



Kenneth Serrick Newell
The Royal Newfoundland Regiment
Regimental No. 1692
World War I

Born: 1894 ??

Place of Birth: Bareneed

Parents: John and Susie Newell

Date of Death: Saturday 14 April 1917

Kenneth's Attestation (Enlistment) papers provide some information about this young man as he appeared at the recruiting depot at the Armoury on Harvey Road St. Johns on the 10th of July 1915.

He had travelled from Bareneed by train specifically to enlist in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. Standing 5 ft. 6 ½ inches tall, Kenneth was 21 (and 6 months) old, a school teacher by trade, unmarried, and Church of England by faith, he signed up for the duration of the war.

Official Service Record for Pte. K.S. Newell, No. 1692 contained the following handwritten entries:

- 26 – 10 – 15: Promoted to lance corporal
- 27 – 10 – 15: Embarked St. Johns by train to Quebec.
- 19 – 06 – 16: To Corporal
- 25 – 06 – 16: Embarked Southampton for BEF (British Expeditionary Force)
- 12 – 07 – 16: Joined Battalion
- 05 – 12 – 16: Wounded
- 05 – 12 – 16: Admitted CCS with GSW (gunshot wound) to Right hand
- 07 – 12 – 16: Admitted to #10 general hospital at Rouen
- 15 – 02 – 17: Discharged to base
- 06 – 03 – 17: Rejoined unit
- 14 – 04 – 17: Missing

Eager to serve, Kenneth would advance quickly in rank to become lance corporal and then corporal. He was, according to his record, a good soldier but this good soldier would go missing on 14 April 1917 near a small community of Monchy – Le – Preux, in the battle of Arras. (Monchy is the current site of one of the Caribou Memorials to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.)

*The **Battle of Arras** commenced on April 9, 1917, and the Newfoundland Regiment soon found themselves in the thick of it. Just before midnight of April 14 th, 1917 the Newfoundlanders moved forward in single file to the firing trenches on the eastern outskirts of Monchy-le-Preux, a small French village located about 8 km southeast of Arras.*

Cpl Newell was part of this battle and on 14 April 1917, he was declared missing, as no

trace of him could be found. According to the official headquarters record, Cpl Newell was “missing and presumed dead for official purposes.” This latter part was not immediately conveyed to his father back home in Newfoundland and he clung to the hope that his son would be found but it was not to be. Kenneth was not found and finally the official news was sent home.

Cpl Kenneth Serrick Newell is Memorialized on the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial like so many of his fellow Newfoundlanders. Kenneth had served for a total of one (1) year and two hundred seventy-four (274) days and was but one who made the supreme sacrifice.

There is a Memorial Stone to Cpl Newell placed by his parents in the Old Bareneed United Church Cemetery.

This tribute to all soldiers seems so fitting in Cpl Newell’s case:

**“All gave some
Some gave All”**