



## **Sam Goldthorpe**

### **1887-1918**

Sam was born in Dewsbury on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1887. His father was George Goldthorpe, a Chimney Sweep born in Wakefield in 1854. His mother was Sarah (nee Senior) born in Earlsheaton in 1862 and died in 1919. They were married in 1883.

Their other children were; Charles, born in 1885 and died in 1918, Henry born in 1886 and died in 1889, George Henry, born in 1889 and died in 1893, Elsie, born in 1890, Martha, born in 1893, Alice born in 1896, George, born in 1897 and Herbert born in 1901 and died in 1902.

George was previously married to Mary Ellis (born in 1855 and died in 1882). They were married in 1873 and had four children; Alfred, born in 1875, Ann, born in 1877, Eva, born in 1879 and Louisa, born in 1881.

On the 1891, 1901 and 1911 Census records, the family lived at Barber Street, Dewsbury.

Sam was educated at Dewsbury Parish Church School and worked for Mr. W.R. Thompson as a Slater, being an active member of the Dewsbury Branch of the Slater's Federation. On 14<sup>th</sup> January 1911 he was married to Polly (Pollie) Lee (born in 1891 and died in 1959) in Dewsbury Parish Church. They had two children, George, born in Dewsbury in 1911 and Sam, born in Dewsbury in 1916; on the 1911 Census they lived at 16, Eightlands Road, Dewsbury. Pollie later moved to live at 161, Oldfield Road, Salford, Lancashire.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 33201 in the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front in October 1916 and was slightly wounded on one occasion. He was killed in action in France on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). His remains were reburied in 1920 in Chauny Communal Cemetery British Extension, Aisne, France. Sam was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Chauny is a commune 22 miles west of Laon. In Chauny Communal Cemetery British Extension there are just over 1,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. The majority of them died in 1918; most of the rest died in September, 1914. Included in the total figure are 6 soldiers of the United Kingdom whose identity had been established with reasonable, but not absolute certainty and who are commemorated by special memorial headstones bearing the superscription 'Believed to be', and 26 soldiers of the United Kingdom and 5 of Canada whose graves could be identified collectively but not individually and who are commemorated by special memorial headstones bearing the superscription 'Buried near this spot'. There are also 26 soldiers of the United Kingdom who are commemorated in the cemetery as follows: 22 who whose graves are lost are commemorated by special memorial headstones inscribed to that effect, with the additional inscription 'Their glory shall not be blotted out'; 3 are commemorated by special memorial headstones bearing the superscription 'Believed to be buried in this cemetery'; and one, whose grave is known to be in the cemetery although the exact place of burial could not be established, is commemorated by a special memorial headstone inscribed 'Buried in this cemetery'.

Sam is 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

## Sam Goldthorpe

33201, 6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 30 March 1918 Age 30

Son of George and Sarah Goldthorpe, of Dewsbury, Yorkshire; husband of Pollie Goldthorpe, of 161 Oldfield Rd., Salford, Lancashire.

Remembered with Honour

Chauny Communal Cemetery British Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of the British War Graves Website of Michael McCann.