

Norman Renshaw 1898 – 1916

Norman was born in Wakefield on 26th July 1898 and baptised at St. James with Christ Church, Thornes, Wakefield on 11th September 1898. His father was Edmund Renshaw, a Sewing Machine Mechanic born in Dewsbury in 1872 and died in 1922. His mother was Louisa (nee Kilburn) born in Batley Carr in 1872 and died in 1949. They were married on 8th February 1898 at Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr.

Their other children were; Douglas, born in 1900 and died in 1901, Denis, born in 1901 and died in 1901, Hector born in 1903, and twins Marjorie, born in 1907 and died in 1908 and Phyllis, born in 1907.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Park View, Thornes Lane, Wakefield, in 1911 at 5, Thomas Street, Beckett Road, Batley Carr, Dewsbury and later at 5, Naylor Street, Batley Carr, Batley.

Norman was a single man and worked as a warper at Mark Oldroyd's Spinkwell Mills, Dewsbury.

He must have given a false age upon enlistment in July 1915 and was sent to the Western Front in March 1916 serving as Private 25220 in the 9th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916, the First Day of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Norman was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Norman is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of Private

Norman Renshaw

25220, 9th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 17

Son of Louisa Renshaw, of 3, Pickles Field, Batley Carr, Batley, Yorks, and the late Edmund Renshaw.

Remembered with Honour Thiepval Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

RENSHAW