The Fallen of Sutton-in-Craven

Albert Akrigg

Norfolk Regiment

Died of Wounds

10th December 1925

Born in 1898 at Lothersdale, the son of Benjamin and Lizzie Akrigg

Akrigg Family History

- **1901 census** shows Benjamin, his wife Lizzie and their 5 children living at The Fold, Lothersdale as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Benjamin (Head)	29	Limestone quarry man	Halton, Lancaster	1872 - 1941
Lizzie (wife)	27		Northallerton, Yorks	1874 - 1936
Robert	7		Bolton-by-Bowland	1894 - 1965
Mary Alice	5		Lothersdale	1896 - 1984
Harry	4		Lothersdale	1897 - 1930
Albert	2		Lothersdale	1898 - 1925
Horace	1		Lothersdale	1899 - 1976

Foresters Hall, Lothersdale

THE GREAT WAR

- **1911 census** shows that Benjamin and Lizzie had been married for 17 years and that of their 6 children born alive, 5 were still living and 1 had since died (Agnes Ann, born & died in 1896 aged 6 months). It also shows the Akrigg family now residing at Rose in the Dale, Lothersdale as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Benjamin (Head)	39	Weaver (cotton)	Halton, Lancaster	1872 - 1941
Lizzie (wife)	37		Northallerton, Yorks	1874 - 1936
Alice	15	Spinner (worsted)	Lothersdale	1896 - 1984
Harry	14	Weft carrier	Lothersdale	1897 - 1930
Albert	12	Doffer/ half school	Lothersdale	1898 - 1925
Horace	11	Scholar	Lothersdale	1899 - 1976

Footbridge and woods, Lothersdale

THE GREAT WAR

During the Great War the Akrigg family were now living at 21, King Edward Street, Sutton-in-Craven.

King Edward St, Sutton-in-Craven
(photo taken by Barbara & Allen Chapman)

Sutton-in-Craven Boy Scouts troop showing Albert & his brother Horace
(source: Rachel Simpson & Richard Whiteoak from the Glyn Whiteoak collection)

Sutton-in-Craven Boy Scouts troop showing Albert & his brother Horace
(source: Rachel Simpson & Richard Whiteoak from the Glyn Whiteoak collection)

Albert Akrigg
(source: as above)

Albert Akrigg
(source: as above)

Horace Akrigg
(source: as above)

Horace Akrigg
(source: as above)

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 Poster
(photo taken by Robin Longbottom)

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

Prior to enlistment, Albert Akrigg was employed as an apprentice worsted drawing overlooker at Messrs T. and M. Bairstow's, Sutton-in-Craven.

During the Great War, Albert enlisted with the Sherwood Foresters (Nott's & Derby Regiment) in September 1916 after he had turned 18 years of age.

