Percy Boden





Rank: - Private

Number: - 65620

Regiment: - Northumberland Fusiliers (Formerly TR/5/117889 Training Reserve Bn.) 1st/5th Bn

Died in Captivity after operation for appendicitis: - 21/06/1918 Age: 18 years

Cemetery: - Hamburg Cemetery, Germany 1V.F. 15

Batley News, 18 May 1918 (photo), 8 June 1918, 10 August 1918 (photo)

Family Details

Percy was born in Birstall in c.1899 the son of Edward and Louisa Boden nee Parkin who had married on the 15th July 1893 at St. Peter's Church, Birstall. He had two older siblings, Emma born 1894 and Albert 1896 and in 1901 he was living with his father, siblings and maternal grandmother at Coach Lane, Brownhill. Louisa had died in February 1900 aged 31 years. In 1911 the family was living at 57, Upper Batley Lane, Brownhill, Batley. After leaving school Percy worked as a carrier on his own account.

Service Details

Percy enlisted at Bradford in 1917 and went to France at Easter 1918. The first battle he would have encountered would be the Battle of Estaires (9-11 April). He was captured around the 10th and wrote home to his father who at this time lived at Rock Hill House, Brownhill: -

"I am a prisoner of war and wounded, I am going on all right, so don't worry about me. Please write Central Prisoners of War Committee that I am a prisoner and wounded, so they may send on to me some food parcels, as quick as they can."

In August 1918 his father received the sad news that his son had died on June 27th two days after he had an operation for appendicitis. His brother, Albert, had been wounded twice during two years of active service in France.

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

He is remembered with Honour at St Saviour's Church, Brownhill; Birstall Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (St John's); Howden Clough Methodist Church and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of Batley History Group

