

EFFORTS TO UNTANGLE THE HARDAKERS AT RAWDON AND SURROUNDING AREAS: THE EARLY GENERATIONS

Work in Progress November 2014

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J Brian Hardaker

Notes:

1. Numbers preceded with # are the reference numbers in my Legacy Hardaker database.
2. The relationships described herein represent the best assumptions I can make using the information I currently have available. Some things I am very confident about but others are little more than 'best guesses'. I have tried to indicate in the text where there is little information to support particular assumptions. These parts of the family tree must be very tentative unless and until more information can be found.
3. Please tell me of any detected errors or of any additional relevant information.

Origin of the Surname Hardaker

The first Hardakers apparently arrived at Rawdon early in the seventeenth century. It seems likely that the family originated in Ribblesdale, in and around the Forest of Bowland. The surname was probably originally a place-name. There are a couple of hamlets at Newby, near Clapham, in the shadow of Ingleborough Hill and in upper Ribblesdale, which are now called Upper and Lower Hardacre. These might well be what remain of the place concerned.¹ Of course, it is also possible that the place was named after the family who lived there, not the other way round, and to establish that this was indeed the place where the name originated we would need some ancient records showing that such a place existed before the surname was adopted. At this stage, I have failed to find any such evidence for the Hardacre hamlets at Newby.

Given that the name is thought to mean 'cattle field' in Old Norse ('hard' = 'herd' and 'acre' = 'field'), there could have been several places bearing this name or a variant of it. For example, the Wigan Archives in Lancashire contain some papers of the Anderton family of Ince (near Wigan) and Euxton (near Preston on the Ribble). Among these papers a place or field called 'Hardaker/Hardacre' is often mentioned over a long period of time, with the earliest dated record in 1294 and extending until at least the 18th century.² It seems that the place was near the village of Ines (now called Ince-in-Makerfield, just to the south-east of modern Wigan). Given its long history, this place could be the source of the surname, even though much further away than Newby from places where the surname first crops up.³

Drawing mainly on Redmonds⁴, some early mentions of the surname include:

1 Kelly's 1881 *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* includes mention of a Mr A Brown and Anthony Leeming, both farmers at 'Hardacre', Newby.

2 For example, in 1294 the Anderton papers containing details of a 'grant by Henry son of Thomas de Ines to Richard son of Richard de Bercheuit and his heirs of a certain plot of my land in the Vill of Ines within these bounds beginning at the way road which leads from the Vill of Wygan to Ines by Bonintonbroc and so following Bonintonbroc as far as a certain dike ... [part obliterated] ... from dike to dike as far as a certain dike in Hardacre and so as far as the way road aforesaid and so following that way road to Bonintonbroc, sufficient common in the grove of Ines for burning and building houses'.

3 There was also a 'Hardacre Field' at Wymeswold, near Loughborough, first mentioned in 1582, and John Field's book, *English Field-Names*, David and Charles, Newton Abbot, 1972, identifies fields called 'Hard Acre' or 'Hard Acre Close' in Cheshire, Derbyshire and at Lofthouse in the West Riding of Yorkshire. None seems to be a likely source of the surname.

4 Dr George Redmonds (1990) *Yorkshire Surnames Series Part One - Bradford and District*, published in 1990.

1304 – Alexander, the forester of Hardaker (Gargrave) (Yorkshire Inquisition, Y.A.S. 5 vols) (Gargrave in actually in Airedale, about 25 km from Clapham).

1327-1379 – Edward de Hardacre is mentioned in Edward III's reign (Edith Hardaker's notes, perhaps from a talk by Redmonds which she attended).

1379 – Nicholas Harthacre of Hellifield, in Ribblesdale and William Hardaker of Slaidburn in the Forest of Bowland (Poll Tax Returns for the West Riding, Y.A.S.) (Said to be the first recorded use as a surname).

1379 – 1600 Hardacre said to be a common surname in Bolton-by-Bowland, Ribblesdale (source unknown, probably G. Redmond).

1513 – John Hardaker (Hellifield in Ribblesdale) (Muster Roll for Flodden Field, Craven Vol CXLV, Y.A.S.).

1542 – Alice Hardacre owner of three messuages with lands at Long Preston in Craven (Fleet of Fines, Michaelmas Term Henry VIII).

1543 – Thomas Hardacre (Hellifield) (Subsidy Rolls, Craven Vol CXLV, Y.A.S.).

1552 – Adam Hardaker of Long Preston, Ribblesdale, wrote his will. (I have a transcript from Bertha Davis).

1587 – Michael Hardaker married at Kildwick in Airedale and started a family (IGI).

Origin of the Hardakers of Rawdon

It is very hard to trace family relationships before the late 1500s or early 1600s because, except for some noble families, records either were not kept or have not survived. However, on the face of it, it seems somewhat unlikely that the early Hardakers in the Guiseley and Rawdon area came directly from Long Preston/Giggleswick, as other researchers have suggested. In those days roads were few and bad and moving about was difficult. As a result, people seldom moved long distances.⁵ Therefore the Michael Hardaker at Kildwick listed above may be significant since an early arrival at Guiseley was a Michael who christened a child there in 1627. It may also be significant that there was a Hardacre in Otley parish (probably Farnley), only a short distance from Rawdon, before 1600. He was Richard Hardacre, badger⁶ of Otley, who died in 1595 leaving a will. In it, he leaves his bow and his mare to his son Thomas, a cordwainer (shoe maker) of Farnley. (It seems these two possessions plus a little money were Richard's only significant assets.) Although I have found no connection to the Hardakers at Rawdon, Richard is another name commonly used in the family there both in the early days and later. On the other hand, it is true that many of the Christian names used in the first two or three generations of Hardakers in the Rawdon area were the same ones as used by the Hardakers of Long Preston Parish and no doubt they were the widely popular names of the times. Until I have some hard data, further speculation about where the Rawdon Hardakers came from seems pointless.

First Generation at Guiseley or Rawdon

Michael Hardaker, #1, may have been the first Hardaker in the Rawdon area.⁷ He christened two daughters at Guiseley in the early 1600s. I know very little about him. Perhaps he was the Michael, son of Thomas, recorded in the IGI as being born at Long Preston on 30 March

⁵ There were also limits on moving from parish to parish for ordinary people since any who fell into poverty became a charge on the parish and, naturally, parish officers did not want to receive people of limited means from other places.

⁶ One explanation of 'badger' is that such a person was a licensed pauper who wore a badge with the letter P on it and could only work in a defined area. Other meanings, which seem more likely in this case since a pauper is very unlikely to have left a will, are either a corn miller or dealer in corn, or an itinerant trader in food. (Source: <http://members.ozemail.com.au/~tonylangham/Occupa.htm>.) The fact that Richard left his horse and bow to his son Thomas suggests that indeed he may have been a person who travelled about as a trader carrying money in those somewhat lawless times.

1605.⁸ Or he may have been a descendant of Michael of Kildwick mentioned above. There is a suggestion in the IGI that he married at Guiseley around 1626 – a year before the birth of the first child there, but there is no confirmation of this and I don't know who he married. I have found no record of his or his wife's deaths. I think their children were:

- Ane, #2, christened 25 Feb 1627/8.⁹ She may have been the Ane daughter of Michael buried at Hampsthwaite in 1636, but I doubt it. Or she may have married William Marseer at Guiseley in 1664, when she would have been about 37 years old – well above the normal age of marriage for girls in those days, so again not very likely.
- Annis, #3, christened 24 Dec 1631. If Annis is an alternative spelling of Alice, she may have married Robert Richardson at Calverley in 1651 when she would have been about 21.

Apart from what is reported above, I have found no further trace of Michael and his family. On balance, I think it likely that he and his family either faded away or moved out of the area.

Roger Hardaker, #4, c.1606-1667, was a contemporary of Michael's, perhaps a close relative such as a brother. My late mother Edith Hardaker wrote that Roger was christened at Guiseley in 1609. She got this information from Mr Mercer of Rawdon, who she said had been researching his family tree. Unfortunately I can find no record of Roger's christening in 1609. Estimates of his birthdate by others range from 1606 to 1611 (e.g. IGI film 442742 which states born circa 1606, and IGI film 447999 which has him born circa 1611). Edith Hardaker also wrote that Mr Mercer said that Roger came from Horsforth, but most other researchers seem to think he came from the Long Preston/Giggleswick area. As noted, I remain agnostic about his origin. He died between 13 April 1667, when he wrote his will of which I have a copy, and 18 April of that year when he was buried at Guiseley St Oswald.

He married at least twice, possibly three times. It is almost certain that he married Ann Walker, #5, at St Peters, Leeds on 11 May 1631. The groom at this marriage was Roger 'of Rawden', Ann being from 'Litle Woodhouse'.

It seems that Roger and Ann had at least four children, all christened at Guiseley:

- Essabel (Isabel), #6, christened 26 Feb 1631/2.
- A young un-named child, #586, buried 19 Mar 1632/33 – evidently not Isabel who is mentioned in her father's will, so presumably this child was born about a year later than Isabel and lived for a very short time.
- John, #10, christened 2 Jul 1634. At first sight, it seems that this John died young as a later son was given the same name. However, it is possible that he was later known as Henry – an assumption supported by Nic Wilson of Wharfegen.¹⁰
- An(n), #8, christened 25 Sep 1636. She married Francis Knowles at Guiseley St Oswald on 19 May 1670. I have not checked to see what children they had.

Then it seems Roger's wife Ann née Walker must have died, perhaps giving birth to her namesake, and Roger apparently married again, rather quickly – after all, he had a family of young children needing care. He married Ales (Alice) Marshall, #9, at Guiseley St Oswald on

7 There were apparently no Hardakers in Rawdon in 1595 since the name is missing from a list of households in the village recorded by the Rector of Guiseley in the Easter Offerings Book.

8 There was a Thomas Hardaker of Otley (son of Richard who died there in 1596) who married at Otley Church in 1605 and then started having children baptised at Otley. He lived at Famley, about 4 km to the north of Otley. I think some members of this family later moved into Leeds.

9 Prior to 1752, the new year started on 25 March and dates between 1 January and 25 March were counted as belonging to the previous year. Hence, this date would be recorded as 25 Feb 1628 using the current system.

10 Nic Wilson suggested that christening names were often given by the godparents and were not always the names parents preferred, so a child could be christened with one name but might be later known by another.

22 Nov 1636. His wife Alice is mentioned in his will. I think their children included the following (all christened at Guiseley):

- John, #7, christened 2 Dec 1638, whom I presume to be the John mentioned in his father's will.
- Mearcy, #11, christened 26 Sep 1641. There is no Mercy mentioned in Roger's will but there is a Mary mentioned. I have no record of the birth or christening of a daughter Mary, nor any further record of Mercy, so I have assumed that Mary and Mercy were the same person.
- Rodger, #12, christened 4 May 1645, mentioned in his father's will. He died 30 October 1725, a yeoman¹¹ of Rawdon, aged 80 and was buried at Rawdon chapel.
- Dorithe (Dorothy), #13, christened 11 Nov 1648, buried 4 Jan 1648/9, just a few weeks old.
- Joshua, #14, christened 2 Jul 1651, mentioned in his father's will.
- Grace, #67, christened 28 Nov 1652, mentioned in her father's will.

