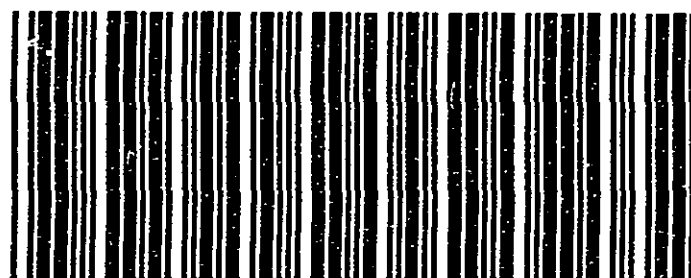


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**4101 Private
William Thomas Bain**

26th Battalion



0190202E

FRANCE

26th BATT. A.I.F.

BAIN. W.T. 4101.

K. Nov 14th. 1916. Det D/B.

He came from Gladstone, Queensland and was a great friend of mine. He was a Company runner and was going with a message across No Man's Land and had just got out of a shell hole when he was shot through the head by a sniper. I was looking back from the German line which we had just taken and I saw him fall. I had seen him coming along and then disappear into the shell hole. I presume to rest, and I watched for him to come out again. The shell hole would be about 70 yards distant. A friend of Bains' was most anxious to find and see his grave and told me that he thought he was buried at Flers.

WSI

Ref --- Pte F. Currie. 4107.
No 3 Gen. Hospital.

Le Report. May 15th. 1917.

26th A. I. F.

W. T. BAIN, 4101.

Killed 14.11.16. Det. D/B.

I have seen his grave about 2 miles from Flers towards the N. There is a cross over the grave with his name on. I was told by Corpl. Gurvan, 332 or 322, B. Coy. 6 Pl. that he was with Bain when he was killed. He said it was during the advance at Flers on Nov. 14th and that he was shot through the head. Gurvan is still with the Battn.. Bain comes from Queensland. He was a 10th Reinforcement. He was in No. 6 Plat. the same as me.

Reference: C. Greenaway, 468.

No. 11 Con. Camp, Buchy nr. Rouen, 17.8.17.

Written Cpl Gurvan FEB.
31.8.17

B.

Cpl

29-8.17

322

332

GURVAN

6 Plat.

BCo

26 Batt AIF

BEF

for

4101

W.T. BAIN

26 Batt AIF

K. 14. 11. 16

9/9/17

26th Battn.

B. Coy. *6 Plac.*

A. I. F.

Bain.

W. T. 4101.

"Killed 14.11.16"

I saw him running across No Man's Land, he stopped in a shell hole for a rest, and on rising up a sniper shot him through the head; death instantaneous. Casualty at Fleurs. I knew him well. He was killed about 100 yards away from me. He came from Gladstone, Queensland. Cannot refer to anyone for further information. Description, fair complexion, about 5'5" high, 19 years of age. Do not know place of burial.

6

Witness:-

Pte. W. Currie 4107.

26th Battn. D. Coy. *14 Plac.*

3rd Aust. Aux. Hospital.

Dartford.

W. Oman.

London.

31.7.17.

Note See previous report by Currie.

B.

ackd 7000
letter 18-9-17

Rollestone
Sept. 16th 1917

Dear Miss Deakin

In regards to your letter enquiring for information concerning No 4101 Pte. W. J. Bain B. Coy 26th Battalion. I wish to inform you that he was buried on the Field and not in a Soldiers Cemetery. On several occasions I have pay a visit to his grave. He has a small cross with his name, number and regiment inscribed upon it. He was killed at a place called Telers. He was killed by a bullet from a German Rifle he was hit in the head the bullet entering his forehead. I was about 2 yards from him when he was killed but could help him in no way as he only lived a few seconds after being hit. His personal appearance He was a small lad fair hair. Did not look to be very strong in health. Age about 22 years. You can Rely on my information being correct.

As I am coming to London on leave in a fortnight's time I will call at your office and furnish you with any further information you require about him.

I Remain

yours faithfully

4101 T BAIN
26 BATT A 4322 Cpl. J. Gowan

B. Company
4th Training Battr.
Rollestone
England

K/A. 14.11.16

B (cd)
3

26th A. I. F.

W. T. BAIN. 4101.

Killed 14.11.16. Det.D/B.

He was killed at Flers about the date named. It was during the attack and happened immediately we went over the top. A shell took his head clean off. I had this from men who actually saw it happen though I have forgotten their names. I knew him well and was careful to get the facts. He came over with me in the "Commonwealth" leaving Brisbane 28.3.16. He came from Nth. Queensland and was a shop assistant.

Reference: R.Harper, 4150.

No.11 Con.Camp, Buchy nr. Rouen, 18.8.17.

FEP.

B.

5C
19.9.17

322 Cpl. J. GIRWAN

B. Coy. 7th. Training Battn. Rollestone. Salisbury Plain

Dear Cpl. Girwan,

We wish to thank you very much for your letter in answer to our
enquiry, concerning: 4101 Pte. ^TW.S. BAIN
26th. Battn. A.I.F.

The information and details which you have supplied will be of
much assistance to us and of value to our enquirers. We are quite sure
that it will be a comfort for his people to learn that his death was
almost instantaneous.

We shall be very pleased to see you if you came to call on us when
you come to London.

Again thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

V. D
Secretary

Shuf
OAS

How re

22nd Aug. 1917.

26th AUSTRALIANS

BAIN, W.T. 4101

K. 14.11.16: Det. D/B.

He was in B Co., 6th platoon. He came in the 10th to the 26th Reinforcements, and his number was about 468 as stated. I saw him killed at Fiers on November 14th, 1916 in the open in "no mans land" when we were advancing. He lost the ground. I went to the spot about three months after and saw his grave near where he fell: there is a cross on it with his name and number. I could point out the spot: it is about 2 miles from Fiers.

Informant: Corpl. C. Greenway, 468
26th Australians, B Co., 6th Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Nouelles.

RDM

la B
Luff