

Samuel Bolshaw

12 Middlewich Road, Holmes Chapel

Killed in Action 28th October 1914

The Bolshaw family were living in both halves of these semi detached houses in 1911



His Story

Son of Samuel and Marianne Bolshaw, Samuel was born in 1881. In 1891 he was living in Middlewich Road with his uncle John E Bolshaw. By 1901 he had moved to Sandbach to Welles Street and was working as an assistant butcher. In 1911 he was 30 years old, single and still living at the same address. The Bolshaw family, which gave him his connection with Holmes Chapel, were still living in Holmes Chapel but at a different house to the one Samuel was brought up in.

His War Record

Samuel must have enlisted at the beginning of the war or even before the start. He was reported to be a Private in the 1st Battalion of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps

In December 1914 the Parish Magazine reported that he was killed in action in Belgium on Oct 28th 1914 aged 33. Curiously there is a report in August 1915 that S Bolshaw "had not been heard of for a very long time". However, there is no record of another S Bolshaw.

There is no known grave – his name is recorded on an Addenda Panel at the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres. The Menin Gate is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient.

The Salient was formed during the First Battle of Ypres in October and November 1914, when a small British Expeditionary Force succeeded in securing the town before the onset of winter, pushing the German forces back to the Passchendaele Ridge.

He received the 1914/15 Star, the Victory Medal and the British War Medal