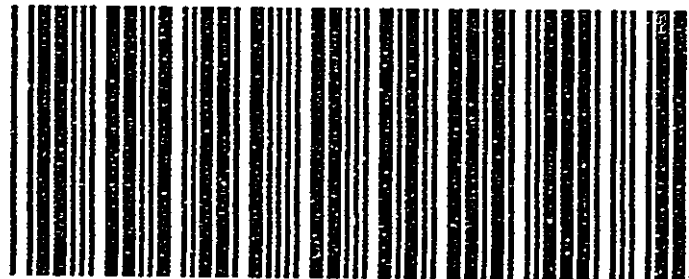


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1668 Private
Arthur Waters Barratt

23rd Battalion



0250401C

23rd Battn
AIF

BARRATT(HQ)
A. 1668

"Missing 28.7.16."

Killed in Action 29.7.16 prev. reported Missing
Cert. by 3.1.18.

Off. M.

London.
9.1.18.

23rd A.I.F.

Barratt A. 1668,

(M. July 28th 1916)

"I knew Barratt. He was transferred to the M.G. Section.
It was common knowledge that he was killed 28th July 1916 at Pozieres,
hit by a shell. I cannot give more definite details".

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Pte. H. Doods 1706,
23rd A.I.F., D. Coy., XVI Plt.,
Barborne Hall V.A.D. Hospt.,

Home address: Birmingham.
St. Cloud,
83 Broadway,
E. Camberwell,
Melborne.

Mar. 16th 1917,
G. Bullock

23rd A. I. F.

A. BARRATT, 1668

Missing 28.7.16.

At Pozieres on the 28th July/16, we went over the top in the dark about 12.30 a.m. Our orders were to advance about 800 yards and then dig in. Barratt went over the top with us. I saw him just as we were going over but never again. I never heard of his body being recovered. We reached our objective and dug in and were there for 3 days when we were relieved. I knew Barratt well, we came over in the same Reinforcement.

Reference: Pte.L.Dixon, 1707, C.Coy. No.9 Platoon.

No.9 General, Rouen, 14.5.17.

WTMR.

Mr. J. Barratt,
The Griffin Vaults,
Bracon, S. WALES.

7th March, 1918.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of 2nd inst., has been forwarded to us from Carlton House Terrace as we are the only organisation that deals with enquiries for Wounded and Missing Australians.

With reference to your enquiry for :-

1668 Pte. A. BARRATT, 20th Battalion, A.I.F.

We much regret to inform you that he is now officially reported Killed in Action on 28-29.7.16, having previously been reported Missing on that date.

We are forwarding an unofficial report given by 1707 Pte. L. Dixon, of the same Battalion. He states "at Pozieres on 28th July 16, we went over the top in the dark about 12-30 a.m. Our orders were to advance about 800 yards and then dig in. Barratt went over the top with us. I saw him just as we were going over but never again. I never heard of his body being recovered. I knew him well as he came over in the same re-inforcement."

1706 Pte. H. Doods, made the following statement :- "I knew Barratt. It was common knowledge that he was killed 28th July 1916 at Pozieres, but by a shell."

In spite of our efforts to do so we have never been able to obtain further and more definite details of Pte. Barratt's death, and we are very much afraid there is little hope of any being received now, so long after the action in which he fell.

Should any news concerning him come to hand, however,
we shall at once advise you.

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

Yours faithfully,

John Ryan

SECRETARY.

Trusting that you will endeavour
to trace some information, and that
you will excuse me in taking the
liberty of writing you, I remain Sir
yours Obediently

W. J. Barratt

The Griffin Vaults
Brecon. South. Wales

"This is my sons directions"

Pte. A. W. Barratt

No 1668. Lewis Machine Gun Section.

23rd Batt, Australian Imperial Forces

Reported as Missing Over Seas

28th July 1916.

RECEIVED

4-MAR-1918

CARLTON HOUSE TERR

slip

2/3/18

*Ans. S. The Griffin Vaults
Brecon. S. Wales*

To the Secretary, British Red Cross Society
Sir,

I am taking the liberty of writing to you in the hopes that you might be able to enlighten me on the subject of my son, who has been reported "missing", ever since the 28th of July 1916, since when I have heard not the slightest account of him. I should like to ask you Sir if you will endeavour to trace whether he is a prisoner of war, or otherwise deceased. I should have thought that had he been taken Prisoner, I would have received some communication from him by now, or otherwise Sir, could there be a possibility of him being a prisoner, and not allowed to communicate with his friends or relatives, If you can give me any news in regard of him I shall be extremely grateful for same, also it would be far more satisfactory to my mind if I could get to know, what has really happened to him.

Final Draft to

Mr J. Marriott

The Griffin Vault

Byrecon

P. Wales

cc 1668 Marriott A.W.

23rd Oct.

29/9/19

Name.	Number and Unit.	Inquiry and Remarks.
Salkeld Pte.J.G.	6316 - 3 L.T.M.Bty	wounded