



Edward Cornelius Needham

1882 – 1917

Edward was born in Eastoft, Lincolnshire on 11th February 1882. His father was also Edward Needham, a Commercial Traveller born in Eastoft in 1852. His mother was Elizabeth Foster (nee Brunyee) born in Eastoft in 1850. They were married in 1879.

Their other children were; Horace George, born in 1883, Mabel Susannah, born in 1886, Eleanor Annie, born in 1888, Blanche Elizabeth, born in 1889 and Harold Charles, born in 1892.

On the 1891 Census they lived in High Street, Eastoft, in 1901 and 1911 at 174, Boothferry Road, Goole.

Edward enlisted in the Yorkshire Imperial Yeomanry on 21st February 1901 with the Service Number 27998. He served in the South African Campaign (Boer War) from 14th March 1901 to 27th August 1902 and was discharged on 3rd September 1902. He was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal with Clasps. He became a Police Constable in the Dewsbury Borough, having joined the police force on 24th August 1903. According to the report in the local paper at the time of his death, Edward had a distinguished career in the police force. In 1905, he had been awarded the merit badge for rescuing four men from a burning house in Birstall and was also promoted to First Class Constable. In 1913, Edward was commended for stopping a runaway horse. He was described in the news article as: *"a strong, stalwart and athletic fellow, standing 5 feet ten and a half inches tall"*. He was married to Edith Annie Roberts (born in 1882 and died in 1947) at the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Roberttown in 1904. They did not have any children. In 1911 they lived at Spen valley Road, Ravensthorpe. Edith later lived at 7, Moorfield View, Roberttown, Liversedge until her death in 1947.

He enlisted on 30th September 1914 into the 2nd Company of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards with the Service Number 19574 with the rank of Lance Serjeant and was sent to the Western Front on 16th March 1915. He was killed in action near Ypres on 30th July 1917, his remains were found in September 1919 and he is now buried in Duhallow A.D.S. Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Edward was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station, believed to have been named after a southern Irish hunt, was a medical post 1.6 kilometres north of Ypres (now Ieper). The cemetery was begun in July 1917 and in October and November 1918, it was used by the 11th, 36th and 44th Casualty Clearing Stations. The cemetery contains many graves of the artillery and engineers and 41 men of the 13th Company Labour Corps, killed when a German aircraft dropped a bomb on an ammunition truck in January 1918. After the Armistice, the cemetery was enlarged when graves were brought in from isolated sites and a number of small cemeteries on the battlefields around Ypres. Special memorials commemorate a number of casualties known to have been buried in two of these cemeteries, Malakoff Farm Cemetery, Brielen, and Fusilier Wood Cemetery, Hollebeke, whose graves were destroyed by shellfire. There are now 1,544 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery, 231 of the burials unidentified.

Edward is commemorated as *Edward C. Needham* 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 on the outside wall of Dewsbury Baptist Church.

In Memory of
Lance Serjeant

Edward C. Needham

19574, 1st Bn., Grenadier Guards who died on 30 July 1917 Age 35

Husband of Edith A. Needham, of Moorfield View, Robert Town, Liversedge, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour
Duhallow A.D.S. Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

