



## **John Farlington (true birth name Tarlington) Served as John Tarleton 1887 – 1914**

On the First World War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury is the name John Farlington, died November 1914. This name also appears on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park which was unveiled on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1924 and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour which is permanently kept in Dewsbury Library. Despite extensive research, this name did not appear in any official military records of War Dead and neither did it appear on any census and birth records.

An article from the archives of the Dewsbury Reporter featuring the inauguration of the St. Paulinus War Memorial on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1919, spells the surname TARLINGTON, despite this he is listed as FARLINGTON on both Memorials and in the Roll of Honour. It was deduced that he was probably the same man who was buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, France; Private 7605 John Tarleton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Yorkshire Regiment who died of wounds on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1914, having being sent to the Western Front on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records show him as the Brother-in-law of Mr. E. Jolly, 29, Wilberforce Street, Laisterdyke, Bradford. John Tarleton had married in Bradford in 1913 to a Caletta Jolly and a son, William was born the following year, what could not be found was any link to Dewsbury and its Catholic Church.

The breakthrough came following further research by Dewsbury Sacrifices on the 1915 deaths which included that of Frank Whittaker who was killed at Gallipoli on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 1915 and was also a St. Paulinus Man. His pre-war attestation and service record contained details of his marriage in Bradford in 1902 to a LUCY TARLINGTON. Upon looking up her family history she was the sister of a JOHN TARLINGTON, born in Bradford in 1887. The spelling of the family surname alternates between TARLINGTON (1881 census) TURLINGTON (1891 census) JOHN SARLINGTON (1901 census) and LUCY FARLINGTON (1901 census).

John's Parents were: John, born in Ireland in 1844 and Eliza (nee Donnelly) born in 1852, they had 16 children and 7 of these had died prior to the 1911 Census. In 1901 the family were living at Regent Street, Bradford and in 1911 at 12, King Street, Bradford where John's occupation is given as a Wool Warehouseman.

Lucy Tarlington went to live in Dewsbury with her husband Frank Whittaker and in 1919 she presumably submitted the names of her late husband and her late brother (under his true birth name of TARLINGTON) for inclusion on the St. Paulinus Memorial, subsequently the names on the church memorial were included on the Crow Nest Park Memorial and in the Roll of Honour. It can only be assumed that a transcription error is responsible for the original misspelling.

As a sad postscript, Caletta Tarleton (nee Jolly) marries a Francois De Smecht in Bradford in 1918 but near the end of that year she dies along with her newly born child Clemence. On the 1921 Census, her son William Tarleton is recorded as the adopted son of Louis and Minnie Avery (nee Jolly, his mother's sister) at 3, Stone Street, Bradford. He went on to marry Irene Isabel Clayton in Bradford in 1937. They had two daughters: Jean, born in 1937 and Gwendoline, born in 1942.

In April 2023, a page with a photograph of John was found on the Imperial War Museum Website under the section "Lives of the First World War", with information from his granddaughter Mrs. Gwendoline Hughes.

John was awarded the 1914 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

In Memory of

Private

**John Tarleton**

7605, 2nd Bn., Yorkshire Regiment who died on 03 November 1914

Brother-in-law of Mr. E. Jolly, of 29, Wilberforce St., Laisterdyke, Bradford.

Remembered with Honour

**Boulogne Eastern Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

