

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



JOSEPH WILLIAM NELSON

DUKE OF WELLINGTON REGIMENT

DIED OF WOUNDS

17TH AUGUST 1922

BORN IN 1895 AT SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN, THE SON OF
GEORGE AND MARY NELSON AND HUSBAND OF
BEATRICE NELSON (NEE DEWSNAP)

Nelson Family History

- **1901 census** shows George, his wife Mary and their 2 children living at 9, Lister Hill, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
George (Head)	38	Worsted weaver	Great Horton, Yorkshire	1863 - 1935
Mary (wife)	31	Worsted spinner	Bradford, Yorkshire	1870 - 1937
Clara Novells	9		Sutton-in-Craven	1892 - 1977
Joseph William	5		Sutton-in-Craven	1895 - 1922



Lister Hill, Sutton-in-Craven

- **1911 census** shows that George and Mary had been married for 20 years and that of their 3 children born alive, 2 were still living and 1 had since died. It also shows the Nelson family now living at 47, Main Street, Sutton-in-Craven as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
George (Head)	48	Weaver	Horton Bank Top, Yorks	1863 - 1935
Mary (wife)	41		Bradford, Yorkshire	1870 - 1937
Clara Novells	19	Piece mender	Sutton-in-Craven	1892 - 1977
Joseph William	15	Factory hand warps twisting	Sutton-in-Craven	1895 - 1922



Main Street, Sutton-in-Craven

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



Sutton Highfield football team, Sutton-in-Craven
(source: Rachel Simpson & Richard Whiteoak from the Glyn Whiteoak collection)



Joseph William Nelson (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 Committee
London 1915 (May)



British volunteers are taken in double-deckers to their training places, 1914
These men would form Kitchener's New Army
(source: *The Bradford Pals* Ralph N. Hudson 2nd Ed, 1993)

Prior to enlistment, Joseph Nelson was employed at Messrs W. Smith joinery works Ltd, Crosshills.

On the 5th July 1915, Joseph responded to the call and volunteered to enlist into the 1/6th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment).

He was 20 years and 9 months of age upon enlistment. His regimental number was 4551 and he commenced with the rank of Private. He was later promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal and was issued with the second regimental number 266827.

Army Form B. 103. *2nd Sheet* Regimental Number *266827*

Casualty Form—Active Service
West Riding Regt

Regiment or Corps.....
Rank *LC* Surname *Nelson* Christian Name *Joseph Wm*
Religion *Wes.* Age on Enlistment *20* years *9* months
Enlisted (a) *5-7-15* Terms of Service (a) *dur of war* Service reckons from (a) *5-7-1915*
Date of promotion to present rank..... Date of appointment to lance rank.....

(source: WW1 army service papers The National Archives)

The West Riding Regiment raised 24 battalions during WW1 including the 1/6th (Territorial Force) battalion at Skipton on 4th August 1914.



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

OFFICERS SERVING IN THE 1/6TH BATTALION WEST RIDING REGIMENT INCLUDED

Lieut-Colonel C.M. Bateman

Capt A.B. Clarkson

Capt N.B.Chaffers

All Directors of T & M Bairstow's Mill, Sutton-in-Craven



LIEUT.-COL. C. M. BATEMAN, D.S.O., T.D.



Capt. Horsfall.

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

Capt C.F. Horsfall

Director of Hayfield Mill at Glusburn, son of Sir John & Lady Horsfall

Officers of 1/6th West Riding Regiment group photo

1/6th DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S WEST RIDING REGIMENT.



LEFT TO RIGHT. Back Row, standing—2nd Lieut. V. E. W. Greaves, 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) N. Geldard, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut. (now Capt.) S. H. Clough, M.C.
 SECOND ROW. Standing—Major E. G. Whittaker, 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) L. Jaques, 2nd Lieut. T. S. Whitaker (K.), 2nd Lieut. E. J. C. Supple (K.), Lieut. H. Knowles (K.), Capt. M. Wright, 2nd Lieut. (Capt.) C. F. Horsfall (K.), Capt. (now Major) T. K. Wright, M.B.E., 2nd Lieut. P. F. Stuck, 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) R. M. Robinson, Lieut. A. E. K. Slingsby (K.), Lieut. (now Capt.) C. H. Petty.
 Sitting.—Capt. (now Major) N. B. Chaffers, M.C., Lieut. (now Capt.) H. Dixon, Capt. (now Major) A. B. Clarkson, D.S.O., M.C., Capt. S. F. Marriner (Adj.), Lieut.-Col. Birbeck (C.O.), Major C. P. Cass, Lieut. (now Capt.) and Qt.-Master J. Churchman, D.C.M., Capt. K. Nicholson, Major (now Lieut.-Col.) C. M. Bateman, D.S.O., T.D.
 Front Row—2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) R. C. Barrett, 2nd Lieut. T. Brayshaw, 2nd Lieut. (now Capt.) F. L. Smith, M.C., 2nd Lieut. (A/Capt.) K. Ogston (K.), 2nd Lieut. (A/Capt.) G. B. Buxton, M.C., 2nd Lieut. T. Taylor.

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

On the 30th October 1915, Joseph William Nelson and Miss Beatrice Mary Dewsnap of Barnsley, South Yorkshire were married at the West Lane Primitive Methodist Chapel in Keighley by the Reverend E. Bolton.

Their son named Lord Leo Nelson (1916 – 1973), was born just over four months later on the 2nd March 1916 in the Registration District of Barnsley.

Pte Joseph William Nelson entered the Theatre of War on the 24th June 1916 when he embarked from Southampton and disembarked at Le Havre in France.

38	Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
	NELSON.	W. Rid R.	Pte	4551
		- do -		266827.
	Joseph W.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	0/2/101 B27	4749.		
BRITISH	- do -	- do -		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1580

MEDAL INDEX CARD for Joseph William Nelson (source: *National Archives*)

Army Form B. 103.
ATTESTED ON A.F.E. 501

6th ENT. DIST. OF THE ARMY

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps _____ Regimental Number 266827

Rank Pte Surname Nelson Christian Name Joseph William

Religion _____ Age on Enlistment 20 years 9 months.

Enlisted (a) 5/7/15 Terms of Service (a) duration Service reckons from (a) 5/7/15

Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank _____

Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b) _____

or Corps Trade and Rate _____

Signature of Officer i/o Records. _____

Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 103, Army Form A. 56, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 103, Army Form A. 56, or other official documents
Joined Base Depot.	Embarked ...	Southampton.		
JOINED BATTALION	24 JUN 1916	Disembarked...		

(source: *WW1 army service papers* The National Archives)

