



## **William Blackburn Porritt**

**1895 - 1916**



William was born in Dewsbury on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1895 to Joe Porritt, who had been born in Dewsbury circa 1859 and who died during the March Quarter of 1910. His wife was Emma (nee Schofield) who had been born in Flushdyke, Ossett circa 1861; she died in Dewsbury during the September Quarter of 1902.

The parents had married in Dewsbury during the September Quarter of 1879 and their other children were; Sarah Ellen b. 26<sup>th</sup> December 1879, Harriet Ann b. 13<sup>th</sup> August 1883, Lucy b. 25<sup>th</sup> November 1885, Walter b. 31<sup>st</sup> December 1887, Jane b. 10<sup>th</sup> May 1890, she died in the September Quarter of 1907 and James who was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 1900.

On the 1911 Census, William was a clog maker and a single man living with his married sister Mrs Harriet Bedford at 1, Ashworth Road, Dewsbury who later moved to Wellington Road which was the address shown in the Book of Remembrance published in 1924.

He served as Private 25223 in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, the date of his attestation is not known but he was sent to France & Flanders in December 1915 which entitled him to the 1914-15 Star as well as the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

William was killed on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 on the First Day of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial alongside over 72,000 British and Commonwealth servicemen who have no known grave.

He is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and on the Dewsbury Roll of Honour housed in the Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of

Private

## William Blackburn Porritt

25223, 8th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 21

Brother of Mrs. H. A. Bedford, of 1, Ashworth Rd., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

**Thiepval Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

PORRITT W B