

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

1045 Gunner
Ambrose William
Hargraves

1st Field Artillery Brigade



1270312G

A.I.F. and Bty A.F.A.

HARGREAVES
Gnr. A.W. 1045

"WHEREABOUTS"

Killed in action 31-7-17

Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs list 26-2-18.

London
26-2-18

P.I.

2 Copies by duty

Havre

11th April 1918.

1st A.F.A. 2nd Batty

Hargraves A.W. No.1043.

K. 31st July 1917. Det D/B.

I know Gunner Hargraves, a transfer from the infantry, about 30, medium height and build, fairish, moustache. I saw him buried in the open beyond Zillebeke just across from Maple Copse in the early part of August 1917. I could point out the spot. Gunner Ray Knight of the 2nd Battery was buried alongside. I think crosses were put on the graves.

Inf:- Gunner E. Lock No.12721.
1st A.F.A. 2nd Batty.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDM.

*P.I.
2 Copies Sydney*

Havre

19th April 1918.

1st A.F.A. 2nd Batty

Hargraves A.W. No. 1045.

K. 31st July 1917. Det D/B.

I knew Gunner Hargraves I think his initials were A.W. He was about 25, medium height, thick set, very dark, slight moustache, married with one or two children. He told me this. He was killed at the gun pits on the 31st July 1917, and is buried in the trench where he was killed along with Gunner Ray Knight of the 1st Brigade 2nd Batty. I saw the graves which have crosses on them. This is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile forward from Zillebeke past Dorsey House. I could point out the spot.

Inf:- Gunner G.F. McDonald No.5238.
1st A.F.A. 2nd Batty.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDM.

*2 Copies Sydney
P.I.*

Havre

15th April 1918.

1st A.F.A. 2nd Batty

Hargreaves A.W. 1045

K. 31st July 1917. Det D/B.

I knew Gunner Hargreaves he was a transfer from, I think, the 1st Batty, and came, I think, from N.S.Wales. He was killed at the gun pits about the 31st July 1917 near Zillebeke. I saw his ~~own~~ grave in the open near the pits. There is a cross on it, it is amongst several other graves of Australian boys. I could point it out.

Inf:- Driver S.G.Redman No.613.
1st A.F.A. 2nd Batty.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDE.

P.1
2 Copies Sydney

1st Bgde. 2nd Batty. F.A.B.

Hargreaves.A.W. Gnr. NO.1045.

Killed July 31st 1917. Det. D.B.

I saw him killed by a shell whilst we were in the batty position in front of Zillebeke. I helped to bury him where he fell a temporary cross was erected at the time. I knew him in the batty, He came from West Australia.

Description. Height. 5-8. Complexion. Dark. Well Built.

Witness. Gnr. McPhail.W.H. NO.4652. 2nd Batty, F.A.B.

Taken at
NO.4.C.D.Hurdcott.
20-4-18.
S.F.

S.White.
NO.4.Command Depot
Hurdcott.

2 Copies Sydney
P1 1045

A.I.B.
1st Div. Artillery.
1st P.A. Bde.
late 18

HARGRAVES, A.W.
Gnr. 1045.

KILLED. 31/7/17.

I knew Hargraves - he was in the 2nd Battery of the 1st Field Artillery Brigade, "A" Subsection, with me, and was a Gunner. He was inclined to be short, and I believe had transferred from an Infantry Battalion. He was of slight build and medium complexion.

He was killed instantly without suffering by a shell on 31/7/17, which also killed Gunner Knight, 125, and also buried me. I was only a few feet away at the time. It happened at about 4 p.m. - we were all asleep in the bottom of a trench when the shell burst. I saw him afterwards. He and Knight were buried a few yards from the trench. This happened on the left of Sanctuary Wood, near Zillebeke. A cross was painted and erected over the grave. They were the only two who were killed by that shell.

Informant:- LANE, C.H., A/Bdr., 480,
1st Div. Artillery,
1st Field Artillery Bde., 2nd Batty., P.1
No. 4 Aust. General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

H.S.O.
23/4/18. Home address:- 87 Darley Road,
MANLY.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Filing copy

2nd batty, F.A.B.

Hargraves.A.W. Gnr. NO.1045.

Killed July 31st 1917. Gnr. D.B.

I saw him shortly after he was killed by a shell, we were at Zillebeke Lake at the time, There was another chap, Ray Knight of the batty killed at the same time, I do not know where they were buried, I saw the crosses made with full particulars on them to be erected. I knew Hargraves in the batty, I could not say where he came from.

Description. Height. 5-9. Complexion. Medium. Well Built.

Witness. Gnr. Cavanagh, E.T. NO.197. 2nd Batt, F.A.B.

Taken at
NO.3.C.D.Hurdott.
4-5-18.
S.W.

S. Whitmee.
NO.4. Command Depot
Hurdott.

2 Copies Sydney

1st Divisional Artillery.
1st F.A.B. Late 1st Batt.

HARGRAVES A.W. Gunner.
No. 1045.

"Killed 31/7/17."

I met Hargraves in France, and knew him well. He originally belonged to 1st Cycling Coy. He stood about 5ft 7in. Fair, and wore a moustache. He was a great talker, and we nicknamed him "Lloyd-George" I saw him killed at Zillebeche on 31st July, 1917. It was on the first day of the advance. He was in a trench, when he was struck by a shell, and was killed instantly. We had received orders to take cover, and we went into a trench, a shell came on to the parapet of the trench and struck him. I was present at his burial about three days afterwards at Zillebeche. A cross was erected over his grave, and his name was painted on the cross by Sid Westbrook. He was a good fellow, and good fun.

Informant: A. Bundy, Gunner 1st Div. Artl No 12712.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

Home address:
350 Riley Street,
SURRY HILLS.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

17/6/18.

P. J. [unclear]

5 p. 12/11/17
✓

23rd April, 1918.

Miss Annie Hayles,
49, South Street,
Richmond Grove,
Longsight,
MANCHESTER.

Dear Madam,

In further answer to your enquiry about -

1045 Gnr. H.W. HARGREAVES, 2nd Battery, A.F.A.

We regret to inform you that we have received an unofficial report concerning him from 12721 Gnr. J. Lock of same Battery, who was interviewed in an Australian Camp in France. Informant stated that he saw Gnr. Hargreaves buried in the open beyond Zillebeka, just across from Maple Copse, early in August 1917. He could point out the spot, and thinks a cross was erected over the grave. He describes Gnr. Hargreaves as about 30 years of age, of medium height, and build, with fairish moustache.

We are continuing enquiries in the hope of obtaining definite ^{details} ~~news~~ of his death and burial and will at once forward you any information we may receive.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

W. St. George

24th April, 1916.

Miss Annie Hayles,
49, South Street, Richmond Grove,
Longsight, Manchester,

Dear Madam,

We write to inform you of a further unofficial
report we have received concerning -

1045 Gnr. A.W. HARGREAVES, 2nd Bty, A.F.A.

Our informant - 615 Dvr. S.G. Redman, of the same unit, writes

as follows:- "I know Gnr. Hargreaves he was a transfer from, I
think, the 1st Battery and came I think, from H.S. Wales. He
was killed at the gun pits about the 31st July, 1917, near
Billsbeke. I saw his grave in the open near the pits. There
is a cross on it; it is amongst several other graves of Australian
boys. I could point it out."

We shall continue to send you any further information we
may receive concerning your friend.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Ann McConnell*
SECRETARY.

Miss Annie Hayles,
49, South Street,
Richmond Grove,
Longsight,
Manchester.

23rd July, 1918.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry for:-

1045 2093 Gnr. A.W. Hargraves, 2nd Battery, A.F.A.,

who is officially reported "Killed in Action" on 31-7-17, we beg to forward a further unofficial report we have just received through our Sydney office. Informant:- 480 A/Bdr. C.M. Lane, of the same unit (now in Australia) states:-

"A.W. Hargraves was killed instantly without suffering, by a shell on 31-7-17, which also buried me. I was only a few feet away at the time. It happened about 4 p.m. - we were still asleep in the bottom of a trench when the shell burst. He was buried a few yards from the trench, which was on the left of Sanctuary Wood, near Zillebeke, and Cross was painted and erected over the grave".

Hoping the information we have obtained may be of some value to you, and assuring you of our sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Miss Ryan

SECRETARY.