



## **John White**

### **1895 – 1915**

John was born in Appleton Roebuck near Tadcaster in 1895. His father was James White, a Colliery Horse Keeper (above ground) born in Brandsby, Yorkshire in 1866 and died in 1948. His mother was Evelyn Ann (nee Bean), born in Ulleskelf, Yorkshire in 1869 and died in 1936. They were married in Tadcaster in 1893.

Their other children, the first five being born in Appleton Roebuck were; Evelyn Emily Elizabeth, born in 1896 and died in 1896, Hannah Mary, born in 1898, Evelyn Annie, born in 1899, James William, born in 1902, Albert Bean, born in 1904 and Ivy, born in Dewsbury in 1906 and died in 1906.

On the 1901 census, the family are recorded as living in Brickyard Cottages, Appleton Roebuck. By 1911 they had moved to 'South View', Wakefield Road, Dewsbury.

John was employed by Messrs Geo Anderton and Son in Cleckheaton and was a member of the Dewsbury Central Wesleyan Methodist Church.

He attested in 1914 into the Northumberland Fusiliers serving as Private 13654 and later transferred to the 21<sup>st</sup> Division Cyclists Company, Army Cyclist Corps with the Service Number 660 rising to the rank of Lance Corporal.

On 25<sup>th</sup> February 1915, whilst training to be a motor-cycle dispatch rider at Halton Park near Aylesbury, his cycle was in collision with a motor ambulance. Against advice, he was carrying a passenger, Private William Hilton Thomas, who died in the same accident. On 6<sup>th</sup> March 1915, the Dewsbury Reporter published the Inquest verdict of "death by misadventure". A Royal Berkshire Hospital Surgeon concluded William Thomas was unconscious, with severe injuries, broken arm, ruptured liver, internal haemorrhage, shock, died 10.20pm. John White - broken leg, broken arm, broken bones in hand, dislocated wrist, internal haemorrhage, shock, died 10.52pm. Both men were buried with full military honours and share a grave in Dewsbury Cemetery. John did not qualify for any medal awards as he did not serve overseas or in a war zone.

John 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 Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the War Memorial on the outside wall of the Dewsbury Centenary Wesleyan Church at the top of Daisy Hill.

In Memory of  
Lance Corporal  
**John White**

660, 21st Div. Cyclists Coy., Army Cyclist Corps who died on 25 February 1915 Age 20

Son of James and Evelyn Arm White, of "South View," Wakefield Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour  
**Dewsbury Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

