

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



George Hebblethwaite



Rank: 2nd Lieutenant

**Killed in action: 7th July
1916 (Somme)**

**10th Bn. Lancashire
Fusiliers**



Summary

George Hebblethwaite's family home was Sheeps Ings Farm, Granny Lane, Mirfield where he was raised by his parents Abraham and Harriotte Hebblethwaite. George enlisted in the army in September 1914 direct from University.

George was killed in action on the 7th July 1916 in the battle for Contalmaison on the Somme (age 22) whilst serving on the Western Front with the 10th B'n. Lancashire Fusiliers.

George is remembered at the Thiepval Memorial in France.

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George Hebblethwaite

Family details

Date of Birth	26th April 1894
Date of Baptism	27th May 1894
Church Baptised	St Mary's, Mirfield
Father	Abraham
Father's occupation	Farmer
Mother	Harriotte
Siblings	Sidney, John William, Benjamin, Ernest, Kathleen
Parents residence	Sheeps Ings Farm, Granny Lane, Mirfield
Soldiers residence	Above
Soldiers Occupation	University
Married	
Spouse	
Children	
Burial / Memorial	Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France
Age at death	22

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George Hebblethwaite

Hebblethwaite family Census 1911



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, or 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 (Date of Birth) 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	INFERMIT.
1. <i>Abraham Hebblethwaite</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
2. <i>Harriet</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>Married</i>		<i>Canals, Mirfield</i>		
3. <i>Edney</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Farmer's Son working on Farm</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
4. <i>John William</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
5. <i>George</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
6. <i>Benjamin</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Railway Clerk</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
7. <i>Conrad</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>11</i>		<i>School</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
8. <i>Flathlam</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>7</i>		<i>School</i>	<i>Mirfield</i>		
9.							
10.							
11.							
12.							
13.							
14.							
15.							

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Total	Males	Females	Persons
	6	2	8

(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: *George Hebblethwaite*

Postal Address: *Sheep Fold Farm, Upper Hopton, Mirfield*

George was born on 26th April 1894 and was the son of Abraham & Harriet Hebblethwaite, of Sheep Ings Farm, Lower Hopton. He was academically gifted and attended Mirfield Grammar School and Manchester University where he was admitted as an Arts Student in 1912. He attended the University O.T.C. (Officers Training Corps) between Nov. 1913 and Oct. 1914 and enlisted in the army on 7th Sept. 1914. George is commemorated on the War Memorial in the quadrangle of the John Owens Building (Hulme Hall), The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester.

George was 5ft 10 with a fresh complexion, dark hair and blue eyes.

George is commemorated on the WW1 plaque in St Paul's church Mirfield.

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George Hebblethwaite

Extract from F. G. Pillings pamphlet.

I think that the oldest family in Hopton and probably Mirfield, the Hebblethwaites, would be connected with the coke producing business their land adjoined. They were good sound people and their Sheeps Ings farm, still intact, is a little oasis in the midst of change, all my life it has been a hive of agricultural industry, a big stack yard at harvest time, a picture of trim stacks properly thatched and at threshing time, buzzing for a week with the sound of Hamshire's threshing machine. I can see and hear it all now, the men carrying the full bags of corn to the granary,



another son building a stack with the newly threshed bats of straw. The boss himself, Abraham Hebblethwaite seeing that all was right, he was the absolute embodiment and example of the Yeoman as you

would picture him, a giant of a fellow in all ways, he was tall, well built, wore a good suit always and a blue and white spotted stock, a good white collar and all crowned by a box hat, he did not carry a stick as any little drover would, he carried a long staff and walked up the middle of the lane, a bit of an autocrat, not much to say, and most of all a gentleman, measured not by today's "Gold Standard" but by the bit of good breeding that showed through as it did in all the good horses and cattle that he kept.

The above photo shows Abraham outside Sheeps Ings Farm with his wife and children. I am not sure which one of the sons is George. Kathleen is the babe in arms on the right.

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George Hebblethwaite

Military Details

Attestation / Enlistment	7th September 1914
Deployment	Entered France 26th August 1915
Rank	2nd Lieutenant
Medals	1914-1915 Star British War Medal Victory Medal
Regiment number	(formerly 11600 with West Riding Reg't)
Regiment	10th Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers (Formerly 10th Bn. West Riding Reg't as a Sergeant)
Regimental Badge	



Killed in Action	7th July 1916 (Somme)
Cemetery or Memorial	Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France
Age at death	22

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George Hebblethwaite

George's military career

George joined the 10th Battalion Duke of Wellingtons West Riding Regiment as a Private on 7 Sep 1914 having spent a year as a Cadet in the Manchester University OTC. He was promoted to Lance Corp 12 Oct 1914; Corporal 12 Dec 1914 and the Sergeant 20 Mar 1915. He received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant on 24 Oct 1915 and was transferred to the 10th Lancashire Fusiliers with whom he served at his death.

