William Bartholomew (Hall)



Rank: - Ex-L/Cpl

Number: - 3/1060

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 3rd Battalion

Died in Great Britain (W.R. Asylum, Wakefield):- 01/06/1922 Age: 28 years

Cemetery:-Batley, Yorkshire H 715

Batley News 3/6/1922 classified

Family Details

William was born in Batley in 1893 the stepson of Walter Tolson and son of Louisa Sophia Tolson (formerly Bartholomew, Hall, step daughter of Walter Sykes nee Beaumont) of 42 Pearl Street, Batley. William enlisted as William Hall.

Louisa Sophia Sykes married Frederick Hall in late 1880 in the Wakefield District. John was born in 1881 followed by Joseph 1883 and Annie 1886 in Crigglestone.

Louisa Sophia Hall married Richard Bartholomew on the 13th October 1888 at Batley Parish Church when both made their mark. Richard was born in 1889 followed by Sarah Elizabeth 1891 and William Bartholomew (no father's name mentioned on birth). In 1891 they seem to have gone their separate ways because Louisa was living with the children at 43, Ward's Hill, Batley saying she was married but head of the household stating she was a layer on at a woollen mill despite the fact she had a 4 month old daughter.

In 1901 the family was living at 44, Peel Street, Batley which was a three roomed house with Walter Tolson saying he was her husband.

Louisa married Walter Tolson at Leeds Parish Church on the 10th May 1902. Nellie was born in 1900 followed by Walter c. 1902 and Arthur 1904 who died aged 4 months. In 1911 they were still at 44, Peel Street with 12 people living in the house. William was working as a labourer.

Louisa, his mother, died in October 1916 and Walter Tolson in August 1913.

William married Elsie Edna Stead at Batley Parish Church on the 1st July 1916.He gave his occupation as a soldier living at 44, Peel Street, Batley but did not give a name or occupation for his father. His brother Richard on his marriage certificate gave his father as Richard Bartholomew, a weaver. Walter was born in 1918, John W in 4th Qtr 1919 and William in August 1922.

William was buried at Batley Cemetery 4th June 1922 giving his address as Russell Street, Batley. Elsie Edna died in 1959 in the Spen Valley area.

Service Details

William attested at Pontefract on the 17th September 1912 into the Territorial's. He was immobilised on the 5th August 1914 and went to France on the 8th November 1914 with the 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He is recorded as being 5 ft.3 inches tall with blue eyes, brown hair and weighing 117 lbs. He had a

small thin scar across his left cheek and a tattoo on the upper part of his right arm and on his upper left arm a tattoo of Buffalo Bill.

In 1914 he would have taken part towards the end of the First Battle of Ypres (19th October-22nd November 1914) and in 1915 the Second Battle of Ypres and the Capture of Hill 60. (22 April-25 May)

He returned home on the 12th April 1916 to the 3rd Depot Battalion after he had received a gunshot to his left thigh before returning to France on 30th March 1918 attached to the 9th Battalion.

In 1918 he would have taken part in:-

The Battle of Messines (10-11 April)
The Second Battle of Kemmel (25-26th April)
which were phases of the Battles of the Lys 1918

He is reported to have been hit by a shell on the 7th May.

The Battle of the Aisne 1918 (27th May-6th June)

William was reported missing on the first day of this battle and his next of kin was informed on 4th July 1918 but a message came that he had been seen in a prisoner of war camp on the 18th June at a camp not stated. He was released on 13th December 1918 and returned to Leith, Scotland where he was allocated to be in the Depot Battalion. He was posted to the 3rd Battalion on the 5th April 1919. He was finally discharged on the 9th May 1919.

At some stage he was taken to Stanley Royd Hospital, Wakefield where he died on the 1st June 1922.

William was awarded the 1914 Star, the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal. He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group