

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle



Rank: Private

Killed in Action:

**3rd September 1916
(France)**



**1st/5th Bn., Duke of Wellington's
(West Riding Regiment)**

Summary

Joe Castle's family home was 16 Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton where he was raised by his parents Robert and Mary Ellen Castle and Joe worked as a miner (Coal Hurrier) at Mill Pit, Houses Hill, Kirkheaton. Joe was married to Nellie and had one child Harold.

In September 1916 Joe was killed in action (age 21) whilst serving on the Western Front with the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

His elder brother Herbert was also killed in action on the Western front in April 1917 (age 24).

His other elder brother Harry also served on the Western Front, he was wounded but survived the war and was discharged in January 1919.

Joe Castle served in the same Regiment as Harry Cole and lost his life on the same day as Harry.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Family details

Date of Birth	6th December 1894
Date of Baptism	11th January 1895
Church Baptised	St John's Upper Hopton
Father	Robert
Father's occupation	District Council Roadman
Mother	Mary Ellen
Siblings	Ada, Harry, Herbert, Stepsister Mary (Bertha)
Parents residence	16 Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton
Soldiers residence	BattyeFord
Soldiers Occupation	Coal Hurrier Underground (1911) Mill Pit, Houses Hill, Kirkheaton
Married	28th November 1914
Spouse	Nellie
Children	Harold (born June 1915)
Burial / Memorial	Thiepval Memorial, France
Age at death	21



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village

Joe Castle

Castle family Census 1911

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedules... 166
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection.)

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions 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 in present Marriage (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7)	Children born alive in previous Marriages has listed	Total Children born alive	Children still living	Children who have died	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which worker is connected	Whether Employer, or Working on Own Account	Whether Working at Home			
1 Robert Castle	Head	51	Married	22	5	5	none	Road man (Bridges) (Buses) (Mines)	Worker			Yorkshire	Hopton		
2 Mary Ellen Castle	Wife	48	Married	22	4	4						Yorkshire	Hopton		
3 Ada Castle	Daughter	21	Single					Blanket Weaver	Worker			Yorkshire	Hopton		
4 Harry Castle	Son	20	Single					Coal getter (Mines)	Worker			Yorkshire	Hopton		
5 Herbert Castle	Son	18	Single					Coal Miner (Mines) (Colliery)	Worker			Yorkshire	Hopton		
6 Joe Castle	Son	16	Single					Coal Miner	Worker			Yorkshire	Hopton		
7 Mary Helen	Daughter	14	Married	8	2	2	none	Blanket Whipper (Blanket Manuf)	Worker			Yorkshire	Hopton		
8 Emily Helen	granddaughter	4						School				Yorkshire	Hopton		
9 Laura Helen	granddaughter	6						School				Yorkshire	Hopton		

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Total	Males	Females	Persons
	44	5	49

(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, Parlours, or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count sanitary, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, or warehouse, office, shop.

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

Signature: Robert Castle
Postal Address: Hopton Fold Upper Hopton Wilsford

Herbert Castle (born 5 Jan 1893) and Joe Castle (born 6 Dec 1894) were brothers, but did you know that Ben Cassell was their first cousin? Ben's Dad Albert was the brother of Herbert & Joe's Dad Robert. They just chose to spell their surname differently to confuse the issue!

Robert's name is spelt in various ways on the official records sometimes Casel, Cassell or Castle but as Robert could not write it was often recorded at the whim of the official record enumerator.

Herbert & Joe's brother Harry Castle (born 19th Nov 1890) also served in WWI. Harry survived and died in 1940. According to a newspaper cutting it says "Mr Castle served with the Mirfield Company during the Great War. He joined at the same time with two brothers and went to France. Neither of his brothers returned".

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's parents Robert and Mary Ellen



The records show that Joe's father Robert had a variety of jobs:

On the 1881 census Robert was a miner similar to his father James Castle. Note the spelling of the family name was "Castle" on this census. Robert lived with his father and mother (Mary) at 112 Hollin Hall.

On the 1891 census Robert is shown as a finisher at a woollen mill.

On Mary and George's marriage certificate (1903) Robert is shown as a railway plate layer. On the 1911 census Robert is shown as a District Council Roadman.

See Robert's and Mary Ellen's wedding certificate below (note that Robert signs his name with an "X").

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1885. Marriage solemnized at <u>Saint John the Evangelist</u> in the Parish of <u>Upper Hopton</u> in the County of <u>York</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
97	July 20 1885	Robert Cassels	28	Bachelor	Finisher	Upper Hopton	James Cassels	Miner
		Mary Ellen Brook	26	Spinster		Upper Hopton	William Brook	Miner
Married in the Church of <u>Saint John the Evangelist</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after <u>James</u> by me, <u>H. P. Thorne - Vicar</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Robert Cassels his X mark</u>			in the Presence of us,	<u>Emily Broadley</u>		
		<u>Mary Ellen Brook</u>						

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's Marriage

Joe's marriage to Nellie Milner on the 28th November 1914 was at Christ the King Battyeford. (Joe's occupation is shown as a Soldier on the marriage certificate)

Nellie was one of seven children, parents Henry & Mary Milner and her family home was Wellington Buildings.

