



## **Malcolm Medd**

### **1893-1918**

Malcolm was born in Leeds on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1893. His father was George Allan Medd, a Groom born in Sherburn near Scarborough in 1864. His mother was Margaret Alice (nee Blenkinsop) born in Leeds in 1863. They were married on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1883 at St. Peter's Parish Church, Leeds.

Their other children were; Mary Elizabeth, born in 1883 and was adopted by the Page family of Thornhill Lees and later became Mrs. J.W. Steele, Ethel, born in 1885, John William, born in 1888 and died in 1890. The children seem to have been abandoned before 1901 and no definitive census or death records have been found for their parents.

In 1901 Malcolm was an inmate at Leeds Union Moral and Industrial Training School, Beckett Street, Leeds but by 1911 he had been adopted by the Crumack family at "Lilholme" 377, Lees Hall Road, Thornhill Lees. There are many spelling variations of their surname.

Morton Crumack, a Miner was born in Dewsbury in 1871 and died in 1940, his wife Alice (nee Page) was born in Thornhill Lees in 1869 and died in 1920. They were married at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1893. They had three children; Lily, born in 1894, James, born in 1896 and died in 1896 and Harold, born in 1901 and died in 1901.

Malcolm was a single man who was educated at Thornhill Lees Council Schools and attended Holy Innocents Church where he was an active Sunday school worker and teacher and was also a member of the Church Institute. He worked as a Miner at Ingham's Colliery, Thornhill.

He enlisted in January 1915 into the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry with the Service Number 21178, rising to the rank of Lance Corporal. He served in the Salonika Campaign before being posted to the Western Front where he was wounded in the Battle of the Somme in 1916; he was killed in action in the Aisne Region of France on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1918 just five weeks after returning from home leave. He was buried in Guizancourt Farm Cemetery, Aisne, France. Malcolm was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Le Catelet is a village in the north-western corner of the Department of the Aisne, midway between Cambrai and St. Quentin. Guizancourt Farm Cemetery is situated 4 kilometres east of Le Catelet upon a hill in the middle of a large field. Le Catelet and Gouy were captured on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1918; and on the 5<sup>th</sup>, Guizancourt Farm was secured by the 25<sup>th</sup> Division. The cemetery was made shortly after the capture of the farm. There are now nearly 150, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this cemetery. Of these, a small number are unidentified.

Malcolm 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 Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of  
Lance Corporal  
**M Medd**

21178, 1st Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 03 October 1918 Age 25

Brother of Mrs. J. W. Steele, of 377, Lees Hall Rd., Thomhill Lees, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour  
**Guizancourt Farm Cemetery, Gouy**



**Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Nigel Marshall.