**Herbert Robins.**



**Rank**: - Lance Corporal

**Number**: - 14917

**Regiment**: - Coldstream Guards 2nd Battalion

**Died**: - 14th July 1919 aged 29

**Cemetery:** - Batley J.132

MRS. H. ROBINS wishes to sincerely thank all relatives and friends for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to her in the loss of her dear husband, also for the many floral tributes.—49, Beech Terrace, Purlwell Lane, Batley.

19 July 1919 Batley News

## Family Details

Herbert was born in Sheffield in 1890 the son of Edgar and Ann Robbins (nee Camm).

The family in 1891 was living at 76, Park Hill Lane Sheffield and Edgar was a coal miner. Herbert had an older brother Henry born in 1894.

Within the next decade later the family had moved to 14, Shelley Street, Mexborough. Ernest (1892) was born in Sheffield, Edward (1894), Elsie (1898) Cora (1900) were all born in Mexborough.

In 1911 the family with the addition of Arthur (1906) was living at 18, Simpsons Place, Mexborough and the census shows that six of their eleven had died in infancy. All the boys had followed their father into the mines.

Herbert joined the police force in 1911 and the records show that he was six feet tall, had hazel eyes, fresh complexion, brown hair and he had last been employed at Manvers Main Colliery at Wath on Dearne. He was appointed to Dewsbury on the 13th July 1911 aged 21 years and 10 months. He advanced from third grade to second on 1st July 1912. On 12th November 1912 he had to forfeit 3 months seniority in ranking but on the 1st July 1913, he advanced from second to first grade. He became a Constable in the Batley Police Force before he enrolled in the Coldstream Guards.

On the 3rd November 1917 he married 29-year-old Miriam Battye at St. Andrew's Church, Purlwell, Batley.

## Service Details

Herbert enrolled at Dewsbury on 18th January 1915 and embarked for France on 2nd November 1915 having become a Lance Corporal.

On the 9th September the battalion fought at Ginchy.

On the 17th September 1916 all three battalions of the Coldstream Guards were in the front line of assault, for the first and only time the Regiment went into battle as a whole.

The losses in the three Coldstream Guard battalions amounted to 40 Officers and 1326 other ranks.

It is possible but not certain that Herbert was injured in the Somme offensive in the Battle of Flers Courcelette (September 16th-23rd). The Guards suffered heavy casualties at Lesboefs and at Morval where difficulties with the new tanks caused heavy casualties. Colonel Campbell rallied the Guards attack with a hunting horn, winning a Victoria Cross. Heavy rain caused many problems during these actions leading to many cases of trench foot and making movement of troops difficult.

In the Batley News of the 7th October 1916 it was reported that Herbert had been seriously injured, but does not say where, and was in hospital in Lancashire. The Dewsbury Reporter of the 7th October states that his fiancée visited him in hospital in Manchester the previous Saturday. He was seriously ill having been wounded in the hands and legs. It would appear he had at first been slightly wounded but went back to the firing line where he was seriously wounded.

He came back to Batley and married Miriam Battye of Beech Terrace, Mount Pleasant on the 3rd November 1917 at St. Andrew's, Purlwell. He died in a hospital in Scarborough on the 14th July 1919.

He was buried at Batley Cemetery on 16th July 1919.

Herbert was awarded the 1915 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial and St. Andrew's Church, Purlwell.