

BENNETT, JOHN 6185 Lance Corporal 1st Battalion 2nd Brigade 1st Division

THE NORTH LOYAL LANCASHIRE REGIMENT

Born Leyland Enlisted Preston Living Leyland

Killed in Action France / Flanders 23rd October 1914

Ref: 'Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919', Part 50.

Chorley Guardian and Leyland Hundred Advertiser 12th June 1915

'Fate of Farington Man Unknown'

6185 Pte. John Bennett, 3rd (sic) Battalion, Loyal North Lancs., was posted missing at the end of October. His wife was notified he was missing on Dec. 1st., 1914. Still no definite news has been received. Mrs Bennett lives on West View, Farington.

Preston Guardian 19th June 1915

Information has been received of the whereabouts of Pte. John Bennett, 3rd. Battalion (sic), the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, who has previously not been heard of since October 23rd last. Mrs Bennett, who lives at West View, Farington, has been officially informed that her husband is a prisoner-of-war in a German Camp in Belgium, and he is being well treated.

Lancashire Daily Post 5th (?) June 1915

(Précis) John Bennett of Farington was called up as a reservist at the beginning of the war. Employed at Leyland Motor Works. Not heard of since Oct. 23rd – report virtually the same as the Chorley Guardian, 12 June 1915. (photo)

Chorley Guardian and Leyland Hundred Advertiser Sat. 20th May 1916

Official notification has been received of the death of L/Cpl J. Bennett on Oct. 23rd., 1914 by Mrs Bennett of West View, Leyland Road, Farington. A reservist, he worked at the Leyland Rubber Works and leaves a widow and two children.

A Memorial Inscription in St. Paul's Churchyard, Farington, records on the family grave:-

L/C John Bennett Killed in Action 1914

His name appears on the following local memorials:-

Memorial Window in St. Paul's, Farington
Lostock Hall Memorial, Tardy Gate

Continued

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

With no known grave, John Bennett is commemorated on the:-

YPRÈS (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL, IEPER, BELGIUM

His name is on Panel No. 41 or 43. Husband of Sarah Yates (formerly Bennett), of West View, Croston Road, Farington, Lancs. Age 33.

Yprès (now Ieper) is a town in the Province of West Flanders. The memorial is situated at the eastern side of the town on the road to Menin and Courtrai, and bears the names of 55,000 men who were lost without trace during the defence of the Yprès Salient in the First World War.

‘A Record of the Battles and Engagements of the British Armies in France and Flanders, 1914-1918.’

On 21st-24th October, 1914, the 1st. Division was engaged in the ‘Battle of Langemark’, one of the battles of 1st. Yprès. Presumably, it was here that John Bennett lost his life.

Note :- The local newspaper reports that John Bennett was in the 3rd. Battalion of the ‘Loyals’ was, of course, incorrect. The 3rd. Bn. was formed at Preston as a reserve battalion on August 4th., 1914, and went to Felixstowe on August 9th, 1914, where it remained throughout the war as the Harwich Garrison.

Bennett, John – 1914.

W.E. Waring 2003