



Harry Pickard Marsden 1897-1920

Harry was born in Dewsbury on 22nd September 1897 and baptised on 24th October 1897 at St. Philip's Church, Leeds Road, Dewsbury. His father was Fredric Marsden, a Saddler and Harness Maker born in Dewsbury in 1868 and died in 1942. His mother was Annie Eliza (nee Pickard) born in Dewsbury in 1871 and died in 1945. They were married on 25th December 1891 at a Non-Conformist church.

Their other children were; Walter, born in 1894, Lilian, born in 1895, Eric, born in 1899, Stanley, born in 1901, Fred, born in 1903, Cyril, born in 1906 and Maurice, born in 1911.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 22, Marriott Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at Caulms Wood Road, Dewsbury and later at Bradford Road, Dewsbury and 2, Wellington Road, Dewsbury.

Harry was single man who was a Hairdresser and had his own business on Bradford Road, Dewsbury.

He enlisted 30th March 1916 serving as Private 242019 in the 1st Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers and was later transferred to the 1st Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers with the Service Number 204609 and was sent to the Western Front in October 1916. He was captured by the enemy in March 1918 near Armentieres in France where he was wounded in the right knee which necessitated his leg being amputated above the knee joint. He was a prisoner of war in the camp at Gustlow in the state of Mecklenburg in Germany until August 1918 when he was released and arrived back in England on 18th August; he was confined to the King George Military Hospital, Stamford Street, London until he was discharged on 16th May 1919 being granted a disability pension and issued with Silver War Badge B216408. He returned to his hairdressing business but died at his home at Wellington Road on 30th April 1920 from Phthisis Pulmonalis (*an archaic medical term for tuberculosis of the lungs*) and exhaustion as a result of war service. He was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

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 on the outside wall of Dewsbury Centenary Wesleyan Church at the top of Daisy Hill.

He is one of twenty men named on the above but who are not recorded as official war casualties, due to their cause of death not being officially attributed to war service.