

Pte George Cowley



HEANOR OBSERVER 6th APRIL 1916 CODNOR SOLDIER DEATH

Codnor has cause to be proud of her sons who are fighting to uphold the honour and righteousness of Britain in the great conflict. Amongst her gallant soldiers who have done their duty bravely and whose death we regret to have to record, is Pte G. Cowley of West Hill Codnor. Who was killed in the trenches in France last week the following letter received by deceased wife conveyed the sad tidings

March 23rd

Dear Mrs Cowley

I very much regret that I have to write to you upon a subject, which I know will cause you severe pain. I am extremely sorry that it falls to my lot to tell you of the death of your husband Pte G Cowley. Whilst fighting for the honour of his country. He was on duty in the fire trench this morning when he was hit by a German sniper. The bullet passed through his head, causing almost instantaneous death, so that he did not suffer any pain. I assure you that in your terrible bereavement you have our sincere and heartfelt sympathy. In conclusion, let commend you to our heaven father, who ready at all times to give us the comfort that such a case as yours may need
again assuring you of his comrades sincere sympathy,

I remain yours very sincerely

H .S. Wright
Sergeant 5th Sherwood Foresters.

Pte George Cowley, who was in the 9th platoon "C" Company Sherwood Foresters, was 26 years of age. He was the second son of Mr W. Cowley of 8 Blooms Grove Rd Ilkeston. He was employed at the Butterley Co's Ormonde colliery. He enlisted as drummer in the band of the 5th Sherwood Foresters in March 1915 and after being in training in Derby until October 1915 was sent to France.

His wife received a letter a few days before he was killed in which he said he was then out of the trenches for a rest, but expected returning that night for six days.

The next news she received was the official letter telling her he had been killed while in the trenches.

His elder brother William Cowley is also serving King and Country.

Many Thanks To Gill Hall For The Above Information