



Harry Fell 1887 – 1917

Harry was born in 1887. His father was John, born in Elland in 1865 and he was a Wool Merchant. Harry's mother was Agnes Auty, born in Dewsbury also in 1865. No marriage record has been found.

Harry had six siblings according to the 1911 Census but only five have been traced; Richard Henry, born and died in 1885, Eric and Carl (twins) born 1896, Eric died 1897, Arnold, born in 1889 and Jack, born in 1899.

In 1911 Arnold is shown as head of the family and is manager of a Tar Distillery in Litherland, Liverpool, His mother and brother Jack are residents along with himself at the Tar Works House.

At the time of Harry's death, his family were living at "Winmarleigh", Alexandra Terrace, Litherland, Liverpool.

Harry was engaged to Gertrude Farquharson of Cornwall, Jamaica.

Harry was a Chemical Worker. According to the report about Harry's death in the *Dewsbury Reporter* on 18th August 1917, he attended Wheelwright Grammar School and matriculated in 1905. Harry became an assistant to the analytical chemist, Mr Dixon Shaw, followed by a post in Scotland with the British Dyewood and Chemical Company. They sent him to be the manager of their works in Jamaica, where he met his fiancée. Harry returned to Britain after five years to take up the post of chemist and manager with the Yorkshire Dyeware and Chemical Company at their Selby works.

Harry enlisted in the East Riding Yeomanary, soon after the outbreak of war in 1914; he later served as Pioneer 206759 'Z' Special Company Royal Engineers, which was their chemical section.

Harry died as a result of a shell explosion on 31st July 1917. In the report of his death in the *Dewsbury Reporter* on 11th August 1917, a friend wrote about Harry:

"He was such a very cool and brave soldier, and whenever a good man was wanted for important duty poor old Harry was always one of the first for it."

His remains were found in 1919 and he was buried in New Irish Farm Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen Belgium. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Harry 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 War Memorial at Wheelwright Grammar School.

In Memory of

Pioneer

Harry Fell

206759, "Z" Special Coy., Royal Engineers who died on 31 July 1917 Age 29

Son of John and Agnes Fell, of 13, Alexandra Mount, Litherland, Liverpool. Native of Thornhill, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

New Irish Farm Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission