



## **Clement Gascoyen Ransford**

### **1882-1914**

Clement was born in India on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1882. His father was Lieutenant Colonel Charles Ransford (Indian Army: Bengal Infantry) born in Edinburgh in 1843 and died in 1911. His mother was Louisa Emma (nee Collinson) born in Swanbourne, Buckinghamshire in 1849 and died in 1911. They were married in 1871.

Their other children were; St. Clair Louise, born in India in 1873, Grace Mary, born in 1876 and Francis Metcalfe, born in India in 1881 and served as a Captain in the Indian Army.

Clement attended Sherborne School Preparatory School, Dorset and Bedford School.

The 1911 census shows his parents Charles and Louise living at “Talavera”10, Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. They both died later that year.

In 1906 at Melcombe Regis, Dorset, Grace Mary married the Rev. Frank Harold Sangster M.A. Cantab. He became the Vicar of St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor and Clement may have lived with them following his Army transfer due to ill health in 1913. His will, published in 1920 gave his address as Dewsbury Moor and the administrator was his sister Grace. This would explain his inclusion on the Dewsbury War Memorial and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour.

Clement obtained his first commission with the Devonshire Regiment in 1901 and served in South Africa where he was awarded the Queen’s South Africa Medal with 5 Clasps: He transferred to the Indian Army in 1906 and then into the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment in 1913 due to ill health. He travelled to Belgian Flanders with the 7<sup>th</sup> Division on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 1914 and was wounded three times whilst leading a charge on a German position in a small wood near Ypres. He was killed in action on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1914 when he received a direct hit from a shell. Another report states that he died whilst in German hands. In 1920 his remains were reburied in Zantvoorde British Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Clement was awarded the 1914 Star with Clasp, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Clement is commemorated as *Clement G. Ransford* on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and as *C.G. Ransford* on the War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of

Captain

## Clement Gascoyen Ransford

1st Bn., South Staffordshire Regiment who died on 26 October 1914 Age 32

Son of the late Col. Charles and Louisa Emma Ransford, of Weymouth, Dorset.

Remembered with Honour

Zantvoorde British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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