

Ewart Whiteley Mann 1886 - 1917

Ewart was born at Chidswell, Dewsbury on 17th March 1886 and was baptised on 11th September 1892 at St. Marks Church, Halifax Road, Dewsbury. His birth name was recorded as *Ewart Mann*. His mother was Rose Ellen Mann, born in 1868 and died in 1938. Rose was married to Wright Marshall (born in 1847 and died in 1919) on 8th March 1896 at All Saints Church, Batley.

On the 1891 Census, Ewart Mann is recorded as the adopted son of Abraham Whiteley; on the 1901 Census he is named as Ewart Whiteley Mann. Abraham was born in Mirfield in 1850 and died in 1904. He married his second wife Betsy Wilson (nee Spencer/Lacey) on 6th December 1885. His birth name was Abraham Whiteley and other times it is shown as Abraham Mann. On the 1871 Census, Rose and her mother Mary were lodgers with the family of Abraham Whiteley and so it is a possibility that he later had a relationship with her and was Ewart's true father.

In 1911 Ewart is a boarder living with the family of Mr. Alfred Harrison 18, Grange Road, Batley and working as a piecer/yarn spinner. He was a chorister for many years at Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr. He later worked as a Cloth Finisher for Messrs G & J Stubley of Batley and was a talented humorous entertainer and sketch artist (from newspaper reports). He was married to Sarah Jane Hargreaves (born in 1890 and died in 1966) on 17th October 1914 at Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr. They had a son, Fred, born in 1916 and lived at 28, Beckett Road, Batley Carr. On Ewart's Marriage Record he declares his father to be Abraham Mann (deceased).

He served as Private 200151 in the 1st/4th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He had been a Batley territorial at the outbreak of war and was sent to the Western Front on April 13th 1915. He was gassed and shell-shocked towards the end of 1915 but recovered and was sent back to the Front in June 1916. He became ill in the July of that same year and was sent back to England for treatment and recuperation, but he never fully recovered and died of an abscess of the liver in the University War Hospital in Southampton on 9th December 1917. He was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery. Ewart was awarded the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal.

Ewart is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and on the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr.



