



Gilbert Gledhill

1899-1918

Gilbert was born in Dewsbury on 4th January 1899. His father was Philip Crawshaw Gledhill, a Coal Miner, later a Grocer and an Alderman of Dewsbury Borough Council born in Dewsbury in 1855 and died in 1912. His mother was Emma (nee Moorhouse) born in Dewsbury in 1858 and died in 1925. They were married on 6th December 1880 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

Their other children were; Arthur, born in 1881, Ethel, born in 1883, Eliza Jane, born in 1886, Sarah, born in 1888 and died in 1888, Miranda, born in 1891, Stanley, born in 1892 and died in 1893, Wilfred, born in 1894, Harold, born in 1897 and Elsie, born in 1901. His three surviving brothers all served in World War 1.

On the 1881, 1891 and 1901 Census Records the family lived at 86, Tweedale Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 92, Tweedale Street and later at 100, High Street, Westtown, Dewsbury.

Gilbert was a single man who was educated at Boothroyd Lane School and was connected to Moorlands Wesleyan Church.

He enlisted in March 1917 into "D" Company, 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment serving as Private 49378. He was wounded in action in France on 23rd October 1918 when hit in the abdomen by shell splinters; he was taken to the 38th Casualty Clearing Station at Awoingt but died the following day on 24th October 1918 and was buried in Awoingt British Cemetery, Nord, France. Gilbert was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Awoingt is a village some 3 Kms east-south-east of Cambrai and a little south of the main road from Cambrai to Le Cateau. Awoingt British Cemetery was begun in the latter half of October 1918 and used until the middle of December; the village having been captured on 9th/10th October. By 28th October, the 38th, 45th and 59th Casualty Clearing Stations were posted in the neighbourhood, and the great majority of the burials were made from those hospitals, but 16 graves were brought in after the Armistice from the area immediately surrounding the village. Awoingt British Cemetery contains 653 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War, including a special memorial to one casualty whose grave in the cemetery cannot now be found.

Gilbert 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 from Dewsbury Moorlands Methodist Church now displayed in Batley Methodist Church on Town Street.

In Memory of

Private

Gilbert Gledhill

49378, "D" Coy. 2nd Bn., Lincolnshire Regiment who died on 24 October 1918 Age 19

Son of Philip Crawshaw Gledhill and Emma Gledhill, of 100, High St., West Town, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Awoingt British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Ms. Danielle Roubroeks, Antwerp, Belgium.