



Lionel Maurice Newsome

1896 – 1917

Lionel was born in Dewsbury in 1896. His father was William Arthur Newsome, born in Dewsbury in 1858 and died in 1933. His mother was Martha (nee Robinson) born in Dewsbury in 1860 and died in 1917. They were married in Dewsbury in 1880.

Their other children were; Effie, born in 1881 and died in 1882, Bertrand, born in 1882 and died in 1883, Elsie, born in 1884, Hilda, born in 1885, Annie, born in 1887 and died in 1887, Effie Rebecca, born in 1889, Cecil, born in 1891 and died in 1891, Cyril Mortimer, born in 1894 and served in World War 1, Dora Amy, born in 1898 and died in 1898 and William Denzil, born in 1904.

In 1891 they lived at 15, Clarence Place, Flatts, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 13, Purlwell Hall Road, Batley, in 1911 at 13, Mount Terrace, Warwick Road, Batley, and later at 8, Cedar Grove, Mount Street, Batley.

Lionel was educated at Purlwell and Warwick Road Schools in Batley and attended the United Methodist Church in Talbot Street. He worked as a Cloth Drawer for Messrs R. Brearley & Sons, Queen Street Mills, Batley.

He enlisted in batley in February 1917 serving as Private 205036 in the 2nd Battalion Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front in May. He was killed in action on 10th July 1917, when the enemy began a sustained bombardment of Diphosgene Gas Shells on the Belgian coast around Nieuport. According to a report in the *Dewsbury District News* on 27th October 1917, he was one of eight men who were buried when a large shell caved in the roof of a cellar they were sheltering in next to the Company Headquarters; all eight were killed and despite desperate efforts to recover their bodies it proved too dangerous to continue digging. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Nieuport Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Lionel was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Nieuport Memorial commemorates 566 Commonwealth officers and men who were killed in Allied operations on the Belgian coast during the First World War and have no known grave. Twenty of those commemorated served with the Royal Naval Division and were killed or mortally wounded during the siege of Antwerp in October 1914. Almost all of the remainder fell in heavy fighting in the region of Nieuport in the summer of 1917. The memorial is constructed of Euville limestone and stands eight metres high. It was designed by William Bryce Binnie, an Imperial War Graves Commission architect who served with The Black Watch during the war and was twice decorated for bravery. The lions standing at each point of the triangular platform were designed by Charles Sergeant Jagger, a celebrated British sculptor and decorated veteran of the Western Front. The memorial was officially unveiled by Sir George Macdonogh in July 1928

Lionel is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Batley War Memorial,

In Memory of

Private

Lionel Maurice Newsome

205036, 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 10 July 1917 Age 21

Son of William Arthur and Martha Newsome, of 8, Cedar Grove, Mount St., Batley, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Nieuport Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

NEWSOME L. M.