



# Woodford Remembers

Pte. Ernest Herbert Houghton



28 January 1897 – 3 May 1917

## Family

Ernest Herbert Houghton was born in Woodford on 28 January 1897 to Ernest Sanders Houghton and Rose Elizabeth Hewitt. Rose was a native of Woodford b1875 and Ernest senior was born in Lowick 1873, one of eleven children to a long standing Lowick family. The couple were married at the Baptist Chapel in Woodford on 24 December 1894. Rose died on 30 November 1899. Ernest had one sister, Evelyn born January 1899.

Ernest attended the village school from 2 July 1900, leaving to attend the Junior school 30 April 1905, where he would have remained until the age of 14 years. He regularly attended the Chapel Sunday School and later the Adult Men's School. In 1901 the family of three (Ernest, Ernest and Evelyn) lodged with Rose's parents in High Street, (Bird's Yard) where Ernest senior was an army bootmaker. On 27 November 1902 he married again, to Mary Elizabeth Samson at St Mary's Church Woodford. The 1911 census records Ernest jnr working as an (H)errand Boy living at home with his parents in High Street. Ernest senior was now a Blast Furnace labourer. Later, Ernest junior also worked as a "rope-runner" at the furnaces. At the time Ernest joined the Army he was living in Sunnyside.

Ernest's mother, Rose and William Freer's wife (see Woodford Remembers, were sisters.

## Army Service

Ernest enlisted into the Northamptonshire Regiment, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, number 10326 at Thrapston on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1915. The Battalion formed in 1914, had relocated to Colchester in September 1914 and crossed to France on May 12<sup>th</sup> 1916, then to the Somme in July 1916, moving to the Ancre in spring 2017. On 3<sup>rd</sup> May the Battalion was involved in the Battles of Arras, in particular the third Battle of the Scarpe where Ernest was killed in action at Cherisy.

## Burial / grave

Not Known

## Dependants

None

## Commemoration

Arras Memorial Bay 7

Woodford War Memorial

Woodford St Mary's Church



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(Thanks to Mr I B Vaughan for additional information)

If you can help with more information please contact [clerk@woodfordpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@woodfordpc.co.uk)