

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

**Rank: Lance Corporal**

**Killed in Action: 8th  
November 1917 (France)**

**12th Bn, East  
Yorkshire  
Regiment**



### Summary

George Harry Dyson family home was Brighton Cottages, Lower Hopton where he was raised by his parents Joe Charles and Ann Dyson. George's occupation was Railway Clerk.

George Harry was killed in action (age 25) in November 1917 on the Western Front whilst serving with the East Yorkshire Regiment and is remembered on the Arras

Memorial in France. The Regiment's War Diaries for the 8th November 1917 Regiment record the battle at 'Long Wood'.

His elder brother Percy died of wounds (age 27) whilst serving on the Western Front in October 1917.

His younger brother Clifford also served on the Western Front and was eventually demobilised in November 1919. Clifford went on to marry Margaret Rix in 1930 and had three daughters while living on Waste Lane (died 1976). His youngest brother served in WW2.



# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

### Family details

Date of Birth	5th May 1892
Date of Baptism	17th June 1892
Church Baptised	St Paul's, East Thorpe
Father	Joe Charles 1867-1933
Father's occupation	Woollen teaser
Mother	Ann (nee Mann) 1866-1950
Siblings	Percy Emma Elizabeth Clifford Harold
Parents residence	Brighton Cottages, Lower Hopton
Soldiers residence	
Soldiers Occupation	Railway clerk
Married	
Spouse	
Children	
Burial / Memorial	Arras Memorial Bay 4 & 5, France
Age at death	25

## World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



# George Harry Dyson



**George's sister Emma Elizabeth Dyson. (Emma worked at Glendinning Brothers, Tanfield Mill, Huddersfield as a worsted cloth mender)**



**George's parents Joe Charles and Ann Dyson**



**George Harry Dyson**



## World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



# George Harry Dyson



**Joe Charles Dyson on right with friend. Joe worked at Kilner Brothers, Fold Head Woollen Mill, Newgate, Mirfield. (Note Joe's clay pipe).**

**George's father Joe Charles Dyson**





## World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village

# George Harry Dyson

Dyson family Census 1911

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**CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.**

*Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.*

*The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.*

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards				BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY		
			State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—	Children born alive to present Marriage (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7)	Children born alive to previous Marriage (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 8)	Children born alive to previous Marriages (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 9)	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which worker is connected	Whether Employer, Worker, or Working on Own Account	Whether Working at Home					
Joe Charles Dyson	Head	44	Married						Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	
Ann Dyson	Wife	45	Married	21	6	5	1								
Percy Dyson	Son	21	Single						Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	
George Harry Dyson	Son	18	Single						Railway Clerk	Railway Clerk	Railway Clerk	Railway Clerk	Railway Clerk	Railway Clerk	
Emma Elizabeth Dyson	Daughter	16	Single						Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	Woolen Weaver	
Clifford Dyson	Son	12							School	School	School	School	School	School	
Harold Dyson	Son	8							School	School	School	School	School	School	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Total	Males	Females	Persons
527	5	2	7

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchens, Bathrooms, or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count cellars, landings, lobby, closets, bathrooms, nor warehouses, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: Joe Charles Dyson

Postal Address: 2 Cross St Lower, Hopton, Mansfield

Enroled /enlisted in the army on the 20 Jan 1916 age 23yrs 210days, height 5'-4½", weight 129lbs

## Dyson and the Mann families

There is a connection between the Mann & Dyson families, which is as follows:

- Wentworth Mann b. 1893 had a sister Hannah b. 1884 she married Ben Allan Dyson b. 1879 they had 4 children.
- Ben Allan Dyson's brother Joe Charles Dyson is the father of Percy, George Harry, Emma, Clifford, Harold Dyson.

(Wentworth Mann lost his life in WW1).

