



What role did Derby play in the World Wars?

Derbyshire's Victoria Cross Heroes



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Fred Greaves VC
16th May 1890 - 11th June 1973

Fred Greaves VC was a war hero born in Killamarsh, Derbyshire. He served in the 9th Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters during World War I.

On October the 4th 1917, during the Battle of Broodseinde, near Ypres, Belgium, Greaves showed exceptional bravery. When his platoon was held

up by machine-gun fire, and with his leaders incapacitated, he courageously attacked the enemy stronghold, capturing or killing the occupants. Later, during a critical counter-attack, he organised his men to successfully defend their position. For this act of courage he was awarded the Victoria Cross. Fred Greaves later became a sergeant. He died in Brimington, near Chesterfield, aged 83.

His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Sherwood Foresters Museum, Nottingham Castle. A commemorative plaque was unveiled in his honour at the Chesterfield FC Memorial Garden in 2014.



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Charles Edwin Stone VC MM
4th February 1889 - 29th August 1952

Charles Edwin Stone VC MM was an English war hero from Ripley, Derbyshire. He was a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during World War I.

On March the 21st 1918, at Caponne Farm, France, after six hours under heavy gas and shell fire, Stone was sent to deliver an order. Despite a heavy barrage, he returned to help hold the enemy at bay with a rifle. He then helped capture a machine-gun and four prisoners. He later rose to the rank Bombardier. Charles died in Derby and was buried in Belper. His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Royal Artillery Museum.



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©The VC and GC Association

William Gregg VC DCM MM
27th January 1890 – 10th
August 1969

William Gregg VC DCM MM was an English war hero born in Heanor, Derbyshire. He was a sergeant in the 13th Battalion, The Rifle Brigade during World War I.

On 8th May 1918, at Bucquoy, France, Gregg took command after all his officers were injured. He bravely attacked enemy posts, capturing machine-guns and taking prisoners. Despite heavy fire, he led multiple successful attacks and held his position until ordered to withdraw. He later served in World War 2 and achieved the rank of company sergeant-major. His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum in Winchester. The William Gregg VC Leisure Centre in Heanor is named in his honour.



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Private Jacob Rivers VC
17th November 1881 – 12th March
1915

Private Jacob Rivers VC was born in Derby, England. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery during World War I at the Battle of Neuve Chapelle

On March the 12th 1915, Rivers bravely attacked German positions, throwing bombs and forcing the enemy to retreat, which relieved pressure on his battalion. Sadly, he was killed later that day during another courageous attack. Rivers had served with the Royal Scots Fusiliers and the Sherwood Foresters. He was buried in a battlefield grave which was later lost. His VC is displayed at the Sherwood Foresters Museum in Nottingham. He is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial in France. There is a plaque commemorating him on platform 1 of Derby railway station.



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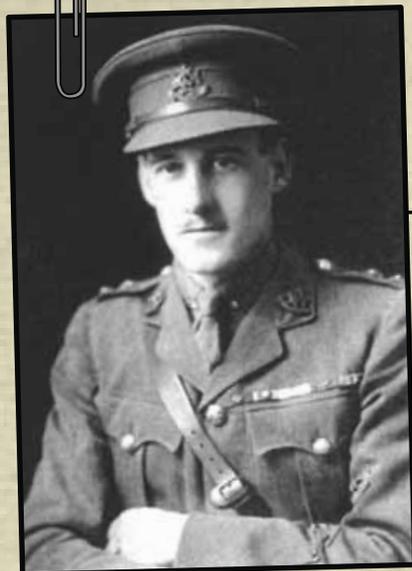
Derbyshire's Victoria Cross Heroes



Brigadier Charles
Edward Hudson
29th May 1892 - 4th April
1959

Brigadier Charles Edward Hudson was born in Derby. He attended Sherborne School and later the Royal Military College at Sandhurst. He joined the British Army during World

War I, where he received numerous honours, including the Victoria Cross for bravery. On the 15th of June 1918, during a battle in Italy, Hudson led a counter-attack despite being wounded, which saved his battalion from being overrun by the enemy. He later served in World War 2 and held various military roles. Hudson died while on holiday in the Scilly Isles, aged 66. His medals are displayed at Nottingham Castle.



