



## **Joseph Webster**

### **1890 -1916**

Joseph was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1890. His father was Tom Haslam Webster, a Wagon Repairer for a railway company born in Dewsbury in 1862 and died in 1935. His mother was Eliza (nee Micklethwaite) born in Dewsbury in 1862 and died in 1930. They were married in 1882.

Their other children who could be found were; Ezra, born in 1883 and died in 1883, Bertha, born in 1884, Fred, born in 1886, Annie, born in 1892 and died in 1894, Thomas born in 1897 and served in World War 1, George Redmond, born in 1895 and died in 1896, Mary Elizabeth, born in 1901. On the 1911 Census they declare that they had 9 children, four of whom had died.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 20, Back Ridgeway Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 30, Victoria Road, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 4, Savile Grove, Savile Town, Dewsbury in 1911. They later moved to 26, Osbourne Road, South Shore, Blackpool.

Joseph was educated at Dewsbury Parish Church School and played for the school football team where he won many gold and silver medals. He was a member of Savile Bowling Club and worked as a Cloth Finisher for Messrs Mark Oldroyd and Sons at Calder Mill. He was married on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1912 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury to Nora Price (born in 1888 and died in 1965), they lived at 31, Kaye Street, Savile Town, and had two children; Gladys, born in 1912 and Nora, born in 1915.

He enlisted on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1915 into the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 25319 and was sent to the Western Front in February 1916; after only three weeks in the trenches he was hospitalised with shell-shock. He was killed in action on 1<sup>st</sup> 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 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 as Joe Webster on the War Memorial from the now demolished St. Mary's Church in Savile Town which was relocated to Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of  
Private  
**Joseph Webster**

25319, 9th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 26

Son of Thomas and Eliza Webster, of 26, Osbourne Rd., South Shore, Blackpool; husband of Nora Webster, of 31, Kaye St., Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour  
**Thiepval Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

WEBSTER