Page 4

19 <u>14</u> Marriage solemnized at <u>Christ Church</u> in the <u>parish</u> of <u>Battyeford</u> in the County of <u>York</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
7	<u>November 28th 1914</u>	<u>Joe Castle</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>Bachelor</u>	<u>Soldier</u>	<u>Bally Camp Doncaster</u>	<u>Robert Castle</u>	<u>Road man</u>
		<u>Nellie Milner</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>Spinster</u>	<u>Widow</u>	<u>Wellington Bldg. Battyeford</u>	<u>Henry Milner</u>	<u>Labourer</u>

Married in the above church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church by Geo. William Johnson or after banus by me,
 This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Joe Castle } in the Presence of us, { Ada Holmes } Clement Whitehead

In June 1915 Joe and Nellie had a son Harold (also see Harold's photo at the end of the dedication).



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's family photo



The photograph shows from left to right, Ada Castle, Joe Castle, Harry Castle, Mary Ellen Castle, Herbert Castle, Bertha Kilner and Bertha's two children Emily and Laura Kilner (see 1911 census where all of those in the above photograph are shown to be living in the same house in Hopton Fold) - Family photo taken approximately 1908-9.

Joe's studio photograph



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Mary Kilner (always known as Bertha)



Mary or Bertha as she was more commonly known was baptised in March 1882 (b.24 Feb.1882), the baptism records show that her mother was Mary Ellen Brook and her name was given as Mary Wilkinson Brook but there was no father's name.

Mary Ellen married Robert Cassells/Castle in 1888 and their eldest child Ada was born in 1889. Mary (Bertha) lived with her mother and Robert and the 1891 census records Mary/Bertha as a step daughter. The 1901 census showed that Mary/Bertha had dropped the name Wilkinson, choosing to be called Mary Brook. She married George Henry Kilner in 1903 (in 1901 the Kilner's and the Cassells were living next door to one another in

Hopton Fold). See the marriage certificate below. Henry subsequently left Mary/Bertha and moved to Hemsworth. Note on the family headstone in St John's churchyard, Mary/Bertha Kilner is buried with her mother .

1903. Marriage solemnized at <i>S. John the Evangelist's Church</i> in the Parish of <i>Upper Hopton</i> in the County of <i>York's</i>									
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
170	<i>Feb 1st</i>	<i>George Henry Kilner</i> <i>Mary Brook</i>	<i>20</i> <i>20</i>	<i>Bachelor</i> <i>Spinster</i>	<i>Engineer</i>	<i>Hopton Fold,</i> <i>Upper Hopton.</i> <i>Hopton Fold,</i> <i>Upper Hopton.</i>	<i>Herbert Kilner</i>	<i>Engineer-Tender</i>	
Married in the <i>aforsaid Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <i>Banns</i> or after <i>Banns</i> by me, <i>To Herbert Dodd, Vicar.</i>									
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>George Henry Kilner</i> <i>Mary Brook</i>			in the Presence of us,		<i>Harry Whithead</i> <i>Joseph Holdsworth</i>		

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

**Joe's family home was Hopton Fold, shown in the photo below
(Several years later some of the cottages were demolished)**



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Military Details

Attestation / Enlistment

Deployment

April 1915

Rank

Private

Medals

1914-1915 Star
British War Medal
Victory Medal

Regiment number

2102

Regiment

1st/5th Bn., Duke of Wellington's
(West Riding Regiment)

Regimental Badge



Killed in Action

3rd September 1916 (France)

Cemetery or Memorial

Thiepval Memorial, France

Age at death

21

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Joe Castle

1 / 5th Battalion Territorial Force

14 April 1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne.

12 May 1915 The formation became the 147th Brigade of the 49th Division which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1915 - The Battle of Aubers Ridge, The defence against the first Phosgene attack.

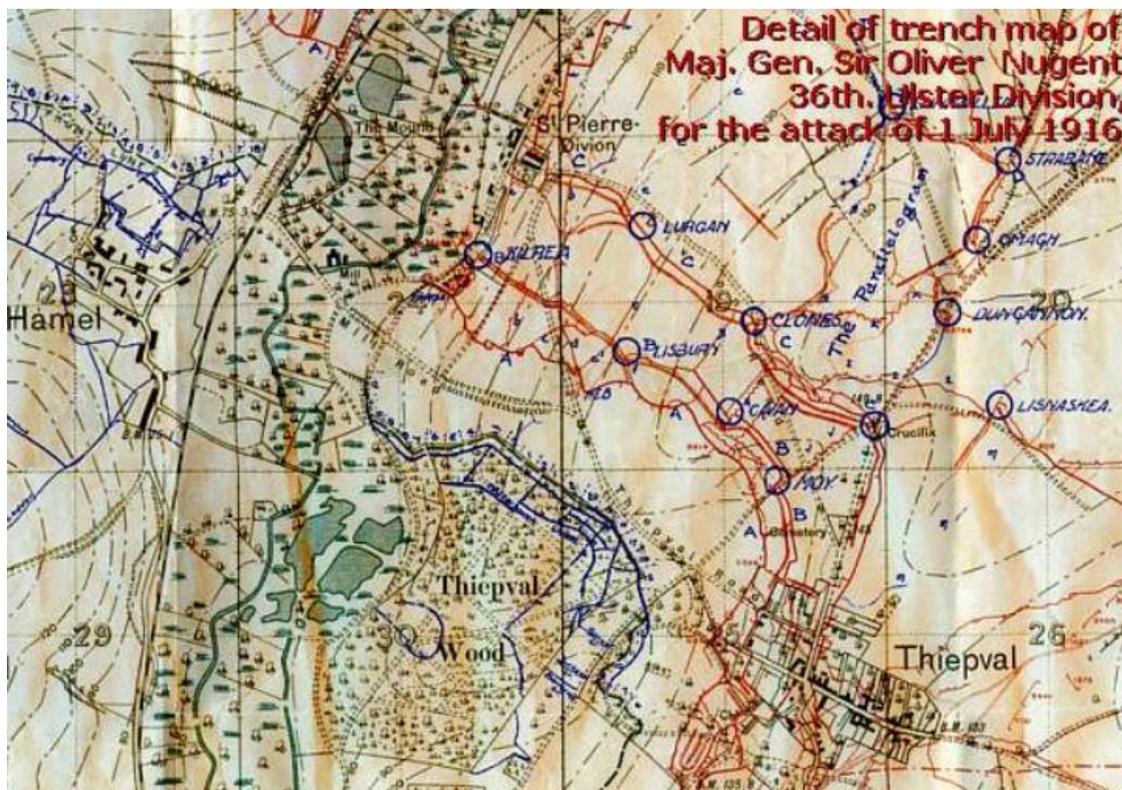
1916 - The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin Ridge, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette.