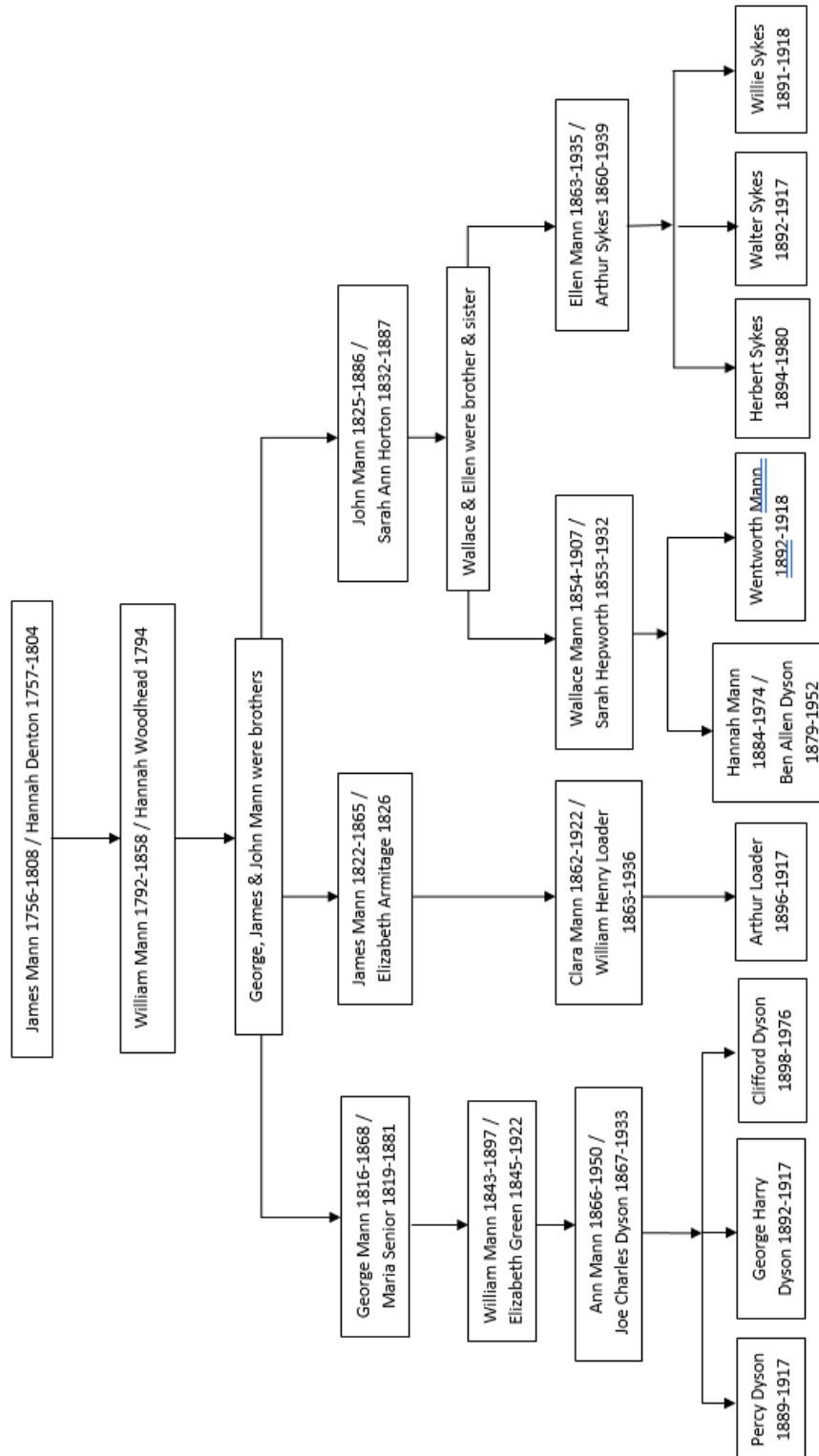
The next page shows the links between the Dyson, Mann, Sykes and Loader families, who all served on the Western Front in WW1.

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

WW1 links between the families Loader, Mann, Dyson & Sykes



Arthur Loader, Wentworth Mann, Walter Sykes and Willie Sykes, Percy Dyson & George Harry Dyson all lost their lives in WW1. Herbert Sykes the brother of Walter & Willie was badly injured, Clifford Dyson also survived the war. Ben Allen Dyson and Joe Charles Dyson are brothers.

