

**IN MEMORY OF**  
**105185 PRIVATE SAMUEL RICHARDS**  
**1st BATTALION LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT**  
**BORN 1892 IN OSGATHORPE**  
**DIED FROM WOUNDS RECEIVED IN BATTLE**  
**10th JUNE 1917 - AGED 25**



**BETHUNE TOWN CEMETERY, PAR DE CALAIS, FRANCE**  
**GRAVE LOCATION VI. F. 1.**

**PERSONAL INSCRIPTION ON GRAVE -**  
**I ONLY YIELD THEE WHAT IS THINE**  
**THY WILL BE DONE**

**BY SAMUEL T STEWART - NOVEMBER 2022**  
**/UPDATED JULY 2024**

## **BETHUNE CEMETERY HISTORY INFORMATION**

For much of the First World War, Bethune was comparatively free from bombardment and remained an important railway and hospital centre, as well as a corps and divisional headquarters. The 33rd Casualty Clearing Station was in the town until December 1917. Early in 1918, Bethune began to suffer from constant shell fire and in April 1918, German forces reached Locon, five kilometres to the north. The bombardment of 21 May did great damage to the town and it was not till October that pressure from the Germans was relaxed.

Bethune Town Cemetery contains 3,004 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 11 being unidentified. This includes 26 men of the 1/8th Manchester Regiment who were killed by a bomb on 22 December 1917 while marching to rest billets. Second World War burials number 19, 2 being unidentified. There are also 122 French and 87 German war graves, 38 of the German burials are unidentified.

The Commonwealth section of the cemetery was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

## **CEMETERY LOCATION**

Bethune is a town 29 kilometres north of Arras. The cemetery can easily be found, from any point in Bethune, by following the French signs indicating 'CIMETIERE NORD'. More precisely, head northwards from the Grand Place along the rue Sadi Carnot and Place Lamartine for about 450 metres. Just beyond the Tribunal, turn right into rue Arthur Lamendin and follow the road to the bottom of the hill (350 metres). Turn right into the cul-de-sac and the cemetery entrance can be found after 50 metres on your left hand side.



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GRAVE LOCATION VI. F. 1.**

**PERSONAL INSCRIPTION ON GRAVE -  
I ONLY YIELD THEE WHAT IS THINE  
THY WILL BE DONE**

**PHOTOGRAPH KINDLY SUPPLIED BY DAVID BRADSHAW**

**CWGC CERTIFICATE INFORMATION**

**In Memory Of  
Private**

**SAMUEL RICHARDS**

**Service Number: 10518**

**1st Bn., Leicestershire Regiment who died on 10  
June 1917 Age 25**

**Son of Thomas and Harriett Richards, of 150, Church Lane,  
Whitwick, Leicester.**

**I ONLY YIELD THEE WHAT IS THINE THY WILL BE DONE**

**Remembered with Honour**

**BETHUNE TOWN CEMETERY**

**VI. F. 1.**



**COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE  
COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION**

## BIOGRAPHY AND MILITARY SERVICE

Samuel Richards was the son of Thomas and Harriet (nee., Edwards) Richards and was born in Osgathorpe on the 1st of January 1892. The date of his birth meant that he wasn't shown on the 1891 census. In the 1891 census his father and mother are both aged 27. Thomas was a coal miner and was born in Worthington and Harriet was born in Copt Oak. Their three children at that time were Lillian (aged 6), Frederick W (3) and Rose H (10mths), all born in Osgathorpe. There were no Richards shown in the 1881 census, so Thomas and Harriet came to live in Osgathorpe some time between 1881 and 1891 but were there by 1885 as Lillian (6) was born in Osgathorpe. No Richards are shown in the 1901 census so the family had moved elsewhere, probably to their home in Church Lane, Whitwick by that time.

Samuel Richards enlisted on the 29th of August 1914 at Leicester. It is thought he was living at the family home in Whitwick at the time. He would have had at least 12 months training before he embarked for Boulogne on the 29th July 1915.