From Roger's will it is clear that there were two more sons, details of whose births or christenings I have not yet discovered – Henry and Richard:

- Henry, #359, must have been grown up by 1667 when his father wrote his will, since he was described therein as cloth dresser. Unfortunately, I have found no other trace of Henry anywhere in the records. Because he was the first son mentioned in the will, he might well have been the eldest son. Moreover, because there is hardly space to fit in another child between the marriage of Roger's first wife Ann Walker and her presumed death, it seems possible that Henry could have been the son initially called John, as mentioned above. A second, perhaps less plausible possibility is that Henry (and perhaps Richard below) were children by an earlier wife than Ann Walker. Perhaps Roger was living elsewhere when he and this speculative first wife started a family, which would explain the lack of any record of the birth of Henry at Guiseley. And in that case, perhaps Richard was a child of such an earlier wife, since again there is no record of his birth in the available records at Guiseley. On balance I think this idea is unlikely, mainly because I know that some of the earliest records in the Guiseley St Oswald register are now lost and the record of the christening of Henry (and perhaps Richard) could well be among them. Also, I have a microfiche of the early Registers from Guiseley St Oswald and several pages are totally illegible; the missing sons could well be on these pages. Until some more information comes to hand, my best but tentative guess is that Henry was the first son born in 1638, recorded as John in the register.
- Richard, #169. The order of mention of sons in Roger's will suggests that Richard may have been born between Rodger and Joshua, i.e. 1646-47 or 1649-50. The English Civil war was raging during those times and church record keeping often suffered as a result. Richard married in 1689, when he would have been in his late thirties or early forties if born at the times suggested. As described below, he married Ruth Dennison but he died just nine years after his marriage, apparently without issue. Had he and his wife been in their thirties we might have expected some children. The lack of issue, his early death thereafter and the fact that he was a Trustee of the first Quaker Meeting House in Rawdon in 1690, suggests that perhaps he was a man of reasonably mature years when he married in 1689. I have therefore decided to assume that he was born about 1646.

If Roger the father of the above family had been married earlier, the only candidate for a marriage I can find is one between Roger Hardycar and Elyzabeath Bramson on 4 Feb 1617 at Saint Olave, Old Jewry, London. That seems a bit too early to be likely, especially as it took place in London, far from Rawdon, but it is possibility worth keeping in mind. In the early days of the West Riding woollen industry, some clothiers used to travel to London to sell their

¹¹ A yeoman was a farmer who owned his own land, which was rare in those days. However, I have been told by the archivist at WYAS, Bradford that the term was often loosely interpreted.

cloth in Blackwell Hall in Basinghall Street. The market hall was opened in 1396 and for a long time it was the sole official market for cloth.¹²

It is possible that Alice Marshall, Roger's second wife, was the widow of Otley buried at Otley All Saints on 27 Nov 1678. Although there is no other evidence that she moved to Otley, I know of no other Alice who married into the Hardaker family who could have been this widow.

Second Generation – Children of Roger, #4

Henry, #359, son of Roger, c1638-, is only known of because he was mentioned in his father's will, so presumably he was alive in 1667. I have found no evidence of any marriage or issue and nor have I traced his death.

Isabel, #6, daughter of Roger, 1632-. As confirmed in her father's will and in that of her brother Richard, #169, she married a James Tennant, #360, in about 1655 (marriage record not yet found) and had at least five children by him, listed in her father's will: James, #361, Ann, #362, Sarah, #363, Alice, #364, and Abigail, #365. From the Guiseley Register it appears that she also had a son Roger #375, born in 1667, the year her father Roger died so probably named in his memory. Roger Tennant was christened at Guiseley St Oswald on 23 June of that year. From the will of Isabel's brother Richard, #169, I know that Abigail Tennant married a man called Fawcett. From the IGI, it seems he was John Fawcett, #389, who married Abigail at Whitkirk on 23 Feb 1679.

John of Rawdon, #7, son of Roger, 1638-1692? A John certainly survived and had a family. I presume that he was the second son christened John who is mentioned in his father's will.

John apparently married an Anne (or Annie), #377, in about 1659. A secure record of the marriage has not been found. One possibility that I tend to favour is that she was Agnes Mitchell who married a John Hardaker at Bradford St Peter on 22 May 1661, and that Agnes was later known as Ann. I favour this view because I know that John had interests around Tong (see below), only about 8 km from the centre of Bradford. In any event, there is a record of the burial of Ann the wife of John in 1667 at Guiseley St Oswald.

Edith Hardaker had written that John died in 1708; aged 74, but I am unable to verify this. I think it is more plausible that he was the John of Crosshouse, Parish of Birstall, buried at Tong Chapel on 13 Dec 1692.

He may have married well for he was evidently quite prosperous. In 1672 he was taxed on 10 hearths, far more than anyone else in Rawdon. (His brother Roger had two hearths.) In fact, from the diaries of the itinerant preacher, Rev. Oliver Heywood, it is clear that John was living at Rawdon Hall between 1676 and 1679, and he must have been there earlier, in 1672, when he was taxed on the ten hearths. Rawdon Hall, sometimes called Rawdon Low Hall, still stands and is a gracious and attractive residence, very much the type of house of a man of property.

John was a leading Dissenter of his day, probably a leading light in the Puritan movement in the village at the time when the group met to worship secretly under Buckstone Rock, atop of which Rawdon Golf Club clubhouse now stands. His name appears on a number of applications to set up religious meeting houses in 1690, just about as early as this was allowed. As far as I know, he was lucky enough to escape prosecution for his early unlawful religious activities.

I think the children of John and Anne, all christened at Guiseley, were:

- Susan, #15, christened 11 Apr 1662, buried 15 Sep 1662 at Guiseley St Oswald
- John, #16, christened 4 Oct 1663

¹² In 1622 in the part of the London market called the Northern Hall there were over 5000 pieces of cloth waiting to be sold (H. Heaton 1965, *The Yorkshire Woollen and Worsted Industries*, 2nd edn, Clarendon, Oxford, p. 148).

- Rodger, #17, christened 31 Aug 1665.

The two boys were mentioned in the wills of their grandfather Roger, #4, in 1667 and of their uncle Richard, #169, in 1708. When Richard wrote his will, John's son Roger was living at Yeadon and his other son John at Carlton, a hamlet 2 or 3 km north of Yeadon. Annie, #377, the mother of these children and wife of John, was buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 5 May 1667.

It seems that John remarried after Annie's death, to Sarah Thornton, #18, at Bradford St Peter on 9 Jun 1671. I think their children (all christened at Guiseley) were:

- Joseph, #19, christened 3 May 1672
- Susannah, #20, christened 3 Mar 1673/4.
- William, #21, christened 25 Mar 1676
- Sarah, #22, christened 21 Aug 1678 (named after her mother?)
- Anna (Hannah), #23, christened 27 Oct 1680
- Easter, #24, christened 9 May 1683
- Bengeman (Benjamin), #25, 27 Dec 1685, died on 20 Apr 1713 at Cross House, Hunsworth and was buried at Tong St James on 23 Apr of that year.
- Jeremiah, #26, christened 16 Mar 1687/8.

Strangely, there is no confirmation of this second family of John's at Rawdon from the available wills. Moreover, it might have been expected that some of these children would have died in infancy, yet I have found no such records. Conceivably, therefore, the above children might have been the offspring of some other John, yet there is no evidence of another John living at Rawdon at that time, so I think that idea is unlikely. However, since John was a Dissenter he may have preferred to shun the Established Church for events such as the burial of children who died, making his own arrangements. It is also possible that there was a falling out among the Hardaker family over religion, accounting for the lack of mention of the above children in any wills.

A Sarah, who I assume was John's second wife, was apparently buried at Rawdon chapel in 1688, soon after the birth of Jeremiah. However, John's brother Richard, #169, mentions a sister-in-law Sarah Hardaker in his will dated 1708. I know of no other brother of Richard who married a Sarah, so that suggests that Sarah née Thornton was still alive in 1708, discounting the possibility that she died in 1688 but supporting the notion that John did marry Sarah Thornton.

Aside about Rawdon Hall. Rawdon was once the seat of an ancient family of that name, the most noted member of which was Sir George Rawdon. In 1641, with less than 200 followers, he repulsed Sir Phelim O'Neill at the head of about 7000 Irish rebels, whose intent was to burn the town of Lisburn (in Ireland) and massacre its inhabitants. Sir George was born at Rawdon, and died in 1684, aged eighty years. His grandson, Sir John, created Baron Rawdon of Moira in 1750, was married three times, his third wife being Lady Elizabeth Hastings, eldest daughter of the Earl of Huntingdon. Thus the family name became merged into that of Hastings.

The old Rawdon Hall, the ancient seat of the Rawdon family, was near Rawdon St Peter, but this became dilapidated and it no longer exists. However, Michael Rawdon, whose father died in 1524, had a son named George who built Rawdon Low Hall at Low Green. This second hall became known simply Rawdon Hall. It still stands and, in 2000, it still belonged to the Hastings family.

Francis Rawdon (father of Sir George who fought in Ireland) was a friend and protector of the early Nonconformists, as we find from repeated mentions of his name in that connection. In April, 1667, the Rev. Oliver Heywood visited Rawdon Hall, where he spent Sunday and conducted a service, and again next year, when he preached to 'a considerable number'. He recorded his latter visit thus: 'Though the old gentleman be dead, yet we are sweetly

entertained. He was near eighty-six years of age.’ Old Francis died on April 25 1667, and was buried in Guiseley St Oswald.¹³

It seems that John Hardaker occupied Rawdon Low Hall for some years after the death of old Frances Rawdon. Perhaps the arrangement came about because of their shared interest in Nonconformity.

Rawdon Hall contains several fine, lofty rooms, and much oak wainscoting. The dining-room is especially impressive.¹⁴ There was once a motto on an ancient piece of furniture that read: ‘Give God al praise for to Him it is dewe. Love God above all thing and thi night bour as thiself’. This is attributed to old Francis but could perhaps more plausibly have been written by John Hardaker, who probably had less education than Francis Rawdon.

Oliver Heywood, mentioned above, was an early Presbyterian Dissenting preacher who had been ‘ejected’ from his living after the Restoration of the Parliament in 1660 for his unacceptable views. He spent much of the rest his life travelling about West Yorkshire on horseback, preaching wherever he could get a congregation. (Under the Five Mile Act he was not allowed to preach within that distance of his home.) Moreover, through all his travels he kept meticulous records and diaries.

In his various papers, edited for publication by J. Horsfall Turner, Oliver Heywood makes a few mentions of John Hardaker of Rawdon Hall. For example:

Event Book, Vol. 3, p. 176, entry 66

January 24th 1676 (about eight years after the death of old Francis Rawdon.)

According to my appointmt I took a journey to John Hardakers of Rawden-hall to preach there, there was a full assembly, just as I was beginning R. Tenant gives me a letter from Mr Dinely of Branhup, and withall tells me of a report generally spread in the country yt my two sons were both drowned in Scotland, it troubled me a little then but having other work before me, god put it out of my mind, and helpt me to pray and preach as if I had heard no such thing, but towards the latter end of my sermon, it struck cold to my heart, overpowered me, and I was ready to faint under astonishing apprehensions ...

Several days later a letter from his sons had arrived and he writes: ‘... coming into my house I found it and read it, found that all was well with them, Blessed, blessed be my god, who prevented my fears, outbid my hopes...’

In Heywood’s diaries:

24 October 1677 (p. 46). Wednesday morning my son Eli: and I rode to John Hardakers at Rawden-hall where god helpt me graciously in preaching to a considerable company, there we lodged, found mercy, blessed be god.

29 August 1679 (p.103). 6th day I rode to Rawden-hall preacht at John Hardakers, god mercifully assisted in my work. I came home at night & found all well, blessed be god.

So far I have found no more links between the Hardakers and Rawdon Hall after 1679, so perhaps John Hardaker was there for only a dozen years or so, presumably as a tenant or just as caretaker. I know that the Hall was rented to some people called Briggs for many years, although I have no dates.

Mercy/Mary, #11, daughter of Roger, 1641-1723. I know from the wills of her father and brothers that she married Richard Snowden, #366. The marriage was on 6 May 1669 at Guiseley St Oswald. The couple had at least five children: Roger #745, William #746, John,

¹³ I could find no record of his burial in Preston and Rowe. In the IGI I found a record of his death on 25 Apr 1668, but that does not match with Heywood’s information.

¹⁴ My wife Shirely and I were lucky enough to be shown round the house in 2000 by the owner, Peter Hastings.

