

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



HENRY TAYLOR

DUKE OF WELLINGTON REGIMENT

KILLED IN ACTION 5TH JULY 1916

BORN IN 1896 AT BENTHAM, YORKSHIRE, THE SON OF  
DUCKETT AND MARGARET TAYLOR

# Taylor Family History

- 1901 census shows Duckett, his wife Margaret and their 3 children living at Streakber Farm, Bentham with Duckett’s aunt and uncle as follows:

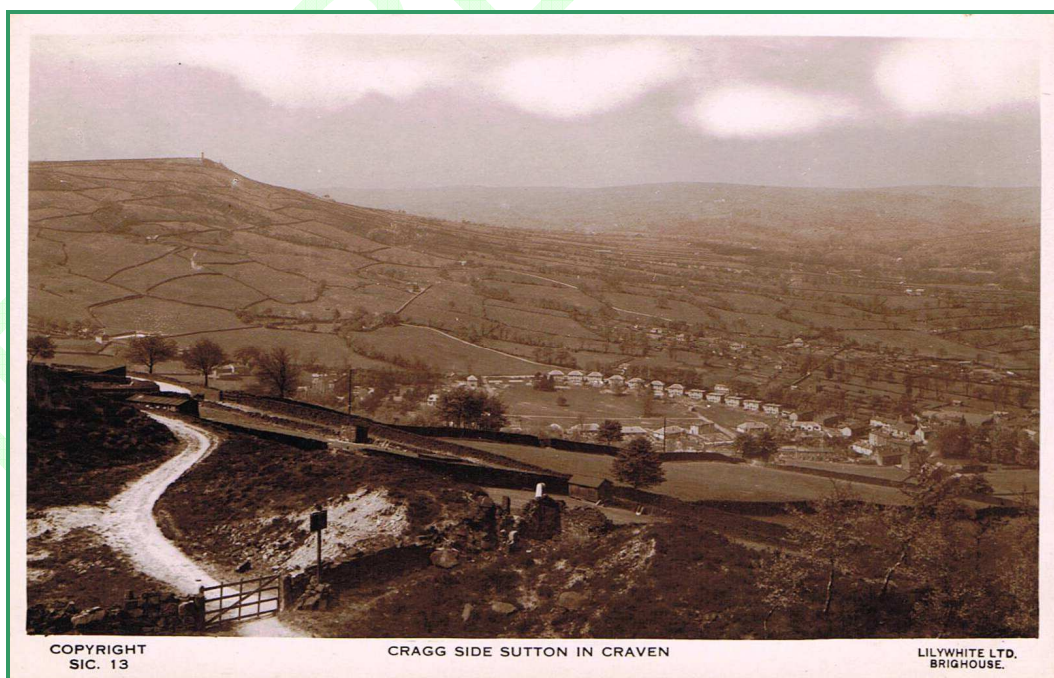
Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Richard Taylor (head)	82	Farmer	Clapham, Yorkshire	1819
Mary Taylor (sister)	72		Clapham, Yorkshire	1829
Duckett Taylor (nephew)	40	General farm labourer	Accrington, Lancashire	1861
Margaret Kendal Taylor	33		Wensleydale, Yorkshire	1868
Henry Taylor	5		Bentham, Yorkshire	1896 - 1916
Richard Taylor	3		Bentham, Yorkshire	1898
George William Taylor	baby		Bentham, Yorkshire	1901



Upper Main St, Bentham, Yorkshire (circa 1900)

- **1911 census** shows Duckett and Margaret had been married for 20 years and that of their 4 children born alive, 3 were still living and one had since died. It also shows the Taylor family now residing at Stubbing Hill Farm, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Duckett Taylor (Head)	51	Farmer	Accrington, Lancashire	1860
Margaret Kendal Taylor (wife)	43		Wensleydale, Yorkshire	1868
Henry Taylor	15	Worsted spinning doffer	Bentham, Yorkshire	1896 - 1916
Richard Taylor	13	Worsted spinning doffer	Bentham, Yorkshire	1898
George William Taylor	10	School	Bentham, Yorkshire	1901



View of West Lane leading to Stubbing Hill Farm  
(source: original postcard owned by Andrew Monkhouse)

# World War 1



It had been **99 years** since Britain was last involved in a major European conflict following the defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815

## **August 4<sup>th</sup> 1914** **Britain declares war on Germany**

In the autumn of 1914, the young men of the nation came from town and village to take the King's shilling and to offer him their dedicated services in defence of their homeland. From mills and mines, from shops and farms, from office chairs and civic departments, from loom, lathe, bench, plough and counter they flooded into the recruiting centres in answer to their nation's call for young manhood. These new recruits came to be known as **'Kitchener's Volunteers'**

## **The New Armies: "Kitchener's Volunteers"**





Earl Kitchener recruitment poster 1914



Parliamentary Recruiting Committee  
London, 1915



A long queue of British volunteers waiting to enlist for service abroad, 1914  
These men would form Kitchener's New Army  
(source: "Daily Graphic" photographs)



Prior to enlistment, Henry Taylor was employed as a wool sorter at Messrs. T. and M. Bairstow of Sutton Mill.

