



A Burial Service for

Private Herbert Greaves

6th Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

15:00 hours 3 November 2022

**CWGC Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension
France**

**Service conducted by the Reverend Martin Robbins CF
Chaplain to 9 Regiment Royal Logistic Corps**

**Déroulement de la Cérémonie présidé par
le Révérend Martin Robbins CF**

Private Herbert Greaves



Private Herbert Greaves was born in Walkley, Sheffield, in 1889. He was one of seven children born to Joseph Greaves and his wife Ellen. He worked as a filecutter prior to enlistment. In 1911, Herbert married Jane Billard. Their son, Herbert, was born on 29 June 1912 and their daughter, Jane, on 15 February 1915.

After the outbreak of the First World War Herbert joined The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, initially serving with 2nd Battalion. He was reported as wounded on 19 September 1916. The War Diaries of 2nd Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry show that they were in the Cambrian Sector near Bapaume at that time. Private Greaves later transferred to 6th Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Between 6 and 15 May 1917, 6th Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry were in the line east of Heninel, improving trenches and building new ones. On the night of 7 to 8 May the battalion was relieved and moved to the reserve trenches. On the night of 10 to 11 May they took over part of the front further south from 18th Division. At this point their medical evacuation route changed to include a loading post at 'Hairpin Bend', the crossroads north of Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension.

In 2019, maintenance work was carried out on the path outside Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension. During these works the remains of a soldier of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry were uncovered. After research and DNA testing carried out by the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre, the identity of this man was confirmed as Private Herbert Greaves.

At some stage whilst his battalion was in the line east of Heninel, Private Greaves was wounded and appears to have received treatment, as he was found wearing bandages. It is most likely that he was in the process of being evacuated when

he died on 15 May 1917, and that he had been brought to the loading post at the crossroads north of the cemetery to be put onto an ambulance. As he had died in the meantime, he was left at Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension for burial. Today, more than 105 years later, we will remember Private Greaves and his remains will finally be laid to rest inside the cemetery.

The village of Heninel was captured in a snowstorm on 12 April 1917 by the 56th (London) and 21st Division. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension was begun soon afterwards by the 50th Division Burial Officer and was used by fighting units until the following November. It contains the graves of 140 casualties of the First World War who fell in the surrounding area.

Private Herbert Greaves est né en 1889 à Walkley, Sheffield. Il été un des sept enfants nés à Joseph Greaves et sa femme Ellen. Il travaillait comme 'filecutter' avant son enrôlement. En 1911 Herbert a épousé Jane Billard. Leur fils, Herbert, est né le 29 juin, 1912, et leur fille, Jane, est née le 15 février, 1915. Après le début de la Première guerre mondiale il s'est enrôlé au King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, initialement en service avec le 2e Bataillon. Le 19 septembre, 1916, il a été signalé comme blessé. Les Journaux de Guerre de 2e Bataillon indiquent qu'ils ont été dans le Secteur de Cambrin ce jour-là. Private Greaves été puis transféré au 6e Bataillon du King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Entre 6 et 15 mai, 1917, 6e Bataillon du King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry été dans la ligne à l'est de Heninel. Au cours de la nuit du 7 mai, le bataillon a été relevé et déménagé dans les tranchées de réserve. La nuit du 10 mai, ils prirent la relève du 18e Division un peu plus au sud. Leur route pour les évacuations médicales a été changé et le carrefour au nord du

Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension été alors utilisés pour le chargement des ambulances.

En 2019, les restes d'un soldat du King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry ont été trouvés au cours des travaux à l'extérieur de Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension. Après les recherches menées par le Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre, un test ADN a été effectuée qui ont confirmé que ce soldat est en fait Private Greaves.

Il semble que Private Greaves a été blessé dans la ligne et qu'il a reçu des traitements avant sa mort. Il portait des pansements quand il a été trouvé. Il était probablement en train d'être évacué à poste de chargement au carrefour au nord du cimetière pour être mis dans une ambulance. Car il était mort entre-temps, il a été laissé à Heninel Communal Cemetery Extension pour l'enterrement. Il est mort le 15 mai, 1917. Aujourd'hui, plus de 105 ans plus tard, nous nous souviendrons du Private Greaves et ses restes reposeront enfin à l'intérieur du cimetière.

Words of Introduction

L'Introduction

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Remember not the sins and offences of my youth: but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

Jesus said, let not your heart be troubled: believe in God, believe also in me. For In my Father's house are many rooms, and I go now to prepare a place for you. So that where I am you may be also.