#367, Jonathan, #368 and Richard, #369. She died in Nov 1723 at Horsforth and was buried at Horsforth Chapel. It seems that Richard Snowden her husband died in Apr 1729 and was also buried at Horsforth Chapel.

Roger, #12, son of Roger, 1645-1725. Like his father, he lived at Rawdon. Roger of Rawdon was taxed for two hearths on Lady Day 1672. Moreover, he was a churchwarden at Rawdon chapel in 1683, 1691, 1699 and 1704 (probably to the disgust of his Nonconformist relatives). He was a man of some substance for there is a record of a 'feoffment' dated 6 Nov 1700 between George Rawdon of Rawdon, Gent, of the one part, and Roger Hardacre of Rawdon, clothier, of the other part; of a messuage, 3 cottages next to the Chapel Green, and closes called Tenter Croft, Conney Warren, Round Close, and Acre Close, in Horsforth. Then in November of that year there was an assignment of property between William Steere of Stanes, Middlesex, Gent, and George Rawdon of Rawdon, Gent, of the one part, and William Hardaker of Rawdon, yeoman, and Roger Hardaker of Rawdon, clothier, of the other part; of a messuage and 3 cottages in Horsforth. (I presume that this William was Roger's son, #27 below.) However, it seems that Roger may have over-extended himself for he apparently disposed of some or all of this property between 1701 and 1706. (A couple of these agreements mention Roger's wife Margaret as a co-owner, confirming that this was her Christian name.)

Roger was buried at Rawdon on 2 Nov 1725, said to be aged 80, implying that he was born about 1644, which fits with the christening record. He must have married in about 1669, though I have found no record yet. However, his widow Margaret, #276, was buried beside him at Rawdon in 1728, a couple of years after her husband died. Margaret was 77 years old when she died on 10 Nov 1728. Their daughter Elizabeth Dickinson, #34, paid for the erection of the gravestone. I think their children, all but the last one christened at Guiseley St Oswald¹⁵, were:

- William, #27, christened 28 Dec 1670
- Anne, #28, christened 24 Nov 1672
- Rodger, #29, christened 7 Nov 1674
- Joshua, #30, christened 15 Jul 1676
- Robert, #31, christened 6 Jan 1677/8
- Rachell, #32, christened 9 Dec 1680
- Thomas, #33, christened 6 Apr 1682
- Elizabeth, #34, born 3 Sep, christened 14 Sep 1684
- Richard, #139, christened 5 Jun 1693 at Rawdon.

The existence of most of the above sons of Roger is confirmed in the will of his brother Richard, #169, made in 1708, which mentions William, #27, Richard, #139, Roger, #29, Robert, #31 and Thomas, #33, but not Joshua, #30, who it seems must have died by 1708. The daughters evidently did not rate a mention!

Richard, #169, son of Roger, c1646?-1708, was an early Quaker and was one of the original Trustees of the Rawdon Friends Meeting House in 1697. Prior to this date, the Quakers were persecuted for their beliefs. Richard was among the members of the Society of Friends who were fined between 1683 and 1690 for various religious offences. He was fined 13 shillings, a large sum in those days, but a smaller penalty than imposed on many of his co-worshippers. Some were fined as much as twenty pounds and others were sent to gaol in York Castle. The exact nature of Richard's 'crime' is unclear but it was almost certainly for attending a 'conventicle' or unauthorised religious meeting. Many of these meetings were held in secret, often at night – the early records of the Rawdon Quakers show considerable expenditures on candles! Despite attempts by the congregation to keep their activities secret, the authorities of those days were often on the lookout for people breaking the law prohibiting unauthorised

¹⁵ Richard's christening was recorded at both Guiseley and Rawdon.

worship, so even secret meetings could be discovered, with the result that those attending found themselves in trouble.

Richard married Ruth Dennison, #170, a widow, daughter of Jonathan Dennison, #370, in a Quaker ceremony on 10 Apr 1689 at the house of Margaret Walker of Yeadon. Richard mentions no children in his will, dated 30 Jul 1708, written just before he died, so I presume that he and Ruth had no issue. He was buried in the Rawdon Quaker burial ground on 23 Aug 1708. His wife Ruth, who was also a Quaker, had been buried in the Rawdon Quaker burial ground on 23 Jul 1708, just a month before her husband. Perhaps both died of some infectious disease.

In his will Richard mentions his brother-in-law (brother of his wife Ruth) Abraham Denison, #371, and a nephew and niece, Roger and Martha Flesher, #379 and #380. The latter two were apparently children of his sister Grace Hardaker, #67, who married a Thomas Flesher, #378, in 1675. He also mentions a niece Alice Booth, whose parentage I have yet to identify, as well as several other people who received small bequests, presumably many of them Quaker friends.

Joshua, #14, son of Roger, 1651-1712. I believe that he married Mary Walker, #138, at Birstall St Peter on 8 May 1678, and that he and Mary christened a number of children at Guiseley, as follows:

- Marie, #35, christened 27 Mar 1679, buried 14 Jan 1679/80.
- Josua, #36, christened 14 Jan 1680/1.
- Martha, #37, christened 10 Apr 1683, buried at Birstall on 21 Mar 1702/3.
- Marie, #38, born 13 May, 1685, christened 10 June 1685.

As indicated, of these children by his first wife, only Joshua and the second Mary survived long enough to be mentioned in their father's will written in 1711/12. In the will they are described as children 'by a former venture', without mentioning his first wife's name.

Mary née Walker, #138, died in 1685 and was buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 19 Dec of that year. Soon thereafter, Joshua remarried to Grace Casson, #42, on 9 May 1687 at Guiseley St Oswald. He specifically mentions a wife Grace in his will. Some of the children of this second union were also recorded in his will in 1711/12. With this information combined with what is in the registers, I have identified the children of Joshua and Grace Casson as:

- Grace, #39, christened 13 Mar 1687/8 at Guiseley but buried there two days later.
- Sarah, #41, christened 7 Feb 1688/9 at Guiseley. She married a John Chapman, #168, on 22 Oct 1711 at Guiseley St Oswald, confirmed in her father's will.
- John, #42, christened 3 Mar 1691/2 at Rawdon. By 1711/12 he had received a legacy from his Uncle John Casson, his mother's brother.
- Robert, #43, christened 3 Apr 1695 at Rawdon.
- Grace, #149, I have found no record of her christening but she must have been born between 1696 and 1700, judging by where she comes in the list of children in her father's will. She married Robert Hardaker, #31, her first cousin, in 1727 at Guiseley St Oswald.
- William, #58, born 28 Feb 1699/1700 and christened 4 Apr 1700 at Guiseley. By 1711/12 he had been left a cow by his Aunt Mary Casson. I presume she was a sister or sister-in-law of his mother Grace Casson.
- Joseph, #59, christened 19 Nov 1702 at Guiseley.
- James, #60, born 19 Nov 1704 and christened 17 Dec at Guiseley.
- Richard, #61, born 13 Apr 1707 and christened 8 May at Guiseley.
- Elizabeth, #62, born 12 Mar 1709/10 and christened 10 Apr 1710 at Rawdon chapel. I think she was probably the Elizabeth who married Joseph Oddy #171 at Calverley on 22 Feb 1730/31.

Joshua the father of this family died in 1712 and was buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 11 Apr of that year. I have a copy of his will dated 18 Jan 1711/12.

Aside on the Birstall connection. At first sight it seems strange that the Hardakers of Rawdon were marrying and burying family members at Birstall¹⁶, but I think the evidence for this is reasonably convincing. First, there is the above marriage of Joshua in 1678 to Mary Walker. I know he married about this time and have found no other possible marriage for him. Moreover, I have also identified Mary's burial at Guiseley, so there is not much doubt that we have the right marriage. Perhaps significantly, his father Roger had married an Ann Walker (of Little Woodhouse, less than 2 km NW of the modern centre of Leeds) at Leeds in 1631. Perhaps Joshua was visiting Walker relatives at Birstall when he met his wife-to-be. Joshua would have been about 26 when he first married.

Next, we know from the records that Joshua had a daughter Martha by his first wife and that Martha died, since she was not mentioned in Joshua's will. Her burial, recorded as daughter of Joshua, evidently took place at Tong, a chapel in Birstall Parish, on 21 March 1702/3. The record suggests that at the time her father was living in the township of 'Hundworth, Parish of Birstall'. (The modern Hunsworth is a small settlement that is really a part of Bradford. It lies about 5 km SE of Tong Chapel, near modern Cleckheaton, nowadays adjacent to the junction of the M62 and M606 motorways.) Evidently, Joshua had a second residence in Birstall Parish at this time in addition to his home at Rawdon.

Later, there was a licence issued on 8 Jun 1704 for a Joseph Hardaker of Birstall to marry Martha Westerman of Woodkirk at either of Birstall or Leeds parish churches. The only candidate I have for this man is Joseph, #19, son of John, #7, and grandson of Roger, #4, who was born in 1672 and so would have been about 22 in 1704, a very typical age of marriage. It seems he too may have been living in Birstall when he met his prospective wife Martha.

In addition, I have found a record of the burial of John of Croshous (presumably Cross House), at Tong Chapel on 13 Dec 1692. It is clear that he was an adult and I believe that he was John, #7, son of Roger, #4, and father of Joseph, #19, mentioned in the previous paragraph. The MI shows that he died at Cross House on 10 Dec of 1692 and that his son Benjamin #25, who was christened at Guiseley St Oswald on 27 Dec 1685, was buried in the same grave on 23 Apr 1713.

It is clear that John #7 had two establishments, one at Rawdon, for a time living in Rawdon Low Hall, and one at Tong, living at Cross House. Cross House, East Bierley, Hunsworth is described as a very old house site, Johannes del crosse was listed in a poll tax return of the 14th century. Later there was a market here where tenants of Lord Savile, the Lord of the local Manor, could sell eggs and butter. There is a date 1622 on the oldest part of the present house, which is now hemmed in by a modern housing development.

Finally, there is evidence of a link through Nonconformity. In his Northowram Register Oliver Heywood lists a number of applications for permission under the Toleration Act to hold religious meetings in various premises. John Hardaker (#7), put his name to several of these. On page 149 of the register the first entry is for 'the house of Joseph Walker of Burstall, called ye closes' sought by John Ray, Richard Atkinson, John Kitson. After a couple of others comes the following:

That Thomas Sharp of Little Horton nigh Bradford Clerk doth make choice of his own house to assemble in &c. This may certify the Court that the dwelling house of Abraham Dixon of Bowling in the parrish of Bradford and County of York is intended & by the adherers thereto agreed upon for a publick meeting place for protestant dessenters having no other desire but to glorifie god & edifie one another desiring the health, peace prosperity & safty of their majesties King William and Queen Mary & the good of the Kingdome. Therefore we whose names are here subscribed do desire this honourable & worthy Bench to grant us a Licence.

¹⁶ As the crow flies, Birstall lies some 10 km to the SW of Leeds and about 15 km to the south of Rawdon. Tong, where there was a chapel of the Birstall Parish, is about 4 km nearer.

Robert Burnell, Abr Dixon, Jo. Hardakers
God save the King & Queen Pontefract, April, 1690.

I presume 'Jo Hardakers' was John #7. While it seems that he was not putting his name to all the application listed together, including that at Birstall, the fact that the Birstall meeting place was in the house of Joseph Walker of Birstall seems significant and, by itself, suggests a probable link between the Walkers of Birstall and John Hardaker of Rawdon.

While each of these observations is speculative, their cumulative effect convinces me that there was an association between the Hardakers of Rawdon and people at Tong, Parish of Birstall, especially with the Walker family there.

