

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

**2267 Private
William John
Balderson**

3rd Pioneer Battalion



0200702B

FRANCE.

3rd AUST. PIONEER BATT.

BALDERSON. W.J. 2267.

D/W May 10th. 1918. Det.

We were in the same Platoon. XVI, D.Coy. We were at Heilly and were to leave the following morning. He and three others went onto the hill to get corrugated iron from the old trenches for the purpose of building dug-outs. They were returning and were half way down the hill when Fritz started shelling them. The second shell wounded Balderson very badly, breaking both legs and inflicting other serious injuries. He was carried to the dressing-station over the hill and when the bearers left him there he was still alive. He must have died soon after.

Ref --- Col H.S. Ford. 1537.
No 3 Gen. Hospital.

WSI.

P.1

Le Treport. June 19th. 1918

Havre

19th June 1918.

Aust. Pioneers 3.

Balderson W.J. 2267.

D/W 10th May 1918. Det D/B.

This man was last seen in the Village of Heilly, about 20 kilos from Amiens. He was there with two other men, one was a S/B. L/Cpl W. Waugh attached to D.Coy. and at present with the Battn He could give some information.

Inf:- Pte C. Christiansen No. 1120.
No. 1. Gen. Hos. (Etretat).

WEB.

(Sk)

Written L/C Waugh 8.7.18.

3rd Pioneers.
A.I.F.

BALDERSON.
W.J. 2267.

"Died of Wounds" 10-5-18.

He was in D. Company. Refer to L/Cpl Cummins J.J. D.Coy.
3rd Pioneer Battalion who is now in France, for he saw him
wounded.

Informant:- Pte Stockdale, W.C. 2660.
D.Coy. 3rd Pioneer Battn.
No 3 A.A.H. DARTFORD.

Note:- Written Cummins 18-6-18.

W. Oman.
London.
19-6-18.

P I.

3rd Australian Imperial Force
Pioneer Battalion.

Balderson, W.J. 2267

(D/W May 10. 18. Dets
D & B)

" I have seen the grave of Pte. W.J. Balderson (3. D)
There is a wooden cross put up with his name. He died about 10
May, at 47 C.C.S. Crouy ? and was buried in the Military Ceme-
tery there. He was wounded by a shell a few days before while
coming out of the line at night at Villers Bretonneux. Sgt. de
Vine (3. D) was with him and told me about it. "

Eye Witness - He has seen his grave.

Description W.Aus. With us along time, nearly from the
start.

Informant :- Sgt. Ernest Henry Shepherd, 509,
III Pltn. A Coy. 3rd A I F. Pioneer Battn.
3rd Southern General Hospital,
Durham Buildings, Oxford.

Home address :-
165, Young St,
Fitzroy, Melbourne

26. June, 1918.
H.M. Pickard-Cambridge.

Havre

29th June 1918.

Aust. Pioneers. 3.

Balderson W.J. No. 2267

D/10 10th May 1918. Det D/B

I did not know him well, he was about 25, medium build, but nothing particular by which to identify him. On the 10th May we were at Reilly. He had just finished tea, and the men were going back to their billets when a shell came and badly wounded him. He was taken to the D/Station, but I don't know anymore about him. I saw him hit and taken away.

Inf:- Pte C. Dhue No.
Pioneers. 3. D. IV. (Aust).
Australian Camp.
Douelles.

CWEO.

Havre.

1st. July. 1918.

3rd. Australian Pioneers.
~~2nd. Australian Pioneers.~~

Balderson, W. J. 2267.

D/7. May. 10/1918. Det. D/B.

He was in D. Coy; 16th. Pltn; came from Bendigo; single. He was hit by a shell at Reul & had both his legs blown away & died at the D/Station shortly afterwards. I don't know where his body was buried

Inf:- H. S. Ford. 1637.
3rd. Australian Pioneers. D. 16.
H. S. 'Parana'.

EBS.

3rd Pioneer A.I.F.

BALDERSON. W. J.
2267.

"Died of Wounds 10.5.18."

