

# GEORGE DOOKS

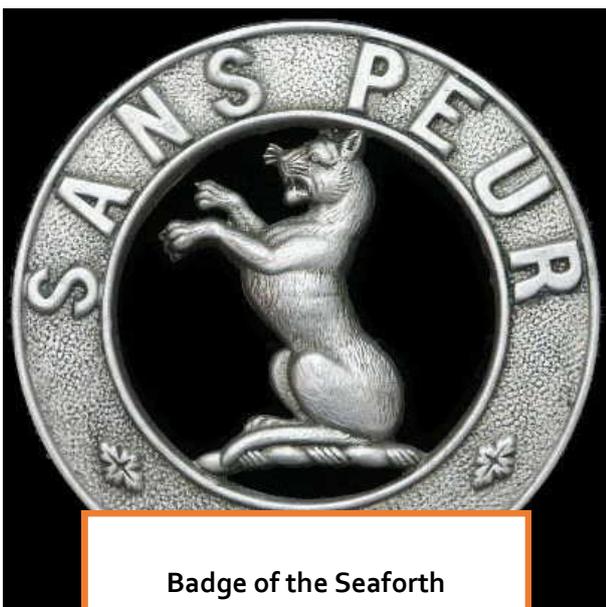
## 5TH BATTALION SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS

### EARLY LIFE

**George Dooks was born on 18 June 1897, the youngest child of Thomas Mathison Dooks and Emily Sarah Dooks (Bowser). His father Thomas was a Woolen Warehouseman and the family lived at 701 Bolton Road, Bradford. George was the youngest of five children, three older sisters; Gertrude, Nellie and Lilian, and one brother Frank who was four years older.**

**The 1911 Census shows that the family had moved to 748 Bolton Road. George was now 13 but was still at school. His two oldest sisters had married whilst Lilian was a shop assistant and Frank a bookbinder.**

**We do not have much information about George's Military career but we do know that he joined the Seaforth Highlanders as a Private, according to his Medal Index Card, but that by the time of his death he is listed as a Lance Corporal. He is listed as having first served in France on 1 September 1915.**



Badge of the Seaforth Highlanders

**Although we do not have evidence of George Dooks individual involvement at Passchendaele on the 31 July 1917 we do have the 5th Seaforth Highlanders War Diary.**

## REPORT OF OPERATIONS OF 1/5TH BATTALION SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS IN THE THIRD BATTLE OF YPRES

**“ATTACK** At ZERO hour (3.50am) the Artillery and Machine Gun barrage opened. The burning oil projectors were fired one minute too early.

**A Company advanced in two waves and captured the German front and support line with very little resistance.**

**B Company followed fifty yards in rear of A Company and, advancing in two waves, easily captured the BLUE LINE, consisting of the German Reserve trench and Switch line.**

**Nos 9 and 11 Platoons of C Company advanced in in one double wave, and, passing through B Company, captured SANDOWN and WELSH PARKS without any resistance. 1 machine gun was captured by the above Platoons. Owing to shelling these two Platoons were withdrawn during the morning and dug themselves in near B Company in the BLUE LINE.....**

**At 1.50pm August 1 orders were received to withdraw, and at 2.30pm the Battalion vacated the line and proceeded to Camp at A30 Central. Owing to the rain PERTH ROAD had become very heavy, in spite of which all the men returned in good order.”**

**The total casualties for the operations were as under:-**

**Captain J. Moir— Wounded**

**Other Ranks:-**

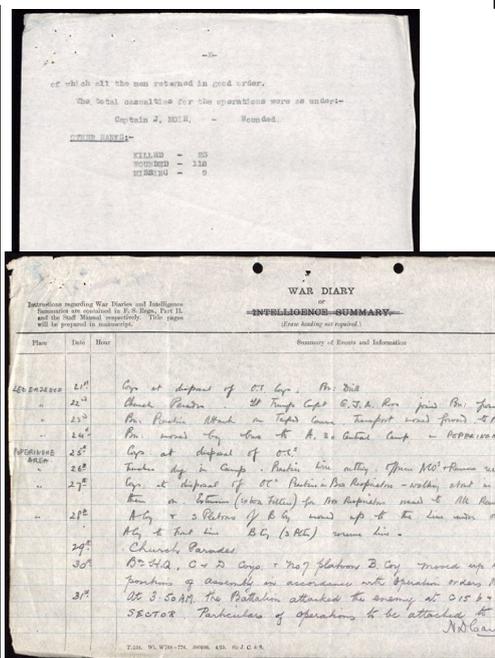
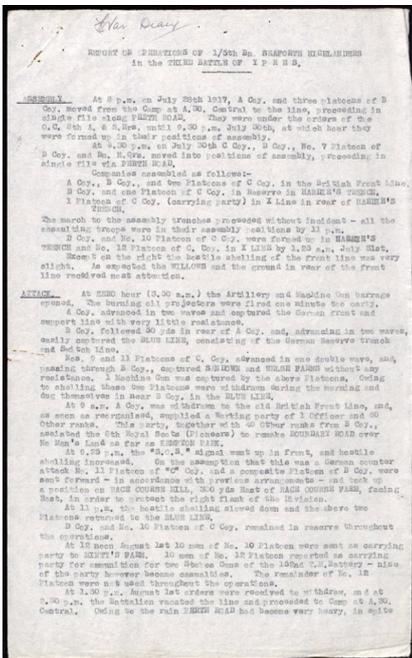
**Killed— 23**

**Wounded — 118**

**Missing— 9**

**George Dooks was killed in action on 31 July 1917, the first day of the Third Battle of Ypres.**

**His back pay and War Gratuity was paid to his family.**



**Lance Corporal George Dooks is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) memorial.**