



John Richard Hinchliffe

1891 – 1916

John was born in Mirfield on 27th August 1891 and baptised at St. Mary's Church, Mirfield on 17th February 1892. His father was Albert Hinchliffe, a cloth raiser born in Mirfield 1859 and died in 1918. His mother was Eliza (née Parkinson), born in Crigglesstone near Wakefield in 1860 and died in 1912. They were married at St. Mary's Church on 22nd December 1888.

Albert was remarried at St. Mary's Church on 10th January 1914 to a widow, Fanny Parkinson (born in 1865 and died in 1954).

Their other children were; twins Sarah and Joseph born in 1889 and both died in 1890.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Flash Lane, Mirfield, in 1901 and 1911 at Wellhouse Lane, Mirfield.

John attended Mirfield Parish Church School, where he won a scholarship to Mirfield Free Grammar School. Upon leaving there he went to Ravensthorpe National School as an assistant teacher, and subsequently trained formally as a teacher at York. After completing his training, he took up a post at Grimethorpe Council School near Barnsley. He was unmarried.

He served as Private 5105 in the 1st/5th Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment, being called up on 8th February 1916, after a brief period of training he went to Southampton on 23rd June from where he was sent straight to his battalion as one of the regular drafts of reinforcements. By 1st July 1916, the First Day of the Battle of the Somme he was in the trenches for the first time, on 3rd July he suffered serious wounds to his face and shoulder. It is thought a large piece of shrapnel struck his face and proceeded downwards through the shoulder and out of the arm pit and struck his body. He was also wounded in the foot and ankle. He was evacuated from France to Netley Hospital, Southampton where he seemed to be making a recovery. By early August he was able to sit up in bed, but shortly afterwards he suffered a relapse and septic poisoning set in and he died on 11th August 1916. His parents received a telegram summoning them to the hospital; arriving at Southampton just after midnight they faced a four mile walk only to be informed that their son had died half an hour previously. He was buried in Mirfield St. Mary's Churchyard. John was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

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

In Memory of

Private

J R Hinchliffe

5105, 1st/5th Bn., York and Lancaster Regiment who died on 11 August 1916

Remembered with Honour

Mirfield (St. Mary) Churchyard



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

