

## William Wood Lewis 1891 – 1915

25.09.1915 Killed  
 Panel 85 To 87 Loos Memorial  
 Age: 24

(additional information from the research of Edwin Sparrow):

He was first seen to fall seriously wounded; whilst his wounds were being dressed, a stray bullet from a machine gun struck him in the head and killed him outright. His cousin Uriah Thomas Leavett who was also present spoke to him and said goodbye. (*Uriah died 10 days later.*)

**Note:** Uriah Thomas Leavett was the son of Elizabeth Lewis who was William's aunt. Her mother Mary Ann had two children named Uriah Thomas, neither of whom seem to have survived childhood.


A decline in the fishing trade probably led William to become a domestic gardener by 1911 living in lodgings in Feering Hill where he met Matilda Sach of Oak Road, Tiptree: a domestic cook living at St Andrews, Feering Hill.

Loos Memorial


Loos-en-Gohelle  
 Departement du Pas-de-Calais  
 Nord-Pas-de-Calais France

**Cemetery notes and/or description:**  
 The Loos Memorial forms the side and back of Dud Corner Cemetery, and commemorates over 20,000 officers and men who have no known grave, who fell in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay. Loos-en-Gohelle is a village 5 kilometres north-west of Lens, and Dud Corner Cemetery is located about 1 kilometre west of the village, to the north-east of the N43 the main Lens to Bethune road.


Dud Corner Cemetery stands almost on the site of a German strong point, the Lens Road Redoubt, captured by the 15th (Scottish) Division on the first day of the battle. The name "Dud Corner" is believed to be due to the large number of unexploded enemy shells found in the neighbourhood after the Armistice. On either side of the cemetery is a wall 15 feet high, to which are fixed tablets on which are carved the names of those commemorated. At the back are four small circular courts, open to the sky, in which the lines of tablets are continued, and between these courts are three semicircular walls or apses, two of which carry tablets, while on the centre apse is erected the Cross of Sacrifice.



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Born	Parents & Siblings at Home	Locations	Marriage / Other	Jobs / Rank
<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Q 1891</b> Tollesbury</p> <p>Only child</p>	<p>William &amp; Margaret Lewis, nee Wood</p> <p>Grandparents Thomas and Mary Ann Lewis had 10 children only 4 of whom survived to 1911 when Mary Ann was 82, though most survived to adulthood.</p>	<p><b>1891</b> Tollesbury</p> <p><b>1901</b> West Street, Tollesbury, with grandmother and aunt</p> <p><b>1911</b> lodger in Feering Hill, Feering</p> <p>Enlists Colchester, resident Tiptree</p> <p><b>31.07.1915</b> Frimley, Surrey – Army Service</p>	<p><b>2Q 1884</b> Matilda Annie born Tiptree</p> <p><b>1911</b> Matilda: Domestic Cook, St Andrews, Feering Hill</p> <p><b>31.07.1915</b> William Wood Lewis marries Matilda Annie Sach at St. Luke's, Tiptree.</p>	<p>All the male Tollesbury Lewises had sea related jobs, the fishing trade having reached a zenith in the 1850s/60s and by the early 1900s, young Lewis men seem to be taking other work, as the family trade wouldn't support them. On his marriage in 1915, even his father an established Oyster Dredgerman is recorded as a labourer.</p> <p>1911 Domestic gardener</p> <p>1915 Private 12961 Essex Regiment 11th Battalion</p> <p>During WW1, most Lewis men had a Naval role.</p>

