



Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

## WILLIAM JOHN CLIFFORD

of East Knoyle, Wiltshire

| Date/place of birth | 1885 East Knoyle  | 2 |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Birth registered    | June Q 1885 Mere Reg District 5a 222  | 5 |
| Baptised            | 5 April 1885 St Mary the Virgin East Knoyle                                     | 1 |
| Father              | John Clifford of Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire                              | 2 |
| Mother              | Francis Emily (nee Curtis) of Shipton, Gloucestershire                          | 5 |
| Siblings            | Walter, Nellie, Mabel and Tom (Nellie born East Knoyle)                         | 2 |
| 1891 Census         | Upper Slaughter, Gloucestershire. Age 6, at school. Father not at home          | 2 |
| 1901 Census         | Upper Slaughter, Gloucestershire. Age 16, occupation Watchmaker's Assistant     | 2 |
| 1911 Census         | Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire. Age 28, occupation Watch Repairer              | 2 |
| Wife                | Charlotte Winifred Bond. Married December Q 1911 Cheltenham Reg District 6a 941 | 3 |
| Children            | None found  |   |

| Rank              | Private  | 3 |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Regiment          | 1st Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment                          | 3 |
| Enlisted          | Bedford  | 6 |
| Service Number    | 8055   | 3 |
| Medals            | 14-15 Star / British War / Victory                           | 4 |
| Date of Death/Age | 13 October 1914 age 29                                       | 3 |
| Cause of Death    | Killed in action   | 3 |
| Burial/Memorial   | Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel Ref 10 & 11 | 3 |

(A) Where decoration was earned.



£5 War Gratuity paid to Charlotte Winifred (wife)



CLIFFORD, Pte. William John, 8055. 1st Bn. Bedfordshire Regt. 13th Oct., 1914. Age 29. Son of John and Emily Clifford, of Wilmonton Cottage, East End, Charlton Kings; husband of Charlotte Winnifred Clifford, of I, Moreton Place, Brookway Rd., Charlton Kings, Cheltenham

1914

TE 8055

Campaign :-



War Diary, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Bedfordshire Regiment 12 October 1914. "Left ESSARS in morning and proceeded east. Ordered to occupy GIVENCY. Occupied village without much opposition except a few shells and a little rifle fire. Considerable shelling towards evening, of which a proportion was enfilade fire. Dorsets on our right; line on left unable

to advance as far as intended. 17 casualties.

13 October 1914. Heavy bombardment of trenches and village all day. About midday cannonade became terrific. Practically every house damaged and neighbourhood of church continually shelled. Our front trenches, in continuation of Dorsets, unable to hold on in afternoon after Dorsets were enfiladed and withdrew. Smoke of shells and dust of falling houses made it impossible to see clearly what was going on to flanks. Enemy attacked front and flanks, X Battn retired about 300 yards in rear of village and reformed on new line holding road to PONT FIXE in continuation of Dorsets. Norfolks on our left. Losses 7 officers and 140 other ranks."

William's signature on Attestation 16 July 1904. Age 19 yrs 3 months, 5'8" tall; living at 16 Grange Street St Albans, working as a clock & watch repairer for Mr E Setchell; served with 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Glos Regt, Service No 5002.

Commemorated: War Memorial Charlton Kings Gloucestershire, Cheltenham Great War Roll of Honour

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