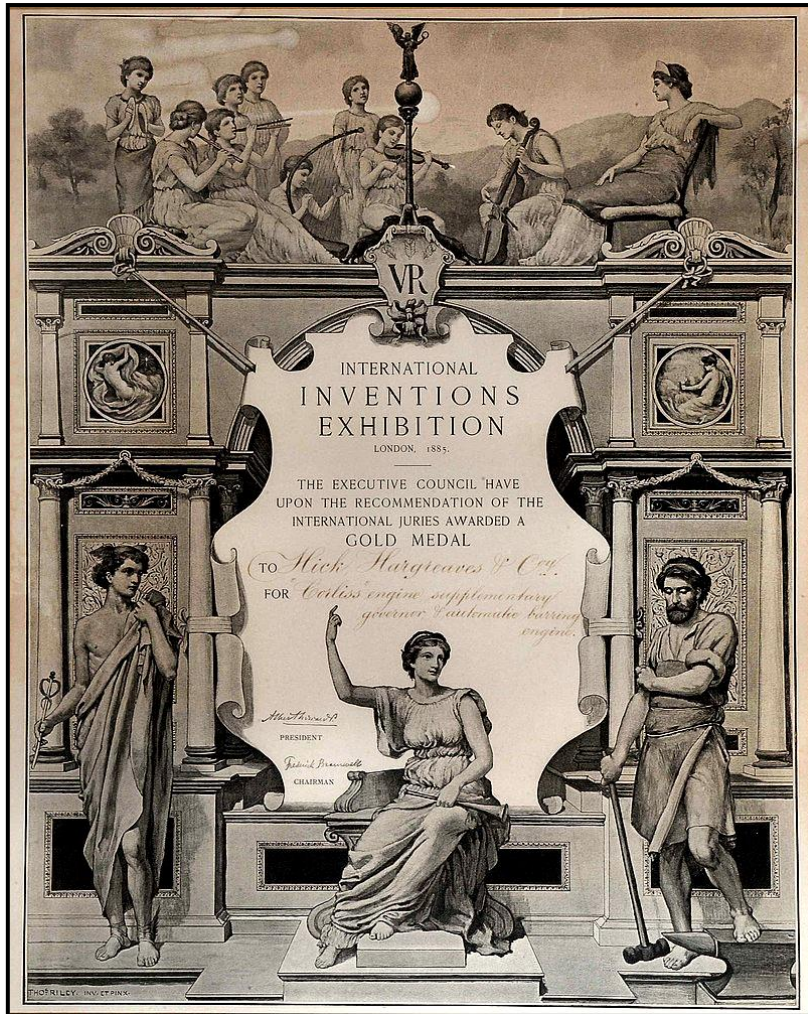
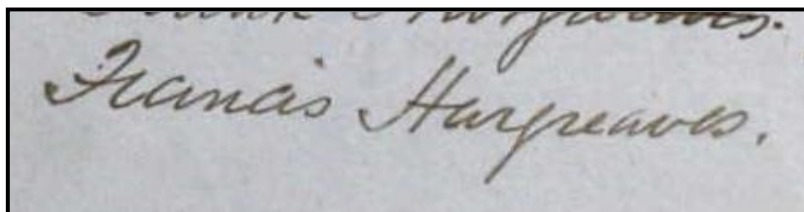


Francis HARGREAVES



[Gold Medal certificate awarded to Hick, Hargreaves and Co. at the *International Inventions Exhibition* 1885]



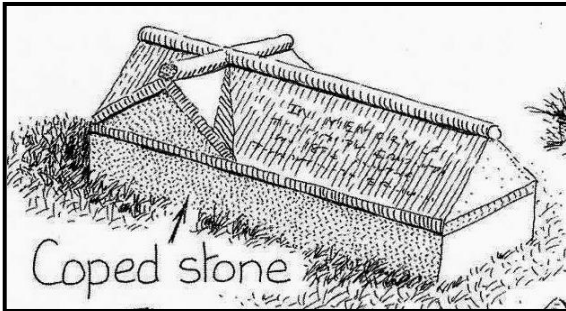
Born: 2 May 1853

Died: 20 February 1919

*IRON FOUNDER
OVERSEER OF THE POOR*



FRANK HARGREAVES



There is just a small number of a particular type of gravestone in the churchyard. It is a Coped Stone and is described as "any stone with a coping, especially one with a peaked (roof-shaped) top. **Coped stones** were common in the British cemetery tradition from the eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries." They are mostly cut from granite, which may be grey or pink in colour.



