

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Rank: Corporal

Demobilised : 27th January 1919



1/5th Duke of Wellingtons (West Riding regiment) Transferred to the 243rd D. Employment Company. Labour Corps on the 11th May 1918



Summary

Harry Castle's family home was 16 Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton where he was raised by his parents Robert and Mary Ellen Castle and Harry worked as a miner (Coal Getter - Hewer). Harry married Ada Jackson in May 1917 whilst on leave.

Harry served on the Western Front, his army medical report states that he received gun shot wounds but survived the war and was discharged in January 1919. He was the only soldier in the village to be awarded the Meritorious Service medal.

Both his younger brothers Herbert and Joe were killed in action on the Western front whilst serving with the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

Herbert lost his life in April 1917 (age 24) and Joe in September 1916 (age 21).

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Harry Castle

Family details

Date of Birth	19th November 1890
Date of Baptism	
Church Baptised	St John's, Upper Hopton
Father	Robert
Father's occupation	District Council Roadman
Mother	Mary Ellen
Siblings	Ada, Joe, Herbert, stepsister Mary (Bertha)
Parents residence	16 Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton
Soldiers residence	Above
Soldiers Occupation	Coal Getter (Hewer)
Married	16th May 1917 St John's church
Spouse	Ada Jackson - a weaver from Hopton Fold.
Children	
Burial / Memorial	
Age at death	49

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Harry Castle

Castle family Census 1911

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedule 166
(To be filled up by the Enumerator and collector.)

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 Person aged ten years and upwards			BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY	
		Male	Female	Single	Married	Widowed	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which worker is connected	Whether Employed or Working as an Apprentice				
Robert Castle	Head	51		Married	22	5	5	none	Road man (Gibbs & Brown) Mafes	Worke	Yorkshire	Hopton	
Mary Ellen Castle	Wife	48		Married	25	4	4				Yorkshire	Hopton	
Ada Castle	Daughter	21		Single					Blanket Weaver	Worke	Yorkshire	Hopton	
Harry Castle	Son	20		Single					Coal getter (Mines)	Worke	Yorkshire	Hopton	
Herbert Castle	Son	18		Single					Coal Fitter (Mines)	Worke	Yorkshire	Hopton	
Joe Castle	Son	16		Single					Coal Miner	Worke	Yorkshire	Hopton	
Mary Kilner	Daughter	19		Married	2	2	2	none	Blanket Whipper	Worke	Yorkshire	Hopton	
Emily Kilner	Granddaughter	4							School		Yorkshire	Hopton	
Laura Kilner	Granddaughter	6							School		Yorkshire	Hopton	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced
4	5	4	2

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

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 Mafes

Herbert Castle (b. 5 Jan 1893) and Joe Castle (b. 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.

Harry Castle (b. 19th Nov 1890) served in WWI. Harry survived and died in 1940. According to a newspaper cutting reporting his death 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".

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Harry Castle

Harry'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 sign his name with an "X").

1888. 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 1888	Robert Cassels Mary Ellen Brook	28 26	Bachelor Spinster	Finisher	Upper Hopton Upper Hopton	James Cassels William Brook	Miner 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>G. P. Thorne - Vicar</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us, <u>Robert Cassels his X mark</u> <u>Mary Ellen Brook</u>				in the Presence of us, <u>Walter Chappell his X mark</u> <u>Emily Broadley</u>				

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Harry'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)
(Photo approximately 1908-9)

Mary (Bertha) Kilner (Harry's stepsister) with
her eldest daughter Emily



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Harry 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 .

