

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



JOHN SMITH

WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT

KILLED IN ACTION 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 1918

BORN IN 1877 AT SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN, THE SON OF  
JAMES AND SARAH SMITH (NEE SMITH)

# Smith Family History

- John Smith was born on the 9th August 1877 at Sutton Fields, Sutton-in-Craven.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT				KEIGHLEY			
1877 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Keighley				in the County of York			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered
Ninth August 1877 Sutton fields Sutton	John	Boy	James Smith	Sarah Smith formerly Smith	Woolsorter	James Smith Father Sutton fields Sutton	Fourteenth September 1877

Certified copy of Birth Certificate for John Smith  
(source: General Register Office)

Ninth August 1877 Sutton fields Sutton	John
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Sutton Fields, Sutton-in-Craven

(source: Rachel Simpson & Richard Whiteoak from the Glyn Whiteoak collection)

- **1881 census** shows James, his wife Sarah (nee Smith) and their 2 children now living at Greenfield Place, Glusburn as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
James (Head)	27	Worsted woolsorter	Cowling, Yorkshire	1854
Sarah (wife)	28		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1853
John	3		Sutton-in-Craven	1877 - 1918
Mary Elizabeth	11 months		Sutton-in-Craven	1881

- **1891 census** shows James, his wife Sarah and their 7 children still living at Greenfield Place, Glusburn as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
James (Head)	37	Worsted woolsorter	Cowling, Yorkshire	1854
Sarah (wife)	38		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1853
John	13	Worsted spinner	Sutton-in-Craven	1877 - 1918
Mary Elizabeth	10	Worsted spinner	Sutton-in-Craven	1881
Edith	8	Scholar	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1883
Maud	6	Scholar	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1885
Allan	4	Scholar	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1887
Harris	2		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1889
Jim	4 months		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1891

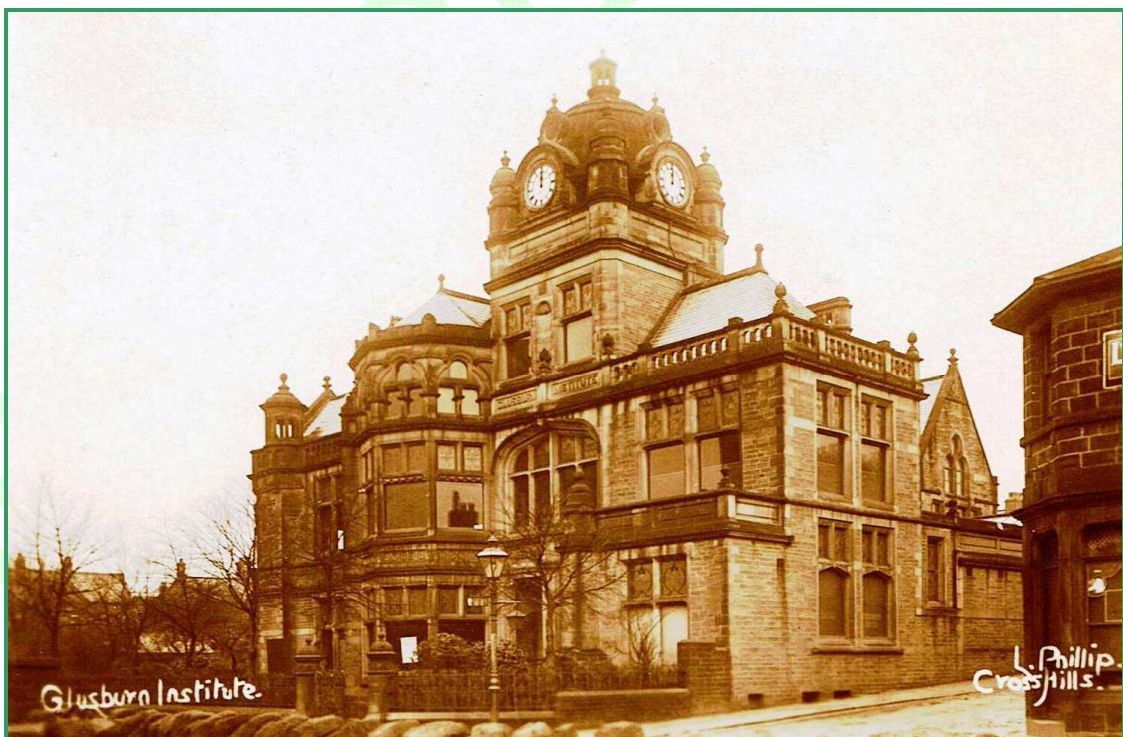
- **1901 census** shows James, his wife Sarah and their 9 children now living at 14, Institute St, Glusburn as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
James (Head)	47	Wool sorter	Cowling, Yorkshire	1854
Sarah (wife)	48		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1853
John	23	Stone Mason	Sutton-in-Craven	1877 - 1918
Mary Elizabeth	20	Worsted twister	Sutton-in-Craven	1881
Edith	18	Worsted spinner	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1883
Maud	16	Worsted spinner	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1885
Allan	14	Worsted jobber	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1887
Harris	12	Worsted jobber	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1889
Jim	10		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1891
William	6		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1895
Benjamin	4		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1897





Glusburn (postmarked 25 Feb 1915)  
(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)



Glusburn Institute  
(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)

- **1911 census** shows that James and Sarah had been married for 36 years and that of their 9 children born alive, all 9 were still living. It also shows the Smith family still living at 14, Institute St, Glusburn as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
James (Head)	57	Wool sorter	Cowling, Yorkshire	1854
Sarah (wife)	58		Glusburn, Yorkshire	1853
John	33	Stone Mason	Sutton-in-Craven	1877 - 1918
Edith	28	Worsted twister	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1883
Maud	26	Worsted reeler	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1885
Allan	24	Mill mechanic	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1887
Harris	22	Ruler & book binder	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1889
Jim	20	Tool machine fitter	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1891
William	16	Machine printer	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1895
Benjamin	14	Worsted spinning doffer	Glusburn, Yorkshire	1897

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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



'FOLLOWING FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS!'

Postmarked 15 Dec 1915

(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)



Military campaigning for volunteers in the market place, 1914  
(Kitchener's New Army)

Prior to enlistment, John Smith was a senior partner in the firm of Smith & Ibbotson, monumental masons and building contractors of Green Lane, Glusburn.

Following the Military Service Act that came into force on 2nd March 1916, John joined the forces in June 1916 and enlisted into the 10th (service) battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment.

His regimental number was 28655 and he commenced with the rank of Private.

During the Great War, the West Yorkshire Regiment raised a total of 37 battalions including regular army, territorial and battalions of the 'New Armies'. 66 Battle Honours were bestowed and 4 Victoria Crosses were awarded to the West Yorkshire Regiment.





WW1 West Yorkshire Regiment Cap Badge

Pte John Smith entered the Theatre of War in August 1916 arriving in France with the 10th West Yorkshire Regiment as part of the 17th (Northern) Division.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
SMITH.	W. York R.	Pte.	28655.
John.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	0/2/104	B16	K. in A. 19.9.18.
BRITISH	" "	1917.	
STAR	" "	" "	
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380.

MEDAL INDEX CARD for John Smith (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.

