Clifford Ingleson







Rank: - Private

Number: - 46279

Regiment: - Durham Light Infantry 1st/7th Bn. attd. 181st Tunnelling Coy Royal Engineers

Died of Influenza: - 1st November 1918 aged 20 years

Cemetery: - Awoingt British Cemetery, Nord, France II. E. 10.

"IN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS YOU WILL EVER BE OUR DEAREST MEMORY"

Batley News, 9 Nov 1918, 16 Nov 1918 (photo)

Family Details

Clifford was born in Batley in 1898 the eldest son of Robert and Edith Ingleson nee Pearson who had married on the 5th February 1898 at Batley Parish Church. He was baptised on the 28th August 1898.

Robert had previously married Edith Shepley in April 1894 at Batley Parish Church who already had a daughter Elsie born in 1891. She was brought up as his daughter. Sadly, Edith died in August 1896 when they were living at 5, Mill Lane, Batley.

Margaret was born in October 1899 but sadly died aged 6 months in April 1900. Elsie Shepley died in June 1910.

the family was In 1901 living at 7, Albion Street, Batley and Robert was employed as a cloth warehouseman. Robert (Bobbie) was born in 1904 and Vera in 1909.

Before 1910 the family had moved to a three roomed home at 8, Albion Street, Batley and Robert had become a pattern cutter.

Clifford attended Park Road and Warwick Road Schools and Hick Lane Chapel and Sunday School. After leaving school he worked at Messrs. John Rhodes and Sons, Anchor Mills.

The family had moved to live at 14, Queen Street, Batley before Clifford died**.**

Service Details

Clifford enlisted in c. February 1917 and went to France around September 1917. His father had served in the army for two years from 1916 and at the time of Clifford's death was on substitution work.

The 181st Tunnelling Company was one of the tunnelling companies of the Royal Engineers created by the British Army during World War 1. The tunnelling units were occupied in offensive and defensive mining involving the placing and maintaining of mines under enemy lines, as well as other underground work such as the construction of deep dugouts for troop accommodation, the digging of subways, saps (a narrow trench dug to approach enemy trenches), cable trenches and underground chambers for signals and medical services.

In May 1915 the 1/7th was attached to the 50th (Northumbrian Division) but was transferred to the 8th Division on the 20th June 1918.

In 1918 he would have seen action at: -

The Battle of St Quentin (21-23 March)
The Actions at the Somme Crossings
The Battle of Rosieres (26-27 March)
which were phases of the First Battles of the Somme 1918
The Battle of Estaires (9-11 April)
The Battle of Hazebrouck (12-15 April)
which were phases of the Battles of the Lys
The Battle of the Aisne (27-May-6 June)

The Battle of the Scarpe (26-30 August)
which was a phase of the Second Battles of Arras 1918
The Final Advance in Artois in which the Division captured Douai

Clifford had been home on leave only two weeks before he caught influenza. He was taken to a casualty clearing station in France and died from influenza on November 1st 1918.

Clifford was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group