

## Private Frederick Blackwell©

Regimental number: 19279

10th (Service) Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment

born: 20 April 1887–died: 31 August 1916

“Too loved to ever be forgotten,” is engraved on Private Frederick Blackwell’s headstone.<sup>1</sup> He was at the Western Front for less than 60 days when he was killed in action, one of 704,803 soldiers from the British Isles who died in or because of the First World War.<sup>2</sup>



**(L to R) Daisy (née Clark) Blackwell (sitting), Private Frederick Blackwell, Elizabeth Ann Blackwell**

Source: Courtesy of Richard Sim

Frederick (known as Fred) was born on 20 April 1887 in Yeadon,<sup>3</sup> a town in the Wharfedale district of West Yorkshire, about 13 km northwest of Leeds.<sup>4</sup> He was the son of William (1847–1927)<sup>5</sup> and Faith Elizabeth (née Warcup) Blackwell (1848–1927)<sup>6</sup> who were both born in the area: William in Kirkbymoorside and Faith in Pickering. They married on 27 November 1869 at the Anglican Chapel of Lockton, in the Parish of Middleton, Yorkshire. William was a farm labourer. Faith did not list an occupation at the time of the marriage.<sup>7</sup>

The couple had 11 children:<sup>8</sup> Elizabeth Ann (1871–1958)<sup>9</sup> was the eldest, followed by Hannah Jane (1872–1872),<sup>10</sup> Hannah Jane (1873–1914),<sup>11</sup> Emily Warcup (1875–1961),<sup>12</sup> John William Warcup (1876–1879),<sup>13</sup> William (1880–1933),<sup>14</sup> George (1882–1968),<sup>15</sup> Francis (1884–1979),<sup>16</sup> Alfred (1885–1916),<sup>17</sup> then Frederick and lastly Louise (1889–1890).<sup>18</sup>

William and Faith began their married life in Kirkbymoorside. In 1871 they were living with baby Elizabeth at Howe’s End and William was working as a labourer.<sup>19</sup> A decade later, William and Faith, with their four living children—Elizabeth, Hannah, Emily and infant William—were residing in Kirkby Mills. William was a lime burner, a very dangerous occupation.<sup>20</sup>

When Fred was born, the family had moved to Queen Street in Yeadon,<sup>21</sup> a small town that had developed with the wool industry. By 1887, Yeadon had five mills manufacturing wool products.<sup>22</sup>

It was in these mills that Fred’s family found employment. In 1891, Elizabeth worked as a weaver, and Hannah and Emily were spinners. Four-year-old Fred remained at home, while brothers William, George, Francis and Alfred attended school. Fred’s father was a labourer; his mother a green grocer.<sup>23</sup> During the next decade, Fred probably attended school. By 1901, the 14-year-old

was working as a wool spinner. All his siblings were employed in the woolen mills, except William, who was a bricklayer. His father was now a market gardener and his mother did domestic chores.<sup>24</sup>

At some point after 1901, Fred's father moved to Lockton, near Pickering, to farm.<sup>25</sup> His brother William listed "farmer" as their father's occupation when he married Emma Kitchen on 11 August 1906. William was now employed as a woollen cloth fuller and Emma was a woollen weaver.<sup>26</sup> Both of them were still working at these occupations in 1911, living at 13 Queen Street, Yeadon, with their three-year-old son Ernest.<sup>27</sup> By then, Fred's brother George had emigrated to Australia, most likely in 1910.<sup>28</sup> Fred and the rest of his family remained in Yeadon at 6 Hudson Terrace. All, except his mother, worked in the woolen mills. Elizabeth, Hannah and Emily were weavers. Fred and Francis were spinners and Alfred was a beamer.<sup>29</sup>

When Francis wed Hilda Norton on 19 August 1911, the family had moved to 8 Football [Street], Yeadon. Francis was still employed as a spinner; Hilda worked as a condenser filler at a woolen mill.<sup>30</sup>

The family must have been affected by the labour unrest that occurred particularly during the years 1911–1914. The cost of living had increased. Wages for the various occupations had remained stagnant while employers were demanding greater productivity. On 23 May 1913, the mill owners locked out over 2,000 workers and refused to negotiate with the Yeadon, Guiseley and District Factory Workers' Union.

Fred and Alfred (and probably the other siblings) were members of the union.<sup>31</sup> They may have marched in the "Hunger Parades" to nearby communities during June and July to publicize the situation and collect money to assist starving workers' families. On 24 July 1913, the owners reopened the mills and made a few concessions, such as pay increases for some workers and a work week shortened to 55½ hours.<sup>32</sup>

Life did not return to normal for the Blackwell family. On 6 February 1914, Fred was with his sister Hannah when she died from a perforated ulcer at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, about 11 km from Yeadon.<sup>33</sup> This must have been a sorrowful time for the family.

When war was declared on 4 August 1914, 27-year-old Fred did not enlist, perhaps because he did not meet the height requirement of 160 cm and had no military experience.<sup>34</sup> Instead he continued to reside with his mother and siblings at 8 Football, Yeadon, and to work as the head spinner at a woolen mill. On 20 November 1915, he married Daisy Clark (1890–1972),<sup>35a</sup> a munitions worker. His brother Alfred was a witness at the ceremony.<sup>36</sup>

Fred and Daisy were living at 5 Alma Road, Yeadon, when he enlisted on 8 December 1915. He stood approximately 158 cm tall, weighed 53 kg and was assigned to the Army Reserve until 29 February 1916, when he was posted to the 10th (Service) Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment.<sup>37</sup> Two of his brothers would also enlist: Alfred in the Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire) Regiment<sup>38</sup> and Francis in the Machine Gun Corps.<sup>39</sup> George applied to the Australian Imperial Force on 3 September 1916 but was rejected because of his poor eyesight.<sup>40</sup>

The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment was an infantry regiment of the British Army formed in 1881 with the amalgamation of the 33rd (The Duke of Wellington's) Regiment of Foot and the 76th Regiment of Foot. During the First World War, the regiment raised 19 Territorial and Service battalions.<sup>41</sup>

The 10th (Service) Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, also known as the 10th West Riding Regiment, was raised at Halifax in September 1914 and became part of the 69th Brigade, 23rd Division. It landed in France on 27 August 1915 to join the British Expeditionary Force (BEF).<sup>42</sup>

The battalion, as part of the 69th Infantry Brigade, spent the next five months in the Erquinghem-Lys area, northern France, assigned to various trenches along the Bois-Grenier line. From mid-February to June 1916, the battalion moved to trenches near Steenbecque, then Hesdigneul-lès-Béthune, Ourton, and Hersin-Coupigny. On 25 June, it travelled from Hersin to Longueau, Somme department, Hauts-de-France, in northern France and then on to Molliens-au-Bois, about 12 km from Albert, France.

On 1 July, at 7:30 a.m., the Battle of Albert (1–13 July 1916) commenced. It was the first of 12 battles during the period from 1 July to 18 November 1916 that became known as the Battle of the Somme.<sup>43</sup> On 4 July, the 10th (Service) Battalion was in trenches near Baizieux when it was ordered to capture and consolidate other positions near Albert. This was the first time that the battalion had been employed in an attack. Lieutenant Colonel Hayne, commanding the 10th Battalion, wrote that it was a great pleasure for him to say "that all the ranks worked magnificently . . . and that many deeds of valour were performed by both officers and men."<sup>44</sup>

By the evening of 5 July, 4 officers and 13 soldiers of other ranks (ORs) were dead, 2 officers and 66 ORs wounded.<sup>45</sup> Other engagements with the enemy followed: 7 July at Lozengue Wood, 9 July at Shelter Alley; on 10 July, the battalion participated in the attack at Contalmaison and captured many guns and prisoners.<sup>46</sup> Relieved on 12 July, the battalion retired to Molliens-au-Bois to rebuild.

It was probably at Molliens-au-Bois that Private Frederick Blackwell joined the battalion. After embarking for France on 4 July 1916, he was probably one of the 154 ORs (judged to be of "fair standard")<sup>47</sup> that arrived on 17 July to reinforce the battalion. He received some training there and at Millencourt before the battalion went into the front-line trenches at Bécourt Wood. During this time Fred experienced day-to-day shelling, sniper fire, endless noise and horrid stench, followed by rest periods behind the lines.

