

Private Frank Butcher

201606 1st/4th Battalion Hampshire Regiment



Frank Butcher was born in Overton in 1897. In 1911 he was aged 14, working as a shop assistant and living with his brother in law in London Road.

Frank is noted in the Hants and Berks Gazette report of Saturday 15th May 1915:

*'War casualties. Considering the large number of Overtonians at the front the casualties amongst them till last week had not been heavy. Private W Matthews was killed early in the war and Privates Randall, G Crosswell and W G Phillimore, were invalided home, while Private W Harvey of the Coldstream Guards, and Private Vokes, Berks Regiment were severely wounded but are now convalescent. The heavy fighting of the last fortnight has now unhappily swelled the list considerably. News was received late last week of the death by poisonous gas of Private Albert Watts, 1st Dorsets, who had been at the front since the war commenced, and two days later his father and mother had the additional sorrow of hearing that Private Edward Watts, 3rd Hants, had been severely wounded in the Dardanelles. The relations of Privates **F Butcher** and William Benham of the same regiment have also received intimation that they are on the casualty list of the landing force there, and Private T Hutchins of the 1st Hants, has been badly wounded in Flanders. To all the wounded ones we wish a speedy recovery and offer sincerest sympathy to the family of Private Watts, a victim of the Huns' diabolical mode of warfare. He gave his life like so many others have done for those who remain at home, and long may his name be cherished in the nation's role of honour.'*



Frank Butcher must have survived this landing and was with his regiment in the advance on the town of Kut between Basra and Baghdad and he was killed on the day it fell into British hands on 24th Feb 1917. His name is inscribed on the Basra Memorial, Stone 21a. He was awarded the Victory and British medals.

Name		Regt. No.
BUTCHER, Frank		Hampshire 201606
Medals	Victoria	
Decorations	Citation 504	
Remarks		
Theatre of War first served in		
Date of entry therein		