

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

**2046 Private
William Braid**

38th Battalion



0501204C

2046

Plt. W. Braid

38" Belt

See under

Plt. G. S. Mitchellson

1881

37" Belt

24. 4. 17.

23-7-17
P. 23-7-17

Point View
Point View
SE 10

The Secretary
(Asst. Red Cross Socy)
Wounded & Missing Bureau
54 Victoria St
SW 1

July 21. 1917

Dear Madam

Pte W. Briard 2046

3/38th Battr A.I.F.

10th Brigade 3rd Recd

Referring to yours of 23rd
April last I shall feel much
obliged for any information
you can give me of the above
Soldier who is my nephew
he went to France some
months ago & we have
not heard from him for
such a long time that

we are anxious about him

Thanking you in
anticipation

Yours faithfully
dear S. Robertson

Telegraphic Address: "FACTORIES, WOOLWICH"

Telephone No.: 88 WOOLWICH. Extension 176.

Central Office
C.S.O.F.



ROYAL ARSENAL,

WOOLWICH, S.E.

21. August 1917

The Secretary

Wounded & Missing Enquiry
Bureau
A.R.C.S.

54 Victoria St.

Dear Madam

I have to thank you
for yours of 20th inst which
conveys me the sad news of
my nephew to 2046 Pte. W
Bennet 38th Bde A.I.F. having
been killed in action on
18.5.17 and for kindly
promising to send any
definite information

You can as to his death, place
of burial &c. and I shall feel
obliged if you can arrange
for a photo of his grave.

You kindly said you had
taken steps to do so in the
case of my other nephew no
1881 Pte G. S. Mitchelson 37th
Bn A.I.F. can you say if
you have succeeded?

I desire to thank you
for your kind sympathy

Yours truly
Leslie S. Richardson

Pont Vaud.
Pont Stille
S E 10

Point View
Point Still
SE 10

7 Sept 17

Thrice.

Wounded & Missing Enemy Run
A. R. C. S.

Dear Linda

I have to thank you
for your letter of the 6th inst.
re my husband's no 2046
Pte W. Bennett 36th Bact.
AIF & for the efforts you
are making

I enclose a ^{copy} letter
which has been forwarded

to me my wife which I think
will materially assist your
efforts in the church
I am asking that a photo
of his grave may be sent
to me later

Yours truly
L. C. Robinson

Havre

22nd Aug. 1917.

38th AUSTRALIANS

BRAID, W.

2046

R. 18.8.17. Det. D/B.

He was in B Co. I knew him well and saw his body being carried from the line down the road to the Plugstraet Cemetery where he would be buried. I did not see the grave.

Informant: Pte. R.E. Bray, 1808
38th Australians, B Co., 2nd Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

RDM

P.I.

Havre

3rd Sept. 1917.

38th AUSTRALIANS

BRAID, W. 2046

R. 18.5.17.

Pte. Wm. Braid of B Co., 5th platoon, was killed in Plugstraet Wood and buried in a Military Cemetery there. I saw the body being taken there.

Informant: Pte. H.J. Flower, 2214
38th Australians, B Co., 7th Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

RDM

P.I.

38th Battn
B. Coy.
A.I.F.

Braid.
W. 2046

"Killed 18.5.17."

I saw him dead at Plugstreet Wood. He had been caught by a shell death was instantaneous. He was buried behind Plugstreet Wood. I did not see the grave but refer to Lieut. D. McKenzie 38th Battn B. Coy. who was with him at the time of casualty and may know place and particulars of burial. I knew him well, he was the only man of that name in the Coy.

Witness:- Sgt. A.E. Maddell 595
38th Battn B. Coy. 4th Pltn.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London.
5.9.17.

Note written Lieut McKenzie. 5.9.17. P.I.

38th Battn A.I.F. "K. in A. 18.5.17" BRAID W. 2046
Copy of letter received from C.O. 38th Battn A.I.F.
to No 325 Cpl. J.A. Pittock "AN Coy. 8th Training Battn No 9nCamp
Hurdcott Salisbury.
In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., I have to inform you that
the following are the particulars in connection with the death of
No 2046 Pte. Braid W. of this Battn. Killed by wounds in the head
on 18.5.17. at Plugstreet. Buried in Strand Cemetery, Plugstreet by
Chaplain H.A. Hayden. Location of grave Plot. 2 Row E, Grave "O 7.

H.L. Avis.
Lt. Col. C.O. 38th Battn A.I.F.

London.
10.8.17.

P.I.

38th Battn

C.I.F.

Braid
W. 2046

"Killed in Action 18.5.17."

I saw him killed at Floegstreet Wood by a shell which caught him in the head killing him instantly. I do not know place of burial. Refer to Pte. Flowers D. Coy., 38th Battn, who is now in France, and who knows place of burial, and can give particulars. He was killed behind the lines at Regent Street.

