

William May

1824 - 1903

William was born in 1824 in Leigh, Kent, his father was also called William (1797-1870).

William married Louisa Luxford at St. Nicholas Church in Brighton in 1857. They had 4 children; William Iden (1859-????), Edward James (1861-1863), Frank Elias 1863-1916
Henry George 1870-1934.

The 1861 census records the family living in Danehill, William is listed as an agricultural labourer.

James Luxford, William's father-in-law, owned the Crocodile Inn in Danehill. On James' death in 1847 the pub passed to John Harvey of Lewes, a brewer, but William became the tenant. The Crocodile remained in the May family until 1954, and it finally closed its doors in 1980.

In 1881 William is listed in the census as a beer seller and labourer, living in Danehill, and the 1891 census records the family at The Crocodile Inn.

William died in 1903 aged 80 and was buried in Danehill cemetery on 8th October 1903.



Above: William and Louisa May outside The Crocodile, where they lived

Right: William and Louisa May are buried in Danehill cemetery



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Louisa May (nee Luxford)

1832 - 1915

Louisa Luxford was born in 1832. Her father was James Luxford and her mother Anne Newnham.

Louisa married William May at St. Nicholas Church in Brighton in 1857. They had 4 children: William, Edward, Frank Elias who became a butcher and Henry George a carpenter.

Louisa died in 1915 aged 80 and was buried with her husband William in Danehill cemetery on 3rd June 1915.

Frank Elias May

26 November 1863 - 9 October 1916

Frank Elias was born on 26th November 1863 In Horsted Keynes and baptised on 17th January 1864 in Danehill. His parents were William May (1824-1903) an agricultural labourer and later the landlord of The Crocodile Inn, Danehill, and Louisa Luxford (1835-1915).

Frank married Agnes Wickens on 16th December 1889 in Danehill. They had a son Edward, born in 1890, who later became a butcher. Edward lived with his maternal grandmother Tamar Wickens, in 1911 and married Elsie Clara Sayers in Mitcham, Surrey on 18th January 1921.

Two years after Agnes died on 16th July 1897 Frank married again. This time on 26th September 1899 to Lillie Ada Dier.

In 1901 and 1911 he is living with Lillie in Danehill. Frank is also a butcher and has a house in Danehill with 5 rooms.

Frank died on 9th October 1916, aged 52 at 19, Lansdowne Place, Hove. he left £3,823. 18s 6d in his Will. He was buried at Danehill cemetery on 13th October 1916

Agnes May (nee Wickens)

15 December 1861 - 16 July 1897

Agnes Wickens was born on 15th December 1861 in Fletching. Her father was Spencer Wickens, a pork butcher/journeyman, (1840-1899) and her mother Tamar Gasson (1838-1915).

In 1871 Agnes was living with her family in Chelwood Common but by 1881 they had moved to School Hill, Danehill. The 1891 census records Agnes as a visitor, with her son Edward who is 6 months old, at Stone Cottage, Danehill. Agnes is staying with her parents Spencer and Tamar Wickens.

Agnes died on 16th July 1897 aged 35 years. She was buried at Danehill cemetery on 20th July 1897



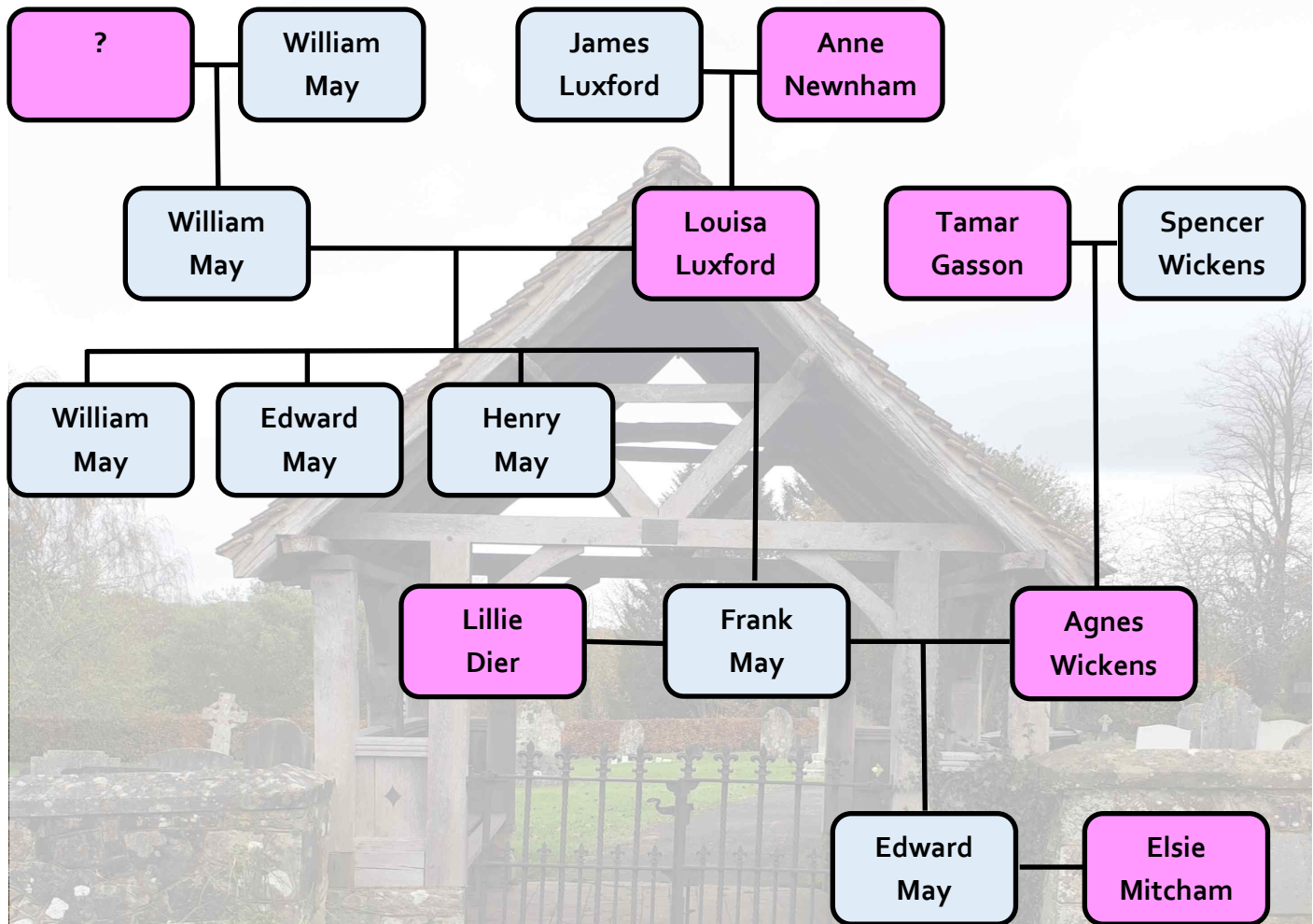
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Agnes and Frank May are buried in Danehill cemetery



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If you have any more information about this family that you believe would be of interest please contact the Danehill Parish Historical Society dphs@outlook.com. We'd love to hear from you



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