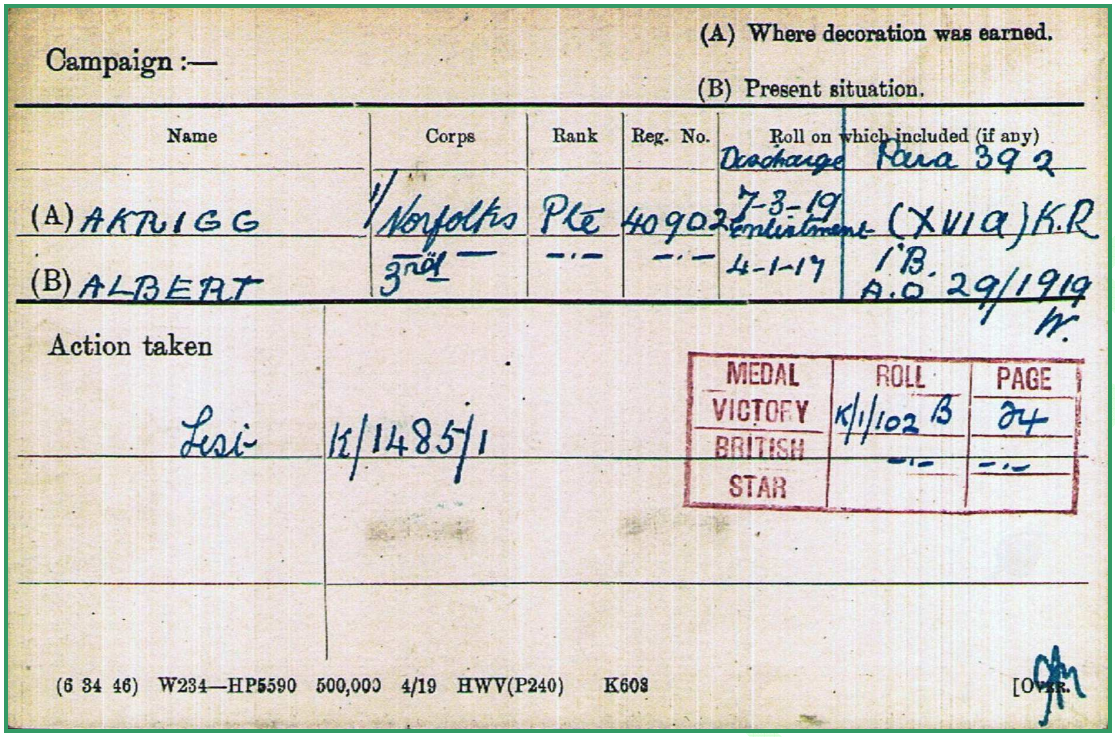
Albert Akrigg, circa Sept 1916
(source: as below)

Albert Akrigg with the Sherwood Foresters (Nott's & Derby regiment) circa Sept 1916
(source: Photo provided by Margarete Parker)

Harry Akrigg with the Royal Field Artillery circa 1916
(source: Photo provided by Margarete Parker)

Albert Akrigg top right, circa late 1916
(source: Photo provided by Margarete Parker)

Albert Akrigg, circa late 1916
(source: Photo provided by Margarete Parker)



Campaign :—

(A) Where decoration was earned.

(B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)	
				Discharge	Para 392
(A) AKRIGG	1/Norfolks	Pte	40902	7-3-19 Enlistment	(XVIa) K.R
(B) ALBERT	3rd	—	—	4-1-17	1B. A.O 29/1919

Action taken

Lesi K/1485/1

MEDAL	ROLL	PAGE
VICTORY	K/1/102 B	24
BRITISH	—	—
STAR		

(6 34 46) W234—HP5590 500,000 4/19 HWV(P240) K603 [OVER.

MEDAL INDEX CARD for Albert Akrigg **(source: *The National Archives*)**

Pte Albert Akrigg was subsequently transferred from the Sherwood Foresters (Nott's & Derby Regiment) to the 1st regular battalion of the Norfolk Regiment on the 4th January 1917. The battalion was later moved to Italy in November 1917 before returning to the Western Front in France in April 1918.

Albert's Norfolk regimental number was 40902 and he commenced with the rank of Private.

The Norfolk's entered the Great War with two regular, one reserve and three Territorial Force battalions (one of them cyclists). Throughout the war the regiment expanded to include nineteen battalions