This stone is sited on the vestry side of the church and is very close to a large tree. It was erected in memory of **Frank Hargreaves** of Broom House, Eccles, who died on 20 February 1919, and was buried on 22 February. What makes this interesting is not just the shape of the headstone, but the address (Broom House, Eccles) and the name of the wife, Ada Valentina. The name Frank has caused some initial confusion, since research shows that he was

mainly addressed as **Francis** in records.

Francis Hargreaves was baptised on 2 May **1853** at Bolton-le-Moors to William and Catherine Whittington. Bolton-le-Moors is commonly known today as St. Peter's Church and is the parish church of Bolton. He was baptised by C. R. Piling, the curate, and his abode was simply given as Great Bolton. The father, **William**, was an Iron Founder and **Francis** was usually referred to in the censuses as an Iron and Steel Manufacturer, and latterly as a Mechanical Engineer. Clearly, father and son worked in the same kind of business. And research has revealed that it is of interest to begin with a short summary of the life of **William**, even though he has no connection with St. Mark's.

William Hargreaves himself was baptised on 28 February **1822** at St. Bartholomew, Westhoughton. His parents were named as John Hargreaves and Tabitha. His father was of West Houghton [sic] and his occupation was a Carrier - an interesting title in itself. John was baptised on 13 January 1780 in Westhoughton, and died on 10 July 1860 in Southport. He was buried on 13 July 1860 at All Saints, Hindley, aged 81. Tabitha had been buried at the Chapelry of All Saints, Hindley, on 11 March 1847, aged 65, having been born c.1782. Curiously, they married in the year 1800 at Bradford Parish Church, Yorkshire. They had 8 sons (William being the eighth) and 4 daughters. John's will, with six codicils, was proved in Liverpool on 23 August 1860. His estate was valued at approximately £400,000!! An astonishing amount for a Carrier - but more about that later.

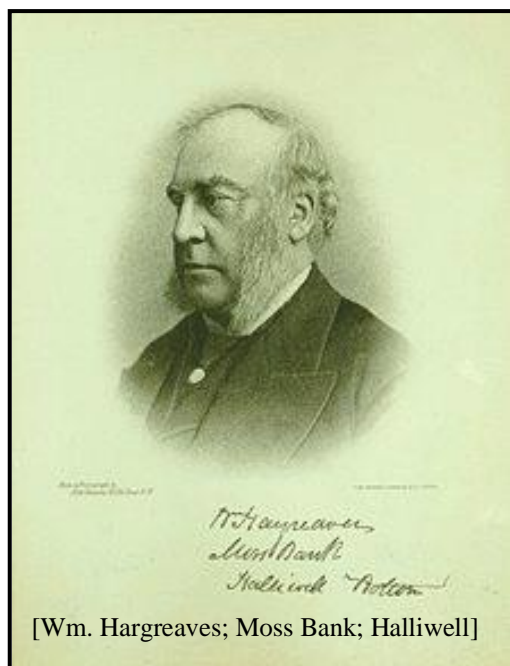
No.	Date du Mariage.	Noms de Baptême et de Famille des Mariés.	Age.	Condition.	Rang, Etat, ou Profession.
No.	When Married.	Christian and Family Names of the Parties.	Age.	Condition.	Rank, Trade, or Profession.
159	May 2 ^o	William Hargreaves Whittington	23	Bachelor	gentleman
		Catherine Kearsley	24	Spinster	
Married in the Parish of Saint Saviour in conformity with					
Ce Mariage a été célébré entre nous { William Hargreaves					
This Marriage was solemnized between us { Catherine Whittington Kearsley					

William Hargreaves married Catherine Withington (also Worthington, Whittington) Kearsley on 2 May **1845**, at St. Saviour, **Jersey**. He was aged 23 and she was 24. Both had been born in Lancashire, William at Westhoughton and Tabitha at Hindley. And yet they were married in Jersey. The residence for both was St.

