

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



JAMES MOSLEY

DUKE OF WELLINGTON REGIMENT

KILLED IN ACTION 3^RD MAY 1917

BORN IN 1897 AT SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN, THE SON OF
EDWARD AND MARY MOSLEY

Mosley Family History

- 1901 census shows Edward, his wife Mary and their 3 children living at 14, Gordon St, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Edward (Head)	30	Wool sorter	Farnhill, Yorkshire	1871
Mary Ann (wife)	31		Cartmel, Lancashire	1870 - 1917
Arthur	7		Sutton-in-Craven	1894
John Green	6		Sutton-in-Craven	1895
James	4		Sutton-in-Craven	1897 - 1917



Gordon St, Sutton-in-Craven (circa 1900)
(source: Rachel Simpson & Richard Whiteoak from the Glyn Whiteoak collection)

- **1911 census** shows Edward, 3 of his children and a housekeeper now residing at 13, Campbell St, Crosshills as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
Edward (Head)	40	Wool sorter	Kildwick, Yorkshire	1871
John Green	16	Apprentice overlooker	Sutton-in-Craven	1895
James	14	Spinning frame doffer	Sutton-in-Craven	1897 - 1917
Marion	6	School	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1905
Sarah Ann Waite	59	Housekeeper Domestic	Sutton-in-Craven	1852



CROSSHILLS.

Crosshills

(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)

World War 1

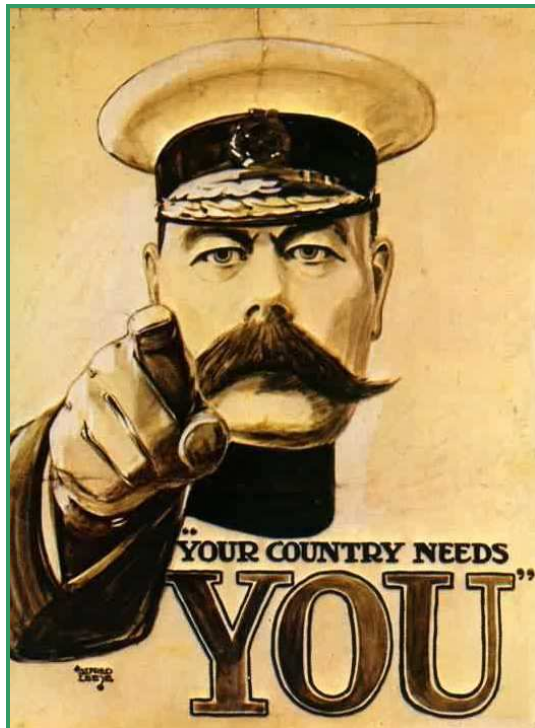


It had been **99 years** since Britain was last involved in a major European conflict following the defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815

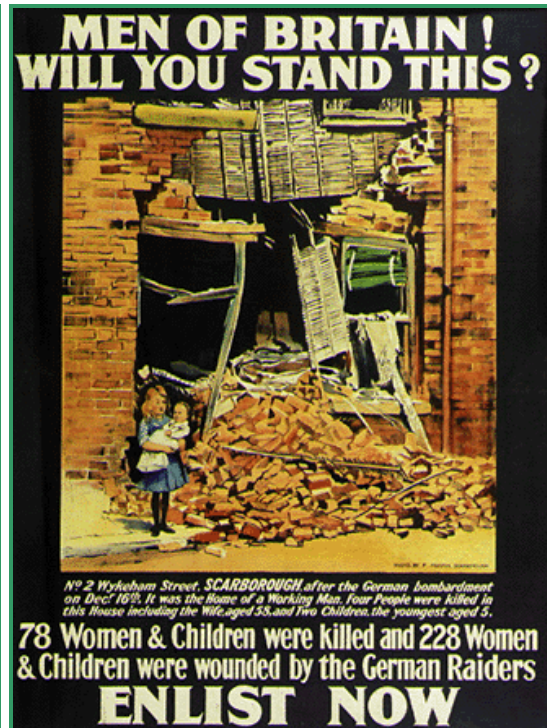
August 4th 1914 **Britain declares war on Germany**

