

George Henry Senior 1885-1914

George was born in Earlsheaton in 1885. His father was Henry Senior, a Blanket Manufacturer's son born in 1851 and died in 1887. His mother was Emma (nee Bucknell) born Nottingham in 1855 and died in 1923. They were married in 1873.

Their other children were; Edith, born in 1873, Annie, born in 1875, Kate, born in 1878, John, born in 1880 and died in 1880 and John William, born in 1881.

On the 1881 and 1891 Census Records the family lived at Primrose Cottage, Sugar Lane, Dewsbury and in 1901 at Shaw Cross where George's occupation was given as a Mender of endless rope at a colliery.

Emma was remarried in 1898 to Newsome Scott (born in 1842 and died in 1902); after his death she moved to 10, Stuart Street, Barnoldswick, Yorkshire. She was living at Drub Lane, Cleckheaton at the time of her death.

George was a single man who was described in his obituary as: "a fine, well-built man who stood about 6ft. 3½in."

He enlisted in London in 1907 into the Scots Guards and the 1911 census shows him based at the Guards Depot at Caterham, Surrey. He was discharged in June 1914 having completed his seven years service and joined the Metropolitan Police Force, but after serving for only two months he was recalled at the outbreak of war, re-enlisting in Leeds and serving as Private 6800 in the 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards; he was sent to the Western Front on 7th October 1914 but was seriously wounded later in that month, receiving gunshot wounds to the head, both arms and both legs. On 2nd November his family were informed that he was not doing well and he was visited at one of the base hospitals in Boulogne by his uncle, Mr Whiteley Senior to whom he expressed the hope that he would be in an English hospital soon. His injuries proved too severe and he died of his wounds on 2nd December 1914 and was buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. George was awarded the 1914 Star with Clasp, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Boulogne was one of the three base ports most extensively used by the Commonwealth armies on the Western Front throughout the First World War. Boulogne and Wimereux formed one of the chief hospital areas. Until June 1918, the dead from the hospitals at Boulogne itself were buried in the Cimetiere de L'Est, one of the town cemeteries. Boulogne Eastern Cemetery contains 5,577 Commonwealth burials of the First World War. Unusually, the headstones are laid flat in this cemetery, due to the sandy soil.

George is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and in De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914-1918.

In Memory of

Private

George Henry Senior

6800, 2nd Bn., Scots Guards who died on 02 December 1914 Age 29

Son of Emma Scott (formerly Senior) and the late Henry Senior, of 10, Stuart St., Barnoldswick, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour Boulogne Eastern Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