1917 - Operations on the Flanders Coast (Hush), The Battle of Poelcapelle.

30 Jan 1918 Absorbed the 2/5th Battalion to become the 5th Battalion and transferred to the 186th Brigade of the 62nd Division.

1918 - The Battle of Bapaume, The First Battle of Arras 1918, The Battle of the Tardenois (part of the Battles of the Marne 1918), The Battle of the Scarpe, The Battle of the Drocourt-Queant Line, The Battle of Havrincourt, The Battle of the Canal du Nord, The Battle of the Selle, The capture of Solesmes, The Battle of the Sambre.

Joe lost his life on the 3 September 1916 and the actions of the 1/5th are described in the War Diaries below on that fateful day. The role of Joe's Battalion was to was to attack the German Front and Support lines from Thiepval Wood.



Blue trenches - British Red trenches - German

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

The following War Diary describes in great detail the involvement of the 1/5th Regiment in the battle in which Joe sadly lost his life. (The entire transcript has been included for reference).

War Diary – Army Form C.2118

1/5 West Riding Regiment

September 1916

2nd September 1916

The Battalion left Forceville at 5.30pm to go into action. A halt was made at Martinsart Wood where a hot meal was served to the men. The battalion moved forward via Pioneer Road – Aveluy – Hamel Road, track about Q.35.C.7.O via tram line, Authuille Bridge, North Bluff, Ulster Avenue, Elgin Avenue to new assembly parallels in front of our old British line about Q.24.d.8.4 – R.19.C.1.1½ (Ref. Map Beaumont 1/10,000).

The battalion was in position about 3.45am. A, B & D Coys occupied the assembly parallels and C Coy in dug outs in the old British front line. Battalion Headquarters and the H.Q. Coy were accommodated in Whitchurch St. (about Q,30.b.8.6)

3rd September 1916

(Ref. map: Beaumont 1/10,000 and special divisional operation map)

The 39th and 49th Divisions assaulted the German lines astride the River Ancre simultaneously at 5.10am. The task of the 49th Division was to capture and consolidate the German front line and support trenches as follows, front line from R.19.c.8.4 (inch) to River Ancre. Support line from R.19.c.9.5 (inch) to River Ancre. The objective of the 39th Division was the German trench from Q.18.b.½.2 to Q.17.b.5.8. The assault was preceded by an intense Artillery barrage on the German front line for 3 minutes, under which the assaulting infantry advanced. The barrage lifted from the front line at 5.13am on to the support line for a further 5 minutes. Heavy artillery, in addition to 18 pounders, fired within limits of safety, on Thiepval, Trench System R.25.b.40.95 – 15.90- R.19.c.85.20, R.19.d.05.30 Trench System forming South front of Schwaben Redoubt, Strassburg Trench and St Pierre Divion. The attacking troops of the 49th Division were 146th and 147th Brigade. The dispositions of the 147th Brigade were as follows:

1/4th West Riding Reg't, Right assaulting battalion with its objective, front line R.19.c.8.4 to R.19.c.5.4, German support line from R.19.c.9.5 to R.19.c.6.6.

1/5th West Riding Reg't, Left assaulting battalion with its objective, front line from R.19.c.5.4 to R.19.c.1.6. German support line R.19.c.6.6 to R.19.c.3.8.

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Joe Castle

War Diary – Army Form C.2118 - continued

1/5 West Riding Regiment

3rd September 1916 - continued

1/7th West Riding Reg't in the Brigade Support and accommodated in assembly slits in Forres Street, Thiepval Wood.

1/6th West Riding Reg't in Brigade Reserve accommodated at the North Bluff (Q.36.d).

The whole attack failed. The 146th Brigade did not reach its objective and although the 147th Brigade reached their objective they were unable to hold it.

The 1/5th West Riding Regiment was commanded by Lieut. Col. H.A.S.Stanton.

.....full *list of officers not included*

The dispositions of the battalion were as follows: A & D Coys had to capture the German front line. B Coy had to capture the German support lines. C Coy was in Reserve. ½ Coy in dugouts N.W. of Elgin Avenue in the front line, and ½ Coy in dug-outs N.W. of Elgin Avenue at Junction of Elgin and Whitchurch Street. Headquarters and H.Q. Coy were accommodated in Whitchurch Street.

D Coy seemed to take its position under our barrage fairly correctly but the 4th Platoon instead of assaulting on both sides of East K.O.Y.L.I. Trench seemed to get the whole platoon on the east side of the trench leaving a serious gap in the middle of the Company and actually at point 25. This would not have mattered if the Battalion on our left had reached its objective. As it was D Coy had to withstand bombing attacks on its left, from its centre and later on from its right. It was impossible to get bombs up to the ½ Company or between points 16 and 25. The Right half Coy did receive bombs about 7.30am taken up over the open. The company, according to the report of 2/Lieut. Da Costa, evidently made a very good fight for it and only retired when they had no more bombs, having previously seen the troops on the right retire to the front parallels. They retired from the German line about 9.30am.

