

**Private Vincent Hughes©**  
**Regimental number: 307214**  
**1/7th Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment**

**born: 1887 – died: 15 August 1917**

Private Vincent Hughes was born in 1877 in Bradford, Yorkshire,<sup>1</sup> the son of Vincent and Elizabeth Hughes. His father was born in about 1848 in Worthen, Shropshire and his mother in about 1860 in Cheshire.<sup>2</sup> They probably married in Nottingham in 1880.<sup>3</sup> Sadly, his mother died in 1890 at the young age of 30.<sup>4</sup> She left three young children under the age of ten: Sarah Hughes (born in about 1881), Emily Hughes (born in about 1884) and Vincent.

The year after her death, the three children were living with their maternal grandparents, William and Sarah Warren, at 15 Ashgrove in Ilkley, Yorkshire. Their grandfather was a gardener.<sup>5</sup> At the same time, their father was living at 20 West View in Heaton, Bradford, eight miles from Ilkley, where he was a machine broker's warehouseman.<sup>6</sup>

By 1901, Vincent was living with his father again at 272 Girlington Road in Bradford.<sup>7</sup> His father was then a fireman on a stationary engine in a wool combing mill and Vincent was now an apprentice to a sugar boiling confectioner. It appears that his sister Sarah, went into service, working for the Schofield family in Ilkley.<sup>8</sup> It is not clear where his other sister, Emily, was at the time, but by 1911 she was living at home again with her father and Vincent, who was then a seal skin percher.<sup>9</sup> Sarah was probably still in service.<sup>10</sup>

In 1915, Vincent married Emily H. Wood in Bradford.<sup>11</sup> They probably did not have any children.

The following year, Vincent enlisted in the 1/7th Duke of Wellington Regiment in Bradford. When he enlisted on 4 August 1916, he was living at 7 Cromwell Place.<sup>12</sup> In mid-August 1917, his battalion was stationed near Nieuwpoort on the coast of Belgium.<sup>13</sup> The battalion had been subject to gas attacks day after day, with soldiers being killed or wounded each day. On 14 August, one soldier from the Other Ranks (non-officers) was killed and 31 others wounded and/or gassed. Vincent was probably one of these, as he was admitted to the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station on 14 August with an abdominal wound and gas poisoning.<sup>14</sup> He died the next day and was buried in Adinkerke Military Cemetery (Grave Reference: C. 17),<sup>15</sup> just over a year after he enlisted.

Adinkerke Military Cemetery is 20 kilometres east of Dunkirk, in the community of De Panne, just across the border into Belgium. There are 168 Commonwealth soldiers from the Great War buried in the cemetery.<sup>16</sup>

On the day that he was admitted, Vincent was one of 193 soldiers to be admitted to the 1st CCCS.<sup>17</sup> A total of 1,896 were admitted in the month of August.

His wife, who was living at 7 Cornwall Place in Bradford, was notified of his death. She also received the monies owing to him from the army upon his death. In 1922, she remarried, marrying Herbert Hepworth in Bradford<sup>18</sup> and they were living at 39 Annie Street, Bradford, after their marriage.<sup>19</sup>

Vincent was awarded the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).<sup>20</sup>

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- <sup>1</sup> "England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Inferred County: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9b, Page: 19
- <sup>2</sup> "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Forden, ED, institution, or vessel: 10, Piece: 5492, Folio: 31, Page Number: 11; "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Sub-registration district: Bradford West, ED, institution, or vessel: 44, Piece: 4160, Folio: 133, Page Number: 37, Household schedule number: 241
- <sup>3</sup> "England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for William E B Jones, Registration district: Bradford, Inferred County: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9b, Page: 339
- <sup>4</sup> "England & Wales, FreeBMD Death Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Elizabeth Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Inferred County: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9b, Page: 197
- <sup>5</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Wharfedale, ED, institution, or vessel: 7, Piece: 3527, Folio: 79, Page Number: 3
- <sup>6</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Sub-registration district: Shipley, ED, institution, or vessel: 18, Piece: 3650, Folio: 39, Page Number: 7
- <sup>7</sup> "1901 England Census," entry for Vincent Hughes
- <sup>8</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Sarah Hughes, Registration district: Wharfedale, Sub-registration district: Ilkley, ED, institution, or vessel: 9, Piece: 4066, Folio: 147, Page Number: 20, Household schedule number: 211
- <sup>9</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Registration district number: 498, Sub-registration district: Manningham, ED, institution, or vessel: 31, Piece: 26794
- <sup>10</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Sarah Hughes, Registration district: Wharfedale, Registration district number: 491, Sub-registration district: Yeadon, ED, institution, or vessel: 2, Piece: 26030
- <sup>11</sup> "England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Inferred County: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9b, Page: 339
- <sup>12</sup> "Bradford Roll of Honour," Bradford Local Studies (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/bradfordww1/sets/>: accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Hughes, Vincent
- <sup>13</sup> "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," Regiment or Unit: Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, Sub Unit: 1/7th Battalion, Division: 49th Division, Diary Dates: 1915 Apr - 1919 May, Piece Description: Piece 2802/1: 1/7 Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) (1915 Apr - 1919 May), Piece Number: 2802
- <sup>14</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," *Library and Archives Canada*, (records accessed 2013 and 2016), Record Group 9, series IIC10, volume 4556, Record number 333
- <sup>15</sup> "Commonwealth War Graves Commission," ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org); accessed 3 December 2016), entry for Hughes, Vincent, Service No: 307214
- <sup>16</sup> "Adinkerke Military Cemetery," Commonwealth War Graves Commission (<http://www.cwgc.org/>; accessed 30 April 2016)
- <sup>17</sup> "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* ([http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FIND&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02016202\\_e.html&r=1&f=G](http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FIND&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02016202_e.html&r=1&f=G))
- <sup>18</sup> "England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Emily H. Hughes, Registration district: Bradford, Inferred County: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9b, Page: 613

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<sup>19</sup> “Commonwealth War Graves Commission,” entry for Hughes, Vincent

<sup>20</sup> “British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 9 May 2016), entry for Vincent Hughes