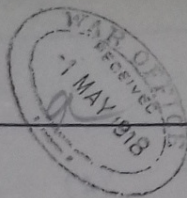


First World War Service Record of Raymond Driver Richardson

The following is from the National Archives Ref: WO 339/137979

P.N.O.
Register No.



Minute Sheet No.

2nd Lieutenant R.D. Richardson,
4th Grenadier Guards.

330/9
Feb 27/4

Wounded 21. 4. 18.

"DIED OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION"
26th April, 1918.

Next of Kin:-

Mrs. S. Richardson, (Mother)
Thornholme,
Sunderland.

W. Hood Jones
W

M.S.3. (Cas:)
30.4.18.

(1)

L51 & Circulate

a.
11/5.

10
5.



SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve).

Card No.

Group A

67

No. 42695 Name R. D. Richardson Corps Royal Fusiliers.

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name? ... 1. Raymond Drive Richardson
2. What is your full Address? ... 2. Sunderland
3. Are you a British Subject? ... 3. Yes
4. What is your Age? ... 4. 18 Years 2 Months
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... 5. Student
6. Are you Married? ... 6. No
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, which? ... 7. Yes - Marine Corps O.T.C.
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... 8. Yes
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... 9. Yes
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... 10. Yes { Name R. D. Richardson
Corps Royal Fusiliers
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?
For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th Oct., 1913, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. ... 11. Yes

I, Raymond Drive Richardson do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

R. D. Richardson

SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

R. D. Richardson

Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Raymond Drive Richardson swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at Sunderland on this 14 day of May 1916.

Signature of the Justice

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the Royal Fusiliers.

If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date 5 8 1916Place Sunderland

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
‡ Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name) on the (Date)

To be used (a) for recruits enlisting direct into the Regular Army and (b) for men of the Territorial Force when they are admitted to Hospital.
Army Form B. 178^a to be used for Special Reserve recruits and Special Reservists enlisting into the Regular Army.

MEDICAL HISTORY of

Surname Richardson Christian Name Raymond Driver

TABLE I.—GENERAL TABLE.

Birthplace ... Parish Chirchchurch County Sunderland

Examined... { on 12th day of June 1916
at Public Hall Worcester

Declared Age ... 18 years 4 months

Trade or occupation ... Student

Height ... 6 feet 0¹/₄ inches.

Weight ... 154 lbs.

Chest { Girth when fully expanded 37¹/₂ inches.
Measurement { Range of Expansion 5 inches.

Physical Development ... Sons

Vaccination { Arm ... Right Left
Marks { Number ... 2

When Vaccinated ...

Vision ... { R.E.—V—6⁶/₆
L.E.—V—6⁶/₆

(a) Marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease ... { (a) Abused

(b) Slight defects but not sufficient to cause rejection ... { (b) As a soldier service

Approved by (Signature) [Signature] Jac. W. [Signature]
(Rank) Capt. [Signature]
Medical Officer.

Enlisted ... { at
on ... day of 191 ...

Joined on Enlistment ... { Corps. 42695
Transferred to ... {

Became non-effective by
on ... day of 191 ...

(Signature)
(Rank)

HEADQUARTERS,
HEAVY BRANCH, MACHINE GUN CORPS,
80, Cockspur Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

O/412.

Second Lieutenant R.D.Richardson, "I" Battalion,
Machine Gun Corps (Heavy), was appointed a Temporary
Second Lieutenant in this Corps on December 2nd. 1916.

This Officer is very anxious to be transferred
as a Special Reserve Officer to the Grenadier Guards,
as he is contemplating making the Army his profession,
and wishes to join the Grenadier Guards at the
earliest possible moment.

This Officer did not originally apply for the
Grenadier Guards on account of financial difficulties,
but these have since been removed.

Can this Officer be granted a transfer, please.

12/5/1917.
C.W.

J. Glasgow
Brigadier General,
Commanding Machine Gun Corps (H.B.)T.C.

Application for Admission to an Officer Cadet Unit with a view to appointment to a Temporary Commission in the Regular Army for the period of the War, to a Commission in the Special Reserve of Officers or to a Commission in the Territorial Force.

The candidate will complete the following particulars and obtain certificates below as to character and educational qualification.