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



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

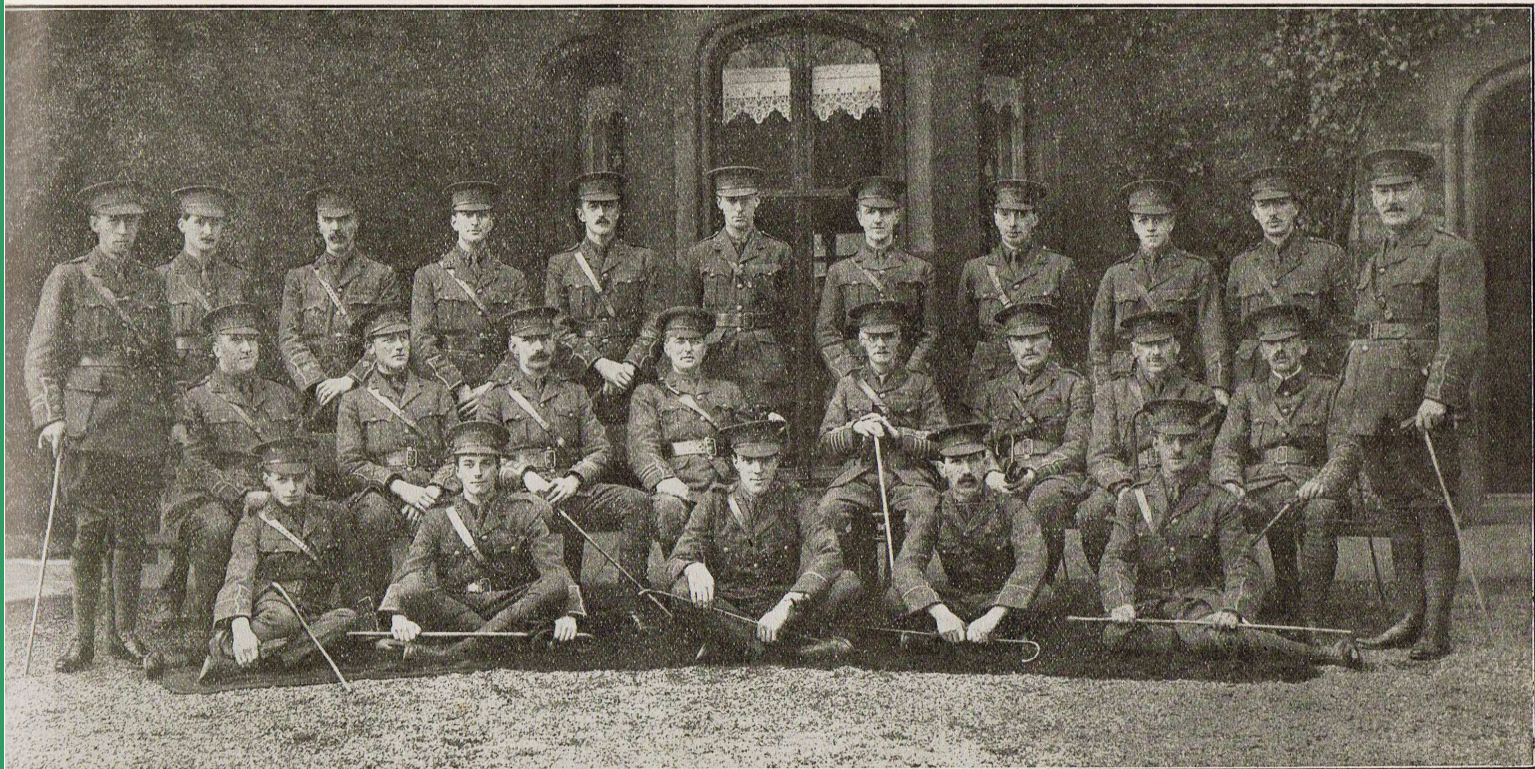
Prior to enlistment, James Mosley was apprenticed to the wool-sorting trade at Messrs, John Horsfall & Sons of Glusburn where he had also been employed as a junior clerk.

During the Great War, James Mosley responded to the call and enlisted into the 2/6th battalion (Duke of Wellington) West Riding Regiment in February 1916. His regimental number was 267094 and his rank was Private.

The West Riding Regiment raised 24 battalions during WW1 including the 2/6th (Territorial Force) battalion which was formed as a home service (second line) unit.

Officers of 2/6th West Riding Regiment group photo

2/6th DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S WEST RIDING REGIMENT.



LEFT TO RIGHT. Back Row, standing.—Capt. G. H. Ermen (deceased), 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) N. Geldard, D.S.O., M.C., 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) L. Jaques, 2nd Lieut. W. Woodhead, Lieut. N. Clapham, 2nd Lieut. W. K. Law, 2nd Lieut. G. L. Lupton, Lieut. (now Capt.) G. Broughton, 2nd Lieut. G. R. Armstrong, Lieut. (A/Capt.) C. D. Bennett (K.), Capt. C. P. Charlesworth.

Sitting.—Capt. N. C. Prince (K.), Capt. (A/Lt.-Col.) N. A. England, D.S.O., Major W. Claughton (deceased), Major (A/Lt.-Col.) J. Mackillop, Col. R. E. Williamson, V.D. (C.O.), Major E. Dewhurst, Capt. Birbeck (Adj.), Capt. J. Groves.

Front row.—2nd Lieut. J. R. Walker, 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) R. C. Barrett, 2nd Lieut. C. G. C. Kilner, Lieut. and Quarter-Master M. J. McDermott, 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) G. C. Foulds.

(source: *Craven's Part in the Great War* original 1919 volume owned by Andrew Monkhouse)



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

267094 Pte James Mosley, formerly from Sutton-in-Craven, entered the Theatre of War in France in January 1917 with the 2/6th (Duke of Wellington) West Riding Regiment, as part of the 62nd (2nd West Riding) Division.

267092 Pte Percy Overend from Sutton-in-Craven served alongside James in the same battalion. Their regimental numbers were almost consecutive, bar one digit and their medal index cards below were written by the same army clerk.

Arriving in France together on the same day in January 1917, both men from Sutton-in-Craven were subsequently Killed in Action.

James Mosley KILLED IN ACTION on 3rd May 1917

Percy Overend KILLED IN ACTION on 31st August 1918

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
Mosley		Wh R	Pte	267094
James				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	0/2/101 B22	4091		
BRITISH	do	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1330

MEDAL INDEX CARD for James Mosley (source: *The National Archives*)

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
OVEREND		Wh R	Pte	267092
Percy				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	0/2/101 B22	4091		
BRITISH	do	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1330

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

The Western Front

The Western Front was the name applied to the fighting zone in France & Flanders, where the British, Commonwealth, 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.



No Man's land, WW1

The First Battle of Bullecourt

11th April 1917

The village of Bullecourt is situated on the flat landscapes of Picardy, north-eastern France. There a combined force of British and Australian soldiers, for the most part conscripts, were faced with a force of professional Prussian troops entrenched within the Hindenburg line.

The first Battle of Bullecourt took place on the 11th April 1917 and involved the 62nd (2nd West Riding) Division and the 4th Division of the 1st Anzac Corps. The plan was to attack either side of the village of Bullecourt and push the German's out of their fortified positions and into the reserve trenches.

Tanks intended for the assault were delayed by bad weather and the attack was postponed for 24 hours. However the order to delay did not reach all units in time and two battalions of the West Yorkshire regiment attacked and were driven back with significant losses. This aborted attack alerted the German's in the area to the impending assault and they were better prepared for the attack to follow.



