

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



PERCY HARGREAVES

DUKE OF WELLINGTON REGIMENT

DIED OF WOUNDS 20TH JULY 1918

BORN IN 1898 AT SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN, THE SON OF
ALFRED AND ETTY HARGREAVES

Hargreaves Family History

- **1901 census** shows Alfred, his wife Etty and their 2 children living at Sutton House, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Alfred (Head)	33	Wool sorter	Sutton-in-Craven	1868 - 1941
Etty (wife)	32		Sutton-in-Craven	1869 - 1908
Frank	4		Sutton-in-Craven	1897
Percy	2		Sutton-in-Craven	1899 - 1918

Hargreaves family circa 1908 (Etty now deceased)



Back L to R: Percy, Alfred & Frank.
Front L to R: Evelyn, Charles & James
(source: photo supplied by Roger Davy)

- **1911 census** shows Alfred and his second wife Florence had been married for 2 years and that one child had been born to this current marriage (Wilfred). It also shows the Hargreaves family still living at Sutton House, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Alfred (Head)	43	Bookkeeper in worsted yarn mill	Sutton-in-Craven	1868 - 1941
Florence (2nd wife)	34	Housewife	Lincoln, Lincolnshire	1877 - 1949
Frank	14	Bobbin setter in worsted mill	Sutton-in-Craven	1897
Percy	12	School / part-time worsted spinner	Sutton-in-Craven	1899 - 1918
James Hardy	9	School	Sutton-in-Craven	1902
Eveline	7	School	Sutton-in-Craven	1904
Charles Alfred	5	School	Sutton-in-Craven	1906
Wilfred	baby		Sutton-in-Craven	1911

During the Great War the Hargreaves family were now recorded as living at 20, North Street, Sutton-in-Craven.



North St, Sutton-in-Craven
(source: photo provided by David Smith)

World War 1



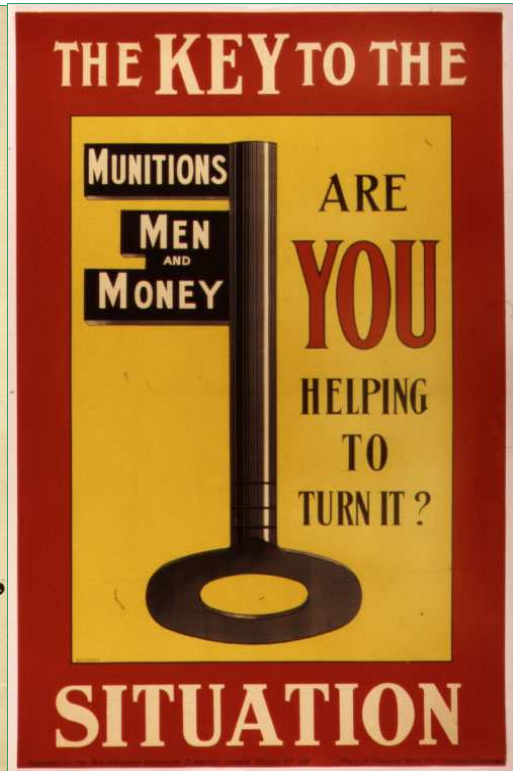
It had been **99 years** since Britain was last involved in a major European conflict following the defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815

August 4th 1914

Britain declares war on Germany



Earl Kitchener recruitment poster 1914



Parliamentary Recruiting Committee
London, 1915 (July)

The New Armies: "Kitchener's Volunteers"

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'



British volunteers physical training, Manningham Park, 1914 (Kitchener's new army)
(source: *The Bradford Pals* Ralph N. Hudson 2nd Ed, 1993)

Prior to enlistment, Percy Hargreaves worked as an apprentice butcher with Mr Gilbert Hargreaves at Crosshills. Before this he was employed as a worsted spinner.

At the age of eighteen, Percy Hargreaves responded to the call and volunteered to enlist into the 2/4th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) at Halifax on the 14th April 1917. His regimental number was 22345 and his rank was Private.

The West Riding Regiment raised 24 battalions during WW1 including the 2/4th (Territorial Force) battalion formed at Halifax in September 1914 as a home service 'second line' unit.



