

**In Memory of
Lance Corporal ALBERT EDWARD WRIGHT
6012, 2nd Bn., Wiltshire Regiment
who died on 23 July 1916
Remembered with honour
Faringdon War Memorial and
THIEPVAL MEMORIAL**



Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

On 1 July 1916, supported by a French attack to the south, thirteen divisions of Commonwealth forces launched an offensive on a line from north of Gommecourt to Maricourt. Despite a preliminary bombardment lasting seven days, the German defences were barely touched and the attack met unexpectedly fierce resistance. Losses were catastrophic and with only minimal advances on the southern flank, the initial attack was a failure.

In the following weeks, huge resources of manpower and equipment were deployed in an attempt to exploit the modest successes of the first day. However, the German Army resisted tenaciously and repeated attacks and counter attacks meant a major battle for every village, copse and farmhouse gained. At the end of September, Thiepval was finally captured.

War Diary

Sunday 23rd July 1916 France, between Bernafay/Trones Wood: At 4.30am the 19th Manchester Regiment make an attack on Guillemont, the 2nd Yorks at the same time attack the trenches on the left of the village from Waterlot Farm. Our 'A' coy goes in support of the Manchesters but gets no further than the eastern face of Trones Wood owing to the attack proving a failure. In the evening the Battalion is relieved by troops of the 35th Division.