

Sgt Louis Charles Cooke 523013 RAF

Louis was born in 1917 in Leiston, Suffolk, the son of Charles Cooke and Isabel Violet Cooke nee Whitmore.

Educated locally, Louis joined the RAF straight from school and trained as an Observer.

On the morning of 10 August 1940, 11 Blenheims from 110 Sqn departed RAF Wattisham to attack enemy aerodromes. Targets included Schipol, Ypenburg, Waalhaven, Haamstede, Caen, Cherbourg, Guernsey, Dinard, and Brest. Louis's target was St. Inglevert, Pas de Calais, where, after the German occupation in June 1940, the Luftwaffe had taken over the airfield and stationed Messerschmitt Bf 109 fighter planes on the base. Louis, operating as the Observer, and the crew departed RAF Wattisham at 06:05 in Blenheim IV R3775 (VE) and was the only aircraft not to return. The circumstances of the loss are unknown.

Also killed: PO Arthur Raymond Storrow MiD (Pilot); Sgt Arthur James Underwood (WOp/AG)

Louis and his crew are buried in a collective grave in Pihen-les-Guines Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Louis is commemorated on Wall Panel 148