



Alec Long

1899-1918

Alec was born in Batley in 1899 and baptised at Christ Church, Staincliffe on 2nd July 1899. His father was Godfrey Long, a Carrier and Teamer born in Dewsbury in 1870 and died in 1911. His mother was Carrie (nee Popplewell) born in Batley in 1873 and died in 1904. They were married on 27th April 1897 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

They also had a daughter, Edith, born in 1903.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 18, Halifax Road, Staincliffe, Batley.

Godfrey was remarried on 21st December 1904 to Harriett Hannah Oakes (born in Ossett in 1868 and died in 1934) at Holy Trinity Parish Church, Ossett. On the 1911 Census taken on 2nd April, Godfrey had already died but Harriet lived with her two step-children Alec and Edith at 88, Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury.

Alec was a single man who moved to live at West Vale off Fall Lane, Dewsbury with his maternal grandmother Mrs. Sarah Popplewell between 1911 and 1917.

He enlisted in Pontefract on 1st August 1917 and served as Private 66943 in the 12th/13th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers. He had two days home leave from training at Christmas and was sent to the Western Front in March 1918. He was killed in action in Belgian Flanders on 25th April 1918 near Ridge Wood, close to where his Battalion were engaged around the village of Ouderdom; his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated as *Alexander Long* on the Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Alec was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Tyne Cot Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery and commemorates nearly 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom and New Zealand who died in the Ypres Salient after 16th August 1917 and whose graves are not known. The memorial stands close to the farthest point in Belgium reached by Commonwealth forces in the First World War until the final advance to victory.

Alec is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of

Private

Alexander Long

66943, 12th/13th Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers who died on 25 April 1918

Remembered with Honour

Tyne Cot Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

