

## **George Leuty 1878 - 1917**

George was born in Plumstead, Kent which was part of the Royal Borough of Greenwich in London in 1878. On the 1911 Census he declares that he was born in Long Sutton, Lincolnshire. His father was Henry Leuty, a Tailor born in Brighton, Sussex in 1834 and died in 1898. His mother was Mary Ann (nee Farley) born in Newick, Sussex in 1839 and died in 1915. They were married in Lewes, Sussex in 1866.

The family moved around as can be seen from where the children were born (Kent, Hampshire, Northumberland and Lincolnshire) and where they were living at each Census.

Their other children were; Mary Ann, born in Shorncliffe, Kent in 1868, Rebecca, born in Hilsea, Hampshire in 1869, Henry, born in Shorncliffe in 1870, Charles Frederick, born in Plumstead in 1874 and died in 1875, Charles, born in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne in 1875, Eliza Fanny, born in Plumstead, in 1880, Caroline, born in Long Sutton, Lincolnshire in 1882 and Ellen, born in Long Sutton in 1887.

George had joined the Dewsbury Borough Police Force in 1906 and at the time of enlistment in 1915 he was serving in the Thornhill Lees area. He was regarded as Dewsbury's tallest policeman being 6 feet 3½ inches tall. He had previously served in the Royal Garrison Artillery for 8 years. He was married to a widow, Annie Birkett, nee Saville (born in 1877 and died in 1940) on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1909 at St. John's Church, Cleckheaton. They had two children, George Henry, born in 1911 and Stanley, born in 1913. They lived at Hebble Terrace, Thornhill Lees, Dewsbury. Annie was previously married in 1899 to James Alfred Birkett (born in 1874 and died in 1901), they had a son Samuel Birkett, born in 1901 and died in 1905. Annie later moved to 2, Snake Hill, Oakenshaw, Bradford.

He enlisted in the 35<sup>th</sup> H.Q. 15<sup>th</sup> Heavy Artillery Group, Royal Garrison Artillery in June 1915 rising to the rank of Serjeant 282180 and in January 1916 he was posted to Egypt but in April 1916 he was sent to the Western Front. He was wounded in action and died on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1917 at No. 10 General Hospital, Rouen, from injuries to his thigh, both arms and had a fractured femur. A soldier pal had informed his wife that" *George had been hit by pieces of a bomb dropped by a Hun aeroplane*". He was buried in St. Sever Extension Cemetery, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France. George was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

During the First World War, Commonwealth camps and hospitals were stationed on the southern outskirts of Rouen. A base supply depot and the 3rd Echelon of General Headquarters were also established in the city. Almost all of the hospitals at Rouen remained there for practically the whole of the war. They included eight general, five stationary, one British Red Cross and one labour hospital, and No. 2 Convalescent Depot. A number of the dead from these hospitals were buried in other cemeteries, but the great majority were taken to the city cemetery of St. Sever. St. Sever Cemetery contains 3,082 Commonwealth burials of the First World War. In September 1916, it was found necessary to begin an extension, where the last burial took place in April 1920. The cemetery extension contains 8,348 Commonwealth burials of the First World War (ten of them unidentified).

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 War Memorial in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of

Serjeant

## **George Leuty**

282180, 35th H.Q. 15th Heavy Art. Group, Royal Garrison Artillery who died on 05 October 1917 Age 39

Son of Henry and Mary A. Leuty, of Long Sutton, Lincs; husband of Annie Leuty, of 2, Snake Hill, Oakenshaw, Bradford, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

