



## **Harry Lister**

### **1896-1918**

Harry was born in Dewsbury in 1896. His mother was Martha Lister, born in Earlsheaton in 1874 and died in 1949. She was married on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1897 to Thomas McManus (born in Bradford in 1874 and died in 1914) at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury. In 1930 she was remarried to Patrick Rafferty (born in Halifax in 1873 and died in 1945).

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 35, Thornton Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 only Harry and his mother are recorded as living at 37, Back Bright Street, Dewsbury. His surname is recorded as *McManus* and his occupation is shown as a Feeder on a Printing Machine.

Harry was a single man who attended St. Paulinus School and Church; he later worked for Messrs Joseph Newsome and Sons, Woollen Manufacturers, Batley Carr.

He enlisted in Dewsbury in 1916 into the Northumberland Fusiliers with the Service Number 21748 and was later transferred to the 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion Highland Light Infantry serving as Private 41402. He was wounded in action in the early stages of the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*) and died of his wounds on 9<sup>th</sup> April 1918 in No. 24 General Hospital at Etaples, France. He was buried in Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Etaples is a town about 27 kilometres south of Boulogne. The Military Cemetery is to the north of the town, on the west side of the road to Boulogne. During the First World War, the area around Etaples was the scene of immense concentrations of Commonwealth reinforcement camps and hospitals. It was remote from attack, except from aircraft, and accessible by railway from both the northern and the southern battlefields. In 1917, 100,000 troops were camped among the sand dunes and the hospitals, which included eleven general, one stationary, four Red Cross hospitals and a convalescent depot, could deal with 22,000 wounded or sick. In September 1919, ten months after the Armistice, three hospitals and the Q.M.A.A.C. convalescent depot remained. The cemetery contains 10,771 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, the earliest dating from May 1915. Designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, it is the largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in France.

Harry 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 Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church.

In Memory of  
Private  
**H Lister**

41402, 18th Bn., Highland Light Infantry who died on 09 April 1918 Age 22

Son of Martha McManus, of 35, Back Bright St., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour  
**Etaples Military Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

