Edward “Eddie” Whitworth





Rank: - Private

Number: - 43631

Regiment: - West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales’s Own) 17th Battalion

Killed in Action: - 08-Mar-1917 Age: 22 years

Memorial: - Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France Pier and Face 2 A and 2 C and 2 D

Batley Reporter, 3 Mar 1917 (photo). Dewsbury Reporter, 24 Mar 1917, 31 Mar 1917 (photo)

Family Details

Edward was born in Dewsbury on the 4th August 1894 **t**he son of Samuel Medley Whitworth and Mabel Whitworth (nee Wilcock, m. 1893, Thornhill Lees, Holy Innocents). He was baptised at Thornhill Lees on the 31st August 1894 when his father gave his occupation as a restaurant keeper.

Stanley was born in 1897 and in 1901 the family was living at 37, Leeds Road, Dewsbury with a boarder Joseph Kitchen who was a newspaper manager/ author and Samuel was a newsagent. Jack was born in 1903 but sadly died shortly after his birth, Olga was born in 1906. Edward attended Batley Grammar School in the spring of 1909 as a thirteen-year-old and later attended Worksop College, which was situated near the Duke of Portland's estate.

Before 1911 the family had moved to a seven roomed house Hulton House, Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury. Samuel was a wholesale newsagent and Edward had left school and was working as a domestic gardener. This may have been a temporary job because newspaper reports state that after leaving school he joined his father in the business which was run from Wellington Road, Dewsbury where he made many friends. To these friends he was known as "Eddie".

Service Details

Edward joined the army in December 1915 and on the 28th August 1916, he went into the trenches for the first time. He had not been in the front line 10 minutes when he was wounded and was in hospital for 4 months.

On February 27th 1917 he went back into the trenches and according to official intimation was killed on the 8th March 1917. His parents received the news from the Records Office at York.

Edward was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal

He is remembered with Honour at St John the Evangelist, Dewsbury Moor; Batley Grammar School; Dewsbury War Memorial, Section No 6 and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group