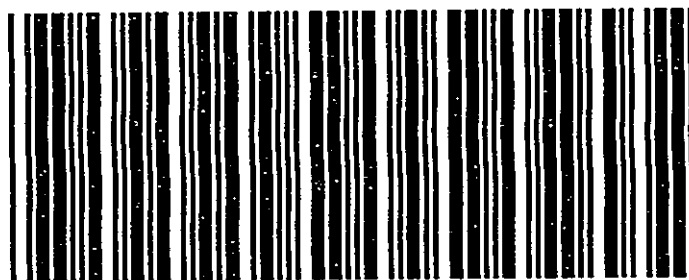


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**9979 Corporal  
William Richards**

**4th Divisional Ammunition  
Column**



2290202H

A.I.F. 4th D.A.C.

RICHARDS.  
T/cpl.W.9979.

Died: of Wounds. 12.10.17.

(51) Buried British Cemetery Gdewaersvelde, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles S.W. of Poperinghe.  
Cert: by A.I.F. Hdqrs List for Capt. Spedding.

London.  
1-7-19.

S.

4th D.A.C.  
A.F.A.

Richards.  
W. 9979

"Died of Wounds 12.10.17"

Driver D.Lucas Bo.1 Sect.4th D.A.C. can tell all about W.Richards in the D.A.C.

Informant's name not noted.

W.Alison.

London.

28.2.18.

Note Written Lucas 26.2.18.

S.

4th D.A.C.  
A.F.A

RICHARDS,  
W. 9979

"Died of Wounds 12.10.17."

Cpl. Richards, in charge of 20 gunners went up to Salvage an ammunition limber which had got stuck in a shell hole at Chateau Wood, Ypres. Cpl. O'Neill went with him. They got up there and tried to get the limber out, but couldn't, and there was heavy shelling going on all the time. They came away, but went back again to have one more try, and a shell dropped among them. Cpl Richards was hit in many places, badly. They took him on an improvised stretcher, to the dressing station and he died there, at the dressing station on the Menin Road, and he was buried there. He and I and Cpl.O'Neill all belonged to No. 2 Section and I knew him well. Cpl. O'Neill has since got another stripe.

Eye-witness:- No.

Description:- Young, medium height and build, good looking, a splendid chap.

Informant:- Dvr. E.F.B Gater, 29733,  
4th D.A.C.

Home address:

A.F.A.

43. May Rd,

Horton County of London War Hospital, S.

F.Barton. Toorak

Epsom

24.1.18.

Victoria.

London. 19.2.18.

4th D.A.C.  
A.I.F.

RICHARDS.  
W. 9979.

"DIED OF WOUNDS. 12.10.17"

Was a Cpl. Called "Will" He was hit by a shell on Oct. 12th. They were trying to rescue an Ammunition limber when he was knocked. He was very badly hit, there were five or six hit by the same shell I did not see it happen, but a mate of mine.,

Bomb. Gullervitch. 4th D.A.C. France.,  
saw Richards Killed. and can give details. Richards was in charge of the party and Gullwevitch 2nd in charge.,

Informant;- Charlick. H.R. 1952.  
4th D.A.C.

W.G. J.

London.  
19.2.18.

S.

4th Div.  
Am. Col.  
A.I.F.

RICHARDS. W.  
9979.

"DIED OF WOUNDS" 12.10.17"

Richards was a Cpl. and was killed up at Ypres while taking up a party with ammunition Salvaging the limber, He was killed outright, I saw him killed and he did not live at all after, death being instantaneous. He was buried in the cemetery at Ypres just down from the Cloth Hall, Across was put up. I did not see the cross but I know the chaps who went to put it up.,

Informant;- Whyms Gdr, E. J. V. 31851.  
4. D. A. C.  
But 10.  
Westham.

W.A. Rand.,  
London.  
19.2.18.

S.

Havre

12th. March. 1918.

4th. Aus. A. Col.

Richards, W. No. 9979.

D/V. 12th. October 1917. Deta. D/B.

He came from Sydney: A single man, a clerk in an Office.  
He got hit by a gas-shell at Passchenedaele in the gun lines and  
died a few days after at a C. C. S. and was buried in a Cemetery  
at Poperinghe.

Inf:- Q/M/Sergt. Moran, No. 1414.  
4th. Aust. A. Col.  
No. 38. Amb. Train.

HBS.

4th Div. Amm. Col.  
A.I.F.

RICHARDS  
W. 9979

"Died of Wounds 12-10-17"

Was A Cpl. He was killed at Ypres during the stunt on Oct. 12th while taking Amm. up to the Btty. I did not see it happen but, Cpl. O'Neill No. 2 Sect., 4th D.A.C., France, buried him, and can give all details regarding his death and burial.

