

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

**7688 Private  
Henry Simmonds  
Brown**

**34th Battalion**



0570603L

34th Batta.  
A.I.F.

BROWN.  
H.S. 7688.

"Killed in Action 8-8-16"

Villers Bretonneux in Hangar Wood. He was killed by a bit of shell killed at once - he was hit on side of the head. I was in charge of the platoon. We had to go on but next day when things were settled I came back to look for the body but Sappers had been along and buried him somewhere. I compared his number with my roll.

D.P. Dickson,  
London.  
17-10-18.  
J.E.A.

Informant:- Sgt. M. McCormack, 1190.  
W. 88. HAREFIELD.

S.

34th Batta.  
A.I.F.

BROWN  
H.S. 7688

"Killed 8-8-18"

He was in D.Coy., and in 13th Pltn., of that Coy. I saw him killed at Acroche Wood, near Corbie, when death was instantaneous. Gurney J. 7743 was killed by same shell, some pieces of which killed Brown. Casualty happened in the morning of 8-8-18 at which time we were attacking. I was very close myself at the time. I knew him fairly well, and he came from Sydney N.S.W. I cannot give any details of burial, but we held the ground, so he was sure to be buried. Refer to Sgt. McCallum, D.Coy. 34th Batta., who is now in France, for I'm sure he will know details of burials.

Informant. Renkin. Sig. W. 2867  
D.Coy. 34th Batta.,  
3rd A.A.H.,  
DARTFORD.

W. Oman  
London  
17-10-18  
J.E.A.

Note:- Written Sgt. McCallum. 15-10-18.

S.

A.I.F. 34th Batt.

BROWN  
H.S.7688

"KILLED IN ACTION"

Killed in Action 8/8/18 - details not stated.  
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs List 20/9/18.

London  
21/9/18.

S

54th Battn. A.I.F.

Brown,  
H.S. No. 7688.

Killed in Action  
8.8.18.

Of A.Coy. Early in the morning of 8th August outside Croche Wood, on right of Hamel - during our advance, he and another man had taken shelter in a Shell hole. Killed outright by shell. I saw him after, was hit all over; the other man D/W (name unknown) (Gummy) Know nothing of burial as we kept advancing. Knew him as Brownie. Came from Campsie N.S.W. I knew him in Australia.

Informant:- Pvt. W. Amos, No. 7684,  
54th Battn., C. Compy.,  
12th Platoon,  
Anzac Buffet.

A.D.G.  
London,  
31/10/18.  
J.E.A.

S.

A.I.F. 34th Battn.

BROWN H.S.  
7688

"Killed in Action 8.8.18."

Re No 7688 Pte. H.S. Brown. I am sorry I cannot give you the information required. If you write to No. 7723 Pte., J.F. Cooper, he will be able to give you the information required, as he was with Pte. Brown on the date you mention.

Letter from:- Sgt. A. McCallum,  
France.

London  
27.11.18.  
D.W.B.

S.

Note:- Written J.F. Cooper 21.11.18.

A.I.F.  
34th Bttn.  
orig. 3rd Btn.

BROWN.  
Henry Simmonds. 7688.

"KILLED in Action. 8.8.18. Det.D/B"

Buried but no place or details given.  
Cert. by Hdqrs 2.12.18.

London.  
2.12.18.

S. send on.

A.I.F. 34th Battn.

BROWN  
H.S. 7688.

"Killed in Action 8.8.18"

Re Pte. H.S. Brown. I can supply a little information as to where he was killed on the 8th August 1918. I did not know him very long, but I knew his initials were H.S. and No. 7688. He was killed beside me. He was a stout dark chap, not very tall, about 5ft. 5ins, as a rough guess, and was buried on the field with a chap named Gurney; both been killed together, and buried together.

Informant:- Pte. J.E. Cooper, 7123.  
34th Battn.

London  
10.1.19.

S.

34th BATTALION.  
late 3rd Batta.

BROWN H.S.  
Co. 7435.

"KILLED 8.8.18"

Brown was in the same platoon with me. I knew him well. He was 5 ft 6 ins in height, medium complexion, clean shaven. He was killed at Acroche Wood near Corbie on 8th August 1918. I saw him killed. He was killed by a shell outright, by the same shell that killed J. Gurney No 7743.

Brown was a very good fellow and was well liked.

Informant: W.R. Sinkin Private No. 2867.  
34th Battalion.

Private address:  
EAST MAITLAND.