As regards A & B Coys no accurate information could be obtained. In the case of B Coy no officers returned at all and of A Coy only one came back.

What seems to have happened is as follows: 'A' Coy seems to have got mixed with the left of Company of the 4th W.R.R and assaulted with them. The result was that there was a bad "bunch" of men opposite the re-entrant between points 25 and 54. The Germans turned a machine gun on to this party causing several casualties. The party must then have swung to its left and right leaving a disastrous gap at the point where the communication trench meets the top of the re-entrant between points 25 and 54, enabling the Germans later on to bomb to the East and West along the front line

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

War Diary – Army Form C.2118 - continued

1/5 West Riding Regiment

3rd September 1916 - continued

B Company assaulted the support line but only about one third of them seems to have reached it. They lost heavily coming out of the parallels and lost all their officers. So far as can be ascertained no officer reached the German support line.

No messages were received back at H.Q. during the whole operation. The only information which was obtained was from wounded men returning and they, for the most part said we occupied both German lines and had had very few casualties.

The Germans held the block in East K.O.Y.L.I. Trench and it proved a serious obstacle for us and was not cleared. Communication of any sort was bound to go over the open.

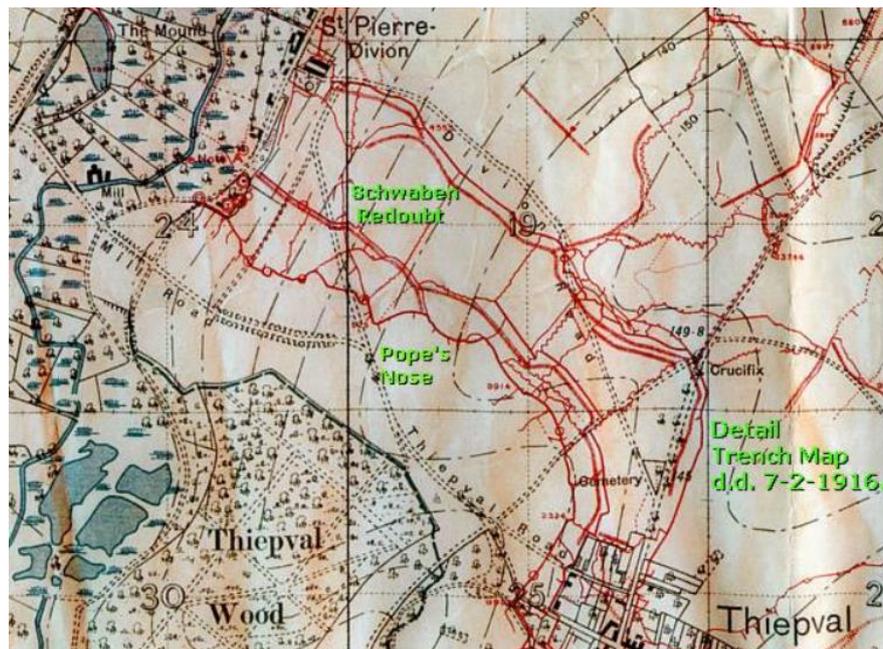
From the reports of the 2 officers who returned to Battalion H.Q. from the battle it was ascertained that for the most part a really good fight was put up. If Battalion H.Q. had been able to have got any information back it is practically certain that the position would not have been lost. The men fought splendidly and in many case without N.C.O's or officers and the loosing of the captured position was a piece of bad luck. As proof of the hard fighting there were 350 casualties out of 450 who assaulted the German lines.

The battalion after retiring to the parallels, re-established itself in the original British line with posts out in the parallels.

4th September 1916

The battalion was relieved at night and during early hours of September 4th by ½ Coy of 4th York & Lancaster Reg't. On relief it was accommodated in bivouacs in Aveluy Wood.

The battalion moved to Hedauville, was accommodated in bivouacs and engaged in reorganising itself.



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's Medal Card

33			
Name.	Corps.	Rank	Regtl. No.
CASTLE	W Rid R	Pte	2102
Joe	— " —	— " —	— " —
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	0/2/101 B	49	K in A. 3. 9. 16.
BRITISH	20	20	
15 STAR	0/2/3B	80	
Theatre of War first served in	(1) France		
Date of entry therein	13. 4. 15		
K. 1380.			

Correspondence.

Address.

(25454—14a) Wt. W 3347—H.P. 6451 2000m. 10/19 H. St - Est 5456/1256

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's Medals



1914 - 1915 Star



British War Medal



Victory Medal

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

In Memory of
Private

Joe Castle

2102, 1st/5th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 03 September 1916

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Thiepval memorial

On 1 July 1916, supported by a French attack to the south, thirteen divisions of Commonwealth forces launched an offensive on a line from north of Gommecourt to Maricourt. Despite a preliminary bombardment lasting seven days, the German defences were barely touched and the attack met unexpectedly fierce resistance. Losses were catastrophic and with only minimal advances on the southern flank, the initial attack was a failure. In the following weeks, huge resources of manpower and equipment were deployed in an attempt to exploit the modest successes of the first day. However, the German Army resisted tenaciously and repeated attacks and counter attacks meant a major battle for every village, copse and farmhouse gained. At the end of September, Thiepval was finally captured. The village had been an original objective of 1 July. Attacks north and east continued throughout October and into November in increasingly difficult weather conditions. The Battle of the Somme finally ended on 18 November with the onset of winter.

