

John Charles Woodhead



John Charles was the younger child and only son (as far as has been established) of John and Julia Woodhead. Born in 1861, he makes his first census 'appearance' in 1871, where he is found with his paternal grandparents at Chorley Lane, West Leeds.^v

John Woodhead	67	Painter employing 17 men and 3 boys	Holbeck
Elizabeth Woodhead	64		Woodhouse
Edwin Woodhead	36	Attorney at Law	Woodhouse
Walter Woodhead	24	Painter	Leeds
Joseph Glover (S-i-L)	27	Book Keeper	Leeds
Helen Glover	23		Leeds
John C Woodhead (Gson)	9	Scholar	Leeds
Ernest E Woodhead (Gson)	7	Scholar	Doncaster
Helen E Glover (GDau)	3	Scholar	Leeds
Joseph W Glover (Gson)	2		Leeds
James Glover (Gson)	8mths		Leeds
Mary Ann Wilton (Sister)(W)	69	Formerly Laundress	Holbeck

This is an interesting list of names. As noted above, Helen Glover was a Woodhead before her marriages. John S^{nr} was related to the Wiltons through his sister's marriage. John C. Woodhead had Glover cousins. Ernest C. Woodhead was the son of Edwin Woodhead who was listed as married, but no wife appears with this family grouping. To digress for a moment and to indicate the differing paths taken by John Woodhead and his cousin Ernest. Edwin had married Clara Jane Oliver in early 1859 and they with a young family and in-laws were living at Balby with Hexthorpe in 1861.^w

Edwin Woodhead	26	Solicitor's Articled Clerk	Leeds
Clara Jane Woodhead	21		Bramworth with Woodhouse
Florence Clara Woodhead	1		Balby
Baby Woodhead	1 day		Balby
Sarah Oliver (M-i-L)(Vis)	49		Bramworth with Woodhouse
Elizabeth Oliver (S-i-L)(Vis)	18		Bramworth with Woodhouse

I am not sure what happened to the baby, but the death of Florence Clara Woodhead was registered at Doncaster in the Oct-Dec quarter of 1863, just before the birth of son Ernest C. Woodhead. Within a few months of the 1871 census Edwin too had died – a promising future cut short at the age of 36, as registered at Leeds in 1871. ^v 1881 finds widow Clara Jane Woodhead, now aged 41 and earning a living as a Sempstress, lodging with the McGee family at 15 Bolton Place, Bradford. ^v For the same census, her son Ernest, now a Solicitor's Clerk was visiting the Hirst family at Headingley cum Burley. Ten years later finds Ernest, now boarding at 1 Bentley Villas, Dulwich Grove, Camberwell, and having advanced in his chosen profession. I have listed the household as there may be some significance in the reappearance of the Poole name.^w

Ade E Poole (W)	52	Living on own Means	Crowle, Lincolnshire
Ada L Poole	24		Crowle, Lincolnshire
Sarah E Poole	20	Assistant ?	Crowle, Lincolnshire
George F Poole	16	Merchant Clerk (Bread Depot)	Crowle, Lincolnshire
Ernest E Woodhead (Boarder)	37	Articled Law Clerk - Solicitor	Leeds

Just to complete the account of Clara Woodhead. I would have thought that, with the death of her husband, other members of the family may have taken her in, and so was very surprised to find in 1891 she was still apparently estranged from other members of her family, this time as one of 73 lodgers at the Model Lodging House, Bradford. At the age of 52, she was not employed as a Shirtmaker.^w To have ended up in the Model Lodging House strongly suggests that Clara had fallen on hard times. A number of cities had established Model Lodging Houses, a reflection of the mid-Victorian concern for social welfare. The Bradford establishment in was built in 1870. I have not located Clara in the 1901 census, but it is likely that she was still in Bradford, and her death at age 64 was registered in Bradford as occurring in the Jan-Mar quarter of 1904 – a sad and lonely end.^w

We know that John was at home with his mother for the 1881 census.^x A possible marriage between a John Woodhead and a Hannah Lund proved not to that of John Charles Woodhead, as the marriage certificate gives the groom's father as Jonas Woodhead, Milkman.^x An alternate marriage record between a John Charles Woodhead and a Margaret Ann Richardson was followed up with a positive result.