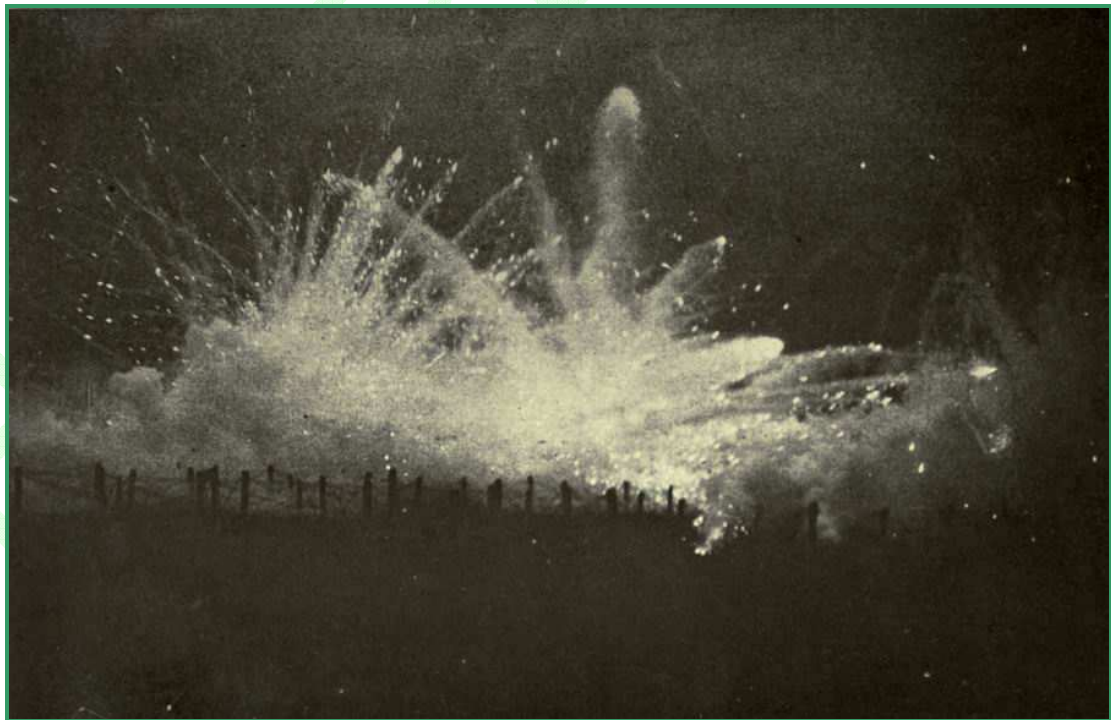
The Western Front

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 2nd August 1914 to the Armistice on 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.



WW1 German artillery barrage photographed at night
(source: www.gwpda.org/photos)

Gallantry Award

In November 1917, Lance Corporal Joseph William Nelson was awarded the **MILITARY MEDAL** 'For Bravery in the Field' for gallant action near Ypres



L/Cpl Nelson's original Military Medal
(source: Andrew Monkhouse war medal collection)



L/Cpl Nelson's original Military Medal
(source: **Andrew Monkhouse** war medal collection)

SUTTON.

LANCE-CORPORAL J. W. NELSON WINS MILITARY MEDAL.

Another Sutton soldier—Lance-Corporal Joseph W. Nelson, of the West Riding Regiment—has won the Military Medal. He won this coveted honour for gallantry in action near Ypres some little time ago. He is 22 years of age, and joined up about two years ago, going out to France in June, 1916. Prior to joining the forces he was employed by Messrs. W. Smith (Cross Hills), Ltd. He is well known in the village.

Keighley News report dated 1st December 1917
(source: photocopied by Robert Smith)

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)

SUTTON.



LANCE-CORPL. JOSEPH WILSON,
who has gained the Military Medal, as
reported last week.

Craven Herald News report December 1917

NOTE: incorrect spelling of surname
(source: photocopied by Robert Smith)

