



John Norman Barraclough

1899-1918

John was born in Morecambe in 1899. His father was William (Willie) Barraclough, a Photographer born in Buttershaw, Bradford in 1867 and died in 1907. His mother was Hannah (nee Bentley) born in Otley in 1877 and died in 1945. They were married at Holy Trinity Church, Poulton-le-Sands, Morecambe on 14th May 1898.

They also had a daughter, Nora, born in 1900.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Fairfield Terrace, Heysham and in 1911 they are living with Hannah's mother and stepfather at 8, Newall Mount, Otley. On his pension award card his mother's address is given as 24, Beechwood Crescent, Burley in Wharfedale.

John was a single man whose occupation is unknown as he was a schoolboy on the 1911 Census where his name is recorded as Norman Barraclough which may have been the name by which his family addressed him.

He enlisted in Leeds serving as Private 41957 in the 7th Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment and was killed in action in Northern France on 10th October 1918 and was buried in the field; in February 1920 his remains were reburied in Montay-Neuvilly Road Cemetery, Montay, Nord, France. John was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Montay is a village on the northern outskirts of Le Cateau. The Cemetery is one kilometre north of the village on the eastern side of the road to Solesmes. This cemetery was made by the 23rd Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery, on 26th and 27th October 1918. It contained originally 111 graves, mainly of officers and men of the 38th (Welsh) and 33rd Divisions, and the 6th Dorsets, but after the Armistice it was increased when graves were brought in from the battlefields west, north and east of Montay, and from certain small cemeteries. There are now 470 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War in this cemetery. 61 of the burials are unidentified but there is a special memorial to one casualty believed to be buried among them. All fell in the period October or November 1918.

John is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and as *John N. Barraclough* in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and as *J.N. Barraclough* on the War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

No connection with the Dewsbury area has been found for John Norman Barraclough, but to be commemorated on the Town Memorial and a Church Memorial there must be a link somewhere.

In Memory of
Private

J N Barraclough

41957, 7th Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment who died on 10 October 1918

Remembered with Honour
Montay-Neuvilly Road Cemetery, Montay



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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