

# Samuel John (Jack) Garfield Williams

Leading Seaman LT/X 7506C, HM Trawler Fort Royal,  
Royal Naval Reserve (Patrol Service)

Died February 9th 1940, aged 32

Commemorated Lowestoft War Memorial

Son of James and Frances Williams;

husband of Olive Jane Williams, of Mitchell, Cornwall



Jack Williams was born in Port Isaac in 1908, and in 1911 was living with his mother Frances Nena (24) and his two sisters Annie (5) and Susie (1½). The census records that father James, a mariner, was away. The family lived in Temple Bar. In 1936 he married Olive Jane Sparks.

Jack was in the Royal Naval Reserve (Patrol Service) and was on the HM Trawler Fort Royal out of Aberdeen. The Fort Royal was hired for minesweeping duties in August 1939. On February 9th 1940 the Fort Royal was in company with HM Trawler Robert Bowen on mine-sweeping duties when they were attacked by Heinkel Bombers off Aberdeen. The Robert Owen broke in half and sank with all hands, and the Fort Royal sank in minutes. These are the men lost that day off Aberdeen –

#### HM Trawler Fort Royal

Sub Lieutenant Richard Hudswell **GILL**, aged 27 (*buried Newmachar Cemetery, Aberdeenshire*)

Seaman Rupert **JOY**, aged 35

Seaman Murdo **KENNEDY**, aged 30

Lieutenant-Commander Edgar **KING**, aged 54

Stoker James **SWANN**, aged 22

Seaman-Cook Sydney Joseph **SYKES**, aged 29

Leading Seaman Samuel John Garfield **WILLIAMS**, aged 32

#### HM Trawler Robert Bowen

Assistant Cook Christopher **BATTY**, aged 20

Seaman Leslie Guildford **CHARLTON**, aged 19

Skipper Lieutenant John **CLARK**, aged 49

Seaman James Bean **COWLING**, aged 21

Able Seaman Hedworth Lambton **DIPLOCK**, aged 36

Telegraphist Ivor George **FOX**, aged 23

Stoker John Thomas **GOWEN**

Ordinary Seaman Robert Frank **HOLDEN**, aged 19

Chief Engineman Thomas **McKECHNIE**, aged 38 (*buried Buckie New Cemetery, Banffshire*)

Chief Stoker Henry Arthur **POPKIN**, aged 46

Stoker George Alexander **RITCHIE**, aged 32

Seaman Thomas Eric **ROBINSON**, aged 18

Second Hand Olley **TURRELL**, aged 30

Lieutenant Arthur Stanley **WILSON**

With no known grave, Leading Seaman Samuel John (Jack) Garfield Williams is commemorated on the Lowestoft War Memorial. He is also commemorated on the grave of his sister Annie in St Endellion Churchyard.



Memorial to Jack Williams at St Endellion Churchyard

In Memory of  
Leading Seaman

**Samuel John Garfield Williams**

LT/X 7506C, H.M. Trawler Fort Royal., Royal Naval Reserve (Patrol Service) who died on 09 February 1940  
Age 32

Son of James and Frances Williams; husband of Olive Jane Williams, of Mitchell, Cornwall.

Remembered with Honour  
Lowestoft Naval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

#### SOURCES

HM Trawler Fort Royal and Robert Bowen: [http://www.rnpsa.co.uk/memorial/memorial\\_date1.htm](http://www.rnpsa.co.uk/memorial/memorial_date1.htm)  
and <https://www.facebook.com/RN.Patrol.Service/posts/451924831544895>  
We are grateful to Warwick Provis for the information he provided