WW1 British Mark 1 tank destroyed by shell fire at the Battle of Bullecourt, 1917

Badly planned and hastily mounted, the Germans quickly overcame the attack. This was largely due to the failure of tanks to support them due to their breaking down and vulnerability to attack. Also a limited artillery barrage left much of the barbed wire in front of the German trenches uncut.

The Second Battle of Bullecourt

3rd – 17th May 1917

After the initial assault to take the village of Bullecourt failed to penetrate the German lines, British commanders made preparations for a second attempt. British artillery began an intense bombardment of the village of Bullecourt which by the 20th April had been virtually destroyed.

The second offensive began in the early hours of the 3rd May 1917 with the British attacking the village itself and the Australians attacking the German lines to its east. The fighting was fierce and slow moving. On the east of the village the Australian advance was halted by accurate machine gun fire.

In the village the British troops advanced to the far side but strenuous resistance combined with confusion between the movements of the different units led to the British being thrown back and out of the village. Both the British and Australians then established defensive positions.



Sentries during the fighting for Bullecourt, spring 1917

When additional Allied troops were sent in several days later to reinforce the attack, the British & Australian troops were able to link up. This enabled British troops to eventually push the Germans out of Bullecourt on the 15th May.

German resistance had been fierce and when the offensive was finally called off on the 17th May, the Allies had incurred massive casualties.



British casualties, WW1

Pte James Mosley fought in both battles of Bullecourt in the spring of 1917 with the 2/6th Territorial Force battalion West Riding Regiment, as part of the 62nd (2nd West Riding) Division.

In the third week of May 1917, the parents of Pte James Mosley received information from unofficial reports that their son was **Missing in Action** in France.

On 20th July 1917, James's mother Mary Ann Mosley passed away aged 48 years not knowing whether her son James was alive or whether he had been killed. Two weeks earlier she had received the news that her other son **L/Cpl John Mosley** had been awarded the Military Medal for Bravery; the first such medal to be awarded to a Glusburn soldier.

MILITARY MEDALS—continued.

SERGT. WM. MASON, M.M., R.E., of Dent.
PRIVATE HERBERT MAUDE, M.M., Duke of Well.'s Regt., of Bolton Abbey.
SAPPER R. McCANN, M.M., A.B.L.B., of High Bentham.
CORPORAL A. V. METCALFE, M.M., R.F.A., of Skipton.
CORPORAL C. METCALFE, M.M., Duke of Well.'s Regt., of Skipton.
RIFLEMAN HAROLD METCALFE, M.M., London Rifles, of Earby.
DRIVER TOM METCALFE, M.M., Royal Engineers, of Skipton.
PRIVATE H. B. MOORHOUSE, M.M., Duke of Well.'s Regt., of Bolton Abbey.
SERGEANT THOS. MOYLE, M.M., Duke of Well.'s Regt., of Steeton (killed in action).
SERGEANT J. MOORBY, M.M., of Ingleton.
CORPORAL JOHN MOORE, M.M., R.F.A., of Hawes.
LANCE-CORPORAL J. MOSLEY, M.M., York & Lancs. Regt., of Glusburn.
LANCE-CORPORAL J. W. NELSON, M.M., Duke of Well.'s Regt., of Sutton.
RIFLEMAN ERNEST N. NEWHOUSE, M.M., K. R. R., of High Bentham (killed in action).

(source: *Craven's Part in the Great War* original 1919 volume owned by Andrew Monkhouse)



Article Date: 25 May 1917

GLUSBURN SOLDIER REPORTED MISSING

Mr. Edward Mosley, of Croft Street, has received unofficial information that his younger son, Private James Mosley, of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, has been wounded, and is missing. The last communication received by the father was dated April 30th. Private. Mosley joined the forces in February, 1916, and went out in January last. Prior to enlisting he was employed at the firm of Messrs. J. C. Horsfall and Sons as junior clerk. Hopes are entertained that he might have been picked up, and is separated from his own regiment temporarily. Private J. Mosley is very highly respected in the district, being of a very genial disposition. He made friends with all whom he came into contact. His elder brother, John Mosley, is also in France.