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	February 1 st	George Henry Kilner Mary Brook	20 20	Bachelor Spinster	Engineer	Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton. Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton.	Herbert Kilner —	Engineer-Tender —
Married in the <u>aforesaid Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <u>James</u> or after <u>Banns</u> by me, <u>W. Herbert Dodd</u> Vicar.								
This Marriage was solemnized between us, <u>George Henry Kilner</u> <u>Mary Brook</u>			in the Presence of us, <u>Henry Whitehead</u> <u>Joseph Holdsworth</u>					



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Harry Castle

Harry Castle was the eldest of three brothers and born 19th Nov 1890 (brother of Herbert and Joe Castle) Married Ada Jackson at St John's church, Upper Hopton in 1917. Harry and Ada had twin girls who died in infancy. Ada died 1938. In 1939 Harry re married Annie Eliza Coulter (nee Long). Harry had no surviving children.

Newspaper report 15 June 1940

Local newspaper 15th June 1940 "Harry Castle (49) of Carr St Batley Carr who died in Batley Hospital on Tuesday had worked since the last war as a blanket finisher at Messrs James Walker and Sons Butt End Mills Mirfield. He was a native of the Upper Hopton district and a lifelong member of St John's Church where as a lad he sang in the choir. A former committee man and member of Upper Hopton Working Men's Club he joined Batley Carr WMC when he came to Batley Carr 15 months ago. 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. Married twice, Mr Castle leaves a widow, formerly Mrs Coulter, Batley Carr. Also surviving are his step son Mr Norman Coulter, Batley Carr and two sisters Mrs Bertha Kilner and Miss Ada Castle both of Upper Hopton. The funeral was at Upper Hopton Church and was conducted by Rev H N Myers, Vicar"

Harry Castle's & Ada Jackson's wedding certificate 15th May 1917 - St John's church Upper Hopton

17917. 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.
244	May 15 1917	Harry Castle	26	Bachelor	Soldier	Hopton Fold, Mirfield	Robert Castle	Laborer
		Ada Jackson	26	Spinster	Widow	Hopton Fold, Mirfield	Harry Jackson (deceased)	Traveller
Married in the <u>Parish Church of said</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <u>Licence</u> and after by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Harry Castle</u> <u>Ada Jackson</u>		in the Presence of us,		<u>Arthur Jackson</u> <u>Annie Jackson</u> <u>Harry F. Home</u> Vicar		

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Harry Castle

Harry lived in Hopton Fold, shown in the photo below
(Several years later some of the cottages were demolished)



Harry in studio
pose.



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Military Details

Attestation / Enlistment	17th May 1912
Deployment	Home 17-5-1912, France 13-4-1916 to 8-6-1918, home 9-6-1918 to 27-1-1919 Discharged from Huddersfield war hospital, declared no longer fit for service
Rank	Corporal (formerly Private)
Medals	1914-1915 Star British War Medal Victory Medal Meritorious Service Medal Silver War Badge & King's Certificate
Regiment number	580677 (formerly 3001 or 2101)
Regiment	1/5th Duke of Wellingtons (West Riding regiment) Transferred to the 243rd D. Employment Company. Labour Corps on the 11th May 1918
Regimental Badge	
Discharged	27th January 1919 (no longer fit for service)
Cemetery or Memorial	
Age at death	49

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Harry Castle

Postcard from Harry Castle to Arthur Lockwood. Both Harry and Arthur lived on Hopton Fold. (Posted from camp at Grimsby 29 Sep 2014)



Harry is laying on the floor.



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

1/5th Battalion Territorial Force

14.04.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne.

12.05.1915 The formation became the 147th Brigade of the 49th Division which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1915 - The Battle of Auber's 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.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

The Labour Corps of 1917-1918

Infantry Pioneer and Labour or Works Battalions

An early solution to the vast demand for labour was to create in each infantry Division a battalion that would be trained and capable of fighting as infantry, but that would normally be engaged on labouring work. They were given the name of Pioneers. They differed from normal infantry in that they would be composed of a mixture of men who were experienced with picks and shovels (i.e. miners, road men, etc) and some who had skilled trades (smiths, carpenters, joiners, bricklayers, masons, tinsmiths, engine drivers and fitters). A Pioneer battalion would also carry a range of technical stores that infantry would not. This type of battalion came into being with an Army Order in December 1914. In early 1916, a number of infantry battalions composed of men who were medically graded unfit for the fighting were formed for labouring work. They had only 2 officers per battalion. Twelve such battalions existed in June 1916.

