Clarence Redfearn





Number: - 15281

Regiment: - Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) 71st COY. (Formerly 22244 Scottish Rifles)

Killed in Action: - 15th September 1916 aged 19 years

Memorial: - Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France Pier and Face 5 C and 12 C

Batley News, 14 Oct 1916 (photo)

Family Details

Clarence was born in Soothill, Batley on 15th January 1897 the son Sylvester and Martha Redfearn, nee Hanley. The couple had married at Batley Parish Church on 1st November 1884. Sylvester was a spinner and Martha a weaver.

When the 1901 census was taken four-year-old Clarence with his father was visiting Batley- born Joseph S. Colbeck who was a market gardener in Knaresborough. Also visiting him was 62-year-old Mary Ann Harrison, also from Batley. Leeds born Martha was at home at 1, Pearson Street, off Commercial Street, Batley with William Henry Hanley who was born in 1899. James N was born in 1906. Jane Ann had died in July 1892 aged 2 years.

Before 1911 the family had moved to live at 10, Drill Shed Yard, Batley in a two roomed house. The family later moved to 15, Providence Street, Batley.

For four years he worked for Mr. H. Brown, grocer in Commercial Street and later for Messrs. Metcalfe and Bradshaw. He was a member of the Zion Boys' Brigade and Up Lane Sunday School.



Clarence with his father and brother before going to France taken by Mr. Scrimshaw of Morley.

Service Details

In 1915 Clarence joined the Scottish Rifles later being transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. Before he went abroad Clarence had a photograph taken at Mr. Scrimshaw's (Morley) photographers, with his brother and father. A Signaller from the Sherwood Foresters F. Hemmings found the photo and sent a letter to the photographer asking him to let him know if he recognised anyone as he wished to communicate with the family.

This letter from the Signaller reached his family before official news arrived.

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

He is remembered with Honour at Up Lane Sunday School, Batley Salvation Army and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group