

William Henry Sharp 1889-1918

William was born in Dewsbury Moor on 6th May 1889 and baptised on 3rd July 1889 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor. His father was Andrew Sharp, a Banksman on the pit top born in Kirkburton near Huddersfield in 1848 and died in 1910. His mother was Mary Ellen (nee Booth) born in Flockton Moor near Huddersfield in 1848 and died in 1914. They were married on 8th June 1868 at All Hallows Church, Kirkburton.

Their other children were; Mary Elizabeth, born in 1869, Henry, born in 1871 and died in 1871, Emma, born in 1872, and died in 1875, Joe, born in 1876, Emma, born in 1878 and Jane Eliza, born in 1887.

On the 1881 and 1891 Census Records the family lived at 5, Back Beckett Nook, Dewsbury and in 1901 at 28, Fearnley Street, Dewsbury.

William was associated with St. Matthew's Church, Westtown. On the April 1911 Census he is working as a Bricklayer's Labourer and both he and his mother were living at the home of his sister Jane Eliza (now Mrs. Albert Jones) at 221, Huddersfield Road, Dewsbury. He was married to Annie Louisa Roberts (born in 1890 and died in 1972) on 20th May 1911 at St. Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe. They lived at Pit Yard, Scout Hill, Dewsbury and had two children; Andrew, born in 1911 and Harry, born in 1915. He later worked for Messrs Birkhead and Company, Scout Hill, Dewsbury. Annie was remarried in 1920 to Walter Heald (born in 1890 and died in 1966); they had five children between 1921 and 1928.

He enlisted in June 1916 serving as Private 203351 in the 1st/4th Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment and was sent to the Western Front in December that same year. In April 1918 he was severely wounded by shrapnel in the right arm and was and was invalided home for treatment at Bagthorpe Military Hospital in Nottingham, in October he was transferred to Becketts Park Hospital in Leeds but was taken ill on 27th October suffering from influenza which in turn caused bronchopneumonia (Spanish Flu); he died in Becketts Park Hospital on 4th November 1918 and was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery. William was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

William 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 the porch of the now closed St. Matthew's Church, Westtown.

In Memory of

Private

William Henry Sharp

203351, York and Lancaster Regiment who died on 04 November 1918 Age 29

Son of Andrew and Mary Ellen Sharp; husband of Annie Louisa Heald (formerly Sharp), of 26, Myrtle Avenue, North Rd., Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour Dewsbury Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

