



Joseph Warhurst

1883 - 1917

Joseph was born in Thornhill Lees on 1st July, 1883 and was baptised on 27th July at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees. His father was Samuel Warhurst, a labourer at an iron works born in Hadfield, Derbyshire in 1845 and died in 1919. His mother was Beatrice (nee Etherington) born in East Cowton near Northallerton, Yorkshire in 1841 and died in 1913. They were married in 1869 in Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham.

Their other children were: Martha, born in Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire in 1871, William, born in Whaley Bridge in 1873, John Edwin, born in Whaley Bridge in 1874, Beatrice, born in Stockton-on-Tees in 1877 and died in 1894, James, born in Stockton-on-Tees in 1879 and Ernest Cockburn, born in Dewsbury in 1889.

Beatrice had a son, George Etherington, born in 1860 and a daughter Jane Etherington, born in 1869.

On the 1871 Census the family lived at 5, Crofton Street, Stockton-on-Tees, in 1881 at 28, Joseph Street, Stockton-on-Tees, in 1891 at Berry Square, Thornhill Lees and in 1901 and 1911 at Cooperative Buildings, Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees.

Joseph was educated at Thornhill Lees Day School and attended Holy Innocents Church; he had also been a member of the Church Institute. He worked as a Painter and Decorator in the employ of a Mr. Ruddlesden and was married to Edith Womersley (born in 1883 and died in 1959) on 24th June 1905 at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. They had a son, William, born in 1907. In 1911 they lived with Joseph's parents at Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees and later at 19, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

He enlisted in 1915 into the 10th Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry with the Service Number 12/1588 rising to the rank of Lance Corporal. He was sent to the Western Front around August 1916 and was killed in action on April 9th 1917, the First Day of the Battle of Arras. He was buried in Cojeul British Cemetery, St. Martin-Sur-Cojeul, Pas-de-Calais, France. The actual location of his grave is unknown and so his headstone is a Special Memorial, endorsed "known to be buried in this cemetery". Joseph was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Joseph 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 War Memorial from the now demolished St. Philip's Church now displayed in Dewsbury Minster and on the Thornhill Lees Wesleyan Methodist Church Memorial Plaque relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of
Lance Corporal

Joseph Warhurst

12/1588, 10th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 09 April 1917 Age 32

Husband of Edith Warhurst, of 19, Leeds Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Cojeul British Cemetery, St. Martin-Sur-Cojeul



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

