



Allan Metcalf

1895 – 1916

Allan was born in Batley Carr in 1895 and was baptised on the 23rd October at Holy Trinity Church Batley Carr. His father was also Allan Metcalf, a painter and decorator born in Huddersfield in 1856 and died in 1928. His mother was Ann (née Sykes) born in Batley Carr in 1860 and died in 1937. They were married on 1st February 1879 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury. Their surname was sometimes spelt *Metcalf* on census and birth/death records.

Their other children were; John Henry, born in 1879 and died in 1880, Laura, born in 1880 and died in 1881, John Henry, born in 1885, Ellen *Metcalf*, born in 1888, Fred *Metcalf*, born in 1889 and died in 1890 and Annie *Metcalf*, born in 1893.

In 1901 the family lived at 1a, Smith Road, Batley Carr, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 2, Milton Street, Batley Carr.

Allan was a single man who worked as a warper at the mill of Joshua Ellis in Batley Carr and was attached to Holy Trinity Church. He was a talented cricketer and played for the Mill Cricket Team and also for Hanging Heaton 2nd XI.

He served as Rifleman R/25095 in the 18th Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps. His parents received an intimation from the War Office stating that he was killed in action sometime between 3rd and 10th October 1916, the latter date being recorded as his official date of death during the Battle of the Somme; the first time he had been called upon to serve in the front line. His family later received a letter from one of his comrades who stated that he was killed on 5th October but the official date remains as 10th October 1916. His remains were found in June 1920 and he was reburied in Warlencourt British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Allan was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Warlencourt British Cemetery lies to the south-east of Warlencourt village on the east side of road between Albert and Bapaume. The cemetery was made late in 1919 when graves were brought in from small cemeteries and the battlefields of Warlencourt and Le Sars. The cemetery now contains 3,505 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War. 1,823 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 55 casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

Allan is commemorated as *Allan Metcalfe* 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 in Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr.

In Memory of
Rifleman
A Metcalf

R/25095, 18th Bn., King's Royal Rifle Corps who died on 10 October 1916

Remembered with Honour
Warlencourt British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