In the spring of 1917, the German forces fell back to their newly prepared defences, the Hindenburg Line, and there were no further significant engagements in the Somme sector until the Germans mounted their major offensive in March 1918.

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle



Joe's inscription on Thiepval memorial (photo taken by P Tolson 2014)



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's memorial plaque

The **Memorial Plaque** was issued after the First World War to Joe's next-of-kin and all British and Empire service personnel who were killed as a result of the war.

The plaques were made of bronze, and popularly known as the "Dead Man's Penny". The plaque includes an image of Britannia holding a trident and standing with a lion with "Joe Castle" cast into the surface.



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

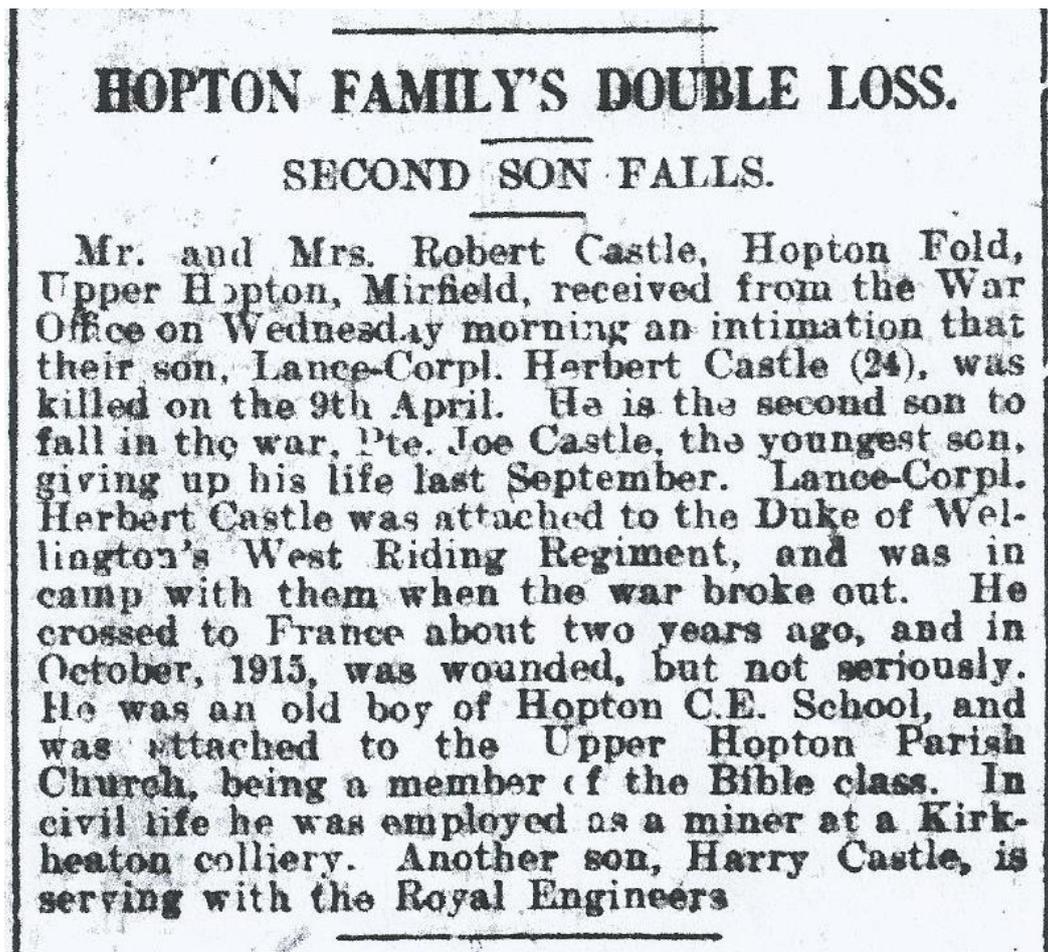
Castle family grave St John's Churchyard Upper Hopton





Joe Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 28th April 1917



See Dewsbury Reporter newspaper article 16th September 1916

Joe was married with a wife and child. Letter from Srgt. AB Benmand. "Harry Castle and me saw him as he was going up and he gave Harry a rosary and said "If I don't come back, this is for the bairn". "He also gave me his cap badge, saying that it was for the bairn".



Joe Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 16th September 1916

(see continuation on the following pages).

MANY MIRFIELD CASUALTIES.
ONE SON KILLED; ANOTHER WOUNDED
HOPTON FAMILY'S SEVERE BLOW.

Mirfield soldiers were in the thick of the fighting on September 3rd, and many casualties have been reported. The supreme sacrifice has been made by Pte. Joe Castle, of Wellington's Buildings, Battysford, the youngest of three soldier brothers (whose photograph we reproduce), whilst another brother—Lance-Corpl. Herbert Castle—has been wounded. The third brother—Driver Harry Castle—is happily unhurt. Pte. Joe Castle was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Castle, of Upper Hopton, and was formerly employed at Lodge Mill Pit, Houses Hill, Kirkheaton. An old scholar of Upper Hopton Church School, he was an ex-choirboy and a member of the Bible class connected with the church. He was 21 years of age, and leaves a wife and child. A member of the local Territorials, he was in camp when the war broke out, and went to France along with the division in April, 1915. News of his death is contained in the following letter from Sergt. A. B. Beaman, R. E., which has been received by his parents: "I am deeply grieved to have to tell you that in the fighting on Sunday, September 3rd, Joe lost his life.



