

John was born in Dewsbury in 1874. His father was Joseph Hartley, a Commercial Clerk in the woollen industry born in Atherton, Lancashire in 1841. His mother was Annie/Ann (nee Harper) born in Wellington, Shropshire in 1843 and died in 1905. They were married at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, St. Denys and St. George in Manchester on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1862.

Their other children were; Elizabeth, born in Manchester in 1864, Helen/Ellen, born in Leigh in 1865, Rachel Alice, born in Dewsbury in 1869, Jane, born in Dewsbury in 1871 and died in 1898, William, born in Dewsbury in 1873 and Ruth, born in Dewsbury in 1878.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at 60, Cooperative Buildings, Thornhill, in 1891 and 1901 at Leeds Road, Soothill and in 1911 at Deanroyd Terrace, Leeds Road, Chidswell.

Joseph was remarried in 1907 to Mary Annie Mellor (born in Huddersfield in 1852)

John was married on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1902 to Annie Hemingway (born in 1879); in 1911 they lived at 3, Carlton Cottages, Calder Road, Dewsbury and he was employed as a mill joiner. They had four children; Margaret, born in 1903, Doreen, born in 1907, Mary Louise, born in 1913 and Edith, born in 1915. They later lived at 47, Raven's Crescent, Raven's Lodge, Dewsbury. Annie later lived at 37, Calder Road, Ravensthorpe.

He enlisted in the Royal Engineers as Private 274935 transferring to Road and Quarries T.D. (Bordon) Royal Engineers as Sapper WR/23159. He served overseas and after falling ill he was committed to Storthes Hall Asylum, Huddersfield on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1918 where he died of valvular heart disease on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1918 and was buried in Thornhill Lees (Holy Innocents) Churchyard. John was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

John is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of

## Pioneer

## John Robb Hartley

WR/23159, Road and Quarries T.D. (Bordon), Royal Engineers who died on 23 November 1918 Age 43

Son of Joseph and Ann Hartley; husband of Annie Hartley, of 47, Raven's Crescent, Raven's Lodge, Dewsbury. Born at Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Thornhill Lees (Holy Innocents) Churchyard





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

