



Albert Heald

1898-1918

Albert was born in Dewsbury on 21st August 1898. His father was Albert Edward Heald, a Blacksmith's Striker born in Wakefield in 1863 and died in 1920. His mother was Mary Hannah (nee Daw) born in Knottingley in 1868 and died in 1937. They were married at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees on 17th October 1886.

Their other children were; John, born in 1887 and died in 1894, William, born in 1889 and died in 1889, Blanche, born in 1891, Stanley, born in 1893 and died in 1894, Emily, born in 1895, Harry, born in 1897 and died of sickness caused by war service on 14th August 1922, Herbert, born in 1902 and Mary, born in 1911. They also adopted a boy, Harry Stead who served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 7, Oates Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 55, South Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 6, Huddersfield Road, Dewsbury and later at 7, Webster Street, Dewsbury.

Mary was remarried on 22nd July 1920 to George Firth (born in 1865 and died in 1935) at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Albert was a single man who attended Dewsbury Parish Church School and Sunday school; he worked as an Assistant Horsekeeper for Messrs Crawshaw and Warburton, local coal mine owners.

He enlisted in 1916 serving as Private 47591 in 'A' Company 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was killed in action in the Aisne Region of France on 3rd October 1918; he was buried in Bellicourt British Cemetery, Aisne, France. Albert was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Bellicourt is a village 13 Kms north of St. Quentin and 28 Kms south of Cambrai. On 29th September – 2nd October 1918, the Battle of the St. Quentin Canal was fought. The 46th (North Midland) Division stormed the Hindenburg Line at Bellenglise and captured 4,000 prisoners and 70 guns. The 30th United States Division captured Bellicourt and Nauroy, which were cleared by the 5th Australian Division. The North Midland and Australian dead of this engagement fill most of the graves in Bellicourt British Cemetery. The cemetery was made after the battle, when 73 dead were buried there. It was greatly enlarged after the Armistice, when graves were brought from the surrounding battlefields and smaller cemeteries.

Albert is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on Dewsbury Parish School Memorial Plaque and on the Memorial to employees of Messrs Crawshaw and Warburton in the porch of St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton.

In Memory of

Private

Albert Heald

47591, "A" Coy. 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 03 October 1918 Age 20

Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Heald, of 7, Webster St., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Bellicourt British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