Grace, #67, daughter of Roger, 1652- From the will of her brother Richard we know that she married a Thomas Flesher, #378. The marriage was at Otley on 28 Feb 1676/7 and from Richard's will we know they had at least two children, Roger and Martha. My best guess is that they had the following family, all christened at Otley All Saints:

- Alice Flesher, #724, christened 7 Nov 1678, daughter of Thomas of Otley, tanner. She is said to have died Dec 1758, aged 80.
- Mary Flesher, #725, christened 19 Dec 1681, daughter of Thomas of Otley, tanner.
- Martha Flesher, #380, christened 30 Mar 1685, daughter of Thomas of Otley, tanner.
- Roger Flesher, #379, christened 22 Dec 1688, son of Thomas of Otley, tanner.
- Sarah Flesher, #726, christened 19 Mar 1691/92, daughter of Thomas of Otley, tanner.
- Anthony Flesher, #938, christened 4 Dec 1697, son of Thomas.
- Isaac Flesher, #939, christened 20 Jan 1700/01, bur Otley 10 Jun 1712, son of Thomas of Otley.

Given the long gap between Sarah and Anthony, there is uncertainty about the parentage of the last two children. I think that Thomas was buried at Otley All Saints on 26 June 1721, a tanner of Otley, son of Lawrence. Grace, the wife of Thomas, may have been the widow of Otley who died in 1726, and was buried on 25 Jul of that year. Or she could have been the Grace Fletcher (not Flesher) buried 23 Jan 1701/2. The latter is more plausible if we assume that Anthony and Isaac were her children, since Isaac was born in 1701 and the lack of any later children would be consistent with Grace having died soon after his birth.

Third Generation; Children of John, #7, (Roger #4)

John of Carlton, #16, 1663-1723. I believe he married Mercy Wilkinson, #44, at Guiseley on 11 Jul 1702 when he would have been about 39. He lived at Carlton near Yeadon and in later years he was called a yeoman of Yeadon. But he must have fallen on hard times in later life for I believe he was buried at Guiseley in 1723, a labourer of Bramhope. (Bramhope is about 3 km from Carlton.) Certainly, he was dead by 1742 when Widow Hardaker of Yeadon buried a daughter Mercy at Guiseley.

I think the first eight children of John and Mercy, all christened at Guiseley, were:

- Joseph, #45, christened 6 Jan 1702/3
- John, #46, christened 16 Aug 1704
- Mary, #47, christened 17 Aug 1706
- William, #48, christened 13 Sep 1708
- Beatrice, #49, christened 1 Jul 1711, buried Guiseley St Oswald, 18 Nov 1716
- Agnes, #50, christened 9 Aug 1713, buried Guiseley St Oswald, 15 Nov 1716
- Mercy, #51, christened 3 Jul 1715 and apparently buried 30 May 1742 at Guiseley St Oswald, a daughter Widow Hardaker of Yeadon.
- Benjamin, #52, christened 7 Jul 1717.

Then I believe that John and Mercy were also the parents of:

- Rachel, #723, christened 12 Aug 1719 at Otley, daughter of John, clothmaker of Bramhope.

This christening at Otley of a child of John of Bramhope is consistent with the recorded home of John when he died, noted above. Maybe John and family moved from Carlton to Bramhope around 1718 (a move of only 4 or 5 km), although the family still had a strong enough link with Guiseley for John to be buried there.

I have no confirmation of the above family from the available wills.

His wife Mercy, #44, widow of Yeadon, was buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 17 Oct 1752.

Roger, #17, of Yeadon, 1665-, seems have married and had some children. Unfortunately, it is difficult to distinguish his family from that of Roger, #29, christened in 1674, son of Roger, #12.

In his will made in 1708 Richard Hardaker, #169, mentions his two nephews Roger of Yeadon and John of Carlton. It seems clear that they were both sons of his brother John, #7, father of this Roger, who therefore was living at Yeadon. Roger seems to have married Ann Smith, #573, in 1703, both bride and groom being recorded as from Yeadon. However, there is a problem: I have a record that Susannah, wife of Roger, labourer of Yeadon, was buried at Guiseley St Oswald in 1713. Yet I have found no record of Roger of Yeadon marrying a Susannah, nor any evidence of the death of a wife Ann. It is a puzzle but I have decided to make the strong assumption that Susannah and Ann were the same person, either known by different names at different times, or at least recorded using two different names.

Whoever the mother was, I have found two children of Roger of Yeadon:

- Richard Hardacer, #56, christened 17 Aug 1704 Guiseley St Oswald son of Roger of Yeadon
- Mary Hardacer, #57, christened 18 Sep 1707 Guiseley St Oswald, daughter of Roger of Yeadon

Other children of a Roger christened about this time were recorded as belonging to Roger of Rawdon, or were christened at Rawdon, so I have attributed them to Roger, #29 – see below.

Joseph, #19, 1672-. As noted above, there was a marriage licence issued on 8 Jun 1704 for a Joseph of Birstall to marry Martha Westerman, #702, of Woodkirk at Leeds or Birstall. It is likely that he was this Joseph. (The connection of the early Hardakers of Rawdon with Birstall is discussed above.) However, so far, I have not located the marriage to Martha Westerman. It is not to be found in the published transcriptions of either the Leeds St Peter or the Birstall Parish Registers of those days, but, of course, the transcriptions may not be complete and, in any case, the couple could have married elsewhere. However, I have also failed to find any children of this union, so it matters little from a research perspective whether or not they did in fact get married.

There was a Joseph, a stranger, buried at Leeds St Peter on 22 Dec 1727 who might have been this man.

Susannah, #20, daughter of John, 1674/4-. I can find no marriage for her, nor any burial record.

William, #21, son of John, 1676-, apparently had no issue. No burial found.

Sarah, #22, daughter of John, 1678-. Again, I can find no marriage for her. She may have been the Sarah buried at Rawdon on 23 May 1688 but, if so, she was not reported as the daughter of John.

Hannah, #23, daughter of John, 1680-. Again, I can find no sign of a marriage or burial for her.

Esther, #24, daughter of John, 1683-. Again, no further trace of her.

Benjamin, #25, son of John, 1686-, apparently had no issue and no burial found.

Jeremiah, #26, son of John, 1688-, also apparently had no issue and no burial found.

One is left wondering what happened to so many of John's later children who seem to have vanished. One possibility is that they may have died young, perhaps in an epidemic such as an outbreak of the plague, which could have caused not only many deaths but also a temporary breakdown in record keeping. Their deaths could account for their absence from wills of uncles in the late 1600s and early 1700s. Alternatively, maybe their parents moved away to some other place from which records have not survived (or not yet been found by me). Of course, the possibility that John moved to Birstall or Tong cannot be ruled out, given the suggestion made above that he died there. But early records from Tong have survived and I have found no further relevant information therein.

Third Generation; Children of Roger, #12, (Roger #4)

William, #27, yeoman of Rawdon, 1670-1736. I know from the will of his brother Robert, #31, made in 1729, that this William had at least six children: Margaret, John, Samuel, William, Susannah and Mary. Of these, Margaret and John, children of William, were christened at Rawdon chapel in 1713 and 1715, respectively. A Hannah, daughter of William, was christened there in 1717 who may have been the Susannah mentioned by Robert. There was a Mary, daughter of William, christened at Rawdon chapel in 1727. However, I have not yet found the births or christenings of Samuel and William (or of Susannah unless she was christened as Hannah). I have also found no record of William's marriage, which must have occurred in about 1712.

From the will of William's brother Richard Hardaker, #139, made in May 1763, it is clear that there were more children of William's born after 1729, for there are mentions of John, William, Richard and Roger, as well as a Hannah Atkinson, who I presumed was William's daughter. John Atkinson married Hannah Hardaker on 20 November 1743 at Guiseley St Oswald.

It is strange that Richard does not mention other children of his brother, raising the possibility that Margaret, Samuel and Mary may have died by 1763. The mention of Hannah strengthens my view that she was the Susannah mentioned in Robert's will.

In the event, and using the sparse information I have from the registers, I have assumed that this William was the father of the following children:

- Margaret, #87, christened 22 Oct 1713 at Rawdon chapel, daughter of William, broadclothier; perhaps dead by 1763
- John, #88, christened 27 Mar 1715 at Rawdon chapel, son of William, yeoman
- Hannah, a.k.a Susannah, #89, christened 25 Apr 1717 at Rawdon chapel, daughter of William, yeoman; may have married John Atkinson #579 in 1743, but see above.
- Samuel, #374, born about 1719 (and alive in 1729 but perhaps not in 1763); no christening, marriage or burial found
- William, #167, born about 1720, no christening found
- Richard, #90, christened 4 Jun 1721 at Rawdon chapel, son of William, yeoman of Rawdon; buried there 9 Dec 1721
- Susannah, #667, born about 1725, no christening found.
- Mary, #91, christened 2 Jun 1727, perhaps dead by 1763
- Richard, #92, christened 27 Sep 1730 at Rawdon chapel, son of William, yeoman
- Roger, #93, christened 6 May 1733, at Rawdon chapel, son of William, labourer.

Note that, at least for the first few children William was recorded as a yeoman, apparently living at Rawdon. I think he was the William Hardaker of Rawdon, yeoman, who, along with his father Roger, is mentioned in a deed dated 1 Nov 1700 relating to the transfer of 'a messuage and 3 cottages in Horsforth from William Steere of Stanes, Middlesex, Gent, and George Rawdon of Rawdon, Gent. However, by the birth of the last child, William, he was

described as a 'labourer', not a 'yeoman'. I think he was buried at Rawdon chapel on 14 Nov 1736 with his occupation again recorded as labourer.

Roger, #29, of Adel, 1674-1746. I am not sure when or who he married. It is possible that he was the one who married Ann Smith at Guiseley in 1703, a view supported by the date of birth of his first son Richard, and by the naming of a daughter Ann. However, there is a clear indication that the Roger who married Ann Smith was from Yeadon, and I think he was the son of John, as explained above.

Whoever his wife was, from the will of his brother Richard, #139, made in 1763, it appears that this Roger had at least four children: Richard, Ann, Rachel and Betty. I have identified the christenings of these children as:

- Richard, #54, christened 20 Feb 1704/5 at Rawdon chapel, son of Roger of Rawdon.
- Elizabeth, #384, christened 16 Feb 1706/7, Adel St John the Baptist, daughter of Roger. She died, apparently unmarried, in 1743, and was buried at Adel St John the Baptist on 1 May of that year.
- Rachel, #385, christened 19 Sep 1708, Adel St John the Baptist, daughter of Roger of Addele.
- Ann, #386, christened 24 May 1713, Adel St John the Baptist, daughter of Roger of Addele.

It is clear that Roger removed from Rawdon to Adel in about 1706.¹⁷¹⁸ That tends to be supported by the fact that a Richard Hardaker, presumably Richard, #54, above, son of Roger, married a Jane Clough #383 there in 1736. Moreover, Roger himself was buried at Adel St John the Baptist on 21 Nov 1746, aged about 72.

Joshua, #30, 1676- I have not yet found a marriage for him, but there is a speculative date in the IGI of about 1704 for his marriage. There are problems in identifying any children he may have had because I believe that Joshua #36, son of Joshua #14, married Sarah Harrison, #63, at Guiseley in 1712. It is therefore not easy to know which Joshua may have been the father of children born after that. The first candidate is Hannah, #64, christened in 1713 and recorded as daughter of Joshua broad clothier of Yeadon. I think that was Joshua, #36, not this one, #30, and I have assigned the three children of Joshua christened between 1713 and 1719 to the younger couple. This view is supported by the fact that the will of his uncle Richard, #169, written in 1708, does not mention Joshua in a list of other children of Roger, #12, suggesting he had died by that date. At this stage, I have found no record of his death.

Robert, #31, of Rawdon, 1678-1729. I believe that this Robert was the one who married his cousin Grace Hardaker, #149, on 9 May 1727 at Guiseley when he would have been about 49 years old and she about 30. Their marriage was short-lived as he died in 1729. However, I know they had one son:

- Robert, #68, christened March 1727/8 at Guiseley St Oswald.

I have the will for Robert the father. In it he refers to his wife Grace and son Robert, and also to his brothers Richard and William and his brother in law John Hardaker. All this fits with my assumption about who he was and who he married. He was buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 21 May 1729.

¹⁷ I briefly entertained but then dismissed the idea that Hannah who married John Atkinson might have been William's widow. John and Hannah baptised a son Joshua at Guiseley in 1747 and a woman marrying William in about 1712 would have been too old to bear children by 1747.

¹⁸ It may be significant that parts of what are now Horsforth, such as Scotland where some Hardakers lived later on, were for many years in Adel parish.

Rachell, #32, 1680-. It is a little unlikely but possible that she was the Rachel who married William Hill at Calverley St Wilfrid on 9 Dec 1720 when she would have been about 40. I have found no other candidate for this bride.

Thomas, #33, 1682-. I think he may have been the Thomas who married Mary Smith at Bingley in 1700. From the will of his brother Richard, #139, we know that Thomas was dead by 1763 when the will was written. We also know from Richard's will that Thomas had a son Roger, #140. I can find no christening of this son but I believe he was buried at Rawdon chapel on 12 August 1775, aged 70. That implies he was born about 1705, which could fit with the date of marriage of his father in 1700, especially if we could find one or two older siblings. Unfortunately I have not found any and nor have I yet traced a burial for Thomas.¹⁹

Elizabeth, #34, 1684-. I know from the MI on her parents' grave in Rawdon chapelyard that she married a man called Dickenson and lived at Ripon. A Licence was issued on 8 Jul 1711 for an Elizabeth Hardaker aged 27 to marry a Richard Dickinson #584 aged 30 of Ripon at Ripon Collegiate (which I believe means any one of the group of churches then in operation at Ripon). I have not traced the actual marriage and I do not know what family they had.

Richard, #139, yeoman and weaver of Rawdon, 1693-1763. He married twice, the second time late in life, and, from his will, I deduce that he had no surviving children. His first wife was Mary Marshall, #98, whom he married at Guiseley St Oswald on 11 Nov 1725. She was the youngest daughter of Samuel Marshall #388 of Horsforth Crag (MI). As far as I can tell, they only had one child, Elizabeth, #99, whose christening was recorded for both Guiseley and Rawdon St Peteres as occurring on 22 Jul 1726. She died a few months later and was buried at Rawdon chapel on 14 Mar 1726/7.

Richard's first wife Mary née Marshall, #98, died on 13 Jun 1753 aged 64 and was buried at Rawdon chapel two days later. Richard married again soon after, on 31 Oct 1754, when he was said to be 60 years old, to Rose (Rosamund) Hodgson, #575, of Otley, the widow of William Hodgson, #576, and daughter of Matthew Moss, #585. She was born in 1701 and was said to be 52 when she married Richard. Naturally, they did not have any children and it seems from her will that Rose was childless from her first marriage. Richard died on May Day 1763 aged 68 and was buried at Rawdon chapel on 4 May. Rose wrote a will in 1769 leaving nothing to any of the Hardakers. When she died in 1771, by her own request, she was buried on 7 Feb at Otley All Saints, next to her first husband, William Hodgson.

Richard was a man of property and left a very comprehensive will. With no children of his own, he shared his estate widely among his relatives (and possibly others), which is very helpful for sorting out who was who. His main heir was Robert Hardaker, #68, son of his brother Robert, #31 who had died in 1729 when his only son Robert was very young. Robert senior left his son in the care of Richard and their cousin John, #42. John died eleven years later in 1740 and it seems that Richard and Mary must have more or less adopted young Robert whose first wife Ann, #70, lies in the same grave at Rawdon chapel as Richard and Mary.

Third Generation; Children of Joshua, #14, (Roger #4)

Marie (Mary), #35, 1685-. She is mentioned in her father's will dated January 1711/2 seemingly as still unmarried at age 25. I have found no subsequent marriage for her although she might just have been the Mary who married George Taylor of Hunslet at Leeds on 2 Apr 1711. However, there is no mention in the register that she came from Guiseley, so I think it unlikely. I have found no record of her death or burial.

¹⁹ A Roger who married Ann Gott at Bingley in 1792 baptised children in Bingley between 1793 and 1810. Conceivably he could have been a grandson of Thomas since the latter may have acquired property in Bingley through his marriage to Mary Smith. However, I have no evidence to support this notion. There was a Thomas Hardaker of Syke, Heaton (near Bradford) whose will was proved in 1735 – copy at the Borthwick Institute which I have not seen. It is just possible that he was this man.

Joshua, #36, of Yeadon, 1681-. As noted above, I think he married Sarah Harrison, #63, on 23 June 1712 at Guiseley, when he would have been about 31. Bride and groom were both from Guiseley Parish. I believe they lived in Yeadon (or Carlton near Yeadon) and that he was a broad clothier. I assume that their children, christened at Guiseley, were:

- Hannah, #64, christened 12 Jul 1713
- Mary, #65, christened 8 Apr 1716
- Joshua, #66, christened 5 Apr 1719.

Perhaps he was the man who was buried at Bramley on 25 Feb 1753, but I doubt it.

Sarah, #41, 1689-1767. She married a John Chapman, #168, on 22 Oct 1711 at Guiseley St Oswald, confirmed in her father's will. Joshua left John Chapman one shilling in his will, evidently intended as an insult! Perhaps Sarah married against her father's wishes. She apparently died in June 1767 at the age of about 78. I have not traced their family further.

John, #42, clothier of Eccleshill, 1692-1740. I think it likely that he married Sarah Mires of Eccleshill, #160, on 27 July 1715 at Calverley St Wilfrid. I have not found any children of theirs at Calverley. However, the following children of a John Hardaker were recorded at Bradford Bradford St Peter:

- Sarah, #689, christened 24 August, 1719 at Bradford St Peter, daughter of John, clothier of Eccleshill. I think she must have died young.
- John, #827, his birth on 13 October 1721 was recorded at Bradford St Peter, son of John, place of residence not stated. My record seems to imply that the child was not christened, suggesting that the parents were non-conformists.
- An un-named child #828, of John of Eccleshill buried, 23 February, 1723, at Bradford St Peter.
- Sarah #690, christened, 22 November, 1724, at Bradford St Peter, daughter of John of Eccleshill (hard to read).
- Mary #691, christened 25 October, 1727 at Bradford St Peter, daughter of John of Eccleshill (hard to read).
- Elizabeth, #692, christened 1 January, 1731 at Bradford St Peter, daughter of John, clothier of Eccleshill.
- Martha, #693, christened 7 November, 1736 at Bradford St Peter, daughter of John of Eccleshill.

I think John the father of these children died in 1740 and was buried at Bradford St Peter on 27 Apr, recorded as a clothier of Eccleshill.

See my work on 'The Hardakers of Eccleshill' for more information about this family.

Robert of Rodley, #43, c.1695-1760. He was variously described as a yeoman, husbandman or a clothier of Rodley. Like many men in those days, he was probably both a farmer and a woollen cloth maker.

Patricia List believes he married Beatrice Wilkinson in 1727 but I have found no record of this marriage. I do know that on 18 Feb 1722/3 a Robert Hardaker married Hannah Elsworth, #172, in Calverley St Wilfrid (also recorded in the Nonconformist Northowram Register). She was the daughter of John Elsworth, #173. They had a daughter Mary, #174, christened in 1723/4 (who died soon afterwards) and children John, #381 and Abigail, #636, recorded as being born at Calverley in 1726 and 1728, respectively. However, the mother, Hannah, died in 1729.

Robert may have re-married for he seems to have christened another daughter Elizabeth in 1735. A Robert married Elizabeth Tenant, at Guiseley on 11 July 1734 and I presume that he was this Robert of Rodley, and the father of Elizabeth, #175, (apparently named after her mother), christened in 1735, daughter of Robert, husbandman of Rodley. The his second wife Elizabeth died in 1749 and was buried at Calverley.

In 1737 a Robert Hardaker, probably this one, made a donation of 4 shillings to repairs to Calverley St Wilfrid and by the mid-1700s he was Churchwarden at that church.

In summary, I think his children by his first wife, Hannah née Elsworth, were:

- Mary, #174, born Rodley, christened Calverley St Wilfrid, 23 Jan 1723/4, buried at Calverley St Wilfrid on 20 Jan 1724/5.
- John, #381, born Rodley 28 May 1726 and recorded (but not christened) at Calverley St Wilfrid.
- Abigail, #636, born Rodley 27 Oct 1728 and recorded (but not christened) at Calverley St Wilfrid.

Then by his second wife Elizabeth née Tenant, #740, I think he had:

- Elizabeth, #190, born Rodley and christened Calverley St Wilfrid 22 Dec 1735.

In 1750 a Robert of Calverley married Ann Hardcastle #171 at Calverley St Wilfrid. I do not know who he was but have presumed that this Robert married for a third time. There appear to have been no children from this union.

It seems clear that Robert was an active member of the Established Church at Calverley, so it is a little odd that apparently two or perhaps three of his children were not christened there. The explanation may be that his first wife was Nonconformist, a view supported by the fact that her marriage and death was recorded in the register kept by the famous Dissenting minister, the Rev. Oliver Heywood.

Robert was buried at Calverley in Mar 1760.

Grace, #149, c.1697-1761. Although I have found no record of her christening, I suspect that she was born around this date. As noted above, she married Robert Hardaker, #31, her first cousin, on 9 May 1727 at Guiseley St Oswald. He was about 49 at the time, whereas she was around 30 if born in 1697. Their union is confirmed by the will of her husband written in 1729 which refers to his brother-in-law, John Hardaker, #42, Grace's brother. Evidently Robert fell ill soon after they were married, for he died in 1729, but not before Grace had provided him with a son Robert, #68, born in 1728, as described above.

In his will Robert, Grace's husband, goes into great detail about what is to happen in the event that Grace married again after his death. Perhaps he knew something, for she did re-marry, to Richard Hogg, #582, at Guiseley St Oswald on 2 Mar 1730/1. A year or so later she produced a second child, a daughter Grace Hogg, #583, who was christened at Rawdon chapel on Christmas Day 1731. Grace the mother was buried a widow at Guiseley St Oswald in Dec 1761.

William, #58, of Esholt, 1700-1777. There were two Williams born in the early 1700s and it is not easy to decide who was who in their later lives. In 1735 a William of Esholt christened his first child, Sarah, recorded at both Guiseley and Otley. (At that time, Esholt was part of Otley parish.) Two years later he christened a son William at Guiseley. It seems likely that the mother of these two children was Mary Rangdall who married a William at Baildon in 1730. Baildon is just across the valley from Esholt. However, another William married Ann Hollingsworth at Calverley St Wilfrid on 26 Apr 1736 and I believe that this couple lived at Bolton, near Eccleshill where they had four children christened at Calverley St Wilfrid between 1737 and 1744 and perhaps two more children christened at Bradford St Peter.

As noted, there are two likely candidates for the fathers of these two families – this William, #58, son of Joshua and born in 1700, or William, #48, son of John of Carlton, born in 1708. It is hard to decide which was which. (It is also possible, given his place of residence, that this William was the missing son of John and Sarah of Eccleshill whose existence we know of from a deed but whose birth we do not have. However, I have discounted this possibility until more information to support it comes to light.)

We might expect the William born in 1700 to have married before the one born in 1708, suggesting that this William was William of Esholt. In support of that view is the fact that William of Bolton apparently called his first son John, perhaps after his own father. On the other hand, Carlton is closer to Esholt than is Rawdon, where William the son of Joshua was born and Joshua's family had more connection with Calverley than did the sons of John of Carlton. However, there is one seemingly convincing clue to support the view that William born in 1700 was William of Esholt, later at Baildon. According to notes kept by the late Mrs Rennie²⁰, he was buried at Baildon on 14 Dec 1777, a clothier aged 78. In fact, William of Esholt would have been 77 years and 9 months, which is close. We don't have a birth date for William son of John but he was christened in 1708 and it is most unlikely that he would have been eight years old at christening.