George attended the University O.T.C. (Officers Training Corps) between Nov. 1913 and Oct. 1914 and enlisted in the army on 7th Sept. 1914. George is commemorated on the War Memorial in the quadrangle of the John Owens Building (Hulme Hall), The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester. George was killed at the Somme on 7 Jul 1916. At the time of his death he was a 2nd Lieutenant in the 10th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers.

10th (Service) Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers

15 July 1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and the Division engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

During 1916 - The Actions of Spring 1916, The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Delville Wood.

The Great War Forum gives the location of the 10th Battalion Lancs Fusiliers in July 1916 - Attack on Quadrangle Support Trench, Pearl Alley (7 July) - enemy in the former being unaffected by the British bombardment quickly fought off its attackers. On left - Pearl Alley taken and Contalmaison entered. Assault later driven back. Relieved and to Meaulte. Casualties 407. George's war record contains several different "eye witness" accounts of how he died and also a copy of a letter from his mother to his commanding officer requesting information (he was initially reported missing).

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George Hebblethwaite

Official WW1 War Diaries for the 10th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers

George lost his life on the 7th July 1916 and the following war diary gives detailed account from the 2nd to the 10th July 1916

George was involved in action around Marlandcourt which is approximately 7km due south of Albert and 15km from Thiepval

MORLANCOURT

2nd July 1916

March to Marlandcourt.

3rd July 1916

Move up into action.

4th / 5th July 1916

On the night of 4th / 5th July SHELTER ALLEY and QUADRANGLE TRENCH were carried by two companies 10th Lanc. Fus., one company remaining in support at the hedge connecting Shelter and Bolton Woods and one in reserve at Crucifix Trench. The attacking companies were received with rifle and M.G. fire but rushed the trenches.

Capt. THACKER personally reconnoitred QUADRANGLE trench almost as far as CONTALMAISON and established a stop in the trench. This stop was afterwards driven in. The position remained essentially unaltered during the 5th and 6th.

6th July 1916 – 4pm

During the afternoon of the 6th Lieut. Clay reconnoitred PEARL ALLEY and after a successful fight with some German bombers he established stops at the junction of PEARL ALLEY and QUADRANGLE Trench. These stops were driven in by the Germans about 10pm.

7th July 1916 – 2am

At 2am the Batt'n advanced on QUADRANGLE SUPPORT Trench having one company in reserve in SHELTER ALLEY. During the advance the German stops in PEARL ALLEY were cut off and prisoners captured.

On nearing QUADRANGLE support trench the Batt'n was received with heavy rifle and M.G. fire and driven back.

The right Company in contact with the Northumberland Fusiliers fell back to QUADRANGLE TRENCH. The two left Companies however managed to establish themselves in Pearl Alley

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George Hebblethwaite

and held on until daybreak. Two small parties in all 30 men found themselves in CONTALMAISON and claimed to have destroyed 4 M.G.'s. by firing into the works. They captured 20 prisoners and returned to their C.O's in Pearl Alley at daylight bringing a M.G. lock. At about 4am a detachment of the WORCESTER Reg't arrived in Pearl Alley to make an attack on CONTALMAISON but at this moment the enemy counter attacked from QUADRANGLE SUPPORT and from CONTALMAISON and both Regiments were driven back into QUADRANGLE Trench.

7th July 1916 - 8 am

The situation remained unchanged during and after the attack by the W.R.Reg't and the Manchester Reg't.

7th July 1916 - 10.00am

Lt.Col.Wade, 10th Lan. Fus., went to QUADRANGLE Trench and found the trench containing W.R.Reg't, Manchester and 10th L.F. considerably mixed.

The Northumberland Fus. were more to the right. At this time the enemy were making bombing attacks from CONTALMAISON and bombers of all corps were sent to repel them which was successfully done.

7th July 1916 - 12 Noon

About midday an attack was made on CONTALMAISON by the Welsh Reg't and Lieut. PRATT of that Reg't sending back to say their two companies of that Regiment holding on to the edge of the village but unable to advance for want of support, the reserve company Lanc.Fus. from SHELTER Trench and a large number of Welsh and Worcesters from the same trench were sent up. The village I understand was carried.

