



Thomas Moore

1880 – 1916

Thomas was born in Birmingham around 1880. His father was Charles Moore according to his marriage record but his early life has not been found on the census returns and consequently little is known about his family background.

Thomas worked as a rag grinder for Messrs Wilman Brothers, Shoddy Manufacturers and was married to a widow Edith Chappell (nee Kennedy) on 24th of August 1911 at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church in Dewsbury. They had a civil marriage at the Register Office in 1910. They lived at 29, Ridgeway Street, Dewsbury. Edith Kennedy was born in Dewsbury in 1879 and died in 1943; she was married in 1902 to George Chappell sometimes spelt Chappel (born in 1879 and died in 1904) and they had a son, William, born in 1904. George died a few months after the birth of his son.

Prior to coming to Dewsbury, he had served in the Boer War and also in India. He enlisted into the 9th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 3/2658 and was sent to the Western Front on 13th October 1915 and was wounded at Ypres during that same year. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916 during the First Day of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were found in August 1919 and he was buried in Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-La Boisselle, Somme, France. Thomas was awarded the 1914-1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Gordon Dump Cemetery is 2 kilometres north-east of Albert. On 1st July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, the 8th Division attacked Ovillers and the 34th Division La Boisselle. The villages were not captured, but ground was won between them and to the south of La Boisselle. The two villages were lost during the German advance in March 1918, but they were retaken on the following 24th August by the 38th (Welsh) Division. Plot I of the Cemetery was made by fighting units after 10th July 1916 and closed in September when it contained the graves of 95 soldiers, mainly Australian. It was called variously Gordon (or Gordon's) Dump Cemetery or Sausage Valley Cemetery, from the name given to the broad, shallow valley that runs down from it to Becourt. The remainder of the cemetery was formed after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the 1916 battlefields immediately surrounding the cemetery. There are now 1,676 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 1,053 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 34 casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

Thomas is 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.

In Memory of
Private
T Moore

3/2658, 9th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 July 1916

Remembered with Honour
Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-La Boisselle



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