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

### Military Details

Attestation / Enlistment	20th January 1916
Deployment	29th November 1916
Rank	Lance Corporal
Medals	British War Medal Victory Medal
Regiment number	36714 (formerly 33023 Northumberland Fusiliers)
Regiment	12th Bn, East Yorkshire Regiment (Trench mortar battery)
Regimental Badge	



Killed in Action	8th November 1917
Cemetery or Memorial	Arras Memorial Bay 4 & 5, France
Age at death	25

## World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



# George Harry Dyson

### 12th Bn. East Yorkshire Regiment

Formed in Hull on 11 August 1914 by Lord Nunburnholme and the East Riding TF Association. Commonly known as the Hull Sportsmen's Battalion.

George was formerly in the Northumberland Fusiliers and transferred to the 12th Bn. East Yorkshire Regiment (Trench Mortar Battery).

**15 Dec 1915** Mobilised for war and embarked for Egypt from Devonport, Plymouth.

**30 Dec 1915** Arrived in Port Said to defend the Suez Canal.

**Mar 1916** Moved to France and the Division engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

#### **During 1916**

The Battle of Albert, The Battle of the Ancre.

#### **During 1917**

Operations on the Ancre, The Third Battle of the Scarpe, The Capture of Oppy Wood.



# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village

## George Harry Dyson



36/44 15-18-1916

D. D. & L. 1916

**SHORT SERVICE** (For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve)

**ATTESTATION OF** NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS

No. 3300 Name George Harry Dyson Corps NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment

- What is your Name ... George Harry Dyson
- What is your full Address? ... Upper Hopton, Northfield
- Are you a British Subject? ... Yes
- What is your Age? ... 23
- What is your Trade or Calling? ... Goods Clerk L & G Railways
- Are you Married? ... No
- Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, or so, which? ... No
- Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... Yes
- Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... Yes
- Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... Yes Name Henry Arnold Corp Clerk
- Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?  
For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with an convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th Oct., 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of training, or as a clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.

11. Yes

I, George Harry Dyson do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

George Harry Dyson SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.  
Henry Arnold SIGNATURE OF WITNESS.

**OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.**

I, George Harry Dyson swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.**

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at Northfield on this 20 day of January 1916

Signature of the Justice W. Wilson Esq.

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I hereby certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms have been duly completed with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS.

If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the Attestation.

24 JUL 1916 1916

W. Wilson Esq. CAPTAIN FOR Commdg. 3rd Recruiting Area Approving Officer.

\*The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed to the presence of the Recruit.  
†Here insert the "Camp" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

If an, the Recruit is called the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Release, should be returned to the conscientiously observed in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name) on the (Date)

George's Attestation form which shows him enrolled on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1916 for the Northumberland Fusiliers (later he was transferred to the 12<sup>th</sup> Bn. East Yorkshire Regiment)

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

The military form below shows George's living relatives. He has two brothers Clifford and Harold and one sister Emma Elizabeth. His elder brother Percy died in 1917 whilst serving on the Western Front. Note that his mother Ann signs her name with a cross on the form.

**EAST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT**

Regiment No 3074. 2nd Lt. G. H. Dyson deceased } Army Form  
To be filled in by  
Officer in Charge of  
Records.

**STATEMENT of the Names and Addresses of all the Relatives of the above-named deceased Soldier in each of the degrees specified below that are now living.**

NOTE.—Against those degrees of relationship in which there is no relative now living the word "none" is to be inserted. If the answers are not filled in, much correspondence and delay may be occasioned by the neglect.

