

No 23 January 2017

1. 242452 Private Percy Ashmore 10th/11th Battalion, Highland Light Infantry. In the 1911 census Percy and Marshall Elliott were both shown as living with Marshall's father John who was also Percy's Uncle. Percy's sister Mary Hannah was also living with them. They were all living in the cottage at the bottom of Smalldale (Smalldale End Cottage). In 1914 17 year old Percy played the part of Dick in the village production of Dick Whittington. The 10th/11th was heavily engaged in the Battle of Vreaucourt in France when Percy was killed action on 22nd March 1918. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial in France.
2. 67794 Private Marshall Elliott 16th Battalion Yorks and Lancs Regiment (later 449589 Drummer King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry). Marshall was born to John and Susannah Ann Elliott on 1887. He was living with his cousin Percy Ashmore on Smalldale in early 1911 but married Lily Holmes in August that year and moved to Yard Head. He was working as a comb maker when he enlisted with the Yorks and Lancs in January 1917. Marshall was well known as a musician in Bradwell and he can be seen with his bugle in a photograph taken in 1911 (After Seth p47). With his musical interests it is not surprising that when he transferred to the KOYLI he did so as a drummer. For many years after the war Marshall played his bugle at the Remembrance Service in November. (It has been said that after his death in 1964 Marshall's ghost appeared at the top of the stairs in Smalldale to play the Last Post.)
3. 240876 Private Samuel Middleton 2/6th Battalion Notts & Derby (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment. In 1911 17 year old Samuel was living with his father Lewis and mother Rose Christianna in Hollowgate. Samuel was working as a farm labourer at that time, He came safely through the war and on 1st October 1919 he married Frances Wilson in Hope. When Samuel died on 8th June 1949 he was living at Hill Head.
4. 74460 Driver (later 157301 Sergeant) George Charles Bland No.5 Reserve Brigade Royal Field Artillery. When 29 year old George enlisted in 1915 he was living on Smalldale with his wife Eliza, who he had married in March 1913. He left for France the same year and served until February 1919.