



Arthur Garfitt

1888 – 1917

Arthur was born in Thornhill in 1888. His father was Bingley Garfitt, a coal miner born in Thornhill in 1859 and died in 1928. His mother was Mary Ellen (nee Ashford) born in Aston near Rotherham in 1862 and died in 1924. They were married on 25th November 1882 at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill.

Their other children were; Herbert, born in 1883, Herman, born in 1890 and Foster, born in 1901.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Brook's Houses, Whitley Road, Thornhill and in 1901 and 1911 at The Ings, Thornhill.

Arthur was a single man who in 1911 was recorded as living as a boarder with a family named Spensley in Silver Street, Dodworth near Barnsley, his occupation was given as a Trammer in a Coal Mine.

He enlisted in Normanton into the 2nd/4th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry with the Service Number 201849 rising to the rank of Lance-Corporal. He was killed in action in France on 26th September 1917 and is buried in Favreuil British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Arthur was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Favreuil is a village in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais about 2 kilometres north of Bapaume. It was occupied by British troops in March, 1917, lost in March, 1918, and retaken by the 37th and New Zealand Divisions on the 25th August. The cemetery was begun in April 1917 and used until March 1918 by fighting units (particularly of the 62nd (West Riding) Division) and Field Ambulances. Further burials were made in August and September, 1918, and after the Armistice British graves were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields and other burial grounds. There are now nearly 400, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over ten are unidentified and special memorials are erected to four soldiers from the United Kingdom known or believed to be buried among them. Another special memorial records the name of a soldier from the United Kingdom, buried in Favreuil German Cemetery, whose grave could not be found.

Arthur 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 in St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill.

In Memory of
Lance Corporal
A Garfitt

201849, 2nd/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 26 September 1917

Remembered with Honour
Favreuil British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

