

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

**2632 Private  
Jack Stanley Dale**

**58th Battalion**



0870308Q

58th Batt. A.I.F.

Dale. J.S. Pte. NO.2632.

A.Coy.

Missing, Sept 27th 1917.

I took a disc from a soldier named Dale of the 58th Batt. He was badly knocked about and lying out near the support lines at Polygon Wood. I could not say if this would be the same man. as I did not take particular notice of the number on the disc.

Description. Age.22. Height. 5-6. Complexion. Medium, Slight Built.

Witness. Cpl. Morham. A.Coy. 60th Batt. NO.1720.

Taken at  
NO.4.C.D.Hurdcott.  
5-1-18.  
F.G.H.

S.Whitmee.  
NO.4.Command Depot.  
Hurdcott.

58th Btn.

DALE, J. S.  
Pte. 2632.

Killed in action 27/9/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a short man, very slightly built, about 5 ft. 2 ins. fair complexion, about 22 years of age. Casualty was sitting in support lines at Black Watch Corner, Ypres. An H.F. shell exploded a direct hit on Casualty killing him instantly.

I was 15 yds. away at the time the shell exploded but I went over to where Casualty fell but he was beyond all aid when I arrived there. He was very severely wounded all over. I am not sure but I think they buried his remains near where he fell."

Informant:- Pte. P. Dowling.  
No. 2148, 58th Btn.

Private address:-  
Goroke, P.O.

T.C.F.  
6/9/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

1927/2/29

C O P Y

Statement made by No. 2982 Pte Clift V. 58th Bn.re No. 2632 Pte Dale J.S. 58th Bn  
Missing 27.9.17

That on September 27th 1917, I was with my Battalion on the Tyres front. I heard that Private Dale was killed. I went up to see but met two Australians who stated they had just buried Private Dale. I do not know their names, numbers, or company they belonged to.

*Not Sent On*

Dated at Kitchener Military Hospital, Brighton this 10th day of  
January 1918.

(Sgd) V. Clift.

Statement made and signed before me

(S GD) W.W.C. Lipman,  
Captain.

A.I.F. 58.

DALE, J.S. 2632.

M. Sept 27th 1917.

There were two brother da named Dale that I knew in A.Co. I know that one of them was killed in our trenches about 5.30 a.m. between the 24th and 27th Sept. I was in the same trench with Dale when a shell exploded in it. After the explosion we went round to see who was injured. Sgt Upton told me he found bits of letters and photos belonging to Dale. which I also saw. Later on I recognised a portion of Dale's face and what was left of his body which we afterwards buried in the shell hole. This occurred on the Ypres front. I did not know Dale's initials or his number nor did I know where he lived, but he told me he used to go to Foots Gray near Melbourne a lot. He was a short man, slightly built, fair, clean shaven about 5ft 5, and about 23 or 24 and single.

Inf: Pte H.S.W.Schutt. 2859. A.I.

No. 3 Can.Gen.Hosp.

BOULOGNE. 10.1.18. AGI

*Wrote Brother.*

1927/2/32

O O P T

Statement made by No. 2859 Pte Schutt H.S.W. 58th Bn.re No. 2832 Pte Dale J.S. 58th Bn.Missing 27.9.17.

Private Dale was in the same company of the 58th Battalion, and on the 26th September 1917 or about the date, 58th Battalion, took over the front line in front of Polygon Wood. Dale was present in the same trench as myself. During the German gun fire, about morning a large shell fell in the trench where Dale was, and we afterwards found the remains of his body some distance away, there was no doubt it was Dale. I was present present when the remains were buried.

*Not sent on**W. M. M. on 2.12.17*

Dated at Bournemouth this 8th day of February 1918.

(Sgd) H.E.W. Schutt.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) H.W. Meador  
Secretary,  
Craig Head Hospital,  
Bournemouth.

58th. Battalion. A.I.F.

Dale. J.S. Pte. No. 2632.

Missing. Sept. 27/17.

I saw him blown to pieces at Polygon Wood. He was in Reserves at the time. There was nothing to be found of him only his Pay Book, I only knew him in the Company, and could not say where he came from.

Description. Age. 25yrs. Height. 5-4. Complexion. Fair. Slight Build.

Witness. Brown. A. Pte. No. 3114. 58th Battalion.

Taken at  
No. 4. C.D.  
Hurdcott  
23-1-18  
F.G.H.

