

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



WILFRID CLOUGH

NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS

DIED A PRISONER OF WAR 25TH JULY 1918

BORN IN 1897 AT SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN, THE SON OF
CHARLIE AND MARY CLOUGH

Clough Family History

- **1901 census** shows Charlie, his wife Mary, their 2 children and Charlie’s brother Jackson living at 1, Westfield Place, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Charlie (Head)	37	Wool sorter	Sutton-in-Craven	1864 - 1930
Mary (wife)	35		Sutton-in-Craven	1866 - 1943
Wilfrid	4		Sutton-in-Craven	1897 - 1918
Hilda Mary	11 months		Sutton-in-Craven	1903 - 1901
Jackson (brother)	42	Journeyman Tailor	Sutton-in-Craven	1859

- **1911 census** shows that Charlie and Mary had been married for 18 years and that of their 3 children born alive, 2 were still living and 1 had since died. This was Hilda Mary Clough who passed away in 1901. It also shows the Clough family residing at Stoneleigh, Bridge Rd, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Charlie (Head)	47	Wool sorter	Sutton-in-Craven	1864 - 1930
Mary (wife)	45		Sutton-in-Craven	1866 - 1943
Wilfrid	14	Weft room	Sutton-in-Craven	1897 - 1918
Mabel	8	School	Sutton-in-Craven	1903 - 1966



Stoneleigh, Bridge Rd, Sutton-in-Craven
(photos taken by Barbara & Allen Chapman)

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 (June)



British volunteers queuing to enlist, 1914 (Kitchener's New Army)

Prior to enlistment, Wilfrid Clough worked as a clerk in the office of Messrs. T. and M. Bairstow Mill at Sutton-in-Craven.

During the Great War, Wilfrid Clough responded to the call and volunteered to enlist into the 12th/13th battalion Northumberland Fusiliers on June 7th 1916. He commenced his army training at Hornsea. His regimental number was 42363 and his rank was Private.

The 12th and 13th battalions were formed at Newcastle in 1914 and were attached to the 21st Division. On the 10th August 1917 the two battalions were amalgamated to form the 12th/13th battalion.

The Northumberland Fusiliers raised a total of 51 battalions during the Great War based on the original 2 regular, 1 reserve and 10 territorial force battalions. This made it the second largest regiment after the London Regiment.

Pte Clough entered the Theatre of War arriving in France in October 1916.



WW1 Northumberland Fusiliers Cap Badge

5. Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
CLOUGH		North Lan	Pte	42363
Wilfred				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	8/1/05 1389	9344	Died	
BRITISH	do	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

MEDAL INDEX CARD for Wilfrid Clough (source: *The National Archives*)

Pte Clough had only been in the trenches at Armentieres for 3 days when he was **Wounded in Action**



Article Date: 17 November 1916

SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN - Private Wilfrid Clough Wounded

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clough, of Sutton Mill Road, Sutton-in-Craven have this week received a letter from their son, Pte. Wilfrid Clough, informing them that he had been wounded. Pte. Clough joined the Northumberland Fusiliers (Fighting Fifth) on June 7th this year and was in training at Hornsea. He went out to France in October and had only been in the trenches round Armentieres three days when he received a shrapnel wound below the knee. He is now at the War Hospital at Reading. Previous to enlistment Pte. Clough was a clerk in the office of Messrs. T. and M. Bairstow, and resided with his parents. He was a Lord Derby man.

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

As a result of the shrapnel wound to his knee, Pte Wilfrid Clough spent more than 7 months at a convalescent hospital in Reading. Following his discharge from hospital, he returned home on leave to Sutton-in-Craven for 10 days before returning to the trenches in France in June 1917.



Article Date: 15 June 1917

SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN - Pte. Wilfrid Clough on Leave

During the week Pte. Wilfrid Clough, of Bridge Road, has been home on leave. Pte. Clough, who was a Lord Derby man, joined the Northumberland Fusiliers on June 7th 1916, and went out to France in October. He had only been in the trenches round Armentieres three days when he received a shrapnel wound below the knee. He was sent to the War Hospital at Reading and has since been in the

convalescent hospital at Reading. Pte. Clough was formerly a clerk in the office of Messrs. T. and M. Bairstow, and is home on the usual ten days' leave, having been discharged from hospital.

