



John Redfearn Fligg

1888 – 1916

John was born in Dewsbury in 1888. His father was Oliver Fligg, a Butcher born in Dewsbury in 1862 and died in 1920. His mother was Annie (née Redfearn) born in Dewsbury in 1862 and died in 1942. They were married in 1883.

Their other children were; Harry, born in Dewsbury in 1884 and died in 1884, twins Marian and Martha Clarissa, born in Dewsbury in 1886 and both died in 1886, Helena Clara, born in Dewsbury in 1891 and died in 1892, Alfred Edward, born in Dewsbury in 1895, Alice Mary, born in Dewsbury in 1897 and Charles Milnes, born in Dewsbury in 1899 and died in 1901.

He served as Private 48772 in "A" Company, 20th Labour Battalion, Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) having enlisted in May 1916 in the East Yorkshire Regiment. He died of wounds on 6th August 1916 sustained during the Battle of the Somme and is buried in Albert Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France. John was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

An article in the Dewsbury Reporter on 19th August 1916 recorded; *It is our painful duty to record the fact that Private John R. Fligg, of the Notts and Derby Regiment, son of Mr. Oliver Fligg, at one time a well known butcher at Green Lane Dewsbury Moor, but now of 35, Horsforth Avenue Bridlington, has been killed in action. Private Fligg was educated at St. John's School Dewsbury Moor, where he was a very well known and popular boy. In course of time he interested himself in music, and displayed with, his sister, some ability in the manipulation of various musical instruments. In fact he and Miss Fligg appeared for one week at Dewsbury Empire. Since then, however Private Fligg took up several important positions in York, where he was engaged as a drill instructor at York Industrial School, Archbishop Holgate's School, York Blind School, and Elmfield College. He enlisted in May of this year, in the East Yorkshire Regiment, and was later transferred to the Notts and Derby Regiment. He only went out to France last month.*

Albert is a town 28 Kms north-east of Amiens. It passed into British hands in the summer of 1915; the first fighting in July 1916 is known as the Battle of Albert, 1916. It was captured by the Germans on the 26th April 1918, and before its recapture by the 8th East Surreys on the following 22nd August (in the Battle of Albert, 1918,) it had been completely destroyed by artillery fire. The Extension was used by fighting units and Field Ambulances from August 1915 to November 1916, and more particularly in and after September 1916, when Field Ambulances were concentrated at Albert. From November 1916, the 5th Casualty Clearing Station used it for two months. There are now 862 First World War casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, 12 casualties are 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 St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of

Private

John Redfearn Fligg

48772, "A" Coy. 20th Labour Bn., Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) who died on 06 August
1916 Age 27

Son of Oliver and Annie Fligg, of 35, Horsforth Avenue, Bridlington.

Remembered with Honour

Albert Communal Cemetery Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

