



## **Walter Victor Fligg**

### **1895 - 1917**

Walter was born in Dewsbury on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1895 and baptised on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1895 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury. His father was also Walter Fligg, a Jeweller and a Clock and Watch Repairer born in Thornhill in 1866 and died in 1949. His mother was Eliza (nee Smith) born in Gomersal in 1866 and died in 1943. They were married on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1892 at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

They had a daughter, Winifred May, born in 1892.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 42, Westgate, Dewsbury and in 1911 at Lees Moor Road, Thornhill Lees, Dewsbury.

Walter was a single man who attended Dewsbury Parish Day and Sunday Schools and was employed by Messrs J and J Horsfield, Boilermakers, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury. He was a keen member of the Thornhill Lees Albion Association Football Club.

He enlisted in April 1915 serving as Gunner L/19033 in 'B' Battery, 155<sup>th</sup> Brigade Royal Field Artillery and was sent to the Western Front on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1915. He was badly gassed on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1917 during the Battle of Passchendaele and died of heart failure in the 61<sup>st</sup> Casualty Clearing Station two days later on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1917 and was buried in Dozinghem Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Walter was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Dozinghem Military Cemetery is located to the north-west of Poperinge near Krombeke. Westvleteren was outside the front held by Commonwealth forces in Belgium during the First World War, but in July 1917, in readiness for the forthcoming offensive, groups of casualty clearing stations were placed at three positions called by the troops Mendinghem, Dozinghem and Bandaghem. In 1917 the 4<sup>th</sup>, 47<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> Casualty Clearing Stations were posted at Dozinghem and the military cemetery was used by them until early in 1918. There are now 3,174 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Walter 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 and on the Dewsbury Parish School War Memorial now displayed in Dewsbury Minster.

In Memory of  
Gunner  
**W Fligg**

L/19033, "B" Bty. 155th Bde., Royal Field Artillery who died on 25 September 1917

Remembered with Honour  
**Dozinghem Military Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph courtesy of Ms. Danielle Roubroeks, Antwerp, Belgium.