



John Neville

1896 - 1916

John was born in Dewsbury on 25th February 1896. His father was Michael Neville, a Coal Miner born in County Kilkenny, Ireland around 1863 and died in 1923. His mother was Mary (nee Flanagan) born in Dewsbury in 1865 and died in 1936. They were married in February 1886 at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Westtown, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Michael, born in 1887 and died in 1888, Patrick Southsfield, born in 1890, James, born in 1892, and died in 1893, Thomas Christopher, born in 1898, Mary Ellen, born in 1900 and Joseph, born in 1902. Patrick served in World War 1 and Joseph served post-war from 1919 to 1920.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 97, Middle Road, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 24, Senior Street, Dewsbury and later at 3A Swallow Road, Westtown.

John was educated at St. Paulinus School and attended Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church; he was also a member of the Catholic Boys Brigade. He worked as a Coal Miner at the Mirfield Coal Company, as did his father.

He enlisted as Private 3/1540 into the 10th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front on 5th October 1915. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916 during 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. John was awarded the 1914-15 Star, 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.

John 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 War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of
Private

John Neville

3/1540, "A" Coy. 10th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916 Age 20

Son of Michael and Mary Neville, of 3A, Swallow Rd., West Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

NEVILLE J