S. Whitmoe.  
No. 4. C.D.  
Hurdcott.

0/11/16

58th Btn.

DATE. J. S.  
Pto. 2632.

M.  
Killed in action 27/9/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 6 ins. slightly built, medium complexion, about 27 years of age, known as "Jack". Casualty was sitting in support line trenches alongside of myself at Passchendaele near Ypres. We were dozing off to sleep. An H.E. shell exploded a yd. at the back of Casualty killing him instantly and Pte. Wilcox, Stretcher Bearer H. Stone and wounding myself. He was so severely wounded that we were not able to bury him. I was an eye-witness."

Informant:- H. R. Warland,  
No. 26759.

Private address:-  
17 Railway Crescent,  
Williamstown.

T.C.F.  
3/5/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

7/11/18  
J. S. R.



58th Battn.  
A.I.F.

DALE.  
J.S. 2632.

"Killed in Action 27-9-17"

Your letter to hand dated the 3rd inst, asking full particulars of Pte.J.Dale.No 2632. of this Battalion. I may state the said soldier met his death whilst in action on the 29th of September 1917. at Polygon Wood. He was buried on Anzac Ridge. In regard to how the said soldier met his fate, was by a shell.

Letter from:- Pte.Thomas P Feeney.2901.  
C.Company.  
58th Battalion.

London.  
14-3-19.  
H.G.

M.

58th Battn.  
A.I.F.

DALE.  
Pte.J.S. 2632.

"Missing 27-9-17"

Re No 2632. Pte.J.S.Dale. 58th Battalion. A.I.F.  
About the most particulars that I can give, are that on  
the 27-9-17, he was acting as a runner at Polygon Wood battle  
while on a message which I may firmly state, he was literally  
blown to pieces. The barrage being so intense at the time, one  
hardly knew how things were going. Afterwards, when things be-  
came calm, parts of unknown men were buried, and from which, I  
learn that the above soldier was amongst them. Buried on the  
battlefield at Polygon Wood.

Letter from:- 2659.Sgt.S.C.Gcw.  
58th Battn. A.I.F.  
BELGIUM.

London.  
19-3-19.

M.

No  
Miss F. Dale 13.19  
Bridge St  
Bendigo  
Victoria

2622 P.O. 4 Dale  
58th Ball

Andrew D. V.

1995

100

Report Nature Found - 15 JUL 68 - 09 00 PM '68

## ADELAIDE ENQUIRY

58th Anstraliens.

Dale. J.S. 2632.

(M. Sept: 27/17)

"About the end of September 1917 at Polygon Wood, Ypres front I heard that Johnnie Dale was killed by a shell explosion. I went round to see his body and found them just burying him near the support lines."

Eye-witness: Yes of burial.

Description: Very delicate looking, fair hair, and rather short.

Informant: Victor Clift. 2982.

58th Anstraliens. A Co;

Kitchener's Hospital. Block E.1.2.3

Home address: P.O. Orange.

16.11.17.

New South Wales.

G. de H. Larpent.

Ypres

24th Nov. 1917.

58th AUSTRALIANS

DALE: J.S. 2638

M. 27.9.17.

I knew Dale for three months. He was in A Co. 5th Pltn. He was over medium height, slight, medium brown hair, 22 years of age. In the Ypres Sector, Dale's platoon was in support. A shell hit him direct, and nothing was found except his paybook, which the C.S.M. (Bristow) took possession of. U.S.M. Bristow can give information.

Informant: Pte. E.J. Daniel, 2353  
58th Australians, A Co., 4th Pltn.,  
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

✓ half of

PM

Written C/S/lie Bristow 4-12-17.

Hayre

13th Dec. 1917.

58th AUSTRALIANS

DALE, J.S. 2632

No. 27.9.17.

He was in C Co., 12th Pltn. I knew him for 2 years. He joined at Broadmeadows Camp, Australia, and we came over together on the "Hector". He was medium height and build, dark, about 25. We were in the same company and platoon. On the 27th Sept. (I was out of the line at the time) I heard of Dale's death from L/Opl. E.H. Clifford, C Co., 12th Pltn., who can give information. He was present when it occurred, and is with the Battalion now.