From Bécourt Wood, the battalion moved to front-line trenches near Contalmaison. On the night of 28/29 July, Fred probably saw action for the first time in what became known as the Battle of Pozières. The battalion attacked the enemy in Munster Alley [trench],<sup>48</sup> consolidated the BEF's position but "sustained somewhat severe casualties": 2 officers and 31 ORs killed, 4 officers and 124 ORs wounded, 1 officer and 30 ORs missing and 13 ORs shell shocked.<sup>49</sup>

At the beginning of August, the battalion, assigned to trenches near Albert, had further engagements with the enemy. However, in mid-August, the 10th (Service) Battalion moved out of the Somme area. By 17 August, it had travelled 112 km to Steenwerck, northern France, near the Belgian border. From 18 to 23 August, it took over the defence of trenches in front of Ploegsteert Wood, Belgium, and found "it very quiet compared to Albert."<sup>50</sup> During that time, Fred probably assisted with the construction of a new trench (called the 10 West Riding Trench), which brought the BEF forces to about 320 m from the enemy trenches. During the operation, 3 ORs were killed and 4 ORs wounded.<sup>51</sup>

From 25 to 31 August, the battalion was assigned the left section of this new front-line trench. The 69th Brigade ordered an attack on the enemy line for 1:30 a.m. on 31 August.<sup>52</sup> Before the venture, the BEF's artillery fired gas bombs on the enemy trenches. Some fell short, releasing gas over a

portion of the new trench. Lieutenant Colonel Hayne recorded that three ORs were injured, "one had already died" and "this happened in spite of the most rigorous precautions. All ranks in the front line had their helmets adjusted before 1:30 a.m."<sup>53</sup>

On 30 August 1916, Private Frederick Blackwell was critically injured,<sup>54</sup> most likely during this attack. He was taken to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station (CCCS) at Bailleul, France, about 15 km from Ploegsteert Wood. A casualty clearing station was a medical unit behind the front lines, usually located near transportation. Casualties who could not be adequately treated were stabilized before being transported to a military hospital.<sup>55</sup>

Fred died at 3 a.m. on Thursday, 31 August,<sup>56</sup> one of four men to die that day at No. 1 CCCS.<sup>57</sup> His death was recorded by the No. 1 CCCS chaplain.<sup>58</sup> His wife Daisy and his parents were informed about his death, which was reported in the *Leeds Mercury* on 8 September 1916.<sup>59</sup>

Private Frederick Blackwell was buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord (Grave/Memorial Reference II. F. 188).<sup>60</sup> Bailleul is in France, close to the Belgian border. It was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several casualty clearing stations, including No. 1 CCCS, were quartered there.

The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul took place in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918; they occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when soldiers' remains were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields.

Fred was posthumously awarded the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre) and the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918).<sup>61</sup> By 2 February 1917, Daisy had received all his savings of £2 21s 14d and on 30 September 1919, a war gratuity of £3.<sup>62</sup> Daisy applied for a pension on 26 October 1916 and was granted 10s a week, to start on 19 March 1917.<sup>63</sup> As next of kin, she received a memorial plaque and a parchment scroll. Unfortunately, the scroll was lost by a picture framing company. Daisy asked for a replacement but was told that this was against regulations.<sup>64</sup>

Of the three Blackwell brothers who went to war, only one, **Francis**, returned home. Fred's brother **Alfred** was declared missing in action on 2 November 1916 and was officially declared dead in June 1917. His sacrifice is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.<sup>65</sup>

In the next decade, the surviving Blackwell family members continued to live near each other in Yeadon. In 1921, all of Fred's siblings were employed by D. Waterworth & Sons, Compton Mills, Yeadon. His mother and sisters **Elizabeth** and **Emily** were living in the house at 8 Football, and both Elizabeth and Emily were working as woollen weavers.<sup>66</sup> **William**, wife Emma and son Ernest were living nearby at 12 Lower Queen Street. William was a cloth miller and Emma, a weaver. **Francis**, wife Hilda and their two children were living nearby on South View Terrace; Francis was a woollen spinner.<sup>67</sup> Fred's father **William**, however, was still farming in Lockton Pickering.<sup>68</sup> In 1922, **George** married widow Elizabeth Schell in Waverley, New South Wales, Australia.<sup>69</sup> On 15 April 1925, he arrived back in England to visit his family at 8 Football, Yeadon. At some point he returned to Australia.<sup>70</sup>

Fred's wife **Daisy** never remarried. Shortly after his death, she moved to her parent's house at 6 Barnet Street, Armley, Leeds. In 1921, she was still living there with her parents, Brien and Ellen Clark and her sister Ellen. Daisy was, employed as a burler worker by Wilson & Sons Worsted

Manufacturer.<sup>71</sup> (Burlers dressed cloth by removing slubs, knots and loose threads.) In 1939, she was still employed as a burler, living alone at 6 Barnet Street, Armley, Leeds.<sup>72</sup>

Private Frederick Blackwell's sacrifice was not forgotten. He and brothers **Alfred** and **Francis** were commemorated on the Yeadon War Memorial erected in 1921. Constructed of oak and located in the Town Hall, it listed the names of the 1,137 local residents who died and the names of 1,903 who had served and survived.<sup>73</sup> Fred and Alfred's names were also listed on the Factory Workers Institute's Roll of Honour plaque.<sup>74</sup> More recently, Fred has been remembered on The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) – Regimental Association's website.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/198415/f-blackwell>: accessed 1 October 2024), entry for F Blackwell, Service number: 19279

<sup>2</sup> "Some British Army Statistics of the Great War," *The Long, Long Trail; Researching Soldiers of the British Army in the Great War 1914–1919* (<https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/army/some-british-army-statistics-of-the-great-war>: accessed 16 June 2024)

<sup>3</sup> "Copy of an Entry of Birth," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 17 July 2024), entry for Frederick Blackwell, When and where born: 20 April 1887 Queen Street Yeadon, Name and surname of father: William Blackwell, Name and maiden surname of mother: Faith Elizabeth Warcup, Rank or profession of father: outdoor labourer, Volume: 09A, Page: 158

<sup>4</sup> *Yeadon, Yorkshire Family History Guide* (<https://parishmouse.co.uk/yorkshire/west-riding/yeaddon-yorkshire-family-history-guide>: accessed 14 June 2024)

<sup>5</sup> "North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Birth and Baptisms, 1813–1921," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 9 June 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Baptism date: 4 February 1847, Baptism place: Kirkbymoorside, Yorkshire, England, Parish as it appears: Kirby Moorside, Father: George Blackwell, Mother: Anne (née Jackson) Blackwell; "UK and Ireland Find a Grave Index, 1300–Current," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 July 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Birth date: 1847, Death date: 8 March 1927, Cemetery: Yeadon Cemetery, Burial or cremation place: Yeadon, Metropolitan Borough of Leeds, West Yorkshire, England

<sup>6</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Faith Elizabeth Warcup, GRO Reference: 1848, J Quarter in Pickering Union, Volume: 24, Page: 517, Mother's maiden surname: Harper; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 July 2024), entry for Faith E Blackwell, Death age: 78, Birth date: abt 1849, Registration date: Jan 1927, Registration quarter: Jan-Feb-Mar, Registration district: Wharfedale, Inferred county: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9a, Page: 277

<sup>7</sup> "North Yorkshire, England, Church of England, Marriage and Banns, 1754–1937," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 5 June 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Record type: Marriage, Birth year: abt 1847, Marriage date 27 Nov 1869, Marriage place: Lockton, Yorkshire, England, Parish as it appears: Middleton, Spouse: Faith Elizabeth Marcus [*sic*]

<sup>8</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 12 July 2024), entry for Faith Elizabeth Blackwell, Registration district number: 491, Sub-registration district: Yeadon, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 14, Piece: 26042

<sup>9</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Elizabeth Ann Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1871, M Quarter in Pickering, Volume: 09D, Page: 423, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Elizabeth Ann

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Blackwell, Death date: 26 Jul 1958, Death place: Yorkshire, York, England, Probate date: 12 Sep 1958, Probate registry: Wakefield

<sup>10</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Hannah Jane Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1872, J Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 402, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "GRO Indexes, Deaths," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Hannah Jane Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1872, S Quarter in Pickering, Volume: 07A, Page: 327, Age: 0

<sup>11</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Hannah Jane Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1873, J Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 394, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "Copy of an Entry of Death," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/order\\_history.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/order_history.asp): accessed 17 July 2024), entry for Hannah Jane Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1914, M Quarter in Bradford, Volume: 09B, Page: 185, Age: 40, When and where died: 6 February 1914, Royal Infirmary, Rank or profession: of 8 Football, Yeadon, cloth weaver, Cause of death: Perforated gastric ulcer, Signature, description and residence of informant: Frederick Blackwell, brother, 8 Football, Yeadon

<sup>12</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 8 July 2024), entry for Emily Warcup Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1875, M Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 407, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar, (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Emily Warcup Blackwell, Death date: 28 Mar 1961, Death place: Yorkshire, York, England, Probate date: 24 Apr 1961, Probate registry: Wakefield

<sup>13</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 8 July 2024), entry for John William Warcup Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1876, D Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 419, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "England & Wales Deaths 1837–2007," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 11 July 2024), entry for William Warcup Blackwell, Death year: 1879, District: Helmsley, County: Yorkshire, Volume: 9D, Page: 325, Age: 2. **Note:** His first name, John, was not recorded.

