



George Waterworth 1881-1918

George was born in Yeadon near Leeds in 1881. His father was Richard Cordingley Waterworth, a Fetter in a Woollen Mill born in Guiseley near Leeds in 1857 and died in 1918. His mother was Mary Ann (nee Wilkinson) born in Holbeck, Leeds in 1855 and died in 1919. They were married on 7th October 1876 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Yeadon.

Their other children were: Mary Ellen, born in 1881, Eliza Ann, born in 1884 and died in 1898, Sarah, born in 1887 and Wilfred, born in 1890 and died in 1893.

In 1891 they lived at Queen Street, Yeadon and in 1901 at Blackburn's Buildings, Morley.

He enlisted in Leeds on 11th December 1899 into the 2nd South Wales Borderers serving as Private 6445 and was posted abroad on 17th October 1900 serving in South Africa during the Second Boer War from 1900 to 1902; he received a severe gunshot wound at Modderfontein in September 1901 and was discharged on 12th March 1903. He was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal with 1901 Clasp and 3 Clasps for Cape Colony, Orange Free State and Transvaal.

George worked as a Warp Twister in Cloth Manufacturing, employed by Charles Scarth and Sons, Morley and was a member of Morley Twisters' Union. He subsequently worked for Messrs S. Lyles, Sons and Company, Carpet Yarn Manufacturers, Earlsheaton. He was married on 29th July 1905 to his first cousin Ethel Wilkinson (born in Guiseley in 1883 and died in 1968) at St. Wilfrid's Church, Calverley, Pudsey. They had four children; Annie born in 1905, Elsie born in 1907 and died in 1907, Mary (I), born in 1908 and died in 1908 and Mary (II), born in 1910. On the 1911 Census the family lived at 2, Nineveh Grove, Holbeck, Leeds and later at Myrtle Cottage, Water Lane, Chickenley. Ethel later moved to 5, Ash Grove, Greengates, Apperley Bridge, Bradford.

As a Reservist he was recalled at the outbreak of World War 1 and enlisted in Dewsbury on 25th August 1914 serving as Private 11510 in the 7th (Service) Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment. He was sent to the Western Front on 13th July 1915, coming home on leave in August 1917. He was killed in action in France on 25th March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). There was no news of him until mid-May 1918 when his wife received a letter from an officer reporting that he had been mortally wounded and unconscious, but it had not been possible to get him away and he had to be left on the field of battle. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial to the Missing. George was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Arras Memorial commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7th August 1918, the eve of the Advance to Victory, and who have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

George is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and on the Memorial in the now demolished Chickenley Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (current whereabouts of Memorial untraced) and on the Greengates, Apperley Bridge and District War Memorial, Bradford.

In Memory of

Private

George Waterworth

11510, 7th Bn., York and Lancaster Regiment who died on 25 March 1918 Age 36

Husband of Ethel Waterworth, of 5, Ash Grove, Greengates, Apperley Bridge, Bradford, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

WATERWORTH G.