# Arthur Turner





**Rank: -** Private

**Number: -** 55420

**Regiment: -** Northumberland Fusiliers 12/13th Battalion

**Missing presumed killed in action: -** 18th April 1918 aged 19

**Memorial: -** Tyne Cot Memorial, West Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 19-23 and 162

**Batley News, 25 May 1918, 1 Jun 1918 (photo)**

## Family Details

Arthur was born in Batley c 1899 the son of Ellis and Laura Turner (nee Bailey). The couple had married in 1895 and Susan was born the same year but sadly died in June 1896 aged nine months when the family was living at 1, Talbot Street, Batley.

The 1901 census tells us the family which consisted of Ellis, Laura, Marion (1897), Arthur and Doris (1900) was living at 7, George Street, Batley and Ellis was a rag merchant. Sadly Doris died in June 1901 aged 13 months.

Elsie was born in 1902 and John Frederick followed in c1905. Before 1911 the family had moved into the next street to live in a five roomed home at 31, Talbot Street.

Before joining up Arthur was in business with his father as a rag merchant in Field Lane, Batley. He was well known at Zion Sunday School.

## Service Details

Arthur joined up in February 1917 at Dewsbury. The 12/13th Battalion of the Northumberland Fusiliers came under the orders of 62nd Brigade, 21st Division.

In 1917 the 21st Division took part in the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, First and Third Battles of the Scarpe, flanking operations around Bullecourt, Battles of Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Second Battle of Passchendaele and Cambrai Operations.

In 1918 they fought at the Battles of St. Quentin and the First of Bapaume on the 15th April the battalion moved into the Vierstraat-Kemmel Line and on the 16th after heavy bombardment the enemy attacked. Because of the heavy mist a defensive flank was formed on high ground. At Wytschaete on the 17th and 18th the rest of the battalion held a defensive flank. Arthur's parents received official news at their home 67, Talbot Street, in May 1918 that their son was missing, presumed killed in action around 18th April 1918.

Arthur was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He is remembered with Honour at Zion Methodist Church, Batley and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group