Sam Butterfield





Rank: - Private

Number: - 54339

Regiment: - Manchester Regiment (formerly 50690 North Staffordshire Regt.)

"D" Coy. 1/6th Battalion

Killed in Action: - 27th September 1918 aged 39 years

Cemetery: - Ribecourt Road Cemetery, Trescault , Pas-de- Calais, France 11.E.4

Batley News, 12 Oct 1918 (photo)

Family Details

Sam was born in Dewsbury in 1879 the son of Henry and Ellen Butterfield nee Hepworth who had married at St. John's Church, Dewsbury on 3rd October 1874.

He had two older brothers William born 1875 and Luke 1877 and in 1881 the family was living at Kilpin Hill, Batley with Henry being employed as an iron turner. In August 1882 Mary Jane was born but only survived for 2 days. Ada born in late February 1887 only lived for 9 days. Tom 1894,

Within the next decade the family with the additions of Annie 1884 and Fred 1888 had moved to live at 62, Occupation Lane with his paternal grandfather, widowed Luke Butterfield. His grandma Hannah Butterfield had died in July 1888. His grandfather, Sam's grandfather, Luke (Snr) died in October 1893, and his brother Tom was born in 1894.

The family continued to live at 62, Occupation Lane, Staincliffe.

On the 8th August 1903 Sam married 22-year-old laundress, Eva Sly at Batley Parish Church and Ethel was born in 1904.

It would appear Sam and wife and daughter moved to live at Coppin Stall Lane, Battyeford where Eva died and was buried at Christ the King Battyeford on 30th May 1908 aged 27 years. Sam returned with his daughter, Ethel, to live with his parents.

Sam attended Staincliffe Day Schools and was a member of Staincliffe Liberal Club and cricket team. He worked as a joiner for Mr. B. Armitage, Heckmondwike.

Service Details

Sam enlisted in Batley in May 1917 and went to France in October 1917. He was invalided home with trench fever in February 1918 and spent five months in hospital. He went back to France only three weeks before he was killed.

The Battalion took part in the Battle of the Canal du Nord which commenced on the 27th September and lasted until the 1st October 1918.

A Chaplain wrote to his daughter: -

“Your dear father was one of those splendid men who have given their lives for England. It is a great and heavy blow for you to bear, but I should like to assure you of the real sympathy of his officers and all his comrades.”

His brother Fred was killed in action on the 2nd October 1918. It must have been a terrible time for the family losing two sons within days of each other. His father was the longest serving employee Messrs. J. Bagshaw and Sons.

His father, Henry died 28th September 1921.

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

He is remembered with Honour at Christ Church Staincliffe; Staincliffe Liberal Club; Staincliffe C of E Junior School and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group