



A Rededication Service for

**Captain Cedric Hunton Daggett MC
23rd Battalion The Northumberland Fusiliers**

**14:15 hours on Tuesday 19 March 2024
CWGC Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery, France**

**Service conducted by The Reverend Tom Sander CF
Chaplain to The Household Cavalry
Déroulement de la Cérémonie présidé par
le Révérend Tom Sander CF**

Captain Cedric Hunton Daggett MC



IWM

Captain Cedric Hunton Daggett MC was born on 3 December 1890 in Jesmond, Northumberland. He was one of four sons born to William Daggett, a solicitor, and his wife Evangeline. Having qualified as a solicitor himself in 1913, Cedric was practising in Newcastle-upon-Tyne at the outbreak of the First World War.

Cedric enlisted into the Army on 5 September 1914 and joined 9th Battalion The Northumberland Fusiliers. On 12 March 1915, he was discharged and was Commissioned, becoming a second lieutenant, on 20 March 1915. On 2 July 1915, Cedric was promoted to lieutenant. After training, he was posted to 23rd Battalion The Northumberland Fusiliers (4th Tyneside Scottish) and arrived on the Western Front on 16 April 1916. On 23 April 1916 he joined his battalion at Bayenghem, northwest of Saint Omer, and was posted to A Company.

On 1 July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 23rd Battalion The Northumberland Fusiliers attacked near La Boisselle. The battalion War Diaries record that Lieutenant Daggett was one of only two Officers to return for roll call on 2 July 1916. On 1 September 1916 he was promoted to captain. Captain Daggett was awarded the Military Cross in the New Year Honours List of 1917.

On the night of 11 to 12 February 1917, 23rd Battalion The Northumberland Fusiliers carried out a raid against enemy trenches in the Bois-Grenier area, south east of Armentieres. The party consisted of twelve Officers and two hundred and fifty-seven other ranks and was split into 4 groups. The party from A Company was led by Captain Daggett. At 22:30 hours they rushed forward through their respective gaps in the enemy wire. The left party, which was A Company, found that the wire in front of the enemy trenches was uncut and they met strong resistance and suffered very heavy casualties.

It was reported that Captain Daggett was seen standing on the parapet of the enemy trench, and he had stated that he was going to assist his men who had come under heavy machine gun fire. Shortly afterwards 3 of the raiding party were seen leaving the enemy lines pursued by a strong party of Germans. Captain Daggett rushed to the German wire and started to clear the wounded with some of his men. They continued with this until enemy bombs began to drop on them. Captain Daggett, having taken in the situation, ordered everybody to jump clear of the wire and said, 'everyone for himself.'

His men continued to fight, throwing bombs as they retired. When those remaining reached their own lines Captain Daggett was not among them. A search party was sent out and brought in several wounded men, but no trace of Captain Daggett was found. It was reported by one of his men that Captain Daggett had been seen to either jump or fall into a German trench having been shot. He was 27 years old.

Captain Daggett's body was recovered and buried by the Germans in Lambersart Communal Cemetery German Extension along with eleven of his men who were also killed during the raid. After the war, his remains were moved to Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery. He was buried as an unknown British Officer who had been killed on 11 February 1917. As he was missing, Captain Daggett was commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial. However, new research has shown that this in fact the grave of Captain Daggett and the headstone over the grave has now been changed. Today we will remember Captain Daggett and his grave will be rededicated.

Made in December 1914, the CWGC's Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery in Fleurbaix is the final resting place of over 1,500 Commonwealth service personnel. Other than when it fell into German hands during the Spring Offensive of 1918, the cemetery was in continuous use throughout the war. It was enlarged in the years after the Armistice when casualties

buried on the battlefields around Fleurbaix and in a number of smaller burial grounds were brought into the cemetery. These included the previously unidentified grave of Captain Daggett.

Captain Cedric Hunton Daggett MC est né le 3 décembre, 1890 à Jesmond, Northumberland. Il été un des quatre fils nés à William Daggett, un avocat, et sa femme Evangeline. Ayant obtenu son diplôme d'avocat lui-même en 1913, Cedric a exercé à Newcastle-upon-Tyne lorsque la Première Guerre Mondiale a commencé.

Le 5 septembre, 1914, Cedric s'est engagé dans l'armée et a rejoint le 9^e Bataillon du Northumberland Fusiliers. Le 13 mars, 1915, il a été libéré et commissionné, et il est devenu second lieutenant le 20 mars, 1915. Après sa formation, il est affecté au 23^e Bataillon du Northumberland Fusiliers (4^e Tyneside Scottish) et il est arrivé sur le front occidental le 16 avril, 1916. Le 23 avril, 1916, il rejoint son bataillon à Bayenghem, au nord-ouest de Saint-Omer, et est affecté à A Company.

Le 1 juillet, 1916, le premier jour de la Bataille de la Somme, le 23^e Bataillon du Northumberland Fusiliers a attaqué près de La Boisselle. Les journaux de guerre du bataillon indique que Lieutenant Daggett est l'un des deux seuls Officiers à se présenter à l'appel le 2 juillet, 1916. Le 1 septembre, 1916, il est promu comme Captain. Captain Daggett a été décoré de la Military Cross dans la liste des honneurs du Nouvel An 1917.

