

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



STANLEY ARCHIBALD

DUKE OF WELLINGTON REGIMENT

KILLED IN ACTION 7TH JULY 1916

BORN IN 1895 AT HOLBECK NEAR LEEDS, THE SON OF
ROBERT AND MARY ARCHIBALD (NEE MEEKINGS)

Archibald Family History

- **1901 census** shows Mary Archibald (nee Meekings), now widowed and her 2 children living at 26, Chesham Street, Holbeck, Leeds as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Mary Ann (widow)	38	Tailoress working from home	Bury, St Edmunds, Suffolk	1864
Stanley	6		Leeds	1895 - 1916
Ada	5		Leeds	1897
Harry Meekings	28		Bury, St Edmunds, Suffolk	1873

- **1911 census** shows Mary widowed and that of her 2 children born alive, both were still living. It also shows the Archibald family now residing at 1, Harker Street, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Mary Ann (widow)	47	Worsted winder	Bury, St Edmunds, Suffolk	1864
Stanley	16	Worsted doffer	Leeds	1895 - 1916
Ada	14	Worsted spinner	Leeds	1897



Sutton Mill showing Harker Street
(source: *South Craven in old picture postcards Vol 2* by Alec Wood and Peter Whitaker)

Note: In 1914 at the time of his enlistment, Stanley, his sister Ada and his widowed mother had moved from Harker Street and were now living in Main Street, Sutton-in-Craven.

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

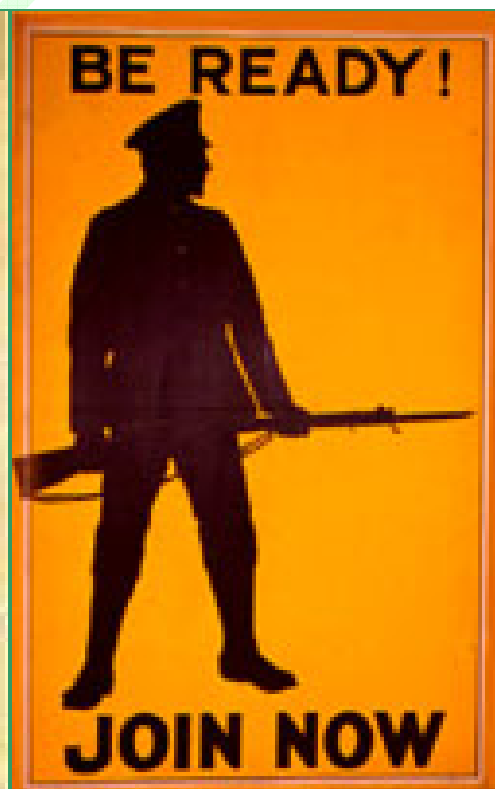
Britain declares war on Germany

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 (July)



British volunteers receiving their first drill in front of many sightseers, 1914
These men would form Kitchener's New Army

Prior to enlistment, Stanley Archibald worked in one of the machine shops in Keighley.

At the outbreak of the Great War, Stanley Archibald responded to the call and volunteered to enlist into the 8th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) in 1914. His regimental number was 12033 and he commenced with the rank of Private.

The West Riding Regiment raised 24 battalions during WW1 including the 8th (service) battalion at Halifax in August 1914.

From Halifax, Pte Archibald moved with his battalion to Belton Park at Grantham and afterwards to Whitley Common in April 1915.

In July 1915, the 8th battalion West Riding Regiment, as part of the 11th (Northern) Division, sailed from Liverpool for Gallipoli.

Pte Archibald entered the Theatre of War on 7th July 1915 when the 8th battalion West Riding Regiment landed at Suvla Bay on the Turkish Peninsula to join the **Gallipoli campaign**.



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

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
ARCHIBALD	W Rid R	Pte	12032
Stanley	— . . —	— . . —	* 12033.
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	x 0/2/01 B4	428	Pres. Dead 7/7/16
BRITISH	0/2/3 B	8	
15 STAR			
Theatre of War first served in	* Correct No. for stamping, 12033.		
Date of entry therein	Auth. 0/2/01. 3/4 @ S.A.		
	K. 1380.		