The Labour Corps is formed

Formed in January 1917, the Corps grew to some 389,900 men (more than 10% of the total size of the Army) by the Armistice. Of this total, around 175,000 were working in the United Kingdom and the rest in the theatres of war. The Corps was manned by officers and other ranks who had been medically rated below the "A1" condition needed for front line service. Many were returned wounded. Labour Corps units were often deployed for work within range of the enemy guns, sometimes for lengthy periods. In April 1917, a number of infantry battalions were transferred to the Corps. The Labour Corps absorbed the 28 ASC Labour Companies between February and June 1917. Labour Corps Area Employment Companies were formed in 1917 for salvage work, absorbing the Divisional Salvage Companies. In the crises of March and April 1918 on the Western Front, Labour Corps units were used as emergency infantry. The Corps always suffered from its treatment as something of a second class organisation: for example, the men who died are commemorated under their original regiment, with Labour Corps being secondary. Researching men of the Corps is made extra difficult by this, as is the fact that few records remain of the daily activities and locations of Corps units.

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Harry Castle

Military Records

Army Form E 62

AGREEMENT to be made by an officer or man of the
Territorial Force to subject himself to liability to
serve in any place outside the United Kingdom in
the event of National emergency.

I (No.) 2101 (Rank) Sgt

(Name) Harry Castle of the
(Unit) 5th West Riding Regt do hereby agree,
subject to the conditions stated overleaf, to accept liability, in the event of
national emergency, to serve in any place outside the United Kingdom, in
accordance with the provisions of Section XIII. (2) (a) of the Territorial and
Reserve Forces Act, 1907.

Harry Castle
Signature of Officer or Man.

J. Wilson
Signature of Commanding Officer
LT. COL.
5th WEST RIDING REGT

Station Lacelby

Date 12 Sept 1914

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Harry Castle

Military Records - Discharge papers

DISCHARGE *Laljet/al*

Army Form W. 3972a.

Notification to the Officer i/c Records of the Approval of a Soldier's Discharge under Paragraph 392 (xvi.), King's Regulations, by an Officer i/c Hospital, or under Paragraph 392 (xvi.) or (xvii.), King's Regulations, by an O.C. Discharge Centre.

NOTE—Army Forms W. 3972a, b and c are issued in sets of three, and are so arranged that Part I. of each Army Form can be completed at the same time by the O.C. Discharge Centre or Officer i/c Hospital, and Part II. of Army Forms W. 3972a and c by the Officer i/c Records, with the use of carbon paper.

PART I.

To the Officer i/c Records L E Nottingham
(for transmission to the O.C. unit).

The soldier named below has appeared before a Medical Board at this Station, and his discharge from the Service has **this day** been approved. The discharge will be confirmed for the date* on this notification.

No. 530677 Rank Cpl

Name Castle Harry
(Surname) (Christian names in full)

Unit and Corps 243 Employment Coy

His address † on } Hopton Fold Hopton
discharge will be } Merfield

Army Forms W. 3972c, B. 179a, b and c, B. 103, B. 178, D. 400, W. 3462a, W. 4462a, B. 120 and B. 122, or temporary documents, for the above-named soldier are forwarded herewith.

Army Forms B. 103, B. 120 and B. 122 are to be struck out by Officers i/c Hospitals in cases where a soldier has been admitted to hospital from Overseas.

Discharge Centre ‡ or Hospital } Huddersfield War Hospital.
from which discharged

Date 27 July 1919 E. Edward
O.C. Discharge Centre
or Officer i/c Hospital.
(Approving Officer.)

