



## **John Joseph McMullan**

**1890 – 1916**



John was born during the September quarter of 1890 in Stockton-On-Tees County Durham, to Richard McMullen, (1864 – 1921) who had been born in Ireland and his wife Sarah Ellen (nee McAndrew 1863 – 1947) who had been born in Sunderland. The couple were married in Stockton-On-Tees in 1887 and had several children, Richard 1888, who died circa 1912, Annie 1893, Alexander 1895, who was killed in action at Asiago, Italy on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 1918, Cecilia 1897, James 1899 and Tomas 1902. John Married Lily Swallow on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 1912 at the Church of Our Lady and St. Paulinus and the couple lived at 5, Lister's Yard, Webster Hill, they had one child Mary, who was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 1912. John worked as a tram driver for the Heavy Woollen District Tramways.

John served as Private 18332 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the York and Lancaster Regiment and was sent to France on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 1915, thus he claimed the 1915 Star in addition to the British Campaign and Victory Medals. He met his death on the Somme on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 1916 the day of the commencement of the Battle of Flers Courcelles which was designed to be the decisive battle when the final breakthrough was to be achieved through the use of the new secret British weapon, the tank. It is unlikely that John's body was ever recovered as he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, alongside 72,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers who have no known grave. He is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park, in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour safeguarded in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Memorial in the Church of Our Lady and St Paulinus in Cemetery Rd, Dewsbury. There is also a memorial plaque in the Church of St. Thomas Stockton-On-Tees. Apparently he was a good soldier and acted as stretcher bearer, he

administered first aid to stricken comrades unassisted in the most dangerous of positions until he himself was killed

In Memory of  
Private

**John Macmullen**

18332, 2nd Bn., York and Lancaster Regiment who died on 15 September 1916

Remembered with Honour

**Thiepval Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission