



## **Alfred Gardiner**

### **1894 – 1915**

Alfred was born in Knottingley, Yorkshire in 1894. His father was Joseph Gardiner, a Canal Barge Captain born in Knottingley in 1867 and died in 1955. His mother was Louisa (nee Raker) born in Peterborough in 1869 and died in 1953. They were married on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1886 at Christ Church, East Knottingley. Louisa was recorded as *Morah May Raker* on the marriage record.

Their other children were; James William Salathiel, born in 1886, Mary Elizabeth, born in 1888, Joseph, born in 1889, Francis, born in 1891, Albert Edward, born in 1896, Thomas Johnson, born in 1898, Louisa, born in 1900, Ernest, born in 1902 and died in 1916, Alice, born in 1905, Walter Gerald, born in 1906 and Eva Booth Gwendolyn, born in 1908. Five of the brothers served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Church Street, Thorne near Doncaster, in 1901 at Low Green, Knottingley and in 1911 at Kellingley Road, Knottingley and later at 9, Armitage Street, Ravensthorpe.

Alfred was a single man who was an Apprentice at Bagley's Glass Works, Knottingley. His occupation was recorded as a Wetter.

He enlisted on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1914 serving as Private 16955 in the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1915; according to the local newspaper report he was a bugler. He was killed in action during the Battle of Loos on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1915. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Alfred was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Loos Memorial forms the sides and back of Dud Corner Cemetery. Loos-en-Gohelle is a village north-west of Lens, and Dud Corner Cemetery is located 1 kilometre west of the village. The Loos Memorial commemorates 20,599 officers and men who have no known grave, who fell in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay, from the first day of the Battle of Loos to the end of the war.

Alfred 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 Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of

Private

## Alfred Gardiner

16955, 9th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 27 September 1915 Age 21

Son of Joseph and Louisa Gardiner, of 9, Armitage St., Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, Yorks. One of five brothers who served.

Remembered with Honour

Loos Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

