Parker Kitchingman





Rank: - Private

Number: - 1362

Regiment: - Durham Light Infantry 5th Battalion

Died of Wounds: - 09/11/1915 Age: 21 years

Cemetery: - 24th General Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France 111. F.1A

Family Details

Parker was born in Batley in c.1894 the son of Batley born couple Arthur and Amelia Kitchingman (nee Clarkson, m. 1891, registered Dewsbury). Jane Ann was born in 1892 followed by Parker, James Clarkson 1896-1904, Ida 1897, twins, Enid Stacey 1902, Robert Blatchford 1902--1904, Arthur 1907.

After the birth of Ida, the family moved to live at Small Thorne Grove, Castleford and Arthur was a club steward. They moved again to Normanton before the birth of Arthur, moving again to live at Joint Stock Cottage, Coxhoe, Durham. In 1911 Parker was employed as a pony driver underground.

Service Details

Parker joined the Durham Light Infantry and went to France on the 17th April 1915. By 23 April the Division had concentrated in the area of Steenvoorde. It had arrived just as the German army had attacked at nearby Ypres, using poison gas for the first time, and was rushed into the battle. The Division then took part in the following engagements:

The Battle of St Julien (24 April-4 May)
The Battle of Frezenburg Ridge (8-13 May)
The Battle of Bellewaarde Ridge (24-25 May)
which were phases of the Second Battles of Ypres

It is not known when Parker received his wounds but he was taken to Etaples Military Hospital where he died from his wounds.

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

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial, Addenda and Coxhoe, Co. Durham War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group