

# **Baverstock**

## **Roll of Honour**



*Lest we Forget*

### **World War I**



**265235 PRIVATE**

**E. J. DIMMER**

**SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY**

**8TH JANUARY, 1919**

## **Edwin(Edmund) John DIMMER**

Edmund/Edwin John Dimmer was born around 1891 to parents Edwin & Elizabeth Dimmer (nee Loader). Edwin's parents had married in December quarter, 1887 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

The 1901 Census recorded Edmund J. Dimmer as a 10 year old (born Broad Chalke), living with his family at Netherhampton Street, Netherhampton, Wiltshire. His parents were recorded as Edwin Dimmer (Carter on a Farm, aged 35) & Elizabeth Dimmer (aged 34). Edmund one of three children recorded on this Census – Reginald (aged 12), then Edmund & Arthur (aged 2).

The 1911 Census recorded "Edwin" Dimmer as a 20 year old Carter on a Farm, living with his family in a 3 roomed dwelling at Manor Farm Cottage, Baverstock, Wiltshire. His parents were listed as Edwin Dimmer (Carter on a Farm, aged 46) & Elizabeth Dimmer (aged 45). Edwin & Elizabeth Dimmer had been married for 23 years, having had 5 children with 4 still surviving. Edwin was the eldest of 3 children listed in this Census - his younger siblings were: William (aged 12) & Nora (aged 8).

A marriage was registered in the June quarter of 1914, in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire between Edwin J. Dimmer & Dorothy D. Crabbe.

A birth was registered for Margaret D. Dimmer, in the March quarter, 1915, in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, with mother's maiden name of Crabbe.

Edwin J. Dimmer enlisted with the Somerset Light Infantry. He was given the rank of Private & a service number of 265235.

Private Edwin John Dimmer died on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 1919.

Pte E. J. Dimmer is buried in Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria, Greece – Grave reference 1236. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission & the details show that he was attached to 1st / 4th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry. The CWGC records that E. J. Dimmer was the husband of D. D. Dimmer of 1 Pine Cottages, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.

Pte Edwin J. Dimmer was entitled to the British War & Victory Medals, although his Medal Index Card only shows the details for the British War Medal. His Medal Index Card also does not show when he had entered a Theatre of War.

E. J. Dimmer is remembered in the Dioceses of Salisbury Casualties of WW1 Memorial Book.

## **Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria, Greece**

At the invitation of the Greek Prime Minister, M. Venizelos, Salonika (now Thessalonika) was occupied by three French Divisions and the 10th (Irish) Division from Gallipoli in October 1915. Other French and Commonwealth forces landed during the year and in the summer of 1916, they were joined by Russian and Italian troops. In August 1916, a Greek revolution broke out at Salonika, with the result that the Greek national army came into the war on the Allied side.

The town was the base of the British Salonika Force and it contained, from time to time, eighteen general and stationary hospitals. Three of these hospitals were Canadian, although there were no other Canadian units in the force.

The earliest Commonwealth burials took place in the local Protestant and Roman Catholic cemeteries, and the Anglo-French (now Lembet Road) Military Cemetery was used from November 1915 to October 1918.

The British cemetery at Mikra was opened in April 1917, remaining in use until 1920. The cemetery was greatly enlarged after the Armistice when graves were brought in from a number of burial grounds in the area.

Mikra British Cemetery now contains 1,810 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, as well as 147 war graves of other nationalities.



(Photo from CWGC)