MEDAL INDEX CARD for Stanley Archibald (source: *The National Archives*)

Gallipoli Campaign

The **Gallipoli campaign**, also known as the **Dardanelles Campaign** took place at the peninsula of Gallipoli in the Turkish Ottoman Empire between 25th April 1915 and 9th January 1916. It was one of the Allies great disasters during World War 1.

Germany and Austria-Hungary blocked Russia's land trade routes to Europe, while no easy sea route existed. Therefore the Allies were keen to capture the Ottoman capital of Istanbul and secure a sea route to Russia via the Black Sea. This would open an effective supply route to Russia and assist efforts on the Eastern Front, which in turn would help to relieve pressure on the Western Front.

The plan for attacking the Dardanelles was developed by Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, in an attempt to end the war early by creating a new war front that the Central Powers could not cope with.



Winston Churchill during WW1

The campaign was also the first major battle undertaken by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) during WW1 and is often considered to mark the birth of national consciousness in both of these countries. Anzac Day on the 25th April remains the most significant commemoration of military casualties and veterans in Australia and New Zealand, surpassing Armistice Day/Remembrance Day.

Using ships of the Royal Navy, Churchill believed, partially due to faulty intelligence, that the straits could be forced, opening the way for a direct assault on Constantinople. This plan was approved and several of the Royal Navy's older and obsolete battleships were transferred to the Mediterranean.

Operations against the Dardanelles began on February 19th 1915 with British ships bombarding Turkish defenses in several attacks throughout February & March with little effect.



Panoramic view of the Dardanelles fleet, February 1915

With the failure of the naval campaign, it became clear to Allied leaders that a ground force was going to be needed to eliminate the Turkish artillery on the Gallipoli Peninsula which commanded the straits.

The first landings began on April 25th 1915 and were badly mismanaged. Meeting stiff resistance and against difficult terrain, British troops took heavy casualties in establishing two beachheads at Helles and Gaba Tepe. Other Allied troops including the Australian's & New Zealander's also suffered heavy casualties during the Anzac landings.



Landings at Anzac Cove (Dardanelles) on 25th April 1915

Another major landing took place at Sulva Bay on 6th August 1915. However, attempts to sweep across the peninsula ended in failure. By the end of August the Allies had lost over 40,000 men.

In October 1915 the British High Command recommended a withdrawal from Gallipoli. The operation began at Sulva Bay on 7th December. The last of the men were evacuated from Helles on 9th January, 1916.



View from the battleship HMS Cornwallis: Burning of British stores during the withdrawal from Gallipoli (source: www.gwpda.org/photos)

Casualty statistics for the Gallipoli (Dardanelles) campaign

Nations	Died	Wounded	Total Casualties
Great Britain	21,255	52,230	73,485
France (estimate)	10,000	17,000	27,000
Australia	8,709	19,441	28,150
New Zealand	2,721	4,752	7,473
India	1,358	3,421	4,779
Newfoundland	49	93	142
Turkey (Ottoman Empire)	86,692	164,617	251,309

Having survived the Gallipoli campaign, Pte Stanley Archibald was transferred to the Western Front in France where he would see further active service during the Battle of the Somme.

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.