<sup>14</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for William Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1880, J Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 461, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar, (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Death date: 22 May 1933, Death place: Yorkshire, York, England, Probate date: 6 Jul 1933, Probate registry: Wakefield

<sup>15</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for George Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1882, J Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 464, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages," *State of New South Wales (Department of Justice)* (<https://familyhistory.bdm.nsw.gov.au/lifelink/familyhistory/search/result?14>: accessed 16 July 2024), entry for George Blackwell, Death registration number: 23340/1968, Father's given name: William, Mother's given name: Faith Elizabeth, District: Ryde

<sup>16</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Francis Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1884, J Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 462, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 17 July 2024), entry for Francis Blackwell, Death age: 95, Birth date: 24 Apr 1884, Registration date: Oct 1979, Registration quarter: Oct-Nov-Dec, Registration district: Staincliffe, Inferred county: North Yorkshire, Volume: 2, Page: 2666

<sup>17</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Alfred Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1885, S Quarter in Helmsley, Volume: 09D, Page: 434, Mother's maiden

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surname: Warcup; *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/769092/alfred-blackwell>: accessed 22 July 2024), entry for Alfred Blackwell, Service number: 28745; "Soldiers Died in the Great War," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 22 July 2024), entry for Alfred Blackwell in 1916, Service number: 28745, Battalion: 10th Battalion, Regiment: Prince of Wales Own (West Yorkshire Regiment), Birth place: Kirby Moorside, Yorks, Residence: Yeadon

<sup>18</sup> "GRO Indexes, Births," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Louise Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1889, S Quarter in Wharfedale, Volume: 09A, Page: 165, Mother's maiden surname: Warcup; "GRO Indexes, Deaths," *General Register Office*

([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 4 July 2024), entry for Louise Blackwell, GRO Reference: 1890, D Quarter in Wharfedale, Volume: 09A, Page: 113, Age: 1

<sup>19</sup> "1871 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 22 July 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Registration district: Helmsley, Sub-registration district: Kirkby Moorside, Enumeration district, institution or vessel: 15, Piece: 4839, Folio: 161, Page: 15

<sup>20</sup> "Lime burner," *Worst Jobs in History*

([https://www.activehistory.co.uk/Miscellaneous/free\\_stuff/worst\\_jobs\\_in\\_history/jobs/Lime-Burner.htm#:~:text=Lime%20kilns%20were%20set%20up,a%2012%2Dhour%20night%20shift](https://www.activehistory.co.uk/Miscellaneous/free_stuff/worst_jobs_in_history/jobs/Lime-Burner.htm#:~:text=Lime%20kilns%20were%20set%20up,a%2012%2Dhour%20night%20shift): accessed 24 July 2024); "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 24 July 2024), entry for

William Blackwell, Registration district: Helmsley, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 16, Piece: 4826, Folio: 80, Page: 16

<sup>21</sup> "Copy of an Entry of Birth," *General Register Office*, entry for Frederick Blackwell

<sup>22</sup> Patrick Macartney, *The Yeadon Lockout and Hunger Marches of 1913, (Angelfire)*

(<https://www.angelfire.com/ma/Socialworld/Yeadon.html>: accessed 24 July 2024), Chapter One

<sup>23</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 24 July 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Registration district: Wharfedale, Sub-registration district: Yeadon, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 17, Piece: 3532, Folio: 87, Page: 12. **Note:** Frederick is mistakenly listed as older than Alfred.

