



## William Labourn

### 1894 – 1917

William was born in Hanging Heaton on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1894. His father was Joseph Labourn, a coal miner (birth name registered as *Labran*) born in Hanging Heaton in 1857 and died in 1942. His mother was Charlotte (nee Hird) born in Shipley in 1868 and died in 1951. They were married at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1890.

Their other children were; Sarah Anne, born in 1893, Doris Elizabeth, born in 1897, Nellie, born in 1899, Angus, born in 1902, Annice, born in 1905 and Edith born in 1907.

Joseph was previously married on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1881 to Sarah Ann Smith (born in 1854 and died in 1889) at St. Paul's Church. Their children were; Alma *Labron*, born in 1882 and died in 1882. Herbert *Labron*, born in 1885 and died in 1886, Annie *Labron*, born in 1887 and died in 1887 and Clara *Labron*, born in 1889 and died in 1890.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Newgate Street, Hanging Heaton, in 1901 at Kirkgate, Hanging Heaton, in 1911 at 1, Nursery Wood Road, Commonside, Hanging Heaton and later at 37, Battye Street, Eastborough, Dewsbury.

William was a single man who was educated at Hanging Heaton Church School and attended the Sunday school. He initially worked as a hurrier in a coal mine but was later employed as a Fettle by Messrs Wrigley and Parker Brothers, woollen manufacturers, Batley. He played football for Batley Clarence and won two medals during his time with them.

He enlisted on 9<sup>th</sup> August 1915 into the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers with the Service Number 21191 and was sent to the Western Front on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1915. He was wounded in both arms during the Battle of the Somme in July 1916 and was hospitalised in London. He was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal upon his return to the Front in January 1917 and was killed in action on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1917 during the Battle of Arras. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. William was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His death was not confirmed until 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1918 in the Dewsbury District News.

The Arras Memorial commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918, the eve of the Advance to Victory, and who have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

William is also remembered 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 relocated to Dewsbury Minster and on the Hanging Heaton War Memorial in St. Paul's Churchyard and on the War Memorial in St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. His name was entered in the book '*Urban District of Soothill Upper War Register and Records of War Service 1914-1920*' compiled by The Rev. W.R. Cleworth, M.A., Cantab. Vicar of Hanging Heaton from January 1894.

In Memory of  
Lance Corporal

## William Labourn

21191, 1st Bn., King's Own Scottish Borderers who died on 23 April 1917 Age 22

Son of Mr. J. and Mrs. C. Labourn, of 37, Battye St., Eastborough, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour  
Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