Pte. Joe Castle,
Duke of Wellington's,
Upper Hopton (killed).

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 16th September 1916 - continued

It appears he had managed to get back into the trench when a shell must have struck the earth behind him and three-parts buried him. He must have died from shock. Further, your Herbert got wounded and has been sent down the line. I am really writing for Harry, who is too much upset to write. I feel for you, his poor wife and child, and, believe me, he died doing his duty nobly and well. Harry and myself saw him as he was going up, and he gave Harry a rosary and said, 'If I don't come back this is for the bairn.' He also gave me his cap badge, saying that it was for the bairn. I have known the three lads for some time, and by losing Joe, and with Herbert being wounded, I have lost two of the best comrades a man could have."



This is the actual rosary that Joe gave to his brother Harry before he went over the top when he said "if I don't come back, this is for the bairn". (See the Dewsbury Reporter newspaper article 16th September 1916).

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe and Herbert Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 16th September 1916 - article continued

Lance-Corpl. Herbert Castle, who is 23 years of age and was wounded on October 24th, writes from a hospital in Kent as follows: "I write to let you know I am wounded again, but am going on all right. It is not a bad wound—just about the same as I had in my left leg, so you have no need to bother. I shall not be long before I am coming home. You must let me know if Joe is going on all right as soon as you can, as I know a lot have gone under. I got wounded on Sunday morning, September 3rd. We were making a charge at five o'clock, and I got as far as their barbed wire. They then sent a gas shell over, and it nearly did me. I thought I was going to choke. I then got hit, and I got away as soon as I could. I don't know whether they took the German trenches or not."



Joe Castle

More Mirfield men mentioned

Dewsbury Reporter 16th September 1916 - article continued.

Pte. Charles Ayles, of Fenton Street, Mirfield, who is in hospital at Birmingham, has had a remarkable escape from being fatally injured, his prayer book which he was carrying in his left breast-pocket having probably saved his life. A bullet tore a hole in the book and scorched the leaves. He was formerly a teacher at St. Paul's Sunday School. His comrade, Pte. Herbert Furness, of Wood End Cottage, only son of Mr. and Mrs. William Furness, has also been wounded.

Two soldiers from Wood Bottom have been wounded—Sergt. John Clarkson and Pto. J. E. Senior. The first-named is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Clarkson, and formerly worked at Hopton Mills. He was well-known as a member of the Hopton Mills cricket team. At the outbreak of the war he was a member of the National Reserve, having previously served with the Heckmondwike Artillery, and he volunteered for active service with the local Territorials. He was married and resided at Duke Street, Ravensthorpe, at the outbreak of the war. Pte. Senior is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Senior, and previously worked at Hopton Mills.

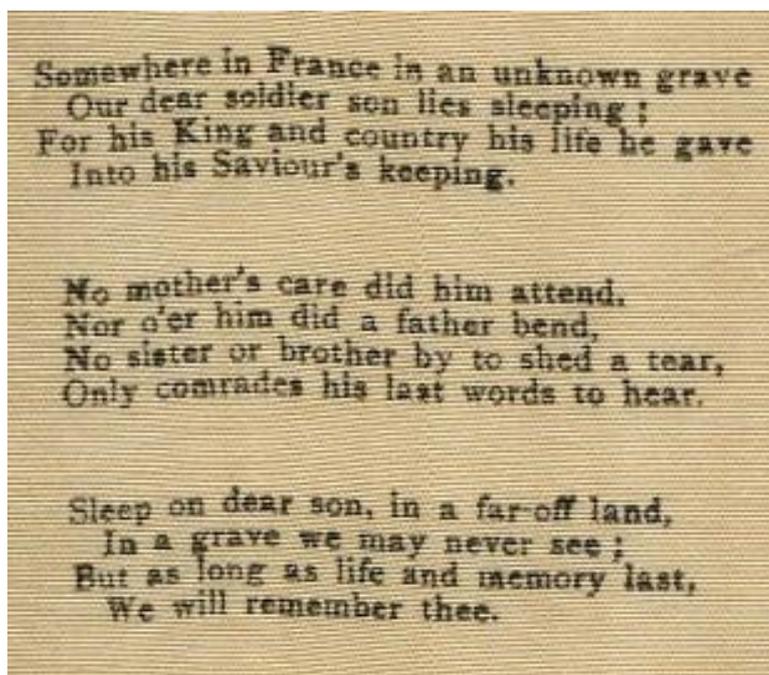
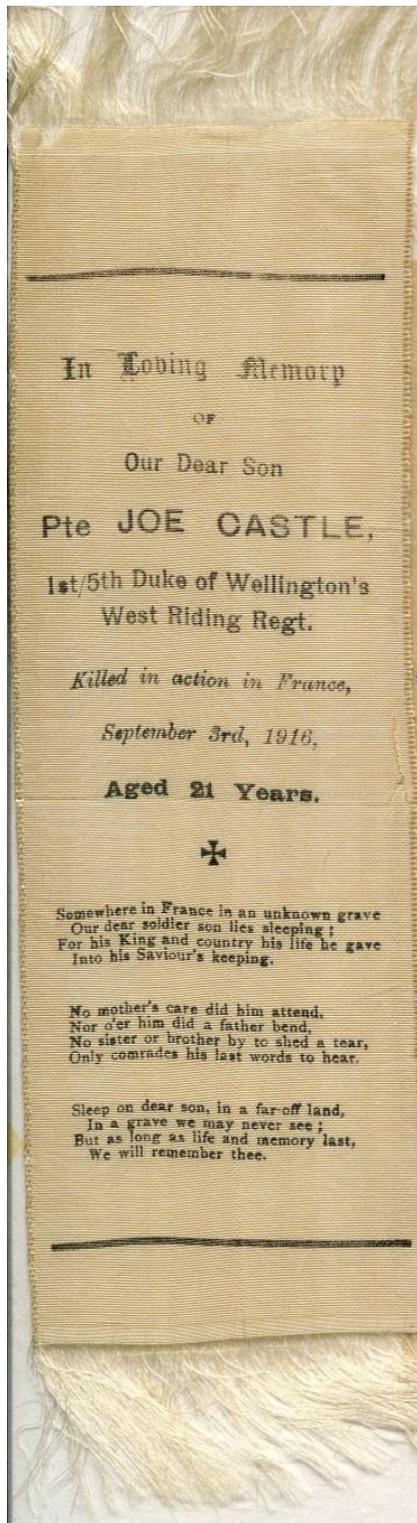
Company Sergt.-Major George Castle, son of the late Mr. R. Castle and Mrs. Castle, of Granny Lane, Mirfield, and a well-known local Territorial, was amongst those wounded in the hostilities on September 3rd, and is now in hospital at Chichester. His injuries consist of a bullet wound in the left shoulder and shrapnel splinters in the knees. His late father held a responsible position at Hopton Mills, where Sergt.-Major Castle—who is married and resides in Walker Street, Ravensthorpe—was employed as a tuner prior to the war. Another brother is also serving.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Joe's memorial sash