<sup>24</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 September 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Registration district: Wharfedale, Sub-registration district: Yeadon, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 18, Household schedule number: 106, Piece: 4069, Folio: 175, Page: 18

<sup>25</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 December 2023), entry for William Blackwell, Registration district number: 532, Sub-registration district: Lockton, Institution, or vessel: 01, Piece: 29114

<sup>26</sup> "West Yorkshire, Non-Conformist Records, 1646–1985," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 25 July 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Event type: Marriage, Father: William Blackwell, Marriage date: 11 August 1906, Marriage age: 26, Spouse: Emma Kitchen, Spouse marriage age: 25, Archive location: Wakefield, Parish or chapel: Parkview Wesleyan Chapel, New Scarborough, Yeadon, Spouse father: Edward Kitchen, Residence place: Yeadon

<sup>27</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 December 2023), entry for William Blackwell, Registration district number: 491, Sub-registration district: Yeadon, Institution, or vessel: 15, Piece: 26043

<sup>28</sup> "New South Wales, Australia, Unassisted Immigrant Passenger Lists, 1826–1922," *Ancestry*

([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 28 August 2024), entry for G. Blackwell, Departure place: Liverpool, Arrival date: 17 Jan 1910, Arrival place: Sydney, Australia, Ship: Everton Grange

<sup>29</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry*, entry for Faith Elizabeth Blackwell; "Beamer" is a person who operates a machine that winds yarn on a beam. *Miriam-Webster Dictionary* (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/beamer>: accessed 28 August 2024)

<sup>30</sup> "West Yorkshire, Non-Conformist Records, 1646–1985," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 25 August 2024), entry for Francis Blackwell, Event type: Marriage, Father: William Blackwell, Marriage date: 19 August 1911, Marriage age: 27, Spouse: Hilda Norton, Spouse marriage age: 25, Archive location: Wakefield, Parish or chapel: Queen Street Chapel, Spouse father: James Norton, Residence place: Yeadon

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<sup>32</sup> Patrick Macartney, *The Yeadon Lockout and Hunger Marches of 1913, (Angelfire)*, Chapters One to Four; “2,000 Workers Thrown Idle, Yeadon and Guiseley Works Closed Down,” *Yorkshire Evening Post*, 23 May 1913, p. 5; “Yeadon and Guiseley Dispute, Hunger Marches,” *Bradford Daily Telegraph*, 7 July 1913, p. 3; “Yeadon and Guiseley Dispute, A Basis of Settlement,” *Bradford Daily Telegraph*, 24 July 1913, p. 4, [Findmypast \(www.findmypast.co.uk\)](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 31 August 2024)

<sup>33</sup> “Copy of an Entry of Death,” *General Register Office*, entry for Hannah Jane Blackwell

<sup>34</sup> Tom de Castella, “Bantams: the army units for those under 5ft 3in,” *BBC News Magazine*, 9 February 2015, *BBC News* ([www.bbc.com/news/magazine-31023270](http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-31023270)): accessed 6 September 2024); “UK, British Army World War 1 Service Records, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 10 September 2024), entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>35</sup> “England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 10 September 2024), entry for Daisy Blackwell, Death age: 83, Birth date: 12 Jan 1890, Registration date: Jan 1973, Registration quarter: Jan-Feb-Mar, Registration district: Leeds, Inferred county: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 2c, Page: 1085; “England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration), 1858–1995,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 10 September 2024), entry for Daisy Blackwell, Date of death: 30 Dec 1972, Death place: Leeds, Probate date: 6 Feb 1973, Probate registry: Leeds

<sup>36</sup> “West Yorkshire, Non-Conformist Records, 1646–1985,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 25 August 2024), entry for Frederick Blackwell, Event type: Marriage, Father: William Blackwell, Marriage date: 20 November 1915, Marriage age: 28, Spouse: Daisy Clark, Spouse marriage age: 25, Archive location: Leeds, Parish or chapel: Southend Wesleyan Chapel Southend Street, Spouse father: Brien Clark, Residence place: Armley

<sup>37</sup> UK, British Army World War 1 Service Records, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry*, entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>38</sup> “UK, Army Registers of Soldiers’ Effects, 1901–1929,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 8 September 2024), entry for Alfred Blackwell, Regimental number: 28745. **Note:** Alfred’s mother received a war gratuity of £3, which was the same as Fred’s. He was probably at the Front for less than a year.

<sup>39</sup> “UK, World War 1 Service Medals and Award Rolls, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 10 September 2024), entry for Francis Blackwell, Regiment or corps: Machine Gun Corps, Regimental number: 65608; “Machine Gun Corps,” *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machine\\_Gun\\_Corps#:~:text=The%20Machine%20Gun%20Corps%20\(MGC.in%20the%20First%20World%20War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machine_Gun_Corps#:~:text=The%20Machine%20Gun%20Corps%20(MGC.in%20the%20First%20World%20War)): accessed 10 September 2024) **Note:** The Machine Gun Corps was formed in October 1915.