During the Great War, Henry Taylor responded to the call and volunteered to enlist into the 10th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) in February 1916.

His regimental number was 18368 and he commenced with the rank of Private.

The West Riding Regiment raised 24 battalions during WW1 including the 10th (service) battalion at Halifax in September 1914.

Pte Taylor entered the Theatre of War in June 1916 arriving in France. He was about to witness one of the most horrifying campaigns of the Great War - **The Battle of the Somme**

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
TAYLOR.	W. Rid. R.	Pte.	18368.
Henry.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	9/2/10/187.	486.	H. in A. 5. 7. 16.
BRITISH	"	"	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380.

MEDAL INDEX CARD for Henry Taylor (source: *The National Archives*)



WW1 Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) Cap Badge

## Battle of the Somme

**1st July – 18th November 1916**

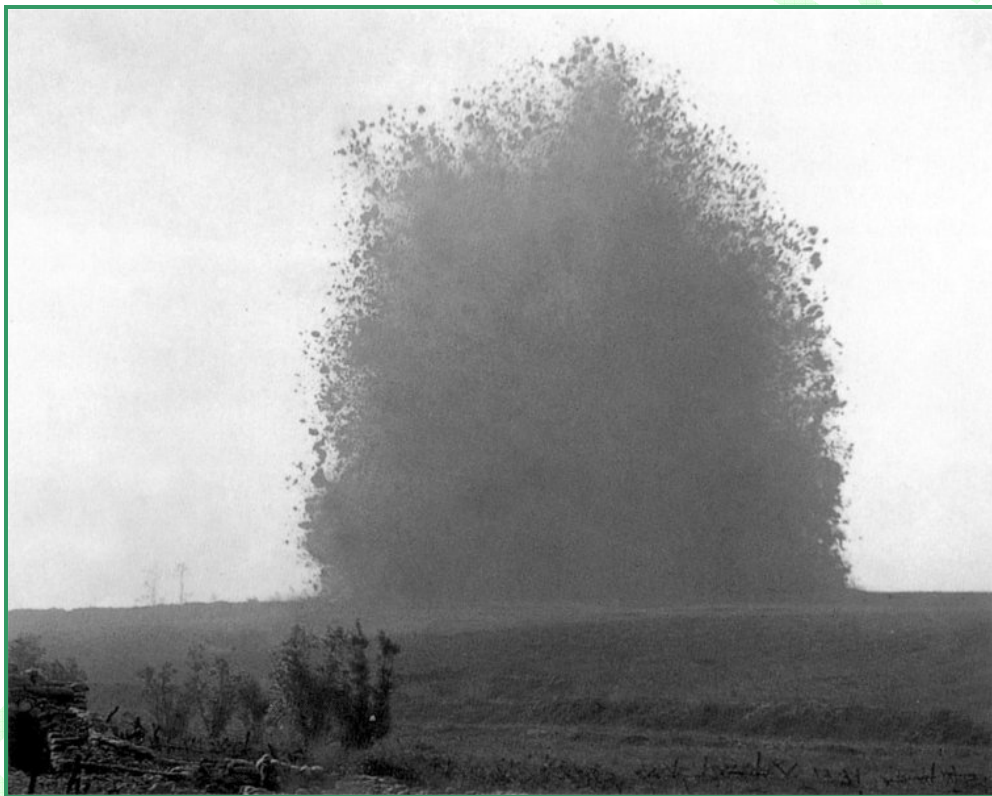
The Battle of the Somme was fought from 1st July – 18th November 1916 and claimed more than 1.5 million casualties.

The battle was preceded by 7 days of preliminary artillery bombardment, in which the British fired over **1.7 million shells**. The logic behind this was so to destroy the German trenches and barbed wire placed in front of the trenches before sending in the infantry.



However, the enemy's position was situated on high, undulating tract of ground, in which they had deep trenches and bomb proof shelters for their men. When the bombardment started the Germans moved these men into the relative safety of the deep dugouts. When the bombardment stopped, the Germans knew that this was the signal for an infantry advance. They moved from the safety of their dugouts and manned their machine guns to face the British and French.

Ten minutes before the infantry advance, at 7:20 a.m. on 1st July 1916, a British officer detonated a massive mine beneath the **Hawthorn Ridge** (photo below).



