

Sutton Veny

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War I



9378 PRIVATE

E. J. HIBBERD

5TH BN WILTSHIRE REGIMENT

9TH APRIL, 1916

Ernest James HIBBERD

Ernest James Hibberd was born at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire in 1898 to parents Walter R. & Louisa Hibberd (nee Adlam). His parents had married in 1886 at Amesbury Register Office, Wiltshire. Ernest's birth was registered in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire in the December quarter of 1898.

(A death was registered in June quarter 1891 for a Walter Robert Hibberd, aged 35 in the district of Warminster)

The 1901 England Census recorded Ernest Hibberd as a 2 year old living with his mother - Louisa Parker (aged 38, born Stoke), stepfather – Stephen Parker (Agricultural Labourer, aged 54, born Tytherington) & 3 older brothers in 3 roomed dwelling in Sutton Street, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire. Ernest & his 3 older brothers had all been born in Sutton Veny – Bertie Hibberd (Agricultural Labourer, aged 12), Fred Hibberd (aged 7), Willie Hibberd (aged 5) & then Ernest.

The 1911 England Census recorded Ernest Hibberd as a 13 year old attending school living with his 2 older brothers as "Boarders" with their mother, stepfather & 2 half siblings in a 3 roomed dwelling at Sutton Veny. His mother was listed as Louisa Parker (aged 47, born Winterbourne Stoke) & his stepfather as Stephen Parker (Farm Labourer, aged 59, born Sutton Veny). Louisa & Stephen Parker had been married for 11 years & had 2 children – Frank Parker (aged 9, born Sutton Veny) & Dorothy Parker (aged 7, born Sutton Veny). Ernest's 2 older brothers were listed as Albert Hibberd (Coachman, aged 22) & William Hibberd (Waggoner on a Farm, aged 15).

Ernest James Hibberd enlisted with the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment at Devizes, Wiltshire. He was given the rank of Private & a service number of 9378. Private Ernest James Hibberd's records show that he was attached to 5th Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment. His Medal Index Card shows that he had entered a Theatre of War – Balkans on 30th June, 1915.

Private Ernest James Hibberd was killed in action on 9th April, 1916 at Mesopotamia, aged 18.

5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

1914 - The 5th (Service) Battalion was raised at Assaye Barracks in Tidworth, August 1914. The numbers raised were too large so the 6th (Service) battalion was also raised from the 5th Battalion overspill of manpower.

1915 - In July 1915 the 5th (Service) Battalion set sail for the Dardanelles and by the 17th were all ashore at Cape Helles, on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Two days later they were in the trenches facing the Turkish Army. On the 6th August they took part in a night attack to capture a ridge of hills to assist the British landing at Suvla bay. The following day they took part in the attack at Sari Bair. This was a successful attack, but the response was fast and very violent. They were attacked by a Turkish Division led by Mustapha Kemal. The battalion was overrun with half the battalion never being seen again. The battalion was reorganised, returning to trench warfare with the main enemy being dysentery and jaundice. On the 18th December they embarked for Mudros returning ten days later in a blizzard, here they saw in 1916.

1916 - The 5th (Service) Battalion evacuated from Cape Helles in January going to Port Said where they were reinforced with 750 men. In February they went to Kuwait and in March to Amara via the Tigris River. They then relieved the Lahore Division south of Kut. In April they took part in the attempt to relieve Kut and attacked the Turkish Trenches at Hannah, followed by an attack on Sanna-I-Yat. All the efforts to relieve Kut failed and eventually the garrison was forced to surrender. *(Many men who had been transferred from the 1st and 2nd/4th Regiments in India were captured with units besieged in Kut)* May was spent in defensive positions after which they returned to the Amara area where they remained until the end of December when they crossed the Hai River ready to move North to Kut.

War Diary – 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

9th April, 1916 Location – Mesopotamia, Sannaiyat

Advanced 4.20a.m. Direction lost on left owing to sniping and small marsh and Turkish starlights coming from disputed direction. Lost our bearings after machine gunfire. Confusion in darkness. Troops dug in about 650yds

