

**In Memory of
Private FRANK BURCHALL
17306, 8th Bn., Royal Berkshire Regiment
Born and resided in Faringdon,
Who died, age 21, on 25 September 1915
Remembered with honour
Faringdon War Memorial and LOOS MEMORIAL**



Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Loos-en-Gohelle is a village 5 km north-west of Lens, and Dud Corner Cemetery is located about 1 km 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.

The Loos Memorial forms the sides 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.

War Diary

5:50AM. The intensive Bombardment, preparatory to the attack on the German position South of the Hulloch Road, began, the enemy's artillery at once replying, though they inflicted little damage and caused few casualties in our front-line trenches. Simultaneously with the bombardment, the gas company began to operate the gas cylinders which were in the front-line trench, and there

then occurred several casualties from poisoning, caused it supposed, by leakages in the cylinders. 6:28 am. The gas now ceased, and smoke bombs were thrown from the front-line trenches, proving entirely successful in screening our Advance. 6:30 am. The fire of our artillery lifted, and Battalion advanced in quick time, to assault the first line Enemy Trenches, the 10th Gloucester Regt being on the right, the 2nd Gordons on the left. The advance was opposed by heavy artillery and machine-gun fire, while the wire in front of the German trenches was found to be scarcely damaged, and it was in cutting a way through this obstacle that most of the regiment's heavy casualties occurred. Shrapnel and machine-gun combined to play havoc in our ranks, and an additional disaster was the blowing back of our gas, by the wind, into our own ranks. However, after a struggle, the German first line was penetrated, and the trench found to be practically deserted, the enemy apparently, having deserted it earlier in the day, merely leaving behind sufficient men to work the machine-guns. Mainly overland, but with some men working up the communication trench, our line advanced successively to the 2nd and 3rd German lines, and met with but slight opposition. From the 3rd line a further advance was made, and an Enemy Field Gun captured. A 4th line German trench was also seized, but being in so incomplete a state that it afforded little cover from rifle fire and none whatever from shrapnel. Colonel Walton ordered the line to be withdrawn to the 3rd German line trench, and this position was occupied until the Battalion was relieved. 10:0 pm.