



## **Harry Shaw**

### **1896 - 1917**

Harry was born in Heckmondwike in 1896. His father was Alfred Shaw, a Greengrocer born in Gildersome in 1868 and died in 1930. His mother was Harriet (nee Longstaff) born at Norristhorpe, Liversedge in 1865 and died in 1897. They were married on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1890 at St. Peter's Church, Birstall.

On the 1891 Census they lived at Brighton Street, Heckmondwike.

Their other children were; Norman, born in 1891, Willie, born in 1892 and Joe, born in 1894.

Alfred was remarried to Emma/Emily Daft (born in Coningsby, Lincolnshire in 1870 and died in 1927) on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1899 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury. They had three children; Dorothy, born in 1901, Reginald, born in 1906 and Arthur, born in 1908.

On the 1901 and 1911 Census records they were still living at Brighton Street, Heckmondwike.

Harry lived with the family of Jane Longstaff, his widowed maternal grandmother after the death of his mother; in 1901 they lived at Albion Street, Ravensthorpe. He was a single man who was educated at Boothroyd School and attended Moorlands Wesleyan Methodist Church. He worked as a cloth finisher at Mark Day's Mill in Savile Road, Dewsbury. In 1911 he was still living with Jane and her family at 33, Thornton Street, Dewsbury.

He attested in Dewsbury in January 1916 serving as Private 26132 in the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He died in a Casualty Clearing Station on 11<sup>th</sup> April 1917 from gunshot wounds to the abdomen sustained during the Battle of Arras and was buried in Warlincourt Halte British Cemetery, Saulty, Pas-de-Calais, France. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Warlincourt and Saulty are villages on either side of the main road between Arras and Doullens. The site of the cemetery was chosen in May 1916. It was used from June 1916 to May 1917 by the 20<sup>th</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> Casualty Clearing Stations, in February 1917 by the 1<sup>st</sup>/1st South Midland, and from April to June 1917 by the 32<sup>nd</sup>. From June 1917, the cemetery was practically unused until the fighting of May and June 1918, when field ambulances buried in it. After the Armistice the cemetery was increased by graves brought in from smaller military cemeteries. The cemetery now contains 1,266 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Harry is remembered on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Memorial Plaque from Moorlands Wesleyan Methodist Church, now stored in the Resource Centre at Batley Central Methodist Church and on the War Memorial in the Providence Independent Methodist Church, Thornton Street, Dewsbury.

In Memory of  
Private  
**H Shaw**

26132, 10th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 11 April 1917

Remembered with Honour  
**Warlincourt Halte British Cemetery, Saulty**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Richard Houghton.