



Joseph Thompson

1896-1918

Joseph was born in Batley Carr on 2nd April 1896. His father was Smith Thompson, a Teamer/Carrier born in Carlton near Selby, Yorkshire in 1859 and died in 1938. His mother was Amelia (nee Robinson) born in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire in 1859 and died in 1918. They were married on 14th August 1880 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Frederick Arthur, born in 1881, William Henry, born in 1883, Charlie, born in 1885, Bertie, born in 1887 and was killed in action 25th March 1918, Edith Annie, born in 1889, John Edward, born in 1891, Elsie May, born in 1898 and Smith, born in 1902. William, Charlie and John also served in World War 1.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at Kirk Hill, Earlsheaton, in 1891 at Low Road, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at 51, Bright Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 50, Bolton's Yard, Upper Road, Batley Carr, Batley.

Joseph was a single man who worked as a Polisher at Hemingway and Fozard's works, Watergate, Dewsbury.

He enlisted into the 22nd (Tyneside Scottish) Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers with the Service Number 38457 rising to the rank of Lance Corporal. He was killed in action in Northern France on 11th April 1918 during the 2nd Battle of the Lys; his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium. Joseph was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Ploegsteert Memorial stands in Berks Cemetery Extension, which is located 12.5 Kms south of Ypres (now Ieper). The memorial commemorates the 11,349 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South African forces who have no known grave and died in the area from the line Caestre-Dranoutre-Warneton to the north, to Haverskerque-Estaires-Fournes to the south, including the towns of Hazebrouck, Merville, Bailleul and Armentieres, the Forest of Nieppe, and Ploegsteert Wood. The original intention had been to erect the memorial in Lille. Most of those commemorated by the memorial did not die in major offensives, such as those which took place around Ypres to the north, or Loos to the south. Most were killed in the course of the day-to-day trench warfare which characterised this part of the line, or in small scale set engagements, usually carried out in support of the major attacks taking place elsewhere.

Joseph 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
Lance Corporal

J Thompson

38457, 22nd (Tyneside Scottish) Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers who died on 11 April 1918

Remembered with Honour
Ploegsteert Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

THOMPSON J.

