

Ronald Woodcock



Rank: - Private

Number: - 3317842

Regiment:-Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment) 10th Battalion

Died:-25th April 1941 aged 22 years

Cemetery: - Batley, Yorkshire T 351

“SAFE IN THE ARMS OF JESUS SWEETLY HIS SOUL IS RESTING. TILL WE MEET AGAIN”

Family Details

Ronald was born in 1919 the youngest son of David born 5/6/1869 a cloth scourer, and Margaret Hannah (nee Muir) born 17/8/81 who lived at 59, Dennison Street , Batley in 1939.

David who was born in Heckmondwike married Lucy Ann Clegg in February 1903 but she died later the same year. He married Margaret Hannah Muir at Dewsbury Parish Church on 5th August 1906.

William was born in 1907 followed by Harriett 1909, Florence Ellen 1910, Hannah Emma 1913, David Muir 7/2/1915 and Ronald.

In 1911 the family was living in a three roomed house at 59, Dennison Street, Batley and David was a cloth fuller (manufacturer).

Ronald attended Purlwell Council School and was after leaving school employed by Messrs. S. Clark & Sons Ltd. iron founders, Union Street, Batley and later by Messrs. J. Stross Ltd. Queen Street Mills, Batley. He had always been associated with St. Andrew's Church and in his younger days he was a member of the church choir, he was also a popular member of the Purlwell Juniors football team and a keen cyclist.

Service Details

Ronald enlisted into the 10th Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry. A telegram arrived at his parents' home stating that he "had been killed in a motor-cycle accident."

Later information revealed that Ronald had been engaged in dispatch riding and it was whilst carrying a dispatch that he collided with a motor trolley bus the property of Ipswich 'Bus Corporation and was killed instantaneously.

A letter of sympathy was received by Mr. & Mrs. Woodcock from the major who said:-

"He was our best dispatch rider and we shall find it very hard to replace him. He was much liked by everyone in the regiment and carried out his duties loyally and cheerfully. The Coroner of the Court and the Ipswich 'Bus Corporation wishes me to convey to you their deepest sympathy."

The internment took place at Batley Cemetery on Wednesday April preceded by a service at St. Andrew's Church conducted by Rev. A.R. Howell who also officiated at the grave side.

Members of the local R.A.S.C. unit formed an escort and bore the coffin, which was draped with the Union Jack, shoulder high into the church. The coffin was borne to the graveside by friends of Pte. Woodcock, serving with the Army, who were home on leave.

Private mourners were:- Mr.& Mrs. David Woodcock(father and mother), Mr. David Woodcock (brother) Mr.& Mrs. W, Woodcock, Mr.& Mrs. E. Williams, Mr.& Mrs. C. Foster, Mrs. Ada Lodge, Mr.& Mrs. M. Woodcock and Mr. G. Lodge(uncles and aunts), Mr.& Mrs. M. Woodcock, Mrs. J.E. Duke, Mrs. W. Howell, Mrs. H. Woodcock and Mr. Lodge (cousins), Mr.& Mrs. L. Brown , Pte. E. Brown, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. B. Briggs, and Miss J. Briggs.

Others present included Sergeant & Mrs. Lawson, Sergeant & Mrs. Burrows, Mr. & Mrs. L. Pickles, Messrs. L. Gath, J. Gath, J. Brooksbank, J. Beaumont, Carter Wood (Batley Trades and Friendly Club), W. Auty, H. Gibson, Sergt. Wilson, K.O.Y.L.I., Driver D. Featherstone, H.L.I. and Pte. H. Wood, Scottish Fusiliers, Mesdames J. Bailey, Heywood, S. Wilson, Gibson, Metcalfe, Brook, Bruce, and Miss N. Howley. Representing Messrs. Jack Stross Ltd. Misses K. Halleron, S. Hobson and Wilby.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group