



Harry Dyer

1897 – 1916

Harry was born in Batley on 10th January 1897. His father was Charles Dyer, a miner born in Emley near Huddersfield 1879 and died in 1910. His mother was Annie (née Rowbottom) born in Liversedge in 1874 and died in 1920. They were married in 1892 at All Saints Parish Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Ada, born in 1895, Willie, born in 1900, and George Lister, born in 1909.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 4, Cosham Street, Dewsbury.

Annie was remarried on 10th July 1910 to Harry Newsome (born in 1868 and died in 1941) at Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr. On the 1911 Census they lived at 13, Chapel Street, Batley Carr, Batley. They had three children; Gilbert Newsome, born in 1911, Edith Violet Newsome, born in 1914 and Harold Newsome, born in 1916.

Harry was a single man who worked as a tier on and later a warper in a woollen mill.

He served in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry as Private 23822 and was transferred on 4th November 1915 into "B" Company 9th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers serving as Private 27865. On the 24th of November 1915 the battalion landed on the Greek island of Lemnos, which was the Allied HQ for the Gallipoli Campaign. The Lancashire Fusiliers suffered heavy losses on Gallipoli. He was killed in action in the Battle of the Somme on 25th September 1916 during the attempt to recapture Mouquet Farm, which was part of the Battle of Pozières. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Harry was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The attack on Mouquet Farm began on 23rd July 1916 with attacks by the Reserve Army and it was captured by the 3rd Division of the Canadian Corps on 16th September. The farm was lost to a German counter-attack, before being recaptured on 26th September, during an attack by the 11th (Northern) Division as part of the Battle of Thiepval Ridge from 26th to 28th September, in which the 6th Battalion East Yorkshire (Pioneers) cleared out the last German defenders.

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 300 Commonwealth and 300 French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Harry is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Library and on the Memorial Plaque from Moorlands Wesleyan Methodist Church, now stored in the Resource Centre at Batley Central Methodist Church.

In Memory of

Private

Harry Dyer

27865, "B" Coy. 9th Bn., Lancashire Fusiliers who died on 26 September 1916 Age 19

Stepson of Harry Newsome, of 65 Back, Whitley St., Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