WW1 Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) cap badge

5096 2513

HUGHLEY

Army Form B. 2513

RECORD OF SERVICE PAPER (GENERAL SERVICE)

For men deemed to be enlisted in H.M. Regular Forces for General Service with the Colours or in the Reserve for the period of the War, or Ex-Soldiers recalled for Service with the Colours, under the provisions of the Military Service Act, 1916.

No. 100003 Christian Names Percy Surname Hargreaves

Corps Training Reserve

Questions to be put to the Recruit on Joining.

1. What is your Name? ... 1. Christian Names Percy
Surname Hargreaves

2. What is your full Address? ... 2. 20 North St
Southon Old Houghley

3. Are you a British Subject? ... 3. Yes

4. What is your Age? ... 4. 18 Years 10 1/2 Months

5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... 5. Butcher

6. Are you Married? ... 6. No

7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military? If so, which? ... 7. No

8. Have you any preference for any particular branch of the service, if so, which? ... 8. No

9. Are you desirous of serving in the Royal Navy, if so, state your qualifications. ... 9. No

I, Percy Hargreaves do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true.

Christian Name Percy Surname Hargreaves SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT

Date 14-4-17 19

Place Houghley E. Salmon Signature of Witness

EXEMPTION FROM COMBATANT SERVICE ON CONSCIENTIOUS GROUNDS.

If the Recruit has been exempted by a Tribunal on conscientious grounds from serving as a combatant should be so stated here no

MEDICAL CLASSIFICATION AS TO FITNESS FOR SERVICE ON JOINING.

Classification* GENERAL SERVICE

* To be filled in by the Recruiting Officer after Classification by the Medical Board.

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I approve the acceptance of the above-named man, and appoint him to the 2 Training Reserve

Date 14 APR 1917 19

Place HALIFAX for O.C. 33rd RECRUITING AREA. Approving Officer

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
‡ Here insert the "Corps" to which the Recruit has been appointed.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Chagnote which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz. (Name) _____ on the (Date) _____ enrolled in the (Regiment) _____

Copy of attestation service paper signed by Percy Hargreaves 14/04/1917
(source: WW1 army service papers The National Archives)



Private Percy Hargreaves
(photo supplied by Roger Davy)

Pte Percy Hargreaves embarked from England on the 30th January 1918, arriving in France on the 31st January 1918 to join the fighting units on the Western Front.

33			
Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
HARGREAVES	W. Rid. R.	Pte	22345
PERCY			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks
VICTORY	0/2/10/138	895	2 of W. 20. 7. 18.
BRITISH	" "	" "	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

MEDAL INDEX CARD for Percy Hargreaves (source: *The National Archives*)

The Western Front, 1918

The Western Front was the name applied to the fighting zone in France & Flanders, where the British, French, Belgian and later American armies faced that of Germany.

It was marked by a system of trenches and fortifications separated by an area known as No Man's land. These fortifications stretched 475 miles and precipitated a style of fighting known as trench warfare.

From the moment the German army moved into Luxemburg on the 2nd August 1914 to the Armistice on the 11th November 1918, the fighting on the Western Front in France & Flanders never stopped.

Just as there were quiet periods, there were also the most intense, savage, huge-scale battles the world has ever known.



British trenches, WW1

However, it was the Russian Revolution in 1917 that finally changed the nature of the deadlock and war of attrition in the west. Once the fighting had halted in the east, it allowed the Germans to transfer many Divisions to the Western Front. They knew that time was running out, for the United States of America had entered the war on the Allied side and it was only a matter of time before vast untapped reserves of manpower swung the balance in the favour of the Allies.

On the 11th November 1917, the German High Command decided to make a decisive attack in the west in the following spring. Their target was the British Army. They believed that the British were exhausted by the four major efforts in 1917 (Arras, Messines, Passchendaele and Cambrai).

By mid-February 1918, the Germans had moved many Divisions from the now collapsed eastern front to the west in preparation for this major spring offensive

The German army struck a number of large-scale, last-ditch offensives from March 1918, until their exhausted efforts forced the Germans to call for an Armistice in November 1918.



German troop attacking, WW1

The last major German spring offensive on the Western Front during WW1 was the **Second Battle of the Marne** fought from the 15th July to 6th August 1918. This final German offensive failed when a series of Allied counterattacks overwhelmed the Germans, inflicting severe casualties.

One of these Allied counterattacks occurred between the **20th July and 31st July 1918** that came to be known as the **Battle of the Tardenois**

Two newly-arrived British infantry Divisions, the 51st (Highland) and the 62nd (West Riding) were thrown straight into the attack. The Germans ordered a retreat on the 20th July and were forced back to the positions from which they had started their Spring Offensives.

The 51st and 62nd Divisions had several days of very heavy fighting during the Battle of the Tardenois with high casualties for minimal gains.

Pte Percy Hargreaves was **Wounded in Action** on the **1st day of the Battle of the Tardenois** whilst fighting with the 2/4th battalion West Riding Regiment as part of the 62nd (West Riding) Division.

He was treated in a field hospital for a shot wound to the abdomen and subsequently **Died of Wounds** the same day on 20th July 1918

He was 19 years of age

This Form must accompany any inquiry respecting this Telegram.

Delivery and Charges.		POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.			
Means	If the Receiver of an Inland Telegram doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission, any fraction of 1d. less than 1d. being reckoned as 1d.; and if it be found that there was any inaccuracy, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.	At	Office Stamp.		
Distance		By			
Collected					
Paid out					
C. OR B.	Prefix	Handed in at	Office of Origin and Service Instructions	Words	Received here at

5.30 London Y. Hms

Attest two York

No. 30 JUL 1918

C2. Cas p. 130460 C. C. 2/1

W. Rio Fld amb France Reports

20 July Died 20.7.18. 22345

Pte P. Hargreaves 2/4 West Ridg

Regt S. W. abdomen and arm

Received at

From

By

Charges to pay s. d.

B. or G. S. (1908) M 225 W. 3145 F. 125, 126, 127. H.C. N. (1908).

Telegram showing 22345 Pte Percy Hargreaves died from a shot wound to the abdomen.
(source: WW1 army service papers The National Archives)



Article Date: 02 August 1918

Mr. Alfred Hargreaves, of North Street, Sutton Mill, received official news on Wednesday morning that his son, Private Percy Hargreaves, Duke of Wellington's Regiment, had died in a field hospital in France of wounds on the 20th of July. Private Hargreaves, when he joined up, was placed in the Durham Light Infantry, afterwards being transferred into the 'Duke's.' He was 19 years old, and was apprenticed to butchering with Mr. Gilbert Hargreaves, Crosshills, and was closely associated with Sutton Baptist Church and Sunday School.

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



Article Date: 09 August 1918

On Sunday morning a memorial service to Private Percy Hargreaves of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who died on the 20th July in a field hospital in France from wounds, was held in Sutton Baptist Chapel. The preacher was the pastor (Rev. F. W. Pollard), who paid a glowing tribute to Private Hargreaves, who had been closely associated with the Sutton Baptist Sunday School prior to joining His Majesty's Force. The Crosshills Platoon of the West Riding Volunteers attended the service, also the Sutton Baptist troop of Boy Scouts.

Special hymns of intercession were sung, and the choir, under Mr. Turner Smith, gave an anthem. Mr. Joseph Petty was the organist. There was a large congregation.

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

Any further letter on this
subject should be addressed to:
Officer i/o

and the following No. question

Date 25-10-1918

To M^r A Hargreaves

20 North Street

Sutton - in - Brown Highley

From



SIR or MAM,

I am directed to forward the undermentioned articles of
private property of the late No. 12345 Rank Pvt

Name Hargreaves A

Regiment 2nd YORK WEST RIDING REGT

and would ask that you will kindly acknowledge receipt of the
same on the form overleaf:—

Dime, Letter, Photos, old Book,
Religious Book, Cards, Wallet, Purse,
Knife, 1 Badge, 2 Lilies, Pencil,
1 Syllabus, hat Registered Card,

These are the only articles at present forthcoming, but
should any further articles be received at any time they will be
duly forwarded.

Yours faithfully,

Colonel.

