# Frederick Charles Sharp



**Rank: -** Private

**Number: -** 72523

**Regiment: -** West Yorkshire (Prince of Wales' Own) 2nd Battalion

**Missing, presumed Killed in Action: -** 24th April 1918 aged 18 years

**Memorial: -** Pozieres Memorial, Somme, France  Panel 26 and 27

Batley News, 3 Aug 1918

## Family Details

Frederick Charles was born in Batley in 1899 the youngest son of Jerry and Eliza Sharp nee Hellen.

The couple had married at Castleford Parish Church on 26th March 1879 when Eliza was living at Glasshoughton. John was born in 1880 followed by Annie 1881, Hubert 1884, Helen 1887, Vinson 1890, Thurman 1894 and Frederick.

In 1901 Jerry, who was a joiner employer and his family were living in Dark Lane, Batley. His eldest son John was also a joiner. A decade later they were still in Dark Lane but Jerry was a joiner labourer.

Thurman died in May 1914 aged 20 years when he was living at 2, West Park Grove, Healey, Batley.

Before Fred enlisted, he worked for Mr. Wilson, joiner, Dewsbury. Two of his brothers were with the Royal Engineers and the other with the Royal Air Force. They lived at Trafalgar Street, Batley.

## Service Details

It is not known when Fred enlisted nor when he went to France but he was only 18 years old when he went missing.

The 2nd Battalion of the Prince of Wales's Own was in Malta when war broke out in August 1914 but returned to Southampton on 25th September 1914. From the following day they came under the orders of 23rd Brigade in 8th Division, landing at Le Havre on 5th November 1914.

In 1917 the Division fought at the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line The Battle of Pilkem (31st July-2nd August).

The Battle of Langemarck (16-18 August) which were both parts of the Third Battle of Ypres.

In 1918 they fought at: -

The Battle of St Quentin (21-23 March)
the actions at the Somme crossings (24-25 March)
The Battle of Rosieres (26-27 March)

the actions of Villers-Bretonneux (24-25 April)
which were all phases of the First Battles of the Somme 1918.

Fred was posted missing on the first day of the actions of Villers-Bretonneux.

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

Fred is remembered with Honour at Healey Congregational Church and Batley War Memorial.




Researched by members of
Batley History Group