

## Albert Richens



Albert Richens was born in 1885 in Kelmscott, Oxfordshire. His father, Robert, worked on Kelmscott Farm as a groom. His mother, Jane, nee Harwood, had 11 children who all survived. Albert was the middle child and by 1901 was working, aged 15, as a ploughboy with the horses.

Albert moved to Isleworth and worked as a brewer's labourer in the Isleworth Brewery. In 1909 he was living at 11 Newton Road and he married Jessie Holloway from 54 Castle Road at St John's Church (see photo **below right** of St John's Church, which was one street away from Newton Road) on 9th February, 1909. By the 1911 census, they had moved to 35 Newton Road (see photo **below left** of the same property in 2016) and had a new born son, Albert Edward.



Presumably Albert's expertise with horses led him to join up with the Grenadier Guards and he enlisted in London as Private 23217 in the 3rd Battalion. Albert died of his wounds in the General Field Hospital in France on 12th June, 1918, aged 33.

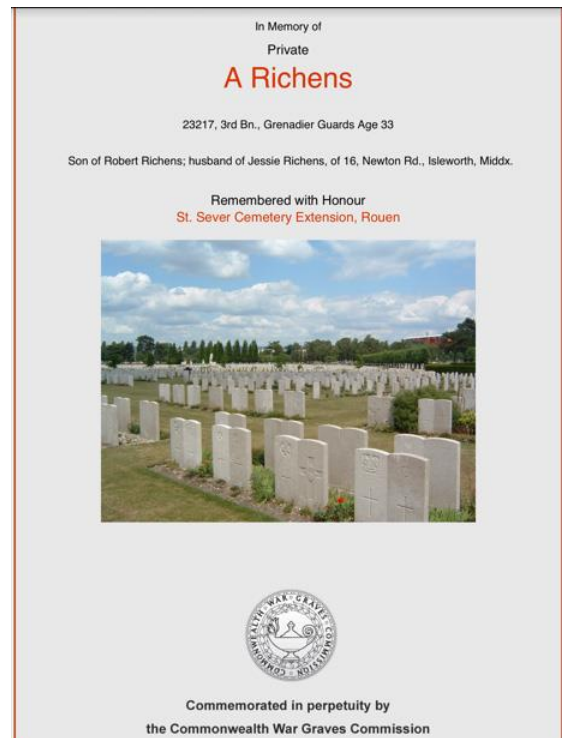


He is commemorated in the St Sever Extension Cemetery at Rouen in Section Q, Plot 111, Row G, Grave 4 as the son of Robert Richens and husband of Jessie Richens of 16 Newton Road and also on the memorial in St John's Church, Isleworth (see **left**).



Jessie never remarried and died in Ealing in March 1959, aged 77. Their son, Albert Edward married Phyllis

Hopkins in December 1936 and they had a daughter, Brenda in 1940 who married William Day in 1959 and lives locally. Tragically Albert Edward died in Italy, December 1945, a sergeant in the Royal Artillery.



*The Memorial certificate above is included with the permission of the CWGC*