

## **Ethel Eliza Wainwright OBE 1878–1959**

### **Mayor, County Councillor, JP**

Ethel moved from Manchester to Mansfield when she married Albert Wainwright a railwayman in 1900, she was a firm supporter of women's suffrage joining the committee of the Mansfield Women's Suffrage Society in 1910.

During WW1 she was on the Food Committee, she was on the Board of Guardians and was particularly interested in the welfare of young people chairing the Local Education Committee then becoming the Vice President of the National Association of Education Committees.

Ethel achieved many firsts in Mansfield during her life. In 1920 she became the **first woman Labour Councillor**, in 1924 she became a JP, in 1928 the **first woman Alderman**, in 1929 the **first woman Lady Mayor** in 1929 and in 1947 she became a Lady freeman of Mansfield and of the country.

She was awarded an OBE in 1946 and in that year she also was elected for a second time as Mayor.