

Age	Name: Captain Edward HUGHES 2nd/Durham Light Infantry		
	Parents:	Thomas HUGHES (born about 1864 - died in 1918 in Marylebone, London, ENG) and Mary (born about 1866 in MDX, ENG - died before 1899)	
29	Life Range	15 Sep 1887- 16 Sep 1916	
~-23	Abt 1864	Birth of Father:	Thomas HUGHES (born about 1864 - died in 1918 in Marylebone, London, ENG).
~-21	Abt 1866	Birth of Mother:	Mary (born about 1866 in MDX, ENG - died before 1899). In MDX, ENG.
0	15 Sep 1887	Birth:	Hornsey, LDN, ENG.
0	24 Jul 1887	Christening:	St Paul Upper Holloway, MDX, ENG.
4	1891	Census:	Tendring, Essex. Union Workhouse. Wife's Family: Elizabeth BARFIELD, married, age 44, born Bentley Suffolk Alice BARFIELD, 13, born Little Oakley Essex Jane BARFIELD, 8, born Little Oakley Essex Ellen BARFIELD, 5, born Dovercourt Essex Agnes BARFIELD, 3, born Dovercourt Essex Clara BARFIELD, 6 months, born Tendring Essex [RG12 piece 1401 folio 131 page 6]
4	1891	Census:	Marylebone, London. At 56 James Street: Thomas HUGHES, age 30, Chimney Sweep, born St George's Hanover Square Mary HUGHES, age 25, born Hayes, Middlesex Thomas HUGHES, age 7, born St George's Hanover Square James HUGHES, age 6, born Holloway, Middlesex Edward HUGHES, age 3, born Holloway, Middlesex (There are four other families listed as living at the same address) [Class: RG12; Piece: 95; Folio 49; Page 1; GSU roll: 6095205] Note: Edward's mother was his father Thomas' first wife Mary. His father Thomas remarried Florence in 1899. [Thomas HUGHES married Florence GORDON, Sept Quarter 1899, Marylebone.]
4	27 Mar 1892	Birth of Spouse:	Louisa BARFIELD (born 27 Mar 1892 in Dovercourt, ESS, ENG - died in 1983).
<12	Bef 1899	Death of Mother:	Mary (born about 1866 in MDX, ENG - died before 1899).
14	1901	Census:	Family. St Marylebone, LDN, ENG. At 1 Little Barlow Street (Family): Thomas HUGHES , 38, Chimney Sweep, born St George's, London Florence HUGHES, 37, born Cookham, Berkshire Thomas HUGHES, 17, WO (Worker of?) Sweep, born St George's, London Frederick HUGHES, 9, born Marylebone Samuel HUGHES, 7, born Marylebone Mary HUGHES, 5, born Marylebone Katherine McGRATH, visitor, married, age 38, Charwoman, born Marylebone Florence McGRATH, daughter, age 17 months, born Paddington [RG13 piece 107 folio 132 page 34] Edward HUGHES , age 13, (born 1888) Hornsey, was a student at Gladstone School, Nutfield Surrey in 1901. [RG13 piece 629 folio 40 page 28]

