



George William Markham

1898-1918

George was born in Batley Carr on 5th January 1898. His father was William Markham, a wood sawyer born in Bishop's Itchington, Warwickshire in 1866 and died in 1910. His mother was Mary (nee Roberts) born in Staincliffe, Dewsbury in 1866 and died in 1902. They were married on 2nd August 1890.

Their other children were; Nellie, born in 1892, Annie Elizabeth born in 1894, James Alfred, born in 1896 and died in 1906.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 23, Upper Mount Street, Batley.

William was remarried to Eleanor Holmes (born in 1873 and died in 1918) on 2nd April 1904 at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees; they had a daughter, Amy Eleanor, born in 1905.

In 1911 they lived at 6, Thornfield, Savile Town, Dewsbury.

George was a single man who was educated at Carlton Road School and was attached to Springfield Congregational Church and Sunday school; he worked as a Fettleer at Messrs Mark Oldroyd and Sons woollen mill.

He enlisted in Dewsbury in 1915 serving as Private 21995 in the 7th/8th Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers and was sent to the Western Front in 1916 where he was wounded during the Battle of the Somme. He came home on leave in December 1917, but died of wounds to the chest, right leg and buttock in France at the 42nd Casualty Clearing Station at Aubigny-en-Artois on 27th June 1918. He was buried in Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas-de-Calais, France. George was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Aubigny-en-Artois is a village approximately 15 Kilometres north-west of Arras. Before March 1916, Aubigny was in the area of the French Tenth Army, and 327 French soldiers were buried in the Extension. From March 1916 to the Armistice, Aubigny was held by Commonwealth troops and burials were made in the Extension until September 1918. The 42nd Casualty Clearing Station buried in it during the whole period, the 30th in 1916 and 1917, the 24th and 1st Canadian in 1917 (during the capture of Vimy Ridge by the Canadian Corps) and the 57th in 1918. The Extension now contains 2,771 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

George 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 Springfield Congregational Church Memorial Plaque now relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury and as *George Markham* on the War Memorial from the former St. Mary's Church, Savile Town now displayed in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of

Private

George William Markham

21995, 7th/8th Bn., King's Own Scottish Borderers who died on 27 June 1918 Age 20

Son of William and Mary Markham (stepmother), of Batley Carr, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