*Samuel fought with the 8th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment until he was wounded in the legs during an action to take the village of Guedecourt (a commune in the Somme department in the French region Picardie), on the 28th September 1916. He was transported to England where he was hospitalised for several months.*

**Source: Michael Doyle Their Name Liveth For Evermore: The Great War Roll of Honour for Leicestershire and Rutland.**

[Continued over page](#)

### **AN EXTRACT FROM A RECORDED DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGHTING AROUND GUEDECOURT WHERE 105815 SAMUEL RICHARDS WAS WOUNDED IN THE LEGS**

Two battalions of the 110th Brigade on the left of the division, were caught by a German counter-barrage but found a gap in the defences of Bavarian Infantry Regiment 13, attacked the II Battalion from the rear and took Goat Trench. As the barrage stopped, the advance to the second objective was resumed, through well-cut wire but machine-gun fire from the right caused many casualties and stopped the advance short of Gird Trench. The forward troops were reorganised and a runner sent back to call on the reserve companies was wounded en route and the message was not delivered. **The 9th Leicester formed a defensive flank along a sunken part of "Watling Street" (the Ginchy-Gueudecourt road) on the right flank. A small number of troops of the 8th Leicester, who had got into Gird Trench held on and gained touch with the 165th Brigade of the 55th Division, which had taken Gird Trench in its area early in the afternoon.** Disorganisation along the 21st Division front and the great number of casualties among message runners, prevented the divisional headquarters from realising the situation and erroneous reports from observers convinced the headquarters that Gueudecourt had fallen. The British then gained a foothold in a sunken road between Gird Trench and Gueudecourt at 2:40 p.m.



**Biscuit Trench east of Flers, near Guedecourt,**

**Continued from previous page**

**105185 PRIVATE SAMUEL RICHARDS RE - POSTED TO FRANCE  
FOLLOWING HIS RECOVERY IN THE UK**

*Once he recovered sufficiently he was reposted to France on the 17th March 1917 where he joined the 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment in the Loos sector. Samuel was wounded in early June and was stretchered to the 33rd Casualty Clearing Station where he succumbed to his wounds.*

**Source: Michael Doyle Their Name Liveth For Evermore: The Great War Roll of Honour for Leicestershire and Rutland.**

**Coalville Times article - Friday June 29th, 1917**

Mr and Mrs Thomas Richards, of 150, Church Lane, Whitwick, have been notified by the War Office that their son, Pte. Samuel Richards, of the Leicestershire Regiment, died on June 10th from wounds received in action in France two days earlier. He was a single man, 25 years of age, and before the war worked at the Whitwick Colliery, where his father is employed. He joined up in August, 1914, and had been previously twice wounded, returning to the Front the last time in March last. He was an old boy of the Whitwick Church School.

His death was also reported in the **Leicester Daily Mercury - Tuesday 10 July 1917**

## MEMORIAL - ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCHYARD



# GRAVE REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.

1843-19.

Army Form W3372.

## GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

SECTION FIRSTA RMY

REPORT No. 1.

SCHEDULE No. 1203.

Commune:- BETHUNE.

PLACE BURIAL

BETHUNE TOWN CEMETERY.

Map ref:- Sheet 44b.E.5.central.

