

THE FALLEN OF SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN



SAMUEL SMITH

ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY

DIED OF INJURIES

25TH SEPTEMBER 1916

BORN IN 1876 AT SUTTON-IN-CRAVEN, THE SON OF
WILLIAM AND SUSANNAH SMITH (NEE WAITE)

Smith Family History

- **1871 census** shows William and his wife Susannah living at Sutton Mill (five years prior to **Samuel being born**) as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
William (Head)	27	Warp dresser worsted	Glusburn	1844
Susannah (wife)	28	Worsted Weaver	Sutton-in-Craven	1843 - 1884



Sutton-in-Craven

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

- **Samuel Smith** was born on the 19th January 1876 at Sutton Mill, Sutton-in-Craven.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT				KEIGHLEY			
1876 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
Nineteenth January 1876 Sutton Mill Sutton	Samuel	Boy	William Smith	Susannah Smith formerly Waite	Warp dresser for a worsted mill	X the mark of Susannah Smith Mother Sutton Mill Sutton	First February 1876

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



Sutton-in-Craven (postmarked 21 Dec 1906)
(source: Andrew Monkhouse postcard collection)

- **1881 census** shows William, his wife Susannah and their son Samuel now living at 37 William St, Little Marsden, Nelson, Lancashire as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
William (Head)	37	Warp dresser	Glusburn	1844
Susannah (wife)	38	Worsted Weaver	Sutton-in-Craven	1843 - 1884
Samuel	5		Sutton-in-Craven	1876 - 1916



Marsden and Nelson

- **1891 census** shows William remarried to Elizabeth after being widowed in 1884. It also shows the Smith family now living at 9 Veevers St, Brierfield, Nelson, Lancashire as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
William (Head)	47	Warp dresser	Glusburn	1844
Elizabeth (2 nd wife)	44		Nelson, Lancashire	1847
Samuel	15	Cotton weaver	Sutton-in-Craven	1876 - 1916
Grace Hannah	9	Scholar	Nelson, Lancashire	1882
Bertha	4		Brierfield, Lancashire	1887



Brierfield Town Hall and Fire Station
(source: postcard dated 25 July 1906)

- **1901 census** shows the Smith family now living at 46 Chapel St, Brierfield, Nelson, Lancashire as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
William (Head)	57	Cotton warp dresser	Glusburn	1844
Elizabeth (wife)	53		Nelson, Lancashire	1848
Samuel	25	Cotton weaver	Sutton-in-Craven	1876 - 1916
Grace Hannah	19	Cotton weaver	Nelson, Lancashire	1882
Bertha	14	Cotton weaver	Brierfield, Lancashire	1887

- **1911 census** shows that William had been married to his 2nd wife Elizabeth for 26 years and that together they had one child (Bertha born in 1887, married to Walter Leaver in 1907). It also shows the Smith family now residing at 31, Regent Street, Brierfield, Nelson, Lancashire as follows:

Name	Age	Work	Birth place	Birth year
William (Head)	67	Cotton warp dresser	Glusburn	1844
Elizabeth (wife)	63		Nelson, Lancashire	1848
Samuel	35	Cotton weaver	Sutton-in-Craven	1876 - 1916

World War 1

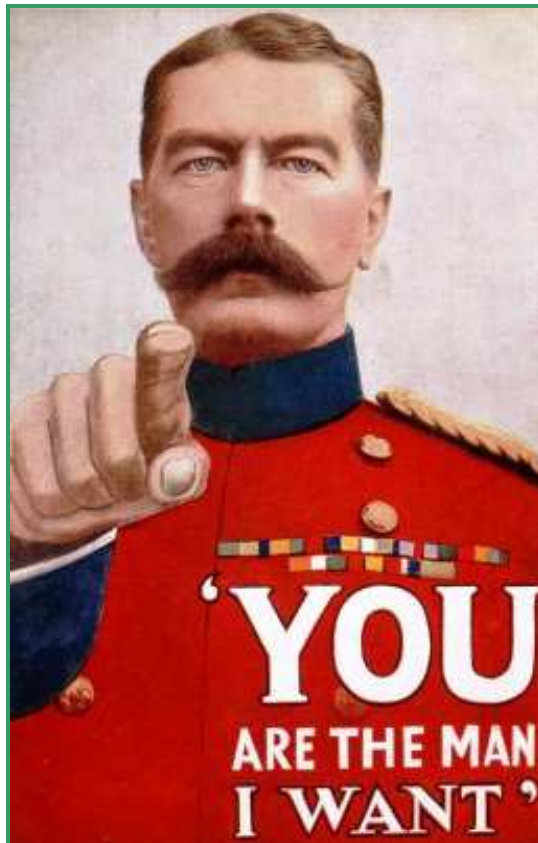


It had been **99 years** since Britain was last involved in a major European conflict following the defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815

