



## **Leonard Henry Batley**

### **1897 - 1917**

Leonard was born in Earlsheaton on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1897 and baptised in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1903. His father was Arthur Woffinden Batley, an Assurance Agent born in Leeds in 1866 and died in 1952. His mother was Annie (nee Spink) born in Leeds in 1865 and died in 1946. They were married on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1886 at St. Martin's Church, Potternewton, Leeds.

Their other children were; Dora Ruth, born in 1886, Charlotte Hilda, born in 1889, Clifford Woffinden, born in 1891, Wilfred Arthur, born in 1895, Elsie Annie, born in 1900, Alwyne Edward, born in 1902, Phyllis Marie, born in 1905, Leslie, born in 1907 and Millicent, born in 1911.

On the 1901 Census the family were living at Station Road, Earlsheaton, in 1911 at 5, Westfield, Syke Lane, Earlsheaton and later at 19 Leamington Terrace, Savile Town, Dewsbury.

Leonard was a single man and in 1911 he was working as a Telegraph Messenger for the G.P.O. Prior to enlistment he was a Porter employed at the Dewsbury branch of the London and North Western Railway.

He enlisted in Dewsbury into the 2<sup>nd</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> Yorkshire Dragoons in May 1917 as Private 30060 and was later transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 36819. He was sent to the Western Front in August 1917 and was killed in action during the Battle of Poelcapelle which was part of the Battle of Passchendaele on 9<sup>th</sup> October 1917. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, West Vlaanderen, Belgium. Leonard was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Tyne Cot Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery and commemorates nearly 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom and New Zealand who died in the Ypres Salient after 16<sup>th</sup> August 1917 and whose graves are not known. The memorial stands close to the farthest point in Belgium reached by Commonwealth forces in the First World War until the final advance to victory.

Leonard is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the War Memorial in the now demolished St. Mary's Church, Savile Town now relocated to Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of

Private

**Leonard Henry Batley**

36819, 1st/5th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 09 October 1917

Remembered with Honour

**Tyne Cot Memorial**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

BATLEY L.H.