Domicile lors du Mariage.	Lien de la Naissance.	Nom et Prénom du Père.	Rang, Profession, ou Etat du Père.
Place of Residence at the Time of the Marriage.	Place of Birth.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank, Trade, or Profession of the Father.
S. Helier	Lancashire West Houghton	John Hargreaves	Carrier
S. Helier	Hindley Lancashire	Edward Hargreaves	Gentleman
He visto and ceremonies of the Church of England, by Helier, by me			
En présence de	Témoins.		James Kemery M.A. Off. Minister.
In the presence of	Witnesses.		

away from the canals. In the early 1830's, the Hargreaves family quickly agreed contracts with the newly formed railway companies to convey goods on their behalf. As the years passed by and young railway companies emerged, the family business expanded to cover the whole of south Lancashire, from Liverpool to Manchester. The railway companies leased their operations exclusively to Hargreaves, who at that time owned about 200 wagons and even provided the locomotives.

And here begins the extraordinary tale of the Hargreaves family. There was, in Bolton, a foundry named the Soho Foundry, founded in 1833 by Benjamin Hick with his two sons, John and Benjamin. They very quickly started to build steam engines, and the first engines delivered were seven four-wheel passenger types for the London and Birmingham Railway, the first being delivered in July 1837 and the remainder in 1838. Benjamin Hick died on 9 September 1842, but the firm continued under the management of his son, John Hick. In **1845**, John Hick took into partnership **William Hargreaves**, his brother-in-law, and Benjamin Hick and Sons was renamed **Hick, Hargreaves and Co.**



[Wm. Hargreaves; Moss Bank; Halliwell]

Soho Iron Works was close to Bolton Trinity Street Station. It had its own railway system, and was connected to the main line serving Great Moor Street station. The works was bounded on the west by the railway, to the north by Crook Street, and elsewhere by Bridgeman Street and Burns Street.

In 2002, after 170 years at the Soho Ironworks on Crook Street, Bolton's oldest surviving engineering company relocated to a new site within the borough, at the Wingates Industrial Estate. The Hargreaves family relinquished their interest in the firm in 1968 and it is now part of the BOC group.



The census of **1871** shows that **William** lived at Darley Hall, Farnworth, with 5 sons and 3 daughters, plus 8 domestic staff. Darley Hall stood in what is now known as Darley Park and was at one time a mansion of considerable importance, the estate extending from lower Darley to the top of Rawson Street. It was built by Benjamin Rawson, who was a chemical manufacturer and noted benefactor, in about 1806, and who lived there for many years. James Rothwell Barnes also lived there later and died at the hall in 1849. Tenants after that were Captain Laws and **William**

Hargreaves of Hick Hargreaves who left in 1873. The Hall itself was demolished in about 1914. The early-19th-century Darley Hall sat within extensive grounds of about 300 acres and had a kitchen garden. His wife, Catherine, died in 1873 and he and the unmarried members of his family relocated to 60 The Promenade, North Meols, shortly after his wife's death. Catherine was buried at St. Michael's, Great Lever, on 27 February 1873, aged 52.

The WILL of **William Hargreaves** was proved at Manchester on 11 December. His abode was Moss Bank, Halliwell, near Bolton. He died there on 1 October **1889**. The executors were John Henry Hargreaves of The Beeches, Sharples, near Bolton; **Francis Hargreaves**, Engineer, of Greenbank, Pendleton; Percy Hargreaves, Engineer, of Moss Bank, the sons; and Charles Stuart Pickering Robson, Land Agent, of Over Hulton. The value of his estate was in excess of £586,000 (approx. £76m today). **William** was also buried at St. Michael's, Great Lever, on 5 October **1889**, aged 67.

This, in a nutshell, was the background to **Francis Hargreaves**, buried here. As mentioned earlier, he was baptised at Bolton on 2 May **1853**, to William and Catherine.

18	Francis William Hargreaves	Great	Iron & Brass
No.	St. Michael's	Bolton	Founder
18			

The first census to contain the name of **Francis**, **1861**, shows that he was with his family at Darley Hall.