Witness:-

Cpl. E. Miller 2111
38th Battn C. Co., 11th Btn.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Bartford.

W. Omen
London.

9.9.17.

Note written Pte. Flowers. 19.9.17.

P.I.

38th A. I. F.,

Braid, Pte. W. 2046,

K. May 18th 1917.

"I heard from Pln. Sgt. Ae McKenzie, that Braid had been killed. He was a runner. He was standing in the door of his dug-out in a support trench and a dead shell came through and fell on him. He was killed instantaneously. It was at Hunter Avenue, Ploegsteert Wood."

Eye Witness: No.

Description:

Informant:-- L/Sgt. G.S. Grover, 555,
38th A. I. F.,
Horton Hosp: Epsom.

Home address:-- 3 South.

18.9.17.
P.A. Floud.

38th Battn.
A.I.F.

BRAID
W. 2400 2046

Killed 18.5.17

Refer to the S/Major "B" Coy, 38th Battalion whose name I do not know, but who is in France and who can give particulars.

Witness:- Pte J.W. Mc Donald 2203
38th Battn, B. Coy
3rd A.A. Hosp. Dartford.

Note written S/M 25.9.17

W. Ogan
London 27.9.17

P.I

Not sent on to P.I.

38th Batt. A.I.F.

BRAID W. 2046.
"B" Coy.

" K. May 18th., '17. Det D & E "

" I saw Braid's body being carried down the tram line to the small cemetery at Plug St., Wood, to be buried there. I did not actually see him buried, but am sure that was the cemetery. "

Description. Hgt 5ft8. Fair complexion.
Slight build.

Witness. McCready W. 612.
38th Batt. "B" Coy.

Taken at No 3 Command Depot,
Hurdcott. S.W.
October 2nd., '17.

S. Whitmee.
No 4 Command Depot,
Codford.

Col Staff.

P.I.

38th Batn
A.I.F.

BRAID
Pte. W. 2446

"Killed in Action 18.5.17."

In reference to your letter written to Lieut.
D. McKenzie (now away on duty) enquiring for information of the
above soldier. He was buried in a cemetery for Australian Soldiers
situated near Ploegstreet Wood in Belgium. I believe it is known
as Charing Cross Cemetery. Description:- Height about 5'7"
dark hair and complexion, and brown eyes.

Letter from:-

Edward Amos.

In the Field

4.10.17

London.
15.10.17.

P.I.

38th Batt,
A.I. F. 9/12

Braid,
W. 2046.

"Killed 18.5.17"

I saw him dead at the Dressing Station at Plugstreet Wood
Refer to Pte. A. Uhlman, 35th Batt, B. Coy, who saw him killed
in a dugout, one who can give particulars of death and burial

Witness:- Walker,
Pte. A. 685.
38th Batt, B. Coy, 5th Pltn
3rd A.A.Hosp,
Dartford

W, Oman 6.9.17

London 20.10.17

P.I.

letter
O Sent on

Donaldson Hotel
Belvedere
Kent
24. 11. 17

The Secretary
Wounded & Missing L. Name
A. R. C.

Dear Madam

I have to thank
you for yours of 16th inst
& with further information
concerning my nephew
2046 Pte W. Bennet 38
Batter A.I.F. I enclose
a letter I have written
Private Williams asking

him to give details. R.C.

I shall be much obliged
if you will kindly add
his number & anything
else necessary for his
address & have same
posted.

again thanking you

Yours truly

Richard C. Roberts

Have you heard if the
Graves Commission have
sent the photo of his ^{front} ^{people}?

Pte. W. Braid 2046.
38 Batt.

see under.

Pte. J. Forbes. 741.
38 Batt.

16/10/17.

Point View
Point Still
SE 10

October 11, 1917

Dear, Madam

I have to thank
you for your letter of the
9th with details of the
death of my nephew. No
2046 Pte W ^{Braid} Braid,
38th Battalion
A.I.F.

which I am sending
on to his mother in
Australia. It will as
you say be some comfort
to her to know that

From the
Lester C. O'Connell

his death was instant-
aneous & to know,
that you have kindly
taken steps for a
photo of his frame to
be sent them.

The Secretary

Wounded & Missing Enemy
Burial
and Red Cross Socy
54 Victoria St
S.W. 1

Kindly note that
after Monday next (the
15th) my address

will be

Donalson Hotel

Belvedere

S.E.

ackd
4.12.17
10-17

Im R Field

Re 2046 Pk BRAD W Dead.

Dear Madam.

11/A 18-5-17 P1 2

~~For~~ In reference to your letter written to Lieut D McKenzie (now away on duty) enquiring for information of the above soldier. He was buried in a Cemetery for Australian Soldiers situate near PHOEGSTEERT Wood in BELGIUM. I believe it is known as Charming Cross Cemetery. Description. Height about 5' 11" Dark hair a complexion of brown eyes.