O. i/o No. 2 Infantry Records, York.
Officer in charge of Records.

Copy of army 'private property' receipt form sent to Percy's father Alfred Hargreaves.
(source: WW1 army service papers The National Archives)



Casualty Details

Name: HARGREAVES, PERCY
Initials: P
Nationality: United Kingdom
Rank: Private
Regiment/Service: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)
Unit Text: 2nd/4th Bn.
Age: 19
Date of Death: 20/07/1918
Service No: 22345
Additional information: Son of Alfred and Etty Hargreaves, of Holly Bank, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley, Yorks.
Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead
Grave/Memorial Reference: C. 9.
Cemetery: ST. IMOGES CHURCHYARD
(source: *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* www.cwgc.org/)

ST IMOGES CHURCHYARD

The churchyard cemetery of the village of St Imoges is situated 16 kilometres south of the town of Reims and 7 kilometres north of the town of Epernay in Northern France.

It contains 77 Commonwealth War graves of the 51st (Highland) and 62nd (West Riding) Divisions from July and August 1918, including the grave of Pte Percy Hargreaves.

Percy Hargreaves is also remembered on the Sutton-in-Craven war memorial and on the tomb-stone bearing the names of his parents in the burial ground of St Thomas's Church



ST IMOGES CHURCHYARD

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



ST IMOGES CHURCHYARD



Commonwealth War grave of Pte Percy Hargreaves
(source: photo supplied by Roger Davy)

