



Herbert Ingham Armitage

1895 – 1917

Herbert was born in Dewsbury in 1895. His father was John Brooke Armitage, a Stationary Engine Driver born in Earlsheaton in 1867 and died in 1928. His mother was Alice (nee Ingham) born in Leeds in 1866 and died in 1896. They were married on 26th July 1889 at a non-conformist church.

In 1891 they lived at 103, Whitley Street, Dewsbury and had another son, Alec, born in Ravensthorpe in 1896 and served in World War 1.

John was remarried to Ellen Jagger (born in Alverthorpe, Wakefield in 1859 and died in 1928) on 23rd July 1898 at St. Mark's Church, Halifax Road, Dewsbury; they had a daughter, Doris, born in Dewsbury in 1902.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 10, Water Lane, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 91, Calder Bank Place and later at 42, Halliley Street, Dewsbury and then 28, Water Lane, Dewsbury.

Herbert was a single man who worked as a Messenger and then in 1912 a Postman at Dewsbury General Post Office. He was connected with Ebenezer Sunday School, being a teacher in the Primary Department.

He enlisted in March 1915 serving as Rifleman 371174 in the 2nd/8th Battalion of the London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) and was sent to the Western Front in February 1917. He was killed in action on 30th October 1917 during the later stages of the Battle of Passchendaele, his remains were discovered in February 1921 and he was reburied in Tyne Cot Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Herbert 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.

Herbert 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 Dewsbury General Post Office War Memorial and on the Memorial Plaque in the Dewsbury Ebenezer Congregational Church, now known as Longcauseway Church (United Reformed and Methodist).

In Memory of

Rifleman

H I Armitage

371174, 2nd/8th Bn., London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) who died on 30 October 1917 Age 22

Son of John Brooke Armitage, of 28, Water Lane, Dewsbury, Yorks.

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.