7th July 1916 - 5pm

The Batt'n was relieved by the South Staffords and SHERWOOD Foresters.

Moving to MEAULTE

8TH July

Move to VILLE.

10th July

REINCOURT

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George Hebblethwaite

A letter from George's mother asking for information about her son.

Sheep Ings Farm
Lower Hopton
Miffield, Yorks
July 14-16
3
C. d. // 3
Casualties Secretary

In my return Telegram to you
this morning I omitted to name
Batt. and Regt. (10th Batt Lanc. Fusiliers)
2nd Lieut. George Hebblethwaite is my son.
He left Brocton Camp, Stafford on the
13th of June, embarked for France on the
15th of June.
At Brocton he was attached to the
13th Lancashire Fusiliers
Arriving in France he was drafted to
the 10th Lanc. Fusiliers
His last letter home was written on the
1st inst.
His Valise, Field Glasses, &c. were stamped
the 13th ~~R~~ Lanc. Fusiliers. where he left
England.
Any information concerning him will
be thankfully received.
Yours Respectfully
Mrs Hebblethwaite
York sh

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George Hebblethwaite

Telegram to George's family informing them that he was killed in action

21/10/16

POST OFFICE
(Inland Official)

TELEGRAPHS.
Telegrams only.)

No. of Telegram 2426 15

I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the R.O.

(Signature) W. O. Suttie

Dated Stamp.

Prefix A° Code 21/10/16 Office of Origin and Service Instructions. O. H. M. S. Words. M.S. 3. CAS.

At Sheep's Farm Sent 21/10/16 M.

To Mr. Hebblethwaite By W. O. Suttie

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof.

TO { Mr. Hebblethwaite Sheep's Farm Mirfield York

Deeply regret to inform you that 21/10/16 Hebblethwaite 10th Lancers Fusiliers personnel reported missing is now reported killed in action just 51 The Army Council express their sympathy

FROM { SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form

11/10/16

York

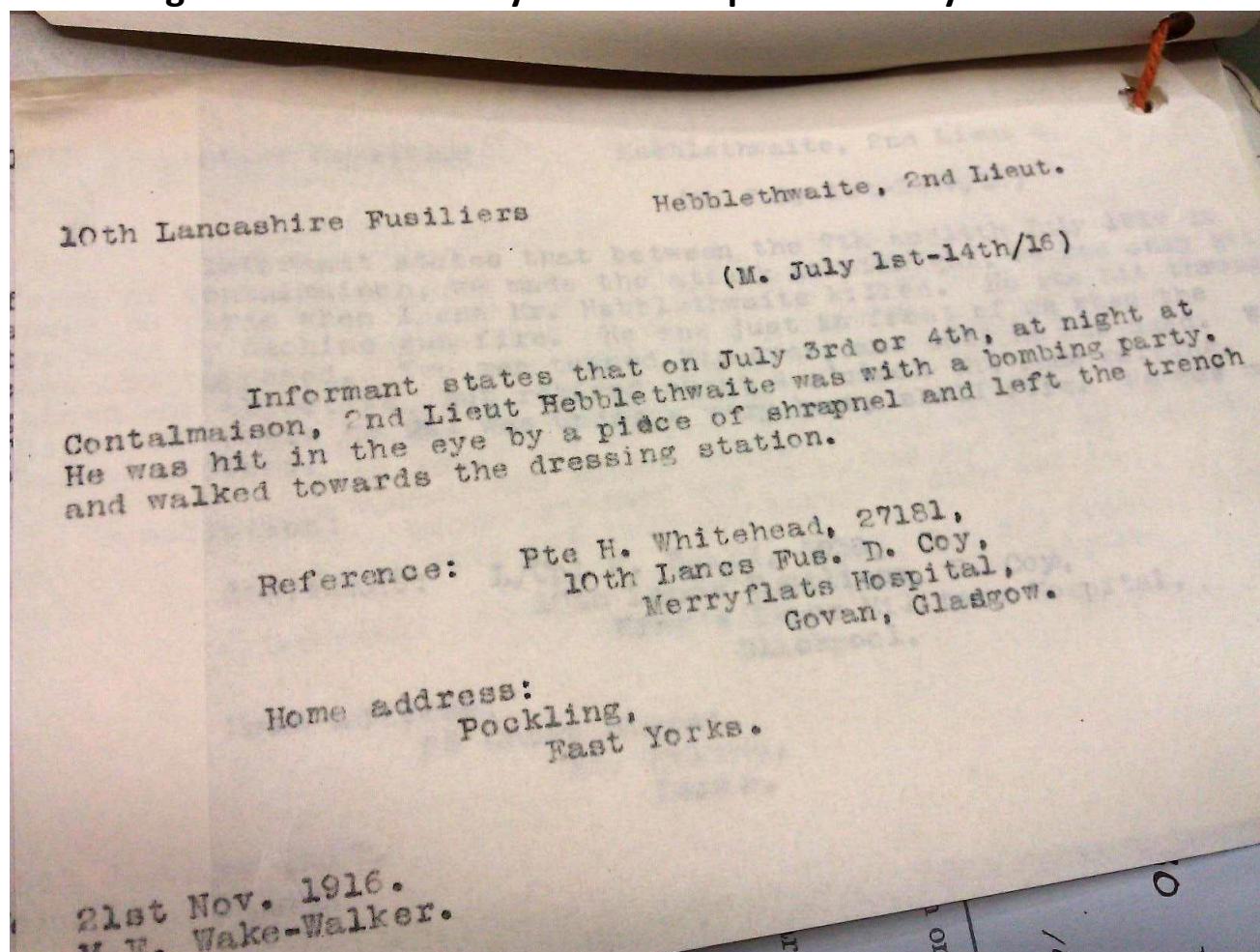
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George Hebblethwaite

