



## **Ernest Rylah**

### **1892 – 1916**

Ernest was born in Dewsbury on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1892 and baptised on 24<sup>th</sup> February at All Saints Church, Dewsbury. His father was Alfred Rylah, a cloth finisher born in Earlsheaton in 1858 and died in 1929. His mother was Florence (née Blackburn) born in Dewsbury in 1861 and died in 1932. They were married on 25<sup>th</sup> December 1880 at All Saints Church.

On the 1911 Census they declare eight children born to the marriage of which two had died.

Their other children who could be traced were; Laura (name recorded as *Riley*), born in 1881, Walter, born in 1884 and died in 1885, Enos Arthur, born in 1888, Charles, born in 1890 and served in World War 1, Nelly/Nellie, born in 1897 and Harry, born in 1900.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census records the family lived at 6, Wilton Road, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 39, Tentercroft Road, Crackenedge Lane, Dewsbury.

Ernest was a single man who was employed as a glass bottle worker at Kilner Brothers in Thornhill Lees.

He enlisted in 1916 serving as Private 29871 in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was later transferred into the 1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Durham Light Infantry serving as Private 5728. He was killed on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1916 during the later stages 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. Ernest was awarded the British War Medal and 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 300 Commonwealth and 300 French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Ernest is also 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

## Ernest Rylah

5728, 1st/6th Bn., Durham Light Infantry who died on 05 November 1916 Age 26

Son of Alfred and Florence Rylah, of 12, Wilton Rd., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

