



Harry Brown

1899-1918

Harry was born in Earlsheaton on 9th February 1899 and baptised on 5th March 1899 at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton. His father was Joseph Butt Brown, a coal miner born in March, Cambridgeshire in 1878 and died in 1911. His mother was Jennie (nee Steele) born in Leeds in 1879 and died in 1962. They were married on 17th December 1898 at St Mark's Church, Halifax Road, Dewsbury.

Harry was their only child.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Wakefield Road, Earlsheaton, in 1911 Harry and his mother Jennie were living with James Henry Gostellow at 4, Yard 1, High Street, Batley, they were recorded as Boarders.

Jennie was married to James Henry Gostellow (born in 1876 and died in 1950) on 19th September 1911 at Holy Trinity Church Batley Carr. They later lived at 10, Ernest Street, Dewsbury.

Harry was a single man whose occupation is unknown as he was still a schoolboy in 1911.

He enlisted in the Scottish Rifles with the Service Number 242180 and was later transferred to the 1st Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers serving as Private 204695. He was taken prisoner by the enemy at Armentieres on 9th April 1918 and died of Sepsis (blood poisoning) in the War Hospital, Bavarian Section 64, General Municipal Hospital, Tourcoing, France on 9th July 1918 and was buried in Tourcoing (Pont-Neuville) Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Tourcoing is a town in the Lille district and the Communal Cemetery is located in the village of Neuville, which lies between Halluin and Tourcoing. The 10th Stationary Hospital and the 8th and 10th Casualty Clearing Stations were posted at Tourcoing in November 1918, and for some months after. The cemetery was used by the enemy during the war and after the Armistice, officers and men who died in the British hospitals were buried in a plot in the middle of the cemetery. The 68 British Prisoners of War graves were then regrouped into the British plot. There are nearly 200, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this cemetery. Of these, a small number are unidentified.

Harry is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of

Private

H Brown

204695, 1st Bn., Royal Scots Fusiliers who died on 09 July 1918 Age 19

Only son of Mrs. Jennie Gostellow, of 10, Ernest St., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Tourcoing (Pont-Neuville) Communal Cemetery



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