Land belongs to

The following are buried here:-

D. G. R. & L.  
\* 12 MAR 1920 \*

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or Despatched	Map Reference ROW & Grave No.
<b>P L O T 6.</b>						
1/K. Shrops L.I.	21546	MAYCOCK	Pte. J.	30-5-17	All	E.65
11/Leicesters	23561	SOX	Pte. F. J.	31-5-17	crosses	E.66
11/Leicesters	23310	BOSWELL	Pte. W.	1-6-17	erected	E.67
1/K. Shrops L.I.	26800	HARDING	Pte. J.	31-5-17		E.68
11/Essex	11137	SQUIRE	L/Cpl. F. J.	5-6-17		E.69
11/Essec	33969	MARYON	Pte. C. M.	4-6-17		E.70
2/Yorks & Lancs	3/21511	BOND	Sgt. C.	5-6-17		E.71
11/Essex	35803	EMBERSON	Pte. H.	5-6-17		E.72
2/10 Manchesters	37760	GILDER	Pte. A.	7-6-17		E.73
1/East Kents	17795	SMITH	Pte. H.	8-6-17		E.74
1/East Kents	7851	PORT	Sgt. C. W.	8-6-17		E.75
11/Essex	24157	WHITE	L/Cpl. W. J.	9-6-17		E.76
2/5th Manchesters	20082	DOWEY	Cpl. W.	9-6-17		E.77
2/5 East Lancs	24083	BOYLE	Pte. M.	9-6-17		E.78
1/Leicesters	10518	RICHARDS	Pte. S.	10-6-17		F.1
2/4th E. Lancs	20221	HACKLING	Pte. L.	"		F.2
111/Bty., R.F.A.	8170	CAMPBELL	Dvr. M.	11-6-17		F.3
330/Bde., R.F.A.	52719	TURNER	Bdr. H. K. J.	"		F.4
3/Bedfords	16686	CROOT	Cpl. E. G.	13-6-17		F.5
2/6 Lancs Fus	24298	SUTHERLAND	Pte. J. A.	"		F.6
2/6 Lancs Fus	24193	LEES	L/Cpl. T.	"		F.7
2/6 Lancs Fus	24075	TAYLOR	L/Cpl. W.	"		F.8

(6 31 5) W3219-M901 20,000 10/18 HWV(P729) Forms/W3372/1  
13999-M1492 25,000 1/17

ENTERED.

SLIPS CHECKED ES 27/11/20



RENNIE, Pte. Norman, 4248. 4th Bn. Black Watch. Died of wounds 5th Aug., 1916. Age 20. Son of John Blair Rennie, of 29, St. James Rd., Forfar. V. G. 94.

RENNIE, Pte. Tommis-Newell, 203320. 1st/4th Bn. Duke of Wellington's Regt. Died of wounds 27th June, 1917. Age 25. Son of Arthur and Rose Hannah Rennie, of 2, Lower Thomas St., Manchester Rd., Bradford, Yorks. VI. F. 28.

REVILL, Lce. Cpl. J. W., 108670. 104th Field Coy. Royal Engineers. 9th April, 1917. VI. C. 80.

REYNOLDS, Capt. John James. 1st Bn. The Cameronians (Sco. Rif.). Died of wounds 31st Dec., 1915. Age 40. Husband of E. W. Reynolds, of 116, Dundrennan Rd., Langside, Glasgow. II. L. 8.

REYNOLDS, Pte. W., 106703. 138th Coy. Machine Gun Corps. Died of wounds 22nd Oct., 1917. Age 19. Son of Mr. G. B. Reynolds, of Station Rd., Oxted, Surrey. VI. G. 74.

RIBBINS, Pte. G., 17429. 2nd Bn. Grenadier Guards. 5th March, 1915. IV. A. 40.

RICE, Gnr. S., 62146. "X" Bty. (2nd Indian Cav. Div.) Royal Horse Artillery. 14th May, 1915. Age 26. Son of William Henry and Bessie Rice, of Chelmsford. III. C. 61.

RICH, Lt. Cyril Sherston. 164th Bde. Royal Field Artillery. Killed in action 7th Aug., 1916. Age 22. Son of Lt. Col. C. C. Rich, (late R.H.A.), and Frances, his wife, of St. George's Hotel, West Bolton Gardens, Earl's Court, London. III. K. 39.

RICH, Lce. Cpl. G. E., G/12959. 1st Bn. The Buffs. Died of wounds 25th June, 1917. Age 20. Son of Henry William and Amy Rich, of 69, Cranworth Rd., Worthing. VI. F. 20.