So it seems almost certain that it was this William, #58, who married Mary Rangdall, #223, at Baildon on 3 Jun 1730 and that the couple, who lived at Esholt, had two children:

- Sarah, #224, christened 21 Aug 1735, recorded at both Otley and Guiseley. She married Jeremiah Ambler, #773, a butcher, at Otley on 8 October 1755.
- William, #225, christened 24 Sep 1737 at Guiseley.

As noted, he died in 1777 and Mary his wife was buried at Baildon St John the Evangelist on 14 Jul 1799, a widow.

Joseph, #59, clothier of Greengates, 1702-c1766. There were at least two, probably three or possibly four, Joseph's having children in the early 1720s to 1740s. In 1727 Joseph, a clothier of Apperley Bridge christened a son at Calverley. From 1729 to 1736 Joseph, a yeoman of Yeadon, christened four children at Guiseley whilst from 1729 to 1744 Joseph, cooper of Bramley, christened four children there. Finally, in 1740, a Joseph, clothier of Greengates, christened a child at Calverley. Sorting out which of the Josephs was whose son and who each one married is complicated by the fact that there are only two candidates for births at the right time and only two candidates for marriages at the right time.²¹ Evidently, unless there were really only two Josephs, some critical information is missing.

Since Apperley Bridge and Greengates are close, I have tentatively assumed that the two children of Josephs, clothiers, shared the same father, despite the long gap in time between their births in 1727 and 1740. That could be explained if a first wife died and this Joseph married again, but there is no evidence of that. Perhaps there was just a long gap when the couple failed to conceive, or maybe the records of the births or christenings of children born in the intervening years are missing. For example, it seems that records for this period from the nearby Rawdon Baptist Chapel, located not too far from Apperley Bridge, have vanished.

The records show that Joseph of Rawdon married Elizabeth Harrison, #686, of Wakefield, on 6 Aug 1726 at Bradford St Peter. The two candidates I have for this Joseph are:

- Joseph #59, the son of Joshua was born at Rawdon (christened 19 Nov 1702), and
- Joseph #45, the son of John was born at Yeadon (christened 6 Jan 1702/03).

Mainly because the spouse of Elizabeth was from Rawdon, I assume that Joseph #59 was the one who married Elizabeth.

The only children so far found for this presumed couple are:

- Samuel, #115, born at Apperley Bridge, christened 17 Jun 1727 at Calverley, and
- Sarah, #687, born at Greengates, christened 29 Jun 1740 at Calverley.

Because of the long gap between the two children, I am more confident that this Joseph was the father of the first of these children than I am about the second.

²⁰ Mrs Renee Rennie's family history papers are in the WYAS at Bradford.

²¹ The problem could be due to transcription errors with 'Jos^h', a common abbreviation of 'Joseph' in the registers, being transcribed in error as 'Joshua'.

I have found no record of the death of this Joseph at Calverley, but there are two records of burials of Josephs of Bradford at the Parish Church there, one in 1766 and one in 1767. One of those could have been this Joseph, which begs the question of who the other one was. It is possible that Joseph, the husband of Elizabeth was buried at Bradford St Peter if they had moved from Greengates to nearby Eccleshill which, in those days, was part of Bradford Parish. I have also failed to find a record of the death of Elizabeth, the presumed mother of the above two children.

Aside about the Joseph, #713, cooper of Bramley, c1700-1760. The above leaves a third Joseph unaccounted for. A Joseph Hardaker married Esther Ellis, #155, at Calverley St Wilfrid on 21 April 1728.

At this stage, I cannot be sure who this Joseph's father was. There are two candidates, #45, son of John #16, b. c. 1703, and #59, son of Joshua #14. Both had brothers called William (see below) With little basis for a choice, we know that the father John #16 was at Carlton near Yeadon so it is somewhat likely that Joseph #45 of Yeadon was his son. That is supported by the fact that this Joseph called his first son John. Moreover, although there is much uncertainty, I suspect that Joseph #59 married Elizabeth Harrison #686 in 1726 and that this couple lived at Greengates where a son Samuel #115 was born in 1727. Those assumptions leave me with no candidate for the birth and parentage of this man.

Joseph the Cooper left a will, dated 17 May 1760. In it he mentions his 'loving brother William'. Unfortunately, both the two contending Josephs had elder brothers called William, and this was a very popular name in those days. It is true that Joseph son of John of Carlton also had a sister Beatrice, which might suggest that he was the one who married Easter and gave his first daughter that name, but I have tentatively assumed not for the reasons already stated. At this stage, therefore, there is great uncertainty about which Joseph was which and, indeed, how many different men we are dealing with.

I think we can rule out the possibility that this Joseph was the father Samuel, #115, christened at Calverley St Wilfrid in 1727, and assigned above to Joseph, #59. Samuel was born well before the marriage of Joseph the cooper to Esther. Moreover, the fact that this Joseph makes no mention of a son Samuel in his will seems conclusive since I believe that Samuel survived well beyond 1760 when Joseph wrote his will.

At this stage, therefore, I cannot connect Joseph, cooper of Bramley, to the Hardakers descended from Roger of Rawdon. However, the fact that his son Joseph, #159, apparently went to live in Horsforth before his unfortunate death by drowning in 1782, seems to indicate that such a link is yet to be discovered.

James, #60, of Guiseley, 1704-1768, married Hannah Whitticker, #79, at Guiseley St Oswald by banns on 7 Oct 1731. The children, christened at Guiseley, were:

- James, #80, christened 8 Feb 1733
- Hannah, #81, christened 24 Jun 1737, perhaps buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 27 Jun 1760, in which case she died unmarried aged about 23.
- John, #82, christened 24 Aug 1748.

The father of James was reported to be of Yeadon whereas the father of Hannah and John was a labourer of Guiseley. The long gap between Hannah and John is a bit concerning, but I have no record of any other James marrying in the interval.

I think perhaps they had at least one more child:

- Grace, #714, daughter of James of Hawksworth, christened at Otley All Saints on 8 Nov 1751.

Hawksworth is about 3 km to the west of Guiseley St Oswald, which I think is near enough for this daughter to be assigned to James of Guiseley.

I think James the father was buried at Guiseley on 10 Oct 1768 when he would have been about 64. Hannah née Whitticker, #79, may have been the Hannah, wife of James, labourer of Norcroft, buried at Baildon St John the Evangelist on 30 Jun 1756. I have failed to locate Norcroft on modern maps, but it could have been near Hawksworth.

Richard, #61, of Rawdon, 1707-. At least three Richards had families in the mid-1700s, making it very difficult to sort out who was who.

First, there was Richard, #54, son of Roger, #29, whose father moved to Adel. I am reasonably sure that this Richard married Jane Clough at Adel St John the Baptist in 1736 and christened a daughter at nearby Chapel Allerton. I think that Jane died and he remarried at Chapel Allerton to Ellen Nickson in 1742. More on him later.

Second, there is a single record of Samuel, son of Richard, a labourer, christened at Rawdon on Mar 20 1747/8. The register gives no clues to who the father and mother were.

Third, at about the same time, a Richard Hardaker was baptising children in Bradford. The first record I have so far discovered was of Thomas christened in 1748, to be followed by Elizabeth in 1751, Benjamin and Joseph in 1754, and Dicky in 1756. There were also two unnamed infants of a Richard buried at Bradford, one in 1746, one in 1760, as well as a son William buried in 1763. The register entries tell us little about this Richard except that he was living in Bradford.

It is likely that the mother of these children was Mary Northrop, who married a Richard Hardaker at Bradford St Peter on Nov 19 1744. Both bride and groom were apparently from Bradford according to the entry in the Register.

A hint that this Richard was from the Rawdon area comes from the fact that a Richard from Bradford was buried at Horsforth Chapel on 21 June 1770. Mary, his widow, may have been buried at Bradford St Peter on September 24 1780.

The only two candidates for the fathers of these latter two families I know of are:

- Richard, #56, son of Roger of Yeadon, #17, christened August 1704 at Guiseley St Oswald
- Richard, #61, son of Joshua of Rawdon, #14, christened May 1707 at Guiseley St Oswald.

Because of the closeness of their birth dates there is little to help decide who was who. Moreover, both were born rather early for marriages that probably took place at least in the 1730s. However, I have failed to trace any other candidates.

I have made the judgment, very tentatively indeed, that it is more likely that the Richard who was born in Rawdon would have stayed there, so I have assumed the Richard, #61, son of Joshua was the father of Samuel christened at Rawdon. It would be easy to make the contrary case that, since at least a couple of Joshua's sons had moved to Bradford area, it is more likely that it was his son Richard who did the same. The choice is a toss-up unless I can get more evidence.

This assumption leaves unanswered the question of who Richard of Rawdon married. The only possibility I have found is in the register kept by Rev. Dickenson, successor to the early itinerant Nonconformist minister Rev Oliver Heywood, and known at the Northowram Register. Here there is a record that Richard Hardaker of Crag married Alice Houldsworth, daughter of Solomon Holdsworth of Northowram, on 20 December 1733. I do not know where Crag is but the marriage took place in Halifax St John Baptist, he a clothier of Guiseley parish, she a spinster of Northowram. I suspect that Richard met Alice through connections with Nonconformity, so perhaps the 'Crag' referred to in Oliver Heywood's Register was Crag Chapel at Rawdon, also known later as Buckstone Baptist Chapel, which was perhaps the first Baptist Chapel in Yorkshire. It grew out of Dissenting groups around Rawdon of which John Hardaker, #7, of Rawdon was an active member. Moreover, an Ales Hardaker was buried at

Buckstone Chapel in 1785. Could she have been the wife of Richard and mother of Samuel? Very tentatively, I am assuming so.

So, in summary, my guess is that Richard #61 married Alice Holdsworth, #688, on 20 Dec 1733 at Halifax, and that they had one son:

- Samuel, #100, christened Rawdon St Peter 20 Mar 1747/8. (No further information in the register).

Of course, it is a bit surprising that apparently Samuel was not born till about 14 years after the assumed marriage, suggesting either that there were earlier children who are not yet identified (perhaps among the missing records for the Rawdon Baptist Chapel), or that I have the story wrong.

Elizabeth, #65, Apr 1710- She may have married Joseph Oddy, #171, at Calverley St Wilfrid on 22 Feb 1731, although both bride and groom were 'of this parish' and it is not clear what she was doing in Calverley when she was born in Rawdon. On the other hand, at this stage I have found no other Elizabeth who might have married on that day.

Fourth Generation – Children of John, #16 (John, #7, Roger, #4)

Joseph, #45, yeoman of Yeadon, 1703-1765. As noted above, there is a lot of uncertainty about which Joseph was which. However, I have assumed that this man, who was son of John of Carlton, near Yeadon, was Joseph of Yeadon. He may have married Elizabeth Harrison, #686, of Wakefield at Bradford St Peter by licence issued on 6 August of that year, but I don't think so. As noted above, the groom was described as from Rawdon, so I have assumed that he was the Joseph, #59, son of Joshua born in Rawdon. This Joseph, son of John, must have married someone else, but I do not yet know who.

Among the papers of the Stansfield family of Esholt Hall, landowners, there is a deed relating transfer of property 'from Richard Richardson of Northbyerley esq. to Thomas Rowland of Yeadon, drover of a messuage and closes of land called Long Close. Upper Close, the Clover Close, the Grandsire Close, Foredoor Close, the Brow, the Low Ing and the Upper Ing, containing 11 acres, and occupied by Joseph Hardaker and Elizabeth Pratt.' I presume that the Joseph Hardaker mentioned as one of the occupiers was this one.

Whoever he married, I think the children of Joseph, yeoman of Yeadon, all christened at Guiseley St Oswald, were:

- Grace, #94, christened 12 Jul 1729
- Elizabeth, #95, christened 6 Mar 1731/2
- John, #96, christened 19 Jul 1734
- Ann, #97, christened 15 Sep 1736.

I think Joseph was buried at Guiseley St Oswald on 15 Sep 1765.

