

James Arthur Clegg 1869-1921

James Arthur was born in Batley Carr, Dewsbury in 1869. His father was James Oakes Clegg, born in Batley Carr in 1843 and died in 1902. His mother was Emma (nee) Monkman, born in Doncaster in 1846 and died in 1881. They were married in Castleford in 1865.

Their other children were; Kate, born in 1866, Walter, born in 1870 and died in 1889, Eliza, born in 1873 and Mary Ann, born in 1875.

In 1881 the family were living at Back Dale Street, Batley Carr and in 1891 at 23, Wood Hill, Dewsbury.

James Oakes Clegg was remarried in 1890 to Agnes Murphy (born in 1868 and died in 1947), they had four children; Walter, born in 1891 and was killed in action 4th October 1915, Lena, born in 1893, Newman Edward, born in 1894 and served in World War 1 and Herbert Oakes, born in 1896 and was killed in action 25th September 1916. On the 1911 Census Agnes is living with her children at 16, South Woodbine Street, Flatts, Dewsbury.

James Arthur was educated at Warwick Road Council School and was later employed as a House Painter; he was married to Jane Blackburn (born in Gorton, Manchester in 1866 and died in 1947) in Dewsbury in 1891. They had six children; William Blackburn, born in 1892 and lived to the age of 103, Gilbert Ernest, born in 1894 and died in 1905, Harold James, born in 1896 and died in 1902, Vernon Blackburn, born in 1899, Florence (Florrie), born in 1902 and Rene, born in 1908. On the 1911 and 1921 Census Records they were living at 6, Aldams Road, Dewsbury.

He enlisted at the outbreak of war, having been a volunteer with the Dewsbury Detachment of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry since he was 16. He served as Private 2597 and later as Private 200568 in the 1st/4th Battalion and was sent to the Western Front on 13th April 1915; on 13th October 1917 he was deemed unfit for further service and was issued with a war pension and Silver War Badge 322985 and returned home. He died at his home at 6, Aldams Road from Chronic Nephritis on 24th May 1921 and was buried in Dewsbury Cemetery. James Arthur was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

James Arthur 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 Plaque to the Old Boys of Warwick Road Council School.

In Memory of

Private

James Arthur Clegg

200568, 1st/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 24 May 1921 Age 51

Son of the late James Oakes Clegg and Emma Clegg; husband of Jane Clegg, of 6, Aldams Rd., Dewsbury. Born at Batley Carr.

Remembered with Honour Dewsbury Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