Re Pte. Balderson. The following particulars of the deceased soldier of that name formerly of this Battn. Age, 26 years, height 6ft 2in. build, slight; hair dark, eyes blue, nose Aquiline, complexion, Fair. Wounded at Meilly on the 9/5/18. Died of Wounds at No. 61 C.C.S. 10/5/18. Buried at Vignacourt Military Cemetery, Map Reference Lens II c.b. Next-of-kin,

Father, Christopher Balderson.
Meaton Post Office,
Victoria,
Australia,

London,
25.7.18.

Inf. I/Cpl. W.A. Waugh D.C.M.,
3rd Aust. Pioneer Battn.
France.

P.I.

10/11/18

No 1 Ward
No 5 V. A Hospital
Exeter

Devonshire

May 21st

Ar 5
25 5:10

Mr. H. H.

Sir,

Could you please inform
me of the whereabouts of ²²⁵⁷ Pte H. J.
Balderson D Comp. 3rd Aus. Pioneer Bn
who was wounded somewhere about
the beginning of this month.

and I would be
much obliged

Pte H. C. Stockdale

3rd Aus Pioneer Bn
1 Ward 5 Hospital. Exeter

Pte. W.C. Stockdale,
3rd Pioneers, A.I.F.,
No. 3 Command Dept.,
Hurdcott,
Wilts.

5th August, 1918.

Dear Sir,

We beg to inform you that we have received another
unofficial report respecting:-

2267 Pte. W.J. Balderson, 3rd Pioneer Battn. A.I.F.
which may be of value to you.

Cpl. J.J. Cummins, of the same unit, writes from France, that he
was with Pte. Balderson when he was wounded, and rendered him
first aid. He was brought to the dressing station close by,
with no delay and from there was sent on. About four days
later word was received that he died of wounds at the 61st
Casualty Clearing Station, also that he was buried in the
Military Cemetery at Vignacourt. The Battn. sent a Cross
to be erected over his grave, which they have cared for in the
usual way.

We have now closed our enquiry, as we do not think it likely
that any more definite information will be received. Should any
be forthcoming we will at once forward it to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Mrs S. J. G. G.
SECRETARY.

K.P.C. 20/1/18 Antt
To the Red Cross

Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau

2267 W.J. Balderson France
3 Pion 16/7/18
D/W 10.5.18
P1, (C)

Re No 2267 Pte Balderson W.J.

10 Company

3rd Australian Pioneer Bn

Dear Madam,

In reference to your enquiry Re No 2267
Balderson W.J. the following are the full particulars
of the deceased soldier of that name ^{formerly of} this
Battalion =

Age 26 years

Height 6'2"

Build Slender

Hair Dark

Eyes Blue

Nose Aquiline

Complexion Fair

Wounded at Beilly on the 9/5/18

Died of Wounds at No 61 Casualty Clearing Station 10/5/18

Buried at Vignacourt Military Cemetery. Map Reference Lens

Next of Kin: Father

Christopher Balderson

Meatman Post Office

Victoria

Australia

Yours Sincerely
Lt Col W.A. Haugh D.C.M.
3rd Australian Pioneer Bn

(8.7.18.

2/Cpl. W. Waugh

W Coy.

3rd Pioneer C.I.7.

G

abroad

Aht.

2267

Pt. W. J. Balderson

3rd Pioneer C.I.7.

D/W 10.5.18.

9.7.18.
a.l.B.

29th June, 1918.

Pte. W. C. Stockdale,
3rd Pioneers Battalion,
Australian Imperial Forces,
France.

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your enquiry for No. 2267

Pte. W. J. Balderson, 3rd Pioneers Battalion, A. I. F. we regret to inform you of an unofficial report we have received from a man of his unit who was in the 3rd General Hospital, B. E. F. on 19.6.18. He reported that when they were at Heiller expecting to leave next morning Pte. Balderson and three others went to the hill to get corrugated iron from the old trenches for the purpose of building dugouts, when they were returning and were half way down the hill the Germans began shelling them, the second shell wounding Pte. Balderson very badly, breaking both his legs, and inflicting other severe injuries. The stretcher bearers carried him to the dressing station on the other side of the hill and when they left him there he was still alive although they believe that he died later.

