George Davey



Rank: - Lance Corporal

Number: - 26921

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 9th Bn

Missing, presumed Killed in Action: - 4th October 1917 aged 24 years

Memorial: - Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium Panel 108 to 111

Batley News, 1 Dec 1917. Batley Reporter,19 Jul 1918

Family Details

George was born in Earlsheaton on the 23rd July 1893 and was baptised St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 7th January 1894 the son of Thomas and Eliza Davey nee Wilkinson who had married on 11th September 1886 at St Peter's Church, Earlsheaton. Thomas was a miner who came from Ossett.

His siblings were Laura was born in 1887 followed by Annie 1889 who sadly died when she was only a year old and Joseph 1891-1894 aged 3 years.

In 1901 he was living with his parents and sister Laura at Wakefield Road, Earlsheaton and a decade later at Crossley Buildings, Chickenley Heath with his parents in a 2 roomed home. Both George and his father were working as miners. His mother died in early 1912 and George went to live and work in Batley at the home of Mr. Joseph Roberts who was a leather merchant, at Newsome House, Commercial Street, Batley. He was well known in Batley because he was a member of the Conservative Club and at Batley Carr, he was connected with the Spiritualist Society.

Service Details

George enlisted in the 9th Battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry at Batley. They came under command of 64th Brigade in 21st Division.

The Battalion went to France in September 1915 and fought at the Battle of Loos but we know that George did not serve abroad until at least 1916 because of his war medals.

In 1916 they fought at: -
The Battle of Albert (1st- 13th July)
The Battle of Bazentin Ridge (14th - 17th July)
The Battle of Flers-Courcelette (15th - 22nd September)
The Battle of Morval* in which the Division captured Geudecourt (25th - 28th September)
The Battle of Le Transloy (1st - 18th October)

In 1917 they fought at: -
The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line (14th March - 5th April)
The First Battle of the Scarpe (9th - 14th April)

In April 1917 he was heartily congratulated by the Major-General of his Division for having distinguished himself in the field.

The Third Battle of the Scarpe (3rd - 4th May)
The flanking operations around Bullecourt (3rd - 17th May)
The last three battles were part of the Arras offensive 1917
The Battle of Polygon Wood (26th September - 3rd October)
The Battle of Broodseinde (4th October) which were near Ypres

George went missing on the 4th October and an appeal was put in the Batley News hoping that someone could give any information about him.
His effects were left to his father, Thomas.

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

He is remembered with Honour at Christ Church Staincliffe; Batley Conservative Club and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group