See below three images which give three different accounts of how poor George Hebblethwaite met his end.

1. Evening of the 3rd - 4th July 1916 - Shrapnel in the eye



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George Hebblethwaite

2. 7th - 14th July 1916 - Machine gun fire

10th Lancashire Fusiliers

Hebblethwaite, 2nd Lieut G.
(M. July 1st-14th/16)

Informant states that between the 7th and 14th July 1916 in front of Contalmaison, we made the attack at midnight, we had only got about 50 yards when I saw Mr. Hebblethwaite killed. He was hit through the head by machine gun fire. He was just in front of me when the casualty happened. Two men turned him over, and said he was dead. We gained our objective, but retired about 4 o'clock the same morning. The ground where he fell was under a very heavy shell fire. He was my Platoon officer.

Description:

Informant: L/Cpl F. Beard, 5038,
10th Lancs Fusiliers, B. Coy.
King's Lancs Military Hospital,
Blackpool.

Home address:
66 Union Street,
St. Helens,
Lancs.

15th January 1917.
John T. Melling.

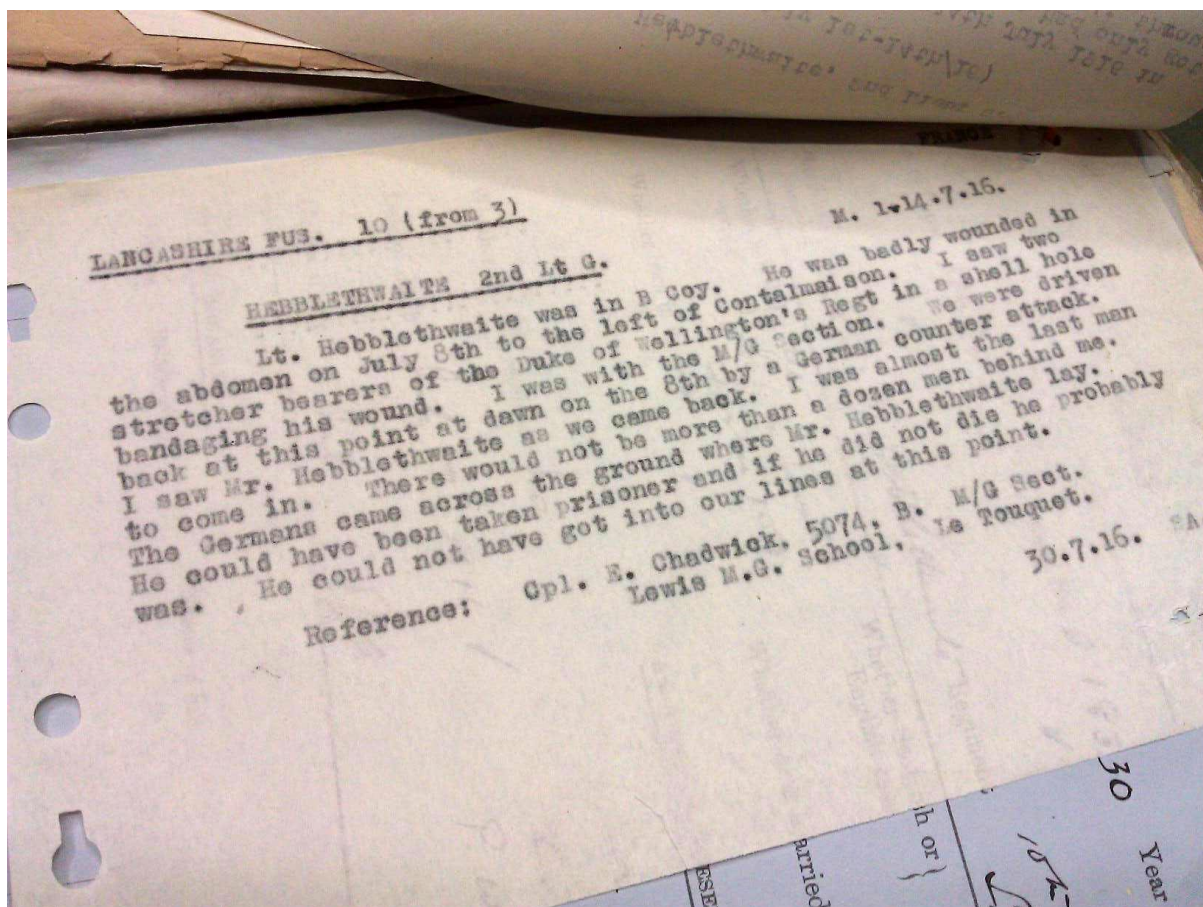
30 Year

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George Hebblethwaite

3. Shell hole and stretcher bearers.



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George Hebblethwaite

George's Medal Card

32 1.21 15 Star, B.W.V.Mid

Name.	Corps.	Rank	Regt. No.
HEBBLETHWAITE	10 th Lanch. Fus.	Sgt	11600
George		2 nd Lieut	

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY *	OFF/130	106	1V.X/5594/10/21. Auth. 8/2/3010.
BRITISH	— No —	Do	Returned (Comm'd) C.R.V. 153. 20.10.20.
15 STAR	0/2/313	190	Auth. EF/9/2912.

Theatre of War first served in (1) France

Date of entry therein 26-8/15

8/2/3010 EF/9/3912. K 1380.

Extracted from B.W.V.M. roll 6/2/10 194/384
 8.7.9 Returned 25.10.20.
 Extract from B.W.V.M. 0/2/10184/384. sld. inc. in 12.8.20
 849 returned 25-10-20

Address. Sheep Ings. Farm
 Mirfield

25454-14a) Wt. W 3347-H.P. 6451 100m. 10/19 H.St. Est. 5450/1250

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George Hebblethwaite

George's Medals



1914 - 1915 Star



British War Medal



Victory Medal

Thiepval Memorial

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George Hebblethwaite

In Memory of