A reply has been received from the O.C. of the 61st Casualty Clearing Station in which he died. He writes:-
"Pte. Balderson was admitted dead to this Casualty Clearing Station on 10.5.18. His wounds were, Shell wounds both legs,

2.

with compound fracture of the right Tibia and Fibula. He was buried on the 10.5.18. in the local Military Cemetery."

We are continuing our enquiries for details of his casualty and as soon as these are received we shall advise you.

With our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

Law

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
"THE SECRETARY,"
WOUNDED AND MISSING
— ENQUIRY BUREAU —
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA { 8576
8577
8578

36, GROSVENOR PLACE

(NEAR VICTORIA STATION).

LONDON, S.W. 1.

Pte. W. G. Stockdale,
3rd Pioneers, A.I.F.,
1 Ward, *No 3 Command Depot*
~~5 Hospital,~~ *Hindcott.*
~~Exeter.~~

5th July 1918.

Typ again

Dear Sir,

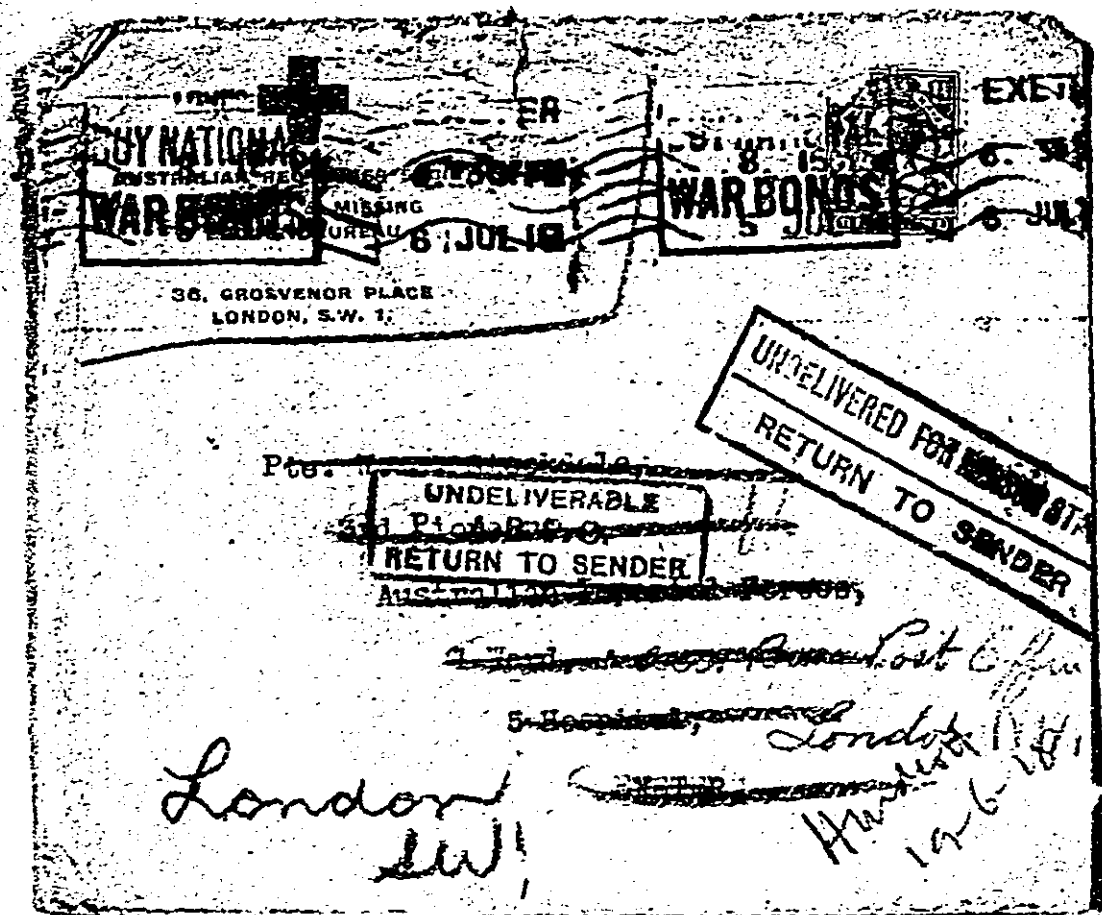
We beg to inform you that we have received another unofficial report respecting 2267 Pte. W. J. Balderson, 3rd Pioneer Battalion, A.I.F., which may be of value to you. Cpl. J. J. Cummins, of the same unit, writes from France that he was with Pte. Balderson when he was wounded, and rendered him first aid. He was brought to the dressing station close by, with no delay, and from there was sent on. About 4 days later word was received that he had died of wounds at the 61st Casualty Clearing Station, also that he was buried in the Military Cemetery at Vignacourt. The Battalion sent a cross to be erected over his grave, which they have cared for in the usual way.