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

The Western Front 1918



No Mans land, WW1

The Western Front 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.

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.

By the spring of 1918, the Allies knew that there would be a major German attack; they just did not know when it would come. The British reinforced their positions near the coast while the French strengthened their positions to the south of the British.

On March 24th 1918, the Germans launched the massive offensive. In just five hours, the Germans fired one million artillery shells at the British lines, over 3000 shells fired every minute. The artillery bombardment was followed by an attack by elite storm troopers. These soldiers travelled lightly and were skilled in fast, hard-hitting attacks before moving on to their next target. The German storm troopers carried little except weaponry, such as flame throwers that could cause much panic, as proved to be the case in this attack.

This was the first of a number of large-scale, last-ditch German offences throughout the spring and summer months of 1918.



German attack with flame throwers, WW1

Pte Wilfrid Clough was officially reported by the War Office as being **Wounded and Missing** during the massive spring offensive of 1918. One week later however it was confirmed via a postcard to his parents that he had in fact been taken **Prisoner of War** by the Germans.



Article Date: 26 April 1918

WOUNDED AND MISSING

Pte. Wilfrid Clough, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clough, Sutton Mill, has been wounded for the second time. He was previously a clerk for Messrs. L. and M. Bairstow.

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



Article Date: 03 May 1918

WOUNDED AND MISSING

Pte. Wilfrid Clough, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clough, of Bridge Road, Sutton, have received a postcard from their son, Pte. Wilfrid Clough, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, written from Lemburg in Germany, stating that he was a prisoner of war, and unwounded. Pte. Clough had previously been officially reported by the War Office as wounded.

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

In early January 1919 however, it was reported that Mr and Mrs Clough had received information that their only son Pte Wilfrid Clough was now deceased.

He had died whilst still in captivity as a **Prisoner of War** at Mons-en-Chaussee the previous year on 25th July 1918 and was buried at Peronne Military Cemetery.

He was 21 years of age



Article Date: 03 January 1919

SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN - Private W. Clough Reported Dead

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Clough, of Bridge Road, Sutton Mill, received information from the authorities in Germany on Sunday that their only son, Wilfrid Clough, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, had died in hospital. Private Clough was reported wounded in April last, and in the early part of May his parents received a postcard from him saying that he was a prisoner war of Germany, and unwounded. Prior to enlistment in the early days of the war, he was employed as a clerk by Messrs. T. and M. Bairstow, Sutton Mills, and was a lad held in high esteem.

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



Casualty Details

Name: CLOUGH, WILFRID

Initials: W

Nationality: United Kingdom

Rank: Private

Regiment/Service: Northumberland Fusiliers

Unit Text: 12th/13th Bn.

Age: 21

Date of Death: 25/07/1918

Service No: 42363

Additional information: Son of Charlie and Mary Clough, of Sutton-in-craven, Keighley, Yorks.

Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead

Grave/Memorial Reference: VII. C. 2.

Cemetery: TINCOURT NEW BRITISH CEMETERY

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

TINCOURT NEW BRITISH CEMETERY

The Tincourt New British Cemetery in France contains 1,879 burials of the Great War.

The cemetery was begun in June 1917 and used until September 1919. After the Armistice it was used for the reburial of soldiers found on the battlefield, or buried in small French or German cemeteries.

Amongst the graveyards from which the British graves were concentrated to Tincourt New British Cemetery was the **Peronne Communal Cemetery German Extension** containing the graves of 824 German soldiers and 25 British soldiers, including the grave of Wilfrid Clough.



Tincourt New British Cemetery in France
(source: Commonwealth War Graves Commission www.cwgc.org/)

Pte Wilfrid Clough is also remembered on the Sutton-in-Craven war memorial and on the tomb-stone bearing the names of his parents and 2 sisters in the burial ground of Sutton Baptist Chapel.