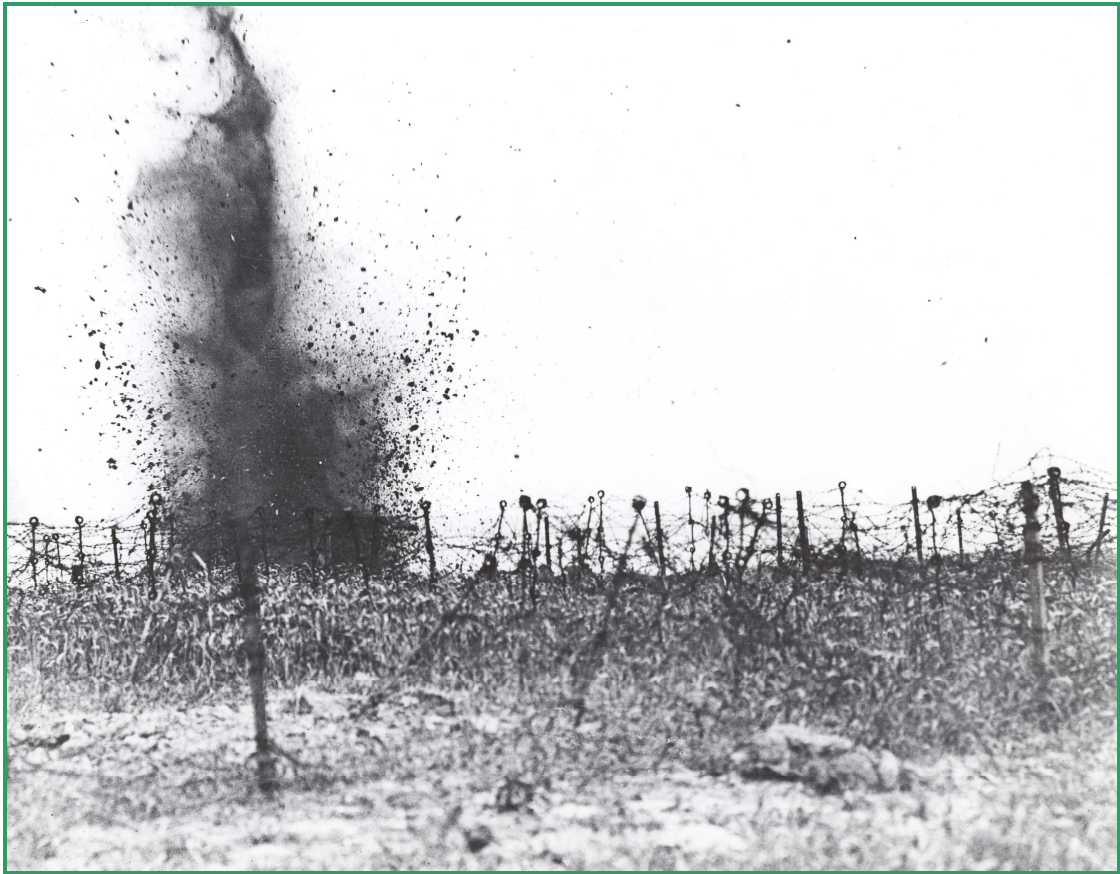
From the moment the German army moved into Luxemburg on the 2nd August 1914 to the Armistice on the 11th November 1918, the fighting on the Western Front in France & Flanders never stopped.

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



British soldiers on the Western Front, WW1





The Western Front, WW1



Bombardment in the 'mincing machine' of the Western Front, WW1

Having survived the slaughter of the Western Front in France for over two years, Pte John Smith was **Killed in Action** on the 19th September 1918 less than 8 weeks before the Armistice ended WW1.

He was 41 years of age



Article Date: 11 October 1918

#### Glusburn Soldier's Death

Mr. James Smith, of Institute Street, Glusburn, has received official information that his eldest son, Pte. John Smith, of the West Yorks., has been killed in action. Pte. Smith was well known and very highly respected. He joined the forces in June, 1916, and went out to France in August of the same year. His youngest brother, Willie Smith is serving on a merchant ship. Prior to joining the forces Pte. Smith was engaged in the building trade, being senior partner in the firm of Smith and Ibbotson, monumental masons and building contractors, of Green Lane, Glusburn. He was in his 41st year, and a bachelor.

