

## *Rowland George White*

Private, 15th Battalion London Regiment (Civil Service Rifles). Joined the colours at Somerset House, London, September 11th, 1917. Served in France. Killed in action at Etaples, May 7th, 1918. Buried in British Military Cemetery, Etaples. General Service and Victory Medals.



ROWLAND WAS BORN in Bulkington in 1899 to Harry and Elsie Gertrude. His father was described as a farm owner and they were living at Mill Farm in 1901. By 1911 the family had moved to Corsham. They were living and working at Jaggards Farm and Harry was recorded as a farm bailiff. Rowland now had a sister Marjorie and a brother Sidney. Another brother, Alan, was born in 1914, the year that Rowland left school and started work. He signed Attestation Papers in Chippenham in August 1917 and was placed in the Army Reserve but was mobilised almost immediately, in September 1917. He was shipped from Folkestone to Boulogne on 15th April 1918 and joined the 15th London Regiment Civil Service Rifles as a Rifleman at Etaples. Tragically, within a month he died of pneumonia, on 7th May 1918 – he was only 18.

Rowland's Commonwealth War Graves citation helpfully records that he had been educated at Chippenham Secondary School and although only 18 was an auctioneer by profession. He is buried at the Etaples Military Cemetery in Pas-de-Calais and commemorated on the Chippenham Secondary School Memorial plaque.