<sup>40</sup> “Australia, Applications to Enlist in the AIF, 1915–1918,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)): accessed 10 September 2024), entry for George Blackwell, Application age: 34, Birth date: abt 1882, Residence street address: Terminus Street, Liverpool, N.S.W., Application date: 3 September 1916

<sup>41</sup> “The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment (West Riding),” *National Army Museum* (<https://www.nam.ac.uk/explore/duke-wellingtons-regiment-west-riding>): accessed 10 September 2024)

<sup>42</sup> “10 Battalion Duke of Wellington’s (West Riding Regiment),” *The Long, Long Trail; Researching Soldiers of the British Army in the Great War 1914–1919* ([https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/army/regiments-and-corps/the-british-infantry-regiments-of-1914-1918/duke-of-wellingtons-west-riding-regiment/#:~:text=10th%20\(Service\)%20Battalion,Le%20Havre%20late%20August%201915](https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/army/regiments-and-corps/the-british-infantry-regiments-of-1914-1918/duke-of-wellingtons-west-riding-regiment/#:~:text=10th%20(Service)%20Battalion,Le%20Havre%20late%20August%201915)): accessed 10 September 2024); “10th Battalion, The Duke of Wellington’s (West Riding Regiment) War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct,” *National Archives*, Kew (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7353259>): accessed 10 September 2024), Reference: WO95/2184/1\_01 and WO95/2184/1\_03. **Note:** Unless otherwise identified, all information about the 10th (Service) Battalion, The Duke of Wellington’s (West Riding Regiment’s) movements during this time period comes from this source.

<sup>43</sup> Tony Ball, “The Northumberland Fusiliers and the Somme, 1916: A Case Study in Unit Deployment, Tactical Order and Casualties,” *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, Vol. 85, No. 344 (Winter 2007), p. 310, *JSTOR* (<https://www.jstor.org>): accessed 20 October 2024)

<sup>44</sup> 10th Battalion, The Duke of Wellington’s (West Riding Regiment) War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct,” *National Archives*, entry for 5 July 1916

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<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> "10th Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)," *Battle of the Somme Roll of Honour* ([https://somme-roll-of-honour.com/Units/british/10th\\_duke\\_of\\_wellington.htm](https://somme-roll-of-honour.com/Units/british/10th_duke_of_wellington.htm): accessed 22 September 2024; John J. Fisher, *History of the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment (the Iron Duke's Own) During the First Three Years of the Great War from August 1914 to December 1917*, (G. T. Whitehead, 1917), pp. 136/7, (<https://huddersfield.exposed/book/18326#page/n137/mode/2up/search/10th+Battalion>: accessed 22 September 2024)

<sup>47</sup> "69 Infantry Brigade: Headquarters War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct," *National Archives*, Kew (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C4555334>: accessed 27 September 2024), Reference: WO95/2183\_02, entry for 17 July 1916

<sup>48</sup> "Battle of Pozières," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Pozi%C3%A8res](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pozi%C3%A8res): accessed 22 September 2024); "Munster Alley," *The Great War (1914–1918) Forum* (<https://www.greatwarforum.org/topic/176547-munster-alley-pozieres>: accessed 22 September 2024); "10th Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct," *National Archives*, entry after 31 July 1916, Appendix: *Report of the Operation Carried out by 10th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) on the Night 28/29 July*

<sup>49</sup> "10th Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct," *National Archives*, entry for 28 July 1916

<sup>50</sup> Ibid., entry for 18 August 1916

<sup>51</sup> Ibid., entry for 22 August 1916

<sup>52</sup> "69 Infantry Brigade: Headquarters War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct," *National Archives*, entry after 31 August 1916, Appendix IX - 69th Infantry Brigade Order no. 79

<sup>53</sup> "10th Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) War Diaries, 1915 Aug–1917 Oct," *National Archives*, entry for 31 August 1916

<sup>54</sup> "UK, British Army World War 1 Service Records, 1914–1920," *Ancestry*, entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>55</sup> "Casualty Clearing Station," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty\\_Clearing\\_Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty_Clearing_Station): accessed 2 October 2024)

<sup>56</sup> "UK, British Army World War 1 Service Records, 1914–1920," *Ancestry*, entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>57</sup> "No.1 Canadian Casualty Clear Station War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13–1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2005082&lang=eng>: accessed 3 October 2024), entry for 31 August 1916

<sup>58</sup> "Search Name Index," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa*, entry for Pte F Blackwell. **Note:** The chaplain recorded his death as 1 September 1916.