WW1 Norfolk Regiment Cap Badge

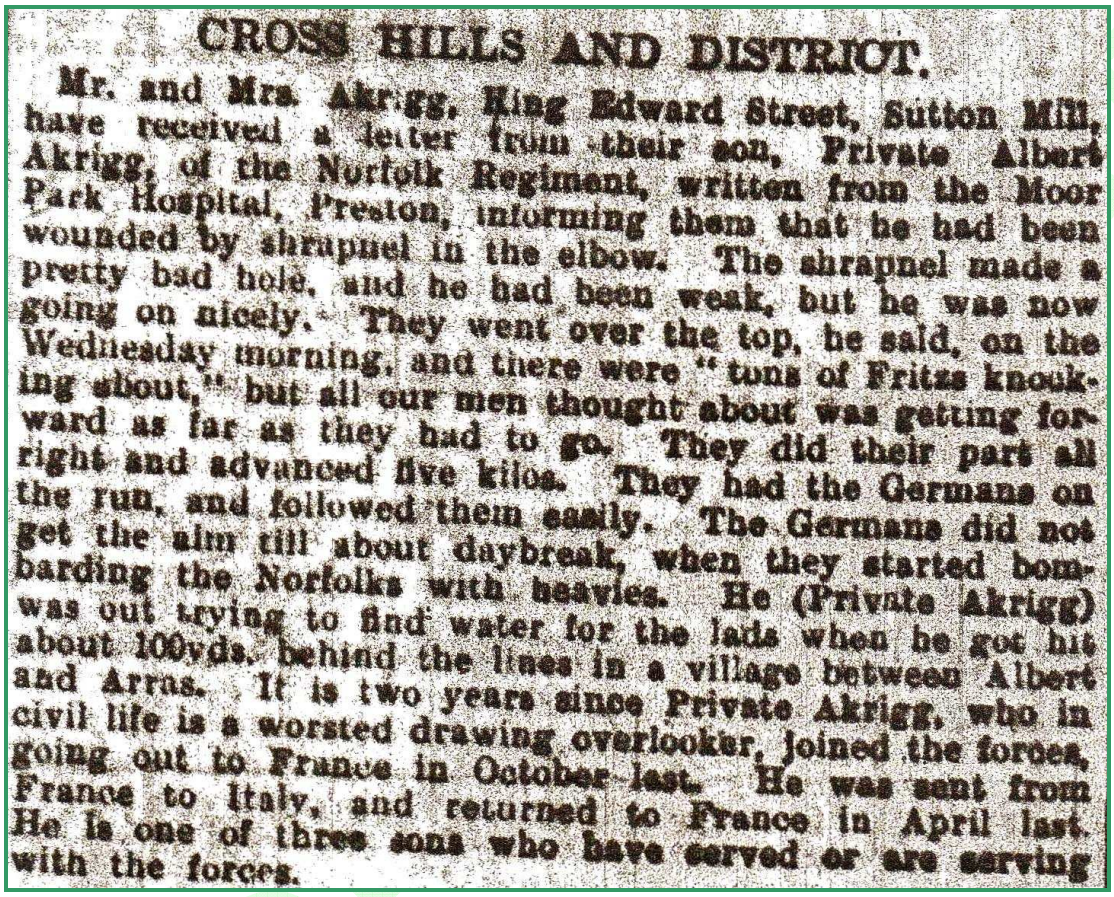
THE GREAT WAR

Norfolk Regiment, WW1

A Keighley News report dated 7th September 1918 reveals that Albert Akrigg went over to France in October 1917 with the 1st battalion of the Norfolk Regiment. He was sent from France to Italy before returning to France in April 1918.

Slaughter: German machine gunners in **Italy** in 1917

During the first week of September 1918, Mr and Mrs Akrigg received a letter from their son Albert written from Moor Park Hospital, Preston informing them that he had been wounded by shrapnel in the elbow.



CROSS HILLS AND DISTRICT.

Mr. and Mrs. Akrigg, King Edward Street, Sutton Mill, have received a letter from their son, Private Albert Akrigg, of the Norfolk Regiment, written from the Moor Park Hospital, Preston, informing them that he had been wounded by shrapnel in the elbow. The shrapnel made a pretty bad hole, and he had been weak, but he was now going on nicely. They went over the top, he said, on the Wednesday morning, and there were "tons of Fritzs knocking about," but all our men thought about was getting forward as far as they had to go. They did their part all right and advanced five kilos. They had the Germans on the run, and followed them easily. The Germans did not get the alm till about daybreak, when they started bombarding the Norfolks with heavies. He (Private Akrigg) was out trying to find water for the lads when he got hit about 100yds. behind the lines in a village between Albert and Arras. It is two years since Private Akrigg, who in civil life is a worsted drawing overlooker, joined the forces, going out to France in October last. He was sent from France to Italy, and returned to France in April last. He is one of three sons who have served or are serving with the forces.

