

In Memory Of

## HARRY GARDINER

Private 17153  
13<sup>th</sup> Bn., Cheshire Regiment  
who died on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 1916



**Born** Hollingworth, Ches.    **Enlisted** Hyde, Cheshire    **Residence**

**Died How** Died of wounds                      **Theatre of War** France & Flanders

**Additional Inf.**    Son of Wm & Suzannah Gardiner, 35 Houghton Green Rd, Denton

### Commemorative Information

**Cemetery:**                      BLIGHTY VALLEY CEMETERY, AUTHUILE WOOD, Somme, France  
**Grave Reference/  
Panel Number:**              Special Memorial 10.

**Location:**                      Authuille and Aveluy are villages 4 kilometres north-east of the town of Albert. The Cemetery is situated in a valley half way between these two villages on the D151 (Cemetery is signposted on exit of Aveluy direction Authuille). The Cemetery is on the eastern side of the road D151 and access is 500 metres by grass pathway (unfit for cars).

**Historical Information:**    The Cemetery was begun early in July, 1916, and used until the following November by the troops taking part in the fighting on that front. It then contained the graves of 212 soldiers, and comprised the whole of the present Plot 1 except 21 graves; and it was not used again until after the Armistice, when 784 graves were brought in from the battlefields and small cemeteries to the East. The majority of the officers and men thus reburied fell on the 1st July, 1916. There are now just over 1,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over half are unidentified, and special memorials are erected to 24 soldiers from the United Kingdom known or believed to be buried among them. There are five other special headstones commemorating soldiers from the United Kingdom, buried by the enemy in Becourt German Cemetery in the spring of 1918, whose graves could not be found on exhumation. The 70th Infantry Brigade erected a wooden memorial in the cemetery to their dead of the 1st July, 1916. The cemetery covers an area of 4,236 square metres. The only important graveyard concentrated into Blighty Valley Cemetery was- QUARRY POST CEMETERY, AUTHUILE WOOD, which was on the South-Eastern edge of the Wood, in the commune of Oviliers-La Boisselle. It was used from July, 1916 to February, 1917, chiefly by units of the 12th (Eastern) Division, and it contained the graves of 50 soldiers from the United Kingdom.