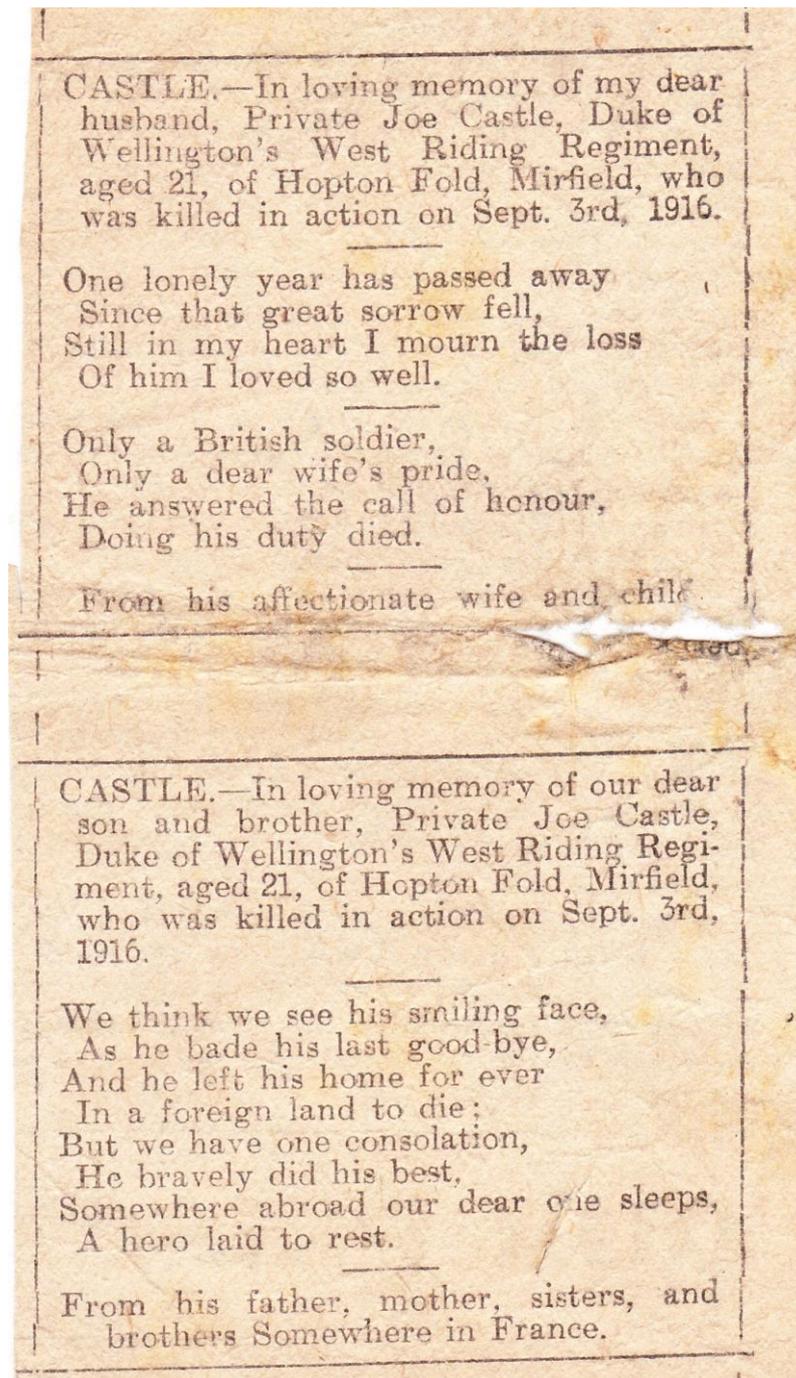


World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Family newspaper dedications 1 year after his death