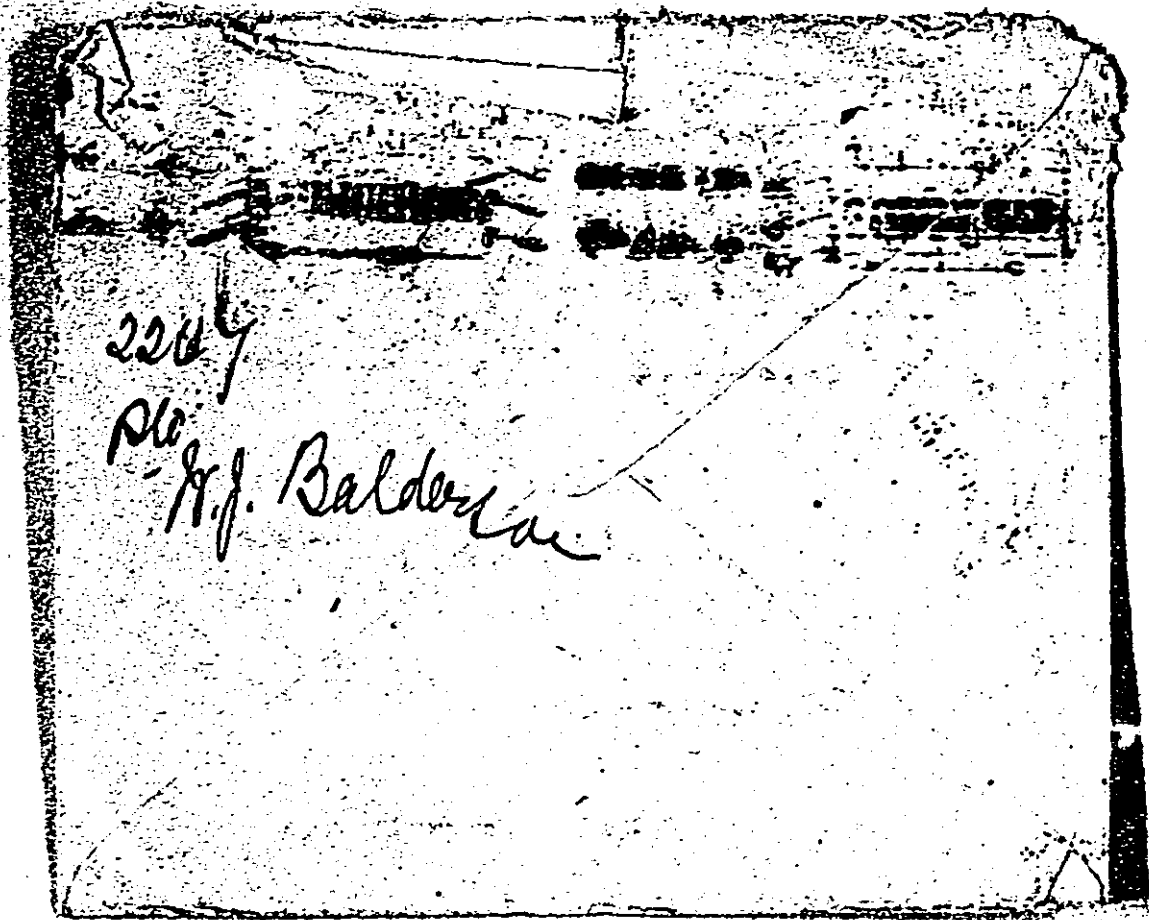
We have now closed our enquiry, as we do not think it likely that any more definite information will be received. Should any be forthcoming we will at once forward it to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin (per F.S.V.G.)

