



## **Alfred Berry**

### **1899-1918**

Alfred was born in Dewsbury in 1899. His father was Matthew Berry, a Drayman born in Batley in 1863 and died in 1935. His mother was Charlotte (nee Roberts) born in East Ardsley in 1857 and died in 1940. They were married in Batley on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1885.

Their other children were; Joseph, born in 1885, John, born in 1887 and died in 1888, Ernest, born in 1888 and died of wounds on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1916, Willie, born in 1891 and served in World War 1, Mabel, born in 1892, Fred, born in 1894 and died in 1896, Annie, born in 1895 and Fanny, born in 1897 and died in 1897.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 2, Railway Terrace, Bradford Road, Batley, in 1901 at Mill Street East, Savile Town, in 1911 at 70, Staincliffe Road, Dewsbury and later at 70, Squirrel Hall Cottage, Staincliffe Road, Dewsbury Moor.

Alfred was a single man who was educated at Dewsbury Moor Council School and later worked as a carrier for Mr. Jonathan Ramsden, Shoddy Manufacturer, Dewsbury Moor.

He enlisted on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1917 serving as Private 53541 in the 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own). He died in a Casualty Clearance Station near Bethune on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918 from wounds sustained on the First Day of the Allied Advance to Victory (the 100 Days Offensive) and was buried in Lapugnoy Military Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Alfred was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Lapugnoy is a village 6 kilometres west of Bethune. The first burials were made in Plot I of the cemetery in September 1915, but it was most heavily used during the Battle of Arras, which began in April 1917. The dead were brought to the cemetery from casualty clearing stations, chiefly the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> at Lapugnoy and Lozinghem, but between May and August 1918 the cemetery was used by fighting units. Lapugnoy Military Cemetery contains 1,324 Commonwealth burials of the First World War

Alfred 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.

In Memory of

Private

## Alfred Berry

53541, 21st Bn., West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) who died on 08 August 1918 Age 19

Son of Matthew and Charlotte Berry, of 70, Squirrel Hall Cottage, Dewsbury Moor, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Lapugnoy Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

