


Sedgehill Roll of Honour  
THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918




**JOHN LAWRENCE**  
of Sedgehill, Wiltshire

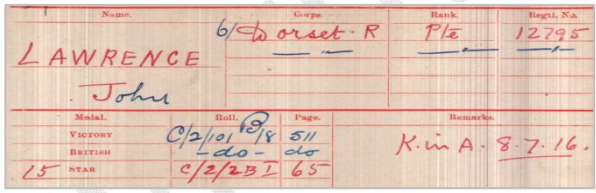
Date/place of birth	1895 Sedgehill	2
Birth registered	December Q 1895 Mere Reg District 5a 194	5
Baptised	19 January 1896 St Catherine's Church Sedgehill	1
Father	William Lawrence of Shaftesbury. Married 10 June 1895 St Catherine's Church Sedgehill	1
Mother	Bessie Lampard of Sedgehill	2
Siblings	Frederick, Hilda, Sarah J, Ethel M	2
1901 Census	Shaftesbury Road, East Knoyle, Wiltshire. Age 5. Father's occupation Groom	2
1911 Census	Not found	

Rank	Private	3
Regiment	6th Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment	3
Enlisted	Dorchester Dorset 14 January 1915 (Residence at time of enlistment Upton Cottage Berwick St John) (Attestation)	
Service Number	12795	3
Medals	1914-15 Star / British War / Victory	4
Date of Death	8 Jul 1916 age 20	3
Cause of Death	Killed in action	4
Burial/Memorial	Dantzig Alley British Cemetery, Mametz, France. Grave Ref 1X.L.7	3



*£6 War Gratuity paid to William Lawrence (father)*





**6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment**  
landed at Boulogne on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1915 as part of 17<sup>th</sup> (Northern) Division.

On 7 September 1915 John Lawrence was admitted to hospital in the field having been wounded. He returned to duty on 22 September.


In November the same year after spending a month in Reading War Hospital Berkshire with 'trench foot' he returned to duty in France.

The Battle of Albert 1-13 July 1916 (Opening phase of the Battle of the Somme)  
The period 2-13 July was characterised by a series of grindingly slow and costly British subsidiary attacks. In a succession of bloody encounters they sought to secure Trônes Wood, Mametz Wood and Contalmaison; operations characterised by vicious hand to hand fighting, within devastated villages and shell-thrashed woods riddled with concealed strongpoints. Heavy rain on 3 and 4 July produced the first quantities of the infamous Somme mud and hinted at the difficulties which terrain and weather would pose later in the campaign.

8 July saw the first attacks on Trônes Wood. The period 9-13 July witnessed bitter fighting and the eventual capture of Mametz Wood and Contalmaison.

John Lawrence lost his life during the attack on Trones Wood on 8<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

Commemorated: War Memorial St John the Baptist Church Berwick St John (left)



©Researched by Jan Oliver 2012/Updated July 2015

1 = Parish Registers  
4 = Medal Index Card

2 = 1891/1901/1911 Census  
5 = GRO Register

3 = Commonwealth War Graves Commission  
6 = UK Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1919