Explosion of the Hawthorn Ridge, 1st July 1916

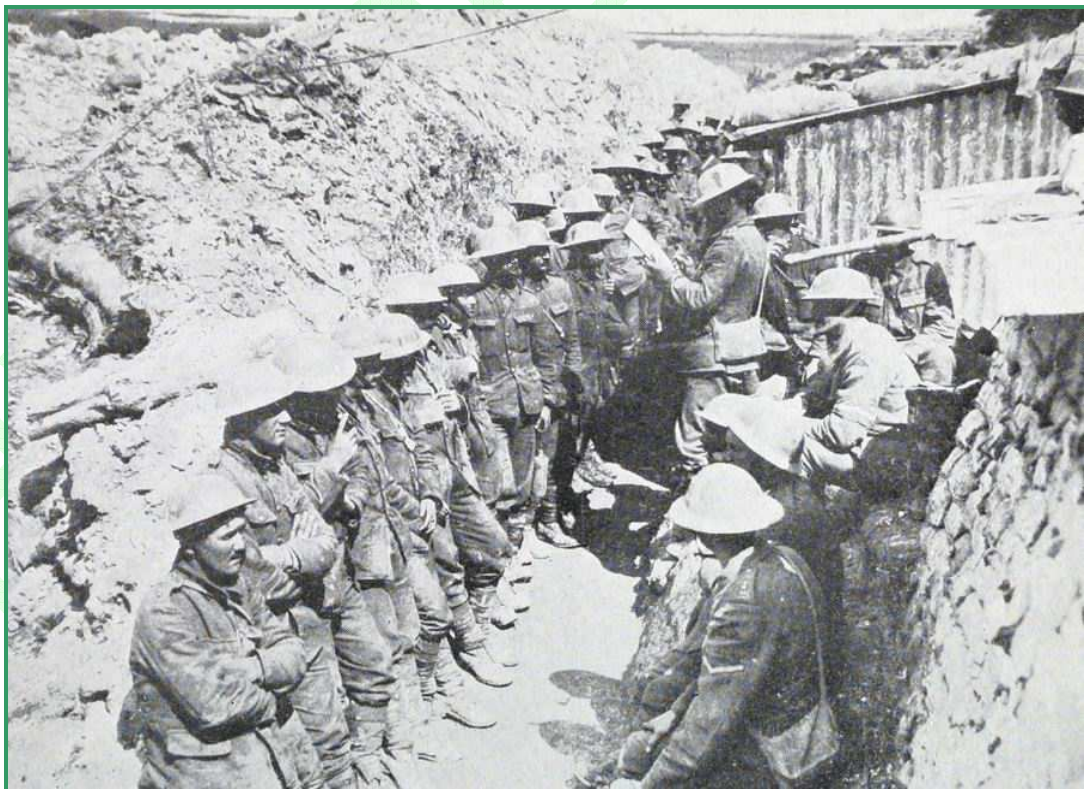
At 7.30am, on a clear midsummer's morning, the British infantry emerged from their trenches and advanced in extended lines at a slow steady pace across the grassy expanse of No Man's Land. There they met a hail of machine-gun and rifle fire from the German defenders. Accurate German barrages immediately added to the pandemonium, as shells engulfed the attackers and wrecked the crowded British assembly trenches. The advancing infantry and many more waiting to attack suffered enormous casualties.





Second wave of British troops going 'over the top' on the Somme  
(source: [www.gwpda.org/photos](http://www.gwpda.org/photos))

The Battle of the Somme is best remembered for its first day, 1st July 1916 on which the British suffered 57,470 casualties, including **19,240 dead** - the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army.



Roll call in the British trenches at the Battle of the Somme, afternoon, 1st July 1916  
(source: [www.gwpda.org/photos](http://www.gwpda.org/photos))

Ironically, going 'over the top' at the Somme was the first taste of battle many of these men had, as many were part of "Kitchener's Volunteer Army" persuaded to volunteer by posters showing Lord Kitchener himself summoning these men to arms to show their patriotism.

The battle became a metaphor for futile and indiscriminate slaughter. By the time the Battle of the Somme was abandoned the Allies had advanced only 5 miles.

The Somme campaign finally came to an end on the 18th November 1916 when the British 51st Highland Division took Beaumont Hamel that had in fact been an objective for the first day.

The British Army suffered, over the course of the entire 142-day Somme campaign, some 415,000 casualties, which works out to be around 3,000 per day. The French lost 200,000 men and the German's nearly 500,000

Having only just arrived on the Western Front the previous month, Pte Henry Taylor was **Killed in Action** during the Battle of the Somme on the 5th July 1916.

