



Arnold Ward

1900-1918

Arnold was born in Idle, Bradford in 1899. His father was James Edward Ward, a railwayman and later a Dyer's Labourer born in Dewsbury Moor in 1877 and died in 1933. His mother was Edna (nee Booth) born in Dewsbury in 1874 and died in 1927. They were married at All Saints Church, Dewsbury on 10th December 1898.

They also had a daughter, Lilian, born 25th December 1900.

On the 1901 and 1911 Census records the family lived at 72, Back Thornton Street, Dewsbury and later at 5, Thornville Place, Huddersfield Road, Dewsbury.

Arnold's occupation is unknown as he was a schoolboy in 1911.

He enlisted in Pontefract into the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 63056 in the 2nd/4th Battalion. He was killed in action near Vaulx-Vraucourt, France on 2nd September 1918 and was originally buried in Vaulx Churchyard British Extension; in 1924 his remains were reburied in Vaulx Hill Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Arnold was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Vaulx-Vraucourt is a village 6 kilometres north-east of Bapaume. It was taken in the spring of 1917, lost (after severe fighting) in March 1918, and retaken in the following September. Vaulx Hill Cemetery started with just 17 graves of September 1918. The rest of the cemetery was formed after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields in the immediate neighbourhood and other smaller cemeteries. The cemetery now contains 856 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War. 258 of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate 29 casualties known or believed to be buried among them, and four others buried in other cemeteries whose graves were destroyed by shell fire.

Arnold is 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

A Ward

63056, 2nd/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 02 September 1918 Age 18

Son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Ward, of 5, Thornville Place, Huddersfield Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Vaulx Hill Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

