



## **William Bache Field**

**1881-1918**

William was born in Womersley, Yorkshire on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1881 and was baptised at St. Martin's Parish Church, Womersley on 17<sup>th</sup> April 1881. His father was James Henry Field, a Railway Goods Guard and later a Signaller born in Wakefield in 1849 and died in 1923. His mother was Annie/Ann (nee Bache) born in Kinlet, Shropshire in 1853 and died in 1927. They were married on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1880 at St. Mark's Church, Halifax Road, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; James Frederick, born in Womersley in 1883, Percy, born in Thornhill in 1890 and Alice Elizabeth, born in Thornhill in 1893.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Canal Bank, Thornhill Lees and in 1901 and 1911 at Low Mill Bank, Thornhill.

James Henry was previously married to Jane Todd (born in Weston, Yorkshire in 1854 and died in 1875) on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1873 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury; they did not have any children.

William was employed as a railway worker on the 1901 census and in 1911 he was a wool and cloth dyer. He was married to Nellie Brooke (born in Louth, Lincolnshire in 1882 and died in 1943) on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1903 at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees. They had three daughters; Nellie Kathleen, born in 1909, Dorothy May, born in 1912 and Millicent Martha, born in 1916. In 1911 they lived at 18, Travis Lacy Terrace, Dewsbury and later at 18, Park View, Slaithwaite Road, Thornhill Lees.

He enlisted into the Army Reserve on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1915 and was then transferred to the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1918. On 17<sup>th</sup> September 1918 he was drafted from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve Battalion at Aldershot into the Hood Battalion, Royal Naval Division, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve serving as Able Seaman R/6790 and on the following day he was sent to the Western Front. He was killed in action near Cambrai on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1918, his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Haucourt, Pas-de-Calais, France. William was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His family did not receive official confirmation of his death until 21<sup>st</sup> June 1919.

Vis-en-Artois and Haucourt are villages on the straight main road from Arras to Cambrai. The Memorial is the back drop to the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery, which is west of Haucourt on the north side of the main road. It bears the names of over 9,000 men of the forces of Great Britain and Ireland and South Africa; who fell in the period from 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918 to the date of the Armistice in the Advance to Victory in Picardy and Artois, between the Somme and Loos, and who have no known grave. Canadian, Australian and New Zealand forces being commemorated on other memorials to the missing.

William 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 Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of  
Able Seaman

## William Bache Field

R/6790, Hood Bn. R.N. Div., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve who died on 08 October 1918

Remembered with Honour  
*Vis-En-Artois Memorial*



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

