

Police-Sergeant George Exelby d 10 March 1925



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
GEORGE EDWARD EXELBY
WHO DIED 10TH MARCH 1925
AGED 51 YEARS
ALSO OF MARY ELEANOR EXELBY
WHO DIED 28TH MARCH 1948
AGED 75 YEARS
ALSO OF OUR DEAR MOTHER
ELIZABETH EXELBY
WHO PASSED AWAY 1ST JULY 1927
AGED 77 YEARS
ALSO ALBERT MILLS
WHO DIED 30TH MAY 1987
AGED 84 YEARS
ALSO HIS WIFE
IDA BLANCHE MILLS
WHO DIED 12TH SEPTEMBER 1993
AGED 86 YEARS

George was a local man who retired to Dalton after a career in the police force. Unfortunately, his retirement was brief. The Barrow News of 14 March 1925 reported:

EX P.S. EXELBY

THE INTERESTING CAREER OF A DALTON RESIDENT

There passed away on Tuesday ex-Police-Sergeant George Edward Exelby, who retired, and came to live at 34, Cleator-Street, Dalton, about 18 months ago. He hailed from these parts, for his father, the late Mr. Thomas Exelby, held the Green Farm at Urswick. Mrs. Exelby continued on the farm after his death till the family was grown up, and she now lives at 18, Wellington-street, Dalton. Her son, George, was on the farm for a time, but at the age of 21 he went out gold-mining in South Africa.

Less than a year later he came home and joined the Lancashire County Constabulary at Moss Side, Manchester, next moving to St. Annes, where he was promoted to sergeant, and where he married Miss Mary Eleanor Wilson. His next station was Altham, near Accrington, where he was complimented by the Bench for stopping a runaway horse and was promoted to "merit." It was at Chorley, subsequently, that he made his smartest capture, that of two young "cracksmen" from London, who had stolen two motor-cars and a motor-cycle and sidecar. Both men got heavy sentences. Morecambe was the Sergeant's last post, for he was there when he retired in January, 1924. He was then presented with a handsome oak clock and a pair of bronze figures by his comrades. He leaves a widow and one daughter.

The **National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations) 1993** shows that when Ida Blanche Mills (named on the gravestone), George and Mary Exelby's daughter, died on 12 September 1993 she was still living at 34 Cleator Street, Dalton-in-Furness. In the **1939 Register** (collated to produce Ration Books and see who was eligible for call-up) the residents of 34 Cleator Street were Mary E. Exelby (DoB 7 April 1872), Unpaid Domestic Duties; Albert Mills (DoB 6 August 1902), Joiner, Shipbuilding; and Ida B. Mills (DoB 16 November 1906), Unpaid Domestic Duties.

Ancestry also tells us the following:

1881 Census living at 43 Ashworth Street, Dalton in Furness were Thomas Exelby (34), Iron Miner, born York, Yorkshire; Elizabeth Exelby (30), born Urswick, Lancs.; Hannah M. Exelby (9), Scholar, born Urswick; George E. Exelby (7), Scholar, born Urswick; Albert E. Exelby (5), Scholar, born Dalton; and Phoebe Eleanor Exelby (3), born Dalton.

1891 Census living in Little Urswick were Thomas Exelby (44), Farmer, born West Cottingworth, Yorkshire (*between York and Selby*); Elizabeth Exelby (41), wife, born Urswick, Lancs; Hannah Mary Exelby (19), Farmer's daughter, born Urswick; George Ed. Exelby (17), Farmer's son, born Urswick; Phoebe E. Exelby (13), Scholar, born Dalton; Thomas B. Exelby (9), Scholar, born Dalton; William F. Exelby (7), Scholar, born Urswick; Foster W. Exelby (4), born Urswick; Elizabeth B. Exelby (2), born Urswick.

[Cumbria BMD has the following records of Exelby children, born to Thomas & Elizabeth (maiden name Wilkinson) Exelby: Hannah Mary 1871; George Edward 1873; Phoebe (sic) Eleanor 1877; Thomas Bramwell 1881; William Frederick 1883; Foster Wilkinson 1886; Elizabeth Blanche 1889; Frank Kendall 1892. There is another Exelby family listed, with the mother's maiden name Larn. They too have a son called Foster (born & died 1877), so it may well be Thomas's brother who is the father.]

1901 Census living with six other Police Constables at the Police Station, 22 Raby Street, Moss Side, Manchester was Geo. E. Exelby (28), born Urswick, Lancs.

1911 Census living at Lane End Terrace, Altham, Accrington, Lancs were George Edward Exelby (37), Police Constable, born Urswick, Lancs; Mary Eleanor Exelby (38), born Ulverston, Lancs., and Ida Blanche Exelby (1), born Altham. They had been married 5 years, and had had 1 child.

The **National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations) 1925** spells George's name as Excelby. He leaves an estate valued at £711 8s 1d to his widow.

Thomas Bramwell Exelby became a Police Constable who in the **1911 Census** was serving at Bolton-le-Sands. So too did Frank Kendall Exelby, though by 1925 he was the Inspector of Weights and Measures for Chesterfield, Derbyshire (**Kelly's Directory**).