NOTE 1. *As the date of discharge in the case of soldiers entitled to repatriation abroad, who are prepared to embark at the first available opportunity, will be with effect from the date of embarkation, or approximate date of disembarkation, the Officer i/c Hospital or the O.C. Discharge Centre will amend this notification in such cases to read as follows:—"The discharge will be confirmed with effect from the date of embarkation or approximate date of disembarkation."

The address in such cases is to be the soldier's address on furlough.

NOTE 2. † The address given is to be that to which the soldier wishes his discharge documents, any pay that may be due to him, and any communication from the Ministry of Pensions, to be forwarded, except in the case of repatriation (see Note 1 above).

NOTE 3. ‡ Army Forms B. 179c and W. 3463a are only forwarded in cases of discharge from hospital.

§ Strike out whichever inapplicable.

PART II.

O.C. Clearing Office

Date for which discharge } Jan 27th 1919
has been confirmed

Para. and sub-para. of K.R. under } 392xvi
which discharge has been confirmed

Passed to you for publication in Part II. Orders.

Station Nottingham W Boulton

Date Jan 29 1919 **FOR COLONEL & LABOUR OFFICERS RECORDS.**

NOTE.—In the case of repatriation, when the soldier is prepared to embark at the first available opportunity, the Officer i/c Records is to retain this Army Form with the soldier's documents until he has confirmed the discharge.

(5743) Wt. W1833/PP1112 7,500 bks. 5/16 H.W.V.Ld. (E. 3195)

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Military Record - Note in section 7 - details of Medals: 1914-1915 Star and Meritorious Service Medal

Also note section 4 Wounded: which states gunshot wounds (GSW) to face, left arm and thorax.

L.C. 500674

MILITARY HISTORY SHEET.

1. Service.

Place	From	To	Years
Walsby	17-5-12	4-8-14	2
Embodied Home	5-8-14	12-4-15	3
Walsby	13-4-15	8-6-15	
Home	9-6-18	27-1-19	
Disembodied			6
			2
			4

2. Passed classes of Instruction† ...

3. Campaigns (including actions) ...

4. Wounded ...

5. Effects of wounds ...

6. Special instances of gallant conduct and mentions in public despatches ...

7. Medals, decorations and annuities

U.S.W. Face, Arm Lk + Thorax Serv. 4 6 15 (H.A. 2449)

10 4-15 Star

M.S.M. Vide London Gaz 16 1/2 19

10 surty allowed in det Q.O. 209 of 1916
 Credited for these 1 Issue
 Balance to be issued subsequently, as laid down in the Army Order
 Auth. Q.F. 15 3058 of 16-6-17

2 15
 7 5
 2 10

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Harry's Medal Card

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
CASTLE Harry		W. Regt. R. Lab. Corps	Pte.	3001. 580677
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	LC/101/3219	22253	16 75.	
BRITISH	L. C. 15	700		
15. STAR	L. C. 33. C. 2	C/43/5.		
S.W.B. List LC/4171				
Theatre of War first served in		①		
Date of entry therein		16.4.15		
K. 1380.				

Correspondence.	
Address.	

(25464-14a) Wt. W 3347—H.P 6461 2000m. 10/19 H. St Est. 5450/1256

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Harry's Medals



1914 - 1915 Star



British War Medal



Victory Medal

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Silver War Badge

The **Silver War Badge** was issued in the United Kingdom to service personnel who had been honourably discharged due to wounds or sickness during World War I.

It is a circular badge with the legend “For King and Empire – Services Rendered” surrounding the King George V cypher.



The King's Certificate

The award of the “King’s Certificate” and “King’s Second Certificate” to officers and men respectively. They had to have been discharged under the King’s Regulations “*on account of disabilities contracted*” following service overseas in a theatre of operations “*with an Expeditionary Force in the present war*” or “*on account of disablement certified to be directly attributable to the action of the enemy*”. Thus entitlement to the badge did not necessarily entitle a man to the award of a certificate whilst those awarded a certificate would most certainly have been entitled to a badge.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

The **Meritorious Service Medal (MSM)** is a silver medal for distinguished service, or for gallantry

(The Meritorious Service Medal was instituted on 19 December 1845 for the British Army, to recognise meritorious service by non-commissioned officers. Recipients were also granted an annuity, the amount of which was based on rank.