Degree of relationship	NAME IN FULL of every relative now living in each degree enquired for (see note above).	ADDRESS IN FULL of each surviving relative opposite his or her name.
Widow of the Soldier ...		
Children of the Soldier and dates of their births...		
Father of the Soldier ...	<u>J. C. Dyson</u>	<u>Brighton Cottages Lower Hopton</u>
Mother of the Soldier ...	<u>Ann Dyson</u>	<u>Musfield</u>
Brothers of the Soldier	Full Blood ... <u>Clifford Dyson</u> <u>Harold Dyson</u>	<u>In France</u> <u>Brighton Cottages Lower Hopton</u> <u>Musfield</u>
	Half blood ...	
Sisters of the Soldier	Full blood ... <u>E. E. Dyson</u>	<u>24 Brighton Cottages Lower Hopton</u> <u>Musfield</u>
	Half blood ...	

If no Relatives in the degrees above are now living the following particulars should be given:—

	Names of those now living.	Addresses in full.
Grandparents of the Soldier ...		
Nephews and Nieces of the Soldier ...		
Uncles and Aunts by blood of the Soldier (not Uncles and Aunts by marriage) ...		

**DECLARATION.**

I hereby declare that the above is a true and complete Statement of all the Relatives of the late Soldier now living in the degrees enquired for.

Signature of the Declarant: Ann Dyson  
Relationship to the Soldier: Mother  
Address in full: Brighton Cottages, Lower Hopton, Musfield

I hereby certify that the above Statement and Declaration made by Ann Dyson in my presence is complete and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at Brighton Cottages, Lower Hopton, Musfield this 17 day of June 1919.

Signature: J. Shepherd M.A. Rector Qualification: Consecrated Minister  
Address: St. Pauls Rd Musfield Yorks

Wt. 9538/GP114. 1,000,000(2). 2/19. S.O.F.B.A.



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## George Harry Dyson

M.P.A. <sup>50</sup>/<sub>1</sub>

**Request for Discharge Documents.**

In any reply please quote  
No. DP/59/D

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS,  
AWARDS BRANCH,  
BROMYARD AVENUE,  
ACTON, LONDON, W. 3.

Regt. TRENCH MORTAR BATTY. ..... 12 10 1931

Regtl. No. 36714

Rank ..... 1st A.C.L.S.

Name DYSON George Harry

Date of Enlistment ..... NS

Date of Discharge ..... NS

Cause of Discharge ..... NS

The Officer in Charge of Records.

Will you be good enough to forward the Discharge Documents of the man named in the margin.

*W. Russell*  
For the Secretary.

**NOTE.**—This part of this Form should be retained by the Officer in Charge of Records for the purpose of reference. The lower part should be detached and fastened securely to the Documents when they are forwarded to the Ministry of Pensions.

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*Mr Lawson R17*

M.P.A. <sup>50</sup>/<sub>1 (a)</sub>

Reference No. DP/59/D ..... 1931

Name DYSON George Harry To

Regt. TRENCH MORTAR BATTY.

Regtl. No. 36714

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS,  
AWARDS BRANCH,  
BROMYARD AVENUE,  
ACTON, LONDON, W. 3.

The Discharge Documents of the man named in the margin are forwarded herewith.

(Station) ..... Officer i/c Records.

Subsequently discharged from ..... Regiment,

on ..... Regtl. No. ....

(P1040) Wt. 2850—8409 15,000 5/30 T.S. 128

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

**War Diaries for the 10th, 11th, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13th B'n East Yorkshire**

**Regiment. (George Harry Dyson was killed in action on the 8th November 1917).**

### **7<sup>th</sup> November 1917 – MONT ST ELOY**

The special raiding party of 13 Officers and 406 other ranks under Lt. Col. S.H.FERRAND left MONT ST. ELOY at 2pm and marched to ECOIVRES where the Divisional Commander addressed the party. They entrained at ECOIVRES AT 3PM and proceeded to DAYLIGHT RAILHEAD. The party marched from there to LONG WOOD where they retired for the night. The party consisted of 3 officers and 75 other ranks from each Company. 'A' Coy under CAPT C.A.SAVILLE. 'B' Coy under CAPT. W.H.CHAPMAN, 'C' Coy under LIEUT F.WALKER, 'D' Coy under CAPT.C.J.OAKE. Each Company also had a party of 4 R.E.'s attached and there was also a Platoon of 13<sup>th</sup> E York R under Lieut A.K.AGERSKOW attached to CAPT.C.A.SAVILLE as reserve.

