



## **Herbert Sands Buckley**

### **1895 – 1916**

Herbert was born in Dewsbury in 1895. His father was Charles Buckley a blanket raiser born in Oldham in 1871 and died in 1932. His mother was Mary Ellen (née Sands) born in Gomersal in 1872 and died in 1939. They were married on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1894 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; George Arthur, born in 1897 and served in World War 1 and Gladys, born in 1904.

On the 1901 Census he was recorded with his parents as a visitor at 64, Walshaw Street, Oldham, in 1911 the family lived at "Fairfield" 170, Old Bank Road, Dewsbury.

Herbert was a single man who was educated at Earlsheaton Council School going on to Eastborough Continuation School where he gained County Council certificates and finally at Dewsbury Technical School where he obtained six certificates in mathematics and science and attended the weaving class there. He was apprenticed to a power loom overlooker at Messrs Mark Oldroyd and Sons, Queens Mill. Herbert was attached to Highfield Congregational Church and Sunday school; he was a keen cricketer who played for Chickenley Cricket Club.

He attested on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1915 serving as Gunner 140656 in the Royal Field Artillery and was later transferred into the Royal Berkshire Regiment. He was sent to the Western Front in October 1916 and was drafted into "A" Company. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry serving as Private 33273. He was killed in action at Beaumont Hamel on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916 during the final stages of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Herbert was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He was reported missing for more than twelve months before an official intimation that he was 'now assumed to be dead' was sent by the War Office on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1917.

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.

Herbert is also remembered on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the Oak Reredos in St Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and on the Memorial Plaque in the Dewsbury Ebenezer Congregational Church, now known as Longcauseway Church (United Reformed and Methodist) and on the Memorial Plaque from the now demolished Earlsheaton Highfield Congregational Church relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of

Private

## Herbert Sands Buckley

33273, "A" Coy. 2nd Bn., Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry who died on 13 November 1916 Age 21

Son of Charles and Mary Ellen Buckley, of 170, Old Bank Rd., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

BUCKLEY H. S.