



George Ireland

1882 – 1915

George was born in Leicester in 1882. His father was Thomas Ireland, a Labourer born in Leicester in 1848 and died in 1887. His mother was Eliza Jane (nee Revell) born in Leicester in 1852 and died in 1888. They were married in 1870.

Their other children were; Priscilla Jane, born in 1871, Thomas, born in 1874, James, born in 1875, Susannah (I), born in 1878 and died in 1878, Susannah (II), born in 1880 and Elizabeth Jane, born in 1884.

On the 1881 Census the family lived in Victoria Road, Billesdon, Leicestershire. Sadly, after the early deaths of their parents, the older children had to find lodgings where they could and the younger ones were placed in the workhouse.

George joined the Militia in Leicester on 2nd December 1901 giving his occupation as a Shoe Hand. He attested on 16th July 1903, serving as Private 6694 in the 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment; he served in India from 9th February 1904 to 9th November 1906 and then served at home until 15th July 1911 when he was transferred to the Reserves.

He was married in Eltham, London in 1909 to Norah Kathleen Quinn (born in Folkestone, Kent in 1889 and died in 1966). On the 1911 Census they were living at 88, Lysons Road, Aldershot, Hampshire. They had a daughter, Nora Kathleen, born in Cheriton near Folkestone in 1909 and a son, Ernest, born in Dewsbury, in 1913. At the time of George's death they lived at 3, Back North Park Street, Dewsbury; Nora and the family later moved to 66, Top Gladstone Street, Dewsbury. He regularly attended St. John's Church, Dewsbury Moor. A report in the local newspaper at the time of his death gives his occupation as a Conductor on the local trams.

He was mobilised on 5th August 1914 and was sent to the Western Front on 9th September 1914 and was killed in action near Ypres on 28th December 1915, having been hit by shrapnel from a shell. He was buried in White House Cemetery, St Jean-Les-Ypres, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. George was awarded the 1914 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The local newspaper report stated that he had not been in the trenches over Christmas, and was killed immediately on his return to them. His effects were returned to his wife, including a pocket book, containing photographs of his wife and children, and a copy of the New Testament. Both books had been perforated by shrapnel.

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 St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of
Private
G Ireland

6994, 1st Bn., Leicestershire Regiment who died on 28 December 1915 Age 33

Husband of Mrs. N. K. Ireland, of 66, Top Gladstone St., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour
White House Cemetery, St. Jean-Les-Ypres



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

