

**In Memory of  
Private WILLIAM DIXEY  
11218, 5th Bn., Royal Berkshire Regiment  
Born in Bampton, who resided in Faringdon,  
and died, age 40, on 2 June 1916  
Remembered with honour  
Faringdon War Memorial and  
ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY, LOOS**



Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The village of Loos-en-Gohelle is just north of Lens, Pas de Calais. St. Patrick's Cemetery was begun during the battle by French and British troops, and used in 1916 very largely by the units of the 16th (Irish) Division. It was closed in June, 1918, but a small number of graves were brought into it after the Armistice from the battlefields between Loos and Hulluch. The irregular arrangement of the rows is due to the conditions under which the burials were carried out.

There are now nearly 600, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this cemetery. Of these, over 40 are unidentified and the graves of 23, destroyed by shell fire, are now represented by special memorials. The cemetery covers an area of 3,001 square metres and is enclosed by a brick wall.

From a letter to his mother published in the Faringdon Advertiser, William was shot through the head at night whilst constructing a Sniper Post that he was to occupy the following day. He was apparently an "excellent sniper". According to local rumour William was an employee of Major West of Barcot Manor.

Major West offered his employees a sweetener of a gold sovereign and a new suit if they would enlist in the armed services.

Friday 2nd June 1916 France, Loos Sector: Battn was relieved by 7th Royal Irish Rifles and marched back into billets at Mazingarbe. Casualties: killed 3 other ranks; wounded 10 other ranks.