

# William Martin Willis

## Royal Field Artillery

1891 - 1918



William Martin Willis was born at the beginning of 1891 in Swanbourne. He was the first child of David William Willis and his wife Eleanor nee Roads.

In the 1891 Census he is recorded as aged three months, living with his parents in Church Street, Swanbourne. Seven other siblings were born between 1892 and 1906. By 1901 the family had moved to Newton Longville, Bucks, where he lived with his parents and four younger siblings. In 1911, the family remained in Newton Longville, but William was living-in at Great Grandsen, Huntingdonshire as a waggoner on a farm. He enlisted in Wolverhampton.

William had not married and he died on the last day of WW1, 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1918, age 28. He is buried in the Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France at grave reference XLIX.E.33. His name is not on the Swanbourne War Memorial, but can be found on the War Memorial in Newton Longville.

He was with the RFA and the British Commonwealth War Graves Commission has the following information - Cemetery for 40 Etaples Part VI 'WILLIS Gnr W, 201210 'Y' 24<sup>th</sup> Trench Mortar Bty. Royal Field Artillery. Died of broncho-pneumonia 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1918 age 28. Son of David and Eleanor Willis of Newton Longville nr. Bletchley, Bucks'.



Site Plan of Etaples Cemetery above

Certificate from Commonwealth War Graves Commission website - right