Informant. Murphy F.

A.M.C.,

HAREFIELD.

W.G.J.  
London  
18-3-18

S.

Note:-

Written Cpl. O'Neill 16-3-18

4th D.A.C.  
A.I.F.

RICHARDS,  
W., 9979

"Died of Wounds 12.10.17."

Re 9979 W. Richards, it is quite right that he died of wounds received in action at Ypres in Oct. 1917. He was buried in a Soldiers' Cemetery at Godewaarsveld. As to a description of him there are three of us here who have known him all his life, having come from the same town, and we have erected a cross on his grave so there is no doubt.

Letter from: -340, D.I. McLean, 340,  
312, E.M. Lucor,  
287, D. Alsopp  
3.3.18.

London:  
19.3.18.

S.

Ans. Arm. Col. 4.

Richards, W. 9979.

D/W. Oct. 12/17. Det. D/B.

He was up with a small party when he was killed by a shell. I was not there. The boys told me that they buried him in a field cemetery at the Buffs, towards Shrapnel Corner, near Dickebusch: I have not seen the grave. Sergt. Rewell (has a very small number) of No 2 sec. 4 D A C, was wounded at the same time and could give particulars. He has had 2 or 3 operations and is still in Hospital in England. Richards was in No 2 sec.

Inf: - Kerrigan, Dvr. 3550. 2 sec.

A T 'Stad Antwerpen'

Calais. 23 3 18.

CR

S.  
C<sup>d</sup> 5-66



4th Divisional Artillery  
4th D.A.C. late 1st F.A.B.

RICHARDS, W.  
Tem. Cpl. 9979

DIED OF WOUNDS 12/10/17.

Informant described Richards as about 5ft 7 or 8 inches high, medium build, medium complexion, aged about 25 or 26.

Informant states that Richards was in the 2nd Section of the 4th D.A.C. he being in the 1st Section. On or about 10/10/17 the 4th D.A.C. was just outside Ypres. Richards went up on the Menin Road to Hell Fire corner to salvage a waggon. They were getting the waggon out when a shell burst amongst them killing four and wounding two of the party. Informant saw the explosion and being just behind at the time went over to the scene of the explosion. He found Richards to be unconscious. Four of the lads picked him up and took him to the Dressing Station about 100 yards away. He was left there and died in the hospital Clearing Station two days afterwards. He was buried at Castre, Belgium, this information being given to Informant by some of the boys who went down to Castre. Informant added that Richards was well liked by his mates.

Informant: Bilbe, T.J. Driver. No.2716

1st Section. 4th D.A.C.

No.21 Australian Auxiliary Hospital Sydney.

Home address: 4 Bruce Street, Rozelle.

W.E.G.  
21.5.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

*Ged  
b  
suff*

25-2-18

GC

E

D. D. Lucas

Lo. Section

4<sup>th</sup> D. A. C.

A. J. L.

Abroad

alt

1919

W. D. Richards.

4 DAE

AFA

O/W 12-10-17

EW  
26-2-8

(16.3.18)

Cpl O. Neill

no 2 Section

4<sup>th</sup> D. G. Column a. 1.7.  
Abroad

abt.

9979 Cpl W. Richards

4<sup>th</sup> D. G. C. a. 1.7.

D/W. 12. 10. 17.

16.3.18.  
a. 1.13.

Norfolk War Hospital  
AUSTRALIAN 24<sup>th</sup> Ward  
+  
RED CROSS.  
Norwich

June 29 1917

RECEIVED

29 JUN. 1917

CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE

C.B.C.S.

I would be very  
much obliged if you could give  
me any information of my  
Nephew Lt. W. Richard B. Bay  
24<sup>th</sup> Bat A.I.F. who was reported  
killed on August 4<sup>th</sup> 1916. I should  
like to know how he was killed  
and where he was buried.

Mr. F. B. Blair Esq.

Boy and Bat A.I.F.

His address will always find him.

28 Belmont St.

West Green

South Tottenham London

ack PE  
7/3/18

9979 W. RICHARDS

C

4. D.A.C.

8/11/12-10-17

4M D.A.C.

AFA

3

3<sup>rd</sup> March 1918

Australian Red Cross Society  
London

Dear Sir

In reply to yours  
of 26<sup>th</sup> Oct. Vre No 9979 W Richards  
it is quite right that he  
died of wounds received  
in action at Ypres in  
Oct. 1917.

He was buried in a Soldier's  
Cemetery at Tidewasveld.

As to a description of him  
there are three of us here  
who have known him all  
his life having come from  
the same town & we have  
erected a cross on his  
grave so there is no doubt  
we are

Yours truly

Geo. H. M. Leach. 312 E. M. Lane  
287 E. Alsop