### **8<sup>th</sup> November 1917 – LONG WOOD**

The Battalion carried out a raid on the German lines the objective being the area comprised TOBACCO and TULIP trenches and the portions of TORTOISE and FRESNOY trench included between them, wide squares T24 B & D and U 19 C Reference MONTREAL ROAD MAP 1/10,000.

The raiding party began to wave up TIRED ALLEY at 8am and were in position in the assembly trench 1 hour and 10 minutes before ZERO which was at 12 noon. Each wave of the companies got in touch throughout before our barrage lifted off the German front line. The arrangements made by the party under Major SHAW for forming up to worked perfectly & the German wire was no obstacle. All objectives were gained & the withdrawal commenced about ZERO plus 20 when all dugouts had been blown up and the trench cleaned up. 21 prisoners were taken and 1 machine gun. 54 Germans were killed by our men in the trenches and at least 50 Germans were killed in dugouts. 16 dugouts 2 trench mortars and 3 machine guns were blown up.

A good number of Germans ran away from FRESNOY TRENCH and were caught by our artillery, machine gun and rifle fire and were killed or wounded. Most of the Germans in FRESNOY trench were in dugouts with their gas masks on and refused to come out being afraid of the dummy gas we had propelled. They were blown up by 20 lb mobile charges. Our casualties were 5 officers and 52 other ranks. CAPT C.A.SAVILLE and LIEUT H. I. WRIGHT were reported wounded and missing, 2/Lt M.C.CLIFT and 2/Lt A.H.OLIVER were killed and LIEUT W.JOY was wounded. Full report of raid is attached. The raiding party returned to MONT ST ELOY by special train leaving DAYLIGHT RAIL HEAD at 4pm



# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

### Trench Mortar Batteries

In 1914, no organisation existed for trench mortars as the weapons simply did not exist in the British army.

The German Army had three types of Minenwerfer, although perhaps only as few as 160 in all. Very quickly the British army developed their own trench mortars.

These weapons soon became a dreadful hazard for the scratch trenches in Flanders, the heavy weapon in particular firing a large canister bomb that could destroy many yards of trench.



# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

### Trench mortar tactics

Trench mortars were used in a variety of defensive and offensive roles, from the suppression of an enemy machine-gun, sniper post or other local feature, to the coordinated firing of barrages. Larger mortars were sometimes used for cutting barbed wire, especially where field artillery could not be used, either because of the danger of hitting British troops or where the effect of the fire could not be observed. Experience on the Somme revealed that use of Stokes mortars in an offensive close-support role had been limited by the reluctance of some commanders to sacrifice rifle strength to provide parties required to carry the ammunition which the weapons so quickly consumed.



# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

### George's Medal Card

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
DYSON	E. York. R.	Pte	36414
George. H.			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	0/1/102 Bz	1200	
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Correspondence

Address

(991) W 701/R, P. 6980 1,000m. 24/5/21 N.H.&Co.Ltd. E. 7600







## World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



# George Harry Dyson

## George's Medals



**British War Medal**



**Victory Medal**

## Arras Memorial

The Arras Memorial commemorates 34,795 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died from the spring of 1916 until 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918, and who have no known grave. Most of the casualties commemorated here were killed during the Allied offensive during the Battles of Arras in April and May 1917 and during the German attack on the Allied Front from 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918.

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

In Memory of  
Lance Corporal

**George H. Dyson**

36714, 12th Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment who died on 08 November 1917

