**George Key**



**Rank: -** Private

**Number: -** 32416

**Regiment: -** South Staffordshire Regiment 2nd Battalion

**Killed in Action: - 02/06/1917 Age: 25 years**

**Cemetery: -** Bois-Carre British Cemetery, Thelus, Pas de Calais, France 11.B.7

# "SWEET MEMORIES CLING"

## Family Details

George was born in Great Hale, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, c.1892 the eldest son of Francis and Mary Ann Key (nee Barks, m. 1891, registered Sleaford).

In 1901 he was living with his parents and siblings William 1895 and Francis 1897 at Hale Magna and his father was working on his own account as a Higher Hawk.

In 1911, George was a servant/baker and confectioner at 43 St. Mary's Street, Stamford. The head of the household was Luke Barton, a baker and confectioner. Also, there were his wife Alice, daughter, Alice Mary and a widow Sarah Barton. There was also another servant called Lilian Cooper.

At some stage after 1911 he came to live in Batley Carr and in late 1915, he married Hilda Beals in the Dewsbury District and lived at 12, Rink Terrace, Mount St., Batley, Yorks. His brother William of the M.G.C. was killed in action on 26th October 1917.

## Service Details

George enlisted at Bradford (Shearbridge) but it is not known at what date, however he did not serve abroad before 1916.

During 1916 they fought at: -
The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of the Ancre, Operations on the Ancre,
During 1917 they fought at: -
The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The First Battle of the Scarpe(9-14 April), The Battle of Arleux (28-29 April), The Second Battle of the Scarpe (23-24 April).

To date we have found no newspaper report to say how he was killed. George was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal and is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of Batley History Group