



## **David Ramsden**

### **1887 – 1916**

David was born in Dewsbury on 21<sup>st</sup> January 1887. His father was Ezra Ramsden, a Coal Miner born in Thornhill in 1861 and died in 1928. His mother was Rosanna (nee Humphreys) born in Morley in 1862 and died in 1924. They were married at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1882.

Their other children were; Florence, born in 1883, Humphrey, born in 1885 and emigrated to Canada and died of sickness in Flanders on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1916 whilst serving in the Canadian Army, Willie, born in 1890, Rowland, born in 1891 and served in World War 1, Percy, born in 1899, Lillian, born in 1904 and Marney, born in 1906 and died in 1915.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census Records the family lived at 84, Batty Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 11, East Parade, Eastborough, Dewsbury.

David was a single man who worked as a Coal Miner for Messrs Crawshaw and Warburton at Shaw Cross Pit.

He enlisted into the 12<sup>th</sup> (Pioneer) Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 12/1057 and was posted to Egypt on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1915. He was killed in action on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 during the First Day of the Battle of the Somme, his body was recovered and he is buried in a joint grave in Queen's Cemetery, Puisieux, Pas-de-Calais, France, just over the border of the Somme Region. David was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Puisieux is a village 15 kilometres north of Albert and 26 kilometres south of Arras. It was taken by Commonwealth forces on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1917, lost on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1918 and recovered on the following 21<sup>st</sup> August. In the spring of 1917, the battlefields of the Somme and Ancre were cleared by V Corps and a number of new cemeteries were made. Queens Cemetery (originally known as Queens V Corps Cemetery No 4) is on the old front line of July 1916, south of Mark Copse, one of four small plantations that were on or close behind the line between Serre and Hebuterne. The graves are of casualties of the 31<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Divisions who died in July and November 1916, and February 1917. There are now 311 First World War burials in the cemetery, 131 of them unidentified.

David 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 Memorial Plaque to former employees of Messrs Crawshaw and Warburton displayed in the porch of St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton.

In Memory of

Private

# David Ramsden

12/1057, 12th (Pioneer) Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 29

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Ramsden, of Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Queens Cemetery, Puisieux



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

