



Cyril Glover

1894 - 1917

Cyril was born in Ravensthorpe on 7th December 1894 and was baptised at St. Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe on 1st February 1894. His father was William Henry Glover, a coal miner (hewer) born in Ingbirchworth, Yorkshire in 1860 and died in 1939. His mother was Rachel Ann (nee Walker, formerly Hindle) born in Mirfield in 1855 and died in 1927. They were married on 18th October 1884 at St. Mary's Church, Mirfield.

They had two more children; Ethel, born in 1886 and died in 1907 and Herman, born in 1888 and died in 1896.

On the 1891 Census they lived at John Street, Ravensthorpe and in 1901 and 1911 at 19, Havelock Street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

Rachel was previously married at St. Mary's Church on 18th October 1884 to James Hindle (born in 1854 and died in 1880). They had two children; James, born in 1877 and died in 1877 and Percie, born in 1879 and died in 1880.

Cyril was a single man who was educated at St. Saviours Day School and attended the Church and Sunday school; he was also a member of the football team. He worked as an iron turner at Bell Brothers Engineers in Ravensthorpe where he had served an apprenticeship and worked there for 9 years.

He enlisted on 5th July 1916 in the 2nd/4th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 33038. After being sent to the Western Front he was buried alive in a shell hole and had to wait three days for his comrades to rescue him. He was sent home on leave over Christmas suffering from a wound to the face and from trench feet, returning to the Front in January 1917. He was killed in action on 20th November 1917 on the First Day of the Battle of Cambrai during an attack on a German pillbox; he was shot through the head by a machine gun bullet and died instantly. He was buried in Havrincourt Wood British Cemetery, about 1 kilometre South-West of Havrincourt village. In December 1920 he was one of 70 men who were reburied in Hermies Hill British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Cyril was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Hermies is a town in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais, approximately 3.5 kilometres south of the road from Bapaume to Cambrai. Hermies was seized on the morning of 9th April 1917, by a surprise attack of the 2nd and 3rd Australian Infantry Battalions. It was held against the advancing Germans on the 22nd March 1918 by the 17th Division, but evacuated on the following day; it was retaken in September 1918. Hermies Hill British Cemetery was begun in November 1917 and carried on by fighting units until March 1918. Further graves were added in the following September and after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from a wide area round Hermies and from certain smaller cemeteries. There are now over 1,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, nearly 300 are unidentified.

Cyril 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
C Glover

33038, 2nd/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 20 November 1917

Son of Mr. W. Glover, of 19, Howdock St., Raventhorpe, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Hermies Hill British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Richard Houghton.