During 1916–1919, army NCOs could be awarded the medal immediately for meritorious service in the field. They could also be awarded the medal for acts of non-combat gallantry).



FRANCE

Awarded the "Meritorious Service Medal."

Corps 243rd D. E. Coy. Labour Corps.

Regimental Number 580,677.

Surname Castle.

Christian Name Harry.

Rank Pte.

Date of Gazette Peace Gazette (Imp)

Registered Paper 0134/5618. Schedule Number 280,710.

W7208/RP2272 20,000 11/18 (A1034e) W. & Co. K841

P.T.O. M7

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry Castle

Castle family grave St John's Churchyard Upper Hopton





Harry Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 28th April 1917

Joe, Harry and Herbert Castle are all mentioned

HOPTON FAMILY'S DOUBLE LOSS.

SECOND SON FALLS.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Castle, Hopton Fold, Upper Hopton, Mirfield, received from the War Office on Wednesday morning an intimation that their son, Lance-Corpl. Herbert Castle (24), was killed on the 9th April. He is the second son to fall in the war, Pte. Joe Castle, the youngest son, giving up his life last September. Lance-Corpl. Herbert Castle was attached to the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, and was in camp with them when the war broke out. He crossed to France about two years ago, and in October, 1915, was wounded, but not seriously. He was an old boy of Hopton C.E. School, and was attached to the Upper Hopton Parish Church, being a member of the Bible class. In civil life he was employed as a miner at a Kirkheaton colliery. Another son, Harry Castle, is serving with the Royal Engineers



Harry Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 16th Sept 1916 - See continuation next page
Joe, Harry and Herbert Castle are all mentioned

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 Castie—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, Kirk-



heaton. 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.



Harry Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 16th Sept 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."

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."



Harry Castle

Dewsbury Reporter 16th Sept 1916 - continued
More Mirfield Men.

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 Pte. 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.



Harry Castle

Upper Hopton Parish Magazine - See ABSENT FRIENDS

ABSENT FRIENDS.

It was heart breaking news which came to Mr. Robert Castle and his family, that Herbert had been killed. It so happened that word came of this a few days before our appointed Sunday for a special Commemoration of those fallen in the War, and particular point was given to this Solemn Requiem by the sad event. And since then we have welcomed home Sergeant Harry Castle and had a Memorial Service, for which the Church was filled, to honour his brother's memory.

We wish all happiness to the gallant Sergeant on his marriage to Miss Ada Jackson. God grant he may return safely to his Bride.

Private Arthur Fisher has been in Hospital with a troublesome skin trouble, due to the food which the advance from the trenches involved; but he writes happily from a Base Hospital in France.

Privates Walter Sykes and Arthur Loader, both of Northgate, are reported missing, and it is believed that they are Prisoners of War, but definite news of this is slow in coming to hand. Our respectful sympathy is extended to the families of these two, and may they soon get news.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harry 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



Harry 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.

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	Blanket Miller	16 Cardigan Road Thornhill Lees	George Whiteley (deceased)	Carrier
		Emily Kilner	26	Spinster	weaver.	16 The Fold Upper Hopton	George Henry Kilner	Miner

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Banns by me, R.M. Harris

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Ralph Whiteley in the Presence of us, Harry Castle Harry Sykes Witness

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

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	Fireman
		Laura Kilner	26	Spinster	—	The Fold Upper Hopton	Harry Kilner	Miner

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Banns by me, R.M. Harris

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Harry Sykes in the Presence of us, Harry Castle Albert Roberts Witness