Second Lieutenant

George Hebblethwaite

10th Bn., Lancashire Fusiliers who died on 07 July 1916 Age 22

Son of Abraham and Harriotte Hebblethwaite, of Sheep Ings Farm, Mirfield, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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George Hebblethwaite

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme battlefields bears the names of 72,194 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces. These men died in the Somme battle sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. The date of 20th March was the day before the German Army launched a large-scale offensive, codenamed "Operation Michael", against the British Army Front in the sector of the Somme. Over 90 percent of those commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial died in the 1916 Battles of the Somme between July and November 1916.



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George Hebblethwaite

Upper Hopton Parish Magazine August 1916

Killed, Wounded, Missing. — The past month has been overshadowed by sorrow or anxiety for some of the homes in our midst. Our respectful sympathy goes out to Mrs. Arthur Wheatley and to

Mr. Joseph Wheatley, on the death from wounds of Major Arthur Nevin Wheatley. Before this is in your hands we shall have paid honour to his memory and commended him to the care and love of God at a Memorial Service, on Sunday, July 30th, at 3-30 p.m. "I feel sure there are many who would wish for such an opportunity as this will afford to show their gratitude for what Major Wheatley was, and had done for their boys at the Front. As the Mother of one of them said to me, "there was not one of them but would have given his life for Major Wheatley," and as we know, "greater love hath no man than this."

We are glad to see Captain Willie Marriott and are all so sorry he has lost an eye in the cause. His cheeriness, however, illustrates the remarkable good spirits which prevail at the Front.

It is good to hear that Lionel Appleyard and Alfred Sykes, who were wounded, are doing well. You will be sorry to know that Second Lieutenant George Hebblethwaite, reported missing, has not been heard of. He had only recently been sent to join a new Battalion of his regiment.