John, #46, 1704-1748. It is not clear what became of this man. There is no useful information about him in the wills. If he married, he could have married Elizabeth Howard in Leeds in 1735, raising a family in Leeds between 1736 and 1743, or he might have been John of Horsforth who married Sarah Smith at Guiseley in 1744 and had a large family at Horsforth between 1745 and 1767. In the latter case, he would have been about 40 at marriage and 63 when his last child was born. In either case, there is no indication as to how he came to be living in Leeds or at Horsforth when his father was at Carlton, near Yeadon.

The John of Horsforth married in 1744 could be the son John, #88, christened at Rawdon in 1715, implying a more usual age at marriage of about 28. I have therefore assumed that it is marginally more likely that this John was the one who married Elizabeth Howard, #696, at Leeds St Peter on 28 Sep 1735. In that case, the story of the family appears to have been as follows:

- John, #697, born 31 Jan, christened 8 Mar 1735/6

- Mary, #698, born 15 Apr, christened 13 May 1737
- William, #699, christened 9 Jun 1741
- Elizabeth, #700, born 2 Apr, christened 5 Jun 1743, d. 20 May 1745
- James, #701, bur. 30 Jun 1747.

All the records are from Leeds St Peter. Elizabeth the mother of this family was buried there on 15 Feb 1746/7 and her husband was buried there on 30 Mar 1747/8. What happened to the surviving children I do not know but my guess is that the parents and perhaps also some of their children died of some infectious disease.

William, #48, clothier of Bolton, 1708-1789.

As discussed above in relation to William, #58, it seems that this man married Ann Hollingsworth, #150, at Calverley St Wilfrid on 26 Apr 1736, the couple then living at Bolton, near Eccleshill. He was a clothier (i.e. a cloth maker). His first four children, christened at Calverley St Wilfrid, were:

- John, #151, christened 14 Aug 1737
- Joseph, #152, christened 1 Jul 1739
- James, #153, christened 3 Nov, 1742
- Betty, #154, christened 5 Aug 1744.

It is possible that he then moved to another address, or found it more convenient to baptise later children at Bradford St Peter, for I have records of:

- Mary, #711, christened 31 Aug 1746
- Mercy, #712, christened 6 Mar 1747/8.

I am rather uncertain as to whether this William was in fact the father of these two girls, but my best guess is that he was. The register entries for them both simply describe William as living in Bradford.

William, clothier of Eccleshill, was buried at Bradford St Peter on 16 Mar 1789. His wife Ann was probably buried at the same church on 1 Jan 1765.

See also my work on the Hardakers of Eccleshill.

Benjamin, #52, of Calverley, 1717-1765? Like William, Benjamin appears to have married at Calverley. On 26 Aug 1744 a Benjamin married Elizabeth Holmes, #250, at the church there. Both were said to be of Calverley Parish so we have to wonder what Benjamin was doing there. However, I have found no other candidates for this groom.

It seems that the couple had three daughters, all christened at Calverley St Wilfrid:

- Betty, #234, christened 13 Mar 1746, daughter of Benjamin of Bolton
- Annis, #847, christened 11 Oct 1847, daughter of Benjamin of Bolton
- Rachel, #235, born Calverley, christened Jan 1753.

The record for Rachel is dubious because it is to be found only in the IGI and nowhere else.

Perhaps Benjamin later returned to Guiseley area for a Benjamin of Guiseley was buried at the church there on 31 Mar 1765.

Fourth Generation – Children of Roger, #18, (John, #7, Roger, #4)

Richard, #56, of Bradford, 1704-1770. As discussed in relation to Richard, #61, above, there is extreme difficulty in sorting out which Richard married which wife and was the father of which children. However, for the reasons discussed, I have assumed that this Richard married Mary Northrop, #715, at Bradford St Peter on 19 Nov 1744. I think they had the following children, all recorded at Bradford St Peter:

- Un-named infant, #915, bur. 27 May 1746
- Thomas, #716, christened 22 Jan 1748/9
- Elizabeth, #717, christened 2 Jun 1751
- Benjamin, #718, and Joshua²², #719, christened 11 Aug 1754
- Dicky, #720, christened 10 Oct 1756
- Un-named infant, #975, bur. 9 Aug 1760 (possibly Dicky or another of the above)
- William, #721, bur. 8 Mar 1763.

None of the register entries gives any clue of Richard's occupation or residence, other than that he was of Bradford.

A Richard from Bradford was buried at Horsforth Chapel on 21 Jun 1770. I suspect he was this man. Mary, his widow, may have been buried at Bradford St Peter on September 24 1780.

Fourth Generation – Children of William, #27, (Roger, #12, Roger, #4)

John, #88, 1715-. As discussed above in relation to John, #46, perhaps he married Elizabeth Howard at Leeds on 28 Sep 1735. However, I judge that it is marginally more likely that this John married Sarah Smith, #324, at Guiseley St Oswald on 23 Aug 1744 and that John and Sarah were the parents of the following children, all christened at Horsforth Chapel:

- John, #237, christened 24 Sep 1745
- Margaret, #238, christened 29 Mar 1747
- William, #239, christened 16 Oct 1748
- Elizabeth, #240, christened 27 Mar 1750
- Sarah, #241, christened 16 Feb 1752, possibly buried at Horsforth Chapel, 10 Feb 1785
- Hannah, #242, christened 3 Mar 1754
- Joseph, #243, christened 23 Oct 1757
- Richard, #244 and Susannah, #262, christened 7 Apr 1760
- Ann, #245, christened 31 May 1762
- Mary, #246, christened 15 Mar 1767.

For the first couple of children, John was said to be a labourer, but thereafter his occupation was said to be clothier, if reported.

I think Sarah, his wife, died in 1777 and was the Sarah Hardaker of Horsforth buried at Rawdon chapel on 21 Apr of that year.

I think John the father of the above family may have been buried at Chapel Allerton St Matthews on 10 April 1803, aged 88. If so, he must have remarried if his wife Sarah had died in 1777, for he was described as a married man in the burial register. If so, I have failed to find who was his second wife.

Hannah, #89, 1717-, married John Atkinson, #607, at Guiseley on 20 Nov 1743. I have not traced their children.

Samuel, #374, c. 1719-. Although I have a theory that he married and was the father of the Richard who married Betty Overend at Calverley in 1770, I have found absolutely no further trace of this man anywhere in the records, apart from his mention in the will of Robert, #31, in 1729 when he would have been about 10. It is somewhat of a worry that he was not mentioned in the will of Richard, #139, in 1763 when he should have been about 44, but, of course, he could have married, had several children and died between 1729 and 1763. However, it does seem rather unlikely that he could have done that with no mention in the records.

²² Recorded as 'Joh', which could also be Joshua – not John as this name is recorded on the same page as 'Jn'.

William, #167, of Scotland, Horsforth, c. 1721-1802. I think he married Susannah Briggs, #161, at Guiseley St Oswald on 26 Apr 1748. It seems that their children, apparently all boys, were:

- Richard, #162, christened 30 Apr 1749, died in infancy
- Robert, #163, christened 20 Jan 1751, died 1763
- William, #164, christened 12 Nov 1752, died 1759
- Abraham, #165, christened 1 Dec 1754
- John, #166, christened 5 Nov 1756
- Richard, # 304, christened 27 Dec 1758
- Roger, #305, christened 18 Jan 1761
- William, #306, christened 12 Dec 1762
- Benjamin, #308, christened 10 Feb 1765
- Seth, #309, christened 23 Aug 1767.

They were said to have eleven sons, so I have one missing. All these ten sons were christened at Rawdon chapel. (If they had any daughters, it seems they did not baptise them, and in any case there was hardly time to fit in more pregnancies between the boys listed above!)

Susannah née Briggs, #161, died 23 Dec 1796, said on the gravestone at Rawdon St Peter to be aged 73. At that stage at least, the family home was at Scotland, North Horsforth.²³ William outlived his wife by several years, dying on 16 Mar 1802, said on the gravestone to be aged 83. With them was their son John, #166, who was buried on 5 Apr 1807 aged about 50, and also their son Richard, #304, who died 28 Jun 1828, aged nearly 70. Of Richard the MI states that he was a Preacher in the nearby Methodist congregation for upwards of 37 years.

Susannah, #667, c.1723-, according to a marriage licence issued on 17 Apr 1745, she was to marry Jacob Denison, #668, at Guiseley or Leeds. I have not yet found a record of the marriage itself which it seems did not take place at Guiseley since there is no record in Jackson. Nor can I find it on the IGI or in the transcription of the register by Parry and Simpson.

The licence stated that she was 22, which implies a birth in 1723, as assumed. The couple appears to have had several children, details of whom I have not listed here.

Mary, #91, 1727-, married James Barrit, #578, at Guiseley on 27 Apr 1746. I have not traced their children.

Richard, #92, clothier of Rawdon, 1730-1802. I think he married Hannah Briggs, #101, sister of Susannah, #161, wife of his brother William, on 30 Jul 1755 at Guiseley St Oswald. This couple had seven children, all christened at Rawdon chapel:

- John, #103, christened 11 May 1756
- Susannah, #102, christened 19 Mar 1758
- Hannah, #104, born 1760, christened 10 Jul 1761
- Richard, #105, christened 30 Apr 1763, died 1770
- Mary, #106, christened 27 Jan 1766, died 1771
- William, #107, christened 15 Apr 1769.

It appears that Hannah above was born on 13 July 1760, her birth being recorded at Buckstone Baptist Chapel, but she was christened at the church in Rawdon about a year later, being recorded as 'in the second year of her age'. We can only speculate why the parents had this brief flirtation with the Baptists.

²³ Lee Hardaker of north Queensland told me of a family legend that her branch of the Hardaker family used to own a manor house in Scotland (the country). Some members of the family had searched for this house. I am confident that the Scotland mentioned was the hamlet in North Horsforth. There is no manor house there.

Richard, #105, son of Richard and Hannah, was buried at Rawdon chapel on 31 Jan 1770 and Mary, #106, was buried there on 2 Feb 1771. I also have transcribed a record of the burial of another Richard, son of Richard, at Rawdon chapel on 24 Feb 1771. The burial is not included in Jackson's transcription, but I am sure it exists. Unless there was a recording error in the register, it seems that there must have been another son Richard born soon after the death of the first son of this name, but that the baby died in early infancy.

Hannah née Briggs, #101, wife of Richard of Rawdon and mother of the above children, was buried at the church there on 27 Apr 1797. Richard himself apparently followed her to the grave on 11 Apr 1802.

Roger, #93, 1733- It is hard to distinguish this Roger from Roger, #69, son of Roger, #140, born in 1732. It seems that one of them, a shoemaker of Rawdon, married Anne Moorhouse, #325, in 1756 and the other, also of Rawdon, occupation not stated, married Hannah Claughton, #332, in 1772. Indeed, it is possible that the same man married both women for there is time for Ann to have died and her husband to have remarried Hannah. At each of the marriages the groom signed the registers and the two signatures are similar, though not identical. It is impossible to be sure, but I have concluded they were not the same, for reasons given below.

I know from the MI at Rawdon St Peter that Roger who married Hannah died in 1802, aged 69, so was born about 1733. Roger #69 was baptised in 1732 and Roger #93 in 1733, so that we are not much further forward. However, Roger who died in 1763 was described as Roger junior, so I am reasonably sure that he was the Roger #69, the son of Roger #140. His father was buried in 1775, described as Roger senior. Evidently the other one, Roger #93, must have married Hannah Claughton #332 in 1772, when he would have been about 49. And Roger #69 may therefore be presumed to have married Anne Moorehouse #325 in 1756.

So far so good, but then we find rather few children to allocate between the two Rogers and partners.

I have assumed that Roger #69 and Anne had a son James, born before the marriage. James #334, the son of Roger of Rawdon was named (but not of course baptised) at Rawdon Buckstone Baptist Chapel on 26 Jul 1755. Then Roger #93 and Hannah appear to have been the parents of Ann #695, baptised at Rawdon St Peter on 25 Jan 1779, daughter of Roger of Rawdon. But these two are all the children I have found for the two couples. Possibly there were more children, either not recorded, or who were baptised at some nonconformist chapel the records of which either did not survive or have not yet been transcribed.