Yours faithfully
Edward Angus

GC 139.17

RE F. FLOWERS

D G

38 Batt AIF

B & F

for

2046

W. BRAID

38 Batt AIF

KA. 18. 5. 17

CP.
13.9.17

The S. Major

B. Co

24.9.17

38 Batt AIF

B E F

about

2046
240621

W. BRAID

38 Batt AIF

K. 18.5.17

R

AC.
29.9.17

11.9.17
Lieut D. McKENZIE

B Co
38 Batt AIF
10 EF

for

2046 / W. BRAID

38 Batt AIF

K. 18.5.17

L.B.H.
8.9.17 W

A.I.F. 38th Btn 3rd Rfts
10th Bgde 3rd Rfts

BRAID(Rouen)
BRIAND
2046

W.

"WHEREABOUTS"

No report of casualty
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 4-8-17

Killed in action 18-5-17
Cert. by Rouen letter 9-8-17.

P.I.

London
13-8-17

October 9th, 1917.

Leslie S.C. Robertson, Esq.,
Point View, Point Hill,
Greenwich, S.E.10.

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your inquiry for details of the death of your nephew No 2046 Pte. W. Braid, 38th Battalion, A.I.F.

We deeply regret to inform you of evidence which has been received from men of his unit, one of whom witnessed the casualty.

No 555 L/Sgt. G.S. Grover, who was in the Horton Hospital, Epsom, reported that he was told that Pte. Braid, had been killed instantaneously by a ~~falling~~ shell, while standing in the door of his dugout in a support trench at Hunter Avenue, Ploegsteert Wood, Messines.

No 595 Sgt. A.E. Maddell, who was in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford reported that he saw Pte. Braid, lying dead at Ploegsteert Wood on 16.5.17. He had been killed instantaneously by a shell and is buried behind Ploegsteert Wood.

No 2111 Cpl. E. Miller, in this same hospital, gave similar

evidence. He saw your nephew killed instantly by a shell when behind the firing line at Regent Street, at Ploegsteert, and he refers us to another man of the unit, for particulars of his burial.

We have applied to the Graves Registration Bureau for a photograph of his grave which will be forwarded as soon as circumstances will permit direct to his next of kin, and as soon as we receive further details, of his casualty we shall advise you ~~and~~ trusting that it will be some comfort to know that his death was instantaneous.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

V. b.
SECRETARY,
(P-)

September 6th, 1917.

Leslie S.G. Robertson, Esc,
Point View, Point Hill,
S.E.10.

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you of unofficial information about
your nephew No 2046 Pte. W. Braid,
38th Battalion,
A.I.F.

given by a man of the same unit who when interviewed was in
an Australian Camp in France.

Informant No 1808 Pte. R.E. Bray, stated that he saw your
nephew's dead body being carried from the line along the
road to Ploegsteert Cemetery near Messines where he is probably
buried although he has not seen the grave.

We are continuing the inquiry and hope soon to send you
a detailed account of his death which we are sure will be of
some value to you.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

V. D.
SECRETARY.

Rm A 307

COPY OF LETTER RECEIVED FROM C.O. 38th Battalion, A.I.F.
to No. 325, Cpl. J.A. Pittock, "A" Coy. 8th Training Battalion,
No. 9 Camp, Hurdcott, Salisbury.

In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., I have
to inform you that the following are the particulars in
connection with the death of No. 2046, Pte. Braid, W. of
this battalion.

Killed by wounds in the head on 12.5.1917 at
Ploegsteert. Buried in Strand Cemetery, Ploegsteert by
Chaplain H.A. Hayden. Location of Grave, Plot 2, Row E.
Grave No. 7.

?
H.L. Avis,

Lt. Col. C.O. 38th Battalion, A.I.F.

file *PI*

20.8.17.

Leslie S.C. Robertson, Esq.,

Point View, Point Hill. S.E.10.

Dear Sir,

We very much regret to inform you that No. 2046 Pte. W. Braid
38th. Btn. A.I.F. was killed in action on 18.5.17 and we have at
present no further details. We have added his name to our inquiry
list and will send you any information that we receive as we
realise how anxious you must be for a definite account of his
death.

May we express our sincere sympathy with you in your great
loss.

Yours faithfully,

KU
Secretary
A.P.W.

November 16th. 1917.

Leslie S. C. Robertson, Esq.,
Donaldson Hotel,
Belvedere,
S.R.

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your enquiry for your nephew 2046,
Pte. W. Braid, 52 Battn. A.I.F., we beg to forward the following
unofficial report that has come to hand.

685, Pte. A. Walker, 38th. Battn, stated that he saw Braid
dead at the Dressing Station at Ploegsteert Wood. He adds that
Pte. A. Wilman saw him killed and could possibly give details of
his death and burial.

If any further details are received we shall at once advise
you.

Yours faithfully,

V.D. per (A)

Secretary.