



Wilfred Hargreaves

1893 – 1917

Wilfred was born in Bingley, Yorkshire on 20th July 1893; his birth name was registered as *Wilfrid*. His father was Arthur Hargreaves, a canvasser for the National Telephone Company born in Bingley in 1869 and died in 1922. His mother was Sarah Ellen (nee Kirkby) born in Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire in 1868 and died in 1953. They were married in Bingley in 1892.

Their other children were; Frank, born in Dewsbury in 1896 and died in 1896 and Lily, born in Dewsbury in 1901.

On the 1901 and 1911 Census Records the family lived at 6, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

Wilfred was a single man and was an apprentice printer with Mr Hartley, Printer of Bradford Road and was well known as the goalkeeper for Dewsbury United FC.

He served as Private 307277 in the 1st/7th Battalion Duke of Wellingtons (West Riding Regiment) from 1916. He was wounded about a year later and on the very day he returned to the trenches after only 3 weeks back on the Western Front, he was killed in action on 15th August 1917 during the Battle of Passchendaele. He is buried in Coxyde Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Wilfred was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

In June 1917, Commonwealth forces relieved French forces on 6 kilometres of front line from the sea to a point south of Nieuport (now Nieuwpoort), and held this sector for six months. Coxyde (now Koksijde) was about 10 kilometres behind the front line. The village was used for rest billets and was occasionally shelled, but the cemetery, which had been started by French troops, was found to be reasonably safe. It became the most important of the Commonwealth cemeteries on the Belgian coast and was used at night for the burial of the dead brought back from the front line. The French returned to the sector in December 1917 and continued to use the cemetery, and during 1918, Commonwealth naval casualties from bases in Dunkirk (now Dunkerque) were buried there. The cemetery now contains 1,507 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Wilfred is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour in kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of

Private

W Hargreaves

307277, 1st/7th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 15 August 1917 Age 24

Son of Arthur and Sarah Ellen Hargreaves, of 6, Vulcan Rd., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Coxyde Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

