WILSON, HAROLD  201732  Private  10th Battalion  112th Brigade  37th Division

THE LOYAL NORTH LANCASHIRE REGIMENT

Born Leyland  Enlisted Preston  Living Leyland

Killed in Action  France / Flanders  22nd July 1917


Chorley Guardian and Leyland Hundred Advertiser  Sat. 11th August 1917

Mr Wilson, 6 Heaton Street, Leyland has had official intimation of the death in action on July 23rd (sic), 1917 of his son Pte Harold Wilson, Loyal North Lancs. Regiment. He was 19 years of age and employed at the Bleachworks.

His officer, Lt. J. Plant writing to the lad’s parents says: ‘I very greatly regret to inform you that your son, Pte H. Wilson, was killed by a shell. He was a very good soldier and I am extremely sorry to lose him. He died like a man doing his best for his country. His death was instantaneous and he was buried behind the lines, his grave being marked by a cross with his name on.’ (A photo is in this issue, and a similar report is in the Preston Guardian of the same date, also with photo).

Leyland St. Andrew’s Parish Magazine  September 1917

We have again sad losses to record, of three Leyland men killed in action: Roland Valentine, Frank Butcher and:- ‘Harold Wilson, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, July 23rd, 1917.’

Harold Wilson’s name is on the following local memorials:-

War Memorial, Church Road, Leyland
Mural Plaque in St. Andrew’s Leyland

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Harold Wilson is buried in the:-

TORREKEN FARM CEMETERY NO. 1, WIJTSCHATE, BELGIUM

Grave Ref: Row B  Grave 7.  Age 19, son of John and Jane Wilson of 6 Heaton Street, Leyland.

Torreken Farm Cemetery No. 1 is located 7.5 km south of Ieper town centre, on the Groenestraat, a road leading from the Rijsselseweg N365, connecting Ieper to Armentières. From Ieper town centre the Rijsselsestraat runs from the market square, through the Lille Gate (Rijselpoort) and directly over the crossroads with the Ieper ring road. The road name then changes to the Rijsselseweg. Just beyond the village of Wijtschate, Groenestraat is located by turning left from the N365.

C.W.G.C. continued:-
The Cemetery itself is located 200 metres along the Groenestraat on the left hand side of the road. Visitors to this site should note a 200 metre grassed access path which is not suitable for vehicles.

**Note:** Capt. E. A. James’s ‘Records’ show no major engagement at the time of Harold Wilson’s death on July 22nd, 1917. The 10th Battalion, however, was heavily involved in the battles which later became known as ‘3rd Yprès’ which started ten days later.

*Wilson, Harold.*

*W. E. Waring* 2003