



## **John Henry Stocks**

### **1876 - 1917**

John was born in Glanford Brigg, (now Brigg) Lincolnshire in October 1876. His father was John Stocks, an Oastler and later a labourer born in Glanford Brigg in 1855 and died in 1938. His mother was Anne Maria, sometimes Annie/Hannah (nee Boston) born in Glanford Brigg in 1853 and died in 1917. They were married in 1876.

Their other children were; Ann Eliza, born in 1879, Sarah, born in 1880, Lilly, born in 1883, Dick, born in 1886, Charley, born in 1890 and was killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> October 1915, William, born in 1894 and Nellie, born in 1898.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at 6, Ancholme Court, Glanford Brigg, in 1891 at 1, James Street, Glanford Brigg, in 1901 at 3, Ancholme Court, and in 1911 Millwood Lane, Moortown, South Elmsall, Yorkshire. Between 1891 and 1898 they lived at 31, Long Row, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire which was the address given by John when he enlisted in 1895.

He enlisted in the Lincolnshire Regiment giving his occupation as a Groom on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1895 with the Service Number 4307, having previously been in the Militia. He served at home in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion from 21<sup>st</sup> November 1895 until 28<sup>th</sup> December 1897 when he was transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and was immediately posted to Egypt, where he fought in the Sudanese Campaign at the battles of Atbara on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1898 (led by General Horatio Herbert, later Lord Kitchener) and at Omdurman on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1898. On 18<sup>th</sup> October 1898 he was posted to India where he served until he was transferred to the Army Reserve on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1903. He then re-engaged as a Reservist on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1907 until 10<sup>th</sup> September 1911. John was awarded the Egyptian Sudan Medal with Clasps for Atbara and Khartoum, the Khedive's Sudan Medal and the Queen's Sudan Medal.

John was married on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1904 to Myra Emma King (born in Sheffield in 1880 and died in 1960) the marriage was registered in Hemsworth, South Yorkshire. On the 1911 Census they lived at 9, Fearnley Street, Dewsbury where he worked as a Postman at the General Post Office in Dewsbury; they did not have any children. Myra was remarried to a widower, James Henry Cookson (born in 1879 and died in 1961) on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1922. They had a daughter, Margaret, born in 1923.

As a Reservist he was recalled on the outbreak of war serving in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment with the Service Number 8571 rising to the rank of Lance Corporal, and was posted to the Balkan Campaign on 21<sup>st</sup> November 1915. He was killed in action during the Battle of Arras on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1917. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. John was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Arras Memorial commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918, the eve of the Advance to Victory, and have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

John 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 Dewsbury Post Office Memorial at the Royal Mail Delivery Office in Cannon Way, off Mill Street West, Dewsbury.

In Memory of  
Lance Corporal

# John Henry Stocks

8571, 8th Bn., Lincolnshire Regiment who died on 20 April 1917

Remembered with Honour  
Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

