



## **John Coll**

### **1887-1918**

John was born on in Dewsbury on 8<sup>th</sup> July 1887. His father was also John Coll, a forge labourer born in Castlereagh, County Roscommon, Ireland around 1847 and died in 1920. His mother was Annie (nee Foley) born in Castlereagh around 1857 and died in 1931. They were married at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1885.

Their other children were; Thomas (I), born in 1885 and died in 1886, Michael, born in 1888, Ellen (Nellie), born in 1890, Thomas (II), born in 1892 and died in 1892, Mary, born in 1893, Margaret (Maggie), born in 1895, Thomas (III), born in 1897 and Annie born in 1900 and died in 1900.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 43, Tweedale Street, Westtown, Dewsbury and in 1901 and 1911 at 102, Middle Road, Westtown.

John was a single man who 1911 worked as a Shoddy Packer.

He served as Private 307249 in the 1<sup>st</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) and was wounded in 1916 as reported in the Dewsbury District News on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1916. He died on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1918 at No.2 Casualty Clearing Station, Remy Siding near Poperinge, Belgium from wounds sustained in action and was buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. John was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

During the First World War, the village of Lijssenthoek was situated on the main communication line between the Allied military bases in the rear and the Ypres battlefields. Close to the Front, but out of the extreme range of most German field artillery, it became a natural place to establish casualty clearing stations. The cemetery was first used by the French 15<sup>th</sup> Hopital D'Evacuation and in June 1915, it began to be used by casualty clearing stations of the Commonwealth forces. From April to August 1918, the casualty clearing stations fell back before the German advance and field ambulances (including a French ambulance) took their places. The cemetery contains 9,901 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 24 being unidentified.

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 War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church.

In Memory of  
Private  
**John Coll**

307249, 1st/7th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 24 February 1918 Age 30

Son of Annie Coll, of 102, Middle Rd., West Town, Dewsbury, Yorks, and the late John Coll.

Remembered with Honour  
**Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

