Alfred Wrigley



Rank: - Ex-Private

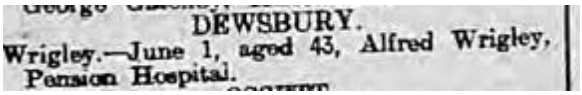
Number: - 48482

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry Depot

Died of Meningitis, at Pensions Hospital, Staincliffe: - 01/07/1919 Age: 43 **years**

Cemetery: - Batley, Yorkshire R 238

Batley News, 5 Jul 1919



DEWSBURY.

Wrigley.—June 1, aged 43, Alfred Wrigley, Pension Hospital.

Family Details

Alfred was born in Batley Carr on 14th July 1876 and baptised at All Saints Church, Dewsbury on 5th August 1883. His mother was Sarah Ann Wrigley born in Wakefield in 1854 and died in 1940. He was an only child.

On the 1881 Census he and his mother are living with the family of his grandparents John and Mary Wrigley at Albert Street, Batley, in 1891 at 60, Victoria Street, Batley Carr, in 1901 at 8, Albert Street, in 1911 Sarah Ann is living with her sister Alice at 8, Victoria Street, Batley Carr.

In 1891 Alfred's occupation is a Tier On; in 1901 he is a Woollen Spinner. His grandfather died in September 1898 and his grandmother in June 1906.

On the 1911 Census he is living at 26, South Woodbine Street, Flatts, Dewsbury, his occupation is given as a Layer On at a rag machine. He gives his status as having been married for 7 years with 4 children, all still living. No wife is shown, but the following three children are listed: 1) Ruby Byram Bradshaw, born at 6, Naylor Fold, Batley Carr on 12th April 1902, her mother is recorded as Melinda Bradshaw with no father named: 2) Mary Alice Wrigley, born at 3, Amy Street, Dewsbury on 30th April 1904; Alfred is named as the father and Melinda Wrigley, nee Byram as the mother: 3) Richard Wrigley, born at 3, Amy Street on 8th September 1906; Alfred and Melinda are again named as the parents, Richard died on 26th November 1912 at 87, Lister Hill, Dewsbury from acute gastro-enteritis and exhaustion; Alfred was the informant.

There is no record of a marriage of Alfred Wrigley to a Melinda Byram or Bradshaw. Melinda was born in Huddersfield on 6th November 1880. On 14th May1900 Melinda was married to a William Henry Bradshaw at Wakefield Parish Church, but on the 1901 census taken on 31st March they are both recorded as single and living with their parents and family. Melinda Bradshaw is recorded on the 1939 Register as a housekeeper to a widower, Rouse Robinson at Eastmoor, Wakefield; they were married in the 4th Quarter of 1944. Rouse died in 1944 and Melinda in 1971 aged 90.

Service Details

Alfred enlisted at Wakefield on 14th September 1916 stating that he was single, giving his mother as next-of-kin and his address as 87, Lister Hill, West Town,

Dewsbury. He served as Private 48481 in the 2nd/4th Battalion Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry rejoining from the "B" Reserve; he had originally attested on 11th December 1915 with the Service Number 6225. On 25th May 1917 he was serving in the Salonika campaign when he was received severe shrapnel wounds to his right leg and was admitted to the 28th General Hospital with a badly fractured big toe and extensive lacerations to the muscles and tendons of his calf and a fractured tibia. He later contacted Malaria and was discharged in February 1918 as he was deemed to be no longer physically fit for service and was awarded a pension of 27s.6d. per week. On June 26th 1919 he was admitted to Staincliffe Hospital suffering from meningitis and was attended to by Lieutenant Colonel James Russell MD but his condition worsened and he died on 1st July 1919. His address at this time was 1, Trinity Street, Batley Carr. He was buried in Batley Cemetery.

Alfred was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Alfred is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Batley War Memorial.

Thanks to Dewsbury Sacrifices

