



## **Isaac Walker Thompson**

### **1886 - 1917**

Isaac was born in Pudsey, Yorkshire on 17<sup>th</sup> May 1886 and baptised on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1886. His father was George Henry Thompson, a labourer and gardener born in Swinton near Malton, Yorkshire in 1865 and died in 1932. His mother was Harriet Emma (nee Drake) born in Pudsey in 1865 and died in 1918. They were married on 13<sup>th</sup> February 1886 at St. Wilfrid's Church Calverley, Pudsey.

Their other children were; James Henry, born in 1887, John Alfred, born in 1890, Lily Ann, born in 1891, James William, born in 1892 and died in 1892, Esther, born in 1894 and died in 1895, Agnes, born in 1895 and died in 1896, Mark Edward Butler, born in 1896, Harry, born in 1898, Wilhelmina, born in 1900, Lawrence, born in 1903 and died in 1903 and Clarissa, born in 1905. James, Mark and Harry all served in World War 1

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 16, Barnes Close, Pudsey, in 1901 at Crawshaw Street, Pudsey and in 1911 at 51, Garden Terrace, Ravensthorpe.

Isaac was married on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1907 at St. Wilfrid's Church, Calverley to Frances Julia Devonshire (born in Castleford in 1889 and died in 1944) they had one child, George, born in 1909. On the 1911 Census Isaac was a general carrier and they lived at Back Bradbury Street, Ravensthorpe and later at 35, Bradbury Street. Prior to enlistment he was employed as a Scavenger (night-soil collector) by the Dewsbury County Borough Council in the Sewage Department. He and his brother James were both members of the Ravensthorpe Liberal Club.

He enlisted on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1915 into the King's Own Scottish Borderers serving as Private 201618. Following 11 weeks training he was sent to the Dardanelles Campaign (Gallipoli) with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1915. He was serving in France on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, the First Day of the Battle of the Somme where he was wounded in the leg; he was hospitalised in Torquay and after home leave and further training he returned to service in the Palestine Campaign in February 1917 with the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion and was twice wounded, being hospitalised on one occasion with septicaemia. He was killed in action during the attack on El Mughar on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 1917. His grave was either lost or became impossible to maintain and so he is commemorated on the Jerusalem Memorial. Isaac was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His wife received a letter of condolence from Private Joseph Shore who had been "*Ike's chum*" since coming out to Palestine; it tells that he did not suffer, death being instantaneous and went on to relate how his pals had attended his funeral.

Jerusalem War Cemetery was begun after the occupation of the city, with 270 burials. It was later enlarged to take graves from the battlefields and smaller cemeteries in the neighbourhood. There are now 2,514 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in the cemetery, 100 of them unidentified. Within the cemetery stands the Jerusalem Memorial, commemorating 3,300 Commonwealth servicemen who died during the First World War in operations in Egypt or Palestine and who have no known grave.

Isaac is also 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

## Isaac Walker Thompson

201618, 1st/5th Bn., King's Own Scottish Borderers who died on 13 November 1917 Age 31

Son of George Henry and Harriet Emma Thompson, of 51, Garden Terrace, Ravensthorpe; husband of Frances Julia Thompson, of 35, Bradbury St., Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Jerusalem Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

