

Alfred Henry Dixon 1882 – 1916

Alfred was born in Thornhill on 14th September 1882 and baptised on 1st November that year at the Wesleyan Chapel, Thornhill. His father was George Dixon, a Joiner born in Thornhill in 1852 and died in 1919. His mother was Alice (née Bennison) born in Rainhill, Lancashire in 1858 and died in 1929. They were married on 3rd March 1875 in the Warrington area.

George's work as a joiner meant that the family moved around to live in a number of places across the north of England,

Their other children were; Ann, born in Dewsbury in 1876, Emma, born in Dewsbury in 1877, Albert, born in Prescot, Lancashire in 1879, Mary Jane, born in Wavertree, Liverpool in 1881 and died in 1882, Jessie, born in Ecclesall Bierlow near Sheffield in 1884 and died in 1887, Lily, born in Ecclesall Bierlow in 1885, Matthew, born in Ecclesall Bierlow in 1887 and died in 1887, James, born in Ecclesall Bierlow in 1889 and died in 1889, Jessie May, born in Ecclesall Bierlow in 1891, Cyril, born in Thornhill in 1893, Ethel, born in Thornhill in 1895, Lena, born in Thornhill in 1897 and Ella Bennison, born in Thornhill in 1901.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 70, Staveley Road, Ecclesall Bierlow, in 1901 and 1911 at 161, Booth Terrace, Thornhill.

Alfred was a single man who worked as a Hewer at Ingham's Colliery, Thornhill.

He enlisted in the 6th Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers serving as Private 30395 and was sent to the Western Front in December 1915, rising to the rank of Lance Corporal. He was killed in action on 4th July 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Alfred was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Alfred is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in the Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill.

In Memory of

Lance Corporal

Alfred Henry Dixon

30395, 6th Bn., King's Own Scottish Borderers who died on 04 July 1916

Remembered with Honour Thiepval Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

