



Alfred Hurren Hemenway

1899-1918

Alfred was born in Dewsbury in 1899. His father was Arthur Hemenway, a Grocer and General Dealer born in Wetherby in 1868 and died in 1949. His mother was Harriett (nee Hurran) born in Middlesbrough in 1870 and died in 1848. They were married at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Batley on 14th May 1894.

Their other children were; Elsie, born in 1895 and died in 1896, Edith, born in 1897, Lilian, born in 1901 and Phoebe Harriett, born in 1905.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Ravens Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at Stoney Bank Street, Dewsbury and later at 124, Heckmondwike Road, Dewsbury.

Alfred was a single man whose occupation is unknown as he was a schoolboy on the 1911 Census and no obituary has been traced for him in the local newspapers.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 41749 in the 10th Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment; he was killed in action near Nieppe in Northern France on 7th September 1918 being one of 50 men of his regiment killed on that date. He was buried in the field and in October 1919 his remains were reburied in Trois Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck, Nord, France. Arthur was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Steenwerck is a village about 6 kilometres south-east of Bailleul. The village remained untouched for much of the First World War, but on 10th April 1918 it was captured by the Germans and remained in their possession until the beginning of October. Trois-Arbres passed into German hands a day later than Steenwerck, after a rearguard defence by the 34th Division. The site for Trois Arbres Cemetery was chosen for the 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station in July 1916, and Plot 1 and the earlier rows of Plot II, were made and used by that hospital until April 1918. A few further burials were made in the cemetery after the German withdrawal at the end of 1918 and after the Armistice over 700 graves were brought into it from the battlefields of Steenwerck, Nieppe, Bailleul and Neuve-Eglise. There are now 1,704 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 435 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to ten casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

Arthur is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and as *A.H. Hemenway* on the War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of

Private

Alfred Hurren Hemenway

41749, 10th Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment who died on 07 September 1918 Age 19

Son of Arthur and Harriett Hemenway, of 124, Heckmondwike Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Trois Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Richard Houghton.