Alfred Terry





Rank: - Sergeant

Number: - 233

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 1st/4th Battalion

Died of Bright's Disease: - 8th August 1915 aged 32

Cemetery: - Batley M 43 Yorkshire

Family Details:

Alfred was born in Batley on 11th October 1882 the son of Batley born Samuel and his wife Hannah (nee Wood) who came from Bingley. He was baptised at Hick Lane Chapel on 19th November 1882. The couple had married in 1879 and Benjamin was born in 1880 but sadly died in May 1882.

In 1881 Samuel and Hannah were living at Brearley Street and his occupation was described as a cloth finisher. In 1891 the family had moved 8, Upper North Street and the additions to the family were William Haley (1884) and Emma Ann (1888). A further son, Harry had been born in September 1886 but died in January 1889.

A decade later the family had moved to a greengrocer's shop at 25/27 Oxford Street, Mount Pleasant where Samuel and William were working as greengrocers and Alfred was a painter's apprentice. Annie (1891), Nellie (1897) and Samuel (1899) were additions to the family, but sadly Mary Alice born September 1895 had died in January 1897.

On 10th June 1905 Alfred married Ethel Dransfield at Hick Lane Wesleyan Chapel. His occupation was given as a painter (journeyman) and he was living at 11, East Street, Batley. Ethel was a woollen weaver living in Richmond Street and her father's occupation was a "retired gentleman". Nellie was born later the same year followed by Marjorie in April 1911, Norman in February 1913 and Hilda in March 1915.

In 1911 the family were living in a three roomed house at 60, Bradford Road West, Batley and Alfred was a house painter.

Alfred had served his apprenticeship with John Tomlinson of Upper Commercial Street, Batley and later worked for Edgar Milnes. He was a lifelong member of Hick Lane Wesleyan Chapel being a scholar and a member of the choir.

He was a member of Carlinghow Working Men's Club and a member of the Ancient Order of Oddfellows and was the secretary for the State Insurance Section of his Lodge (Volunteer 104).

Service Details:

Alfred joined the Batley Volunteers and Territorial's (1st/4th K.O.Y.L.I.) when he was 18 years old. He served for 14 years, being promoted to the rank of sergeant just before the Great War started. He was entitled to a long service medal at the end of

the camp at Whitby in 1914 but the war interfered with the receipt of the decoration.

When the camp was broken up at the outbreak of the war he accompanied the Territorial's to Doncaster, Gainsborough and York but from here after a short stay in Batley he was sent to hospital in Leeds being unable to accompany his comrades to the Front. He was suffering from Bright's Disease. This is an historical name for acute kidney disease which was first described in 1827 by English physician Robert Bright. Alfred died at Beckett Park Military Hospital, Leeds on Sunday 8th August 1915 and he was buried at Batley Cemetery on the following Wednesday.

After a short service at the house the coffin, which was made of polished oak and was provided by Messrs. Will Akeroyd & Sons, Ward's Hill, Batley was draped with the Union Jack with his cap and belt, and was carried by the soldiers preceded by the firing party with reversed arms, to the cemetery. By permission of Col. Hind there was a firing party of the 3rd/4th K.O.Y.L.I. under the command of Sergeant A. Ainsworth and six sergeants of the 2nd/4th K.O.L.Y.I. acted as bearers.

The funeral was attended by representatives from Volunteer 104, Lodge of Oddfellows, Hick Lane Sunday School and the choir as well as friends from the workshops where he had been employed. The service which was held in the Cemetery Chapel was conducted by Rev E. Lloyd (Wesleyan superintendent minister). The choir sang "Jesu Lover of My Soul ". At the graveside the firing party fired three volleys over the grave and two buglers from the 3rd/4th K.O.Y.L.I. sounded the Last Post. The minister then conducted the funeral service and the choir sang "Lead Kindly Light ". There were many floral tributes from family and friends. Edith had taken his children Nellie and Marjorie to the funeral. He is remembered with Honour Batley War Memorial, Carlinghow St. John's Church and Carlinghow Working Men's Club.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group