



John Schorah (Scorah)

1882-1918

John was born in Ravensthorpe in 1882. His father was Edwin Schorah, a Rag Merchant and Mungo Manufacturer born in Ossett in 1845 and died in 1920. His mother was Elizabeth (nee Boocock) born in Ossett in 1845 and died in 1914. They were married in 1870.

Their other children were; James Arthur, born in Ossett in 1870 and died in 1870, George Ernest, born in Ossett in 1871, Joseph, born in Ossett in 1874, Mary Hannah, born in Ossett in 1876, William Henry, born in Ossett in 1878 and died in 1880, Wilfrid (sometimes Wilfred) Wainwright, born in Ossett in 1880 and served in World War 1 and Martha Elizabeth, born in Ravensthorpe in 1884.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at Ryecroft Street, Ossett, in 1891 and 1901 at South View Terrace, Lee Street, Ravensthorpe, in 1911 at 5, Craven Street, Ravensthorpe and later at 21, Craven Street.

John was educated at Ravensthorpe School and attended the Wesleyan Church and Sunday school; he was also a member of the Ravensthorpe Cycling Club. He worked as a Currier, a specialist occupation involving the tanning and colouring of leather at Messrs Hartley Brothers in Ravensthorpe. At the outbreak of war, he was living and working for Messrs Fenner and Son in Marfleet, Hull.

He enlisted in Hull on 11th May 1915 into the 4th Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment serving as Private 220148 and was sent to the Western Front on 27th October of that same year. He suffered a shrapnel wound on 1st October 1916 during the latter stages of the Battle of the Somme and was evacuated to a hospital in Edinburgh. In January 1917 he returned to the front line and on 28th April he was captured during the Battle of Bullecourt near Arras. In August he was reported as being a Prisoner of War and passed through a number of camps before ending up at Altdamm in Germany in January 1918. According to local newspaper reports he was subjected to the horrendous and callous treatment of a starvation diet of mangel-wurzels and cabbage water and exposure to the bitter weather conditions. He was sent 18 food parcels by the Hull Relief Committee but did not receive them for eight months. He was finally released on 19th May 1918 and was admitted to the 1st London General Hospital in Camberwell, but was discharged six weeks later as his case was deemed to be hopeless with little chance of recovery; he was sent home to 21, Craven Street, Ravensthorpe where he died on 20th December 1918 from Chronic Nephritis and Uraemia and was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery. John was awarded the 1914-15 Star, 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. (His name is misspelled as *Scorah*).

For some unknown reason he was not officially commemorated as a War Casualty by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. His Service Record, Death Certificate and POW Records were sent by Dewsbury Sacrifices to the appropriate authorities on 10th December 2015 and commemoration was approved on 10th February 2016.

In Memory of

Private

John Schorah

220148, 4th Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment who died on 20 December 1918 Age 36

Son of Edwin and Elizabeth Schorah of Ravensthorpe, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Dewsbury Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