Secretary.





2267

Plc

H. J. Balderson

Chas. P.
1.7.18
M.J.

2267
W. J. Balderson
3rd Pioneer Batta Some Where in France
D of W 10.5.18
24.6/18

To the Secretary
Engineering Bureau.

Reference to your
letter to hand today concerning the death of W. J. Balderson. I was one who was with him the day he
got wounded and rendered him first aid, we did not
know much more in getting him to the dressing
station which was close by, & from there he was sent
on, about four days after we got word through
that he had died of wounds 10/6/18 at No 61 C.I.S.
and also buried at Military Cemetery Vignacourt
Our Batta. have sent the crosses put over his grave, and
have attended to it in the usual way.

Yours sincerely
W. J. Balderson

P.S. Military address

~~17~~

Post W. J. Balderson

No 2267

3rd Pioneer Batta
Australian Pioneer Batta

(Sh)

3rd Pioneers.

A.I.F.

BALDERSON.

W.J. 2267.

"Wounded beg May".

Died of Wounds at 61st C.C.S. 10-5-18.

Cert: by Hospital Index.

Buried in the Local Military Cemetery.

London.

8-6-18.

P I.

1. G. 1. m. 11.

18-6-18

1/2 cpl. J. J. Cummins
3rd Pioneer Btn.
A. J. F.

About.

2267. W. J. Barderson.

3rd Pioneer Btn.

A. J. F.

D. W. 10/5/18

W. J. Barderson.
18-6-18

Pte. W.E. Stockdale,
3rd Australian Pioneer Battn.,
No. 1 Ward,
No. 5 Hospital,
Exeter,
Devon.

24th May 1918.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry of 21st inst., for 2267,
Pte W.J. Balderson 3rd Pioneer Battalion, A.I.F., we very much
regret to inform you that he is officially reported to have died
of wounds at 61st Casualty Clearing Station B.E.F., on 10/5/18.
We are doing our utmost to obtain details of his death and burial
and will advise you as soon as we succeed.

Regretting we should have to forward such sad news and
assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) M. Ryan

Secretary.

Tel: VICTORIA (8576
8577
8578)

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

"THE SECRETARY,"

WOUNDED AND MISSING

— ENQUIRY BUREAU —

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE,

LONDON S.W. 1.

2264 Pte W. G. Balderson

23.5.18

3rd Pioneer Battalion, Australian Imperial Force

Dear Sir,

We have been asked by the relatives in Australia to obtain the fullest details possible of the wounds, death and burial of the above, who died in your Hospital on 10.5.18 and would greatly appreciate any information that you may send us.

As we have been informed by various C.O.'s and Adjutants that the receipt of notes of thanks only causes them unnecessary inconvenience, unless you ask us to acknowledge your reply to the above we will not do so, and trust that you will understand that we appreciate it none the less.

With apologies for troubling you,

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Beakin (per MR.)

Secretary.

2.

D/W
This man was dead on admission to this CCS, 10.5.18.
His wounds were, Shell Wounds both legs
with compound fracture of the right Tibia and Fibula.
He was buried on the 10th inst in the local Military
Cemetery.



[Signature]
Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.
Comdgr. No. 61 Casualty Clearing Station

[Faint, mostly illegible text]

[Faint, mostly illegible text]

[Faint, mostly illegible text]

[Faint, mostly illegible text]

[Faint, mostly illegible text]

10.5.18