



## **John Thomas Bowering**

### **1877-1921**

John was born in Horbury in 1877 and was baptised at St. Peter and St. Leonard's Church, Horbury on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1879; his birth surname is recorded as *Bowring* on both records. His father was Edward *Bowring*, a Railway Platelayer born in Helpston, Northamptonshire in 1856 and died in 1916. His mother was Mary (nee Thurlow) born in Horbury in 1852 and died in 1916. They were married in St. Peter and St. Leonard's Church in 1875.

Their other children were; Edward Thurlow, born in 1876, Joshua *Bowring*, born in 1880, Frank, born in 1884 and died in 1907, Charles, born in 1887 and Eliza Ann, born in 1890.

On the 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 Census Records the family lived at 5, Dawson Hill Yard, Cluntergate, Horbury.

John was employed as a Railway Platelayer which was also his father's occupation. He was married on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1898 at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill to Eliza Law (born in 1881 and died in 1902). They lived at School Lane, Horbury and had a daughter, Gertrude, born in 1900.

He was remarried on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1909 at St. Michael and All Angels Church to Edith Annie Hinchliffe (born in 1879 and died in 1949). They lived at 1, Dawson Hill Yard, Cluntergate; they had no children. On the 1939 Register, Edith is living alone at 25, Swithenbank Avenue, Ossett.

He enlisted on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1915 serving as Private 60500 in the Royal Army Medical Corps and was posted to Egypt on 23<sup>rd</sup> December that same year. He suffered a stroke on July 21<sup>st</sup> 1916 and was discharged with a war pension and Silver War Badge 261628. John was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Nothing further is known about him until he died of General Paralysis of the Insane on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1921 at Storthes Hall Asylum, Thurstonland, Huddersfield. His Death Certificate gives his address as 18, Ernest Street, Eastborough, Dewsbury and his former occupation as "*Ex Soldier formerly Forgeman*". He was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery.

Storthes Hall Asylum provided accommodation for injured frontline soldiers and sailors with the acute wards used as an emergency hospital. The patients were suffering from shell-shock and gas inhalation and they wore blue uniforms and red ties and were known locally as the 'blue-coats' or 'bluebellies'. Some of these patients were still at Storthes Hall Asylum as late as 1929.

John is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of  
Private

# John Thomas Bowering

60500, Royal Army Medical Corps who died on 28 May 1921

Remembered with Honour  
Dewsbury Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

