



Alwyn Tom Smith

1888-1918

Alwyn was born at 90, Nursery Terrace, Aston Manor, Birmingham on 6th October 1888; his birth name was registered as *Alwyn Tom Smythe*. His father was William Henry Smith, a Librarian born in Manchester in 1854 and died in 1937. His mother was Annie Black, born in Bradford in 1857 and died in Dewsbury in 1952. They were married on 23rd August 1882 in All Saints Church, Little Horton, Bradford. William's surname is recorded as *Smythe*.

Their other children were; William Cyril *Smythe*, born in Birmingham in 1885 and Edmund Latham *Smith*, born in Dewsbury in 1893. Both served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family address is given as The New Library, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 33, Park Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 3, Calder Grove Terrace, Dewsbury.

Alwyn was educated at Carlton Road School and later at Mr. A. Campbell-Miles's Supplementary Training College in London. He was employed by Mr. Harold Appleyard, a Chartered Accountant in Dewsbury, rising to the position of Chief Audit Clerk. He attended St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor and was actively involved with the affairs of the Parochial Hall and in addition he played for the Church cricket team. He was married at St. Paul's Church, Eastthorpe, Mirfield on 29th November 1913 to Mary Ellen Castle (born in Mirfield in 1886 and died in 1973) they lived at 43, Clark Street, Dewsbury Moor and had two children, Hilda, born in 1913 and Ronald, born in 1915.

He enlisted in the 1st/10th Battalion of The King's (Liverpool Regiment) on 8th September 1916 serving as Private 358700. He was recalled home to give evidence in a court case in London concerning Dewsbury Rag Merchants Messrs Stross and Messrs Fox. He was killed in action on 10th April 1918 during the 2nd Battle of the Lys, a letter sent to his wife from Captain J. E. MacSwiney stated that he was hit by a shell and died instantaneously with four of his comrades. He was buried in the field but after the Armistice his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas-de-Calais, France. Alwyn was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Loos Memorial forms the sides and back of Dud Corner Cemetery. Loos-en-Gohelle is a village north-west of Lens, and Dud Corner Cemetery is located 1 kilometre west of the village. The Loos Memorial commemorates 20,599 officers and men who have no known grave, who fell in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay, from the first day of the Battle of Loos to the end of the war.

Alwyn is also 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.

In Memory of

Private

Alwyn Tom Smith

358700, 1st/10th Bn., The King's (Liverpool Regiment) who died on 10 April 1918 Age 29

Son of William H. and Annie Smith, of 41, Ravenshouse Rd., Scout Hill, Dewsbury, Yorks; husband of Mary Ellen Smith, of 1, York Rd., Knowle, Mirfield, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Loos Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

