James (Jim) Heal





Rank: - Private

Number: - 2291

Regiment: - Royal Munster Fusiliers (Formerly 16470 K.O.Y.L.I.) 2nd Battalion

Missing, presumed Killed in Action: - 21/03/1918 Age: 26 years

Memorial: - Pozieres Memorial, Somme, France Panels 78 and 79

Batley News, 8 Jun 1918 (photo only)

Family Details

Jim was born in Bradford on 18th July 1891 the son of William and Mary Elizabeth Heal nee Nassan who had married on the 25th December 1876 at East Ardsley, St. Michael's Church. He was baptised at St. Michael's Church, East Ardsley on 4th October 1891. His father's occupation was given as a wagon examiner.

In 1891 before the birth of Jim his parents were living at 30, Greenhill Street, Bradford with their children Alfred 1877, Hannah 1879, Richard 1881, William 1883, and Herbert 1885 who had all been born in Ardsley. His mother died in 1891 shortly after his birth.

Florrie was born in 1894 (mother nee Seed) and in 1901 the family was living at 20, Barlow Street, Bradford. By 1911 William and his family were living at 5, Upper Mosscar Street, Bradford and he was employed as a carriage examiner for the Great Northern Railway whilst James also worked as a porter for the Great Northern Railway. William died in 1912.

Jim moved to live at 2, Albion Place, Westfield Lane, South Elmsall before his marriage and was Private 2291 7th Royal Munster Fusiliers with a profession of colliery shunter at the time of his marriage. On the 24th January 1917 Jim married Ethel Allatt at Broomhill Chapel, Batley. The couple lived at 6, Blackburn Square, Hilberoyd Road, Batley with her parents.

Service Details

Jim enlisted at Doncaster and went to the Balkans on 9th July 1915. He returned to England before his marriage and was sent to France. He was missing presumed killed in action on the first day of the Battle of St. Quentin which took place on the Somme between 21st and 23rd March 1918.

Jim was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and Victory Medal. He is remembered with Honour on Ireland Casualties of WW1 and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group