## Lance Sergeant James Sadler



South Staffordshire Regiment 1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> (TF) Battalion

Killed in Action at Gommecourt Wood 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 Age 30

Next of Kin: Husband of Louie Maria Sadler, 14 Inhedge, Upper Gornal, Staffs.

Born: Oct/Nov/Dec Quarter 1885, Sedgley. Parents: Richard & Eliza Sadler, 8 Mill Bank Road, Sedgley. Siblings: One of 11 children. Seven survived in 1911: Sarah Ellen; William (died 1887); Richard; Joseph; Susannah; Mary & Benjamin. Married: Louie Maria Nicholls

Jan/Feb/Mar Quarter 1910. Children: Ernest born 1910; James born 1912 & Lily born 1915.

Brother of Bombardier Joseph Sadler 32057 War Memorial All Saints' Church, Sedgley.

Occupation: 1901 Foundry Hand. 1911 White Stone Miner (Loader).

Commemorated: Thiepval Memorial, France. Reference: Pier & Face 7B



Commemorated Locally: War Memorial All Saints' Church, Sedgley. War Memorial St Peter's Church, Upper Gornal.



Gommecourt was the site of a supplementary operation on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, aiming to draw some German reserves from the main Somme offensive and to try to eliminate a German Salient here, centred on Gommecourt Wood. The wire in front of the German trenches had not been cut by the barrage, and although a few of the 1/6<sup>th</sup> South Staffordshire's did get into the enemy's front-line trenches, they were driven back with significant losses.



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