



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM...

# CORPORAL THOMAS ABRAHAM 5TH SOUTH WALES BORDERERS

**T**homas Abraham was born in Nelson, Glamorgan in 1896 to William and Alice Abraham. In 1911 the family was living at 18 Torlais Street Newbridge and the fifteen year old Thomas was working as a Collier Boy.

Thomas enlisted in the army and served as a Private with the 5th (Service) Battalion South Wales Borderers. After training, the Battalion arrived in France on 16th July 1915 as part of the 38th Brigade of the 19th Division. It soon became the Divisional Pioneer Battalion, and as such combined the duties of trench digging and mining with bombing and fighting.

The 5th Battalion fought at Loos in September 1915 and spent the winter repairing roads, constructing tramways and improving trenches. In 1916 the battalion saw action on the Somme, losing 220 men in the last ten days of July. March 1917 saw the 5th Battalion move to Ypres to prepare for the attack on the Messines Ridge. In the summer and autumn of 1917 the battalion was involved with the third Battle of Ypres and at Passchendaele.

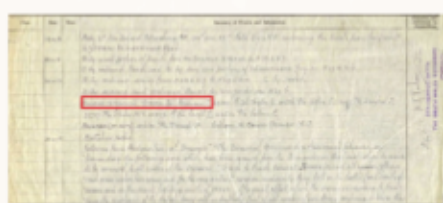
Thomas was fatally wounded on 29th April 1918, his evacuation to hospital was recorded in the Battalion War Diary which also revealed that he had been promoted to Corporal.

Thomas Abraham died on the 1st May 1918.

Thomas Abraham features as the lead character in Newbridge Memo's heritage film 'Out of Darkness, Into Light'.



Newspaper clipping for Thomas Abraham.



War Diary Extract for Thomas Abraham.



Extract from UK Register of Soldiers Effects 1901-1929.

**Extract from the Merthyr Express  
Sat May 18th 1918**

Official news received on Wed week of the death in action of Corporal Tom Abraham 13882, South Wales Borderers, son of the late Mr & Mrs Abraham. Corporal Abraham enlisted early in the war and had seen much service in France. He was well known locally and he was born in this village. He had been employed at Penallta Colliery and resided with his uncle and aunt, Mr & Mrs John Barnes, Wern Crescent.



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