

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

**752 Private  
John Record Ashton**

**19th Battalion**



0150204C

19th Battn.  
B.Coy.  
A. I. F.

Ashton.  
Pte.J.R. 752

"Missing 3.5.17"

re Pte.Ashton. He was killed by shell on 3.5.17. I left Sydney with him on June 25th 1915 also on Gallipoli. After we evacuated he left with fever and went home to Australia. He returned again with 14th Rfts of 19th Battn. He was alongside me when he was killed at Bullecourt. The only description of his personal appearance I could give is, 5'6", and dark complexion.

Letter from:-

548 Pts.E.R.Fermelly  
No.3 Camp.

No.1 Command Depot.

Perham Downs. 19.9.17.

London.  
26.9.17.

S.

Havre

10th Sept. 1917.

19th AUSTRALIANS

ASHTON, J.R. 752

M. 3.5.17.

*returned*  
He was in B Co., 5th platoon. He was a ~~retired~~ soldier from Australia. His ohm, Pte. Fennelly of the 19th battn. B Co., 5th Platoon (known as "Ping") told me that Ashton was killed at Bullecourt on May 3rd, 1917. Fennelly was badly wounded when he told me this, and went to hospital in England.

Informant: L/Cpl. A.H. Springett, 651  
19th Australians, B Co., 6th Pltn.,  
Australian Camp, Nouelles.

NHd

*Written Pte Fennelly - 19th Batt<sup>n</sup>  
17-9-17*

19th A.I.F.

Ashton, Pte. John R. 752  
B.Co. 8.Pl.

(M. May 3/17)

"I believe that Pte. Ashton was killed and that full particulars can be obtained from Pte. Thompson of the 19th A.I.F. No. 769. A.Co. who is now with the Battalion in France. I think he was one of the Party who buried Pte. Ashton. Pte. Ashton and McNair were both killed at the same time."

Eye-witness:- No.

Description: Always called Jack, about 5ft.7"  
medium build, age 21 or 22. Came  
from Morel.

Informant:- Pte. Ernest John Whitt, 5439  
19th A.I.F. B. Co. 8.Pl.  
1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham

Home address: 3. Crown Street  
East Sydney. N.S.W.

Oct. 27

A. Lawson

*Written Pte. Thompson 6-11-17*

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

1634/1/89

(COPY)

Statement made by No.548 Pte Fennelly C.R. 19th Btn

re No.752 Pte Ashton J.R. 19th Btn

Missing 3.5.17

No.752 Pte Ashton J.R. 19th Battalion was killed on the 3.5.17. I am certain of this as I happened to be close at hand when he was blown up by a shell. Death was instantaneous.

Dated at Perham Downs this 5th day of October, 1917.

(Sgd) C.R. Fennelly.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd: R. Dooley.  
Lieut.

5

19th Batn  
A.I.F.

T.R. ASHTON  
J 752

"Missing 3.5.17."

Killed in Action 3.5.17. rev. reported Missing.

Cert. by A.I.F. Hqtrs 26.10.17.

London.  
3.11.17.

S

19th Batn.  
A.I.F.

Ashton.  
Pte. J. R. 752

"Killed in Action 3.5.17"

Re 752 Pte. J. R. Ashton. He was killed on the morning of 3.5.17 shot through the heart and died instantaneously, just before we left the hop over trench for our attack at Bullecourt on that date 3.5.17 and as far as I know his description is medium height and build with dark brown hair, and fresh complexion and he had been home to Australia from Gallipoli and came back with the 14th Bde for this Batn. and his people live at Timora.

Letter from:-

689 Pte. A. B. Thompson  
London. A. Coy. 19th Batn.  
26.11.17. France. 14.11.17.

S.

9th Battalion.

ASHTON, J.R.  
Pte 752

Killed 3.5.18.

Informant states that Pte Ashton was killed at Bullecourt in May 1917, and was shot through the head, Informant believes by a sniper. Informant saw him after he was killed, alongside Cpl. Archers body.

Informant: Prosper, F.I. Pte No. 5385  
19th Battalion. A.I.F.  
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,  
RANDWICK.

Private address:- 124 Palmer Street, Sydney.

P.E.W.  
2.5.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F 19th Btn

ASHTON  
John Record 752

"M. 3-5-17"

No trace in Germany  
Ceryt. by Capt. Mills 10-10-19.

London  
15-10-19

S

Adm  
PC  
2011-17

752 Pte J. R. ASHTON

19 Battr

K/A. 3-5-17

S  
3. Somewhere in France  
14/11/14

Dear Mr. Jackson

In reply to your letter re-  
quiring info into the death of Pte  
J. R. Ashton B. Coy of the 19th Battr  
he was killed on the morning of  
3/5/14 shot through the heart & died  
instantaneous just before we left the  
top of trench for our attack at  
Bullecourt on that date 3/5/14 & as  
far as I know his description is  
medium height & build with dark  
brown hair, fresh complexion & he  
had been home to Australia from  
Gallipoli & came back with the 16th  
Bn for this Battr & his people live  
at Lemora I think that is all I know  
about him hoping this will help you  
to identify him

(689 Pte A. B. Thompson)  
A Coy. 19 Battr

I am  
Yours truly  
A. B. Thompson  
689 Pte A. B. Thompson  
A Coy. 19 Battr