



Arnold Lightfoot

1896 - 1917

Arnold was born in Dewsbury on 1st July 1896. His father was John Lightfoot, a Warehouse Foreman at Savile Town Wharf born in Knottingley, Yorkshire in 1855 and died in 1919. His mother was Ellen (nee Hanson) born in Dewsbury in 1860 and died in 1957. They were married at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor on 3rd March 1879.

Their other children were; Elizabeth Ellen, born in 1880 and died in 1916, Albert, born in 1881, Florence Amelia, born in 1883, Harry, born in 1885 and served in World War 1, Annie, born in 1887, Clara, born in 1889, Ernest, born in 1891 and died of wounds 9th July 1916, Arthur, born in 1893 and was killed in action 11th August 1917, Fred, born in 1895 and died in 1895, Ivy, born in 1898 and Dora, born in 1900.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Fearnley Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at Navigation Yard, Savile Town and in 1911 at 104, Warren Street, (The Wharf) Savile Town.

Arnold was a single man and worked as a painter and decorator for Ramsden's of Halifax Road, Dewsbury.

He enlisted in Bradford in October 1915 serving as Private 242505 in the 1st/5th Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment and was sent to the Western Front in December 1916. He was gassed in August 1917 but was not seriously affected enough to have to return home to recuperate. He was killed in action on 9th October 1917 during the Battle of Poelcapelle which was part of the Battle of Passchendaele. His remains were not found until February 1920 and he is now buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Arnold was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

There are now more than 11,900 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in Tyne Cot Cemetery. More than 8,370 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to more than 80 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials commemorate 20 casualties whose graves were destroyed by shell fire.

Arnold 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 from the now demolished St. Mary's Church, Savile Town now displayed in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of
Private
A Lightfoot

242505, 1st/5th Bn., York and Lancaster Regiment who died on 09 October 1917

Remembered with Honour
Tyne Cot Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Ms. Danielle Roubroeks, Antwerp, Belgium.