

James (Jimmy) Rowan

(1898 - 1987)



(30)

War History

There is no service record for Jimmy, and unfortunately, he did not show us his cap badge in the picture. What we can tell from his uniform is that it is of early issue, so he clearly joined up as soon as he could. At the end of 1914 he would have been 16. Recruits were supposed to be 18 years of age, although many were younger. Did he lie about his age?

Family History^(2,36)

No Jimmy Rowan appears on the 1911 census living in Edgworth or Turton. The only possible candidate is James Rowan, living with his family in Astley Bridge, Bolton.

In 1891 the father, James, was living with his family in Sheffield and working in the cutlery trade. He married Sarah Ann Price in Chorley in 1895⁽³⁶⁾ and by 1901 he and Sarah were living at 14 Arundel, Street, Bolton. By 1911 they had moved to 36 Broad o'th Lane, Astley Bridge, Bolton.

1911 Census⁽²⁾

James Rowan	41	Steam Crane Driver	b: Castlebar, Co. Mayo
Sarah Ann Rowan	38		b: Sheffield
Mary Rowan	14	Frame Doffer	b: Pately Bridge
James Rowan	12	School part time in Woollen mill	b: Chorley
Annie Rowan	10	School	b: Astley Bridge, Bolton
Janey Rowan	9	"	" "
John Rowan	7		
Catherine Rowan	2		

One child had died.

James (Jimmy) Rowan was born in Chorley in Q3 of 1898⁽³⁾ and married Marion Hayward in Q1 1924⁽³⁶⁾ It would seem they had one child, Mary, who was born in Q4 1924.⁽³⁶⁾

In 1939 he is shown as living in Turton with his wife Marion and with one other person in the household, presumably Mary, who would have been 15.⁽³⁶⁾ The England and Wales Death Index records the death of James Rowan, born 17th September 1898, in Blackburn.⁽³⁾

Research: Derek Ramsden

Standard References: 1, 3, 30, 36