Tisbury Roll of Honour THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918





JAMES WHATLEY

of Downton, Wiltshire

mes Whatley Avesnes-le-Comte Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Date/Place of birth	1893 Downton	2
Birth registered	June Q Alderbury Reg District 5a 195	5
Baptised		
Father	Arthur Lewin Whatley of Maddington Wiltshire. Married June Q 1881 Tisbury Reg District 5a 351	5
Mother	Fanny (nee King) of Tisbury	2
Siblings	Alice, Ellen, Lizzie, William and George	2
1901 Census	Standlynch with Charlton All Saints, Wiltshire. Age 8. Father's occupation Carter on Farm	2
1911 Census	Charlton All Saints, Wiltshire. Age 17, occupation Farm Labourer	2
Wife	Mabel F (nee Mullins) of Tisbury. Married Dec Q 1915 Tisbury Reg District 5a 602	5

Rank	Private	3
Regiment	5 th Battalion (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) Royal Berkshire Regiment	3
Enlisted	Salisbury	6
Service Number	24210 (formerly 20911 Somerset Light Infantry)	3
Medals	British War / Victory	4
Date of Death/Age	18 March 1917 age 23	3
Cause	Died of wounds	3
Burial/Memorial	Avesnes-le-Comte Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref 1.C.26	3





James Whatley enlisted in February 1916 and served initially with the Somerset Light Infantry in the UK. He transferred to the 5th Battalion Berkshire Regiment, one of the infantry battalions of 35 Brigade in the 12th (Eastern) Division.

£4.00 War Gratuity paid to Mabel F Whatley (wife) The Division saw almost continuous action on the Western Front from June 1915 when it was first deployed into the line, taking part in all the great battles from 1915 to 1918.

In January 1917, the 5th Berkshires took over trenches near the town of Arras in preparation for the Battle of the River Scarpe which was to commence in early April. In mid-March both sides were carrying out offensive patrols and artillery fire was heavy in both directions. The Brigade diary records that on 17 March, 5th Berks carried out a trench raid at 7am, taking a number of prisoners, capturing two machine guns and inflicting more than 100 casualties on the enemy. The commander of the raid and one other rank was killed and 20 other ranks were wounded. It was probably during this raid that James Whatley sustained the wounds from which he subsequently died.



WHATLEY, Ptc. J., 24210. 5th Bn. Royal Berkshire Regt. Died of wounds 18th March, 1917. Age 23. Son of Arthur and Fanny Whatley, of Higher Lawn; husband of Mabel F. Whatley, of Higher Lawn, Tisbury, Wilts. I. C. 26.

Commemorated: War Memorial & St John the Baptist Church Plaque, Tisbury



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