

## Neville Tattersfield 1892-1918

Neville was born at 21, Chapel Fold, Batley on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1892 and baptised at Christ Church, Staincliffe, Batley on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1892. His father was Moses Lister Tattersfield, an insurance commission agent and later an agent for a soap and chemist manufacturer born in Dewsbury in 1851 and died in 1917. His mother was Louisa (nee Oates) born in Dewsbury in 1851 and died in 1914. They were married in All Saints Church, Dewsbury on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1877.

Their other children were; John Brooke, born in 1878, Harold, born in 1880 and died in 1915, Clifford, born in 1882, Sydney, born in 1884 and died in 1885, Colin Ewart, born in 1886 and died in 1887 and Louie (Louisa), born in 1889 and died in 1889.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 21, Chapel Fold, Batley, in 1901 at 4, Staincliffe Road, Dewsbury, in 1911 at Clifton House, Staincliffe Road, Dewsbury and later at "West Royd" Brunswick Street, Westborough, Dewsbury.

Neville was a single man, although he was engaged to Miss Elsie Fawcett of Battye Street, Dewsbury. He was educated at Heckmondwike Grammar School and in 1911 was an apprentice dyer for Messrs Jas. Smith & Company, Ravensthorpe, working with his brother John.

He enlisted in 1915 into the Motor Machine Gun Service Royal Artillery then the Machine Gun Corps serving as Gunner 2300, he was posted to the heavy branch and took part in the first tank battle of the war at Flers during the Battle of the Somme. In May 1917 he came home to study for a commission at Grantham, Pirbright and Wareham and on 9<sup>th</sup> November he was promoted to Second Lieutenant in the "B" Battalion of the Tank Corps. He returned to the Western Front on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1918 and took part in the Battle of Amiens on 9<sup>th</sup> August that same year in which he received gunshot wounds to his buttock and left arm, being saved from more serious injury by his hip flask which prevented deeper penetration of the bullets. He was taken to the 15<sup>th</sup> Australian Field Ambulance Station and from there to the 20<sup>th</sup> General Hospital at Camiers where he was operated on for the removal of shrapnel. Eleven days later he was evacuated to England for recuperation, staying with his brother John at 64, North Road, Ravensthorpe. Although suffering from a heavy cold he returned to the Tank Depot at Swanage, Dorset on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1918; a week later he was admitted to Wareham Military Hospital suffering from influenza where he died on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1918 from pneumonia and influenza (Spanish Flu) and was buried in Wareham Cemetery, Dorset. Neville was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Wareham Military Hospital, with 185 beds, was at Worgret Camp during the First World War. Wareham Cemetery contains 49 First World War burials.

Neville 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 Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of

Second Lieutenant

## **Neville Tattersfield**

"B" Bn., Tank Corps who died on 20 November 1918 Age 26

Son of Moses Lister Tattersfield and Louisa Tattersfield, of Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour Wareham Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

