



## **Clement Micklethwaite**

### **1896 - 1917**

Clement was born in Thornhill in 1896. His Father was Walter Micklethwaite, a Mason's Labourer born in 1857 and died in 1927. His mother was Emma (nee Cowgill) born in 1856 and died in 1944. They were married in 1879.

Their other children were: Florence, born in 1880, George Henry, born in 1881, Hannah Mary, born in 1885, Percy, born in 1887, Selina, born in 1889 and died in 1891, John, born in 1892, Friend, born in 1894 and Clifford, born in 1900.

His brother John served in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in World War 1 and was awarded the Military Medal in 1916; John was wounded on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 along with Clement, according to an article in the Dewsbury Reporter on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Foxroyd Road, Thornhill, in 1901 at Wells Road, Thornhill and in 1911 at 71, Sunset View, Thornhill, Dewsbury.

Clement was a single man who was educated at Thornhill Church of England School and attended Thornhill Baptist Church and Sunday school. He worked at Ingham's Colliery, Thornhill as a by-worker.

He enlisted in Dewsbury in August 1915 serving as Private 1785 in the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was sent to Egypt on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1915 and then to the Western Front in March 1916; he was wounded in the left hand on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, the First Day of the Battle of the Somme. He died of gunshot wounds to the right thigh on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1917 sustained during the Battle of Passchendaele. He is buried in Nine Elms British Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Clement was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Nine Elms British Cemetery is located west of Poperinge. The cemetery was begun and used by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian and 44<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Stations when they moved to Poperinge (now Poperinge), from Brandhoek and Lijssenthoek respectively, in September 1917. Nearly all the burials in Plots I to IX came from these Casualty Clearing Stations, whilst they operated in this area during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) in 1917 up until December 1917. Plots X, XI, XIII, XIV and XV cover the dates between the beginning of March, 1918 and the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1918, the period of the German offensive in Flanders, the British counter attacks and the final advance of August-September. The burials in these cases were carried out almost entirely by fighting units. The cemetery contains 1,556 Commonwealth burials of the First World War

Clement 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 War Memorial in St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill.

In Memory of  
Private  
**Clement Micklethwaite**

1785, 1st/12th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 22 October 1917 Age 21

Son of Walter and Emma Micklethwaite, of 71, Sunset View, Thornhill, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour  
**Nine Elms British Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Ms. Danielle Roubroeks, Antwerp, Belgium.