



## **Arnold Lee**

### **1892 - 1916**

Arnold was born in Dewsbury in 1892. His father was George Lee, a Cashier and later Company Secretary and Director of a Shoddy Mill born in Heckmondwike in 1852 and died in 1924. His mother was Annie (nee Furness) born in Heckmondwike in 1851 and died in 1921. They were married in St. Peter's Church, Birstall on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1877.

Their other children were; Emma Louisa, born in 1878, William Henry, born in 1880 and died in 1903, Arthur born in 1882, Harold, born in 1884 and died in 1885, Mary Ethel, born in 1887 and Charlie, born in 1891 and was killed in action 30<sup>th</sup> March 1917.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at Bunker Hill, Batley, in 1891 at 28, Water Lane, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 6, Staincliffe Road, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 13, Clarke Street, Dewsbury and later at "Kirklees" Healds Road, Dewsbury.

Arnold was a single man who was educated at Boothroyd Lane Council School and worked in the Dewsbury Town Clerk's Office and later at Doncaster Poor Law Union and Urban District Council. He was engaged to Miss Minnie Garthwaite of "Falma House", Anroyd Street, Dewsbury; in 1922 she married a Willie F. Gibson.

He enlisted in 1914 serving as Private 585 in the West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) and later transferred to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Company Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) serving as Private 22742. He was killed in action on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, the First Day of the Battle of the Somme and was buried in Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps, Somme, France. Arnold was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Colincamps is a village 11 kilometres north of Albert. Colincamps and "Euston", a road junction a little east of the village, were within the Allied lines before the Somme offensive of July 1916. The cemetery was started as a front line burial ground during and after the unsuccessful attack on Serre on 1<sup>st</sup> July, but after the German withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line in March 1917 it was scarcely used. It was briefly in German hands towards the end of March 1918, when it marked the limit of the German advance, but the line was held and pushed forward by the New Zealand Division allowing the cemetery to be used again for burials in April and May 1918. The whole of Plot I, except five graves in the last row, represents the original cemetery of 501 graves. After the Armistice, more than 750 graves were brought in from the surrounding battlefields and smaller cemeteries. The cemetery now contains 1,293 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War. 170 of the burials are unidentified.

Arnold 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 War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of

Private

**Arnold Lee**

22742, 93rd Coy., Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) who died on 01 July 1916

Son of George and Annie Elizabeth Lee, of "Kriklees," Healds Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

**Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

