

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

5985 Private
Joe Barnicle

13th Battalion



0241003A

13th Battn.
A.I.F.

Barnicle.
J. 5985

"Killed 4.2.17"

He was killed on the 4th on our first hop over and we found his dead body the next day as we went over the second time, near up to Fritz barbed wire. I saw his body but we had to go on and I do not think he would have a burial. We came over together from Sydney Aug. 22nd 1916 in the "Wiltshire" we were together for in training camp at Krama in N.S.W. and at Codford England I went to France first and he joined us up in Dec. 1916. I think he was a single man went by the name of Barney

Witness:-

J.C. Hardy 6054
13th Battn. D. Coy.
No. 3 Command Depot.
Hurdcott.

G.W. Griffith.

London.
11.12.17.

S.

13th Battalion. A. Co.
19th Reinf.

BARNICLE, J.
5985 Pte

Killed in Action 4/2/17.

He was a "cobber" of mine his number was 5985 and his name was Joe but we called him "Kelso" He was in A. Co. I think, and in the 19th Reinf. He came from Lithgow and was a carpenter by trade. He was killed outright by a shell at Guedecourt on 4/2/17. I did not see it happen but was told about it by Pte D. Doody who was in A. Co. and Doody told me he saw Barnicle after he had been killed outright by a shell. Doody has since been wounded again. Doody knew Barnicle well and seemed quite sure of what he told me.

Informant: Whitter, P.H.W. Pte 6342
13th Battn. C. Co.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

A careful witness.

H.S.O.
18/12/17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

13th Battalion, A.I.F.

BARNICLE, J.

19th R. A Co

Private No. 5985.

"Killed in Action, 4.2.17"

Informant described Barnicle as about 5'9" high, slight build, dark complexion, aged about 23. Left Australia with Informant per "Wiltshire" in August, 1916.

Informant states that they both belonged to "D" Company. On 4.2.17 the Battalion was at Gudecourt in action. They hopped over at about 10 p.m. Barnicle was carrying a coil of wire and when they reached the German Trenches a German sniper killed him outright. His paybook was taken from him by a Non-commissioned Officer.

Informant added that Barnicle was a good fellow, well liked by his chums.

Informant:- Private N. Connor, No. 5992,
D. Company, 13th Battalion.

Home Address:- 37, Theodore Street, Balmain.

W.E.G.

25.6.18.

No. 4, Australian General Hospital,
Randwick.

M. M. Connor

SYDNEY BUREAU.

13th Battalion.
19th R., "A" Co.

BARNICLE, J. Pte. No. 5985.

"Killed, 4/2/17."

Informant describes him as about 5'8", rather slim, ruddy complexion; about 23 years old, and says he came from Kiara.

Informant states that on 4/2/17, the battalion was in action at Gudecourt; they hopped over about 10.30 p.m., to attack a trench, which they succeeded in capturing. After the capture, while they were in the trench, Barnicle was killed outright by shell fire. Informant was a few yards away, but did not see Barnicle killed, but saw him about half an hour later lying where he had fallen. The battalion was relieved the next morning; up to that time Barnicle had not been taken away, but he was probably buried later on.

Informant added he was a good chap, and well liked by his mates.

Informant - Private J.H. Glasson, No. 6027,
13th Battalion, "A" Company.

Private Address - C/o Mrs. Brennan,
9 Emmore Road,
Marrickville.

W.E.G.

Victoria Barracks,
Sydney, 17/3/19.

SYDNEY 1 EAU.

A.I.F.

13th Btn. - B. Co.

BARNACLE, J
Pte. 5985

K.in act. 4/2/17

At Guidecourt 4/2/17 we were advancing and Barnacle was about 20 yds. to the Right of me. He was hit by a piece of shell and killed instantly. He was buried at Fleurs Military Cemetery. I knew him well. He came from Australia with me on the "Wiltshire."

Informant:- Pte. Lee J 6070,
B Co. 13th Btn.

W.H. Hacker, Sgt.
H.T. "Orca"

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.