



Arthur Harold Hartley

1891 – 1916

Arthur was born in Outwood, Wakefield on 21st July 1891. His father was Joseph Hartley, a Brick Maker born in Lofthouse, Wakefield in 1852 and died in 1922. His mother was Sarah (née Burton) born in Crigglestone near Wakefield in 1861 and died in 1893. They were married in 1887. They also had a daughter Annie, born in 1893.

Joseph was previously married to Sarah Clegg (born in Wakefield in 1848 and died in 1883). Their other children who were Arthur's half-siblings were; Sam, born in 1870, Mary Jane, born in 1872, Frances Ellen, born in 1875, Charlotte Ann, born in 1877, Emily Asenath, born in 1882 and died in 1882.

On the 1901 Census Arthur, Joseph and Annie lived at Ledger Lane, Outwood along with his half-sister Charlotte, her husband William Cowling and their baby daughter Gertrude. In 1911 Arthur and his father lived with the Cowling family at 4, Daisy Bank, Outwood, his occupation was a colliery labourer.

Arthur and his father moved to Dewsbury around 1912, they lived at 14, Vulcan Terrace, off Vulcan Road. Arthur was by now employed by the Singer Sewing Machine Company. Described as having a genial temperament, he was also strongly connected with the Centenary Wesleyan Church and Sunday school in several capacities. These included as a regular worshipper, a member of Messrs. Turner and Dearnley's Society Class and the Secretary to the Devotional Committee of the Wesley Guild. Even whilst in the army and based at Ferriby, near Hull, he came home on his monthly leave to speak at the Sunday school. At Ferriby he was invited to attend the Wesleyan Central Mission, Hull.

In July 1914 Arthur was undergoing military training with the Reserve Forces at Strensall in York. He entered into active service immediately after war broke out serving in the 6th Battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, quickly rising to the rank of Corporal 3/827 and was subsequently promoted to Serjeant; he was involved in training new recruits whilst stationed at Ferriby. He departed for the Western Front in March 1916 and was killed in action on 28th August 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Arthur was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of the officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.

Arthur is also 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 Dewsbury Centenary Wesleyan Church.

In Memory of

Serjeant

Arthur Harold Hartley

3/827, 6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 28 August 1916

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

HARTLEY A.H.