



Percy Scolah

1896-1923

Percy was born in Dewsbury on 18th July 1896. His father was Arthur Scolah, a coal miner born in Dewsbury in 1862 and died in 1946. His mother was Agnes (nee Thorpe, formerly Beaumont) born in Ecclesfield near Sheffield in 1859 and died in 1934. They were married on 2nd June 1883 at Dewsbury All Saints Church.

Their other children were; John William, born in 1884, James Arthur, born in 1891 and died in 1891, Arthur, born in 1894, Miriam, born in 1898 and died in 1925.

Agnes was previously married to Adam Beaumont in Huddersfield in 1878; he died in 1882 aged 25. They had a son, John Thomas born in 1879 and died in 1881.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 53, Norfolk Street, Batley and in 1911 at 21, Halliley Street, Dewsbury where Percy's occupation was shown as a Piecer in a woollen mill.

Percy was married in Wakefield in 1921 to Leah Alberta Shelborn (born in Grantham, Lincolnshire in 1896 and died in 1959) they had no children. Leah was remarried to a widower, Stanley Mullineaux in 1931.

He enlisted on 31st December 1915 into the 9th Royal Army Medical Corps serving as Private 106948, despite already suffering from a "Runny Ear". He served on the Western Front from 22nd October 1917 to 21st March 1918. His ear condition deteriorated and he was diagnosed with deafness and double Otitis Media, a chronic infection of the middle ear cavity; he was discharged on 26th March 1919 being issued with the Silver War Badge number 213308. Percy was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He died on 13th October 1923 at the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Beckett Park, Leeds from 1) Otitis Media, 2) Abscess of the Brain connected to the Middle Ear and 3) Meningitis. His occupation was given as a Labour Exchange Clerk and his home address was 50, Lowfold Terrace, Westgate End, Wakefield. He is buried in Wakefield Cemetery.

Percy is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

He is one of six men named on the above who are not recorded as official war casualties due to their date of death being after the official Commonwealth War Graves Commission cut-off date of 31st August 1921.