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



A long queue of British volunteers waiting to enlist for service abroad, 1914
These men would form Kitchener's New Army
(source: "Daily Graphic" photographs)

Very little is known about Samuel Smith's wartime service, except that he served with the **Royal Garrison Artillery**. He remained home-based without seeing active service in an overseas theatre of war. For this reason a Medal Index Card does not exist for him as he was not entitled to any WW1 campaign medals.

His regimental number was 113037 and he commenced with the rank of Gunner.

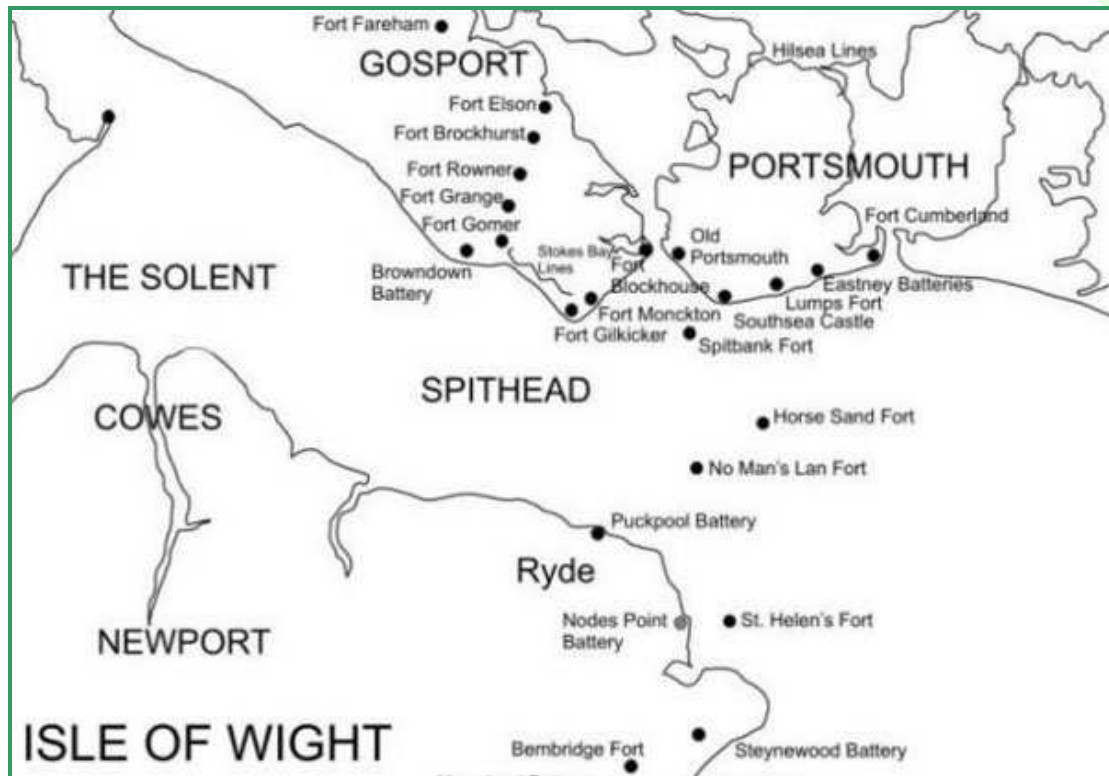
The Royal Garrison Artillery (RGA) was an arm of the Royal Regiment of Artillery developed from fortress-based artillery located on British coasts.

From 1914 when the army possessed very little heavy artillery, the RGA grew into a very large component of the British forces. It was armed with heavy, large caliber guns and howitzers that were positioned some way behind the front line and had immense destructive power.

