James Alfred Greenhough



Rank: - L/Cpl.

Number: - 3/895

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

Killed in Action: - 18th April 1915 aged 23 years

Cemetery: - Oosttaverne Wood Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium V111.H.2

Family Details

James Alfred Greenhough was born on the 18th May 1893 in the Cockersdale area of Drighlington. He was christened on the 5th July at St Paul's, Drighlington. His parents John William Greenhough and Annie Eliza Hodgson married on the 16th March 1889 at St Peter's, Gildersome. James Alfred had 5 younger siblings Jane Hodgson (1896), Ivy (1899), Hannah (1902), Rufus (1905), and Horace (1909) The 1901 census shows the family living at Spring Gardens, Drighlington and by 1911 they were living at Croft Row, Drighlington. The father of the family, John William, was a miner and James Alfred a pony driver.

James Alfred Greenhough married Elizabeth Broadhead on the 13th September, 1913 at St Andrew's, Bruntcliffe, Morley. Elizabeth's father Seth Broadhead was a blacksmith. James Alfred was still a pony driver in a coal mine and lived at Brick Row, Scotchman Lane, Morley. In 1914 the couple had a daughter Elizabeth.

Service Details

He enlisted in 1914 in Dewsbury and disembarked on the 9th of February, 1915. There are no newspaper reports or family records but he probably died in the battle for Hill 60. The British attack for Hill 60 began on 17 April 1915 and captured the area quickly, with only seven casualties but then found that the salient which had been created, made occupation of the hill very costly. A salient is a battlefield feature that projects into enemy territory. Both sides mistakenly accused the other of using poison gas in the April fighting, German attacks on the hill in early May, did use gas shells and recovered the ground at the second attempt on the 5th of May. James Alfred died on the 18th April, 1915.

Elizabeth married Arthur Appleby in 1917 at St Andrew's, Bruntcliffe and had four more children.

James Alfred was awarded the 1914-1915 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He is remembered at Morley War Memorial and Batley War Memorial Addenda.



Researched by members of Batley History Group