<sup>59</sup> "Wharfedale Men," *Leeds Mercury*, 8 September 1916, p. 4, *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 8 October 2024)

<sup>60</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission*, entry for F Blackwell, Service number: 19279

<sup>61</sup> "British Army WW1 Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 14 October 2024), entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>62</sup> "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 8 October 2024), entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>63</sup> "UK, World War 1 Pension Ledgers and Index Cards 1914–1923," *Fold3* (<https://www.fold3.com>: accessed 10 October 2024), entry for Blackwell, Frederick, Service number: 19279

<sup>64</sup> UK, British Army World War 1 Service Records, 1914–1920," *Ancestry*, entry for Frederick Blackwell, Regimental number: 19279

<sup>65</sup> "UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 2 October 2024), entry for Alfred Blackwell, Regimental number: 28745: *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/769092/alfred-blackwell>: accessed 5

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October 2024), entry for Alfred Blackwell, Service number: 28745; "Roll of Honour," *Leeds Mercury*, 27 June 1917, p. 5, *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 8 October 2024)

<sup>66</sup> "1921 Census of England & Wales," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 9 October 2024), entry for Faith Elizabeth Blackwell, Registration district: Wharfedale, Registration district number: 491, Sub-district: Yeadon, Sub-district number: 4, Enumeration district: 16, County: Yorkshire (West Riding), Piece: 21166, Schedule number: 124

<sup>67</sup> "1921 Census of England & Wales," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 9 October 2024), entry for Francis Blackwell, Registration district: Wharfedale, Registration district number: 491, Sub-district: Yeadon, Sub-district number: 4, Enumeration district: 16, County: Yorkshire (West Riding), Piece: 21166, Schedule number: 367

<sup>68</sup> "1921 Census of England & Wales," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 9 October 2024), entry for William Blackwell, Registration district: Pickering, Registration district number: 532, Sub-district: Lockton, Sub-district number: 4, Enumeration district: 2, County: Yorkshire (North Riding), Piece: 23966, Schedule number: 25

<sup>69</sup> "Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages," *State of New South Wales (Department of Justice)* (<https://familyhistory.bdm.nsw.gov.au/lifelink/familyhistory/search/result?14>: accessed 16 July 2024), entry for George Blackwell, Marriage registration number: 7472/1922, Bride's family name(s): Schell, Bride's given name: Elizabeth, District: Waverley; entry for Elizabeth Everington [Elizabeth's previous marriage], Marriage registration number: 1121/1899, Groom's family name: Schell, Groom's given name: Michael, Bride's family name: Everington, Bride's given name: Elizabeth, District: Granville

<sup>70</sup> "UK and Ireland, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878–1960," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 October 2024), entry for G. Blackwell, Port of Departure: Australia, Arrival date: 15 April 1925, Port of arrival: Hull, England, Ship name: *Esperance Bay*, Shipping line: Australian Commonwealth Line, Official number: 140148

<sup>71</sup> "1921 Census of England & Wales," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 9 October 2024), entry for Daisy Blackwell, Registration district: Bramley, Registration district number: 499, Sub-district: Wortley, Sub-district number: 3, Enumeration district: 40, County: Yorkshire (West Riding), Piece: 21981, Schedule number: 298

<sup>72</sup> "1939 England and Wales Register," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 8 October 2024), entry for Daisy Blackwell, Schedule number: 80, Sub-schedule number: 1, Enumeration district: Kgse, Borough: Leeds, Registration district: 501=1

<sup>73</sup> "Yeadon Residents Died and Served in WW1," *Airedale & Wharfedale Family History Society* (<https://awfhs.org/war-memorial/yeadon-residents-died-served-ww1>: accessed 26 July 2024); "Yeadon War Memorial," *Skrach* (OK?) *Courier*, 25 March 1921, p. 3, *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 7 October 2024)

<sup>74</sup> "Roll of Honour, Factory Workers Institute 1914–1918," *Airedale & Wharfedale Family History Society* (<https://awfhs.org/war-memorial/yeadon-factory-workers-institute-1914-1918/#more-962>: accessed 7 October 2024)

<sup>75</sup> "WW1 Casualty List A-G" *The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) –Regimental Association* (<https://www.dwr.org.uk/ww1-casualty-list>: accessed 2 September 2024)