



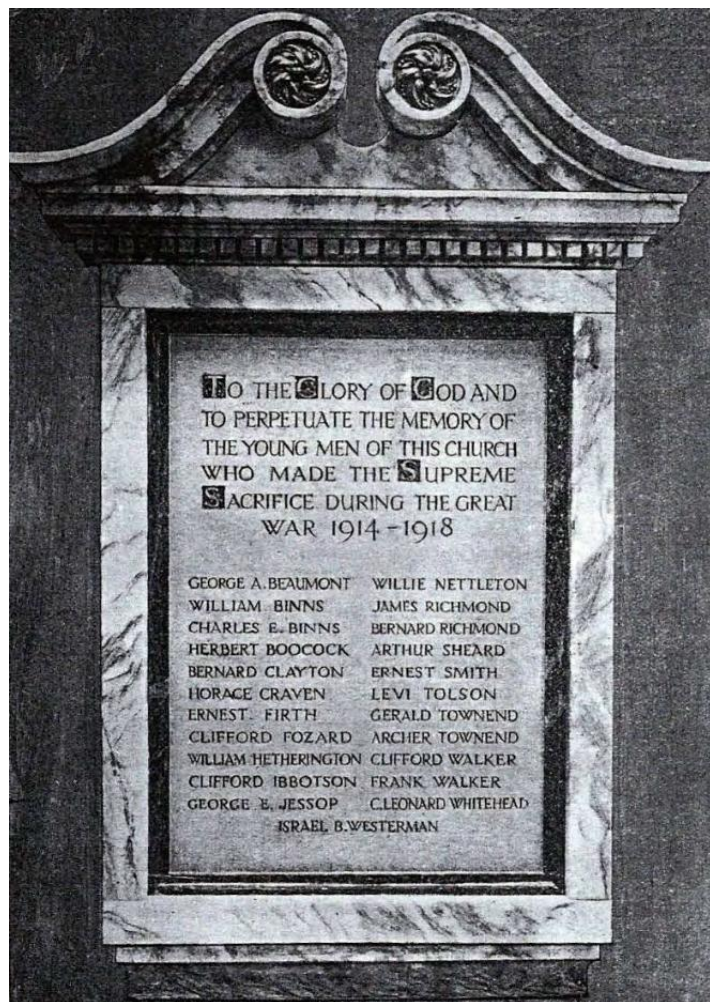
Ossett

Wesleyan Methodist Chapel



DEWSBURY SACRIFICES

‘Dewsbury’s only fallen soldier on this missing memorial’



Wesleyan Church, Wesley Street,
OSSETT.



Dedication and Unveiling

OF
War Memorial Window
and Tablet

ALSO OF
Two Private Windows.

ON
MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 14th, 1921,
AT 7-30.



Clifford Hemingway Ibbotson
1893 – 1916

Clifford was born in Ossett in 1893. His father was Joseph Ibbotson, a Rag Grinder born in Ossett in 1852 and died in 1923. His mother was Emma (née Hemingway) born in Wakefield in 1856 and died in 1913. They were married in 1882.

Their other children who could be traced were; John Arthur, born in 1883 and died in 1883, Gilbert, born in 1884, and Mary Ethel, born in 1888 and died in 1888.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census Records the family lived in Headlands Road, Ossett, in 1911 at Fearnley's Buildings, Old Bank, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury. On the latter census there is an entry for an Ida Ibbotson aged 4, her status is not given and there is a birth registered for a child of this name in 1909 with the mother's maiden name given as Redfearn. Her relationship to this Ibbotson family has not been established.

Clifford was a single man who was employed as a Rope Lad at Crawshaw and Warburton's colliery. Prior to enlisting his employers were the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company at Thornhill Lees.

He served as Private 5999 with the 1st Battalion, Connaught Rangers who were in Mesopotamia from 10th January 1916. He died from the effects of heat on 10th July 1916 and was buried in Basra War Cemetery Mesopotamia (now Iraq). Clifford was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Basra War Cemetery now contains 2,560 burials of the First World War; in 1935 it was decided to remove all the headstones as the salty soil had caused them to substantially deteriorate. Instead, all the Commonwealth casualties were commemorated on a Memorial Screen Wall which was built in the same year. Because of the current political instability in Iraq, the cemetery is inaccessible. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has a Roll of Honour commemorating all casualties buried and commemorated in Iraq at their Head Office in Maidenhead.

Clifford is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park, and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the now lost War Memorial Tablet from the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Ossett and in Ireland's Roll of Honour to Casualties of World War 1.