William Hargreaves	Head	M	39	Engineer & Ironfounder	b. Westhoughton
Catherine W.	Wife	M	40		b. Hindley
Catherine F.	Daur		10		b. Bolton
Jessie	Daur		9		b. Bolton
Francis	Son		8		b. Bolton
Emily	Daur		3		b. Farnworth
Percy	Son		1		b. Farnworth
+ 8 staff					

By **1871**, very little had changed. The family was still living at Darley Hall, although on this occasion more family children were there. The younger children, including **Francis** (18), were all scholars. The three eldest sons, William Edward (b.1846), John Henry (b.1847), Frederick Kearsley (b.1848), were each recorded as Assistant Engineers. Then, in **1876**, Francis married. The ceremony took place on 17 October, by licence, at the parish church of St. Marylebone, London.

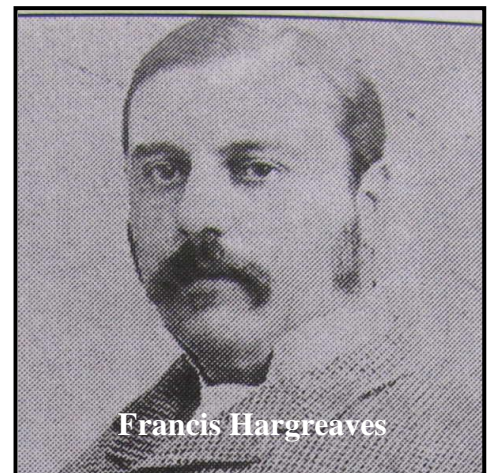
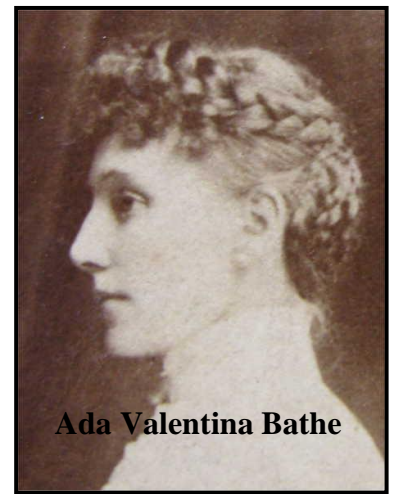
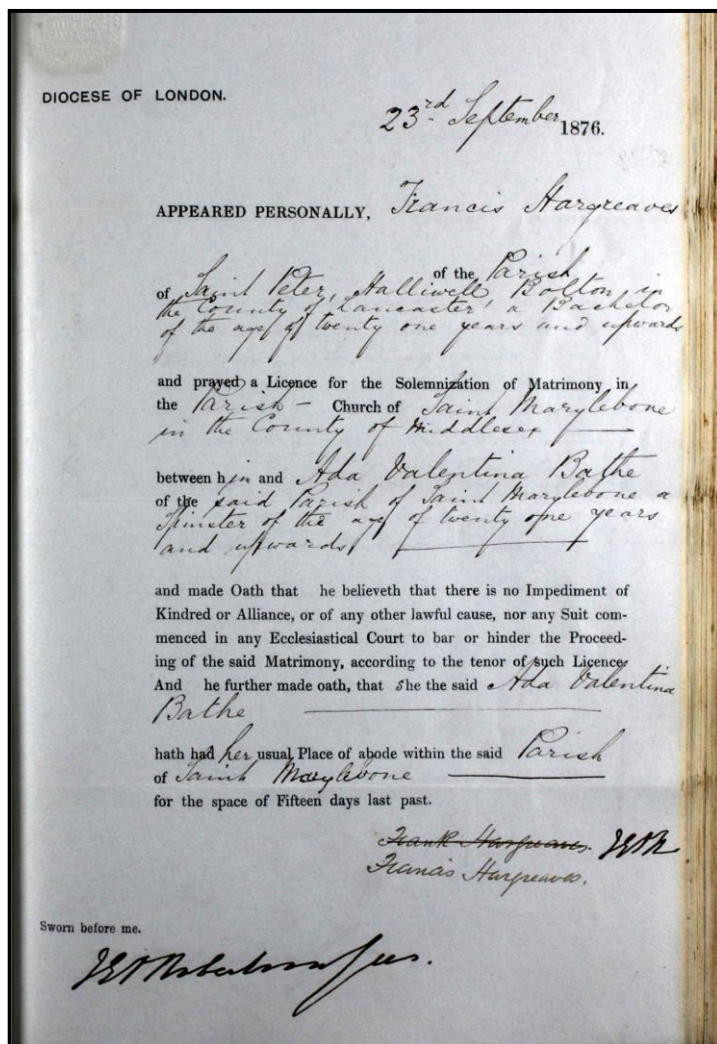
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1876 Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of St Marylebone in the County of Middlesex

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
249	17th October 1876.	Francis Hargreaves of Bath	Full age	Bachelor	Engineer	St Peter Halliwell Bolton Lancashire	William Hargreaves	Engineer
		Ada Valentina Bath	age	Spinster	—	St Marylebone	William Bath	Gentleman

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Licence or after _____ by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Francis Hargreaves } in the Presence of us, { S. A. Bath M.A. }
 { Ada Valentina Bath } { William Bath }
 Minister of the Gospel



Above is a copy of the Marriage Licence signed by **Francis Hargreaves**.

The name **Ada Valentina**, his wife who is also buried her, deserves some research. Given their marriage in **1876**, it seemed likely that she would appear in the **1871** census living with her parents. And that was certainly the case. The Bathe family was living at 25 Sussex Place, St. Marylebone. The details are as follows:

William P. Bathe	Head	M	62	[No occupation recorded]	b.Wroughton, Wilts.
Anne M.	Wife	M	49		b. London
William C.	Son	U	22	Shipbroker's clerk	b. London
Louie Mary	Daur	U	20		b. Muswell Hill
Anthony W.	Son	U	19		b. Muswell Hill
Rosia N.	Daur	U	17		b. Muswell Hill
Ada V.	Daur	U	16		b. Muswell Hill
+ 3 servants					



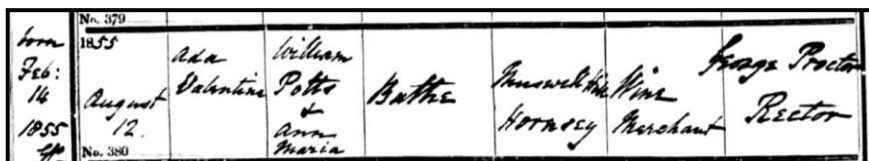
As the census shows, her father, William Potts was born in Wroughton, Wiltshire, but other censuses state Elcombe. He was baptised at the parish church on 10 March 1809, the son of John and Louisa (née Potts) Bathe. By 1830, he had already relocated to London, as testified by Freedom of the City Papers, dated 8 June 1830. He was '*admitted into the freedom of this City by Redemption in the Company of Musicians*', paying the sum of 46 shillings and 8 pence.

He married Ann Maria Cameron on 22 June 1847 at Northaw, Herts. By 1851, aged 41, he had moved to 2 St. James Lane, Hornsey, Middlesex, with his wife Anna

Maria (29), William C. (2), Annie (16mo) and Louisa M. (3mo). Ann Cameron, mother-in-law (Widow, 58, born Lincoln) was with them. William Potts was a Wine Merchant. This is a little curious, since he was admitted as a Freeman of London into the Company of Musicians, and yet there is no evidence that he followed music as a career. Indeed, in 1838, he and three others dissolved their partnership as tavern keepers in London. In 1863, it would appear that he was a Freeman of both the Cooks' Company and the Vintners' Company and this dual membership caused some concern over voting rights. In the end, his name was expunged from the Cooks' Company.

He died on 23 February 1879 at 25 Sussex Place, Regent's Park. His estate, valued at £70,000, was left to William Cameron Bathe and Anthony Wroughton Bathe, the sons, and **Francis Hargreaves**, son-in-law, of South Bank, Pendleton, Manchester. His widow, Anna Maria, continued to live in Sussex Place, through the censuses of 1881 and 1891, (aged 59, then 69), with her daughter Rosa M. (24, then 36). When she died on 5 February 1895, her official address was Sussex Place, but she died at Broom House, Eccles.

