

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

**6580 Lance Corporal
Erle Henderson**

25th Battalion



1310714H

25 A I F.

Henderson, E. 6580

K Oct. 4/17. Det. D/B.

I saw him killed right out at Ypres on the Zonnebeke Ridge. He was buried by us where he fell and his rifle and hat stuck up over him. I knew him well. His Father presented our flag before we left Queensland. He was a fine fellow. He had been through an O T C course just before he was killed.

Inf:- Goodall, T. 6568.

A 2 No 9 Red Cross Hosp.
Calais. 29 12 17.

RAK

L.

25th Battn
A.I.F.

HENDERSON,
E. 658D

"Killed 4.10.17."

I saw him killed outright (practically blown to pieces) by a shell about 40 yards from me at about 11 a.m. on Sept. 20th (not Oct 4) at Polygon Wood when we were digging in after having taken our first objective. He was buried on the spot and a temporary cross was put up, which I have seen. He belonged to B.Coy. (?VIIIPtn) and was the only Henderson in the Coy. We called him "Hendy". A dark "Nuggetty" well built man of about 22. He came from Brisbane and his father gave the flag for the 19th Rifs.

Informant:- Pte. W. Rienecker, 6539,
25th Battn, B.VII
Dartford.

London.

17.4.18.

S.

25th Battn.
A.I.F.

HENDERSON
E. 6580

"Killed 4-10-17"

Henderson was in D.Coy., and came from Woodburn, so did I and Cpl.T.Grant. The latter, who was in D.Coy., and with the Coy. as far as I know, was a mate of Henderson's and could give the information desired.

Informant. Livingstone D.E. 5609
25th Battn. B.Coy.,
Hut 45,
WESTHAM.

Note:-

Written Cpl.Grant. 11.6.18

W.A.Rand
London
12-6-18

S.

25th Battn.
A.I.F.

HENDERSON
Erie 6580

"Killed in Action 4-10-17"

Re 6580 Pte.E.Henderson, D.Coy. 25th Battn. I only know what the others told me, as I was not in the battle of 4-10-17. He had just been made a L/Cpl. and had been put in charge of my gun. The No.1 of the gun told me he got to the village of Zonnebeke alright, but he missed him from there on. I think he must have been buried where they found him. I consider it extremely unlikely that he would be buried in an ordinary Cemetery, as all the country around there was under fire for a good while afterwards, and there were a good many casualties. Pte.Henderson was a young chap of about 20, rather dark, and a trifle over medium height. He was a son of Mr.Henderson, of Myrtle Creek, Richmond River, N.S.W. This about all I know about the matter, although while in France I did my best to find out what really happened to him.

Letter from:- Grant. Cpl.C.T.
C.Coy. 5th T.B.,
FOVANT. 25-6-18

London
27-6-18
A.M.H.

S.

25th Battn.
A.I.F.

HENDERSON Pte.E. 6580
McCullough Pte.R.D.G. 6365
McBriar Pte.L.R. 911
Orchard Pte.H.L. 6372
Simmonds Cpl.W.P. 5681

"Killed in Action 4-10-17"

The above named men were all killed on 4-10-17, near Zonnebeke, and buried there in one grave. This information was given to us from Battn. Hqts. I came over with all these men.

Informant. Egerton. Chas. Henry Pte. 6316
Home address:- (very intelligent)
Red Bank, 25th Battn. D.Coy.,
via Brisbane, Red Cross Hpl.,
Queensland. CHRISTCHURCH.

F. Watkinson
24-6-18
London
5-7-18

S.

W.S.

25th Battalion.
A.I.F.

HENDERSON, Private
R. No. 6580

"Killed 4/10/17"

Informant described Henderson as about 5ft 9" high, medium build, aged about 25/26. Informant states that they both belonged to "D" Company, No. 15 Platoon. On 4/10/17 the Battalion was on the Ypres sector in action. In the early morning Henderson was badly wounded by a piece of shell. Informant was about a chain away from him at the time and saw him fall. So far as he could recollect Henderson was not conscious after being hit. Informant saw him taken away on a stretcher to a Dressing Station and heard later that he died there. Informant had not spoken to Henderson on that day. In Informant's opinion Henderson was sure to have been buried seeing that he died at a Dressing Station.

According to Informant Henderson was well liked by his chums.

Informant:- Corporal W.G. Paschen, No. 2223
"D" Company - 25th Battalion.

W.E.G. Home address:- Post Office, Kedron, Brisbane, Q'land.
19/11/18.
Sydney Railway Station.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S
CO Saff

ack NC 2/16/18
Am.H

File Henderson
20th Batt
Kw A 4-10-14

53 (cd)

C. Coy.
5th S.B.
A.F.F.
Front.
25/6/18

My dear Miss Deakin,

I have just received your letter asking me if I knew any details concerning the death of ^{the} 6580 Pte E. Henderson. D Coy. 25th Bty. A.F.F. I only know what the others told me, as I was not in the battle of 4th October. He had just been made a d/cpl & had been put in charge of my gun. The N.1 of the gun told me he got to the village of Zonnebeke alright but he missed him from there on. I think he must have been buried where they found him. I consider it extremely unlikely that he would be buried in an ordinary cemetery as all the country around there was under fire for a good while afterwards & there ~~was~~ ^{was} a good many casualties. Pte Henderson was a young chap of about 20. Rather dark & a little over medium height. He was a son of Mr Henderson of Myrtle Creek, Richmond River, N.E.W. This is about all I know about the matter although, while in France I did my best to find out what really happened him. I am sorry I cannot give you any more definite information.

Yours truly,

G.T. Grant. (Cpl)

Am.H