ROMANO MATTIA

The book opens opens with the description of a family album. Dyer did reflections on the photos, memorials and literary testaments and so he operated as a historian in reverse. Dyer wrote that the First World War was a war in which memorializing was carried out even as it raged on.

Dyer is not a historian, so his approach is that an amateur, despite his grandfather was a soldier of the First World War.

The reader may understand that Dyer wrote “The Missing of Somme” in order to make a different image of war in young people’s mind.

In his book Dyer confesses that he wanted to write a book that was not about ‘the War itself’ but the effect of the idea of the War on his generation.

The missing of the Somme by Geoff Dyer