Henry (Harry) Roberts



Rank: - Private

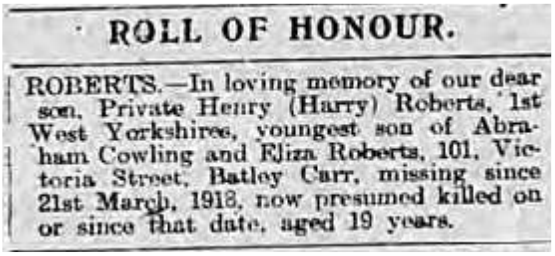
Number: - 238127

Regiment: - West Yorkshire Regiment, (Prince of Wales's Own) 1st Battalion (formerly 3823 West Riding Regiment 5th Battalion)

Missing, presumed killed in Action: - 21st March 1918 aged 19 years

Memorial: - Arras Memorial, Pas-de-Calais, France Bay 4

28th June 1919 Batley News



ROLL OF HONOUR.

ROBERTS.—In loving memory of our dear son, Private Henry (Harry) Roberts, 1st West Yorkshires, youngest son of Abraham Cowling and Eliza Roberts, 101, Victoria Street, Batley Carr, missing since 21st March, 1918, now presumed killed on or since that date, aged 19 years.

Family Details

Harry was born in Batley in c.1899 the youngest son of Abraham Cowling Roberts and his wife Eliza (nee Spink) and was baptised at Holy Trinity, Batley Carr on 28th August 1901 when the family was living at 73, Victoria Street. The couple had married at Batley Parish Church on 11th April 1885 and Abraham gave his occupation as a piecer.

Herbert was born in 1884 followed by Agnes 1885, Jane 1890, Florence Annie 1893, Hannah Maria 1896 and Henry in 1899.

In 1901 the family was still at 73, Victoria Street and Abraham gave his occupation as a woollen spinner. The family had moved to 65, King Street before the birth of Lydia in 1903.The family had moved to live at 24, Mount View, Jack Lane, Dewsbury before 1911. Harry's early education was at Mill Lane School and was employed by Walker and Smith, Bradford Road, Batley.

He was associated with Purlwell and Batley Carr Wesleyan Chapels.The family moved to live at 101, Victoria Street, Batley Carr.

Service Details

Harry enlisted when he was 17 years old and went to France in October 1917.The 1st Battalion was part of 18th Brigade in 6th Division. In late 1917 they took part in the Cambrai operations. In 1918 they fought at the Battle of St. Quentin which took place between 21st March and 5th April 1918. That was the first of the battles of the Somme 1918.

Harry went missing on the first day of this battle and it was not until 1919 that his family received confirmation that he was presumed dead on or around that day. They inserted a roll a Roll of Honour in the Batley News,
Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He is remembered with Honour at Purlwell Wesleyan Church, Batley Carr Wesleyan Chapel, Mill Lane School and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group