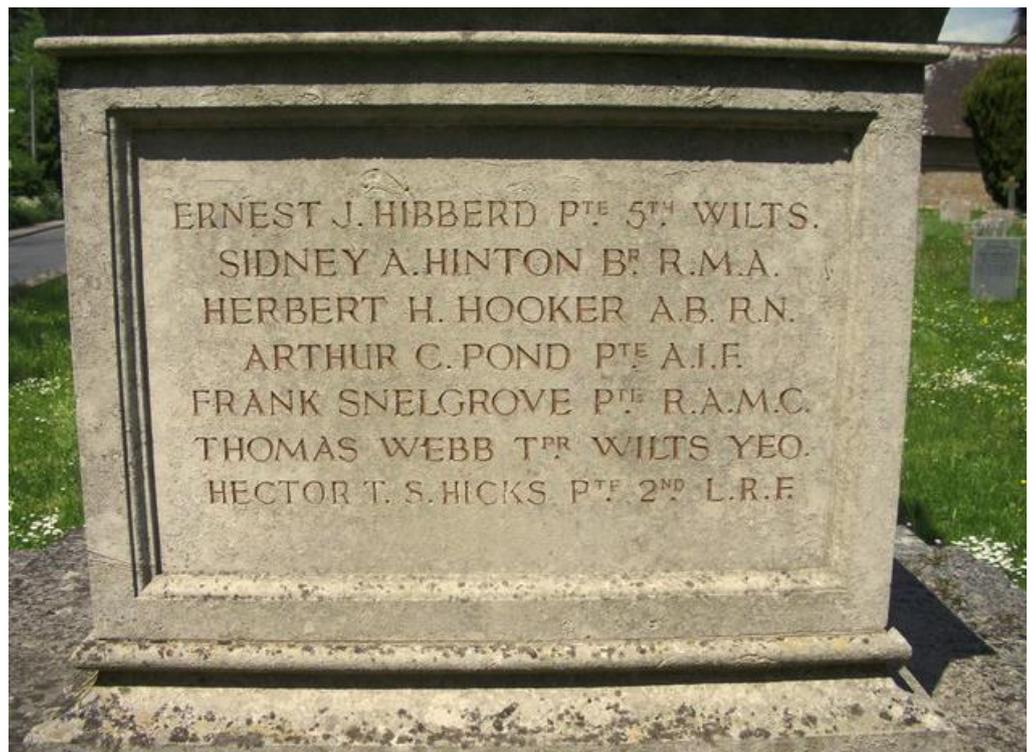
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E. J. Hibberd is also honoured in the Casualties of World War 1 Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book.

Ernest J. Hibberd. Pte, 5th Wilts., is also remembered on the Sutton Veny War Memorial located in the foreground of St. John the Evangelist Church, Wiltshire.



Sutton Veny War Memorial (Photos courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth)



Basra Memorial, Iraq

Until 1997 the Basra Memorial was located on the main quay of the naval dockyard at Maqil, on the west bank of the Shatt-al-Arab, about 8 kilometres north of Basra.

Because of the sensitivity of the site, the Memorial was moved by presidential decree. The move, carried out by the authorities in Iraq, involved a considerable amount of manpower, transport costs and sheer engineering on their part, and the Memorial has been re-erected in its entirety.

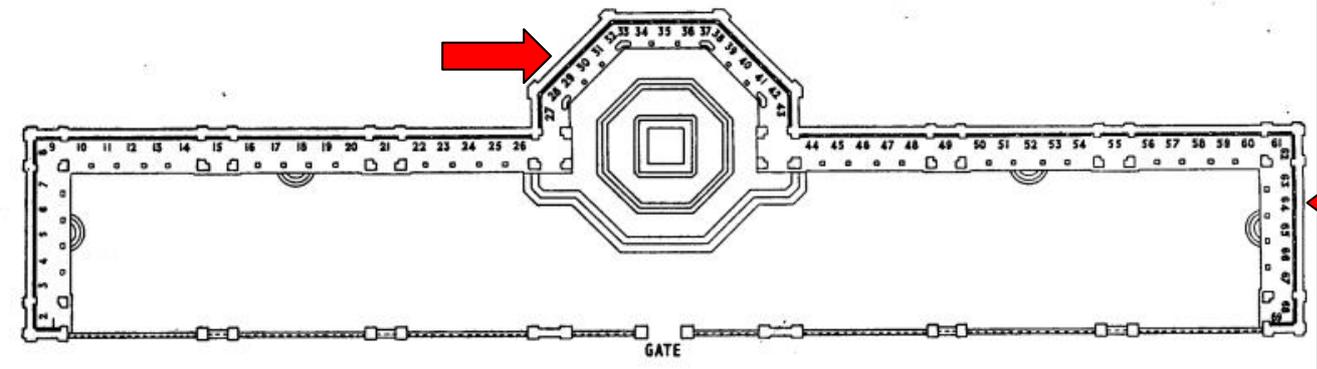
The Basra Memorial is now located 32 kilometres along the road to Nasiriyah, in the middle of what was a major battleground during the first Gulf War. The Panel Numbers quoted at the end of each entry relate to the panels dedicated to the Regiment served with.



Basra Memorial, Iraq (Photo by Rebecca Roberts)



Example of Basra Panels (Photo courtesy of Robert Side – [Winkleigh Heroes](#))



SCALE OF FEET
LAYOUT OF PANELS.