Harry Ho(u)ldsworth





Rank: - Private

Number: - 4689

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 1/4th Battalion

Killed in Action: - 2nd December 1916 aged 20 years

Cemetery: - Bienvillers Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France 111.D.3

Batley Reporter, 29 Dec 1916

Family Details

Harry was born in Birstall in 1896 the son of David and Sarah Ho(u)ldsworth nee Gledhill. The couple had married at St. Paul's Church, Drighlington on the 5th November 1894 when David gave his occupation as an extractor.

Life must have been very hard because on 27th December 1899 just before the turn of the century David had to spend 10 days at His Majesty's pleasure for non-payment of the poor rate. He was only 36 years old but already had grey hair.

In 1901 the family who included David, Sarah, Gladys May 1894 who was born prior to their marriage, Harry, Annie1897 and Herbert 1900 was living at 17, High Street, Birstall. David gave his occupation as a rag sorter at a cotton mill. George was born in Birstall in 1902. Before 1911 the family had moved to live at 2, Yard 2, Victoria Street, Carlinghow, Batley in a two roomed home and David was working as rag machine minder whilst Harry was described as a coal putter for a Colliery Company.

He was educated at Brownhill School and later went to work at West End Colliery as a hurrier.

Service Details

Harry enlisted in June 1915 and went to France on 25th December 1915 he had suffered no injuries until he was killed.

In 1916 his regiment fought on the Somme at

The Battle of Albert (1st July-13th July)
The Battle of Bazentin Ridge (14-17th July
The Battle of Pozieres Ridge (23rd July- 3rd September)
The Battle of Flers-Courcelette (15th -22nd September)

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

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group