John William Dean



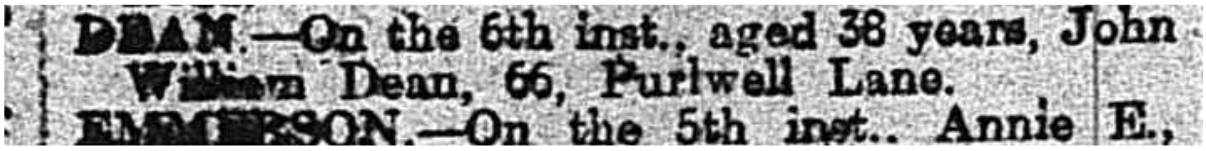
Rank: - Private

Number: - 40893

Regiment: - Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment) (formerly 5478 KOYLI)

Died of asthma and bronchitis: - 5th March 1917 aged 38 years

Cemetery: - Batley, Yorkshire R 613


DEAN.—On the 6th inst., aged 38 years, John William Dean, 66, Purlwell Lane.
EMERSON.—On the 5th inst.. Annie E.,

Family Details

John William was born in Birstall on 11th October 1878 the son of Joseph and Amy Dean (nee Newell) and was baptised at St. Peter's, Birstall on 1st December 1878 at the same time as his twin sister Sarah Amy. Joseph was described as an overlooker.

When the 1881 census was taken the family was living in Bradford Road, Birstall with the addition of Ann aged 5 months. Before Martha Annice was born on 23rd October 1883 the family had moved to live in Batley. In 1891 they were living at 7, Wheatcroft but John William was with his paternal grandparents living in Clutton Street, Soothill, Batley.

Amy died in September 1899 and Joseph and his four children were living at 66, Purlwell Lane, Batley in 1901. Martha Annice died in June 1905 and Ann in February 1909. The family was at the same address in 1911 and John William was described as a back-frame minder working with felt. He had worked at Messrs. W. J. R. Fox and Sons for 19 years before attesting under the Derby Scheme. Joseph worked for the same firm.

He was connected with Purlwell Wesleyan Church and Sunday School.

Joseph died in July 1916 and Sarah in July 1918.

Service Details

John William attested under the Derby Scheme and was called up in June 1916. After training for a while with the K.O.Y.L.I. he was transferred to the Yorkshire Regiment and went with them to Chelmsford. A letter was received from him saying he was suffering from a bad cold but the next day a telegram was received "Regret Private J.W. Dean died at Oaklands Hospital, Chelmsford, asthma, bronchitis and cardial dilatation."

He had not seen foreign service and the funeral service was held at Batley Cemetery in the afternoon of 9th March 1917 without military honours.

John William is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial and Purlwell Wesleyan Chapel.



Researched by members of Batley History Group