



## **Joseph (Joe) Blackburn**

### **1888-1918**

Joseph was born in Earlsheaton on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1888 and baptised on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1890 at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton. His father was Edwin Blackburn, a Publican born in Earlsheaton in 1847 and died in 1909. His mother was Annie (nee Exley) born in Batley in 1857 and died in 1929. They were married in 1886.

Their other children were; Edith, born 17<sup>th</sup> July 1886, Walter, born 21<sup>st</sup> June 1890; excused military service on account of having been deaf from the age of 10, Luke, born in 1892 and was killed in action on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1917 during the Second Battle of Gaza, Emily, born in 1895 and Edna Selina, born in 1898.

On the 1891, 1901 and 1911 Census Records the family were living at the Crown Hotel in Chickenley.

Joseph, who was known as Joe to his family and friends was a single man who worked as an assistant to his father and later to his mother in the management of the Crown Hotel.

He was a pre-war reservist in the Yeomanry and after the outbreak of war tried many times to enter the Army, but was rejected on medical grounds. After finally being accepted, he enlisted on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1917 serving as Private 46829 with the Lincolnshire Regiment, later transferring to 49<sup>th</sup> Company Labour Corps as Private 28869. He was sent to the Western Front eight days after being called up and was accidentally killed on 14<sup>th</sup> March 1918, being run over by a motor-lorry as he was returning to camp in Peronne on the Somme. He was quite dead when picked up. There was much traffic on the road, and the night was dark. He was buried in Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France. Joseph was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Joseph is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and as *Joe Blackburn* in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and as *Joe Blackburn* on the Memorial in the now demolished Chickenley Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (current whereabouts of Memorial untraced).

In Memory of

Private

## Joseph Blackburn

46829, Lincolnshire Regiment who died on 14 March 1918 Age 30

Son of Edwin and Annie Blackburn, of The Crown Hotel, Chickenley, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

