Kendall, on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1947 at St. Matthew's Church, Northowram. The couple lived at Shelf until his retirement in 1967 when they moved to Lytham, St. Annes, Lancashire.

Oldest brother, Henry Edward Pohlmann and his wife Ethel Pohlmann née Pollard, lived in Worthing Surrey where in 1978 they both passed away.

POHLMANN Henry Edward of 27 Cowdray Dv Goring on Sea Worthing died 29 April 1978 Probate Oxford 13 June £45289

The *Halifax Evening Courier* published this obituary on for the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1987.

## Former head of firm

A FORMER head of the firm Pohlmann and Son, Halifax, Mr. Frederick William Pohlmann has died aged 84.

Mr Pohlmann, of Evesham Road, Lytham St. Annes, was born in Hipperholme and went to Hipperholme Grammar School and then Heath Grammar School, Halifax.

He worked for the family firm all his working life. It began making pianos in 1763 and later sold television and radio sets. The firm had premises in Princess Street, Halifax; Hall

Lane, Halifax; Southgate, Halifax and Sowerby Bridge.

During the second world war he was a captain in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment and in the 21<sup>st</sup> Army Group.

He represented the Shelf West ward on the Queensbury and Shelf Urban Council for 11 years and was chairman in 1960-61 and 1964-65. He was also a governor of Brighouse Girls' School, and he moved to Lytham St Annes when he retired.

He leaves his wife, Mrs Ivy Pohlman

POHLMANN, Frederick William of 2 Evesham Rd St Annes on Sea Lancs died 21 March [1987] Probate Liverpool 30 June £183062

Frederick William Pohlmann also left a gold 3.5 litre Rover car to his brother Arnold Pohlmann, pictured with the car below. But as Arnold already had a car, he decided to give it to a local charity. The Halifax Charity Gala Committee decided to raffle the car at 50p a time hoping to raise £2,500.



And finally, the *Halifax Evening Courier* published this obituary on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1992.

## Mr Arnold Pohlmann Aged 91

Mr Arnold Pohlmann, of Willowfield Avenue, Pye Nest, Halifax, the last surviving member of the Halifax family of piano makers Pohlmann and Son, has died aged 91.

Mr Pohlmann was born in Hipperholme and attended Hipperholme Grammar School. He spent a short time in the Royal Air Force. He

became a director of the firm, which at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century was one of the few manufacturers of pianos.

Pohlmann's later made electrical goods. He retired when the business was sold in 1964.

Mr Pohlmann leaves his wife, May née May Moore, who used to help run Moore's sweet and tobacconist's shop, Southgate, Halifax.

His funeral takes place on Tuesday at the Sacred Heart and St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, Sowerby Bridge.

POHLMAN, Arnold of 16 Willowfield Av Rochdale Rd Halifax died 13 July 1992  
Probate Leeds 15 October £278247

FENWICK, SARAH ELIZABETH OF GOLDSBOUROUGH HALL  
GOLDSBOROUGH NORTH YORKSHIRE DIED 19 OCTOBER 1993 PROBATE  
LEEDS 27 APRIL [1994] £334569

Redifussion took over the Pohlmann shops but this one on Cornmarket, Halifax retained the Pohlmann name in this image from 1978.(Photograph from David Lister's Collection dated 1978)



There may only be six members of the pianoforte manufacturing Pohlmann family buried in Lightcliffe churchyard but quite a few members of the family had Lightcliffe and/or Hipperholme connections. This is no doubt why the advert below appeared in the Lightcliffe parish magazine.

*Lightcliffe Parish Magazine Advertisement Sheet.*

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**POHLMANN & SON,**  
HAVE THE LARGEST AS WELL AS THE FINEST SELECTION OF  
**Horizontal & Upright Grand Pianofortes**  
IN YORKSHIRE;  
**AMERICAN· ORGANS & HARMONIUMS,**  
BY THE BEST MAKERS.  
SPECIAL BARGAINS IN SECOND-HAND PIANOS.  
Every Instrument guaranteed. Descriptive Circulars and Catalogues sent Post Free, on application to  
**POHLMANN & SON,**  
Gold Medal Pianoforte Makers, Music Publishers,  
Princess Street, Halifax, and Pohlmann Hall, 64, Berner's Street, London.

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D.M.Barker  
February 2025  
Updated February 2025