

Graham Eardley Dunsterville



Lieutenant, 1st Battalion Devon Regiment. Landed at Havre with Expeditionary Force, August 21st, 1914. On the Aisne with 3rd Division, 8th Brigade, September 30th. Joined 5th Division, 14th Brigade. La Bassée, October 22nd; Givenchy, October 28th. Killed in action at Festubert, October 30th, 1914, and buried behind the trenches. Mons Medal, 1914, General Service and Victory Medals.



GRAHAM EARDLEY DUNSTERVILLE was in the 1st Devonshire Regiment and was killed in action on 30th October 1914 in Festubert in France.

He was born in India on 9th July 1884, the son of a serving Army officer, Colonel Knightley Dunsterville, who owned Guyers House in Corsham. He had an elder brother who was also called Knightley.

CORSHAM COMMEMORATES



*Memorial plaque to Graham Dunsterville in
St Bartholomew's Church, Corsham.*

Graham was a career military man, having enlisted in 1901 when just 17 – he joined the Devonshire Artillery. He was commissioned in 1903 in the 1st Battalion Devon Regiment and served in India and Jersey. He was clearly a competent athlete and skilled swordsman: he won many military competitions for mounted and dismounted combat and was part of a team of British officers at international fencing tournaments in London, Holland and Paris immediately before the war.

In 1911, aged 26, he was stationed in Tidworth with the 1st Devonshire Battalion, and in 1912 he married Eveline Goldney, daughter of Sir Frederick Hastings Goldney of Beechfield, Corsham. They had two children, Petronilla, born in 1913, and Hugh, who was born in December 1914 after his father's death.

CORSHAM COMMEMORATES

Lieutenant Dunsterville was sent to the front with his regiment in August 1914 and was killed in action just two months later – he was rescuing a wounded soldier.

His widow Eveline applied for the 1914 Star, which was a World War I campaign medal, and this was approved. Her address at that time was given as Beechfield, Corsham. There is also a reference to Greystone House, Corsham. Both were owned by the family. Eveline died in 1981, aged 98.

To commemorate the christening of Hugh Dunsterville in February 1915 the Dunsterville and Goldney families planted an avenue of walnut saplings, twelve on each side, which ran from the entrance to Beechfield via Middlewick Lane into the Beechfield estate. Unfortunately most of these trees have been lost to subsequent developments.