The award was also announced in the London Gazette: 28th January 1918

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 28 JANUARY, 1918. 1393

1325 Pte. J. P. Miles, R.W. Kent R. (Penge).
18209 Pte. (A./L./C.) G. Miller, M.G. Corps (Whitehaven).
290547 Gnr. R. H. Miller, R.G.A. (Sale, Cheshire).
69252 Pte. W. G. Millington, R.A.M.C. (Shrewsbury).
59727 Gnr. J. Millmore, R.F.A. (Tantobie).
84992 Cpl. (A./Sjt.) G. D. Mills, R.E. (Norwich).
14970 Pte. J. Mills, York. R. (Sunderland).
39019 Pte. (A./Sjt.) J. A. Mills, M.G. Corps (Huddersfield).
10609 L./C. R. Mills, O. & B. L.I. (Yardley).
30844 Pte. W. Mills, York. L.I. (Sheffield).
265771 Pte. H. Millson, W. York. R. (Leeds).
200837 Pte. W. Millward, Worc. R. (Bewdley).
17160 Pte. A. Milne, R. Scots. (Edinburgh).
12943 Pte. J. Milne, Manch. R., attd. R.E. (Rochdale).
M2/053003 Pte. C. Mitchell, A.S.C. (Sowerby Bridge).
81870 Gnr. (A./Bomdr.) C. Mitchell, R.G.A. ([E] Arbroath).
98194 Spr. C. W. Mitchell, R.E. (Sandbach).
780366 Sjt. C. W. Mitchell, R.F.A. (Doncaster).
S/7443 Pte. J. Mitchell, Gord. Highrs. (Greenock).
5/12238 Pte. P. Mitchell, Gord. Highrs. (Hill of Beath, Fife).
24146 L./C. R. Mole, North'd Fus. (Cullercoats).
73913 Sjt. B. Monaghan, R.F.A. (Leeds).
S/21778 L./C. D. Monk, Cam. Highrs (Benbecula).
28565 Pte. E. Monkhouse, York. R. (Notting Hill).
471255 Spr. R. B. Moody, R.E. (Bishop Auckland).
138857 Sjt. A. J. Moore, R.G.A. (Sandgate).
14299 Pte. T. Moore, S. Staff. R. (Pelsall).
25/435 Cpl. W. Moralee, North'd Fus. (Byker).
S/7575 Pte. J. Moreland, Gord. Highrs. (Edinburgh).
88173 Pte. G. D. Morrison, R.A.M.C. (Aberdeen).
S/6485 L./C. P. Morrison, R. Highrs. (Bankfoot).
23764 Pte. A. Moss, E. Surr. R. (Southfields).
23/80 Cpl. J. Mould, North'd Fus. (South Shields).
478651 Spr. C. E. Mounsley, R.E. (Darlington).
61185 Pte. A. Mountford, R.A.M.C. (Bashford).
18139 Pte. E. Moxon, York. L.I. (Pontefract).
S/43144 Pte. J. Moyes, R. Highrs. (Dunfermline).
650414 Dvr. A. Muir, R.F.A. (Edinburgh).
26761 Pte. C. Mumford, Hamps. R. (Ware Park).
14076 Pte. I. Murphy, R. Scots. (Glasgow).
34421 L./C. F. S. Murray, Mdx. R. (Walthamstow).
750840 Dvr. G. A. Murray, R.F.A. (Chester-le-Street).
68479 Bomdr. J. G. Murray, R.F.A. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).
S/40232 Pte. (L./C.) K. Murray, Sea. Highrs. (Alness).
775136 Bomdr. F. Musgrove, R.F.A. (Leeds).
265924 Pte. W. Musgrove, W. York. R. (Leeds).
242017 Pte. S. Musselbrook, N. & Derby R. (Dulwich).
65276 Dvr. E. Naven, R.F.A. (Birmingham).
210914 Pte. E. Naylor, Y. & L. Rgt. (Sheffield).
201689 Pte. J. H. Naylor, W. Rid. R. (Hali-fax).
44144 Gnr. (A./Bomdr.) A. Neaverson, R.G.A. (Burton-on-Trent).
S/9532 Pte. J. Nelson, R. Highrs. (Edinburgh).
266827 Pte. J. W. Nelson, W. Rid. R. (Barnsley).
43021 Pte. (L./C.) H. Nevard, Essex R. (Colchester).
14560 Pte. J. Newall, R. Lan. R. (Manches-

London Gazette entry, 1918

(source: www.gazettes-online.co.uk)



Soldiers going over the top, WW1

L/Cpl Nelson had been serving in France since June 1916.

11 days before the Armistice (ceasefire) ended the Great War, L/Cpl Nelson was severely **Wounded in Action** on the 1st November 1918 with gun-shot wounds to the abdomen.

He was invalided back to England and admitted to St Luke's war hospital in Halifax on the 2nd December 1918. He was later transferred to another war hospital in Huddersfield and again transferred to Wharnccliffe war hospital in Sheffield on the 4th August 1919.

