John Bennett Talbot



Rank: - Ex-Private

Number: - R19412

Regiment: - King's Royal Rifle Corps 21st Battalion

Died: - 8th November 1918 aged 28

Cemetery: - Batley E 352

Batley News, 9 Nov 1918 (classifieds)

Family Details

John Bennett was born in Batley on the 8th September 1891 the son of John and Sarah Ann Talbot (nee Bennett). He was baptised at St. Thomas's Church on the 21st October when his father gave his address as Surrey Street and his occupation was a plumber. The couple had married at Batley parish Church on 15th March 1891.

In 1901 the family was living in Lancashire but before 1911 they had returned to Batley and the census shows he was an only child, they were living at 3, Hilberoyd Road, Batley. John was a retired plumber and John Bennett was working as a clerk for a woollen manufacturer. His mother, Sarah Ann, died in November 1917.

Service Details

John Bennett signed his attestation papers on the 8th December 1915 and was at first in the 21/24th service training battalion. He was transferred to the 8th (Service) Battalion and was sent to France on 18th August 1916.

The 8th Battalion was attached to the 14th (Light) Division and John Bennett would have joined them during the Battle of Delville Wood (15th July-3rd September) and then taken part in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette (15th-22nd September).

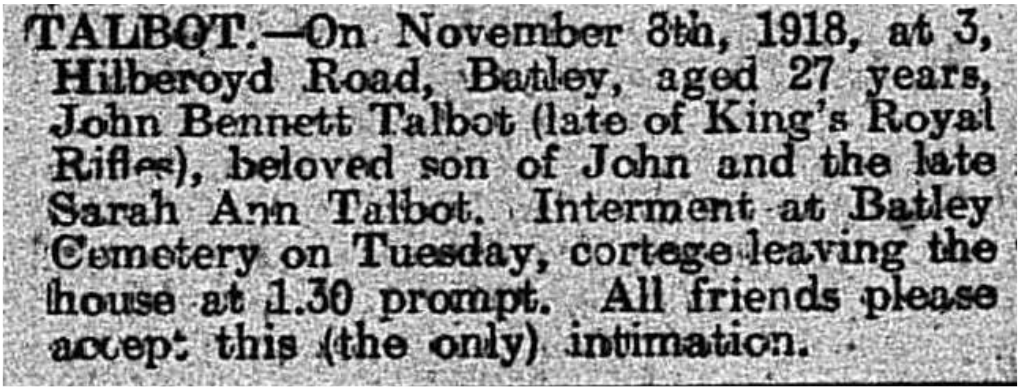
In 1917 the Division took part in the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line and the First (9-14th April) and Third Battles of the Scarpe (3rd-4th May) which were near Arras.

On Thursday 3rd May the battalion was in the trenches east of Wancourt and it was reported they suffered heavy casualties. On the 4th they were in Albatross Trench before returning to their old trench, Coseul Switch.

John was injured in the left arm on 5th May 1917 and posted home on the 9th May 1917.

He was posted to the 6th Battalion which was a Depot Training Unit on the 7th May 1918 before finally being discharged under the King's Regulations (XVI) as no longer fit for service on the 29th June 1918.

In the Batley News of the 9th November 1918 the following classified appeared



TALBOT.—On November 8th, 1918, at 3, Hilberoyd Road, Batley, aged 27 years, John Bennett Talbot (late of King's Royal Rifles), beloved son of John and the late Sarah Ann Talbot. Interment at Batley Cemetery on Tuesday, cortege leaving the house at 1.30 prompt. All friends please accept this (the only) intimation.

John Bennett was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Zion Chapel and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group