

Harry Hemingway 1888 - 1916

Harry was born in Ossett on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1888. His father was William Hemingway, a painter born in Ossett in 1855 and died in 1923. His mother was Eliza (née Bradley) born in Ossett in 1859 and died in 1924. They were married in 1876.

Their other children were; Arthur, born in 1877 and died in 1877, Hilda, born in 1880, and died in 1894, Lewis, born in 1886, Cora, born in 1889, Lizzie, born in 1892 and died in 1893, Vera, born in 1893, Willie, born in 1895 and died in 1895, Ernest, born in 1898, Raymer, born in 1900 and died in 1902 and Cassie, born in 1903.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census Records the family lived at Park Square, Ossett and in 1911 at 10, Crown Street, Ossett.

Harry was single man and in 1911 worked as a mill hand for a Mungo manufacturer.

He served as Private 307278 in the 1<sup>st</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) He was killed in action during the Battle of the Somme on 18<sup>th</sup> September in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20<sup>th</sup> March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing 300 Commonwealth and 300 French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Harry is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Ossett War Memorial.

It has not been established why Harry is named on the Dewsbury Memorial as he does not appear to have had any connections with the town. Two possible reasons are that he worked in the town between the 1911 Census and his enlistment, or that some of his family were living in Dewsbury when the names for commemoration were submitted for inclusion.

## In Memory of

## Private

## Harry Hemingway

307278, 1st/7th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 18 September 1916

Son of the late William and Eliza Hemingway.

Remembered with Honour Thiepval Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission