# Frederick Henry Ball



**Rank: -** Lance Corporal

**Number: -** 200624

**Regiment: -** Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) 2/4th Battalion

**Died of wounds: -** 30th September 1918 aged 33 years

**Cemetery: -** Cambrai East Military Cemetery, Nord, France Cauroir C.C. Mem.

**"WHO DIED AS PRISONER OF WAR AND WAS BURIED AT THE TIME IN CAUROIR COMMUNAL CEMETERY BUT WHOSE GRAVE IS NOW LOST THEIR GLORY SHALL NOT BE BLOTTED OUT"**

## Family Details

Frederick Henry was born in Earlswood, Surrey in c.1885 the son of Arthur George and Elizabeth Martha Ball nee Tant who had married on 17th September 1881 at St. Bartholomew's Church, Horley, Surrey.

Arthur Charles was born in 1883 but he was not with the family in 1901 when Frederick, his parents and siblings, Edith Florence 1887, Ethel May 1889, Albert George 1891, Agnes Faith 1892, Charles Henry 1894, Sidney Wilfred 1895 Edward 1897 and Frank Harold 1900 at 53, Gloucester Road, Littlehampton, Sussex.

On the 12th February 1907 at New Mills, Derbyshire he married Annie Fitton.

In 1911 the couple were living at Spa Bottom, Lepton, Huddersfield with their children Wilfred born 17th February 1908 at New Mills Derbyshire and Lilian born 2nd July 1909 in Huddersfield. Frederick was working as a general labourer at a brass foundry.

His parents had also moved north to live with seven of their eleven children, although one had died in infancy, at 18, Commercial Street, Huddersfield. Arthur was a gas stoker at Longwood Gas Works and Elizabeth Martha was a boarding house keeper.

Winifred was born on 1911 in Huddersfield, Freda 1915 in Heckmondwike and Kathleen 1917 in Heckmondwike. In September 1914 the family was living at 31, The Croft, Batley Road, Heckmondwike. His occupation was given as an insurance assistant super.

## Service Details

Frederick was in the Reserves when war broke out in August 1914 and enlisted at Cleckheaton on the 2nd September 1914 when he was 5 ft. 9 " tall weighing 10stone 1 lbs. and his religion was Presbyterian.

After training he joined the British Expeditionary Force leaving Southampton on 9th January 1917 and disembarking at Le Have on the 10th January 1917.

He was ill for a few days in February and was treated at a Field Hospital for Scabus but soon re-joined his unit. He was with his unit until the 30th December

1917 when he suffered with Myalgia and was treated on the Field and at several hospitals including Etaples and Townville. He re-joined his unit on the 24th February but was granted leave to the UK from 2nd – 16th March 1918.

In 1918 his Battalion fought at: -

The Battle of Bapaume (25 March)
The First Battle of Arras 1918 (28 March)
*which were phases of the First Battles of the Somme 1918*
The Battle of the Tardenois (part of the Battles of the Marne 1918) (20 – 30 July)
The Battle of the Scarpe (26 – 30 August)
The Battle of the Drocourt-Queant Line (2 September)
*which were phases of the Second Battles of Arras 1918*
The Battle of Havrincourt (12 September)
The Battle of the Canal du Nord (27 – 30 September)
*which were phases of the Battles of the Hindenburg Line.*

He was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Frederick is remembered with Honour at Christ Church, Staincliffe and Batley War Memorial.




Researched by members of
Batley History Group