



Abraham Horace Hirst

1887 - 1916

Abraham was born in Batley Carr in 1887 and baptised on 7th September that year in Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr. His father was Frank Hirst, a Plumber born in 1855 and died in 1916. His mother was Hannah (née Scales) born in Doncaster in 1855 and died in 1929. They were married on 29th June 1878 at All Saints Church, Batley.

Their other children were; Emily, born in 1878, Frederick Charles, born in 1881 and served in World War 1, Alice Gertrude, born in 1883, Sarah Annie, born in 1884 and died in 1889, Clara Mabel, born in 1890, Frank, born in 1893, Harold, born in 1896 and John Rowland, born in 1898.

On the Census Records for 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 the family lived at 27/29, Upper Road, Batley Carr and later at 26, Unity Terrace, Purlwell Hall Road, Batley.

Abraham was educated at Warwick Road Council School, Batley Carr and attended Batley Carr Parish Church and Sunday school and sang in the choir; he was also a member of the Dewsbury Club and Institute. He worked in his father's plumbing and painting business as an electric light fitter and was described as "*a man of fine physique*".

He enlisted in November 1915 serving as Private 4625 in the 4th Battalion Seaforth Highlanders and was sent to the Western Front in July 1916. He was killed in action on 16th November 1916 during one of the last actions of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Abraham was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing 300 Commonwealth and 300 French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Abraham is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Warwick Road Council School Memorial Plaque and on the War Memorial in Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr.

In Memory of

Private

Abraham H. Hirst

4625, 4th Bn., Seaforth Highlanders Age 29

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hirst, of Upper Rd., Batley Carr, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

HIRST A.H.