

James Mills Scott 1891 – 1917

James was born in Earlsheaton on 16th February 1891 and baptised at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 29th March of that same year. His father was Joseph Scott, a Butcher born in Dewsbury in 1851 and died in 1899. His mother was Jane (nee Mills) born in Dewsbury in 1861 and died in 1912. They were married on 20th September 1881 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Samuel Vincent Scott, born in 1888 and died in 1889 and Harry Vyner Scott, born in 1893 and died in 1894.

Joseph was previously married in 1870 to Mary Annie Goodall (born in 1853 and died in 1876). They had three children; Fred, born in 1872, Joseph, born in 1874 and died in 1874 and Ann Goodall, born in 1876 and died in 1878.

Jane was remarried at St. Peter's Church on 3rd June 1901 to Wilfred Senior (born in 1878 and died in 1940); they had a son, Lewis Senior, born in 1901.

On the 1891 Census their address is recorded as Exley's Yard, Town Street, Earlsheaton and in 1901 and 1911 as Town Street.

James was educated at St. Peter's School, Earlsheaton and worked as a cabinet maker employed by Bickers Ltd. at the Galleries, Northgate, Dewsbury, he had previously worked for Messrs Thomas Porritt and Sons, Bank Top, Earlsheaton. He was married at All Saints Church, Dewsbury on 26th December 1914 to Emma Mason (born in 1891 and died in 1969). They lived at Vulcan Cottage, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury and did not have any children. Emma was remarried at All Saints Church on 3rd April 1920 to Willie Garnham (born in 1892 and died in 1956). They lived at 443, Leeds Road, Dewsbury and had three children; Denis, born in 1920, Geoffrey, born in 1924 and Margaret, born in 1930.

He enlisted on 21st June 1916 into the Royal Engineers, later transferring into the 27th (Tyneside Irish) Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers as Private 47918. He was killed in action in France on 17th January 1917 and was buried in Ration Farm Military Cemetery, La Chapelle D'armentieres, Nord, France. James was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He had been at the front for only ten days. A letter to his widow stated that "Scott and a colleague, Private C.B. Smith, were killed instantly and suffered no pain. They were laid to rest in a little English Cemetery behind the lines". Private 47929 Caleb Brown Smith, 27th (Tyneside Irish) Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers is buried in the same cemetery.

Ration Farm Military Cemetery is about 2.5 Kms south of the village of La Chapelle-D'armentieres, on the south-eastern outskirts of Armentieres. The cemetery was begun (as Ration Farm New Military Cemetery) in October 1915 and remained in use until October 1918. It was very greatly increased after the Armistice when graves were brought in from isolated sites and small cemeteries on the battlefield. There are now 1,313 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in the cemetery. 677 of the burials are unidentified.

James 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 and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and in Ireland's Memorial Records 1914-1918.

In Memory of

Private

James Mills Scott

47918, 27th, Northumberland Fusiliers who died on 17 January 1917 Age 25

Husband of Emma Gamham (formerly Scott), of 443, Leeds Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Ration Farm Military Cemetery, La Chapelle-D'armentieres





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

