Arthur Peel



Rank: - Corporal

Number: - 16/1704

Regiment: - West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) 1st Battalion (Bradford Pals)

Killed in Action: - 14th July 1918 aged 31 years

Cemetery: - Nine Elms British Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen**,** Belgium XV.A.**4.**

LOCAL ENLISTMENTS ELSEWHERE.
1st BRADFORD PALS.

Edward Barrett Wilson, Staincliffe.
Henry Helliwell, 13, Common Road, Staincliffe.
Stephen Macnamara, 49, Common Road, Staincliffe.
Joseph Powell, 24, Common Rd., Staincliffe.
John Thomas Brodrick, 6, Milton Street, Batley Carr.
Arthur Peel, 31, Common Road, Staincliffe.
Joseph Haycock, 1, North Parade, Batley.
Percy Mortimer, Co-op. Buildings, White Lee, 13th Yorkshire Regiment.

At York Police Court yesterday, Sergt.-Major George Harold Sykes, of the 3rd/4th K.O.Y.L.I., was fined £2 on a summons for alleged indecent behaviour. It was stated

Batley News, 14 Aug 1915

Family Details

Arthur was born in Burnley in 1894 the son of Matthew and Ruth Peel nee Drake.

Gomersal born Matthew, who was a coal miner, married Batley born Ruth Drake on 13th May 1882 reg Dewsbury and Thomas Blakebrough was born in Gomersal in 1884 before the family moved to Burnley where Louisa 1888 was born but they were back living in Gomersal at 1, Earl Street when the 1891 census was taken. They returned again to Burnley before the births of Ada 1892, Arthur and Harry 1898. The family moved to live at 2, Crossley Lane, Mirfield before the birth of Florence Annie in 1900.

Emily was born in Heckmondwike in 1903

Ada born 1892 died in 1909

In 1911 Ruth, Arthur who was working as a coal miner, Florence and Emily were living at 1, Kilpin Hill, Batley. The census shows there had been another sibling who had died in infancy. This was probably a male child born in 1889 when they lived at Gomersal who only lived for a very short time.

Arthur married Annie Elizabeth Gahagan in 1914 and went to live at 31, Common Road, Batley. Frances Emily was born in 1916.

Ann E Jackson???

Service Details

Arthur enlisted

KOYLI 24/8/14 discharged 16/12/14

Arthur enlisted at Bradford in August 1915 and was first in the 16th Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment (1st Bradford Pals). The Battalion was in training at Ripon and later at Hurdcott Camp near Salisbury. In December 1915 they set sail for Alexandria to defend the Suez Canal. In March 1916 they left Port Said for a 5-day voyage to Marseilles and then by train to Pont Remy, south east of Abbeville and marched to Bertrancourt, arriving on the 29th March. At some stage he changed to the 1st Battalion which was part of 18th Brigade in 6th Division.

In 1917 the Battalion fought at: -

The Battle of Hill 70 (at same time as the Battles of Arras 1917 (9th April -16th June)
The Cambrai operations (20th November -30th December)
In 1918 they took part in the Battle of St Quentin on the Somme (21st- 23rd March)
The Battle of Bailleul (13th -15th April)
The First Battle of Kemmel Ridge (17th -19th April)
The Second Battle of Kemmel Ridge (25th -26th April)
The Advance in Flanders

His widow married Arthur Jackson in the 4th Qtr 1919 at Dewsbury.

Arthur was awarded British Medal and War the Victory Medal (so did he go to Alexandria???)

He is remembered with Honour at Christ Church Staincliffe and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group