

Timothy Donnelly c.1881 – 1915

Timothy was allegedly born in Dewsbury around 1881. No birth or baptism records exist for him and nothing has been found regarding his parents and other family members.

On the 1881 Census it is recorded that he was a patient in Dewsbury Hospital.

Timothy served three terms in Wakefield prison between 1905 and 1906 for drunkenness and fighting.

He was married in 1910 to Annie Robson (born in Hawick, Scotland in 1880 and died in 1964); they lived at 20, Back New Street, off Princess Street, Dewsbury and did not have any children.

On the 1911 census Timothy's occupation is given as a Willyer at a Woollen Mill. His obituary stated that he was employed as a Warehouseman by Messrs Oxley and Sharpe, Rag Merchants, Dewsbury.

He enlisted in Dewsbury in September 1914 serving as Private 15839 in the 1st Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was sent to the Western Front on 15th January 1915 and was killed in action on 8th May 1915 during the Battle of Hill 60 near Ypres; his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Timothy was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing is one of four British and Commonwealth memorials to the missing in the battlefield area of the Ypres Salient in Belgian Flanders. The memorial bears the names of 54,389 officers and men from United Kingdom and Commonwealth Forces (except New Zealand and Newfoundland) who fell in the Ypres Salient before 16th August 1917 and who have no known grave.

Timothy 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 War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church.

In Memory of

Private

Timothy Donnelly

15839, 1st Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 08 May 1915

Remembered with Honour Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

