

Pte. Ernest TEALE (1883 – 1914)

(Royal Scots - Lothian Regiment)



Ernest Teale was born on the 19th of December 1883 to Robert Parker Teale and Harriet Ann (nee Stubley). His parents had married at Dewsbury Parish Church in 1881.

The 1911 Census shows the family living at Brownhill Cottage, Soothill Lane. Robert Parker Teale is a rag salesman at G. and J. Stubley's mill. There were seven children in the family; Frederick (b.1882), Ernest (b.1883), Robert Percival (1885), Alexander Morgan (1886), Thomas Stubley (1889), Miriam (1901) and Kathleen (1904). Ernest and Alexander also worked at Stubley's Mill. All five brothers served in the First World War.

In 1903, aged 20, Ernest enlisted in Leeds and joined the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment). He is described as 5 ft 5 1/2 inches tall, 134 lbs in weight with a fresh complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. He gives his Religion as Wesleyan. He served time in India between 1903 and 1906.

On the 15th July 1911 Ernest was no longer in the Army and he married Emma Storr at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. He was 27 years old, she was 30 and they set up home at 42 East Bath Street, Batley.

At the outbreak of WW1 Ernest, as a Reservist, was re-called to duty and disembarked on the 11th August, 1914. He was unofficially reported missing after the retreat from Mons in late August. No one saw him fall in battle and it was not known for months if he was injured or taken prisoner, but his official date of death is given as 24th November 1914.

Emma never re-married and died in 1921 in Spilsby, Lincolnshire of pernicious anaemia (insufficient red blood cells due to lack of Vitamin B12).

Ernest Teale 8518 "B" Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots is Remembered with Honour at the Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines - Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium.

His name appears on several Rolls of Honour in the area including Soothill Upper, St Luke's and Soothill Congregational.

Researcher

Susan White, Batley History Group, July 2014