

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

**395 Sapper
Walter Brookes**

**2nd Division Signal Company
Engineers**



0550403H

A. I. F.

Brookes, Pte W. 395,
2nd Sig. Coy

(K. Oct. 8th/17. Det D & B)

"Brookes had both his legs broken by a shell while in the Rest Camp at Poperinghe. I was told that he died more from shock than from the wounds. Lieut Fraser of the 2nd Division Signalling Coy, A.I.F. was present. He was buried in the big cemetery at Poperinghe."

Eye-witness: Po

Description:

Informant: Lt. J. J. White,
2nd Signalling Coy, A.I.F.,
General Hospital,
Landsdowne, N.S.W.

Home Address:
A.I.F. Home,
Horseferry Rd.,
J.G. 1.

11th January 1918.
John R. Clark Hall.

William Fraser
22-1-18

2nd Sig. Coy.,
AIF

BROOKES
W. 395

"Killed Oct. 8th 1917"

In general conversation among the boys. I learnt Brookes was killed at Popperinge by a shell. He was killed ~~any~~ many miles about 20., behind the lines in a rest camp and must have been buried.

Witness:- Spr. J. Lambert 2387
2nd Sig. Coy.,
Hut 10 Westham

W.A. Rand
London.
18.1.18

S

2nd Div. Sig. Coy.,
AIF

BROOKES
W. 395

"Killed 8.10.17"

I did not see the casualty, but I saw his grave in the Military Cemetery at Popperinge. which was marked with a cross bearing his number, name, and Unit. I believe he was killed by a shell somewhere near Popperinge. I knew him well, he came from Sydney and was on the Railway Dept., there prior to enlistment. His wife lives in England.

Witness:- Spr. P. Ratte⁵⁶¹
2nd Divl. Signalling Coy.,
3rd A.A Hospital,
Dartford

W. Oman
London.
23.1.18

S

2nd Div. Sig.
A.I.F.

BROOKES
W. 395

"Killed 8-10-17"

He was batman to Lieut. Fraser attached to 4th Arttly Bgde. They were both at a Dressing Station at C.C.S. on Menin Road, probably 5th Div. when a shell or bomb from an aeroplane exploded and killed Brookes outright and wounded the Lieut. I did not see it, but this was communicated to me by letter by Lieut. Perrett at present attached 5th Arttly Bgde.

Informant. Don Sgt. 6.
2nd Sig.
Hut 19
WESTHAM.

W. A. Rand
London
28-2-18

S.

2nd Div. Sig. Coy
A.I.F.

BROOKER
W. 395

"Killed 8.10.17."

I saw his grave with a cross over it at Popperinghe cemetery. Only one cemetery there. I did note the number but have forgotten. I believe he was killed by a shell. Came, I think, from N.S.W. His wife is English and is in England.

Informant:- A.E. Grapp, 1150,
2nd Div. Sig.
Anzac Buffet.

W. Alison.

London.
4.3.18.

S.

(13.2.18)

Capt RUSSELL

Sig Officer

4th Art. Bde

A.I.F.

Abroad

about

39.5

Pte W. BROOKES

M

2nd Div. Sig. Coy

A.I.F.

7.8.10.17.

19.2.18.
A.I.B.

2nd Div. Sigler Coy.
A.I.F.

E
BROOKS. W.
395..

"KILLED 8.10.17"

He was att: to 4th Art. Brg, Called "Wally" He was Batman to Lieut W. Frazer, and Frazer was knocked and taken to the Dressing Station, Brooks went also with him. A shell got the Dressing Station, Killing Brooks, and Lieut Frazer's leg was blown off. I was there at the time, but did not see him hit but, Lieut Russell, Signler Officer. 4th Art Brig, saw Brooks knocked and can give further particulars.,

Informant;- Sergt. J. L. Don. 6.
2nd Div. Sign.
Rarefield.

W. G. J.
London.
19.2.18.

Note;- Written Lieut Russell., S.

2nd Div. Sig. Coy.
A.I.F.

BROOKES,
Spr W. 395

"Killed in Action 8.10.17."

Re 395, Sapper W. Brookes, 2nd Div. Sig. Coy. Sapper Brookes was killed while in a Divisional Rest Station at Poperinghe, Belgium. He was buried in the new Poperinghe Military Cemetery and a cross was erected over his grave by the men of my section. We also had a drawing of the grave executed and same was forwarded to his wife, Mrs Brookes, 16 Laurence Street, Romily England.

Letter from:- Lieut. P. L. Russell,
4th F.A. Bde,
March 2.18.
London.
22.3.18.

S.

1
Lieut FRASER

2 Div. Sig. Coy.

A. I. F.

B. S. F.

D

About

W. BROOKES

395

2 Div. Sig. Coy.

18-10-17

22-1-18

ack W.P.C.
12/3/18

395

Spr W. BROOKES

2 Div. Sig Coy

4th

A. G. A. - Bde.

K/AS. 10-17

March 3rd 1918.

Dear Mrs Dea Kin 3 (25)

Received

Your letter in reference to P.C. 395
Sapper W. Brooks 2nd Div Sig Coy.

Sapper Brooks was killed while
in a Divisional Post Station
at Poplinghe, Belgium. He was
buried in the new Poplinghe
Military Cemetery, and a cross
was erected over his grave by
the men of my section. We also
had a drawing of the grave
executed and same was forwarded
to his wife, Mrs Brooks, 16 Laurence
Street, Romily, England. I hope
that these particulars will suffice,
and if I can be of use to you
in this case, I am at your
service.

Yours in haste

A. Russell
Lieutenant
4th A. G. A. Bde