



George Clement Sutcliffe

1884 – 1917

George was born in Mirfield on 18th March 1884 and was baptised in St. Mary's Church, Mirfield on 30th April 1884. His father was James William Sutcliffe, a Canal Boatman born in Hebden Bridge in 1860 and died in 1914. His mother was Mary Elizabeth (nee Norminton) born in Mirfield in 1862 and died in 1935. They were married at St. Mary's Church on 30th August 1883.

They had another son, James Owen, born in Hebden Bridge in 1887.

On the 1891 Census their address was Shepley Bridge, Mirfield, in 1901 at Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe, in 1911 at Greenwood Lock, Ladywood, Thornhill and later at 1, William Street, Ravensthorpe.

George was educated at Mirfield Parish Church Day School and also belonged to the Brotherhood at the Wesleyan Chapel in Ravensthorpe. George and his brother followed their father and became Boatmen. He worked for Mr. Sam Schofield of Lower Hopton, carrying coal between Brighouse and Wakefield. He was married to Amy Goodall (born in 1885 and died in 1940) in St. Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe on 6th November 1905. They had three children; Jack, born in 1906, Harry, born in 1908 and Moira, born in 1912. On the 1911 Census they lived at Walker Street, Ravensthorpe and later at 751, Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe.

He had been a volunteer with the Wakefield Squadron of the Yorkshire Dragoons since January 1914 and was called up at the outbreak of war as Private 2761 in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was not in the best of health and served at home as an officer's valet; he volunteered to go to the Front four times, before finally being posted in December 1916 when he was transferred to the 1st/4th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 203255, receiving very brief infantry training, lasting 10 days. He died in the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station at Adinkerke in Belgian Flanders on 23rd July 1917, having been gassed at Nieuport where the enemy was inflicting a sustained attack of Mustard Gas. He was buried in Adinkerke Churchyard Extension, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. George was awarded the British War Medal, the Victory Medal and the Territorial Force War Medal.

The village of Adinkerke is located west of the town of Veurne, in the direction of De Panne. From June to November 1917, XV Corps held the front from the Belgian coast to St. Georges. The 24th and 39th Casualty Clearing Stations were posted at Oosthoek (between Adinkerke and Furnes) from July to November, and the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station was at Adinkerke for a short time in June. Adinkerke Churchyard Extension is a Belgian Military Cemetery on the west side of the Churchyard. The Commonwealth graves are in two small plots and are numbered consecutively with the other graves. The extension contains 67 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

George 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 Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of
Private

George Clement Sutcliffe

203255, 1st/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 23 July 1917 Age 33

Husband of Amy Sutcliffe, of 751, Huddersfield Rd., Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Adinkerke Churchyard Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

