

## **Private 202179 Harry Hooper**

Carpenter of Virginian Cottage, St Tudy

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

Born 1895 in St Tudy

Died of Wounds 7<sup>th</sup> June 1917 aged 22

Harry was the third of six children born to Harry Hooper (senior) and his wife, Jane, who came from St Teath. After leaving school, he went to work with his father and older brother, John and James, as a carpenter in the family building firm. His father's sister, Susan married Jonathan Rescorl who was butler at Hengar Manor for some years.

In 1916, Harry enlisted at Bodmin into the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Cornwall Pioneers as a signaller in the British Expeditionary Force, he kept a moving diary of his war service (see extracts). His last letter home, written the day before he died, was never posted (see separate copy). In it he thanked his parents for further supplies of flea powder and the weekly copies of the Guardian. He enjoyed hearing news from home and noted the 'farmers seem very unsettled'.

He was buried in plot VI B 2 in the British Cemetery at Grévillers near Calais in France and must have died in the vicinity. The main battles round there took place in March and April, and are classed as the German Retreat to the Hindenberg Line. The next big battles in which the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion took part were close to Ypres. Australian Casualty Clearing Stations were established nearby in April 1917 and continued in use until May 1918.

### **See also**

Photograph below, believed to be Harry Hooper

Extended biography containing extracts from Harry's Diary

His last letter home

