



Robert Hagger 1876 – 1917

Robert was born in Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire on 15th October 1876 and baptized at the Dewsbury Salem Chapel, Northgate, Dewsbury on 6th August 1885. His father was also Robert Hagger, a Railway Plate-Layer born in Chesterford, Essex in 1845 and died in 1932. His mother was Alice (nee Cheshire) born in Whittlesey in 1844 and died in 1923. They were married in Whittlesey in 1876.

Their other children were; Edmund, born in 1879, Harry, born in 1881 and died in 1882, Albert, born in 1882 and Arthur, born in 1885.

In 1881 they lived at Carlton Street, Batley, in 1891 at 15, Commercial Road, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 11, Back Granville Street, Flatts and in 1911 at 15, Eastwood's Yard, Flatts.

Alice had four children before her marriage; Emma Cheshire, born in 1865, Charles Beland Cheshire, born in 1868, Lizzie Cheshire, born in 1870 and William Cheshire, born in 1872.

Robert worked as a wool packer at Messrs Wilson Brothers, Shoddy and Mungo Manufacturers in Chickenley. He was married to Sarah Ellen Allen (born in 1880 and died in 1951) on 4th June 1900 at St. Mark's Church, Dewsbury. In 1901 they lived at Short Street, Chickenley with Sarah's parents and in 1911 at 12, Syke Ing Terrace, Earlsheaton. They had nine children; Harry, born in 1901, Annie, born in 1902, Elizabeth, born in 1904, Maggie, born in 1906, John Robert, born in 1908, Albert, born in 1910, George Arthur, born in 1912, Fred, born in 1914 and Madge, born in 1917. He played cricket for the Chickenley Wesleyan Club until 1912 when they moved to live at 7, Firth's Buildings, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

He attested on 23rd August 1916 serving as Fitter 165221 in "D" Battery. 76th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery and was sent to the Western Front on 31st March 1917. He was killed in action in France on 23rd April 1917 during the Battle of Arras. He is believed to be buried in Lievin Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France. His exact place of burial was either never recorded or lost at some later time as his headstone is one of the Special Memorials to eleven soldiers who are believed to be buried in the Extension.

Liévin is a small town 3.5 kilometres west of Lens. The Communal Cemetery Extension was made after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from the battlefields North and South of Lens and certain smaller cemeteries. There are now nearly 700 First World War casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over half are unidentified.

Robert is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton War Memorial in Earlsheaton Park. (His surname is spelt *Haggar* on all three) and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton, and on the War Memorial in St. Paul's Churchyard, Hanging Heaton (as *C. Hagger*) and on the War Memorial from the now demolished St. Philip's Church now relocated to Dewsbury Minster, and on the Memorial in the now demolished Chickenley Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (current whereabouts of Memorial untraced). His name was entered in the book *'The Urban District of Soothill Upper War Register and Records of War Service 1914-1920'* compiled by The Rev W.E. Cleworth, M.A., Cantab. Associate of King's College University of London. Vicar of Hanging Heaton from January 1894.

In Memory of

Fitter

R Hagger

165221, "D" Bty. 76th Bde., Royal Field Artillery who died on 23 April 1917

Remembered with Honour

Lievin Communal Cemetery Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