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



In Memory of

Private

**John Smith**

28655, 10th Bn., West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) who died on 19 September 1918

Remembered with Honour

**Vis-En-Artois Memorial**



**Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

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

# VIS-EN-ARTOIS MEMORIAL



Vis-en-Artois Memorial, France

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

The Vis-en-Artois Memorial bears the names of 9,847 men including Pte John Smith who fell in the period from the 8th August 1918 to the date of the Armistice in Picardy and Artois, between the Somme and Loos and who have no known grave.

They belonged to the forces of Great Britain, Ireland and South Africa. The Canadian, Australian & New Zealand forces are commemorated on other memorials to the missing.

The Vis-en-Artois Memorial consists of a screen wall in three parts. The middle part of the screen wall is concave and carries stone panels on which names are carved. It was designed by J.R. Truelove, sculptured by Ernest Gillick and unveiled by the Rt. Hon. Thomas Shaw on the 4th August 1930.

Pte John Smith is also remembered on the Kildwick war memorial.





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](http://www.cpgw.org.uk))



Pte John Smith 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 John Smith  
Also referred to as a Death Plaque or Dead Man's Penny  
(source: Andrew Monkhouse war medal collection)



## Lest we Forget

### CRAVEN'S ROLL OF HONOUR



PRIVATE JACK SMITH, West Yorks. Regt., son of Mr. James Smith, Institute Street, Glusburn, killed in action 19th September, 1918. Aged 41 years.

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

# FOR THE FALLEN

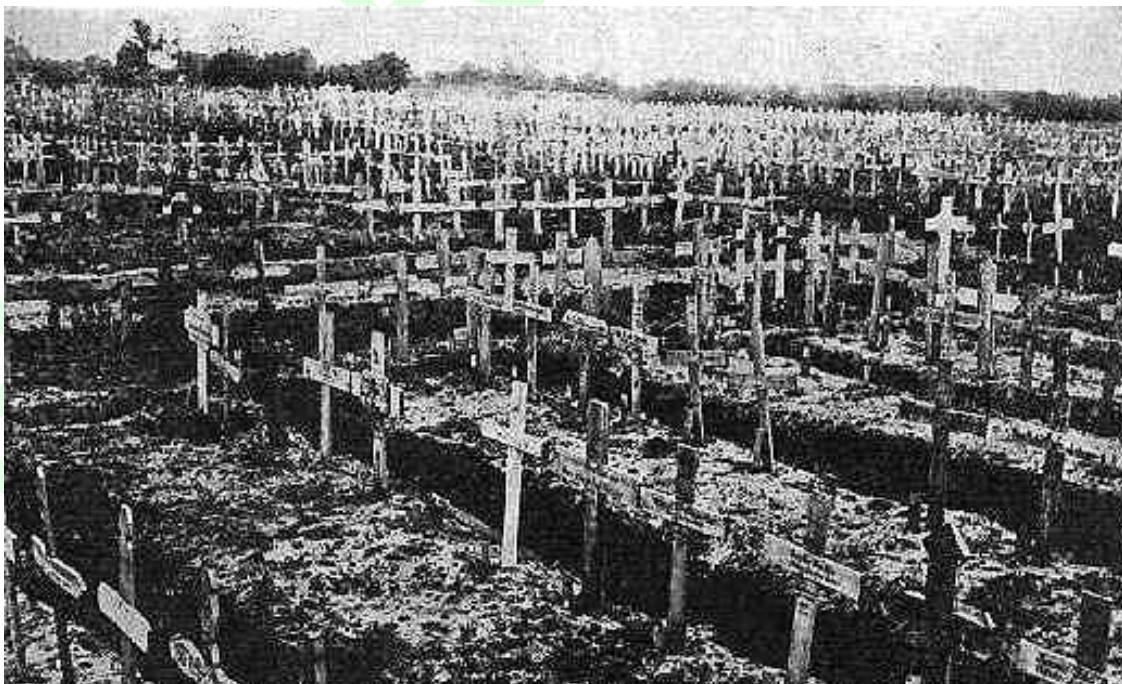
*THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD, AS WE THAT ARE  
LEFT GROW OLD*

*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 2013)