



Joseph Wear

1873 - 1916

Joseph was born in Workington, Cumberland in 1873. His father was Anthony Wear, a Steelworker born in Workington in 1852 and died in 1937. His mother was Martha (nee Clark) born in Seaton, Cumberland in 1853 and died in 1933. They were married in Workington on 17th March 1873.

Their other children were; John William, born in 1875, Albert, born in 1877, Ada Jane, born in 1880, Mary Holliday, born in 1882, George, born in 1886 and served in World War 1, Elizabeth Ann, born in 1888, Annie, born in 1890, Walter, born in 1892, Anthony, born in 1894 and was killed in action 25th September 1915 and Daniel Clark, born in 1896.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at 23, New Yard, Workington, in 1901 at 27, Senhouse Street, Workington. They have not been found on the 1911 Census, although Joseph is a patient in the Woofinden Convalescent Home, Whiteley Woods, Sheffield. The family moved to the Dewsbury area around 1912, and lived at 6, Thornton Road, Thornhill Lees.

Joseph was a single man who worked as a Puddler in the Forge of Thornhill Iron and Steel Company.

He served as Private 19115 in the 10th Battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry having previously served in the Border Regiment and fought in South Africa in the Boer War. He was returned to the Reserves in 1908 but immediately volunteered in November 1914. He was sent to the Western Front on 5th October 1915 and was wounded in the face eleven days later; he was not allowed to return to England but recovered to resume his service. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916 during 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 to the missing of the Somme. Joseph was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Joseph 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 War Memorial in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of

Private

Joseph Wear

19115, 10th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

