



## **Herbert Clifford Barker**

### **1887-1918**

Herbert was born in Ravensthorpe on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1887 and baptised in Ravensthorpe Wesleyan Methodist Chapel on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1887. His father was John William Barker, a Painter and Paperhanger born in Mirfield in 1865 and died in 1920. His mother was Annie (nee Swift) born in Mirfield in 1860 and died in 1932. They were married in 1887.

Their other children were; George Percy, born in 1890 and John Cyril, born in 1897 and died in 1897.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Beacon Street, Ravensthorpe and in 1911 at 158a, Heckmondwike Road, Dewsbury and later at Belmont Terrace, Dewsbury Moor.

Herbert was attached to Westborough United Methodist Church, Dewsbury where he was a teacher at the Sunday school. He worked as a representative in Scotland for Messrs Hepworth and Company, Tailors and Outfitters in Dewsbury, but later opened his own tailoring and drapery business at Mill Road, Batley Carr in partnership with his brother Percy. He was married in 1917 to Edith Don Leo (born in Southowram, Halifax in 1891 and died in 1938). They lived at 80, Upper Road, Batley Carr and had no children. He was recognised as a good piano player.

He served as Private 43420 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers after first enlisting in the Highland Light Infantry in Pontefract. He was badly wounded in November 1917 and did not return to the front until April 1918. He died of wounds on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1918 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Casualty Clearing Station at Haringhe in Belgian Flanders. He was buried in Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery. Herbert was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The cemetery is located 18 kilometres from Ieper (Ypres) town centre on a road connecting Ieper to Poperinge and on to Roesbrugge. Bandaghem, like Dozinghem and Mendinghem, were the popular names given by the troops to groups of casualty clearing stations posted to this area during the First World War. The cemetery site was chosen in July 1917 for the 62<sup>nd</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> Casualty Clearing Stations and burials from these and other hospitals (notably the 36<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station in 1918) continued until October 1918. The cemetery contains 772 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Herbert is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in Westborough United Methodist Church.

In Memory of

Private

## Herbert Clifford Barker

43420, 2nd Bn., Royal Scots Fusiliers who died on 28 September 1918 Age 30

Son of the late J. W. and A. Barker, of Dewsbury Moor, Yorks; husband of Edith Barker, of 80, Upper Rd.,  
Batley Carr, Batley, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