Victoria Barracks. SYDNEY.  
24.3.19.  
F.E.W.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F.  
34th Bn.  
late 3rd Bn.

BROWN  
Henry Simmonds 7688

Killed in Action 8.8.18.

Re-buried Villars Bretonneux Mil. Cem. 62.D.O.17.C.4.3. Plot 20.  
Row F. Grave 2.

Cert. by Capt. Spedding's List 15.8.19. Regt. No 174.

London.  
2.10.19.

8.

WILLIAM WILSON

1914-1918

GC

To

Scryt McCallum  
F. Co  
34 Battery  
A. I. F.

Atmt

7688 Pt H. S. Brown  
34 Battery  
A. I. F.

K Aug 8/18

Written  
15.10.18

M 22



# HOSPITAL

*3/1 Southern Dudding*

Fill in  
exactly  
as List.

SURNAME.

*Costerman*

Christian Name.

*A. G.*

INFORMAT

Regtl. No.

*7032*

R

*9*

SURNAME

*Labine*

Christian Name.

*Jack E.*

GIVEN

Regtl. No.

*2638*

R

*5*

STATEMENT OF

NO. *3*

(to be taken in

In all  
cases  
state  
fully  
what  
inform-  
ant says  
he saw  
or heard  
and give  
DATE  
AND  
PLACE  
of  
occu-  
rence.

*was in the line on May 12/18 in  
Battalion, when we were relieved.  
Costerman was missing. The foot  
both legs being shattered. The  
at Dover military cemetery  
from the hedge running parallel  
cross erected there bearing*

PLEASE ALSO ANSWER

1. Was Informant  
Eye-Witness? *Yes*

2. If not, give  
of the

3. Was the ground  
held or lost? *held*

4. If Informant  
was death  
the body

5. Did Informant know Christian Name,  
Initials or No. of man enquired about? *Yes*

6. Was there  
name in

Give Informant's description of man  
enquired about—any nickname,  
marks, scars, etc. *Height about 5'6"*

3. Searcher's opinion of  
Informant's accuracy  
and intelligence *Good*



P.C.  
24/11/18

3091 Pk A McPherson  
D. Company  
3rd Battalion  
A. I. F.  
France  
20. 11. 18

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

The Officer Commanding  
Australian Red Cross  
36 Grosvenor Place  
London - S. W. 1

Dear Sir

I have just received a letter  
from a friend of mine in Australia  
She tells me of a great friend of hers  
that was killed on the Eight of August  
this year 1918. Mr. Samuels wants  
to know if I could find out where  
& how this friend Harry Brown was  
killed if any body saw him  
Particulars: Harry Brown 19 Years of age  
Reg No 4688 26 Reinforcements of 3rd Batt  
He had a Brother wounded & went to  
Blighty a Sergeant. If you

P.T.O.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Could find out any information  
regarding Private Brown  
Would you please forward same  
to undermentioned address

Mrs E. A. Samuels  
Hazelville.  
Barrington St  
Campsie  
Sydney  
N. S. Wales  
Australia

Yours Truly  
Pte A. W. Cherson

To

7723 M. J. E. Cooper

34 Btla. a. 1.7

C. brnt.

7688 Pte H. S. Brown

34 Btla. a. 1.7

Win A. 8. 8. 18

Written 21. 11. 18

Miss

ack. rec  
19.11.18  
D.W.3

7688  
H.S. Brown  
34 Bn  
Kmd. 8.8.18  
S2

France  
12.11.18

Dear Madam,

Re your letter of inquiry about

No 7688 Pte H.S. Brown. I am sorry I cannot give you the information required.

If you write to No 7723 Pte Cooper, J.E. he will be able to give you the information required as he was with Pte Brown on the Date you mention.

Yours Faithfully

Sgt A. McAllan

No 7723 Pte J.E. Cooper

D. Coy.

34<sup>th</sup> Battalion

et. J. F.

France.

Note

Written J.E. Cooper  
21.11.18

ack.  
7.1.19  
DMS

7688

H. S. Brown

34 Bn

Kia 9.8.18

January 5) 1919

In answer to your Enquiry

About Cte H. S. Brown

I can supply a little information

As to where he was killed on the 9.8.18

I did not know him very long

But I know his initials was H. S.

And of No 7688 he was killed

Beside me he was of stout dark

chap not very tall about 5ft 5in

As of rough guess and was buried

in the field with of Chap named

Quarney both been killed together

and buried together I think that is all the

Information I can give you yours Truly

Cte J. E. Cooper (34) Bn  
No 48231