

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: James Francis Dear

Rank: Private

Service Number: 33513

Date of Death: 19th April 1917

Age:

Regiment/Service: 8th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment

Award:

Grave/Memorial Reference: Panel 41

Cemetery/Memorial: Loos Memorial, France.

UK Cemetery/Memorial: Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Panel C
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)

Pre War:

His home was 2, St. Andrew's Place, Hitchin.

Wartime Service:

Of the Hitchin War Memorials, the name 'F. Dear' only appears on the principal town memorial outside St. Mary's Church and it was difficult to be certain as to which person is being remembered.

He was in fact a Private soldier in the 8th Battalion of the Bedfords who was born in Hitchin, resided there and enlisted in Bedford. He was given the Regimental Number 33513 and was killed in action on the 19th April 1917. On that day the 8th Bedfords sustained intense hostile shelling from bombing, counter-attacks and barrage fire, but all were repulsed. This was at a position south of Loos Crassier and is the most probable place of his death.

He has no known grave and is remembered on Panel 41 of the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais in France along with 20,000 of his comrades.

Additional Information:

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

