



## **Thomas Farrance**

### **1887-1919**

Thomas was born in Dewsbury on 28<sup>th</sup> November 1887 and baptised at St. Matthew's Church Westtown on 29<sup>th</sup> January 1888. His father was Edward Farrance, a self-employed Cab Driver born in Lockwood, Huddersfield in 1853 and died in 1923. His mother was Harriet (nee Farrance!) born in Sutton, St. Helens, Lancashire in 1860, and died in 1898. They were married at St. Mark's Church, Halifax Road, Dewsbury on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1886.

They had one other son, Edward, born in 1891 and died in 1895.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 37, Thornhill Road, Dewsbury and in 1901 and 1911 at 75, Thornhill Road.

Thomas worked for his father's Cab Driving Business, he was married at St. Matthew's Church on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1912 to Eliza Hurd (born in Morley in 1875 and died in 1932). They lived at 17, Cemetery Road, Westtown and had one child; Elsie, born in 1915.

He enlisted in September 1918 serving as Private 76090 in the 1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Manchester Regiment; it is not known when he was sent overseas but he died in France from tubercular pleurisy on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1919 in the 41<sup>st</sup> Stationary Hospital at Poulainville near Amiens. He was buried in St. Pierre Cemetery, Amiens, Somme, France. Thomas did not receive any medal awards as he did not serve in a war zone.

St. Pierre Cemetery is situated on the north-eastern outskirts of Amiens. The cemetery will be found in the suburb of Rivery on the left hand side of the Amiens to Albert road. During part of August 1914, Amiens was the British Advanced Base. It was captured by the Germans on 31<sup>st</sup> August, and retaken by the French on the following 13<sup>th</sup> September. The German offensive which began in March 1918 had Amiens for at least one of its objectives but the Battle of Amiens (8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> August 1918) is the Allied name for the action by which the counter offensive, the Advance to Victory, was begun. The 7<sup>th</sup> General Hospital was at Amiens in August 1914; the 56<sup>th</sup> (South Midland) Casualty Clearing Station from April to July 1916; the New Zealand Stationary Hospital from July 1916 to May 1917; the 42<sup>nd</sup> Stationary Hospital from October 1917 to March 1919; and the 41<sup>st</sup> Stationary Hospital in March 1918, and again in December 1918 and January 1919. The Commonwealth plot in St. Pierre Cemetery was first used in September 1915 and closed in October 1919, but shortly afterwards 33 graves of 1918 were brought in from positions in or near the city.

Thomas 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 Plaque in the porch of the now closed St. Matthew's Church.

In Memory of

Private

## Thomas Farrance

76090, 1st/6th Bn., Manchester Regiment who died on 11 October 1919 Age 32

Son of Edward Farrance, of West Town, Dewsbury, Yorks; husband of Eliza Farrance, of Cemetery Rd.,  
West Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

St. Pierre Cemetery, Amiens



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