RICHARDS, Lce. Cpl. Frederick, 19762. 8th Bn. Bedfordshire Regt. Died of wounds 28th April, 1917. Age 24. Son of Frederick and Alice Richards, of 11, Garden Row, London Rd., Southwark, London. VI. E. 12.

RICHARDS, Pte. Harry Victor, G/4578. 6th Bn. The Buffs. 13th March, 1916. Age 18. Son of Tom and Margaret Sarah Richards, of 7, Theatre St., Hythe, Kent. V. B. 23.

RICHARDS, Pte. Henry, 303. 2nd Bn. Manchester Regt. 19th Oct., 1914. Husband of Mary Jane Richards, of 31, High St., Kirkcudbright. I. C. 19.

RICHARDS, Pte. Samuel, 10518. 1st Bn. Leicestershire Regt. Died of wounds 10th June, 1917. Age 25. Son of Thomas and Harriett Richards, of 150, Church Lane, Whitwick, Leicester. VI. F. 1.

RICHARDS. Serjt. William Rees, 25144. 17th Bn. Welch Regt. 31st July, 1916. Brother-in-law of Mr. W. H. Middle, of 19, Wern St., Clydach Vale, Blaenclydach (Rhondda), Glam. V. G. 72.

RICHARDSON, Pte. Ernest, 14253. 1st Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. 6th July, 1916. Age 23. Son of Mr. Leeds Richardson, of 8, St. Martin's St., Millfield, Peterborough. V. F. 61.

RICHARDSON, Pte. Frederick John, 9104. 3rd Bn. Coldstream Guards. Died of wounds 16th March, 1915. Age 24. Son of Thomas and Fanny Richardson, of Park Farm, Hellingly, Sussex. IV. A. 74.

RICHARDSON, Rfn. G. W., P/978. 16th Bn. The Rifle Brigade. 13th July, 1916. Age 32. Husband of E. Richardson, of 114, Weedington Rd., Kentish Town, London. V. F. 85.

RICHARDSON, 2nd Lt. Harold Stuart (Jack). 11th Bn. Leicestershire Regt. 24th April, 1917. Age 31. Son of Mrs. E. S. Richardson, of 27, Hartington St., Derby, and the late Mr. J. H. Richardson, (Chartered Accountant). III. J. 2.

RICHARDSON, Lce. Cpl. Harry, G/1262. 6th Bn. The Buffs. 3rd Jan., 1916. Age 26. Son of William Charles and Julia Anne Richardson, of London. IV. G. 77.

RICHARDSON, Pte. John William, 10904. 3rd Bn. Coldstream Guards. 11th Feb., 1915. Son of Mary P. Richardson, of 47, The Banks, Dunchurch, Rugby. IV. A. 11.

RICHARDSON, Pte. J., 28681. 7th Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 6th April, 1916. III. G. 32.

RICHARDSON, Cpl. William Charles, 11836. 1st Bn. The King's Liverpool Regt. Died of wounds, received at Festubert, 22nd Jan., 1916. Age 23. Son of George Henry and Elizabeth Richardson, of 29, Exmouth Rd., Walthamstow, London. Native of Saffron Walden, Essex. IV. H. 50.

RICHMOND, Pte. Algernon Percy, 409. 6th Bn. Royal West Kent Regt. Died of wounds 16th March, 1916. Age 38. Husband of Marguerite Emma Amelia Richmond, of 9, Scoles Green, Norwich. V. B. 47.

INDEX No. Fr. 80  
BETHUNE  
TOWN CEM.  
FRANCE  
PART II. M—Z

No. of Contract ..... dated  
 Name and address of Firm

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

SCHEDULE "B" PAGE 14

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT B HEADSTONE PERSONAL INSCRIPTIONS  
 to be read in conjunction with  
 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT A HEADSTONE MILITARY INSCRIPTIONS  
 together with  
 TWO STANDARD LAYOUTS (the layouts to be used  
 are quoted on the badge design)

NAME OF CEMETERY  
 BETHUNGS TOWN CEM. "B".

