



Military Matters

Wiltshire Regiment During World War One

- ❖ **The regiment raised 10 battalions.**
- ❖ **60 Battle Honours.**
- ❖ **1 Victoria Cross.**
- ❖ **5,200 men killed.**

1st Battalion

- 04/08/1914 – Stationed at Tidworth.
- 14/08/1914 – Mobilised for war. Landed at Rouen.
- 1914 – The Battle of Mons and subsequent retreat. The Battle of Le Cateau, The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne, The Battles of La Bassee and Messines, First Battle of Ypres.
- 1915 – Winter Operations 1914/15 – The First Attack on Bellewaarde, The Actions of Hooge and The Second Attack on Bellewaarde.
- 18/10/1915 – Transferred to the 7th Brigade of the 25th Division.
- 1916 – German Attack on Vimy Ridge, The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin, The Battle of Pozieres and the Battle of Ancre Heights.
- 1917 – The Battle of Messines and The Battle of Pilkem.
- 1918 – The Battle of St. Quentin and The First Battle of Baupaume.
- 21/06/1918 – Transferred to the 110th Brigade of the 21st Division.
- 1918 – The Battle of Albert, The Second Battle of Baupaume, The Battle of Epehy, The Battle of St. Quentin Canal, The Battle of Cambrai and The Battle of the Selle.
- 11/11/1918 – Ended the war N.W. of Avesnes, France.

2nd Battalion

- 04/08/1914 – Stationed at Gibraltar.
- 31/08/1914 – Arrived at Southampton, moved to Lyndhurst to join the 21st Brigade of the 7th Division.
- 07/10/1914 – Mobilised for war and landed at Zeebrugge.
- 1914 – The First Battle of Ypres.
- 19/12/1915 – Transferred to the 21st Brigade of the 30th Division.
- 1916 – The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Transloy Ridges.
- 1917 – The pursuit of the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The First Battle of the Scarpe, The Battle of Pilkem Ridge.
- 1918 – The Battle of St. Quentin, The actions at the Somme Crossings, The Battle of Rosieres, The Battle of Kemmel Ridge, The Second Battle of Kemmel Ridge, The Battle of the Scherpenberg, The Capture of Neuve Eglise, The Capture of Wulverghem, The Battle of Ypres.
- 13/05/1918 – Transferred to the 58th Brigade of the 19th Division.
- 1918 – The Battle of Aisne, The Battle of the Selle, The Battle of the Sambre and the passage of the Grand Honelle.
- 11/11/1918 – Ended the war Bavai, France.

3rd (Reserve) Battalion

- 04/08/1914 – Stationed at Devizes and then moved to Weymouth.
- April 1915 – Moved to Dorchester and then back to Weymouth.
- Sept 1917 – Moved to Sittingbourne, Kent as part of the Sittingbourne S.R. Brigade.

1/4th Battalion Territorial Force

- 04/08/1914 – Stationed at Fore Street, Trowbridge as part of the South Western Brigade of the Wessex Division and then moved to Salisbury Plain.
- 09/10/1914 – Embarked for India from Southampton arriving at Bombay where the Division was broken up.

- Sept 1917 – Deployed to Egypt arriving at Suez.
- 25/09/1917 – Transferred to the 233rd Brigade of the 75th Division.
- 1917 – The Third Battle of Gaza, The Capture of Junction Station and The Battle of Nabi Samweil.
- 03/05/1918 – Transferred to the 232nd Brigade of the 75th Division.
- 1918 – The Battle of Tell'Asur, The Battle of Berukin and The Battle of Sharon.
- 31/10/1918 – Ended the war near Haifa, Palestine.

3/4th Battalion Territorial Force

- March 1915 – Formed and then moved to Bournemouth.
- 08/04/1916 – Became the 4th (Reserve) Battalion.
- 01/09/1916 – Moved to Hursley Park, Winchester and joined the Wessex Reserve.
- Oct 1916 – Moved to Bournemouth.
- Feb 1917 – Moved to Sutton Veny, Salisbury Plain and then Larkhill.
- May 1918 – Moved to Ireland and stationed at Dublin.

5th (Service) Battalion

- Aug 1914 – Formed at Devizes as part of the First New Army and then moved to Assaye Barracks, Tidworth as part of the 13th Division.
- Oct 1914 – Moved to Chisledon.
- Dec 1914 – Moved to Cirencester and joined the 40th Brigade of the 13th Division to replace the 7th Welsh Regiment.
- Feb 1915 – Moved to Woking and the Bisley.
- 01/07/1915 – Embarked for Gallipoli from Avonmouth via the Mediterranean and Mudros.
- 30/07/1915 – Landed at Helles.
- 04/08/1915 – Landed at Anzac and engaged the Turkish Army.
- 1915 – The Battle of Sari Bair, The Battle of Russell's Top and The Battle of Hill 60.
- Jan 1916 – Evacuated from Gallipoli to Egypt due to severe casualties from combat, disease and harsh weather.
- Feb 1916 – Deployed to Mesopotamia and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army.

- 1917 – The Battle of Kut al Amara, The Capture of Hai Salient, The Capture of Dahra Bend, The Passage of the Diyala, The Pursuit of the enemy towards Baghdad, Capture of Baghdad, Battles of Delli'Abbas, Duqma, Nahr Kalis, crossed the 'Adhaim and at Shatt al 'Adheim, The Second and Third Actions of Jabal Hamrin and at Tuz Khurmatli (29th April 1917).
- 1918 – Part of operations as part of 'Lewin's Column' pushing north towards Turkey.
- 31/10/1918 – Ended the war at Altun Kupri north of Kirkuk, Mesopotamia.

6th (Service) Battalion

- Sept 1914 – Formed at Devizes as part of the Second New Army and then moved to Salisbury Plain to join the 19th Division.
- Dec 1914 – Moved to Basingstoke and joined the 58th Brigade of the 19th Division.
- March 1915 – Moved to Perham Down.
- July 1915 – Mobilised for war and landed in France.
- 1915 – The Action of Pietre, diversionary action during the Battle of Loos.
- 1916 – The Battle of Albert, The attacks on High Wood, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of the Ancre Heights and the Battle of Ancre.
- 1917 – The Battle of Messines, The Battle of the Menin Road Ridge, The Battle of Polygon Wood, The Battle of Broodseinde, The Battle of Poelcapelle, First Battle of Passchendaele and Second Battle of Passchendaele.
- 20/09/1917 – Amalgamated with 14 officers and 232 men of the Wiltshire Yeomanry to become the 6th (Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry) Battalion.
- 1918 – The Battle of St. Quentin, The Battle of Baupaume, The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Bailleul, The First Battle of Kemmel Ridge, The Battle of the Aisne, The Battle of Selle, The Battle of the Sambre and the passage of the Grand Honelle.
- 13/05/1918 – Reduced to training cadre with the surplus transferred to the 2nd Battalion of the 30th Division.
- 16/06/1918 – Returned to England and as part of the 42nd Brigade of the 14th Division from Boulogne.
- 18/06/1918 – Moved to Brookwood and reconstituted with the 9th Dorset's.
- 04/07/1918 – Returned to France landing at Boulogne.
- 1918 – The Battle of Ypres and final advance in Flanders.
- 11/11/1918 – Ended the war at Dottignies of Roubaix, Belgium.

7th (Service) Battalion

- Sept 1914 – Formed at Devizes as part of the Third New Army and then moved Codford, Salisbury Plain to join the 79th Brigade of the 26th Division.
- Nov 1914 – Moved to Marlborough.
- April 1915 – Moved to Sutton Veny.
- Sept 1915 – Mobilised for war and landed in France.
- Nov 1915 – Deployed to Salonika and engaged the Bulgarian Army.
- 1916 – The Battle of Horseshoe Hill.
- 1917 – The Battles of Doiran.
- June 1918 – Returned to France leaving the 26th Division arriving at Serqueux.
- 16/07/1918 – Joined the 150th Brigade of the 50th Division at Martin Eglise.
- 1918 – The Battle of the St. Quentin Canal, The Battle of Beaufort Line, The Battle of Cambrai, The pursuit to the Selle, The Battle of the Selle, The Battle of Valenciennes.
- 11/11/1918 – Ended the war near Doullers north of Avesnes, France.

8th (Reserve) Battalion

- Nov 1914 – Formed at Weymouth as a service battalion of the Fourth New Army and joined the 102nd Brigade of the 34th Division.
- Feb 1915 – Moved to Trowbridge.
- 10/04/1915 – Became a 2nd Reserve Battalion.
- May 1915 – Moved to Wareham as part of the 8th Reserve Brigade.
- 01/09/1916 – Absorbed into the Training Reserve Battalions.