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

We have come together in this place, in the spirit of solemn thanksgiving, to remember the life and service of Private Herbert Greaves. To accord to him the dignity and respect that he is due, to commend him to the grace and mercy of Almighty God our maker and our redeemer and to commit his mortal remains to the ground.

We do this dear Lord, in the sure and certain hope that whilst our bodies lie in the dust our souls live with thee, through the merits of Christ our Lord.

Bidding Prayer

Prière

Eternal God,
grant to your servant Private Greaves
and to us who surround him with our prayers
your peace beyond understanding.
Give us faith, the comfort of your presence,
and knowledge of your unending love,
as we gather in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Lecture des Écritures Saintes

Read by a Representative of the British Embassy Paris

Verses from 1 Corinthians Chapter 15 (KJV)

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's, at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule, and all authority, and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die. And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other

grain: But God giveth it a body, as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

So also is the resurrection of the dead: It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality; then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Lecture de l'Évangile

Read by Major Chris Groves

5th Battalion The Rifles

John Chapter 15 v 9-17 (ESV)

Jesus said, 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants - any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Lecture

Read by David Dickson

The Grandson of Private Greaves

A Soldier's Cemetery

By John William Streets

Behind that long and lonely trenched line
To which men come and go, where brave men die,
There is a yet unmarked and unknown shrine,
A broken plot, a soldier's cemetery.

There lie the flower of youth, the men who scorn'd
To live (so died) when languished Liberty:
Across their graves flowerless and unadorned
Still scream the shells of each artillery.

When war shall cease this lonely unknown spot
Of many a pilgrimage will be the end,
And flowers will shine in this now barren plot
And fame upon it through the years descend:
But many a heart upon each simple cross
Will hang the grief, the memory of its loss.

Homily
Allocution

Blessing of the Grave
Bénédiction de la Tombe

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ was laid in a tomb:
bless, we pray, this grave as the place where the body
of your servant may rest in peace, through your Son,
who is the resurrection and the life; who died and is alive
and reigns with you now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Commendation
Private Greaves est Confié à Dieu

God our creator and redeemer,
by your power Christ conquered death
and returned to you in glory.
Confident of your victory
and claiming his promises,
we entrust Private Greaves into your keeping
in the name of Jesus our Lord,
who, though he died, is now alive
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Committal

L'Enterrement

We have entrusted our fallen comrade to God's mercy
and now we commit his body to the ground:
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust:
in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who will transform our frail bodies
that they may be conformed to his glorious body,
who died, was buried, and rose again for us.
To him be glory for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Exhortation

L'Éxhortation

Read by Warrant Officer Class 2 Sean O'Sullivan
5th Battalion The Rifles

They shall grow not 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.

All **We will remember them.**

The Last Post

Sonnerie aux Morts

Played by Lance Corporal Daniel Boorn
5th Battalion The Rifles

Silence

Reveille

Kohima Epitaph

L'Épitaphe de Kohima

Read by a Rifleman of the Bearer Party

When you go home tell them of us and say:

'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

Laying of Wreaths

Dépôts des Gerbes

Prayers

Prières

Eternal God, in your wisdom and grace you have given us joy through the lives of your departed servants. We thank you for the life of our fallen comrade and for those who loved him. We thank you for your goodness and mercy that followed him all the days of his life and his ultimate faithfulness to the tasks to which you had called him.

Lord in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died or suffer as a result of conflict. Those whose lives are disfigured by war or terror,

For service men and women, for civilians, for those held captive, each one remembered by and known to God.

Lord in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace-makers and peace-keepers;
those who seek to keep this world secure and free;
for all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,
political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom
and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace.
Lord in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Finally, we pray for all members of the Armed Forces
who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends
and all who pray for their safe return.

Lord in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**
Amen.

Collect of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

Récitation du King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

Read by Major Ret'd David Wroe MBE DL

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry Association

O God, who wilt not give thy glory to another, grant, we
pray thee, that The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry,
who will not lightly yield to any enemy, may yield to none
in giving glory to thee, for the sake of him who endured
the cross and is glorified for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Prière du Seigneur

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Blessing

Séparation de Dernière Bénédiction

The God of grace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, That great shepherd of the sheep. Keep you perfect in every way to do his will. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and all whom you love this day and forever more.

All **Amen.**





ARMY

The Ministry of Defence, through the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre, is responsible for the research, identification and burial of all British casualties worldwide.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for the graves, memorials, records and memory of the 1.7 million Commonwealth servicemen and women who died during the two World Wars.

© Crown Copyright/JCCC – 2022