Badge sign No. and Layout (1)	Head- stone (2)	Line 1 (3)	TEXT Line 2 (4)	Line 3 (5)	Line 4 (6)	No. of Letters in text (7)
1035/1E	2761	A DAILY THOUGHT	& EVERLASTING SORROW	FROM MOTHER & FATHER	SISTERS & BROS.	60
	2762	(Mrs. M.J. Cox. 94, Upper Charnwood Street, Leicester).				14-6
1055/1B	2763	THY WILL BE DONE				13
		(Mrs. Frances Harding, The Stables, Tiverton, Tarporely, Ches.)				3-9
1018/1D	2764	YOUNGEST SON OF	DR. E.H. SQUIRE	WIVENHOE, ESSEX		36
		(Dr. Edward Herbert Squire, Wivenhoe, Essex.)				10-6
	2765					
1070/1D	2766	AND SO SHALL WE EVER BE	WITH THE LORD	THE TIME IS SHORT		43
		(Mr. Chas. Bond, 13, Augustus Road, Hammersmith, London, W.6.)				12-6
1018/1E	2767	FORGET HIM	NO WE NEVER WILL	WE LOVED HIM HERE	<u>WE LOVE HIM STILL</u>	50
		(Mrs. P. Moore. Chapel Row, Woodham Ferrers, Essex.)				14-7
1039/1D	2768	REMEMBRANCE OF HIS LIFE	IS THE SWEETEST OF THOUGHTS	HIS LOVING WIFE		56
		(Mrs. Martha Gildea, 5, Wansford St. Lloyd St. South, Moss Side, Manchester.)				16-4
	2769	(Mrs. L. Smith. 17 Orville Road, Battersea, S.W.11.)				
1027/1C	2770	SO SADLY MISSED BY	WIFE AND CHILDREN			30
		(Mrs. A.S. Port, 63, Penfold Road, Folkestone.)				8-9
1018/1C	2771	HE LIVED & DIED FOR US	WHAT GREATER LOVE THAN THIS			40
		(Mrs. M. A. White, 84, Wenlock Street, New North Road, N.1.)				11-8
1039/1B	2772	THY WILL BE DONE				13
		(Mrs. Dowey, 21, Burnaby Street, Bolton, Lancs.)				3-9
	2773					
1035/1D	2774	I ONLY YIELD THEE	WHAT IS THINE	THY WILL BE DONE		38
		(Mrs. Harriett Richards, 150, Church Lane, Whitwich, Leicester).				11-1
1031/1B	2775	<i>worthy of everlasting love</i> (Mrs. Starking 356 Bolton Rd, Ennals, Blackburn)				6-8
	2776					23
		(Mr. A. Carnigie, 69, Barlock Street, Forthpark, Glasgow.)				
1186/2B	2777	EVER REMEMBERED				14
		(Mrs. L.C. Arkell, 37, Olive Road, Plaistow, M.13.)				4-1
	2778					
		(Mr. Croot, Waresley, Nr. Sandy, Beds.)				
	2779					
		(Mrs. M.A. Sutherland, 202, Radnor Street, Hulme, Manchester.)				
1030/2B	2780	DEEPLY REGRETTED				15
		(Mrs. Lomax, 58, Hereford Road, Bolton, Lancs.)				4-4

6-6-6 431

$\frac{1}{2}$  20 5  
 Dec 13

No. of Contract.....dated.....

Name and address of Firm

FEDERAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

SCHEDULE "F" PAGE 11.

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT (A) OF HEADSTONE DESCRIPTIONS

NAME OF CEMETERY:-

to this report is attached  
COMPREHENSIVE REPORT (B) HEADSTONE TEXTS  
(those headstones to be inscribed with texts are underlined)

BETHUNE TOWN CEMETERY "F"  
to be stencilled on foot of headstones below ground level abbreviated thus:-

and  
TWO STANDARD LAYOUTS (the layouts to be used are quoted on the badge design.)

BETH. T.C.

Badge Design No. and Layout (1)	1st line (2)	2nd line (3)	3rd line (4)	4th line (5)	Centre of Stone (6)	To be stencilled on foot of Headstone below ground level (7) (8)	
	Number and Rank	Initials NAME and Honours	Regiment	DATE	RELIG: EMBLEM	PLOT-P ROW OR GRAVE-G Stone P. R. G.	No. of Stone
1007/2A	27571 PRIVATE	H.H. ROBERTS	BEDFORDSHIRE REGIMENT	3RD MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 56	2751 ✓
1007/1C	32135 PRIVATE	J. NICHOL	DURHAM LIGHT INFANTRY	23RD MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 57	2752 ✓
1255/1B	761331 RIFLEMAN	RICHARD PERCY GARDNER	ARTISTS' RIFLES	24TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 58	2753 ✓
1039/1C	250533 LANCE CPL.	A.E. HALL	MANCHESTER REGIMENT	26TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 59	2754 ✓
1031/1A	202335 PRIVATE	A. GRIFFITHS	EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT	27TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 60	2755 ✓
1045/1C	12191 PRIVATE	S. TAYLOR	NOTES & DERBY REGIMENT	28TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 61	2756 ✓
1190/D	113321 CORPORAL	R. BAIRD BAIRD	ROYAL ENGINEERS	30TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 62	2757 ✓
1055/1C	15058 PRIVATE	W. BEECH	KING'S SHROPSHIRE L.I.	30TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 63	2758 ✓
1039/1C	276813 CORPORAL	H. KNOTT	MANCHESTER REGIMENT	30TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 64	2759 ✓
1055/1C	24546 PRIVATE	J. MAYCOCK	KING'S SHROPSHIRE L.I.	30TH MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 65	2760 ✓
1035/1B	23561 PRIVATE	F.J. COX W.	LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT	31ST MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 66	2761 ✓
1035/1A	23310 PRIVATE	W. BOSWELL	LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT	1ST JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 67	2762 ✓
1065/1B	26800 PRIVATE	J. HARDING	KING'S SHROPSHIRE L.I.	31ST MAY 1917	CROSS	6 E 68	2763 ✓
1018/1D	11137 LANCE CPL.	F.J.C. SQUIRE	ESSEX REGIMENT	4TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 69	2764 ✓
1018/1A	35969 PRIVATE	C.M. MARYON	ESSEX REGIMENT	4TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 70	2765 ✓
1070/D	3/21511 SERJEANT	COLIN STEPPEN BOND MM.	YORK & LANCASTER REGT.	4TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 71	2766 ✓
1018/1B	35802 25602 PRIVATE	H. EMBERSON	ESSEX REGIMENT	5TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 72	2767 ✓
1039/1D	377607 PRIVATE	ROBERT AUSTIN GILDEA	MANCHESTER REGIMENT	7TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 73	2768 ✓
1027/1A	G/17795 PRIVATE	H. SMITH	E. KENT REGT. (THE BUFFS)	8TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 74	2769 ✓
1027/1C	I/7851 SERJEANT	C.W. PORT C.V. PORT	E. KENT REGT. (THE BUFFS)	8TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 75	2770 ✓
1018/1C	24157 LANCE CPL.	J.W.F. WHITE	ESSEX REGIMENT	9TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 76	2771 ✓
1039/1B	200820 CORPORAL	W. DOWEY	MANCHESTER REGIMENT	9TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 77	2772 ✓
1031/1A	240837 240837 PRIVATE	M. BOYLE	EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT	9TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 E 78	2773 ✓
1055/1D	10518 PRIVATE	SAMUEL RICHARDS	LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT	10TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 F 1	2774 ✓
1031/1B	202219 PRIVATE	L. HACKING HACKING	EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT	11TH JUNE 1917	CROSS	6 F 2	2775 ✓

Stone 2752  
Stone 2754  
Stone 2773  
Stone 2766