Keighley News report dated Sept 7th 1918
(source: photocopied by Robin Longbottom)

Having been transported back to the UK for treatment to shrapnel wounds, Albert was transferred from the 1st battalion of the Norfolk Regiment to the 3rd battalion of the same regiment.

The 3rd (Reserve) battalion of the Norfolk Regiment was a training unit based at Felixstowe on the Suffolk coast that remained in the UK throughout the war.

Following his transfer to the 3rd (Reserve) battalion, Albert was awarded the Silver War Badge (often referred to as the Silver Wound Badge) upon his discharge from the army **due to wounds** on the 7th March 1919. He was aged 20 years and 7 months upon his discharge.

WW1 silver war badge

The **Silver War (Wound) Badge** was instituted in September 1916 and issued to all military personnel who had been honourably discharged due to wounds or sickness during the Great War. It was also awarded retrospectively to men discharged in 1914 or 1915 who met this criteria.

This sterling silver lapel badge was intended to be worn in civilian clothes on the right breast. It had a pin for wear as a brooch and each badge was individually numbered on the reverse. **B224607** in the case of Albert Akrigg.

Prior to this it had been the practice of some women to present white feathers to apparently able-bodied young men who were not wearing the King's uniform, the implication being that the man concerned was a 'shirker' or a coward.

NK/15844/19

Norfolk Regt'l Rol No. 260 — Roll of individuals entitled to the war badge. — Under A.O.29 of 1919.

No	Rank	Name (in full)	Unit discharged from	No. of Badge & certificate (to be completed at War office	Date of enlistment / Discharge	Cause of discharge Wounds or Sickness	Whether served Overseas Yes or No.	Yrs	Mos
200957	Pte.	Pond, William	1/4th Norfolks	B/224606	26. 5.15 / 6. 5.19	Sickness	iB Yes	25	8
40902	Pte.	Akrigg, Albert	3rd "	B224607	4. 1.17 / 7. 3.19	Wounds	iB Yes	20	7
40580	Pte.	Bailey, George	Depot "	B224608	29. 8.14 / 24. 1.19	Sickness	iB Yes	21	5
32092	Cpl.	Framp, Charles	Depot "	B224609	17. 8.14 / 5. 4.19	Wounds	iB Yes	23	1
37216	Pte.	Hopper, Ernest, G	3rd "	B224610	13. 5.16 / 23. 1.19	Sickness	iiB No	19	11
35856	Pte.	Hughes, William	1/6th "	B224611	11. 8.14 / 1. 1.19	"	iB Yes	29	1
243222	Sgt.	Hain, Sydney W	4th "	B224612	6. 4.08 / 27. 2.19	"	iB Yes	32	10
3/7777	Pte.	Dix, Matthew	Depot "	B224613	5. 8.14 / 7. 6.19	"	iB Yes	23	5
8330	Cpl.	Sheldrake, Harry	" "	B224614	16. 1.11 / 15. 3.19	"	iB Yes	27	11
3/7702	Pte.	Gooch, William G.	" "	B224615	2. 3.14 / 13. 6.19	"	iB Yes	25	1
7791	Pte.	Tann, Harry	" "	B224616	11.11.08 / 20. 6.19	Wounds	iB Yes	29	1
x 13151	L/C.	Cleveland, Granville	" "	B224617	7. 9.14 / 3. 4.19	"	iB Yes	23	9
x 19381	Pte.	Collins, William	3rd "	B224618	25. 5.15 / 14. 9.16	Sickness	iiB No	43	4
x 38051	A/Sgt.	Beagley, Herbert	Depot "	B224619	29. 7.16 / 30. 4.19	"	iB Yes	39	8
x 34408	Pte.	Bragg, Frederick	1/6th "	B224620	6. 6.17 / 27. 1.19	"	iiB No	19	7
x 41705	Pte.	Collett, Sidney	Depot "	B/224621	10.12.15 / 29. 4.19	"	iB Yes	29	-

