

# Private Thomas BEMROSE



Thomas was the second son of John Thomas and Jane Bemrose. He was born at Boston in 1879 and was one of nine children. He joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment at Doncaster in around 1904 and he served for three years and then put on reserve for seven. He married Sarah Ann Hutchinson, and together lived at Conisborough where he worked as a railway engine cleaner and had three children.

At the outbreak of war in August 1914 Thomas re-joined his old regiment and, after brief training in Cambridgeshire and Dunfermline, Fifeshire, went out to France with the British Expeditionary Force (BEF). His Battalion suffered badly in the Battle of the Aisne and by the 21st September a total of seven officers had been killed, two officers wounded, seven officers missing, 71 other ranks killed, 110 other ranks wounded and an incredible 436 other ranks missing (possibly owing largely to being taken prisoner by the Germans). Thomas was seriously wounded in the back and thigh and died of his wounds on 23 September 1914, aged 35. He was awarded the Victory, British and 1914 Star medals. Sadly, he has no known grave and his name was listed on the La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, sixty miles east of Paris.

