



Arthur Crossley 1890-1918

Arthur was born in Hoyland Common near Barnsley in 1890. His father was Joe Crossley, a Timber Drawer in a Coal Mine who was born in Elsecar near Barnsley in 1852 and died in 1925. His mother was Emily (nee Sharp) born in Hoyland in 1864. They were married in 1886.

Their other children were; Walter, born in 1887, Harry, born in 1888 and died in 1889 and Alice, born in 1889.

Emily had a daughter, Eliza Sharp, born in 1884.

On the 1891 Census the family were living at Wharnecliffe Villas, West Bank, Hoyland Nether, in 1901 and 1911 at the top of Leeds Road Cutting, Dewsbury.

Arthur was a single man who was educated at Hanging Heaton Church Schools and was a chorister at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. He worked as a Telegraph Messenger and later as a Postman.

He enlisted in London in 1915 into the 8th Battalion London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) with the Service Number 3929 rising to the rank of Serjeant 371658; he was sent to the Western Front on 25th December 1916 and was killed in action in France on 23rd March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial to the Missing. Arthur was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His death was not confirmed until his obituary appeared in the Dewsbury District News on 19th April 1919, which gave the family address as 343, Castleford Terrace, Leeds Road.

The Pozieres Memorial relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8th August 1918. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died between 21st March to 7th August 1918.

Arthur 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. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton and on the Dewsbury Post Office War Memorial Plaque now displayed in the Royal Mail Delivery Office on Cannon Way, Dewsbury.

In Memory of

Serjeant

Arthur Crossley

371658, 8th Bn., London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) who died on 23 March 1918 Age 28

Son of Joe and Emily Crossley, of 343, Castleford Terrace, Leeds Rd., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Pozieres Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