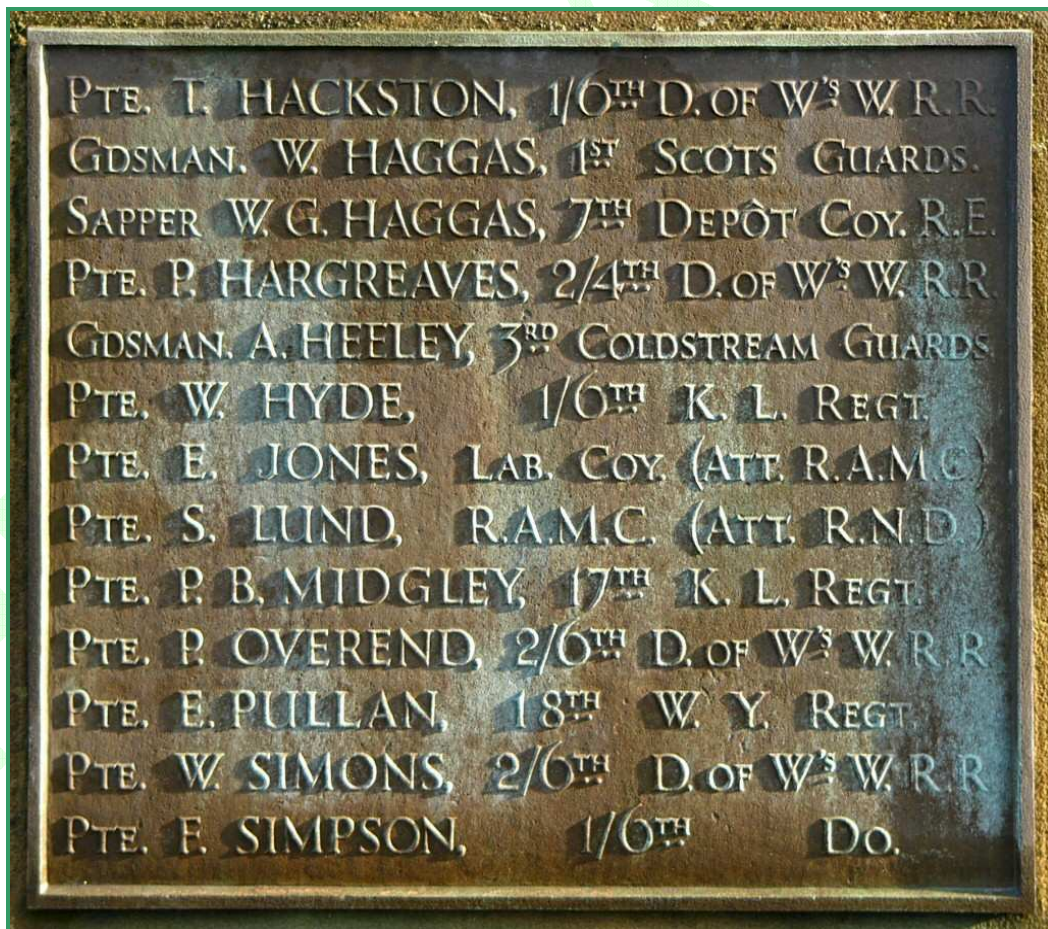


St Thomas' Church



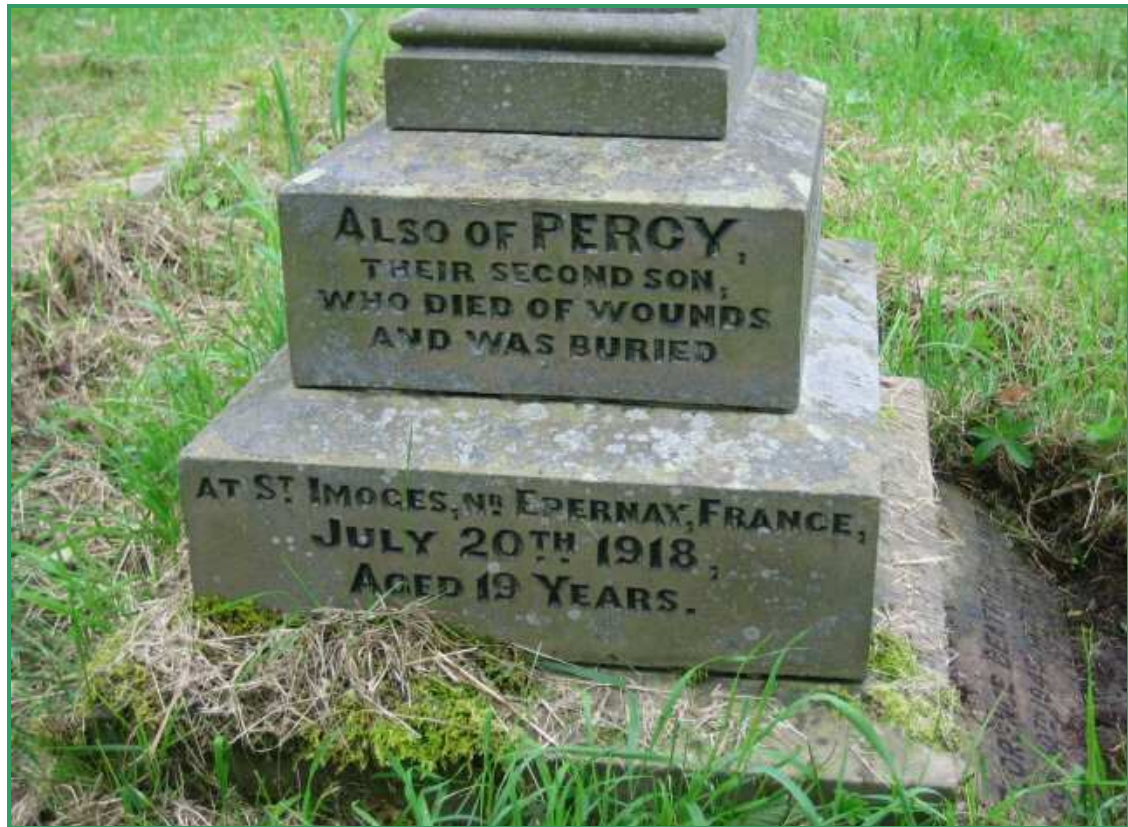
Sutton-in-Craven war memorial

(source: both images taken by Paul Wilkinson)



Sutton-in-Craven War Memorial

(source: photo taken by Paul Wilkinson)



Tomb-stone in the burial ground of St Thomas' Church
(source: photos supplied by Roger Davy)

Pte Percy Hargreaves 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 PERCY HARGREAVES, Duke of Well.'s
Regt., son of Mr. Alfred Hargreaves, North
Street, Sutton Mill, died of wounds 20th July,
1918. Aged 19 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)