



Gordon Brown

1885-1918

Gordon was born in Thornhill in 1885 and baptised on 12th July at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill. His father was Henry Brown, a miner born in Thornhill in 1858 and died in 1925. His mother was Eliza (nee Hinchliffe) born in Thornhill in 1860 and died in 1923. They were married on 24th August 1879 at St. Michael and All Angels Church.

Their other children were: Mary Ellen, born in 1879 and died in 1907, Edith Annie, born in 1882, Hilda, born in 1884, Ethel, born in 1887, Lucy, born in 1890, Nora Alice, born in 1893, Kate Emma, born in 1895 and Doris Emily, born in 1898.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Blackburn's Buildings, Thornhill, in 1901 at 13, The Combs, Thornhill and in 1911 at 14, Combs Bottom, Thornhill.

Gordon was a single man who worked as a Coal Miner/Hewer.

He enlisted in 1915 into the 6th Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers with the Service Number 20336, rising to the rank of Corporal and was sent to the Western Front on 30th September of that year. He was wounded in 1916 but recovered and was returned to action. He was killed in action in France on 24th March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial to the Missing. Gordon was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Pozieres Memorial relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8th August 1918. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died between 21st March to 7th August 1918.

Gordon 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 St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill.

In Memory of

Corporal

Gordon Brown

20336, 6th Bn., King's Own Scottish Borderers who died on 24 March 1918

Remembered with Honour

Pozieres Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

