



## **Lionel Walshaw Ledgard**

### **1897 - 1916**

Lionel was born in Mapplewell near Barnsley in 1897. His father was Robert Ledgard, a colliery engineer born in Thornhill in 1858 and died in 1920. His mother was Rachel (née Walshaw) born in Thornhill in 1862. They were married at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1883.

Their other children were; Elizabeth, born in 1887 and died in 1888 and Annie Ethel, born in 1894.

On the 1891 Census they lived at Whitley Lower, in 1901 at Mount Pleasant, Darton near Barnsley, in 1911 at Urban Terrace, Grange Moor. Following the death of her husband, Rachel and her daughter Annie emigrated to Australia and lived in Enfield, a suburb of Sydney, New South Wales.

Lionel was a single man who worked as a colliery mechanic on the tramway underground.

He attested into the King's Own Scottish Borderers at Berwick-on-Tweed as Private 21101 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1915 and was sent to Egypt on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 1915. He transferred to the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment on 30<sup>th</sup> July 1916 serving as Private 34891 and was killed in action during the Battle of the Somme in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Lionel 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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 Memorial Pillar in St. Mary and St. Michael Church, Whitley Lower.

In Memory of

Private

## Lionel Walshaw Ledgard

34891, 9th Bn., York and Lancaster Regiment who died on 16 September 1916

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

LEDGARD L. W.