



## George Simpson 1887-1918

George was born in Dewsbury in 1887. His father was also George Simpson, a stonemason born in Dewsbury in 1842 and died in 1905. His mother was Mary (nee Gledhill) born in Dewsbury in 1843 and died in 1924. They were married on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1870 at St. Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe.

Their other children were; Harry, born in 1870, John William, born in 1872, Louisa, born in 1874, Arthur, born in 1875 and died in 1911, Mary Jane, born in 1877, Ellen, born in 1879, Jestina, born in 1881, Lottie, born in 1882, Herbert, born in 1885 and Ethel, born in 1891.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 7, Hanover Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 1, Hanover Street and in 1911 at 10, Savile Terrace, Wharfe Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury.

George was educated at Boothroyd Lane Council School and attended Moorlands Wesleyan Church where he also played cricket and Boothroyd Congregational Mission. He worked as a Willeyer at Wormalds and Walkers Mill, Thornhill Lees and in 1915 he was married to Edith Auty (born in 1889 and died in 1940); they lived at 17, Elizabeth Terrace, Woodville, Leeds Road, Dewsbury and did not have any children. Edith was remarried on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1931 to William Booty (born in 1895 and died in 1962) at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton.

He attested in July 1917 serving as Private 205610 in the 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was reported as missing in France, during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*) and was possibly a Prisoner of War. His Commanding Officer wrote to his wife, soon after she had just received a letter from her husband dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1918; at that time Edith was living with her mother at 7, Prospect Place, Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury. His official date of death is recorded as 27<sup>th</sup> March 1918. His remains were discovered in the Autumn of 1920 from where he was probably buried by the enemy. In October 1920 he was buried in Bancourt British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. George was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

George 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 from the now demolished St. Philip's Church, Leeds Road now displayed in Dewsbury Minster and on the Memorial Plaque from Moorlands Wesleyan Methodist Church, now stored in the Resource Centre at Batley Central Methodist Church.

He is one of 7 men whose names appear twice in the Roll of Honour and on the Cenotaph, due to some error when they were inaugurated in 1923/24.

Simpson George.	17 Woodville Road,	Pte. 205610. 34. KOYLI.	Missing.	27-3-18.
Simpson George.	Savile Town.		Killed.	

In Memory of

Private

**G Simpson**

205610, 2nd/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 27 March 1918 Age 31

Husband of Edith Simpson, of 17, Elizabeth Terrace, Woodville, Leeds Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

**Bancourt British Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Tony Emptage.