I certify that particulars hereon are correct.
Place Warley 11.6.19 date

Asst. O. i/c No. 1 Infantry Records, (Norfolks) No. 8 District, Warley

SILVER WAR BADGE ROLL for Albert Akrigg **(source: *Ancestry.co.uk*)**

The Skipton Craven Herald also reported the injuries sustained by Pte Akrigg and his subsequent transfer to Moor Park Hospital, Preston in Lancashire.

Article Date: 06 September 1918

WOUNDED AND MISSING

Mrs. Akrigg, of King Edward Street, Sutton, has received a letter from her son, Private Albert Akrigg, Norfolk Regiment, stating that he had been wounded by a piece of shrapnel which went in about four inches from the elbow, and came out just a bit below without breaking any bones. Private Akrigg, who is now in the Moor Park Hospital, Preston, prior to enlistment was an apprentice to drawing overlooking at Messrs. T. and M. Bairtow's Sutton Mills. He has been in the Army two years, and went out to France in October last, afterwards being sent to Italy. He returned to France in April this year. He is one of three sons who have done their bit.

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

ALBERT AKRIGG – Active service with the 1st Norfolk's

The Keighley News report of 7 September 1918 states that Albert was posted to France in October 1917; however, the 1st Norfolk's were at that time actually engaged along the Ypres Salient in Belgium. The Regiment formed part of the 5th Division, which had been relocated to Belgium on 7th Sept 1917 from the Somme Front. When Albert joined them they were in action at what was collectively known as the 3rd Battle of Ypres. If he arrived in October he would have been with the Regiment when they fought at the Second Battle of Passchendaele, (a phase of the 3rd Battle of Ypres) between 26 October and 10 November 1917. The attack was an eventual success and the village of Passchendaele was captured by the Canadian Division with British support.

Following the engagement at Passchendaele the 5th Division was redeployed to the Italian Front, to bolster up our Italian allies who

THE GREAT WAR

were struggling to hold the Austro-Hungarians. They were initially posted to Brenta in the Dolomites (to the north east of Venice), but were moved from there to the front line along the River Piave in January 1918. Their sojourn in Italy was short lived and the Division was recalled to Belgium towards the end of March, as a result of the German Spring Offensive. The 5th Division took part in the Battle of Hazebrouk between 12 and 15 April (part of the 4th Battle of Ypres). Albert would have been in action with the Norfolk's at this battle, when they were sent in to support the Australians who had stopped a German advance at this village. The 5th Division took a defensive roll along this front until August 1918 when they were withdrawn for two weeks rest.

After their rest period the 5th Division was once again deployed to the old Somme Front. It appears that Albert received his wounds in action on Wednesday 28th August during the 2nd Battle of Bapaume. On the 29th August the New Zealanders and the British 5th Division broke through the German Line and captured Bapaume.

The Keighley News reported his injuries on 7th September by which time he was already in hospital in Preston (it is therefore unlikely that he was wounded on Wednesday 4th September, particularly as the advance in this battle was over on 3 September and there is not sufficient time to have got him from the front to Preston and for the Keighley news to have gone into print with the story published 4 days later). When Albert recovered sufficiently he was transferred into the 3rd Battalion who were based at Felixstowe on the coast of Suffolk. He did not see any further active service and was discharge on 7 March 1919.

(Supplementary information supplied by Robin Longbottom)

Following his discharged from the army on the 7th March 1919 due to war wounds, it was known within his family that Albert suffered considerably for several years afterwards as a direct result of the injuries he sustained during active service in the Great War.

Albert Akrigg of 21, King Edward Street, Sutton-in-Craven finally succumbed to his wartime injuries and passed away on the 10th December 1925.