Name:		Captain Edward HUGHES 2nd/Durham Light Infantry	
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14	1901	Census:	Wife Louisa. Ramsey, Essex. At "Goblin Duck" Farm John BARFIELD, Head, 49, born Ramsey Elizabeth BARFIELD, Wife, 53, born Bentley, Suffolk Agnes BARFIELD, 13, born Dovercourt (?), Essex Louisa BARFIELD, 9, born Dovercourt (?), Essex
18	1905	Prior Service:	Private 1/East Lancashire Regiment Sgt 1/East Lancashire Regiment [served 9 years 313 days in the ranks before getting a commission in the field.] Transferred to 2/DLI (2/Durham Light Infantry).
18	15 Sep 1905	Next of Kin:	On Enlistment (Father). Thomas Hughes 1 Little Barlow Street, Hight Street St Marylebone Wife (added 1913): Louisa Hughes nee Barfield (married Registry Office Colchester, 22 Nov 1913) 36 Cumberland Street, Caledonian Road, London.
18	15 Sep 1905	Enlistment:	East Lancashire Regiment. Enlisted at Guildford, age 18 years; unmarried; a musician; born Hornsey, Middlesex.
24	1911	Census:	Abberton, Colchester, ESS, ENG. Wife's Parents: In Layer Road John BARFIELD , Head, 39, born Ramsey Elizabeth BARFIELD, Wife, 53, born Bentley, Suffolk Agnes BARFIELD, 13, born Dovercourt, Essex
24	1911	Census:	Marylebone, London. At 7 Great Barlow Street (Family): Thomas HUGHES, 47, Chimney Sweep, born St Georges London Florance HUGHES, 38, born Cookham, Berkshire. (married 12 years; 6 children all living) Frederick HUGHES, son, 19, Gilder, born Marylebone Samuel HUGHES, son, 17, French Polisher, born Marylebone Florance HUGHES, daughter, 11, born Kilburn, London (half sister) Ellen HUGHES, daughter, 10, born Marylebone (half sister) John HUGHES, son, 8, born Marylebone (half brother) Henry HUGHES, son, 6, born Marylebone (half brother) Chaherne [Kathleen] HUGHES, daughter, 5, born Marylebone (half sister) Ethel HUGHES, daughter, 3, born Marylebone (half sister) [RG14PN553 RG78PN19 RD7 SD2 ED17 SN249]
24	1911	Census:	Clacton, ESS, ENG. Wife Louisa: Age 19, a servant at the SWANNELL residence in Harold Road, Clacton.
24	1911	Census:	Woking, SRY, ENG. At Inkerman Barracks with the 1st/East Lancashire Regiment: Lance Corporal Edward HUGHES , age 23, born in Middlesex, occupation Musician.

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26	22 Nov 1913	Marriage:	Louisa BARFIELD (born 27 Mar 1892 in Dovercourt, ESS, ENG - died in 1983). In Registry Office, Colchester, Essex.
26	22 Aug 1914	Star:	France.
29	16 Sep 1916	Death:	France. Died of wounds received 15 Sept 1916.
		Burial:	Bronfay Farm Military Cemetery, Bray-Sur-Somme, France.
29	22 Jun 1917	Probate:	Colchester, Essex, ENG. [States he died 26 Sept 1916 and rank 2/Lt]. To Louisa Hughes widow. Effects £131.
36	1923	Wife Remarried:	Stanley C. OSBORNE. Maldon, ESS, ENG. A Louisa OSBORNE (born 27 March 1892) died Sept Quarter 1983, Colchester, Essex.
		Next of Kin:	(Wife). "Mrs L Hughes applies for 1914 Star in respect of the services of her late husband Sgt E. Hughes, 1st E. Lancs. R." Address: Hill Cottage, Langenhoe, Colchester, Essex. [This appears a bit odd to me - if Edward was an Officer his medals should have been dispatched automatically; it also indicates his wife Louisa may not have been aware of his promotion/s or his transfer to DLI.]
		Brothers:	<p>Thomas HUGHES, born abt 1884 St George's, London Married 1907, Catherine. In 1911 he and his wife were living at 11 Great Barlow Street. He was working as a 'motor washer'.</p> <p>James HUGHES, born abt 1885 Holloway, Middlesex Married 1904, Sarah E. (widow GRANT) born abt 1866. In 1911 he and his wife, a step-son Charles GRANT, age 19 and two step-daughters Louisa and Lydia plus a 'nephew' Henry HARRIS, age 31 were living at 49 Upper Rathbone Place W, Marylebone.</p> <p>Frederick HUGHES, born abt 1892 Marylebone</p> <p>Samuel HUGHES, born abt 1894 Marylebone Gunner, 86th Royal Field Artillery Service No. 73397 Died of wounds 13/02/1916, France, age 21 Buried: MAILLY-MAILLET COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION Son of Mr. T. Hughes, of 8, Little Barlow St., Marylebone, London. [CWGC (Unable to locate Service Record)]</p>
		General Notes:	<p>HUGHES, Edward Captain, 2nd Battalion, Durham Light Infantry, 18th Brigade, 6th Division. Died of wounds on Saturday, 16th September 1916. Aged 30. Edward was married and lived with his wife, Louisa in Layer Road, Abberton. Edward was born 15th September 1887. He joined the East Lancashire Regiment, as an eighteen year old in 1905. He served in the ranks for 9 years and 313 days before receiving a Field Commission. He had gone to France on the 22nd August in 1914 and was serving as Company Quartermaster Sergeant Major with the East Lancashire Regiment, when he was promoted 2nd Lieutenant on the 25th July 1915 for services in the field. He transferred to the 2nd Battalion Durham Light Infantry from 12th September 1915. He was made a temporary Lieutenant on the 6th March 1916 and was acting Captain during the Battle of the Somme, 1st July till 18th November 1916. At the outbreak of the War, the 1st Battalion East Lancashire Regiment were at Colchester and it is probable that the Hughes family moved into Abberton at this time. The 1st Battalion became part of 11th Brigade of the 4th Division. They moved to France in time to help the hard pressed BEF fighting at Le Cateau on 26th August 1914. Edward's Brigade were involved in a number of battles through 1914 and early 1915 while he was still with the East Lancashire Regiment :- Marne 7-10th September 1914, Aisne 12 - 15th September 1914, Messines 12th October 1914, St. Julien 24th April 1915, Frezenburg 8-13th May 1915 and Bellewaarde 24-25th 1915. The following message was sent to the Officer Commanding 2nd Durham Light Infantry from the General Staff on the 16th May 1916 :- <i>"The G. O. C. wishes me to inform you that he is very pleased with the work of the patrol commanded by Lieut. Hughes, 2nd Durham L. I. signed G. F. Boys Lt. Col General Staff"</i>. The 6th Division played a major role in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette between 15th and 22nd September 1916.</p>

