



Kent War Memorials Transcription Project

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Commemorated on both the Saltwood parish tribute and also on the Hythe, Kent, civic war memorial are two casualties with matching initials and surname, who are a father and son, they being **D.S. LYTH**, and **D.S. LYTH** (Junior). At the time of the 1901 census the Lyth family resided at 49, High Street, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 36 year old Church Verger; Daniel S. Lyth (Senior) who was native of Richmond, Yorkshire, married to 38 year old Saltwood native Hannah Lyth (nee Cloke). Youngest of the family members recorded by the census enumerator was 2 year old Hythe native Daniel S. Lyth. Regretably only Daniel (Junior) has a CWGC commemoration, but with his surname erroneously spelt Lythe. All other official and unofficial data checked, including several years of census entries shows the family surname spelt Lyth. The relevant Medal Index Card entry for Daniel is also spelt Lyth.

LYTH, DANIEL STRINGER. (Senior).

Died Friday 25 May 1917. Aged 52.

Born Richmond, Yorkshire 10 September 1862.

Husband of Hannah Lyth (nee Cloke) of "Craigside," Castle Avenue, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent.

Buried Saltwood (SS Peter and Paul) Churchyard, Hythe, Kent.

Sixteen bombs rained down on Hythe during an air raid carried out by German Gotha bombers on the day that Daniel was killed. Reference was made above that in 1901 Daniel was a Church Verger, at the time of his death

he was still the Verger of the parish church of St. Leonards, Hythe, Kent. On 25 May 1917 Daniel was in conversation inside the parish church with the Vicar of Hythe, the Reverend Herbert D. Dale, and Mrs. Dale, upon hearing the sound of the air raid the conversation ended abruptly and the three rushed outside to investigate. As Daniel went outside a bomb dropped in the churchyard which shattered a number of tombstones, resulting in shrapnel and hard pieces of debris being thrown up. One of the pieces of shrapnel hit Daniel in his right thigh, and he was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Folkestone for treatment, but he succumbed to his injuries whilst a patient there later the same day. In addition to his duties as the popular Verger, Daniel was also the former Town Serjeant of Hythe, Kent. In addition to Daniel's death, another Hythe resident was killed during the bombing raid, she being Mrs. Amy Parker of Ormonde Road. Because Daniel and Amy were civilian casualties of the Great War there is no form of commemoration or remembrance of them by the CWGC, their demise being a perfect example of the injustice of the civilian Great War non-commemorations. A former regular soldier, Daniel had served as a member of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, which had included serving in Burma, and Daniel was still officially on the army reserve at the time of his demise. Prior to the erection and unveiling of the Hythe civic war memorial in 1921, Hannah Lyth requested that her late husband be commemorated on the war memorial next to her late son.

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