

## MILLS Sydney



Private Essex Regiment 11th Battalion.

Age: 21 Killed in action: 26/09/1915

Service No: 14106

: Son of Jabez William and Catherine Mills, of Masonic Cottages, Tollesbury, Essex. He was born and resided in Tollesbury. He enlisted at Colchester. He joined the Essex Regiment on September 14th 1914. He went overseas the following August serving in France & Flanders. In November 1915 there were reports he had been wounded and was "missing in action" sadly he had been killed. The news of his death reached Tollesbury in October 1916.

The 11th (Service) Battalion was formed at Warley, September 1914, as part of K3. In September 1914 it was attached to 71st Brigade, 24th Division. On the 11th October 1915 it was transferred with Brigade to 6th Division. Then on the 27th October 1915 ; transferred to 18th Brigade, 6th Division.

The 11th Essex as part of the 24th Division of K3, were assembled around Shoreham during September 1914. The Division crossed to France 28th August - 4th September 1915. It served on the Western Front throughout the war. The Division's first experience was truly appalling. Having been in France for only a few days, lengthy forced marches brought it into the reserve for the British assault at Loos. GHQ planning left it too far behind to be a useful reinforcement on the first day, but it was sent into action on 26th September, whereupon it suffered more than 3,900 casualties. He was killed in action in this action. Uriah Leavett from Tollesbury also died in this action.



1914-1915 Star; 1914- 1920 War Medal; 1914-1919 Victory Medal





Casualty Type: Commonwealth War  
Dead Grave/Memorial Reference:  
Panel 85 to 87. Memorial: LOOS  
MEMORIAL .

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. No. of Identified Casualties: 20582

Last updated 25/02/2009

His name is recorded on the Roll of Honour at Saint Mary's Tollesbury



Saint Mary's Tollesbury