



# THOMAS CHARLES RICHINGS

Army Number 17768

Gunner, Royal Field Artillery

Killed in action in France on 21 March 1918, aged 25

Exact address in Leckhampton not known

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Bay 1. He is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham

Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

Thomas Richings was born in Leckhampton and before the war was employed by his father George Richings, a market gardener in Leckhampton. Though no address was given at the time of his death, his parents and the family are known to have been living at Southville in Leckhampton Road at the time of the 1911 Census.

He signed up in the Royal Field Artillery in Cheltenham in November 1914 and went to France with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Battery of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade. In 1918 he was serving with his unit south of Arras. Gunner Richings was one of the many casualties of the German Spring offensive of 1918, whose place of death was overrun and not recaptured until the Autumn.

The Arras Memorial, which commemorates 34,785 soldiers of the forces of the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand, with no known grave, who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission

