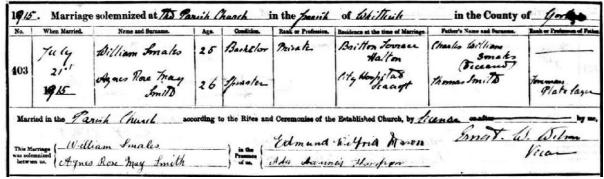
WILLIAM SMALES - Private 27701, 10th Lancashire Fusiliers, 2nd Sep 1918, Age 29

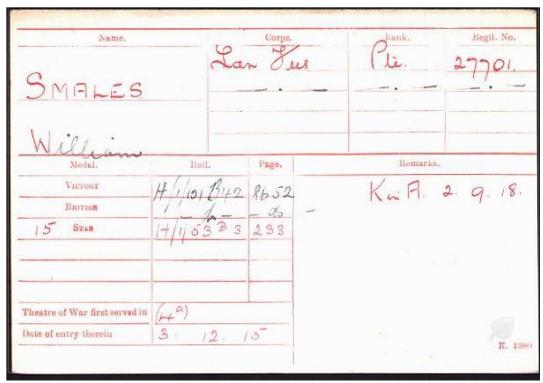
William Smales was born in Woodlesford (near Halton) in Leeds in 1889, the son of Ada and Charles William Smales (a coal miner)[1] [2]. By 1911, aged 23, he was still living with his parents and 18 year old sister, Hannah, at 4 Britton Terrace, Halton, Leeds and working as a Print Compositor.

In July 1915, aged 25 he married Agnes Rose May Smith (26, daughter of a Thomas Smith), by which time his father has passed away. Agnes was born in Richmond and was living in Brompton on Swale according to the 1901 Census (at Railway Cottages).



William Smales - 1915 Marriage Certificate

William probably left for training soon after his marriage and his medal card shows that he first entered the theatre of war on 3rd December 1915, serving as Private 27701 in the Lancashire Fusiliers.



William Smales - Medal Index Card

The 10th (Service) Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers was attached to 52nd Brigade, 17th (Northern) Division and took part in a number of key battles [4] including Passchendale which William seems to have survived.

However, he seems to have been killed during one of the final offensives of the war when the 17_{th} Division took part in the Second Battle of Bapaume and the capture of Mont St Quentin and Péronne between 31 August - 3 September 1918.

William was killed in action and has no known grave. He is commemorated on Panel 5 & 6 of the VIS-EN-ARTOIS MEMORIAL. The CWGC records state that he was the son of Ada Smales, of 4, Britton Terrace, Halton, Leeds, and the late Charles Smales and the husband of Agnes Rose May Smales, of 4, Rose Cottages, Romanby, Northallerton, Yorkshire.



Vis-en-Artois Memorial

Sources:

- (1) 1881 Census (RG12; Piece: 3667; Folio 48; Page 6)
- (2) 1901 Census (RG13; Piece: 4198; Folio: 9; Page: 10)
- (3) 1911 Census (RG14PN27163 RG78PN1552 RD501 SD2 ED1 SN76)
- (4) 10th Battalion movements
 - http://www.lancs-fusiliers.co.uk/tourspostings/10LFToursPostings.htm
- (5) Commonwealth War Graves Commission
 - https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/1748784 https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/79200