1. Name in full { Surname. Christian names.	Richardson Raymond Driver ✓
2. State whether desirous of appointment to— (i) A temporary commission in the Regular Army. (ii) A commission in the Special Reserve of Officers. (iii) A commission in the Territorial Force.	a temporary commission in the Regular army ✓
3. State in order of preference the branch of the Service in which desirous of serving e.g., Cavalry, Artillery, Engineers, Infantry, Army Service Corps, etc. NOTE.—Unless otherwise stated it will be assumed that a candidate is prepared to accept a commission in any branch of the Service.	Engineers Infantry ✓
4. Unit (if any) to which desirous of being appointed. (If for the Army Service Corps state whether for Motor Transport, Horse Transport, or Supply.) NOTE.—No guarantee can be given for appointment to a particular unit.	a unit in the northern command near London or at Cambridge
5. Date and place of birth.	Feb. 17 th 1898 at Sunderland
6. Whether married.	no 18/5/12
7. Whether of pure European descent.	yes
8. Whether a British subject by birth or naturalization. (State which, and if by naturalization attach a certificate from the Home Office.)	By birth
9. Nationality by birth of father (if naturalized, state date.)	British
10. Occupation of father.	Gentleman
11. Permanent address of candidate.	Thorholme Sunderland
12. Present address for correspondence.	4 College grounds Mahren
13. Schools or Colleges at which educated.	Bilton Grange in Rugby and at Mahren Col
14. Occupation or employment in civil life.	student
15. Whether able to ride.	no
16. Whether now serving, or previously served, in any branch of His Majesty's Naval or Military Forces, or in the Officers Training Corps. If so, state:— (a) Regiment, Corps, or Contingent ... (b) Date of appointment ... (c) If serving in the ranks state whether on an ordinary peace engagement or for the period of the war only ... (d) Rank ... (e) Date of retirement, resignation or discharge ... (f) Circumstances of retirement, resignation or discharge ... (g) Whether in possession of Certificate A. ... (h) Whether in possession of Certificate B. ...	Mahren College O.T.C. Jan, 1912. Sergeant July 1916 the school. no no 600-29/7/11

17. Whether now serving, or previously served, in any other Government Department (Home, Indian, or Colonial). If so, give particulars, and attach official permission from the Head of the Department to make this application.

no

18. Whether an application for a commission has been previously made, if so, on what date and for what branch of the service.

no

(i.) I certify that the above particulars are correct and complete. I request that I may be admitted to an Officer Cadet Unit with a view to being appointed to a commission as stated in (2) above.

I understand that I shall be held liable for service in the ranks if I fail to qualify for final recommendation for a commission.

R.D. Richardson

Date June 5th

Usual Signature of Candidate.

Signature of parent or guardian, if the candidate is under 21 years of age

Stanif Richardson

(ii.) Certificate of moral character during the past four years. If the candidate has been at school, college, or other educational establishment during any portion of the period the certificate should be signed by the head of the establishment, otherwise it may be signed by a responsible person (not a near relative or connection), e.g., the minister of the parish or other local clergyman, a magistrate, a senior officer of the Army or Navy who has been well acquainted with the candidate in private life during the period.

If the above-mentioned person cannot certify for the whole period of four years, a second certificate for the period not covered by the first should be signed by a similar person.

I hereby certify to the good moral character of Reginald Davis Richardson
for the last four years.

Signature Harry Hammond Hume, M.A.

†Rank, office or occupation Hume Master in Haverham College

Date June 5, 1916 Address 4 New College, Haverham.

To be filled in
when the above
certificate does
not cover four
years.

I hereby certify to the good moral character of

from to

Signature

†Rank, office or occupation

Date Address

iii.) Evidence that the candidate has attained a standard of education suitable for commissioned rank
If the candidate has:—

(a) obtained a leaving or qualifying certificate as required of a candidate for admission to the Royal Military College under the regulations in force up to 1st April, 1912, the Certificate should be attached;

(b) qualified at an Army Entrance Examination, the date of examination should be stated;

(c) passed the matriculation examination of a University, or a test accepted in lieu thereof the Certificate should be attached.

Failing one of the above, the following certificate must be signed by the Headmaster of secondary school or other competent educational authority.

I certify from personal knowledge that
standard of education suitable for commissioned rank.

R.D. Richardson

has attained

Rank 5, Haverham, M.A.

State here educational position, e.g.,
Head of a College or School, etc.

Headmaster of Haverham

†Here state whether Tutor, Head of School or College, Minister of Parish or other local clergyman, or Magistrate, &c.

1/K
Thornholme,

? done
from
Sunderland.

3rd May, 1918.

Dear Sir,

re 2nd/Lieutenant R.D. Richardson, Deceased
4th Battalion, Grenadier Guards.

As Brother, and one of the next of kin of the above-mentioned deceased who died in France on the 26th ultimo, I desire to ask you to be kind enough to make some inquiries on my behalf.

So far as I am aware, the sole Testamentary Disposition left by the Deceased is contained upon a half-sheet of note-paper which he forwarded from France some two months ago. I am advised by my solicitor that this half-sheet of note-paper is a valid Testamentary Disposition of a soldier on Active Service, and must be proved as a Will in the Probate Division of the High Court, but I am further advised that it will be unsafe to proceed to act upon this disposition without having searching inquiries made as to whether any further will, either verbal or otherwise, is in existence.

The deceased was wounded on the 20th April last and was reported as having been admitted to the 15th Casualty Clearing Station upon that date. A letter from the Chaplain shewed that on the Wednesday, the 24th ultimo, he was still there but since then we have no information, other than the Official War Office telegram announcing his death. We are consequently uncertain as to whether he actually died at the Casualty Clearing Station.