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

Ten months later however, Mr Edward Mosley received official information that his son James was presumed to have been **Killed in Action** during the great push on the 3rd May 1917. This was the **First Day of the 2nd Battle of Bullecourt**.

He was 20 years of age

MOSLEY, Pte. James, 267094. 2nd/6th Bn. Duke of Wellington's Regt. 3rd May, 1917. Age 20. Son of Edward and Mary Mosley, of 23, Croft St., Glusburn, Cross Hills, Keighley, Yorks.

(source: UK Commonwealth War Graves, 1914 - 1921)



Article Date: 01 March 1918

GLUSBURN

DEATH OF PTE. JAMES MOSLEY

Mr. Edward Mosley, of Croft Street, Glusburn, has received official intimation that her younger son, Pte. James Mosley, of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who was reported missing on May 3rd, 1917, and about whom the fullest inquiries have been made is regarded as having been killed on that date, or has since died. The letter received also contains a message of sympathy from the King and Queen. The information received by the father regarding the fate of his son has been feared for some time, though some hope was expressed generally that he might be a prisoner of war. Pte. Mosley is the younger of the two sons of Mr. Edward Mosley, who both joined the

forces in 1915. His death has been received with deep feelings of regret. He was a young man who was held in highest regard by everyone who met him. He was of a buoyant, cheerful disposition. He was apprenticed to the wool-sorting trade at Messrs. J.C. Horsfall and Sons, but for some time before joining the forces in February, 1915, he had been junior clerk in the office. From leaving the Glusburn Council School at the age of 13 years he had been a regular student at the Technical Institute. He went out to France in January, 1917, and took part in the Battle of Bullecourt, where it is supposed he laid down his life. He was in the Lewis Gun Section, and was last seen alive by some of his pals, going forward alone, carrying his Lewis Gun and ammunition, his fellow-gunners having all previously fallen, either killed or wounded. He was connected with the Ebenezer Sunday-school and church. The deceased attained his 21st birthday in January last. His brother, Sergt. John Mosley, of the York and Lancaster Regiment, gained the Military Medal some time ago. He has been in several engagements, but so far has come out without any wound. He is at present in Italy.

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

Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1919 - soldier details

Name:	James MOSLEY
Rank:	PRIVATE
Initials:	J
Birthplace:	Sutton Mill, Yorks
Residence:	Glusburn, Yorks
Enlisted:	Keighley, Yorks
Regiment, Corps etc.:	Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)
Battalion etc.:	<u>2/6th Battalion.</u>
Number:	267094
Date died:	3 May 1917
How died:	Killed in action
Theatre of war:	France & Flanders

Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919

(source: www.Ancestry.co.uk)

In Memory of

Private

James Mosley

267094, 2nd/6th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 03 May 1917 Age 20

Son of Edward and Mary Mosley, of 23, Croft St., Glusburn, Cross Hills, Keighley, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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

ARRAS MEMORIAL

The Arras memorial commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and the 7th of August 1918 on the eve of the Advance to Victory and have no known grave, including that of Pte James Mosley.

The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April - May 1917 and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

Canadian and Australian servicemen killed in these operations are commemorated by memorials at Vimy and Villers-Bretonneux.

Pte James Mosley is also remembered on the Kildwick war memorial.



Arras memorial, France

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



Kildwick war memorial (postmarked 22 Sept 1924)
(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)



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

Pte James Mosley was posthumously awarded the
British War Medal & Victory Medal



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

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 named to James Mosley
Also referred to as a Death Plaque or Dead Man's Penny
(source: **Andrew Monkhouse war medal collection**)

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)