On the 19th May 1920 he was discharged from the army due to being "***No longer physically fit for War Service***".

Joseph William Nelson suffered considerably for several years as a direct result of the gun-shot wounds to the abdomen he sustained in the closing days of the Great War. He finally succumbed to these wartime injuries and passed away on the 17th August 1922 at Beckett's Park Military Hospital, Leeds.

He was 27 years of age

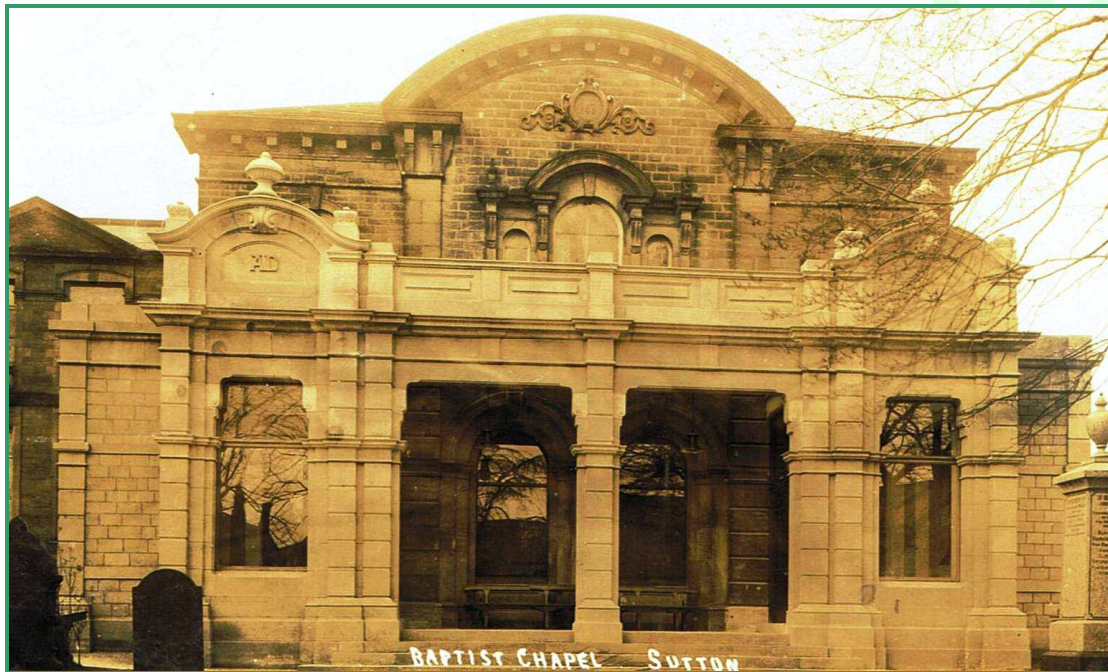
SUTTON.

DEATH OF MILITARY MEDALLIST.

On Thursday of last week Mr. Joseph William Nelson, of Sutton, died in the Beckett's Park Hospital at Leeds as a result of wounds received in the war. He was seriously wounded in the closing days of the war, after having served for about three years with distinction, and since being wounded he has spent a large part of the intervening period in hospital. He won the Military Medal in November, 1917, for gallantry in the field near Ypres, when serving with the West Riding Regiment. Of an unassuming and cheerful disposition, he had a host of friends, and though he has at times suffered considerably from his wounds he was never known to complain. He was 27 years of age, and leaves a widow and one child. The funeral took place at the Sutton Baptist burial-ground on Monday afternoon, the last rites being performed by the Rev. F. T. Bloice Smith. Former chums of the deceased carried the coffin shoulder-high from the village to the churchyard. Among the mourners were ex-service men from the Beckett's Park Hospital, and a beautiful wreath was sent from the hospital as a token of the esteem in which the deceased was held.

