Alfred Dyer



Rank: - Private

Number: - 7240

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 2nd Battalion

Missing, presumed killed in action: - 26/8/1914 aged 32

Memorial: - La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, Seine-et-Marne, France

He served under the name Joe Winrow.

Batley Reporter, 20 Apr 1916, 25 Aug 1916 (classifieds) Dewsbury Reporter, 22 Apr 1916

Family Details

Born Wakefield 1882 the son of Harriett Ann Dyer and stepson of John Winrow (married 30th December 1885 at Wakefield). In 1891 he was living with his mother and step father under the name of Alfred Winrow at Sunderland Yard, Kirkgate, Wakefield with his siblings John (1885) and Mary Elizabeth (b. 1890 in Barnsley). John Winrow was a miner who came from Barnsley.

James was born in Dewsbury in 1894 and Clara in Burnley in 1896 before the family moved to the Flush area of Heckmondwike before the 1901 census. At this time Alfred and John (1885) had reverted to the name Dyer and both were miners working below ground.

On 1st November 1902 he married Annie Armitage at Dewsbury Parish Church. She signed her name but he made his mark. He did not name his father on the certificate but he did live at 56, Cullingworth Buildings, Dewsbury whilst Annie lived a few doors away at 69, Cullingworth Buildings.

The 1911 census shows that he was living with Ann at 6, Gladstone Street, Westborough, Dewsbury along with their son, John aged 8 months born in Batley and Charles Winrow aged 7 who was a relative. Four children had died in infancy, William Albert 1906-1906, Sarah 1909-1909 and two others.

They probably moved back to Batley before the births of Sarah 1912-1913 and Amelia in 1914.

He worked as a miner at Crawshaw and Warburton's, otherwise known as Shaw Cross Pit.

At the time of his death he was living at 97, Rothery's Yard, Lidgate Lane, Batley Carr.

Service Details

Alfred served under the name Joe Winrow and was in the reservists at the outbreak of war. He went with his friend and colleague Private Taylor of the Springfield's area of Dewsbury. They both took part in the Battle of Mons and were both posted missing in the retreat from Mons.

He disembarked in France in August 1914. It is believed he was the first local soldier to die in the war.

Alfred was awarded the 1914 Star and Clasp, British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Holy Trinity, Batley Carr and Batley and Dewsbury War Memorials.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group