He was 27 years of age

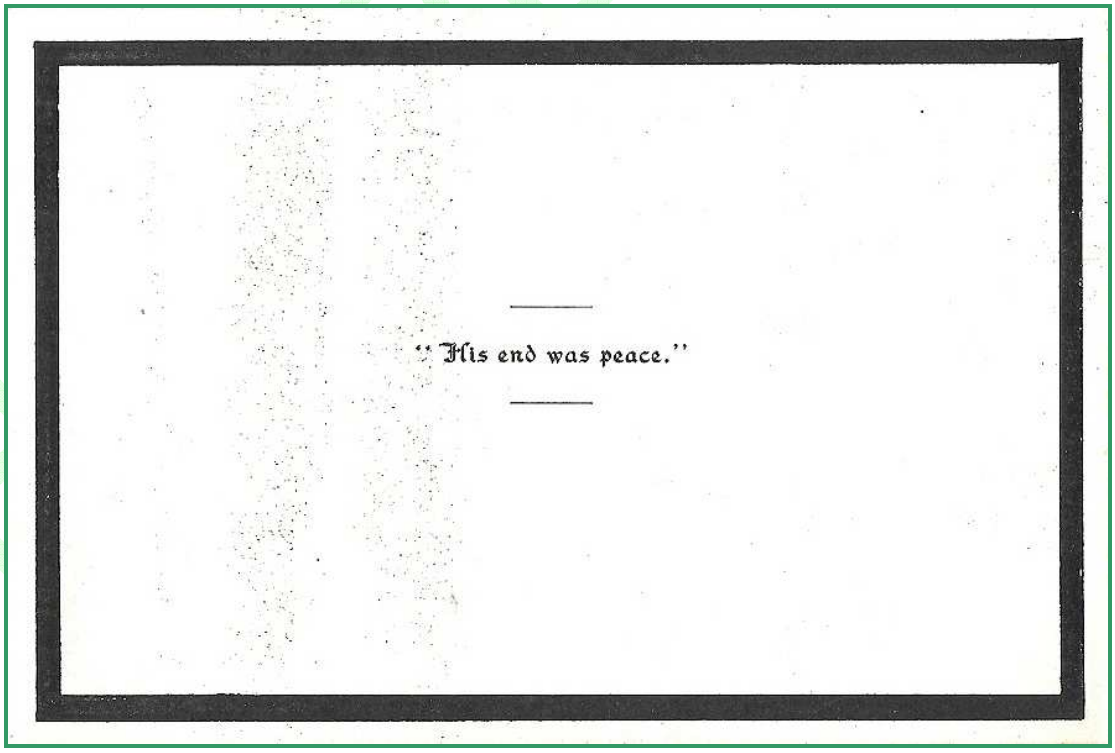
THE GREAT WAR

Photo taken circa Sept 1916 (Nott's & Derby regiment cap badge)

(source: Keighley News report Dec 1925, photocopied by Margarete Parker)

Albert was interred at St Thomas' Church, Sutton-in-Craven on the 14th December 1925 and is remembered on a tomb-stone bearing his name and those of his parents.

(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)



"His end was peace."

Memorial Card

(source: kindly provided by Ruth Reid)