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



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



Tomb-stone in Sutton Baptist Chapel burial ground
(photo taken by Josie Walsh)

Pte Wilfrid Clough was posthumously awarded the
British War Medal & Victory Medal



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

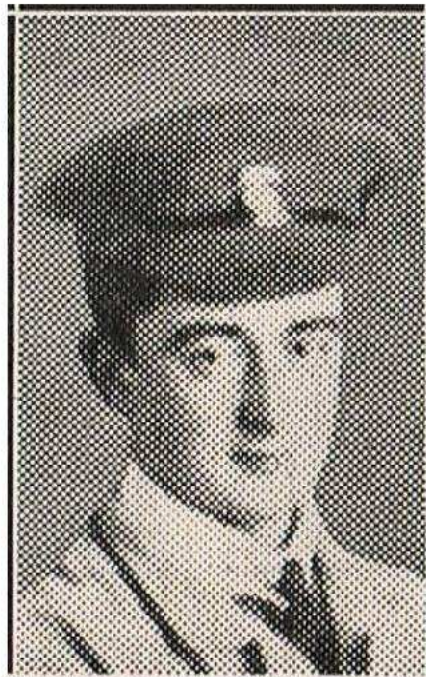
A Memorial Plaque inscribed with the soldiers name was also given to the family of those who were killed during WW1



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 WILFRID CLOUGH, 12th Northumberland Fusiliers, son of Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Clough, Bridge Road, Sutton Mill; died a prisoner of war at Mons-en-Chaussee, July 25th, 1918, and buried at Peronne Military Cemetery. Aged 21 years.

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

Original 1919 copy owned by Andrew Monkhouse

FOR THE FALLEN

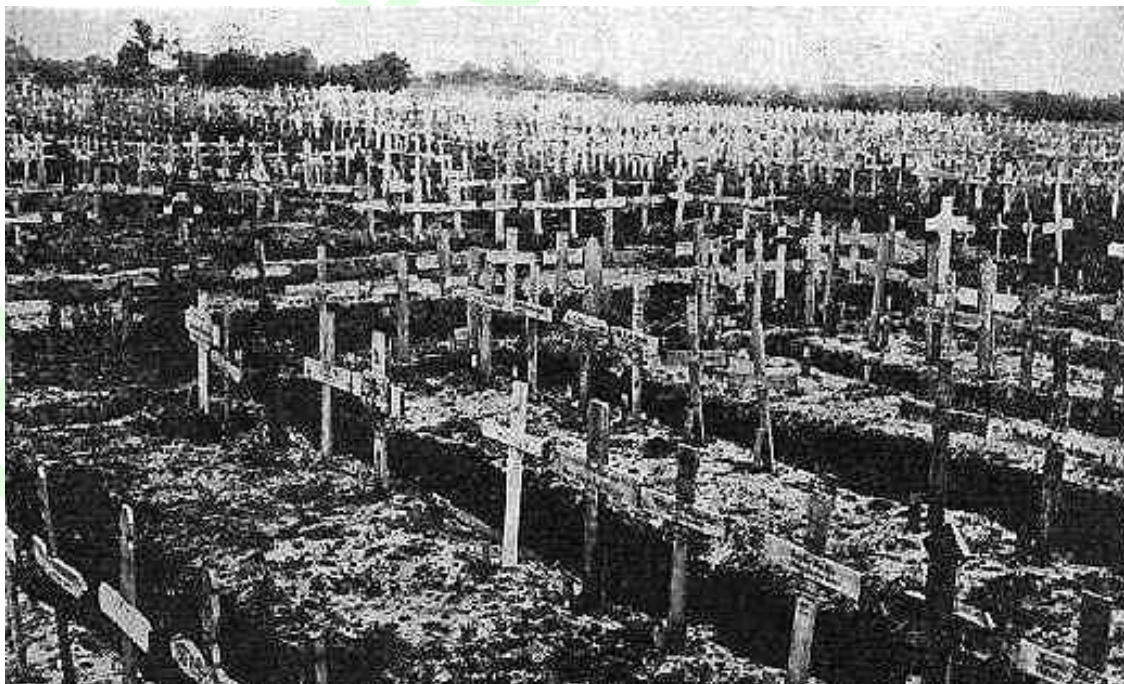
*THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD, AS WE THAT ARE
LEFT GROW OLD*

*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)