Thomas Albert Gibson



Rank: - Ex-Sgt.

Number: -4680015

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (Territorial Force) (Formerly Sgt 53)

Died: -3rd May 1921 aged 39 years

Cemetery: - Batley, Yorkshire I.36

Batley News, 7 May 1921 (classifieds)

Family Details

Thomas Albert was born in Dewsbury in March 1882 the son of Ben Aspinall and Annie Gibson nee Waterhouse who had married on the 21st August 1874, St. John's Church, Dewsbury.

In 1891 Ben Aspinall was living as a boarder in Batley, in 1901 he was boarding in Witney and in 1911 in Gildersome. In 1901 Ann Gibson was living in William Street, Batley with Francis M (26), Ernest (24), Thomas Albert (19), James (13) and Sarah J (9). The last 2 were born in Scotland.

On the 1st January 1905 he married Clara Holdsworth at Christ Church, Staincliffe, Batley. He gave his occupation as a mechanic living at Occupation Lane, Staincliffe. Clara came from Dark Lane, Batley.

In 1911 the family was living in a two roomed home at 10, Back Brierley Street, Mount Pleasant. Annie had been born in June 1905 followed by Ernest October 1908 and Louisa 6th September 1910.
Elsie was born in 1913 but sadly died a short time later in 1913 and Gladys in 1915.

At the time of his death he was living at 34, Back Bromley Street, Hanging Heaton and employed as a mechanic.

Service Details

In 1908 he had attested into the 4th Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry stating that he had been refused before because of his height which was only 5 ft. 2 inches. He declared that he was a turner for Messrs. Walker and Smith

In August 1914 the Battalion was at summer camp at Whitby when war broke out. They were part of 3rd West Riding Brigade, West Riding Division. They moved on mobilisation to Doncaster and in November 1914 to Gainsborough, moving on to York in February 1915.

On the 12th April 1915 they landed at Boulogne.

On 15th May 1915 the formation became 148th Brigade, 49th (West Riding) Division and took part in the following engagements: -

The Battle of Aubers Ridge (9 May)
The defence against the first Phosgene attack (19 December)

In 1916 they took part in: -

The Battle of Albert (1st -13th July)
The Battle of Bazentin Ridge (14-17th July) , The Battle of Pozieres Ridge (23 July-3 September).

It is not known when Thomas Albert left France but he was discharged on the 3rd August 1916 with chronic Bright's Disease.

He died at 34, Back Bromley Street, Hanging Heaton on the 3rd May 1921 his occupation was given as a mechanic.

Thomas Albert was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group