IN LOVING MEMORY

OF

ALBERT AKRIGG,

Of 21, King Edward St., Sutton-in-Craven,

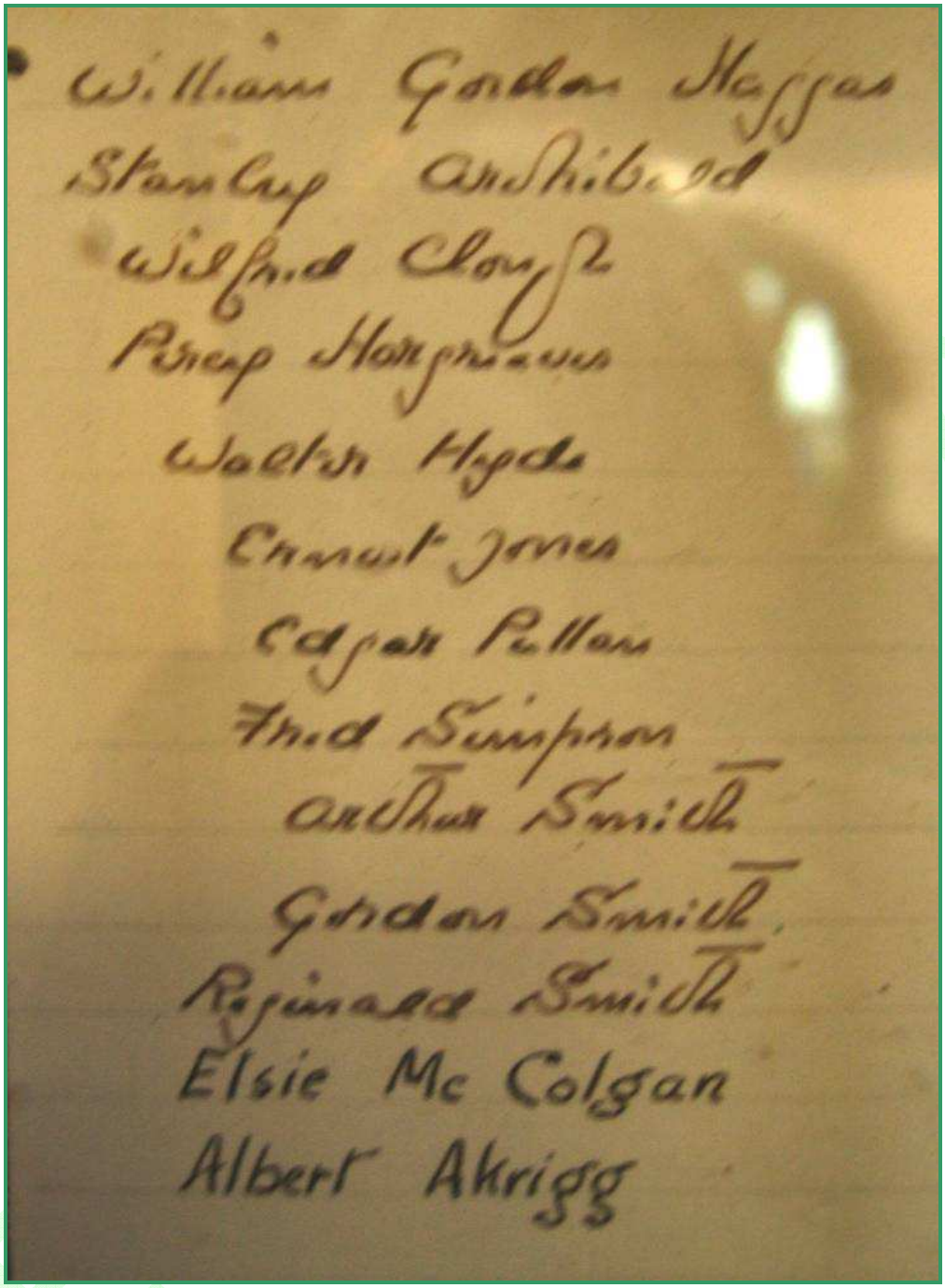
WHO FELL ASLEEP DEC. 10TH, 1925;

Aged 27 Years;

AND WAS INTERRED AT ST. THOMAS' CHURCH,
DECEMBER 14TH.

Memorial Card
(source: kindly provided by Ruth Reid)

Tomb-stone in St Thomas' Church burial ground
(photo taken by Robin Longbottom)



St Thomas' Church: Roll of Honour recording the Great War 'Fallen' of Sutton
(source: *Craven's Part in the Great War* **www.cpgw.org.uk)**

Pte Albert Akrigg was awarded the
British War Medal & Victory Medal

Original pair of WW1 medals **(source: Andrew Monkhouse war medal collection)**

Lest we Forget

Albert Akrigg (1898 – 1925)

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 2013)