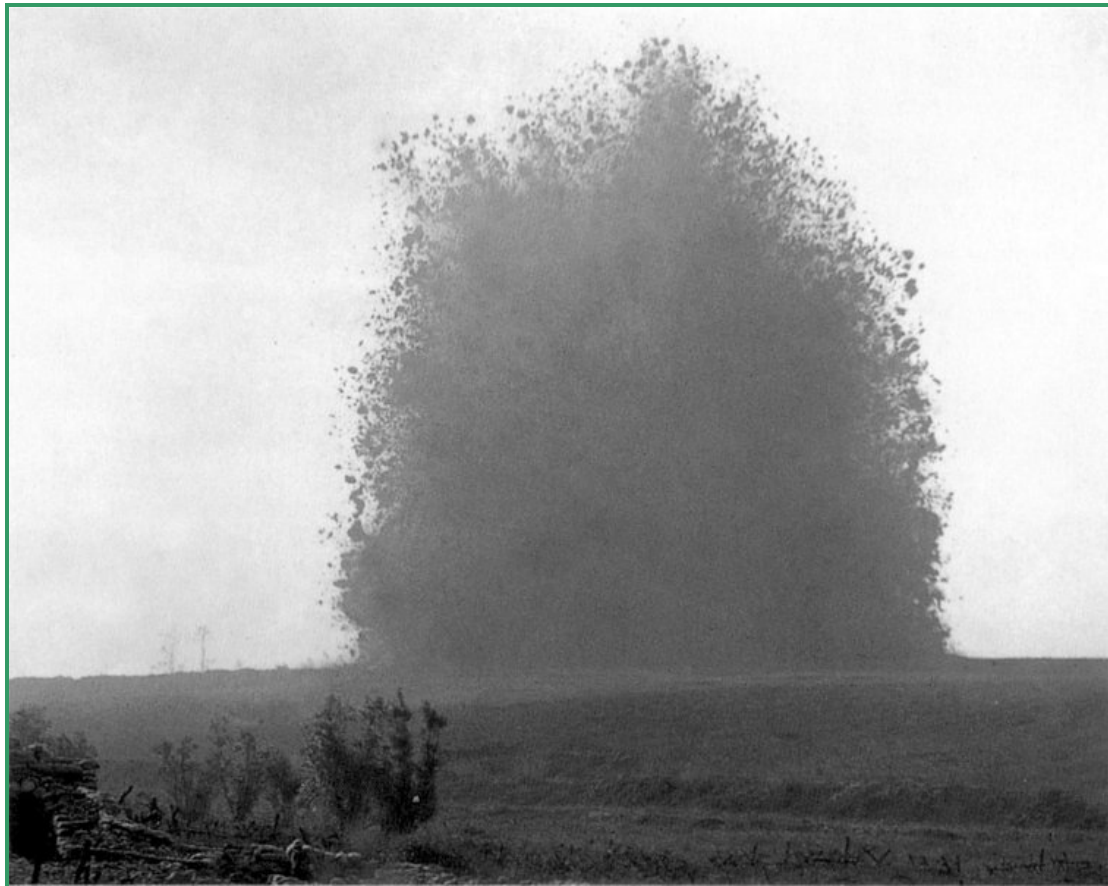
The battle was preceded by 7 days of preliminary artillery bombardment, in which the British fired over **1.7 million shells**. The logic behind this was so to destroy the German trenches and barbed wire placed in front of the trenches before sending in the infantry.



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.

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.

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.



Going 'over the top'

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 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 survived the Dardanelles campaign at Gallipoli during 1915, Pte Stanley Archibald was **Killed in Action** one week into the Battle of the Somme on the 7th July 1916 after initially being reported as missing.

He was 21 years of age



Casualty Details

Name: ARCHIBALD, STANLEY

Initials: S

Nationality: United Kingdom

Rank: Private

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

Unit Text: 9th Bn.

Age: 21

Date of Death: 07/07/1916

Service No: 12033

Additional information: Son of the late Robert and Mary Ann Archibald.

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/)



Article Date: 21 July 1916

SUTTON - Local Soldier stated to be Missing

On Wednesday, Mrs. Archibald, of Main Street, received a letter from a chum of her son (Pte. Stanley Archibald) stating that Pte. Archibald had not been seen since the fighting on the 8th of July, and it was not known where he was. At the time of enlistment he resided with his widowed mother, and his sister in Main Street, Sutton-in-Craven, and worked in one of the machine shops in Keighley.

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



Article Date: 04 August 1916

SUTTON - Missing

Official news has been received from the Military authorities that Pte. Stanley Archibald is missing. Pte Archibald was stated to be missing about a fortnight ago, and now the sad news is confirmed by the War Office.

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

THIEPVAL MEMORIAL



Thiepval Memorial
(source: *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* 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 Stanley Archibald, 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 Stanley Archibald is also remembered on the Sutton-in-Craven 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)

Pte Stanley Archibald was posthumously awarded the
1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal



Original trio of WW1 medals, obverse (1914/15 star unnamed original)



Original trio of WW1 medals, reverse (1914/15 star unnamed original)
(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)

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)