Thomas Francis Flanagan
1887-1918

Thomas was born in Westtown, Dewsbury on 6th November 1887 and baptised on 20th November at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church. His father was Timothy Flanagan, a Glass Drawer born in Ireland around 1847 and died in Dewsbury in 1896. His mother was Elizabeth (nee Murray) born in Castlerea, County Roscommon, Ireland around 1854 and died in 1934. They were married at Our Lady and St, Paulinus Church on 13th August 1881.

Their other children were; Catherine, born in 1883, Timothy, born in 1885, James, born in 1889 and Dennis, born in 1891. Timothy and James both served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Asylum Road, Westtown, Dewsbury, in 1901 and 1911 at 33, High Street, Westtown, Dewsbury.

His father Timothy was previously married to Margaret Flanagan (no direct relation; born in 1847 and died in 1879) on 29th June 1872. They had two children; Michael, born in 1875 and was killed in action 25th February 1917 and Margaret, born in 1877.

Elizabeth was remarried to Francis Riley in 1932.

Thomas was a single man who worked as a Glazier at the Standard Patent Glazing Company, Dewsbury. He attended Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church and was a playing member of the St. Paulinus A.F.C. football club.

He enlisted as Private 5920 in the 5th Battalion Connaught Rangers; after serving on Gallipoli he was sent to Salonika, Greece via the Island of Lemnos. Having being transferred into the 2nd Battalion Leinster Regiment serving as Private 18108, he served in the Balkan Campaign from 19th December 1915. He was later sent to the Western Front and died from the effects of gas in a Casualty Clearing Station at Ebblinghem in Northern France on 28th April 1918 and was buried in Ebblinghem Military Cemetery, Nord, France. Thomas was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Ebblinghem is a village halfway between St. Omer and Hazebrouck. The cemetery was begun by the 2nd and 15th Casualty Clearing Stations, who came to Ebblinghem in April 1918 at the beginning of the German offensive. They used the cemetery until July and further graves were added after the end of the war. Ebblinghem Military Cemetery contains 441 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Thomas is commemorated as *Thomas F. Flanagan* 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 and as *Thomas Flanagan* in Ireland's Memorial Records 1914-1918.

In Memory of

Private

T Flanagan

18108, 2nd Bn., Leinster Regiment who died on 28 April 1918

Son of Mrs. E. Flanagan, of 33, High St., West Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour
Ebblinghem Military Cemetery

Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission