

*In Memory Of*

**WILLIAM HENRY DELVE**

**Private 201958  
9<sup>th</sup> Bn., Cheshire Regiment  
who died on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 1917.**

**Born** Ilfracombe    **Enlisted** Chester    **Residence** Denton, Lancs

**Died How** Killed in action    **Theatre of War** France & Flanders

**Additional Inf.**

**Commemorative Information**

- Cemetery:** BEDFORD HOUSE CEMETERY, ZILLEBEKE, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium  
**Grave Reference/  
Panel Number:** Enclosure No.4 X. A. 20.  
**Location:** Bedford House Cemetery is located 2.5 Km south of Ieper town centre. The cemetery lies on the Rijselseweg (N365), the road connecting Ieper to Armentieres. From Ieper town centre the Rijselsestraat runs from the market square, through the Lille Gate (Rijselpoort) and directly over the crossroads with the Ieper ring road. The road name then changes to the Rijselseweg. The cemetery itself is located 2 Km after this crossroads on the left hand side of the Rijselseweg.
- Historical Information:** Zillebeke village and most of the commune were in British hands during the greater part of the War; but the number of cemeteries in the neighbourhood bears witness to the fierce fighting in the vicinity from 1914 to 1918. Bedford House, sometimes known as Woodcote House, were the names given by the Army to the Chateau Rosendal, 1,830 metres South of the Lille Gate of Ypres. It was a country house in a small wooded park, with moats. It never fell into enemy hands, but the house and the trees were gradually destroyed by shell fire. It was used by Field Ambulances, and as the Headquarters of Brigades and other fighting units; and charcoal pits were started in October, 1917. The property became, in time, largely covered by small cemeteries. Five Enclosures existed at the date of the Armistice; but the graves from No. 1 were then removed to White House Cemetery, St. Jean, and those from No. 5 to Aeroplane Cemetery, Ypres. Enclosure No. 2 was begun in December, 1915, and used until October, 1918; and after the Armistice 437 graves were added, all but four of which came from the Ecole de Bienfaisance and Asylum British Cemeteries, both at Ypres. There are over 30 unidentified graves and special memorials are erected (in No. 4) to 24 United Kingdom soldiers and one Australian, known or believed to be buried among them.