

Clifford Bruce M.M.



Rank:-Private

Number: - 40746

Regiment: - Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) (Formerly 18110 King's Own Scottish Borderers) 9th Battalion

Died of wounds: - 28/12/1918 at London General Hospital, RAMC Denmark Hill, London. He had been shot in the head whilst trying to rescue his C.O.
Age: 28 years

Cemetery:-Batley, Yorkshire C 296

**“HE LAID HIS RICHEST GIFT HIS LIFE ON THE ALTAR OF
SACRIFICE”**

Batley News, 11 Jan 1919 (photo) Dewsbury District News, 11 Jan 1919 (photo).

Family Details

Clifford was born in Batley on the 18th September 1890 the son of Arthur and Martha Ellen Bruce nee Horkings who had married on the 17th July 1888 at Batley All Saints Church. In 1891 the family with his elder brother Edgar born 1888 was living at 5, Healey Lane, Batley and his Batley born father was a cloth finisher.

He was baptised at Christ Church, Staincliffe on the 2nd October 1898 on the same day as his sibling Wilfred born 1895.

Before 1901 with an increasing family they moved to live at 75, Healey Lane, Batley and again to 10, Warwick Mount, Batley before 1911. His siblings were Edgar 1888, Ethel Stella 1893, Wilfred 1895, Sarah Emma 1898, Joseph Batty 1900, Edmund Arthur 1903, Ivy 1905, Ida May 1907. His brother Edgar was a soldier serving in India when the 1911 census was taken.



Clifford attended Staincliffe Church schools and Staincliffe and Batley Parish Churches.

He married Eliza Ann Stone in 1914 and Clifford Alfred was born on the 17th November 1916.

Before enlisting in January 1915 he worked at White Lee Colliery.

Service Details

Clifford enlisted in January 1915 and was sent to the Dardanelles sailing from Liverpool on 24 May 1915 for service at Gallipoli landing in June 1915. One of the darkest days of the Scottish Borderers took place on the 12th July 1915 on the Gallipoli Peninsular when they tried to break through to Helles. Clifford was

wounded after being here for four months and returned to England and upon recovery was sent to France where he was twice gassed.

His battalion fought at the Advance in Flanders in which the Division captured the Outtersteene Ridge and the Final Advance in Flanders in which the Division fought in the Battle of Courtrai 14th -19th October.

On 20th October 1918 he was severely wounded and arrived in England four days later.

Clifford was awarded the Military Medal, the 1915 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Staincliffe Church of England School and Birstall War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group