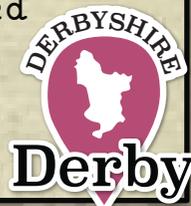
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Research a War Hero

Research one of Derbyshire's Victoria Cross medal recipients and fill in their details below. Choose one of the following:

Corporal Fred Greaves VC

Sergeant William Gregg VC

Private Jacob Rivers VC

Bombardier Charles Edwin Stone VC

Brigadier Charles Edward Hudson VC

Name:

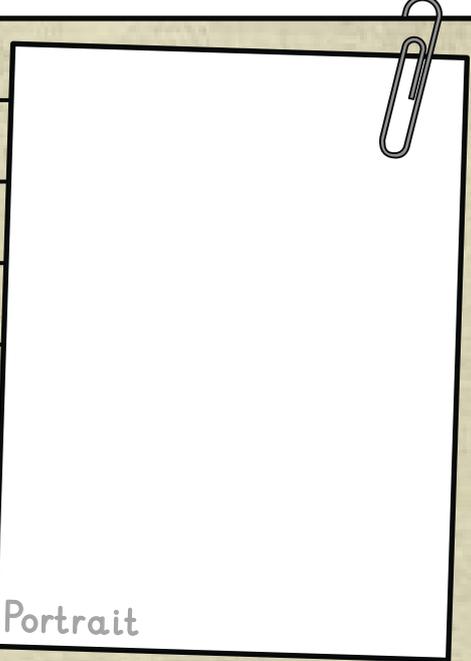
Date of birth:

Died:

Place of birth:

Reason for being awarded the Victoria Cross:

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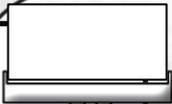


Any other information:

Handwriting practice lines for additional information.



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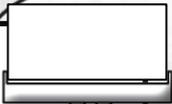
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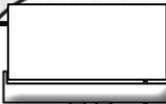


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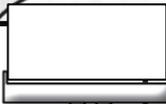
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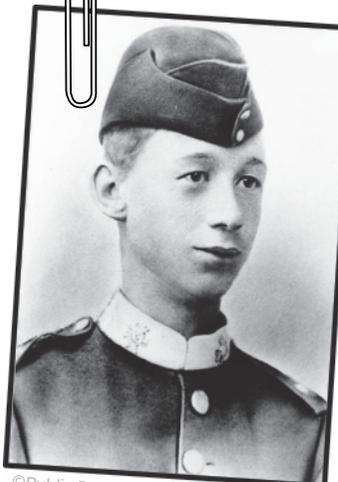
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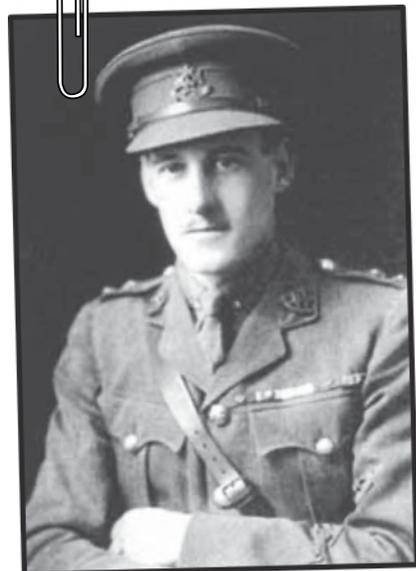
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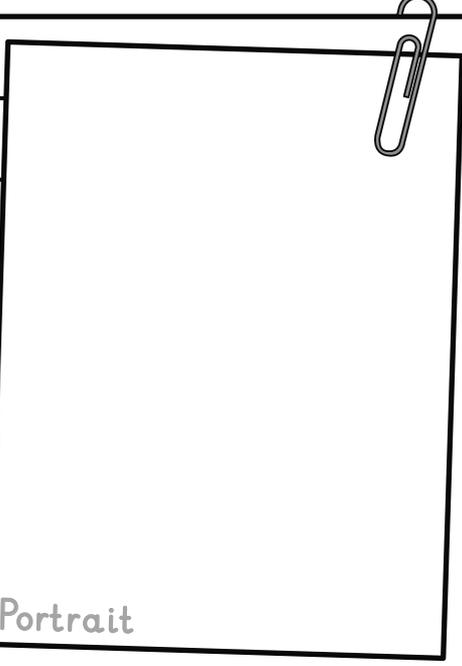
Name:

Date of birth:

Died:

Place of birth:

Reason for being awarded the Victoria Cross:



Any other information:

Local History

Historic England and Teacher's Pet have come together to bring you a collection of free resources that you can use in your local history teaching.



Historic England



Teacher's Pet

Who are Teacher's Pet?

Teacher's Pet have been providing downloadable and playable educational content to early years and primary school teachers for over 14 years. We cover all areas of the curriculum and use a team of in-house teachers and designers to create engaging and memorable concepts, that the children will love.

Why local history?

At [Teacher's Pet](#) we want to empower primary school teachers by giving them the tools they need to deliver inspiring and thoughtful lessons about the local area and its history. We believe local history teaching has such an important part to play in a child's wellbeing – helping to give children a sense of pride in where they live.

Our Local History project is designed to provide teachers across the UK with everything they need to successfully carry out a full scheme of teaching about their local area, through key enquiry questions and source led activities.

Working with [Historic England](#) gives us access to archived maps and photos for resources and information from knowledgeable local historians, as well helping us to provide the content to you free of charge.

For more information about our Local History project or to find out more about Teacher's Pet Classroom Resources, please visit our website.