



## **Harney Hey**

### **1887-1918**

Harney was born in Dewsbury Moor in 1887. His father was Walter Hey, a Cloth Finisher born in Dewsbury in 1861 and died in 1920. His mother was Mary Lucy (nee Wilson) born in Dewsbury in 1861 and died in 1950. They were married in All Saints Church, Dewsbury on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1884.

Their other children were: Annie, born in 1885, Edith, born in 1888, John Wilfred, born in 1893 and Hubert, born in 1896.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 7, Back Wroe Street, Dewsbury Moor, in 1901 at Leatham Street, Westborough, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 6, Reservoir Place, North Park Street, Dewsbury.

Harney was a single man who worked as a Dyers Labourer for Messrs Mark Oldroyd and Sons Limited.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 12/1683 in "A" Company 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1918 during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Lys in Northern France. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium. Harney was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Ploegsteert Memorial stands in Berks Cemetery Extension, which is located 12.5 Kms south of Ypres (now Ieper). The memorial commemorates the 11,349 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South African forces who have no known grave and died in the area from the line Caestre-Dranoutre-Warneton to the north, to Haverskerque-Estaires-Fournes to the south, including the towns of Hazebrouck, Merville, Bailleul and Armentieres, the Forest of Nieppe, and Ploegsteert Wood. The original intention had been to erect the memorial in Lille. Most of those commemorated by the memorial did not die in major offensives, such as those which took place around Ypres to the north, or Loos to the south. Most were killed in the course of the day-to-day trench warfare which characterised this part of the line, or in small scale set engagements, usually carried out in support of the major attacks taking place elsewhere.

Harney 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

**Harney Hey**

12/1683, "A" Coy. 12th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 13 April 1918 Age 31

Son of Walter and Mary Lucy Hey, of 6, Reservoir Place, North Park St., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

**Ploegsteert Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

