



Harry S Bale & John D Bale, Isaac Stevens

18 Satham Street

Nothing is known about the military service details of brothers Harry and John Bale, other than they are listed as absent on military service in electoral registers for 1918 and 1919.

The Bale brothers and their two sisters Florence and Nellie spent their early years living at 54 Friar Gate as their father John Bale had a watchmaker's and jeweller's shop next door. The family moved to Satham Street in about 1904, and by the 1911 census Henry (born 1885) was a Railway Clerk and John (born in 1891) a Grocer's Assistant.

As single men both Henry and John would have been liable to be conscripted after March 1916 but may have volunteered earlier. The records that survive do not give any details of their service – a number of men with the Bale surname mean we cannot link records to these Satham Street residents.

On his return to civilian life late in 1919 John moved away from home and nothing of his subsequent life or career is known. He died unmarried in 1938. Henry was demobilised earlier in mid-1919. He married Minnie Agnes Smith in 1925 and they lived at 121 Mill Hill Lane with Minnie's mother. He returned to his job as a Railway Clerk. He died in 1944.

The two sisters continued to live at 18

Satham Street and Florence (born in 1881) married Isaac Stevens on 14 November 1917 at St Alkmund's, probably when he was on military leave as they applied for a special licence. This avoided the need for calling marriage banns over a number of weeks. He is listed as absent on military service in 1918 and 1919 but, like the Bale brothers, we don't know where he served. He was a plumber and gas fitter, brought up around Friar Gate, who spent much of his early life at 19 Larges Street. Born in 1879 he was one of four sons.

After the war Isaac and Florence settled at 18 Satham Street. He died in May 1937, aged only 57 and a notice about his funeral in the Derby Telegraph tells us that he had worked for over 40 years for an engineering company Messrs Jerram and Co. Ltd, Babington Lane, Derby, where he was a Foreman. Isaac was an active member of Darley Abbey Church, where he served on the Church Council.



Isaac's gravestone in Darley Abbey Churchyard. By kind permission of his great-great niece