

Patrick Kelly 1886 – 1917

Patrick was born in Dewsbury on 17th March 1886. His father was Michael Kelly, a bricklayer's labourer born in Dewsbury in 1864 and who died in 1897. His mother was Elizabeth (nee Summersgill) born in Malton, Yorkshire in 1862. They were married on 6th July 1885 at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Westtown.

Their other children were; Jane, born in 1888 and died in 1888, Ellen, born in 1889 and died in 1890, Catherine, born in 1891, Thomas, born in 1893 and died in 1895, Terence, born in 1895 and Michael Joseph, born in 1897 and died in 1905.

Elizabeth had a son, John Summersgill, born in 1884.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 10, Back New Street, Dawgreen, in 1901 at 18, Junction Road, Westtown. In 1911 they lived at 11, Middle Road, Westtown; John is recorded as the head and sadly, Elizabeth is an inmate of the Dewsbury Union Workhouse but when Patrick's obituary was published in the local press on the 2^{nd} and 9^{th} of June 1917, her address is given as 11, Middle Road.

Patrick was a single man who was educated at St. Paulinus RC School and attended the Church. He worked at Kilner Brothers Glass Bottle Works in Thornhill Lees and was a member of the Dewsbury Irish National Club.

He was in the Militia for some time prior to the outbreak of War and enlisted in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in August 1915 but being anxious for overseas service he transferred into the 4th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers with the Service Number 202138 rising to the rank of Corporal; for a time he was an Acting Lance-Serjeant. After some 13 months of service the strain of trench warfare and severe weather conditions told upon him and he was hospitalised and diagnosed with Phthisis (Tuberculosis) He was transferred to Croydon Hospital, Surrey where his condition deteriorated and he died on 28th May 1917 from Bronchial Pneumonia/Tuberculosis. He was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery with a full guard of honour recruited from wounded soldiers in Staincliffe Hospital. Patrick was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Patrick 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 War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury.



