

More Than Oliver Twist: Biography

Name: Joseph Mann

B. 1857, d. 1913

According to his 1881 census return, Joseph Mann was born in Horsforth in 1857 (1). A person of that name was baptized on 18 March 1858 at St Phillip's Church, in East Leeds (2). His younger sister Elizabeth was baptized at the same time (3). Their parents were William and Mary Mann who had married on 6 April 1856 at St Peter's Church, Leeds (4).

In 1861, Joseph Mann lived at 6 Troy Street, West Leeds. He was 5 and his sister Elizabeth 3. Both were scholars. His father William was a dyer, and his mother, Mary Ann, a charwoman. All were recorded as born in Leeds, except Joseph's mother who was born in Horsforth (5). It is possible she had Joseph before she married which may be why he refers to Horsforth as his place of birth in some records (see below).

In 1871 Joseph and his family lived at Dover Street, West Leeds. Joseph was 14 years old and worked as an errand boy. His father William was then a laborer in an iron foundry. Joseph had two brothers, James, aged 8 and John, aged 5 (6).

By 1881 Joseph Mann has moved into Leeds Workhouse, his occupation a shoemaker, born in Horsforth (7). It is possible his mother had died in 1871 which had led to his loss of a home (8).

On 25 December 1884, Joseph Mann married Matilda Russell, a widow at St Peter's Church, Leeds (9). His fortunes had lifted. He worked as a Newsagent and both he and Matilda lived at Stainburn Court, Leeds. In 1891, the couple boarded at 7 Cross Burmantofts Street, North Leeds. Joseph was recorded as being born in Horsforth and his wife, in Suffolk (10). Sadly, Matilda Mann (nee Russell) died and was buried at Leeds Beckett Cemetery on 17 November 1899 (11). Whether they had children is not known.

In 1901, Joseph Mann, now a widower, boarded at 10 Forbes Yard, Armley. His landlady was Matilda Smith, a widow, born in Alnwick, Northumberland. She had three children Robert and Annie (born in Newcastle) and William (born in Leeds) (12). Joseph and Matilda Smith married on 4 May 1901 at St Bartholomew's Church, Armley (13).

In 1911, Joseph and his second wife lived apart. Matilda Mann (nee Smith) lived at 2 Castleton Terrace, Armley Road, Leeds, with her youngest son William. Both she and her son worked in a laundry (14). Joseph lived in some type of men's hostel at 1 School Street, West Leeds and was recorded as a Newsagent (15). Perhaps he had moved there because of poor health. He died two years later and was buried at Beckett Street Cemetery on 3 March 1913, aged 55. On his burial record he was described as a Newsagent. He had died in Leeds Workhouse (16).

References

1. 'Joseph Mann'(1881)*CensusreturnforLeeds Union Workhouse, Leeds, North Leeds*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: RG11/4524, folio 103, p. 12(1881). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 1 April 2021).
2. 'Joseph Mann'(1858) Baptism of Joseph Mann, 18 March 1858. St Philip's Church, Leeds, In the West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1910 (1858). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 9 April 2021).
3. 'Elizabeth Mann'(1858) Baptism of Elizabeth Mann, 18 March 1858. St Philip's Church, Leeds, In the West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1910 (1858). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 9 April 2021).
4. 'William Mann and Mary Ann Taylor'(1856) Marriage of William Mann and Mary Ann Taylor, 6 April 1856. St Peter's Church, Leeds, In the West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1813-1935 (1856). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 27 April 2021).
5. 'Joseph Mann'(1861)*Censusreturnfor 6 Troy Street, Leeds, West Leeds*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: RG9/3391, folio 103, p. 14(1861). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 9 April 2021).
6. 'Joseph Mann'(1871)*Censusreturnfor Dover Street, Leeds, West Leeds*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: RG10/4563, folio 117, p. 21(1871). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 9 April 2021).
7. 'Joseph Mann'(1881)*CensusreturnforLeeds Union Workhouse, Leeds, North Leeds*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: RG11/4524, folio 103, p. 12(1881). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 1 April 2021).
8. 'Mary Ann Mann'(1871)*Death of Mary Ann Mann, Leeds, in the Civil Registration Death Index. 1837-1915 (1871)*. Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 7 May 2021).
9. 'Joseph Mann and Matilda Russell'(1884) Marriage of Joseph Mann and Matilda Russell, 25 December 1884. St Peter's Church, Leeds, Leeds. In the West Yorkshire, Church of England Marriages and Banns 1813-1935 (1844). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 26 April 2021).
10. 'Joseph Mann'(1891)*Censusreturnfor 7 Cross Burmantofts Street, Leeds, North Leeds*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: RG12/3693, folio 69, p. 27(1891). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 7 May 2021).
11. 'Matilda Mann'(1899) Burial of Matilda Mann, 17 November 1899. Beckett Street Cemetery, Leeds, Yorkshire. In the Cemetery Records, 1887-1900 (1899). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 27 April 2021).
12. 'Joseph Mann'(1901)*Censusreturnfor 10 Forbes Yard, Armley, Wortley*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: RG13/4212, folio 159, p. 15(1901). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 9 April 2021).
13. 'Joseph Mann and Matilda Smith'(1901) Marriage of Joseph Mann and Matilda Smith, 4 May 1901. St Batholomew's Church, Armley, Leeds. In the West Yorkshire, Church of England Marriages and Banns 1813-1935 (1901). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 9 April 2021).
14. 'Matilda Mann'(1911)*Censusreturnfor 2 Castleton Terrace, Armley Road, Armley, Wortley*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: 26898 (1911). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 4 May 2021).
15. 'Joseph Mann'(1911)*Censusreturnfor 1 School Street, Leeds, West Leeds*subdistrict, Yorkshire. PublicRecordOffice: 27036, folio 285, p. 2(1911). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 26 April 2021).
16. 'Joseph Mann'(1913) Burial of Joseph Mann, 3 March 1913 Beckett Street Cemetery, Leeds, Yorkshire. In the Cemetery Records, 1887-1900 (1913). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk>(Accessed: 27 April 2021)