Joseph Charlesworth





Rank: - Private

Number: - 1428616

Regiment: - Durham Light Infantry (Formerly 3926 West Riding Regiment) 1/6th Battalion

Died after amputation of right arm: - 14/12/1916 Age: 19 years

Cemetery: - Albert Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France 1.Q.6

Batley Reporter, 29 Dec 1916 (photo).

Family Details

Joseph was born in Batley on the 27th September 1897 the youngest son of Thomas and Polly Hirst Charlesworth nee Fawcett who had married on the 18th July 1891 at All Saints Church, Batley. Joseph was baptised at the same church on the 7th November 1897 when Thomas gave his occupation as a joiner living at 67, Cobden Street, Batley. The family in 1901 and 1911 was living in a two roomed home at 69, Cobden Street, Batley. The family comprised of Thomas, Polly, John born 1892, Joseph and Mary 1899. Fred born 1896 died aged 6 days, Emily died in July 1902 aged 10 months, and Francis was born in 1905 but sadly died in July 1896 aged 17 months.

Joseph attended Batley Parish Church Day Schools and Batley Town Mission, before enlisting he was a hurrier at White Lee Colliery and lived at 15, Peel Street, Batley.

Service Details

Joseph enlisted in c 1914 but was only sent to Clearing Station, France. A confirmatory message came from the Chaplain at the Clearing Station a few days later.

"I am sorry to tell you that your son Pte Charlesworth D.L.I. died of wounds in this clearing station on the 14th inst. and was buried by me the same day in the military cemetery at Albert. His grave is marked by the official cross bearing his name and regiment. Your son was admitted to the clearing station with a wound in the right arm which it was necessary ultimately to amputate in the attempt to save his life. But unhappily he did not do well and succumbed in the early hours of December 14th. I need hardly to assure you that everything possible was done for your son by the medical officers and orderlies."

Joseph had only been in France for two months.

His brother John was in the local "Terriers" and was called up at the outbreak of war but was been kept on home duties because of health reasons.

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

Joseph is remembered with Honour on Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group