



John (Jack) Weate

1895 – 1916

John Jiffert Weate, known as Jack, was born in Batley in 1895; his Father's middle name was Gifford which appears to be a family tradition, so most probably there is an incorrect spelling on the birth registration. His father was John Gifford Weate, born in Swan Village near West Bromwich, Staffordshire in 1865 and died in 1928. His mother was Sarah Ann (nee Latewood) born in Deepfields near Coseley, Staffordshire in 1865 and died in 1897. They were married in 1888 at Coseley. John Snr. served in the Labour Corps from 1915 to 1919.

Jack had two brothers who were both born at Deepfields; Thomas in 1888 and Joseph in 1889 and a sister Ethel born in Batley in 1893.

On the 1901 Census Jack and his brother Joseph are inmates of the Dewsbury Workhouse, his eldest brother Thomas was a boarder with a family named Sykes. On the 1911 Census Jack had been adopted by Lewis Westcott and his wife Gertrude who lived at Edge End East, Thornhill; Ethel was a housemaid in the Workhouse, but in 1913 she married John Bostwick Westcott who had also been adopted by Lewis and Gertrude.

Jack was a single man whose occupation was a Hurrier at Ingham's Colliery, Thornhill.

He enlisted in September 1914 into the 1st/12th Battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry rising to the rank of Lance-Corporal with the Service Number 12/1093 and was sent out to Egypt on 22nd December 1915. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916 during the First Day of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Jack was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Jack is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and as Jack Weate in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of
Lance Corporal
John Weate

12/1093, 12th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 21

Son of John Weate, of 39, Mary St., East Ardsley, Wakefield.

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

