



Harry Stradling

1889 - 1917

Harry was born in Dewsbury on 10th January 1889. His father was Frank Stradling, a coal miner born in Wellington, Somerset in 1858 and died in 1917. His mother was Sarah (nee Thompson) born in Dewsbury in 1859 and died in 1941. They were married on 19th October 1879 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

Their other children were; William, born in 1880, Tom, born in 1882 and served in World War 1, Mary Emma, born in 1884, Fred, born in 1886, Sam, born in 1887 and Arthur, born in 1897.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 24, Gladstone Street, Westborough, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 30, Brewerton Lane, Staincliffe and in 1911 at 18, Back Gladstone Street, Westborough.

Harry was educated at St. John's Church of England School in Dewsbury Moor and he attended Sunday school there. His occupation was a Dyer's Labourer employed by Messrs Jas Smith and Sons, Ravensthorpe. He was married to Florence Walker (born Florence Lee in 1890 and died in 1911) on 18th February 1911 in St. Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe. The Census taken on the 2nd April later that year, records that they lived at 51, Back Gladstone Street, Westborough but Florence sadly died on 16th May 1911 from complications during premature childbirth.

He enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps on 10th December 1915 serving as Private 106897 with the 106th Field Ambulance. He was killed in action on 23rd October, 1917 during the Battle of Passchendaele and was buried in Cement House Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The original Cement House Cemetery, an irregular group of 231 graves was begun at the end of August 1917 and used by the 4th and 17th Division burial officers, by field ambulances and by units in the line until April 1918. In the years immediately following the Armistice, most of graves were added when Commonwealth graves were brought in from the battlefields and small burial grounds around Langemark and Poelkapelle, mostly dating from the Autumn of 1917. There are now 3,592 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in the cemetery, 2,425 of the burials are unidentified.

Harry is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of
Private
Harry Stradling

106892, 106th Field Amb, Royal Army Medical Corps who died on 23 October 1917 Age 28

Son of Frank and Sarah Stradling, of 18, Back Gladstone St., Westborough, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Cement House Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Steven Van Den Eynde, Aalst, Belgium.