

Edmund Smith (1908 – 1937)



Edmund Smith (1908 – 1937) was born in October 1908 in Clay Cross. His parents were Abraham Smith (1884 -) and Annie Shaw (1885 – 1916). Both parents came from Clay Cross. On the 1911 Census Edmund was living with his parents and two siblings on Waterloo Street in Clay Cross.

At the time of the accident Edmund was living at 33 South Crescent, Duckmanton and was employed as a stallman. He had worked at Markham Colliery since leaving school at the age of 14.

The funeral took place at Staveley cemetery.

The Derbyshire Times (29.01.1937) reported on the funeral, which took place on Tuesday 26th January 1937.

Edmund Smith (29) 33 South Crescent, Duckmanton, was secretary to the Markham Colliery F.C. for the last two years, and played for them. He was married and leaves two small sons, who were playing with their toys when our reporter called at the house on Friday morning. When she heard of the accident. Mrs Smith rose from her sick bed and went to the pit-head alone and waited for several hours for news of her husband. She was suffering from pneumonia and when finally persuaded to go home by friends was in a state of collapse and a doctor was called.

Smith was born at Clay Cross and had lived in Duckmanton for ten years. He had worked at the same pit since he was 14.

Mrs Smith had made good progress from her illness, our reported was told on Tuesday. We were informed by a relative that Mrs Smith had been terribly upset by a letter she had received on Tuesday morning, the morning of the funeral from a person in London asking for photographs of herself with a view to marriage. Mrs Smith, we were informed, intended

forwarding the letter to the proper quarter, namely the police. The funeral took place at Staveley, the Rev H.H. Dibben officiating.

Parents

Father – Abraham Smith (1884 -)

Abraham Smith (1884 -) was born in July 1884 in Clay Cross. His parents were Samuel Smith (1859 – 1925) and Sarah Ann Martin (1858 - 1900). On the 1891 Census, Abraham, age 6, was living with his parents and six siblings. He was attending a local school. His father was a coal miner. Samuel Martin, the brother of his mother was also living with them. He was employed as a furnace man. On the 1901 Census, Abraham was 16 years old and employed as a coal miner. His mother had died in December 1900, leaving his father a widower on the Census. The address was 130 High Street, Clay Cross. The following year Abraham married Annie Shaw (1885 – 1916) in Clay Cross. Between 1906 and 1910 they had three children, Edmund being their second child. On the 1911 Census, they are living on Waterloo Street in Clay Cross. Abraham is difficult to find after 1911, but he did attend the funeral of Edmund. He appears to have remarried since on the funeral report in the Derbyshire Times, mentions a step mother.

Mother – Annie Shaw (1885 – 1916)

Annie Shaw (1885 – 1916) was born in Clay Cross in 1885. Her parents were Francis Shaw (1838 – 1886) and Emma Brimlow (1843 – 1905). Her father came from Wensley, near Matlock and her mother was from Heage, which is close to Ripley. Her parents had married in 1863. They had nine children between 1865 and 1885. Annie was their last child. Her father died in 1886 one year after her birth. On the 1891 Census, Annie, aged six, was living with her widowed mother at 183 High Street in Clay Cross. Five older siblings were also living at the same address. Annie married Abraham in 1903. Annie, aged 31, died in 1916.

Wife – Phyliss Edith Ashmore (1907 – 1966)

Phyliss Edith Ashmore (1907 – 1966) was born on 13th January 1907 in Staveley. Her parents were James Ashmore (1884 – 1938) and Gertrude Louisa Pickering (1885 – 1952). Her father was from Leicestershire and her mother came from Clay Cross. They had married in 1906 in Staveley. Phyliss Edith was their first child. On the 1911 Census, Phyliss Edith is living with her parents and younger brother at 10 Prospect Place in Staveley. Interestingly, although her birth and baptism took place in Staveley, the Census form records her as being born in Wolverhampton. In 1928 Phyliss Edith married Edmund in Chesterfield. They had two boys, Abraham Edward and Samuel Henry. On the 1939 Register, Phyliss Edith was still living at 33 South Crescent, Duckmanton. Also living there was her widowed mother and younger siblings. In 1941 Phyliss Edith, aged 34, married Douglas Richard Pembleton in Chesterfield. Phyliss Edith died in 1966 at the age of 62.