



Ernest Hinchliffe

1894 – 1916

Ernest was born in Paddock, Huddersfield on 25th October 1894. His father was Fred Hinchliffe, a Manager at a woollen mill born in Lindley, Huddersfield in 1869 and died in 1928. His mother was Ann (née Pearson) born in Paddock in 1868 and died in 1919. They were married at All Saints Church, Paddock on 6th August 1892.

They also had a daughter, Nellie, born in Paddock in 1897.

On the 1901 Census the family were living at 11, Adelaide Terrace, Paddock, their surnames are recorded as *Hinchcliffe*. In 1911 they lived at “West Lea” 839, Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

Ernest was a single man who worked as a spinner at a woollen mill owned by Rawdon, Briggs & Co.

There is some conflict regarding the spelling of his Surname. His birth name was registered as Hinchliffe, but on his Medal Index Card and Medal Award Rolls he is recorded as *Hinchcliffe*. To further complicate matters, his Soldiers Effects record spells his correct birth name.

He was a pre-war Territorial with the Service Number 2090 in the 1st/5th Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) and was later renumbered 240141. He rose through the ranks and was promoted from Corporal to Serjeant sometime after his arrival on the Western Front on 13th April 1915. He was killed during the Battle of the Somme on 3rd September 1916 when the regiment, as part of the 149th Division attacked the Salient near Thiepval known as the “Pope's Nose”. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme where his surname is spelt *Hinchcliffe*. Ernest was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Ernest is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Ravensthorpe Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of
Serjeant
Ernest Hinchcliffe

240141, 1st/5th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 03 September 1916

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

HINCHCLIFFE E.