Fourth Generation – Children of Roger, #30, (Rodger, #13, Roger, #4)

Richard, #57, of Chapel Allerton, 1705- As noted, I think that this man married Jane Clough, #411, at Adel St John the Baptist in 1736. They were probably the parents of:

- Mary, #753, christened 26 Dec 1737 at Chapel Allerton St Matthew.

I also have a record of the burial of Mary, wife of Richard, at Chapel Allerton on 8 March 1737/38 but I suspect that this is an error and that it was Mary the daughter who died, not Jane his wife.²⁴ However, I do believe that Jane also died, although I have no record of her death or burial. I am led to this view because a Richard Hardaker of Chapel Allerton married Ellen Nickson, #724, at Leeds St Peter on June 27 1742. This marriage too seems may have ended in grief, for Ellen of Woodhouse, was buried at Leeds St Peter on April 12 1743. In the IGI she is said to be the wife of Richard, but that is not confirmed in the register entry. The failure to describe her as a daughter does support that view that the person buried was an adult. I have not found any children from this second marriage.

²⁴ On the other hand, there was an Ann Hardaker, single women of Headingley, buried at Adel St John the Baptist on November 18 1783. She could have been Richard's daughter Ann, in which case Jane his wife may have died, perhaps by then having become known as Ann.

It is possible that this Richard married for a third time, for a Richard Hardaker christened a son Joseph at Chapel Allerton St Matthew in 1750. Unless Ellen Nickson had survived, I do not know who could have been the mother of this boy and wife of this Richard. Nor do I know when Richard died.

Fourth Generation – Children of Robert, #72, (Robert, #32, Roger, #4)

Robert, #72, of Rawdon, 1727-1783. It seems that he married Ann Thompson, #74, of Rawdon at Guiseley St Oswald on 26 June 1754 and that their children were:

- Mary, #75, christened 11 May 1755
- Betty, #76, christened 6 Mar 1757
- Hannah, #77, christened 1 Apr 1759
- Sarah, #78, christened 1 Jan 1761
- Robert, #79, christened 18 Jul 1762
- Anne, #80, christened 10 Jun 1764
- Grace, #81, christened 18 May 1766
- Richard, #82, recorded as buried 18 Jan 1769.

All but Richard were christened at Rawdon chapel and Richard was buried there.

Ann the wife and mother had died in 1775 aged only about 40. She lies in the grave at Rawdon chapel of her husband's adopted parents, Richard Hardaker, #150, and Mary née Marshall, #104.

I suspect that Robert the father of the above children remarried, to Martha Craven, #212, at Guiseley St Oswald in Apr 1778. I don't think he had any more children. He died on 5 Oct 1783, said to be aged 56, and lies in Rawdon St Peteryard along with his son Robert who died in 1833. Not unusually, the stated age at death does quite match the birth date. Martha, his presumed second wife, may have been buried on 4 Mar 1791 at Horsforth Chapel.

Fourth Generation – Children of Thomas, #34, (Roger, #13, Roger, #4)

Roger, #151, of Rawdon, c.1707-1777, married Elizabeth Ross, #152, at Calverley St Wilfrid on 29 Jan 1731. I believe that they lived at Rawdon and had at least seven children:

- Roger, #73, christened 20 Oct 1732 at Guiseley St Oswald
- Ellen, #153, christened 24 Nov 1734 at Guiseley St Oswald
- Sarah, #154, christened 8 Apr 1737 at Rawdon chapel
- John, #156, christened 27 Jul 1740 at Guiseley St Oswald
- Thomas, #157, christened 11 Jul 1743 at Guiseley St Oswald. I think he may have married Mary Rhodes #273 on 14 May 1770 at Guiseley St Oswald. Both were from Horsforth. See my document on their presumed son Benjamin c.1787 to 1827.
- Elizabeth, #158, christened 1 Feb 1745/6 at Rawdon chapel
- Margaret, #159, christened 17 Apr 1748 at Rawdon chapel.

I think Roger the father of these children was buried at Rawdon chapel on 12 Aug 1777. Elizabeth his wife was buried there on 10 Aug 1765. Their daughter Margaret was buried there on 3 Jul 1753, their daughter Sarah on 6 Apr 1760, and their son John on 23 Sep 1760.

Fourth Generation – Children of Joshua, #37, (Joshua, #15, Roger, #4)

Joshua, #70, 1719-1739. Joshua, son of Joshua, clothier of Rodley, was buried at Calverley St Wilfrid on 6 Jan 1739, aged about 20, so it seems unlikely that he had any issue.

Fourth Generation – Children of Robert, #46, (Joshua, #15, Roger, #4)

John, #408, of Rodley, 1726-1799. This man was 'Owd John of Rodley', a Quaker and a well-known character who was initially a farmer and weaver and who took up the law in later life. His name is to be found as a witness to many wills and deeds of those days. Some details about his life and family are to be found in Cudworth's 1876 book *Round About Bradford*.

John married Sarah Cooper, #309, on 11 May 1757, at a Quaker marriage in Bradford. They had three sons all of whom prospered:

- John, #205, born 19 Feb 1759
- Joshua, #206, born 24 Apr 1761
- Robert, #207, born 12 Mar 1764.

John the father died 24 May 1799 and was buried at the Quaker burial ground, Rawdon. Sarah his wife died 12 Feb 1788 aged 62 and I think was buried in the same place.

Fourth Generation – Children of William, #61, (Joshua, #15, Roger, #4)

William, #242, weaver of Baildon, 1737-. William, a clothier of Otley Parish, married Elizabeth Marshall, #308, at Calverley St Wilfrid on 12 Nov 1757. The link with the Marshall family is strongly supported by the fact that their daughter Betty listed below married Samuel Hardaker and they had a son given the Christian name Marshall.

William and Elizabeth née Marshall had six children, all christened at Baildon, just across the Aire Valley from Esholt:

- William, #579, christened 24 Dec 1758, I think buried at Baildon on 14 Dec 1777, a clothier, son of William, a weaver.
- Sarah, #575, christened 16 May, 1760, buried next day
- Joshua, #756, christened 8 Mar 1764
- Mary, #577, christened 26 Jan 1766
- Mark, #758, christened 15 May 1768
- Elizabeth (Betty), #297, christened 7 Mar 1779.

William may have been the man of this name, a weaver of Browgate, who was buried at Baildon St John the Evangelist on 18 Feb 1807, when he would have been about 70. It seems likely that Elizabeth, his wife, was buried at Baildon St John the Evangelist on 8 Dec 1787, reported to be aged 48.

See also my document on the Hardakers of Baildon.

Fourth Generation – Children of Joseph, #62, (Joshua, #15, Roger, #4)

Samuel, #125, clothier of Rawdon, 1727-. Son of a clothier of Apperley Bridge, he became a clothier of Rawdon. He apparently married Mary Burrow, #126, on 1 Mar 1755 at Guiseley St Oswald. He and Mary seem to have had a big family, possibly including two lots of twins:

- William, #127, christened 7 Nov 1756
- Sally, #128, christened 11 Feb 1759
- Mary, #129, christened 27 Apr 1760. She may have married Joseph Perkins, #193, at Guiseley St Oswald on 6 May 1787.
- Betty, #130, christened 30 Jan 1763
- Samuel, #131, christened 9 Jun 1765. I think he married Hannah Oates, #137, at Guiseley St Oswald on 21 Nov 1784. Some of his descendants emigrated to Walcha in New South Wales, not far from Armidale where I live. For more details see the book by Julie Hardaker Moss, *Rawden to Walcha: A History of the Hardakers and Associated Families* privately published in 1988.
- Grace, #132, christened 12 Feb 1769. She may have married James Jackson, #194, at Guiseley St Oswald on 26 Nov 1792.
- Benjamin, #133, christened 1 May 1774.
- Joseph, #134, christened 1 May 1774
- John, #135, christened 4 Jan 1778
- Nancy, #136, christened 4 Jan 1778.

All these children were christened at Rawdon chapel. I have no information about the deaths of the parents.

Fourth Generation – Children of James, #63, (Joshua, #15, Roger, #4)

James, #84, of Guiseley, 1733-, married Elizabeth Myers, #87, of Guiseley at the church there on 17 Nov 1766. Their children were:

- Joshua, #88, christened 11 Oct 1767 (d. 1769)
- James, #89, christened 17 Sep 1769
- William, #90, christened 3 May 1772. He may have married Sarah Winterburn, #148, at Guiseley St Oswald on 7 Oct 1796.

All were christened at Guiseley St Oswald. I have no information on the deaths of the parents.

Fourth Generation – Son of Richard, #64, (Joshua, #15, Roger, #4)

Samuel, #107, of Buckstone Chapel, 1747-1793? I assume married Grace Dennison, #118, on 11 Apr 1774 at Guiseley St Oswald. I think they had six children the births being all recorded at Buckstone Baptist Chapel:

- William, #119, born 27 Jan 1775
- Mary, #120, born 25 Aug 1776
- James, #121, born 6 Mar 1778
- Samuel, #122, born 1 Jul 1780, presumably died as an infant.
- Hannah, #123, born 19 Jun 1781. She may have married Samuel, #140, at Calverley on 29 Apr 1811
- Samuel, #124, born 9 Mar 1784.

Samuel, the father of this family, may have been buried at Buckstone Chapel in 1811, with no other details given in the Register. His wife Grace appears to have been buried there on 30 May 1788, although another Grace of Rawdon was buried at the same chapel on 24 Sep 1793. The Register entries are unhelpful in sorting out who was whom.

Aside on Buckstone Baptist Chapel. The Baptist interest of Rawdon is supposed to have arisen from visits to the village by William Mitchell and David Crossley, two natives of Heptonstall, who, in about 1680, commenced a system of itinerant preaching, resulting in numerous congregations being formed. William Mitchell frequently preached at Rawdon, and subsequently settled in the neighbourhood, where he continued until his death in 1705.

In the early days the congregation met for worship under Buckstone Rock at Rawdon, atop of which the Rawdon Golf Clubhouse now stands. The cavities in the rocks are still to be seen where posts and beams were inserted to give additional shelter.

In 1712 land in Crag Wood, Rawdon, was purchased for the first chapel and the building was completed soon thereafter. It was known as 'Craig' or 'Cliffe' chapel. In 1715 the first pastor was ordained and in that year the church became independent of its parent community at Rossendale, near Bacup, in Lancashire. Later the chapel was to be rebuilt twice on a more convenient site in Micklefield Lane. Sadly, it has now been pulled down and all that remains is a commemorative sun dial in a private garden and a few bits of ornate masonry that have been incorporated as features in some modern houses built on the old chapel grounds (including some gravestones used for patios).

From early times a 'Church Book' was kept which was reported to have survived till relatively recent times. (A publication by G.B. Wood in 1965 to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the chapel contained a photograph of a page from the church book.) Unfortunately, the church book seemed to be lost and I tried to organise a search for it – not easy to do from Australia where I live. In time I gave up, but then found a mention of it on the Internet. It was in the Library of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society in Leeds. Fortunately, I was able to travel there and inspect in fact two church books and a book of accounts. As I expected, there was little genealogical information in the books but certainly some. I hope one day to find the time to extract what I can from these records.

Fifth and Subsequent Generations

As should be clear from the many unresolved issues above, by the fifth generation, the Hardaker family descended from Roger of Rawdon, #4, who died in 1667 had become so numerous and so widespread that it is not possible to trace everyone. Instead, individual groups have been studied with, where possible, links established to the family tree described above. I hope to make the results of these investigations available from time to time as the work progresses.

I do have an extensive tree of the descendants of Richard Hardaker, #291, my ancestor, who married Betty Overend, #292, at Calverley in 1770. Despite my best efforts, I have not yet been able to link him unequivocally to the descendants of the first Roger of Rawdon, even though I am almost sure he was a member of this family.