

From the Newspaper Archives

West Cumberland at War

August 1917



LIEUT. C. G. LEWTHWAITE.

KILLED IN ACTION.

Lieutenant Charles Gilfrid Lewthwaite, M.C., who was killed in action on 29th July, 1917, aged 33, was the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewthwaite, Broadgate, Cumberland and was educated at Rugby and Trinity, Cambridge. He joined the 3rd Staffordshire Battery, North Midland Brigade, R.F.A., on the outbreak of war, went to the Front in France, February, 1915, was wounded November, 1915, mentioned in Sir John French's Dispatch on 30th November, 1915, awarded the Military Cross, June last. In reference to this the official report says:—"He showed great courage and promptness in extinguishing a fire which heavy hostile shell fire had caused to break out in and around his gun position. He also went into the open under heavy fire and rescued a wounded infantryman. His work at all times has been remarkably good."

9 August 1917. Photo: 30 August 1917

Canadian forces engaged in what we now call the Battle of Hill 70 near Lens. Extensive use of mustard gas by the Germans led to costly casualties on both sides.

Meanwhile the initial phase of the Third Battle of Ypres began to be played out.

AN ESKDALE SOLDIER KILLED.

Information was received in Eskdale on Saturday last of the death in action of Gunner W. Mitchell, of the Royal Garrison Artillery. His officer states that he was killed on the 21st of August. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Mitchell, of Mite View, Eskdale, and was a single man, 27 years of age.

30 August 1917

ANOTHER WHITEHAVEN SOLDIER SECURES A COMMISSION.

Private John C. Brewster, of the "Pals," the Border Regiment, has been gazetted Second-Lieutenant. Lieut. Brewster is a son of Mrs. Brewster and the late Capt. John Brewster, of Whitehaven, and has seen much active service with his regiment in France, and was selected for a commission.

2 August 1917

AN ARLECDON MAN WOUNDED.

Private Joseph (Josh) Dixon, second son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Dixon, Toot Hill, Arlecdon, was reported dangerously ill in July, and is now reported seriously wounded.

23 August 1917

CLEATOR MOOR SOLDIER REPORTED KILLED.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sunderland, butcher, Birks Road, Cleator Moor, received news on Saturday morning that their son, Lance-Corpl. R. C. Sunderland, must be assumed as dead. He has been missing since August 27th, 1916. Hopes had been entertained that he might be alive, but now with official news of his death all these are shattered.

16 August 1917

MOOR ROW MAN KILLED.

HENRY WALKER, 25TH BATT, CANADIAN.

News has just been received by Mr. John Walker, of John Street, Moor Row, of the death of his son Henry, reported missing on 9th April last, now reported killed in action same date. The deceased was born 21st January, 1889, served his apprenticeship with Mr. Nicholson, joiner and cabinet maker, Egremont.

2 August 1917

DIED THROUGH ACTION OF ENEMY SUBMARINE.

MUSGRAVE.—On the high seas, July 15th, through the action of an enemy submarine, while serving as apprentice on the steamship "Maristoun," of Glasgow, John, the dearly loved and only son of J. and F. Musgrave, York House, Selby Terrace, Maryport, aged 17 years.

16 August 1917

OUR "MISSING."

METHOD OF TRACING THEM. EXPLAINED.

It will interest those who have relations who are prisoners of war in Germany, or missing and presumed prisoners there, and from whom they have not heard for some time, that information relative to these is collected where possible by the Department of the German Unions of the Red Cross for the care of Prisoners, at Berlin, through the medium of the Geneva Red Cross Society. This latter Society transmits the enquirer's letter to Berlin, receives the German reply, and passes it on to the person making the enquiry in this country.

30 August 1917

CLEATOR MOOR SOLDIER MISSING.

Private Douglas Hastings Tembey, son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Tembey, of Montreal Street, Cleator Moor, is reported missing in France since June 7th. Private Tembey, who was 24 years old, emigrated to Australia five years ago, and at the outbreak of war he enlisted in the Australian Forces, and in due course came to England. He was last seen at Messines on the 7th June, wounded and on his way to the dressing station. Since then nothing has been heard of him. His parents received a communication from one of his pals stating that he had come across a letter which Private Tembey had written and addressed for home, but which he had never posted.

16 August 1917

AN EGREMONT SOLDIER MISSING.

The parents of Lance-Corporal James Dunn, of North Road, Egremont, have received word that their son is missing since the 10th day of July. The news came as a great shock to his parents, for he used to write every week up till about a month ago. Lance-Corporal Dunn was a fine young man, and prior to his enlistment in April, 1916, was employed by Messrs T. & J. Sewell, as a carter. Lance-Corporal Dunn has another brother in France, but unfortunately they had never met out there.

23 August 1917

THE LATE PRIVATE J. R. TYSON, GOSFORTH.

The sad intelligence has been received at Gosforth of the death of Private John Robinson Tyson, of the Queen's West Surreys, and only son of the late Captain and Mrs. Tyson, of Gosforth, and of Mrs. Bird of London.

30 August 1917

PRIVATE THOMAS TUBMAN KILLED IN ACTION.

A WELL-KNOWN WHITEHAVEN DANCER.

Mrs. Tubman, of 14, Charles Street, Whitehaven, has received official word that her husband, Private Thomas Tubman, of the Royal Fusiliers, had been killed in action on the 12th July, 1917. Her son, Pte. J. Tubman, who is in the Borders, was wounded on the 24th April this year, and admitted into the Rouen Hospital on the 25th. The father and son enlisted at the beginning of the war, the former being drafted to Egypt, where after serving for about 15 months he was wounded, and was sent to the Victoria Hospital at Blackpool. After recovering from his wound, he was sent to France, where unfortunately he was killed in action on the date stated. The father will be remembered as a well-known step dancer, his services always being at the command of promoters of entertainments for any charitable object in the town and district, and he was always an acceptable artiste at the annual entertainments held by Mr. G. Humphreys' party at the Whitehaven Workhouse.

Mrs. Tubman's daughter (Mrs. Moore, of 6, Sanderson's Court, Charles Street, Whitehaven), has also received official word that her husband, Private J. Moore, of the Border Regiment, was wounded on the 12th July (the same day as her father was killed).

16 August 1917