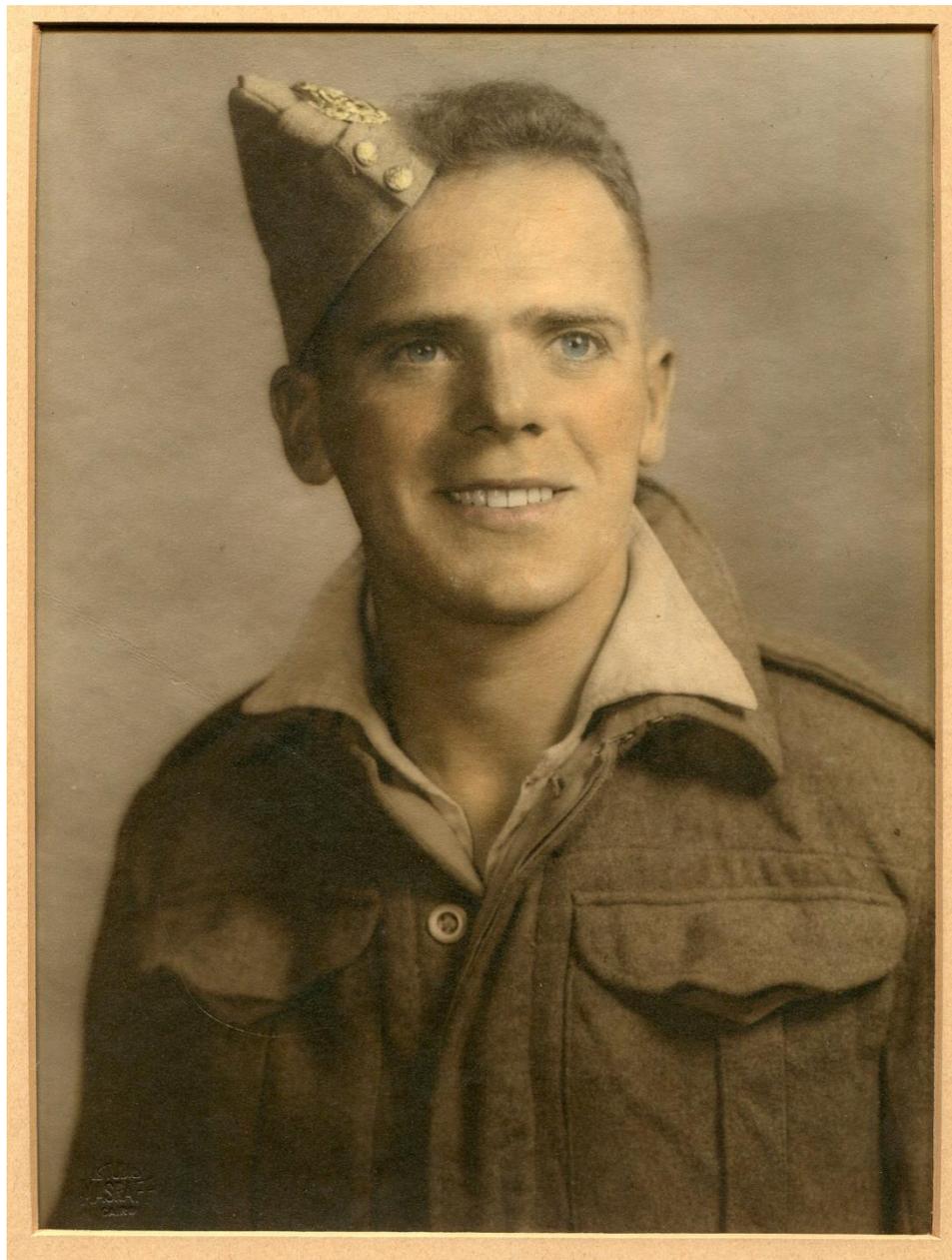
World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

Harold Castle (Joe Castle's son)

Harold married Marjory Swales in 1938 and had a son in 1939. He named his son Joe after his father.



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

The photograph below shows some of the Castle family circa 1944. From left to right Peter Castle, John Castle, George Haigh, George William Castle, Herbert Sykes (walking stick), Oliver Castle (top hat).



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Joe Castle

The marriage certificates of Emily and Laura Kilner (Mary Ellen Castle's grandchildren)

Note that they were both married at St John's and were still living at 16 Hopton Fold. Harry Castle was the witness on both occasions, their father George Henry Kilner was either not in attendance or chose not to be a witness.

Emily Kilner's marriage to Ralph Whiteley of Cardigan Road, Thornhill Lees.

1929. Marriage solemnized at <u>St John the Evangelist</u> in the Parish of <u>Upper Hopton</u> in the County of <u>York</u> .								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
315	Oct 5 1929	Ralph Whiteley	28	Bachelor	Blindist Miller	16 Cardigan Road Thornhill Lees	George Whiteley (deceased)	Cornic
		Emily Kilner	26	Spinster	weaver.	16 The Fold Upper Hopton	George Henry Kilner	Miner
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after <u>Banns</u> by me, <u>R.M. Hamis</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Ralph Whiteley</u> <u>Emily Kilner</u>		in the Presence of us,		<u>Harry Castle</u> <u>Harry Sykes</u> <u>Wit.</u>		

Laura Kilner's marriage to Harry Sykes of Cottage Row (Blank 7), Upper Hopton

1931. Marriage solemnized at <u>St John the Evangelist</u> in the Parish of <u>Upper Hopton</u> in the County of <u>York</u> .								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
323	April 18 1931	Harry Sykes	27	Bachelor	Mill hand	Cottage Row Upper Hopton	Benjamin Sykes	Ferrier
		Laura Kilner	26	Spinster	—	The Fold Upper Hopton	Harry Kilner	Miner
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after <u>Banns</u> by me, <u>R.M. Hamis</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Harry Sykes</u> <u>Laura Kilner</u>		in the Presence of us,		<u>Harry Castle</u> <u>Albert Roberts</u> <u>Wit.</u>		