



Claude Wild

1896 - 1916

Claude was born in Earlsheaton on 1st August 1896. His father was William Wild, a Railway Goods Porter born in Dewsbury in 1862 and died in 1903. His mother was Susan (nee Graham) born in Dewsbury in 1865 and died in 1943. They were married on 6th August 1887 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Janet, born in 1890, James, born in 1892 and was killed in action on 3rd September 1916, Lionel, born in 1895 and served in World War 1 and Gladys Mary, born in 1899.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census Records the family lived at Hill End, Earlsheaton.

Susan was remarried in 1909 to Albert Edward Wade, (born Alverthorpe, Wakefield in 1884 and died in 1948). In 1911 they lived at 3, Back Princes Street, Westtown.

Claude was a single man who was educated at Earlsheaton and Dewsbury Parish Day Schools and worked as a Hurrier at Ingham's Colliery in Thornhill.

He enlisted in 1914 into the 9th Battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 3/1468 and was sent to the Western Front on 15th January 1915; he was wounded in December of that same year. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916 during the First Day of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were found in August 1919 and he was buried in Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-La Boisselle, Somme, France. Claude was awarded the 1914-1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Gordon Dump Cemetery is 2 kilometres north-east of Albert. On 1st July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, the 8th Division attacked Ovillers and the 34th Division La Boisselle. The villages were not captured, but ground was won between them and to the south of La Boisselle. The two villages were lost during the German advance in March 1918, but they were retaken on the following 24th August by the 38th (Welsh) Division. Plot I of the Cemetery was made by fighting units after 10th July 1916 and closed in September when it contained the graves of 95 soldiers, mainly Australian. It was called variously Gordon (or Gordon's) Dump Cemetery or Sausage Valley Cemetery, from the name given to the broad, shallow valley that runs down from it to Becourt. The remainder of the cemetery was formed after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the 1916 battlefields immediately surrounding the cemetery. There are now 1,676 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 1,053 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 34 casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

Claude is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of
Private
Claude Wild

3/1468, 9th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 19

Son of William and Susan Wild, of 3 Back Princes St., West Town, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-La Boisselle



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

