



## **James Catlow**

### **1882-1918**

James was born *James Edward Catlow* in Preston, Lancashire in 1882. His father was Thomas Catlow, a cotton weaver born in Blackburn, Lancashire in 1856 and died in 1938. His mother was Sarah Ellen (nee Baines) born in Preston in 1859 and died in 1938. They were married at St. Mary's Church, Preston on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1878.

Their other children were; Sarah Ann, born in 1879, Margaret Ellen, born in 1884 and died in 1897, Mary, born in 1885, Ada, born in 1888 and died in 1888, Robert, born in 1890 and served in World War 1, Hannah born in 1891, Thomas, born in 1892 and served in World War 1, Alice, born in 1893, Julietta, born in 1896 and Margaret Ellen, born in 1899.

On the 1891 Census the family were living at Further Wilworth, Blackburn, in 1901 and 1911 at 11, Brook Street, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire.

James had served in the South Africa Campaign (Boer War) from 1899 to 1902 as Lance Corporal 8845 in the East Lancashire Regiment and was awarded the Queens South Africa Medal with Clasps for service in Cape Colony and Orange Free State and the Kings South Africa Medal. In order to enlist he gave his year of birth as 1880.

He was married in 1904 to Annie Wilson (born in Accrington in 1884 and died in 1977). On the 1911 Census they lived at 9, Vine Street, Oswaldtwistle where his occupation is shown as a coal miner/hewer. Their children were; Sarah Ellen, born in Accrington in 1906, Mary Alice, born in Accrington in 1909 and died in Dewsbury in 1915, Grace, born in Oswaldtwistle in 1910 and died in 1910 and Violet, born in 1914, her birth being registered in Halifax. According to James's obituary in the Dewsbury District News on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1918, he had been a bye-worker at Shaw Cross Pit, owned by Messrs Crawshaw and Warburton Limited and his home address was 19, Back Bright Street, Springfield, Dewsbury. In 1919 Annie was remarried to Clement Wood (born in 1893 and died in 1968) and moved to live in Sowerby Bridge near Halifax.

He was recalled in September 1914 serving as Private 13851 in the 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion East Lancashire Regiment and was sent to the Western Front in December 1915, being wounded twice in 1916 and again in 1917. He was killed in action in France on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918, the First Day of the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial to the Missing. James was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Pozieres Memorial contains the names of over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died between 21<sup>st</sup> March to 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

James is also 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 Plaque in the porch of St. Pauls Church, Hanging Heaton to former employees of Messrs Crawshaw and Warburton Limited and on the Oswaldtwistle War Memorial.

In Memory of

Private

**James Catlow**

13851, 2nd/4th Bn., East Lancashire Regiment who died on 21 March 1918 Age 35

Son of Thomas Catlow, of 11, Brook St., Oswaldtwistle, Lancs; husband of Annie Wood (formerly Catlow), of 66, Park St., Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

**Pozieres Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

