



## **Arthur Kershaw**

### **1892 – 1917**

Arthur was born in Ravensthorpe on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1892 and baptised on the 24<sup>th</sup> July in the same year at St. Mary's Church Mirfield. His father was Crossley Kershaw, a night watchman born in Shelley near Huddersfield in 1847 and died in 1902. His mother was Hannah (nee Townsend) born in Skelmanthorpe near Huddersfield in 1853 and died in 1920. They were married at the Emmanuel Church, Shelley on 19<sup>th</sup> March 1877.

Their other children were; Fred, born in 1880, Joe, born in 1881, George, born in 1884 and died in 1884, Harry, born in 1887, Willie, born in 1888 and died in 1888.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at Lee Street, Ravensthorpe, in 1891 at Huddersfield Road, Mirfield, in 1901 and 1911 at 2, Co-op Buildings, Commercial Street and later at 13, Grove Terrace, Tanhouse Street, Ravensthorpe.

Arthur was a single man who in 1911 worked as a stocker for a woollen manufacturer.

He served as Private 240720 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> /5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) and was killed in action during the Battle of Arras on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1917 at the beginning of the third Battle of the Scarpe. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. Arthur was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. Sadly, his medals were disposed of in 1921 as they must have been sent to his mother's old address and returned by the owner or occupants.

The Arras Memorial commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918, the eve of the Advance to Victory, and who have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

Arthur is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and on the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of

Private

**Arthur Kershaw**

240720, 2nd/5th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 03 May 1917

Remembered with Honour

**Arras Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