Your Department, however, will have the necessary information, and I shall be glad if you will have inquiries instituted, either at the Clearing Station or elsewhere with a view to ascertaining whether any further Will or instructions were left by the Deceased, or whether any verbal communication was made to any Chaplain, Doctor, Nurse or any other person connected with the Hospital.

I would further be obliged if you would inform me steps I should take to recover the Deceased's Kit and arrears of pay due to him.

I would like to mention that so far we have no information regarding the circumstances under which the deceased died, etc., and I would be very glad of any further information in order that I may pass the information on to his

kind reply will be esteemed.
Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) S.P. Richardson.

S.3.Cas./518.A.

Copy
10th May, 1918.

The Military Secretary presents his compliments to Mr. Richardson, and, in reply to his letter of the 3rd instant begs to inform him that no details respecting the death of Second Lieutenant R. D. Richardson, 4th Grenadier Guards, have been received at the War Office, the names of Officers who have been killed in action being only rendered on a list sent to the War Office by the Base or General Headquarters in the Field.

The Military Secretary begs to suggest that Mr. Richardson should write to:-

The Officer Commanding
15th Casualty Clearing Station,
France,

who is the only person in a position to furnish the information desired, and who, when he can find time, would, it is felt sure, be only too glad to supply any details in his possession.

The portion of Mr. Richardson's letter dealing with the late Second Lieutenant Richardson's personal effects, which is being dealt with by the Departments concerned.

The Military Secretary is desired by the Secretary of State for War to express his deepest sympathy with Mr. Richardson in the loss of his gallant brother.

S. P. Richardson, Esq.,
Thornholme,
Sunderland.

R

8. Produced by

9. Returned to

5345
59 9th Street
Sunderland

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix 028 4 18 Code (Inland Official) No. of Telegram 90362

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words. Sent

O. H. M. S. M.S.3. CAS. At M. W.O. To By (Signature) E. C. Davies

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof Dated Stamp.

TO { Mrs Richardson Thornholme Sunderland

Deeply regret 2nd Lt R D Richardson 4th Grenadier Guards died of wounds twenty-sixth. The Army Council express sympathy

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix 028 4 18 Code (Inland Official) No. of Telegram 90355

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words. Sent

O. H. M. S. M.S.3. CAS. At M. W.O. To By (Signature) C. J. Red

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof Dated Stamp.

TO { Mrs Richardson Thornholme Sunderland

2nd Lt R D Richardson 4th Grenadier Guards admitted 15th Casualty Clearing Station. Dangerous ill gunshot wound penetrating chest. Visit not possible

FROM { SECRETARY WAR OFFICE

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form

London S.W. 7.

Register No. 282071/1

Extract from

Letters of Administration (~~Will annexed~~).
~~Probate of Will~~
~~Confirmation~~

Dated 10th Sept 1918

Granted at D.P.R. Durham

~~Rescinded~~

1. Estate of Raymond Driver Richardson of Thorneholme
Sunderland Co. of Durham.

2. Date and Place of Death on 26th April 1918 in Florida D.A.S.
intestate, Bachelor without not possessed of
real estate. That Mary Anita Richardson widow
natural & lawful mother next of kin of Intestate has
renounced L. of A. of his estate

4. Grantees

Stanfield Pim Richardson natural & lawful
Brother of said intestate.

5. Gross Value £4,068 = 10 = 3

6. Disposal of Medals

" Decorations

7. Extracted by

8. Produced by

9. Returned to

Messrs Simey & Jeff.
85/86
59 John Street
Sunderland

10. Date of Registration on 27/9/18

Thornholme.

Sunderland.

9.5.18

Sir

Yours of the 2nd inst.
Raymond C. Richardson
4th Bath - Grenadier Bde -

I return the form signed
as requested - There is no
number printed on the ~~form~~^{letter}
except ("accounts 4) -

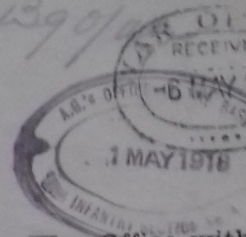
Yours faithfully
W. Anita Richardson

Thornholme

282071

FP P No.

67-259/439/4

FIELD SERVICE.

REPORT of Death of an Officer to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36 or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT 4th. Bn. Grenadier Guards. Squadron,
or CORPS } Troop, Battery
or Company }

Rank 2/ LIEUTENANT

Name RICHARDSON. R.D.

By whom reported Officer commanding, No. 15. Casualty Clearing St
Date of Death 26th. April, 1918.
DIED { Place or Hospital No. 15. Casualty Clearing Station, France.
Cause of Death Died of wounds received in Action.
Place of Burial Not known.

State whether he leaves a will or not. } Not received.

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased Officer of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

Signature of Officer in charge
of Section Adjutant-General's Office at the Base. } For Officer i/c Infantry Section, etc

GnQ., 3rd. Echelon.
Station and Date 30th. April, 1918.

