Henry (Hiram) Broadley





Rank: - Lance Corporal

Number: - 282125 (4946)

Regiment: - London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) 2nd/4th Battalion

Missing Presumed Killed in Action: - 26th October 1917 aged 30

Remembered with Honour: - Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 148-150

Batley News, 12 Oct 1918 (photo only)

Family Details:

Hiram was born on 29th January, 1887, in Ravensthorpe, the son of Joseph and Sarah Ann Broadley (Nee Beaumont) who had married at Kirkheaton, St. John the Baptist on 1st October 1864.

He was baptised at Ravensthorpe on 21 July 1888 on the same day as his sisters, Edith (1877) and Sarah (1881). His father was a night watchman and the family were living at Havelock Street, Ravensthorpe.

In 1891 the family was still at Havelock Street with older siblings Martha (1866), Emma (1868), Fredrick (1871), Charlotte (1875), Edith (1877), and Sarah (1881). Sarah married William Cass, an accountant, in 1914.

Joseph died on the 22 May 1895 and before 1901 the family had moved to Intake Lane, South Ossett. The elder sisters were weavers but Sarah was a dressmaker and Hiram was an apprentice to a lady's outfitters.

In 1911 Sarah Ann with Martha, Emma, Charlotte and Sarah were living in a four roomed house at 29, Upper Mount Street, Batley. Hiram was working as a footman for Godfrey Fitzhugh at Plas Power Park near Wrexham where Godfrey Fitzhugh employed seventeen servants. Charlotte died 19th January 1918.

Service Details

Hiram enlisted at Liverpool Street, London giving his address as Pentonville and disembarked on 24th January 1917.

Unusual in the British Army the London Regiment was in the Territorial Force with its first four battalions only "affiliated" to regular units. Each battalion was a regiment in its own right. Their "affiliated "battalions, unlike other regular units did not have territorial units within their organisation. The 2/4th Royal Fusiliers (London Regiment) was part of 173 Brigade, 58(2/1st) London Division.

At the beginning of October 1917, the battalion was at Fremicourt for battalion training before relieving the Kensington s (13th London Regiment) at Lagnicourt at 1 am on the 4th October 1917 when they were on front line duties until the 10th they were then relieved by the Kensington s and were in reserve until the 15th. They returned to the trenches where they were continually boarding and improving the trenches. The days from the 22nd to 26th were very wet and stormy

but the Lord Mayor of London came to inspect them on the morning of the 24th October and spoke a few encouraging words to the men.

On the 27th October the battalion relieved the Kensington's and by 10p.m. the relief was reported complete. We have not been able to establish how Hiram died but he was reported missing, presumed killed in action, on the 27th October 1917 at Lagnicourt.

His effects were left to Sarah Ann and William Cass.

Hiram was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley and Dewsbury War Memorials, St. Andrew's Church, Purlwell, Holy Trinity, Batley Carr and Tyne Cot Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group