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

Lieutenant
Reginald Frank Barratt

1st Field Artillery Brigade



0250403E

3rd Bty. A.F.A.

BARRATT

Lieut R.F.

Killed 22/8/17

Buried Bedford House Cemetery, Zillebeke, 1 mile S. of Ypres, G2.6., SSP.2111

Extracted from Capt. Spedding's List of 16/10/19

Melbourne

23/12/19

[redacted]

A.I.F. 3rd F.A.B.

BARRATT
2/Lieut R.Frank

Died of wounds 22.8.17

Buried Bedford House Cemetery E Zillebeke - Map reference 28I.26A 8.3.

Cert. by A.I.F.Hdqrs List for Capt. Spedding.

London
3C.[illegible].19

M
P.I.

3rd Bgde,
A.I.F.

Barrett
Lieut. R.F.

"Died of Wounds 22.8.17"

I did not see him killed but I saw his grave in the military cemetery at Reninghelst, which was marked with a cross bearing his rank, name and battery. I knew him very well, he was a very popular officer, and very well liked by all the men. He used to be in the 3rd Brigade but at time of casualty he was in the 3rd Battery 1st Bgde. who is in France and who saw him wounded and can give full particulars.

Witness:-
Gnr.M.Lawson 3149
3rd Battery.1st Bgde.
3rd Aust.Aux.Hospital.
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London.
5.12.17.

Sentenced BARRETT H.
P.I.

[redacted]

cd

3rd A.F.A.

Barratt 2/Lt. R.F.

(D/W Aug. 22nd 1917)

"I knew Lt. Barratt in 1st Bde., 3rd Battery not 3rd Bde. He and Capt. Glendinning were buried at Renninghelst, nr. Dickebusch. This is well known and Lt. King of 3rd Battery knows all abt. it. He was all right five weeks ago in France up the line".

Eye-witness:

Description: Abt. 6ft, a bit gray, aover 40, wife in England.

Informant: J.E. Rumsey 26627,
3rd A.F.A.,
R.V. Hospt.,
Netley.

Lt King written to

Nov. 27/17,
G.R.B.

P.I.

3rd A.F.A.

Barratt Lt. R.F.

(D/W Aug. 22/17)

"Lt. Barratt was killed by the same shell that killed Lt. Madell. It burst in the dug-out when they were sitting. He too was removed to a C.C.S. near Ypres and buried at a Military Cemetery in the rear of the lines".

Eye-witness: No, told by other men in the battery at the time.

Description: I have seen him but could not accurately describe him.

Informant: Major L.F. Cunningham,
1st A.F.A.,
3rd London General Hospt.,
Wandsworth.

Home address:
~~Commercial~~ Bank,
New Broad St.

Nov. 15/17,
W. Arnold Davies.

5th Battery.
2nd Bgde.
A.F.A.

Barratt.
2/Lieut. R.F.

"Died of Wounds 22.8.17"

I saw him wounded at Maple Copse in front of Zillebeke. He was caught by a shell that landed in his dug-out, fragments of which hit him about the face and stomach. He was taken to the dressing station at Zillebeke where his wounds were dressed and from there he was sent on to Poperinghe where he died, and we sent across to get particulars of his burial, and we were told that he was buried there at Poperinghe and that his grave was marked with a cross bearing his rank, name and battery. Refer to Lieut.D.King 1st Bgde 3rd Battery.who can give full details. I knew him very well, he was in the 3rd Battery at time of casualty.

Witness:-
Sgt.R.J.Ruhan 2549
1st Bgde.3rd Battery.
3rd Aust.Aux.Hospital.
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London.
23.11.17.

3rd A.F.A. Barratt 2/Lt. R.F.

(D/W Aug. 22/17)
Det D/B

"I know Lt. Barratt and I know he was buried at ~~Exxt~~ Coxside? Cemetery, nr. Nieuport".

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: Cpl. R. Seale 21422,
105 How. Batt, 3 Bde. A.F.A.,
Fulham Military Hospt.,
Hammersmith, W.

M
P.1
& d
Suff

Nov. 13/17,
V. Cholmondley.

[redacted]

Aus.Imp Force Field Artillery. 3rd Bdge.

Barratt, 2nd Leieut. R.F.

(D/W Aug. 22. 17. Dets D & B).

" I saw Lieut. Barratt (1st Bde 3 Batty) wounded in the face by a shell while in a dug-out in the Battery position in August at Zillebeke. We carried him down to the Dressing Station in Zillebeke village and the news came through afterwards that he had died. I do not know where he was buried. There was a Memorial Service one Sunday afterwards for those who had fallen, and the Chaplain read out the names. Lieut. Medell was wounded by the same shell and we carried them down together. "

Eye Witness - Yes.
Description - Out a considerable time. Sharp features, fairly tall. English, I Believe. I am sure he was married, as he was calling for his Wife all the time we were carrying him away.

Informant :- Gunner Fred Barrah, 1692, Field Artillery, 1 Bde. 3rd Batty. A.I.F. 3rd Southern General Hospt. The Tents New College Gardens, Oxford.

Home address :-
421, William St. Perth, W Australia.

M
P.1

13.11.17.
H. Pickard Cambridge

1st Bgde,
3rd Battery,
A.F.A.

Barratt.
Lieut. R. F.

"Died of Wounds 22.8.17"

Madell.
Lieut. E. R.

They were in the same dug-out with temp.Capt.W.H.East (since killed?) when they were hit by shell at Zillebeke Lake and died on the way to Dressing Station. I was at my Battery quite near when they were killed and saw them carried away. I think they were buried at Boesscheppel?

Witness:-
P.McDonnell 417
1st Bgde.
3rd Battery. A.F.A.

L.P.J.

London.
8.11.17.

M.
P.I.
S.

Miss Barrett,
17 St.Paul's Rd,
Withington,
MANCHESTER.

4th March, 1918.

Dear Madam,

We have received the following unofficial report respecting your brother - Lieut. R.F.BARRATT, 3rd Field Artillery Bgde, A.I.F.- which we feel sure you will be glad to have.

Bombardier H.Howard Harding, 3rd Battery, F.A.B., A.I.F., writes "This officer was alongside me when he was wounded very seriously by a hostile shell, which burst beside him and caused injuries from which he succumbed a few hours later. He was wounded shortly after dinner, and we had a doctor attending him at once. After first attention he was carried first to a dressing station and then to a Clearing Station, where he died". Bombdr. Harding states that he was written both to you and to Mrs. Barratt about the location of the grave, and as he adds that you are arranging for a special cross, we presume that you have received his letter. He continues "I need Hardly assure you that everything possible was done for Lt.Barratt, who was at once one of the finest we have been associated with, and also a splendid example of officer, esteemed and respected by all. Unfortunately we were in such a position at the time that the Battery was practically unable to do anything with regard to his grave ".

We are sure that this testimony to his comrades' love and respect for your brother will be a little comfort to you and with renewed sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

9th February 1918.

Miss Barratt,
17 St. Paul's Road,
Withington, Manchester.

Dear Madam,

We hear through the B.R.C.S. that you are anxious for a photograph of the grave of your late brother 2nd. Lieut. R.F. Barratt, 3rd. Field Auxiliary Brigade. A.I.F. We advise you to apply to the Director, Graves Registration and Enquiry War Office, Winchester House, St. James Square, S.W.1. giving all the particulars you have, and you will receive it in due course, if his grave is registered.

With sincere sympathy in your sorrow,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Please Address all communications to the "HON. LOCAL ORGANISER."

Telephone: City 2201

British Red Cross Society, East Lancashire Branch.

British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John.

(ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT FOR WOUNDED AND MISSING.)

HON. LOCAL ORGANISER:
RICHARD H. CHAPMAN.

SEARCH:
Mrs. E. P. BAILEY.

Please quote.-
No. 2162.1B/DLR.

92, KING STREET,
MANCHESTER

February 5th, 1918.

Re

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, we beg to inform you that Miss Barratt's address is -

17, St. Paul's Road,
Withington,
Manchester.

Miss R. Barratt
3 YAB

RECEIVED
6 - FEB. 1918

Yours faithfully,
H. Bailey

p. pro.
RICHARD H. CHAPMAN,
Hon. Local Organiser.

Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36, Grosvenor Place,
London, S.W.1.

4th February 1918.

R.H. Chapman Esq
Hon. Local Organiser.
East Lancashire Branch
B.R.C.S.
92 King Street, Manchester.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of Jan. 30th. 2182 Lad/dler we will endeavour to obtain a photograph of Lieut. R.F. Barratt's grave for his sister, but it is necessary that we should have her name and address before applying to the Director of Graves Registration.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Flora K.P. St. George

L.B.

Please Address all communications to the "HON. LOCAL ORGANISER."

Telephone: City 2201.

British Red Cross Society, East Lancashire Branch.

British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John.
(ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT FOR WOUNDED AND MISSING.)

HON. LOCAL ORGANISER:
RICHARD H. CHAPMAN.

SEARCH:
Mrs. G. E. BAILEY.

Please quote.-

No. 2182.LAD/DLR.

92, KING STREET,
MANCHESTER
January 30th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of January 17th, concerning Lieut. R. F. Barratt, 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, A.I.F., if in due course a photograph of his grave is obtained, we should be most grateful if you would obtain a copy of it for his sister in Manchester as well as being forwarded to his next of kin in Australia.

Yours faithfully,

p. pro.
RICHARD H. CHAPMAN,
Hon. Local Organiser.

Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36, Grosvenor Place,
London, S.W.1.

The Secretary,
R.R.C.S., Wounded & Missing Dept,
92, King Street, Manchester.

Jamary 17th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

We beg to inform you of further unofficial evidence about the death of Lt. R.F. BARRATT, 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, A.I.F. and trust that these reports may be of some assistance to his sister.

2649 Sgt.R.J.Ruhan, 3rd Battery, stated that at the time of his death Lt. Barratt was attached to the 3rd Battery, 1st Brigade Artillery and that he saw him wounded in the face and stomach by a piece of shell which fell in his dugout at Maple Copse in front of Zillebeke on August 22nd 1917. He was removed to the dressing station at Zillebeke there his wounds received attention and from there he was taken to Poperinghe where he died.

Sgt.Ruhan states that he is buried there in a grave marked by a cross.

Gnr.Fred Barrah, also of the 3rd Battery, stated that he saw Lt. Barrat wounded in the face by a shell which burst in his dugout when they were in the battery position at Zillebeke and they carried him to the dressing station in the village. Later a memorial service was held for men of the battery who had fallen but informant does not know where he was buried. He describes him as tall with sharp features.

Major L.K.Cumingham, reported that Lt.Barratt was buried in a Military Cemetery behind the lines.

This last report is confirmed by Gnr. Lawson who has seen Lt.Barratt's grave in the Military Cemetery at Remmenghelst and adds "He was a very popular officer, and very well liked by all the men".

28627 Gnr.J.B.Rumsey, also states that Lt. Barratt is buried at Remmenghelst near Dickebusch and we have applied to the Graves Registration Bureau for a photograph of his grave which if the latter is registered will be forwarded in due course direct to his next of kin in Australia.

Yours faithfully,

LPW

SECRETARY.

6C.

December 19th, 1917.

Bdr.H.H.Harding,
3rd Btty, 1st F.A.B.,
A.F.A., A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you very much for your letter in answer to our enquiry made to Lt.King,concerning,

Lieut.R.F.BARRATT, A.F.A.

The detailed information you have given will be of great value to our enquirers, one of whom was his sister and another the next of kin, his wife in Australia. Mrs.Barratt will be comforted in her loss to learn from your account that everything possible was done for Lt. Barratt, and will greatly prize what you have said in appreciation of his qualities.

We had applied to the director of Graves Registration & Enquiries, for a photograph of the grave to be sent to the next of kin, his wife, as is the usual course, but we think probably in this case as Miss Barratt has ~~also~~ been in communication with the same Society, they will also forward her a photograph in due course.

We also have to thank you for the definite information you have sent concerning

No 321 Bdr. A.H.McNAMARA, A.F.A.

This will be of assistance to us and of great value to the relatives. With repeated thanks and all good wishes for as pleasant a time at Christmas as possible under the circumstances and hopes for a happier year for all of us in 1918.

Yours faithfully,

V. D

SECRETARY,

2/Lt. R. FRANK. BARRATT.
1 7 A.B.
D/W 22-8-17
In
P.I.
3 (Cd)

Sutherfield Pl/17

The Secretary
Mistn. Reference Secty
London

Dear Madam,

In connection with the Memorial Service which has been held in the Parish of Hatfield Pl/17 in the Battalion to which my late husband belonged, I am desirous of obtaining information as to the circumstances under which he was killed. He was wounded shortly after leaving the trenches and died in hospital a few hours later. He was buried by the Padre of the Battalion, who also took the Service. Although I realise that you have no official connection with the Graves, I am hoping that you may be able to help me in obtaining the information I require. I enclose a stamped addressed envelope for your reply.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) E. Barratt.

Hatfield Pl/17

Will you please inform me whether there is a Memorial Tablet in the Church to the memory of Second Lieutenant Reginald Frank Barratt, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who was killed in action on the 22nd August 1917, and if so, whether there is a Photograph of it.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) E. Barratt.

Lt Bassett's mother and sister in England are receiving enquiries from the Registrar of Births respecting his estate &c and are in regard to a special case to make the grant. I understand from Lt Bassett's solicitor that there is a possibility of Lt Bassett's wife having at one of the finest [illegible] we have been associated with, and that a substantial sum of £ of effects, interest and property by his death.

Unfortunately we in such a position at the time that Lt Bassett was practically unable to do anything with regard to his affairs but I understand that his sister in Mr A Bain of London Wall Buildings London is doing all possible in that direction.

I am faithfully

Edward Harding Capt

3 Bty
1 FAB

21.11.17

B

Lieut. D. King.
3rd Battery
1st Bgde. A.F.A.
B.F.A. ~~A.F.A.~~

adt. (trotter officer)
2nd Lt. R. F. Barratt
5th Battery
3rd Bgde. A.F.A.
D/W 22-8-17

21.11.17.
A.F.A.

November 19th, 1917.

The Secretary,
Wounded & Missing Dept,
92, King Street,
Manchester.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your inquiry for

Lt. R.F.BARRATT,
3rd Fld.Arty.Bgde,
A.I.F.

who died of wounds on 22.8.17, we regret to inform you of an unofficial report given by No 417 Pte.P.McDonnell, of the same unit.

He states that when Lt.Barratt and Lt. Madell were in the same dugout at Zillebeke Lake on 22.8.17, they were wounded by a shell, their deaths taking place on the way to the dressing station. Informant who was quite close when they were wounded saw them being carried away. He thinks that they were buried at Boschepe.

We are continuing the inquiry and as soon as further news is received we shall advise you.

Trusting that these details will be of some assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,
LAW.
SECRETARY.

Please address all communications to the "HON. LOCAL ORGANISER."

TELEPHONE: CITY 2201

P.C. 15.10.17

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY,
ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT
FOR WOUNDED AND MISSING.

92, KING STREET,
MANCHESTER,

Hon. Local Organiser: RICHARD H. CHAPMAN.

RECEIVED 12 OCT 1917

Oct 11th 1917.

CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

Dear Sir,

We have received an Enquiry on behalf of Sister for

Reg. No — Surname Barratt Christian Name R. Frank.

Rank Lieut. Regiment R.F.A. Field Artillery Batt. No

Company Plat. or Battery 3rd Bgde. 1st

Officially ~~Killed~~

~~Reported Missing~~ on Aug 22nd 1917

~~Unofficially~~ died of Wounds

Where France.

If unofficially reported give details.

Details D/R.

p. pro.
RICHARD H. CHAPMAN,
Hon. Local Organiser.

Yours truly.

A.I.F. 3rd Fld: Amb: Egee:
Hqrts A.F.A.

BARRATT
2/ Lieut R.F.

4-Nov-Dec.

Admitted 3rd London General Hospital 7-12-16 - Gas Poisoning
Cert. by Hospital Index

Discharged from hospital now at 80 Milton Road, Wallington Surrey
Cert. by Hospital Report 3.1.17.

London
4-1-17.