



John Carlton Kendall

1893 – 1917

John was born in Dewsbury on 4th February 1893. His father was George Kendall, a sub-postmaster and previously a policeman born in Dunnington near York in 1850 and died in 1928. His mother was Margaret (nee Carlton) born in Bongate, Appleby-in-Westmorland in 1856 and died in 1917. They were married in 1876 in Dewsbury.

Their other children were; William, born in 1876 and died in 1878, George Herbert, born in 1878 and was killed in action 23rd April 1917, Mary Elizabeth, born in 1879, Charles, born in 1880 and died in 1883, Harold, born in 1883, Lavinia, born in 1884 and died in 1886, Maggie, born in 1886, Robert Butler, born in 1887 and died in 1891, Alice, born in 1889 and Reginald, born in 1896 and served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family were living at 10, Ernest Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 20, Battye Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at Ivy Terrace, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

John was a single man who was educated at Eastborough Council School and was associated with St. Mark's Church, Halifax Road, Dewsbury where he sang in the choir. He worked as a shop assistant at Jubb's Clothing Store, Market Place Dewsbury.

He enlisted in early 1916 under the Derby Scheme serving as Private 26922 in the 2nd/5th Battalion Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. In November 1916 he received shrapnel wounds to the face and neck and was sent home to recuperate at St. Mary's Hospital in Whalley, Lancashire. After recovering he was sent to Newcastle upon Tyne for further training and returned to the Front in February 1917. He was wounded in the chest and left arm by shrapnel during the Battle of Arras on 8th May which resulted in the amputation of his left arm. He died of his wounds on 15th May 1917 at No. 11 Stationary Hospital at Rouen and was buried in St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France. John was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

During the First World War, Commonwealth camps and hospitals were stationed on the southern outskirts of Rouen. A base supply depot and the 3rd Echelon of General Headquarters were also established in the city. Almost all of the hospitals at Rouen remained there for practically the whole of the war. They included eight general, five stationary, one British Red Cross and one labour hospital, and No. 2 Convalescent Depot. A number of the dead from these hospitals were buried in other cemeteries, but the great majority were taken to the city cemetery of St. Sever. St. Sever Cemetery contains 3,082 Commonwealth burials of the First World War. In September 1916, it was found necessary to begin an extension, where the last burial took place in April 1920. The cemetery extension contains 8,348 Commonwealth burials of the First World War (ten of them unidentified).

John 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 Memorial Plaque to former pupils at Eastborough School.

In Memory of

Private

J C Kendall

26922, 2nd/5th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 15 May 1917

Remembered with Honour

St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Mlle. Laure Guillaud, Le Petit-Quevilly, Rouen, France.