



Fred Auty

1895 - 1917

Fred was born in Dewsbury in 1895. His father was John Auty, a mill mechanic (fitter) born in Dewsbury in 1868 and died in 1901. His mother was Mary (nee Mellor), born in Mirfield in 1866 and died in 1943. They were married in 1894. Fred was their only child.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Reform Street, Westborough, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 49, Staincliffe Road, Dewsbury Moor. Mary later lived at 26, Leatham Street, Westborough, Dewsbury and in 1939 she was living with her sister Annie Mellor at 13, North View, Knowles Hill Road, Dewsbury Moor.

Fred was a single man who was educated at Dewsbury Moor Board School and was connected with Westborough United Methodist Church where he was the assistant organist, being described as: "*a great lover of music*". He was a member of the Band of Hope and the attended the Sunday school. He worked as a cloth finisher for Messrs Wormalds and Walkers.

He enlisted on 4th October 1916 serving as Private 242230 in the 15th Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front in the September of that same year. He was killed in action on 29th November 1917 during the aftermath of the Battle of Passchendaele. His remains were discovered in 1920 and he is now buried in Passchendaele New British Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Fred was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Passchendaele New British Cemetery was made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields of Passchendaele and Langemarck. Almost all of the burials are from the autumn of 1917. The cemetery now contains 2,101 burials and commemorations of the First World War. 1,600 of the graves are unidentified but there are special memorials to seven casualties believed to be buried among them.

Fred 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. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor and on the War Memorial in Westborough United Methodist Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of
Private
F Auty

242230, 15th Bn., Highland Light Infantry who died on 29 November 1917

Remembered with Honour
Passchendaele New British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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