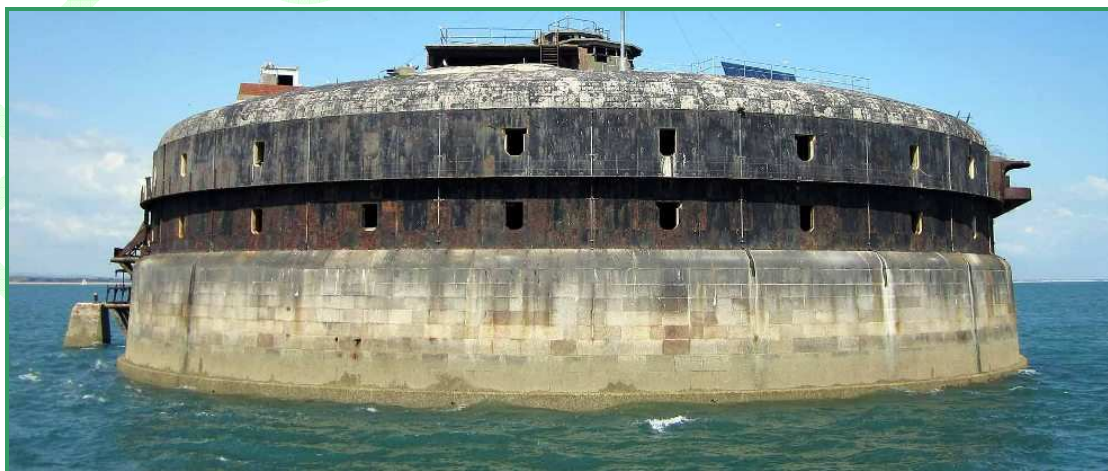


Royal Garrison Artillery, WW1

Samuel served with the 29th Company of the **Royal Garrison Artillery** which manned the Outer Defences near Portsmouth and the Southern Coast Defences. He was stationed at one of the Spithead Forts located in the Solent between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight.



Location of the Spithead Forts



Horse Sand Fort, Spithead
(source: palmerstonfortssociety.org.uk)

In October 1916, the Isle of Wight Mercury newspaper reported that Gunner Samuel Smith had **Died of Injuries** (on 25th September 1916) at the Northwood Hospital on the Isle of Wight. The circumstances of his accidental injury and extreme debility are unknown.

He was 40 years of age

ISLE OF WIGHT MERCURY

Friday, October 6, 1916 Page 3

The funeral took place, with military honours, at Northwood Cemetery, of **Gunner Samuel Smith**, R.G.A., formerly stationed at a Spithead fort, who died at the Northwood Hospital from the effects of accidental injury and extreme debility. A carrying party of R.G.A. from Southsea Castle, in charge of 2nd Lieut. W.P. Chase, attended, and the firing party was commanded by Capt. W.R. Coates, R.G.A., Lady Baring, Commandant of the Hospital, and a party of soldier patients from the hospital were the mourners. There were floral tributes from the staff and patients of the hospital, and the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of deceased's company and others.

Isle of Wight Mercury newspaper
(source: provided by Janet Griffin)

Northwood Cemetery Burial Record

Surname:	SMITH	Age:	40	Date buried:	29 / 9 / 1916
Forename(s):	Samuel	Plot:	27	Grave:	7176
Description:	Gunner RGA				
Occupation:					
Where died:	Northwood House, Red Cross Hospital, Cowes				
Ceremony by:	Herbert Wesley Hamon	Registrar:	James Charles Wilson Damant		

Northwood Cemetery Burial Record
(source: Friends of Northwood Cemetery, 2008)

COWES (NORTHWOOD) CEMETERY

The Cowes (Northwood) Cemetery contains the war graves of 33 identified casualties including the grave of a Polish sailor and that of Gunner Samuel Smith.



CWGC headstone for Samuel Smith
Northwood Cemetery, Isle of Wight
(source: www.isle-of-wight-memorials.org.uk)

1130307 GUNNER
S SMITH
ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY
25TH SEPTEMBER 1916 AGE 40
+

Inscription on CWGC headstone for Samuel Smith (as above)
(source: www.isle-of-wight-memorials.org.uk)

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

Name:	Samuel SMITH
Rank:	GUNNER
Initials:	S
Birthplace:	Sutton Mill, Yorks
Residence:	Brierfield, Lancs
Enlisted:	Nelson, Lancs
Regiment, Corps etc.:	Royal Garrison Artillery
Battalion etc.:	
Number:	113037
Date died:	25 September 1916
How died:	Died
Theatre of war:	Home

Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919
(source: www.Ancestry.co.uk)

Samuel Smith's name was not recorded on the Sutton-in-Craven war memorial, or the St Thomas' Church Roll of Honour listing the Great War 'Fallen' of Sutton-in-Craven.

In Memory of

Gunner

Samuel Smith

113037, 29th Coy., Royal Garrison Artillery who died on 25 September 1916 Age 40

Born at Sutton Mill-in-Craven, Keighley. Son of William and Susannah Smith.

Remembered with Honour

Cowes (Northwood) Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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

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



Original WW1 Memorial Plaque named to Arthur Smith
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)