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The following is an excerpt from "The History of the DLI" :-

"On the right of the attack was the 6th Division, containing the 2nd and 14th Battalions, which had come south from the salient at the end of July and had spent August on the Ancre opposite Beau-Hamel. Having entered the XIV Corps front on the 8th September, it lay opposite a spur held by the enemy between Ginchy and Leuze Wood (ours since the 9th), on top of which he had constructed a four-sided system of trenches, 300 yards by 150 yards, known to us as the Quadrilateral. This strong-point had already been the subject of several unsuccessful attacks before it was decided to include it in the general offensive of the 15th September as a subsidiary operation. To facilitate the movement of the three tanks allotted to the 6th Division a gap of about 200 yards was left in the creeping barrage. This gap unfortunately coincided with the strongest point of the Quadrilateral; two tanks were "non-starters" and the third was driven back damaged; and the 16th Brigade's attack failed.***** an attack by the 18th Brigade was planned for that night, to be carried out by the 2nd Durham Light Infantry and the 11th Essex. Alas, the 11th Essex, attacking from the south-east, lost direction in the dark, while the 2nd Battalion (D. L. I.), from the north, having had insufficient time for reconnaissance, bombed down a trench successfully only to discover that it did not lead to the Quadrilateral".

Extract from the War Diary for the 15th - 16th September 1916 :-

"At midnight the battalion moved to Assembly Area South of Bois de Trones in accordance with orders for 4th Army attack. At midday the Battalion moved to Guillemont - Wedgewood Trench, then to trench held by Guards in order to attack communication trench leading to Quadrilateral. Attack was launched at 7.30pm and about 500 yards of trench was captured. Capt B. C. Baty, and 2/Lt. R. J. Meike killed, 2/Lt. L.A. Hartsworth, 2/Lt A. R. Watson, 2/Lt. J. Dudley, 2/Lt. J. Crawford and Capt. E. Hughes wounded".

16th September 1916

In the morning a small attack was made but was held up by machine gun fire from an enemy strong point. 2/Lt. L. Birtles killed, Capt. G. M. Garland wounded, 2/Lt. H. F. Chamberlain wounded but at duty. Casualties to other ranks. 30 killed, 99 wounded, 34 missing. Captain E. Hughes died of wounds received on 15/9/16"
Thus Edward was wounded on the 15th, his birthday, while gallantly leading his men and died the next day.

References

Details on his life have been obtained from the CWGC and the Essex County Standard. His career is given in "Officers of the Durham Light Infantry, 1758-1968, Volume 1, Regulars" by Malcolm McGregor.
The activities on 15th-16th September 1916 are from "Faithful: the story of the Durham Light Infantry" by S. G. P. Ward 1962 pages 369-370.