

**In Memory of
Private JOHN DAVIS
27590, 5th Bn., Royal Berkshire Regiment
who resided in Faringdon and died,
age 27, on 15 April 1917
Son of Amos and Rosina Davis,
of Eaton Hastings, Nr. Faringdon, Berks.
Remembered with honour
Eaton Hastings War Memorial and
ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY**



Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Etaples is a town about 27 km south of Boulogne.

During the First World War, the area around Etaples was the scene of immense concentrations of Commonwealth reinforcement camps and hospitals. It was remote from attack, except from aircraft, and accessible by railway from both the northern or the southern battlefields.

In 1917, 100,000 troops were camped among the sand dunes and the hospitals, which included eleven general, one stationary, four Red Cross hospitals and a convalescent depot, could deal with 22,000 wounded or sick. In September 1919, ten months after the Armistice, three hospitals and the Q.M.A.A.C. convalescent depot remained.

The cemetery contains 10,771 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, the earliest dating from May 1915. 35 of these burials are unidentified.

Hospitals were again stationed at Etaples during the Second World War and the cemetery was used for burials from January 1940 until the evacuation at the end of May 1940. After the war, a number of graves were brought into the cemetery from other French burial grounds. Of the 119 Second World War burials, 38 are unidentified. Etaples Military Cemetery also contains 662 Non-Commonwealth burials, mainly German, including 6 unidentified. There are also now 5 Non-World War service burials here.

The cemetery, the largest Commission cemetery in France, was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.