Au cours de la nuit du 11 au 12 février, 1917, le 23^e Bataillon du Northumberland Fusiliers a effectué un raid contre les tranchées ennemies dans la région de Bois-Grenier, au sud-est d'Armentières. Le groupe se composait de douze Officiers et de deux cent cinquante-sept soldats, répartis en quatre groupes. Le groupe de la A Company était dirigé par Captain Daggett. À 22 :30 heures, ils s'élançèrent à travers leurs brèches respectives dans les barbelés ennemis. Le groupe de

gauche, A Company, découvrit que les barbelés devant les tranchées ennemies n'étaient pas coupés et rencontra une forte résistance et subit de très lourdes pertes.

Il a été rapporté que Captain Daggett a été vu debout sur le parapet de la tranchée ennemie, et qu'il a déclaré qu'il allait aider ses hommes qui avaient été pris sous le feu d'une mitrailleuse lourde. Peu après, trois membres du groupe de raiders furent vus quittant les lignes ennemies, poursuivis par un fort groupe d'Allemands. Captain Daggett se précipite sur les barbelés allemands et commence à assister les blessés avec quelques-uns de ses hommes. Ils continuèrent ainsi jusqu'à ce que les bombes ennemies commencent à tomber sur eux. Captain Daggett, conscient de la situation, ordonne à tout le monde de sauter hors des barbelés et a dit 'chacun pour soi-même'. Ses hommes continuèrent à se battre, lançant des bombes au fur et à mesure qu'ils se retiraient. Lorsque ceux qui restaient atteignirent leurs propres lignes, Captain Daggett n'était plus parmi eux. Une équipe de recherche est envoyée et ramène plusieurs hommes blessés, mais aucune trace du Captain Daggett n'est trouvée. L'un de ses hommes rapporta que le Captain Daggett avait été vu en train de sauter ou de tomber dans la tranchée allemande après avoir été abattu. Il était âgé de 27 ans.

Les restes du Captain Daggett ont été récupéré et enterré par les Allemands au Lambersart Communal Cemetery German Extension avec onze de ses hommes qui ont également été tués au cours du raid. Après la guerre, ses restes ont été transférée a Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery. Il été enterré comme un Officier britannique inconnu tué le 11 février, 1917. Comme il était porté disparu, Captain Daggett a été commémoré le monument commémoratif des disparus à Ploegsteert. Cependant, la nouvelle recherche a permis le site de son dernier repos d'être identifié. Aujourd'hui nous nous souviendrons de Captain Daggett et sa tombe sera consacrée une nouvelle fois.

Call to Worship*Appel à Adoration*

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous;
be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians Chapter 16 v13-14

We meet this day to remember before God Cedric
Hunton Daggett who lived and died in the service of his
country, and to rededicate his grave.

Bidding Prayer*Prière*

Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,
either by death or life: hear our prayers for your servant
Cedric whom we remember this day.

Fulfil in him the purpose of your love
and bring us, with him, to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Lecture des Écritures Saintes

Read by a representative of the British Embassy Paris

Ephesians Chapter 6 v 1-18 (NIV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Gospel Reading

Lecture de l'Évangile

Read by Captain Jordan Whiteman

Regimental Adjutant, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

John Chapter 15 v 9-19 (NRSV)

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.

Reading

Lecture

Read by David Tattersfield

A Soldier's Grave

By Francis Ledwidge

Then in the lull of midnight, gentle arms
Lifted him slowly down the slopes of death
Lest he should hear again the mad alarms
Of battle, dying moans, and painful breath.

And where the earth was soft for flowers we made
A grave for him that he might better rest.
So, Spring shall come and leave it seet arrayed,
And there the lark shall turn her dewy nest.

Address

Allocution

The Act of Dedication

L'Acte de Dédicace

So let us now bless and dedicate this grave as the final resting place of the mortal remains of Captain Cedric Hunton Daggett MC.

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

The Exhortation

L'Éxhortation

Read by Captain Jordan Whiteman

Regimental Adjutant, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

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 Edward Watts

The Band and Bugles of The Rifles

Flowers of the Forest

Silence

The Reveille

Kohima Epitaph

L'Épitaphe de Kohima

Read by Captain Jordan Whiteman

Regimental Adjutant, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

When you go home tell them of us and say:

'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

Laying of Wreaths

Dépôts des Gerbes

The Collect of The Northumberland Fusiliers

Récitation du Northumberland Fusiliers

Read by Major Ret'd Graeme Heron TD

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Association

O God, in whose strength we shall tread down the enemy of our souls, grant that wheresoever thy secret will may call The Northumberland Fusiliers, we may ever by faith wax valliant in fight for the captain of our salvation, Jesus Christ, thy son, our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Prayer

Prière

We give you thanks, O God, for this thy servant; and for the memories we treasure as a lasting legacy of his service and dedication. In your mercy, look upon his loved ones and all who remember him this day.

Almighty God, through Christ you have given us the hope of glorious resurrection, so that although death comes to us all, yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life; for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away, and when our mortal flesh is laid aside, an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven.

Grant us, therefore, that we may humbly and faithfully serve you in this mortal life and at last bring us to your everlasting Kingdom which you have promised to those who love and serve you.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Prière du Seigneur

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

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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing

Séparation et Dernière Bénédiction

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The King, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Highland Laddie

(Regimental March of The Tyneside Scottish)



Captain Daggett (seated second row centre) with his men.



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.

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