



## **Gilbert Haigh**

### **1893-1918**

Gilbert was born on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1893 in Dewsbury and Baptised on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1893 at St. John the Baptist Church, Daw Green, Dewsbury. His father was Henry Haigh, a Commercial Traveller born in Heckmondwike in 1861 and died in 1917. His mother was Sarah Jane (nee Bennett) born in Pontefract in 1862 and died in 1923. They were married on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1887 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Percy Bennett, born in 1888, Harry, born in 1890 and served in World War 1 and Annie, born in 1896.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 86, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 81, Daisy Hill, Dewsbury and in 1911 at "Brizlee House" Bank Top, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

Gilbert was a single man who was educated at Dewsbury Parish Church Day School and Sunday school; his occupation was a Clerk in the office of Yorkshire Electric Power Company at Thornhill.

He enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1909 with the Service Number J/4609. At the time of his death his rank was Leading Seaman, although he was due for promotion to Petty Officer having passed that examination on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1917. He served at different times on H.M.S. '*Ganges*', '*Donegal*', '*Indomitable*', '*Pembroke*', '*Hibernia*' and '*Raglan*'. He was killed in action on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1918, whilst serving on H.M.S. '*Raglan*' in the Eastern Mediterranean at the Battle of Imbros. He was one of the gun house members in the turret of the '*Raglan*' which was the larger of the two monitors tasked with coastal bombardment of Turkish positions and were sunk by the battle cruiser '*Goeben*' in Kusu Bay. The '*Raglan*' went down with the loss of 127 lives. The other monitor ship, the '*M28*' had 11 crew killed, while the rest were rescued by Allied vessels. Lord Kitchener's son, Viscount Broome, who was in command of the '*Raglan*', was saved. Gilbert's body was recovered and buried at Kusu Bay Cemetery on the Island of Imbros which was then under Greek Rule. After the Armistice the graves at Kusu were reburied in 1924 in Lancashire Landing Cemetery on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. Gilbert was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Gilbert 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 Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and on the War Memorial from the now demolished St. Philip's Church now displayed in Dewsbury Minster and on the Memorial Tablet to former pupils of Dewsbury Parish Church School and on the Hanging Heaton War Memorial in St. Paul's Churchyard.

In Memory of  
Leading Seaman

**G Haigh**

J/4609, H.M.S. Raglan, Royal Navy who died on 20 January 1918

Remembered with Honour  
Lancashire Landing Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

