

**BENNETT, JOHN 34789 Private 2nd Battalion 90th Brigade 30th Division**

**THE ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS**

**Born Leyland Enlisted Leyland Living Leyland**

**Killed in Action France / Flanders 23rd April 1917**

Ref: 'Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919'. Part 26.

**Chorley Guardian and Leyland Hundred Advertiser Sat. 19th May 1917**

Mrs Bennett, Towngate, Leyland has received official intimation of the death in action on April 23rd, of her husband Pte. John Bennett, Royal Scots Fusiliers. He was 33 years of age and was employed at Wood-Milne Ltd prior to joining the Army in June 1916.

Writing to Mrs Bennett, the Chaplain of the Regiment says:- "Will you accept my deep sympathy in the loss of your brave husband? I hope by now you will have heard that his body has been recovered and buried. We went out one night to do so, but had to return owing to shell-fire".

**Leyland St. Andrew's Parish Magazine June 1917**

'Roll of Honour'

A Memorial Service was held on the evening of Ascension Day for five men of the parish who have died in the Service of their Country. The five included John Bennett.

**His name appears on the following local memorials:-**

War Memorial, Church Road, Leyland  
Mural Plaque in St. Andrew's, Leyland

**Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

John Bennett is buried in the:-

**BOOTHAM CEMETERY, HÉNINEL, FRANCE**

Grave Ref: Row D Grave 38. No next-of-kin information.

Héninel is a village in the Pas-de-Calais, 10 km south-east of Arras and 3 km south of the main road from Arras to Cambrai. This cemetery also holds the grave of James Harold Woods of Farington, a fellow Royal Scots Fusilier, who was killed in action on the same day as John Bennett.

This is a 'Battlefield' cemetery which I visited in April 1999 with my brother, sister and her husband.

**Continued**

**Lancashire Daily Post Tuesday April 23rd 1918**

‘IN MEMORIAM’

BENNETT – In loving memory of Pte. John Bennett, Royal Scots Fusiliers,  
who was killed in action April 23rd., 1917.

*‘One year today has passed away  
Since our great sorrow fell,  
But in our hearts, we mourn the loss  
Of him we loved so well.’*

– From: Widow and child, 97 Towngate, Leyland.

BENNETT – In loving memory of Pte. John Bennett, Royal Scots Fusiliers  
who was killed in action April 23rd., 1917

*‘Too far away thy grave to see  
But not too far to think of thee.’*

From – Mother, Sisters and Brothers, 1 Oak View, Earnshaw Bridge, Leyland.

**Chorley Parliamentary Division. Register of Electors. Leyland - 1918.**

St. Andrew’s Ward, Division I.

97 Towngate – Martha Ellen Bennett

**Note 1:-** The 30th Division, of which the 2nd Royal Scots was a part, was fighting in the ‘Second Battle of the Scarpe’, 23rd-24th April, 1917. In the Lancashire Daily Post 1918 ‘In Memoriam’ of Pte. James H. Woods of the same battalion – and who died on the same day – it states that he died at Wancourt, France: presumably, it was here also that John Bennett was killed in action.

**Note 2:-** No. 97 Towngate in 1917 became No. 104 Towngate after the re-numbering of Leyland in 1936-9: the Leyland Urban District Council record of this re-numbering still exists, and a copy of it is available in Leyland Library.

**Bennett, John – 1917.**

**W.E. Waring 2003**