James William Walker





Rank: - Private

Number: - 43824

Regiment: - West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) 10th Battalion

Killed in Action: - 11th October 1917 aged 33 years

Cemetery: - New Irish Farm Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium 111.A.12

Family Details

James William was born in Batley on the 17th November 1883 the son of John William and Nancy Joy Walker nee Thurmand who had married on the 27th October 1883 at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. He was baptised at the same church on the 13th May 1894 when his parents were living in Soothill and his father was a joiner. In 1891 the family was living in Soothill Lane, Batley and West Ardsley born John William was working as a joiner whilst Nancy was a weaver.

Before 1901 and the birth of Eva Mary in April 1899 the family moved to live in Rouse Mill Lane, Batley. James was working as a rag warehouseman. Before 1907 John William was working on his own account as a joiner and Nancy as a weaver and they were living at 123, High Street, Hanging Heaton.

James William married Ella Archer on the 14th September 1907 at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. She was living at Station Road, Batley and her father Tingley Archer was an herbalist.

In 1911 the couple were living at 27A, Primrose Hill, Batley with their son Reginald Tingley Walker born 1910 and James was employed as a foreman in a rag warehouse for a mungo manufacturer.

Service Details

James William enlisted at Leeds but the date is not known. In 1917 his Division fought at: -

The First Battle of the Scarpe (9-14 April).
The Second Battle of the Scarpe (23-24 April), the capture of Roeux (13-14 May) and the First Battle of Passchendaele (12th October).

James William would have been killed in action leading up to this last battle.

He was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal and is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group