

# Rifleman Sidney Tilbury

S/13402 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade



James Tilbury and Fanny Kercher were married in 1873 in the Whitchurch registration district. Sidney was born in 1883 and baptised in Overton on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1883. In the 1891 census he was 8 years old and living with his father James, a farm labourer, and mother Fanny at 41, Waltham Lane, Overton. The 1901 census lists Sidney John Tilbury, age 18 and born in Overton being with the Provisional Battalion and Imperial Yeomanry at Aldershot, Hampshire.

Sidney enlisted with the Rifle Brigade on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1915 at Basingstoke and his regimental number is given as S/13402. On his Medical History Sheet he was noted as being 5 feet 4 ¼ inches tall and his physical development was good.

Sidney died during the Battle of the Somme. The War Diary for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion records the Rifle Brigade being at Bois de Taille on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1916 moving to Sandpits South of Albert. On the 8<sup>th</sup> they moved to Craters, North of Carnoy and on the 17<sup>th</sup> to the Guillemont Front. On the 18<sup>th</sup> they received orders to attack two lines of enemy trenches on this front. From 18-21<sup>st</sup> August 1916 they were at Guillemont where 61 Other Ranks, presumably including Sidney, were recorded as killed and 198 wounded.

**WAR DIARY**  
or  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**  
*(Erase heading not required.)*

Army Form C. 2118.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Batta  
The Rifle Brigade*

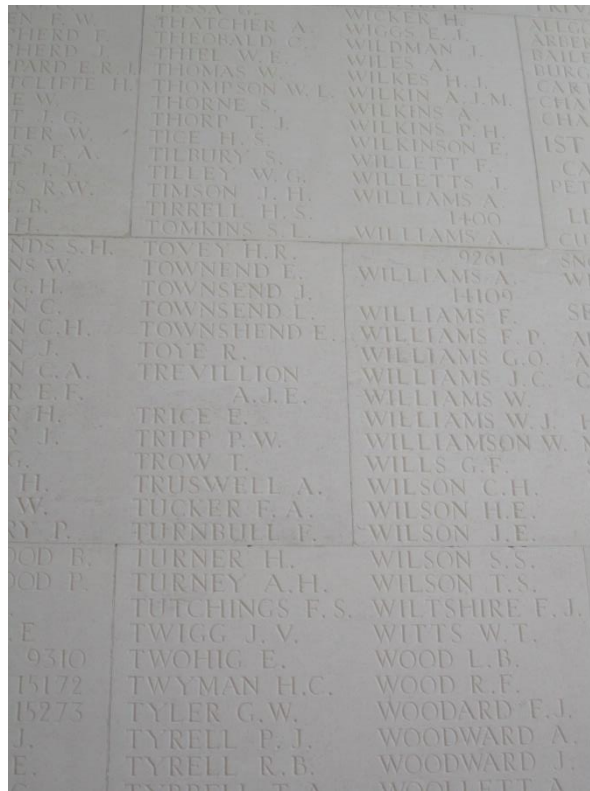
Place	Date 1916	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Guillemont	6/8		Complete surprise was effected and 70 prisoners including 1 officer, some booty including 2 M.G. were captured.	
	21/8		A further attack was successfully carried out on GUILLEMONT VILLAGE by the Batta, the total casualties for 18-21 August being 61 O/R killed 198 " wounded and following officers Killed 2/Lt J.G.M. Henderson wounded Captain J.H. Smith " Lt A.W. Brown " Captain D.N. Gutterie 2/Lt E.V. Vinner " 2/Lt F.E. Cichowski 2/Lt G.F. Manderson-Smith " 2/Lt T. Cox Died of wounds 2/Lt W.C. Daly " Lt A.G. Douglas " 2/Lt F.H. Norris	
	25/8		Battalion relieved by I.R.F.	
	30		Marched to camp near BUIRE FRICOURT + came under	

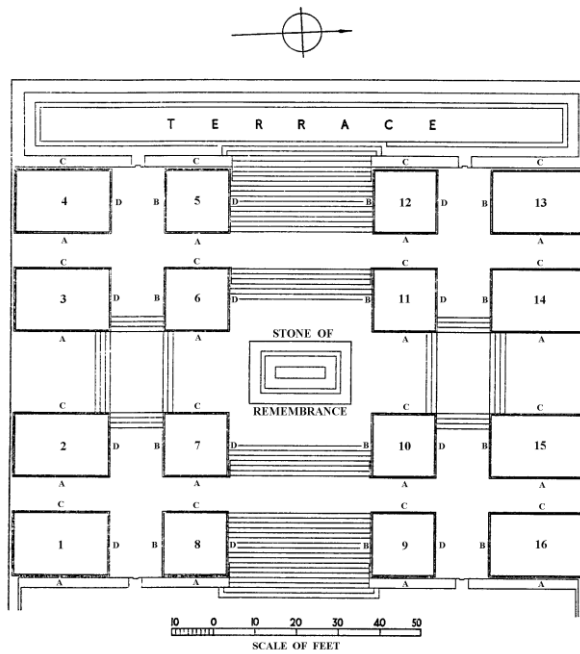
2449 W.L. W14951/M/90 1250000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Form C. 2118/12

*W. Capt.  
Norris  
ad. 3. 2. 12*

Sidney's name is recorded on the memorial at Thiepval to those killed on the Somme with no known grave, reference Pier and Face 16B & 16C.

The photographs at Thiepval were taken in 2016, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.





**THIEPVAL MEMORIAL**

THE NUMBERS OF THE PIERS  
AND LETTERS OF THE FACES

Sidney's medal record notes him as serving in France from 29<sup>th</sup> September 1915

with medals awarded the Victory, British and 15 Star.

Campaign :— **1914-15.** (A) Where decoration was earned.  
(B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)		
				MEDAL	ROLL	PAGE
(A) <b>TILBURY</b>	<b>Rif Brig</b>	<b>Pte</b>	<b>13402</b>	<b>VICTORY</b>	<b>M/102319</b>	<b>2562</b>
(B) <b>Sidney</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>BRITISH</b>	<b>the</b>	<b>the</b>
				<b>15 STAR</b>	<b>M/1 B 885</b>	
Action taken	<b>Acc. as dead</b>					
THEATRE OF WAR.	<b>(1) France</b>					
QUALIFYING DATE.	<b>29-9-15</b>					

(6 34 46) W234—HP5590 500,000 4/19 HWV(P240) K608 [OVER.]