Informant: Opl. T.C. Gow, 2659  
58th Australians, C Co., 12th Pltn.,  
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

PH

*William Clifford*  
3.1.18

58. Batt. A.I.F.

Dale. Pte. J.S. 2632.  
A Coy.

M. Sept. 27/17.

"On Sept. 25th /17 at Polygon Wood, Pte. J.S.Dale was killed by a shell, his body being found about 100 yds from the trench with his legs blown off. We buried him on the spot. It was light at the time."

Eyewitness: When dead.

Description: Dark, small, and very thin.

Informant: Pte. N. Wills. 2523.  
A Coy. 58 Batt. A.I.F.  
Kitchener's Hospital, Brighton.

Home address:  
81 Church Street,  
Nr. Richmond, Melbourne.

I  
2/1/17  
D. Fazaackerly-Westly.





Bridge Street  
Bendigo, Vic.  
Victoria.  
Perkins 29-1915

To British Red Cross &  
Order of St. John

Having seen in the  
Australian Soldiers Magazine  
"Aussie" Enquiries of  
your Branch in  
reference to the  
Graves of Australian  
Soldiers. I am taking  
the liberty of asking  
you if you could  
give me any information  
of my late brother  
who fell in the

4.  
Battle of Polygon Wood  
on September 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>  
1914 I cannot get  
any reliable information  
but have heard that  
my brother was buried  
at "Inzac Ridge Belgium".  
I hope you may be  
able to give me some  
information for I  
am longing for some  
news. No hope you  
will let me know  
at your earliest if  
you can give me  
any information.

My brother was  
2632 Private J. J. Dale  
58<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Hoping you will  
reply to this letter &  
as I am very very  
anxious

I am

Yours etc

(Miss) Florie Dale

P.S. 2901 Pte J Kenny

5<sup>th</sup> Battalions

and 2659 Corporal J.C. Lewis

5<sup>th</sup> Batt

May give some information  
T.V.

2632 <sup>Belgium</sup> Dale 14/3/1919  
58th Bn. A.I.F.

To  
Lt. Col. Vera Deakin

M. 27.9.17

M. 2. (A)

Asst. 19.

Sec. Aust. Red. Cross.

Re your letter concerning 2632 Pte. J. S. DALE

58th Battalion A.I.F. About the most particular that I can give are, that on the 27/9/17, he was acting as a runner at Polygon Wood battle. While on a message which I may firmly state, he was literally blown to pieces. The barrage being so intense at the time, one hardly knew how things were going. Afterwards when things became calm, parts of unknown men were buried, & from which I learn that the above soldier was amongst them buried on battlefield at Polygon Wood.

(2)

Trusting this information will  
prove beneficial.

Remains  
yours sincerely  
J. C. Gow.

2659. Sgt. J. C. Gow

5th Battalion

A. I. F.

2659 Cpl. T.C. Gow.  
58th Bttn. A.I.F.  
B. E. F.

2901 Pte. T.P. Feeney.  
58th Bttn. A.I.F.,  
B. E. F.

3rd March 1919.

Dear Sir,

We are anxious to obtain all possible information concerning the fate of 2632 Pte. J.S. DALL. 58th Battalion. A.I.F. who is now officially reported Killed in Action on 27.9.17 having previously been reported Missing, and as we understand you may be able to help us, we hope you will forgive us troubling you in the matter.

Any particulars you can send us concerning him will be much appreciated and will at once be forwarded to his people in Australia.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

MR

Ack P.C.  
 14/3/19. 2632  
 J.S. Dale  
 58 X. 27-9-17.  
 H. X. W.

M. C.

Francis  
 March 9-3-19

Dear Miss Leakin

Your letter to hand dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst.  
 asking full particulars of Pte J. Dale No 2632  
 of this Battalion may state the said soldier  
 met his death whilst in action on the 29<sup>th</sup>  
 of September 1917 at Polygon Wood, I wish to  
 draw to your notice Miss Leakin if you  
 acknowledge this letter in any of the papers that  
 he was buried on Ayras Ridge, in  
 regards to how the said soldier met his  
 fate, was by a shell.

Again thanking you for your  
 kindness in sending this note to me  
 also mentioning the Australian & New Zealand  
 I want to find out any particulars  
 regarding any of our brave boys met their  
 fate in our company. In this way you  
 will always be acknowledged.

Yr. main.  
 Yours faithfully  
 Mr. Thomas P. Seeney No 2901  
 C Company  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn.