



Tom Robinson

1888 – 1916

Tom was born in Dewsbury in 1888. His mother was Orpah Robinson, born in Dewsbury in 1870 and died in 1911. She had another son, Albert, born in 1890 and died in 1898.

On the 1891 Census, Tom was living with his mother and brother at the home of his maternal grandparents Thomas and Frances Robinson at Back Lane, Thornhill. In 1901 he was living with his grandmother in North Road Ravensthorpe and working as a blanket piecer.

Tom was married on 9th February 1907 to Elizabeth Ann Asquith (born in 1883 and died in 1971) at St. John the Baptist Church, Daw Green, Dewsbury, his then occupation was a dyer. In 1911 he was working as a coal miner and lodging with the Hirst family at 5, Jubilee Cottages, High Street Royston near Barnsley along with his wife and two young daughters Elsie, born in 1909 and Alice, born in 1910 and died in 1911. Elizabeth was remarried in 1918 to Arthur Mitchell (born in 1881 and died in 1926).

When war broke out Tom and his family were back in Dewsbury, living at 20, Back Tweeddale Street. He had been with the local Heckmondwike Artillery Territorial Force for 3½ years. He immediately enlisted on 6th August 1914, serving as Bombardier 1457 in the 246th Brigade Royal Field Artillery and was sent to the Western Front in May 1915. He was killed in action during the Battle of the Somme on 11th July 1916, whilst serving with a Heavy Trench Mortar Battery. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Tom was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His wife was notified of the circumstances by Captain Holt who wrote “.....*He was having tea when a shell burst near him and struck him in the head, killing him instantly. Whilst your husband was serving under me I found him an excellent soldier, and the officers, NCO's and men, join me in tendering to you our deepest sympathy. Hoping that you will find consolation in the fact that your husband died serving his King and his country.*”

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.

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

In Memory of
Bombardier
Tom Robinson

1457, 246th Bde., Royal Field Artillery who died on 11 July 1916

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

ROBINSON T.