One other interesting piece of information is the connection between the Hargreaves and Bathe families. In addition to the marriage between Francis and Ada referenced above, another took place between the families. On 8 September 1875, at St. Peter's church, Halliwell, Bolton, *'William Cameron, eldest son of William Potts Bathe, Esq., of Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London, married Catherine Frances, eldest daughter of William Hargreaves, Esq., of Moss Bank, Halliwell, near Bolton.'* [Liverpool Mercury Thursday 9 September 1875 - Ed.]. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. J. Shepherd Birley, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Stephen Bathe, cousin of the bridegroom. Indeed, a family affair. The interesting feature is how and why these two families, one in the north and the other in London, came to know each other.



The baptism record for St. Mary the Virgin, Monken Hadley, Middlessex, shows that Ada Valentina was born on 14 February 1855 and baptised on

12 August. Her father was a Wine Merchant. She married **Francis Hargreaves** on 17 October 1876. She and Francis were to have 3 children: Herbert Frank (b. 1878); Ada May (b. 1879; bp. St. Luke, Weaste); and Constance Louise (b. 1883; bp. St. Luke, Weaste). She died on 2 July 1940 and was buried here, although she died at an address in Holywell, Flint, and her abode was in London.

In the **1881** census, the family was at 27 Eccles Old Road, Pendleton.

Francis Hargreaves	Head	M	28	Iron & Steel Manuf.	b. Bolton
Ada V.	Wife	M	26		b. Muswell Hill
Herbert F.	Son		3		b. Pendleton
Ada M.	Daur.		2		b. Pendleton
+ 5 servants					

And by the time of the **1891** census, they were at 7 Sandy Lane, Seedley, Pendleton

Francis	Head	M	38	Steel manufacturer	
Ada V.	Wife	M	36		
Herbert F.	Son		13		
Ada May	Daur.		12		
Constance L.	Daur.		7		b. Pendleton
+ 6 servants					

The *Manchester Evening News* of Wednesday 29 March **1893** reported that Francis Hargreaves, of Broom House, Pendleton, had his name put forward that morning at Salford Town Hall as an Overseer of the Poor in Pendleton.

In **1895**, the firm of Hick, Hargreaves & Co. was awarded a gold medal certificate at the International Inventions Exhibition held in South Kensington in 1885. As with the earlier exhibitions in a series of fairs in South Kensington following the Great Exhibition, Queen Victoria was patron. It opened on 4 May¹ and three and three-quarters of a million people had visited when it closed 6 months later.

In the **1901** census, Francis was living at 71 Eccles Old Road.

Frank Hargreaves	Head	M	48	Mechanical Engineer	
Ada	Wife	M	46		b. Barnet, Herts
Constance	Daur.	S	17		b. Pendleton
+ 9 servants					

In **1908**, his son Herbert Frank Hargreaves, was buried on 1 December, aged 31. His abode was written as Broom House, Eccles Old Road, Pendleton.

By **1911**, **Francis** and **Ada** were living alone at Broom House, though with a large domestic staff.

Francis Hargreaves	Head	M	58	Mechanical Engineer	b. Bolton
Ada V.	Wife	M	56		b. Barnet, Mx.
+ 8 servants					

Francis Hargreaves died on 20 February **1919**. The burial record for St. Mark's shows:

Frank Hargreaves -
Age: 66 years
Abode: Broom House, Pendleton
Grave: 57 & 58 Brick grave
Buried by: H.W. Thorne

and for his wife Ada:

Burial: 5 Jul 1940 St Mark, Worsley, Lancashire, England
Ada Valentine Hargreaves -
Age: 85 yrs.
Abode: Preswylfa, Mold

WILL

HARGREAVES Francis of Broom House, Pendleton. Died 20 February 1919. Probate LONDON 14 October to Ada Valentina Hargreaves, widow, and Myles Fenton Davies, solicitor. £82,493. [Over £4m today].

More detailed information can be found about the Hargreaves family and business in the book by Williams-Ellis, Elizabeth (2004), *The Carrier's Tale: The Hargreaves Family of Bolton & Westhoughton*, C.C.Publishing (Chester). ISBN 0949001236