Remembered with Honour  
**Arras Memorial**



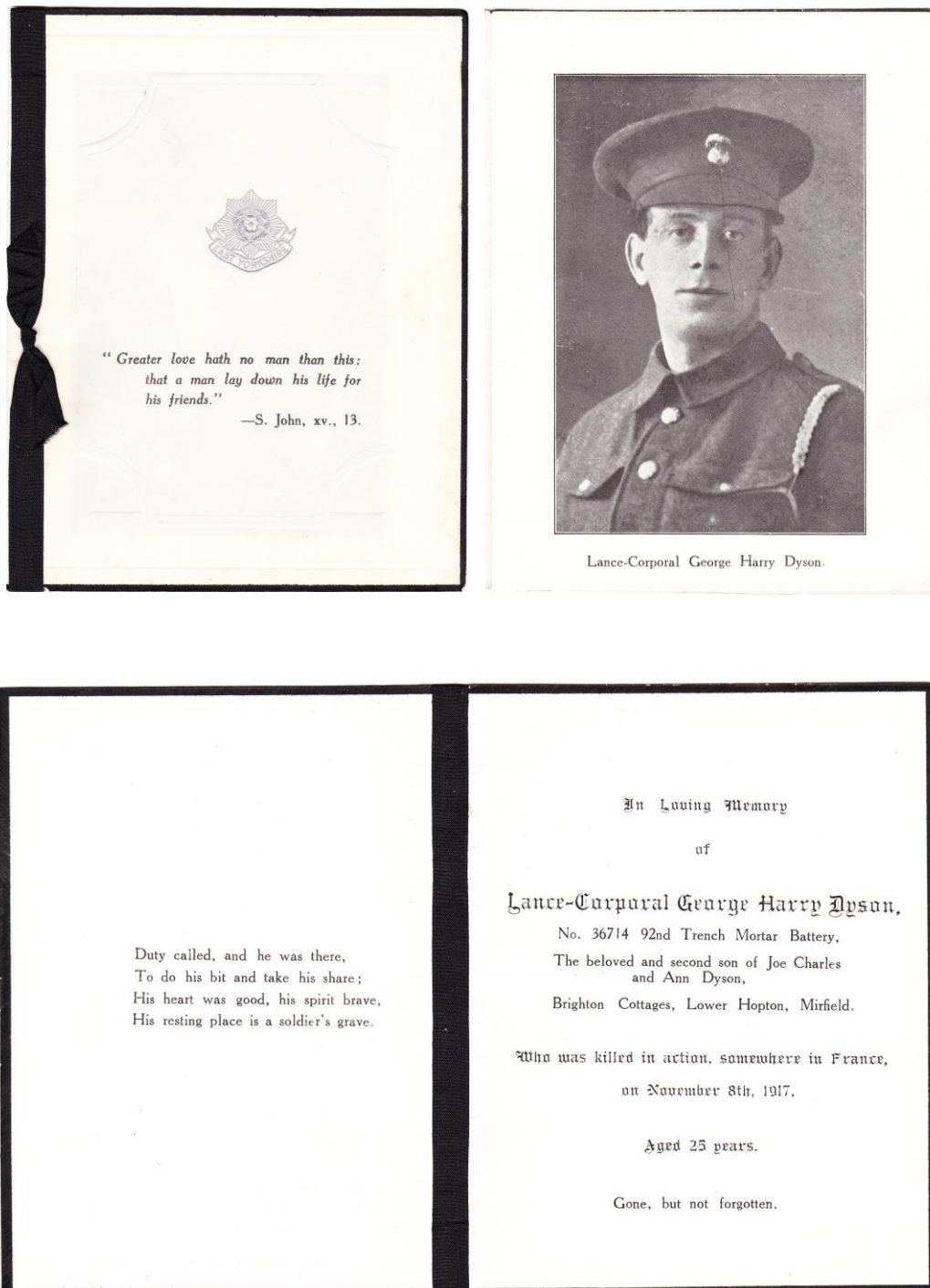
Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

# World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



## George Harry Dyson

George's dedication booklet.



## World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



# George Harry Dyson

**Extract from F. G. Pilling's Pamphlet**

**One More Time - More Old Mirfield Days & Ways**

**Pages 59 & 60.**

*"The same afternoon I saw another Hopton lad, Charlie Whitehead, he had been to see if he could find the grave of another Hopton lad, George Harry Dyson, Charlie had been told by someone, I believe that George Harry was buried at Roclincourt but if he was he'd never be found, the place was churned up, the church was about the only partly intact building, poor lad, he was never found."*



**George's youngest brother  
Harold who served in WW2**