The marriage certificate has John Charles Woodhead marrying Margaret Ann Richardson on 13th October 1892 at St Peter's Church Leeds. He was 30 and she was 28 (which may have been understated by a few years). John's profession was given as Clerk and that of his father John Woodhead as Engineer. Prior to the wedding John Charles Woodhead was resident at Elford Grove, Roundhay Road (where the Copleston family were living in 1901 – see notes for Clarice Dixon). Margaret's father was listed as Richard Richardson, and his occupation given as Farmer. Prior to the wedding Margaret was residing at Armley Grove Road. The witnesses to the ceremony were John's mother Julia Woodhead and a man named James Warren.^x

The following account of Margaret Ann Richardson is somewhat tentative, as I have not been able match her with a father, Richard Richardson, farmer. It may be that the person cited as her father in the marriage certificate was, in fact, her brother.

The Margaret Ann in this account was the daughter of William and Hannah Richardson, born in the last quarter of 1859 at Leeds^{xi}. Her first census entry was for the April 1861 count, when her family was living at 28 Hound Street, North West Leeds.^{xii}

William Richardson	41	Blacksmith	Allwoodgate
Hannah Richardson	35		Leeds
John W Richardson	14	Cloth Dresser	Leeds
Richard Richardson	12	Machine Turner	Leeds
Hannah Richardson	10	Scholar	Leeds
Ellen Richardson	8	Scholar	Leeds
Margaret Ann Richardson	1		Leeds

For the 1871 census Margaret is found with her family at 2 East Beckett Street, North East Leeds.^{xiii}

William Richardson	52	Labourer in Iron Works	Leeds
Hannah Richardson	46		Leeds
John W Richardson	24	Machine Fitter	Leeds
Richard Richardson	22	Machine Fitter	Leeds
Ellen Richardson	18	Harding Weaver	Leeds
Margaret Ann Richardson	11		Leeds

Ten years later Hannah is a widow and at home with only two of her children. Hannah is now running a business at 187 Meanwood Road, with her son assisting. There is a slight discrepancy with her age, which has increased by 12 years since the 1871 census!^{xiv}

Hannah Richardson	58	Butcher	Leeds
Richard Richardson	31	Butcher's Assistant	Leeds
Margaret Ann Richardson	21	Milliner	Leeds

In the year before her marriage to John, Margaret is found in the household of her married sister Ellen, together with their mother at 6 Jermyn Street West Leeds.^{xv}

Thomas Thewlis	38	Stationary Engine Driver	Leeds
Ellen Thewlis	38		Leeds
Hannah Richardson (M-i-L)(W)	65	Machine Fitter	Leeds
Margaret A Richardson	29	Milliner	Leeds

It took some time to locate John and Margaret in the 1901 census, but they were finally found with John Woodhead having been recorded as J Charles Woodhead. They had left Leeds by this time and had relocated to an area of choice for a number of the younger generation of the Fretwell offshoots, particularly those working on the railways – West Ham. They were apparently childless and living at 46 Gladstone Road, Park Ward, North West Ham.^{xvi}

John Charles Woodhead	39	Railway Clerk	Leeds
Margaret Ann Woodhead	41		Leeds



ⁱ Another John Charles!

ⁱⁱ RG10/4565/p21.

ⁱⁱⁱ FreeBMD Marriage Index; RG9/3514/p12.

^{iv} FreeBMD Death Index.

^v RG11/4441/p3.

^{vi} RG12/469/p21.

^{vii} RG12/3627/p8.

^{viii} FreeBMD Death Index.

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- ix* RG11/4541/p27.
 - x* Certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXC864838.
 - xi* FreeBMD Index; Leeds CE46/102/106; certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD269234.
 - xii* FreeBMD Birth Index.
 - xiii* RG9/3382/p12.
 - xiv* RG10/4555/p5.
 - xv* RG11/4527/p2.
 - xvi* RG12/3705/p13.
 - xvii* RG13/g1567/p38.