Keighley News report dated 26th August 1922
(source: photocopied by Robert Smith)

Joseph was interred at the Baptist burial ground, Sutton-in-Craven on the 21st August 1922. It would appear that a tomb-stone bearing his name does not exist in this cemetery, despite the existence of a tomb-stone bearing the names of both his parents George & Mary and his sister Clara.



Baptist Chapel, Sutton-in-Craven
(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)

As Joseph died in 1922, one year after the unveiling of the Sutton-in-Craven war memorial in 1921, his name does not appear on the village Great War memorial.

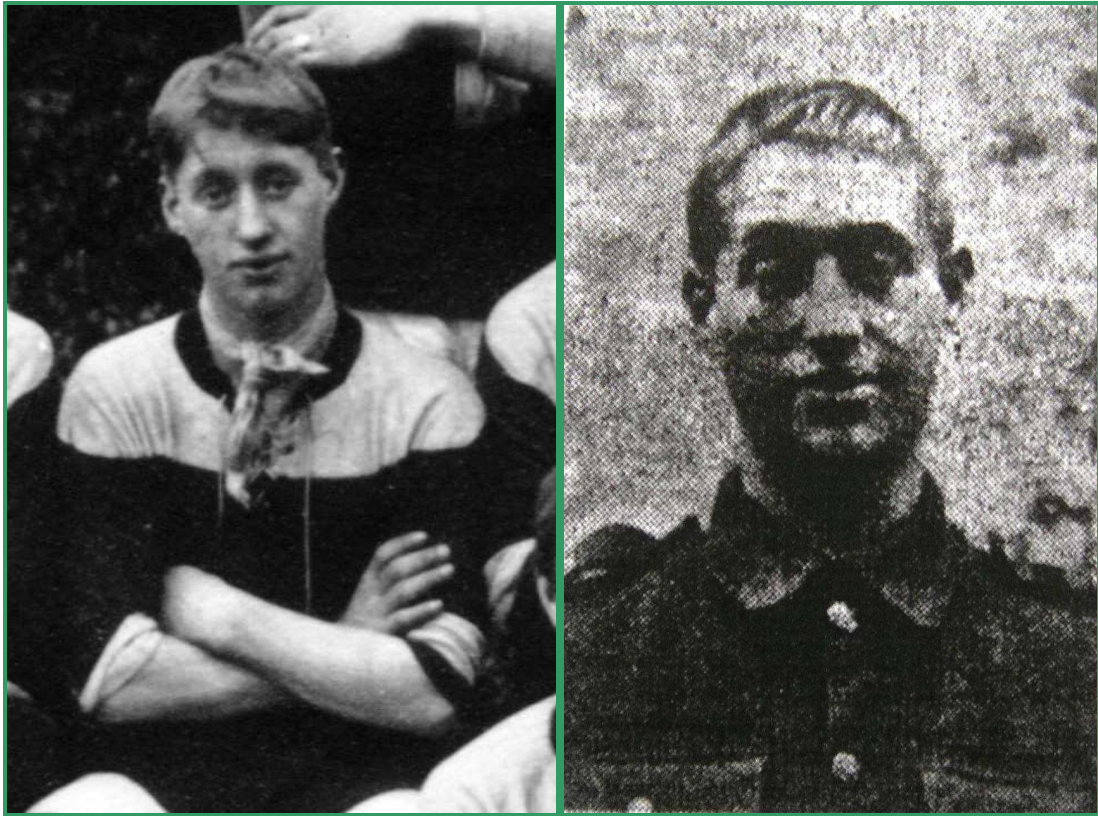
Neither was his name recorded on the St Thomas' Church Roll of Honour recording the Great War **'Fallen'** of Sutton-in-Craven.

L/Cpl Joseph William Nelson was awarded the
Military Medal, British War Medal & Victory Medal



Original WW1 medal group
(source: Andrew Monkhouse war medal collection)

Lest we Forget



Joseph William Nelson

(1895 – 1922)

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)