Lieut E W Carpenter Turner

2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment



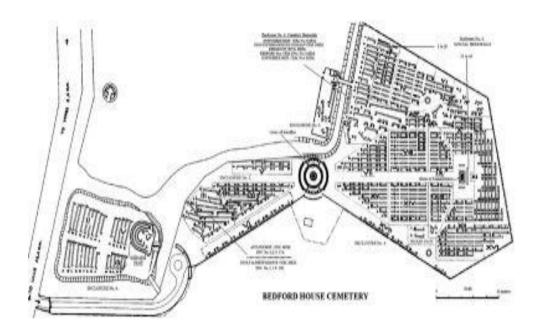
Eric Carpenter Turner was the son of the Rector of Overton. He was born in 1895 and first lived at Whitchurch where his father was Vicar until coming to Overton. He was educated at St John's Foundation School for the Sons of Poor Clergy at Leatherhead. When the war started he was in Africa and originally served as a Private in a South African Regiment against the 1914 Maritz Rebellion by anti-British Boers, and the Germans in what is now Namibia. He returned to the UK and was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Hampshire Regiment. He died of wounds near Ypres, and was buried at the nearby Bedford House Cemetery.

The Hampshire Regiment War Diary records that Lt E.W.C Turner joined the 2nd Battalion on 2nd August 1916 at Potijze near Ypres. They suffered a gas attack on 8th August and the next day he fell in heavy fighting, with 128 others.

The Hants & Berks Gazette of Saturday August 19th 1916 reported:

"Second Lieutenant Eric Walter Carpenter Turner, Hampshire Regiment, who died of wounds on August 6th, aged 21, was the second son of the Rev. and Mrs J. Carpenter Turner, Overton Rectory. He was educated at St John's School, Leatherhead, where he was prominent as a cricketer and athlete. He was in South Africa at the outbreak of war, joined the 1st Eastern Rifles as a private, and served in the South African rebellion and the German South-West Africa campaign. On returning to England he joined the Inns of Court O.T.C. a year ago, and obtained his commission in the Hampshire Regiment last November. He went to the front last month."





Eric Carpenter Turner is buried at Enclosure 2.IV.C in Bedford House Cemetery

There is a memorial plaque in St Mary's Church, on the south side of the Chancel, erected by his family. His name is shown as Turner, as opposed to Carpenter Turner, on the Overton War Memorial.





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