He was 20 years of age



Article Date: 28 July 1916

#### SUTTON - PRIVATE HENRY TAYLOR KILLED

Mrs. Taylor, of Sutton Lodge, has received a letter from Company Quartermaster Frank Stephenson as follows:-"I am very sorry to inform you that your son, Private Taylor, was killed in action on the 5th inst. If it is any consolation to you, I might say that your son was killed whilst heroically attacking the German trenches, and his regiment covered itself with glory. Although he was not in my Company, coming from the same district, and knowing him

personally, I thought it best to write you, as it might be a few weeks before you are officially notified through the War Office. Wishing you all sympathy in your sudden and sad bereavement, Yours truly,  
(signed) C.Q.M. Stephenson, A. Company, 10th West Riding Regiment."

(source: *Craven's Part in the Great War* [www.cpgw.org.uk](http://www.cpgw.org.uk))



## Casualty Details

**Name:** TAYLOR, HENRY

**Initials:** H

**Nationality:** United Kingdom

**Rank:** Private

**Regiment/Service:** Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)

**Unit Text:** 10th Bn.

**Age:** 20

**Date of Death:** 05/07/1916

**Service No:** 18368

**Additional information:** Son of Margaret K. Taylor, of "Oaklands," Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley, and the late Duckett Taylor.

**Casualty Type:** Commonwealth War Dead

**Grave/Memorial Reference:** Pier and Face 6 A and 6 B.

**Memorial:** THIEPVAL MEMORIAL

(source: *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* [www.cwgc.org/](http://www.cwgc.org/))



# THIEPVAL MEMORIAL



Thiepval Memorial  
(source: *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* [www.cwgc.org/](http://www.cwgc.org/))



Thiepval Memorial

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the 'Missing of the Somme', bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces including Pte Henry Taylor, who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.

The memorial, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, was built between 1928 and 1932 and unveiled by the Prince of Wales, in the presence of the President of France, on 31 July 1932.

Pte Henry Taylor is also remembered on the Sutton-in-Craven war memorial and on the Bentham war memorial



Sutton-in-Craven War Memorial  
(photo taken by Paul Wilkinson)





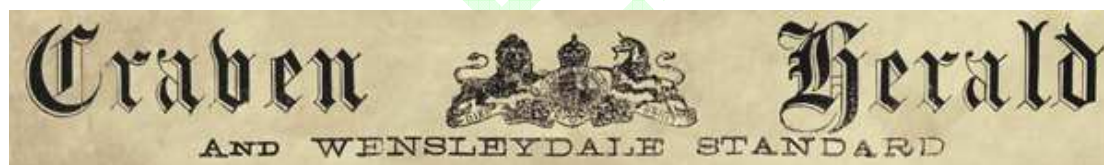
Sutton-in-Craven War Memorial

(source: Rachel Simpson & Richard Whiteoak from the Glyn Whiteoak collection)





Bentham Town Hall Memorial Plaque  
(source: *Craven's Part in the Great War* [www.cpgw.org.uk](http://www.cpgw.org.uk))



Article Date: 29 June 1917

**TAYLOR** - In loving remembrance of our dear son and brother, Pte. Henry Taylor, 10th West Riding Regiment, who was killed in action in France July 5th 1916, aged 20 years.

*Sleep on, dear son, in a soldier's grave,*

*Your life for your country you nobly gave,*

*No loved ones near you to say good-bye,*

*But in God's keeping now safe you lie.*

Ever remembered by his Father, Mother, Brothers, and dear little Percy.

(source: *Craven's Part in the Great War* [www.cpgw.org.uk](http://www.cpgw.org.uk))



Pte Henry Taylor was posthumously awarded the  
British War Medal & Victory Medal



Original pair of WW1 medals (source: owned by Andrew Monkhouse)



A Memorial Plaque inscribed with the soldiers name was also given to the family of those who were killed during WW1



Original WW1 Memorial Plaque (name digitally altered)  
Also referred to as a Death Plaque or Dead Man's Penny  
(source: owned by Andrew Monkhouse)



## Lest we Forget

### CRAVEN'S ROLL OF HONOUR



PRIVATE HENRY TAYLOR, Duke of Well.'s Regt.,  
son of Mr. Duckett Taylor, Streaker Farm,  
Bentham, killed in action 5th July, 1916. Aged  
20 years.

source: *Craven's Part in the Great War*

(original 1919 copy owned by Andrew Monkhouse)

# FOR THE FALLEN

*THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD, AS WE THAT ARE  
LEFT GROW OLD*

*AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM, NOR THE YEARS  
CONDEMN*

*AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE  
MORNING*

*WE WILL REMEMBER THEM*

**LAURENCE BINYON, 1869-1943**



(Information compiled by Andrew Monkhouse 2011)