



Roland Lister Mayman

1898-1918

Roland (sometimes Rowland) was born in Dewsbury in 1898. His father was James Mayman, an Ironmonger's Assistant and later a Rag Warehouseman born in Hanging Heaton in 1861 and died in 1928. His mother was Elizabeth (nee Fox) born in Alferton, Derbyshire in 1859 and died in 1952. They were married in Dewsbury in 1915.

They also had a daughter, Edith, born in 1897.

In 1901 they lived at 62, Hartley Street, Batley Carr and in 1911 at 12, Pyrah Street, Dewsbury.

James was previously married in 1881 to Frances Mary Blades, born in Brigstock, Northamptonshire in 1861. She appears as *Frances M. Wayman* on the 1901 Census, living in Bradford as a servant in a public house, but cannot be traced on the 1911 Census. There is a death recorded of a *Frances Mary Mayman* age 71 in Maldon, Essex on 23rd October 1932. They had six children who were half-siblings to Roland; Nellie, born in 1882, George Lister, born in 1884 and was a career soldier, having joined the Army in 1904, he was killed in action on 30th September 1916, Maud Annie born in 1887, James Albert, born in 1889 and died in 1889, Ernest Arthur, born in 1890 and served in World War 1 and Elsie, born in 1893.

On the 1891 Census they lived at 57, Granville Street, Dewsbury.

Roland was a single man who was educated at Carlton Road Council School and gained a Hinchliffe Scholarship to Wheelwright Grammar School where he won several honours; he was later employed at the accountancy firm of Mr. G.L. Hirst in Dewsbury.

He enlisted in 1916, initially joining the Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons with the Service Number 30150; he transferred into the Hertfordshire Regiment and then the Royal Berkshire Regiment serving as Private 220655 in the 5th Battalion. He died of wounds in the 37th Field Ambulance in France on 24th June 1918 having being hit by a shell on the same day. He was buried in Varennes Military Cemetery, Somme, France. Roland was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Varennes is a village 11 kilometres from Albert and 18 kilometres from Amiens. The cemetery was laid out by the 39th Casualty Clearing Station in August 1916, during the Battle of the Somme, but the first burials were made during August and September by more mobile divisional Field Ambulances. The 4th and 11th Casualty Clearing Stations then used the cemetery from October 1916, joined by the 47th from December 1916, but by May 1917 Varennes was deserted and remained so until the Germans launched their offensive in this quarter in April 1918. The cemetery was then extended by the 17th and 38th (Welsh) Divisions and at the beginning of September 1918, the 3rd Canadian and 59th Casualty Clearing Stations arrived at Varennes. The cemetery contains 1,219 burials of the First World War.

Roland 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 Wheelwright Grammar School War Memorial and on the Springfield Congregational Church Memorial Plaque now relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of

Private

Roland Lister Mayman

220655, 5th Bn., Royal Berkshire Regiment who died on 24 June 1918 Age 19

Son of James and Elizabeth Mayman, of 12, Pyrah St., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Varennnes Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

