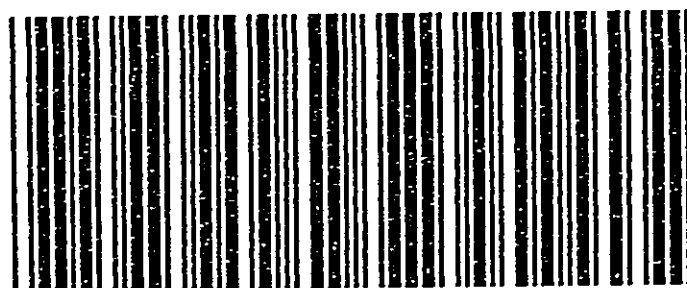


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

5017 Private
Thomas John Gough

31st Battalion



1190714N

31st Battn.
A.Coy. 1st Pltn.
A.I.F.

Gough.
T. J. 5017

Woolston

"Killed 26.9.17"

I saw him killed at Polygon Wood. He was shot through the head with a bullet and killed instantly. I knew him very well, he came from Wilsam, Brisbane, Queensland. I do not know place of burial, and I cannot refer to anyone for particulars. He was lying beside a shell hole when I saw him last. He held the ground and I am sure he would be buried somewhere near place of casualty.

Witness:-

Pte. S. H. Roth 3933
31st Battn. A.Coy. 1st Pltn.
3rd Aust. Aux. Hospital.
Dartford.

W. Oman.

London.
30.11.17.

B.

31st Batt. A.I.F.

Gough, T.J. Pte. NO. 5017.

A. Coy.

Killed Sept 26th 1917. Det. D.B.

))))-----
I saw him killed by a shell, just as we reached the first objective at Polygon Wood. I could not say if he was buried. I knew him in the coy. He came over with the 13th Reinf of the 25th batt. He came from Brisbane.

Description. Age. 24. Height. 5-9. Complexion. Fair. Slight Built.

Witness. Pte. Faulkner. R.V. NO. 3203. A. Coy. 31st batt.

Taken at
NO. 4. C.D. Hurdcott.
4-1-18.
F.G.H.

S. Whitmee.
NO. 4. Command Depot.
Hurdcott.

A.I.F. 31.

GOUGH, T.J. 5017.

K. Sept 26th 1917. Dets.

Thomas Joseph ^{Gough} was in A.II. and his number was 5017. I knew him intimately. Before the war he was accountant for Allen & Stark in Queen Street, Brisbane. He lived at Woolston. I was told by L/Cpl. William Lesley attached to A.Co. that he had seen Gough on the 26th Sept at Polygon Wood by shell fire. This occurred about 8 a.m. Gough was buried near where he fell and there was a cross put up to him. *Chilled*

Inf: Pte W.P. Francoey. 5012. D.XIII.
No. 3 Can Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 26.1.18. AGL

B

Written L/Cpl. Lesley 9.2.18.

51st Batta.
A.I.F.

Gough.
T.J. 5017

"Killed in Action 26.9.17"

re the inquiries of No.5017 Pte.T.J.Gough. I was not with him at the time he was killed, but I made inquiries from some of my mates who saw him killed. He was one of the first to be killed in the Polygon Wood offensive on the morning of the 26.9.17. There was a Pioneer Battalion at work burying the dead shortly afterwards and as he was one of the first to fall he would most likely be buried, but I could not say for certain, and if he was buried it would be on the field. The description of 5017 Pte.T.J.Gough is as follows - Fairly tall, about 5'10", well built, fair complexion, a light auburn coloured hair and a little drawl in his speech. I have written to his sister Mrs.G.H.Smith Brisbane and given her as much information as possible. I will try and find out more particulars with regard to his burial and will inform you as soon as possible.

Letter from:- L/Cpl.W.C.Lesley
London. France 23.2.18.
5.3.18.

B.

A. I. F. 31.

GOUGH, T.J. 5017.

K. September 26th, 1917.

I saw his dead body as we were going forward on the morning of September 27th at Polygon Wood. He was lying face up, and quite dead. I walked right over him. He had evidently been killed the day before. I know nothing as to burial. He was a L/gunner in I pl. A. Coy.

SA.

Reference:- Cpl. W.C. Smith. 3997.
Devres.

Identity cert. from Batten records.

Etaples
18.1.18.

3

5017
T. J. GOUGH
31st Bn
K/1 26-9-17
France
23rd Feb 1918
To the Secretary of W & M Inquiry
Bureau.

Dear Madam,
Your letter came to hand
re the inquiries of No 5017 Pte T. J.
Gough. I was not with him at the
time he was killed, but I made
inquiries from some of my mates
who saw him killed, he was
one of the first to be killed
in the Polygon Wood Offensive on
the morning of the 26/9/17. There
was a Pioneer Battalion at work
burying the dead shortly afterwards,
and as he was one of the first
to fall he would most likely be
buried, but I could not say.

for certain, ⁽²⁾ and if he was buried
it would be on the field. The
description of 5017 Pte T J Gough is
as follows, fairly tall about 5ft 10 ins.
well built, fair complexion, and a light
or burn coloured hair, and a little drawl
in his speech. I have written to
his sister Mrs G. H. Smith, Brisbane
and given her as much information
as possible. I will try and find
out more particulars with regard
to Pte T J Gough's burial and will
inform you as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

Lt Col W. C. Lesley