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

1872 Lance Corporal John Herbert Dunn

14th Battalion



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24th Septr 1918.

Australians. 14.

Dunn L/Cpl J.H. Ho .1872.

K. 31st May 1918. Det D/B.

I knew him well, he came from Victoria, He was tall, well built, and clean shaven, He was a good allround sportsman. He were together at Allonville, near Amiens, in our billet when astray German'shell came over and hit chilthe billet. I was with him in the shed. I was at one end of the shed and he was at the other. The shell fell on the part of the shed where he was, and killed him instantly, with 21 others. I went up the line the next morning, and so know no make more but I think he was buried in the French Cemetery at Allonville.

Inf:- Pte A. #. Tomlinson 'Ho! 4622.
A.I.F. 1' 1.1'
Hospit _ hip.

TAHI.

M.

'n

K.May 31/18.

Te were in billets at Allonville, seven bilos from Amiens, when Tunn was killed. At midnight Frite started shalling us heavily, and we lost 25 men including Cunn who was killed outright; and he was buried in the Prench Cemetary at Allonville.

Inf. Breddy, L-Corp. A.S. 5070, A doy.

G.R.G. Westhem Camp

26/3/16

J.E.a.

K. May 31/18. Det. D/B.

At Allonville we were bille ted with the motor transport. Je were ealeep in the dug out when Dunn was killed instantly by a shell, his head being severed from his body. I was in the same billet and saw him afterwards. The German long range guns fired two shells which dropped on the billets and caused over 100 casualties. Dunn was buried in the village cemetery at Allonville and I have seen the grave. 19 bodies were buried together. Each man has a small cross. There are three graves, two with six bodies in each and one with 7. There is one large cross in the centre of each grave with all the names on. Dunn was dark, a sturdy man about 35. I had only known him 6 weeks.

Reference: H.S.Reid, 7556. A Co. No.11 Con.Camp Buchy Rr.Rouen. 1.10.13.

JIA.

6) 2" W.

14th Battn. A.I.F.

DUNI L/Cpl.J.H. 1872

"Killed 31-5-18"

He was in A.Coy. Refer to C/S/M J.Armstrong, A.Coy. 14th Battn., who is now in France, for he saw him killed and was in billet with him at Allenville, when a shell caught building she killed him.

Informant. Clark. Pte.W.A. 2831
A.Coy. 14th Battb.,
3rd A.A.H.,
DARTFORD.

W.Oman London 1-10-18 J.E.A.

Note:- Written C/S/M Armstrong. ~ -9-18.

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Hayre,

7th, October 1918,

14th, Australians,

Dunn, L/Corporal J. H. 1872

K, May 31/1918, Det. D/B,

He was killed at Allenville: This was at about 2 a.m. on May 31st at June 1st, two stray shells came over and several were killed: Dunn was killed outright: I saw him afterwards, lying dead: The S/Bearer took him away, and he was buried in the Cemetery at Allenville, where all the others were buried: I knew him well: He was tall, and thin faced, I think he was growing a moustache:

Inf:- Pte, J. R. C. White, Fr. 3478,

14th, Australian J., Depot,

NS.

RRR

"Killed in Action 31-5-16"

About 2 c'clock in the morning of Slst May 1918. Fritz was shelling when a shell lobbed on A.Coy's billet at Allonville. Dunn was killed cutright along with 17 others all with the same shell. I was sleeping about 10 feet away from him at the time. He was buried about 10 c'clock the same morning at Allonville demetery along with the other 17 co mrades. There was a cross with Battalion Colours put on the graves. I have seen his grave several times. The ground was held.

Description: - "It 9. dark complexion, had previously been wounded in the k

Home address:- Informant:- Connolly.Art .. Etnest.463.Pte

134 Sevanston St. (reliable and Intelligent)

Geeling East. 14th Estin.A.I.F. A.4.

Victoria. Aust: lst S.G.Hpl.

Thec Hadley. Lenden. 15-10 -18. BIRM WHAM.

14th Battm. A.I.F. 7 DUNN. T.H. 1872.L/Epl.

"Killed in Action 26-5-16"

I saw L/Cpl Dunn killed by a shell on May 31st
1918 at Allonville about 20 kilometres behind the lines
about 5 miles out of Amiens. He was buried the same day
in the Civilian Cemetery at Allonville. At the time of his
death he was in a big barn with a lot of others and there
were about 100 casualties and he was one of about 18 who
were killed instantly. I knew him bery well. The ground was
held.

Eye-Witness: Yes.
Description: About 5ft 10. fair, medium build.

Home address:
196 Doross Stret, Informant:- melson.T.3440.L/Cpl.

3.Helbourne. (very intelligent and anxious to Victoria. tell all he knew.

Margaret Nevill. Ecndon. 15-10-16. J.E.A. 14th Battn.A.I.I. Norfolk and Norwich "pl. NORWICH.

ii.

"Killed 31/5/19."

I heard a shell come over about one ofclock A.M., and hance Corporal Dunn was struck in his billet with about 18 others who were all killed. They were asleep in a barn and the whole thing collapsed. We left the next day but they were buried in the Church Yard in three graves, at Allonville on the Somme. I have since seen the graves, which are marked with crosses and the Battalion Colours. The ground was held. Death was instantaneous.

Informant: - 1698 L/Cpl. G.H. Cottrell, (Reliable)
14th Battn. A. Coy,
Headquarters,
1st Eirmingham War Hospital,
Rednal.

Home address:Devon.

32. Liverpool Street.
Horth Fitzroy.
Melbourne. Agst.

R. Clegg. London 13.11.18. H?3.

H.

Kld. in act. 31.5.18.

complexion, about 22 years of age. Casualty was in billets at Allanville. I was in the same billets. An H.E. shell exploded on top of our but killing Casualty instantly. I was 200 yards away at the time the shell exploded, but I saw his body shortly afterwards. He was buried in the Franch Military Cemetery at Amiens, and a cross was erected over the grave with his name and unit on it."

Informant:- Lieut. S. J. Huse,

Private address Stawely, Victoria.

mcd Sall

T.C.F. 29.11.18.

12.77 V

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU MELBOURNE.

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DNA. J. H. Pte. 1872.

Eld. in action 31/5/16.

"I know Casualty." He was a man about 5 ft. 10 ins.
well built, dark complexion, known as "Jack". Commanty as in
billets at Allonville. I was billetted at the same place and
was about 100 yds. from Casualty. An H.P. shall exploded on
the top of his billet killing Casualty instantly and L. A. Downey.
He was buried at Allonvile and I saw then buried."

Informant: - Pte. H. Glark. No. 4648, lath Btn.

Private address: Eden Hope, P.O.
Victoria.

T.C.F. 24/1/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

O

DUNN J. H. Pte. 1872.

E. in act. 31/5/18.

mi knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 9 ins.
well built, dark complexion, about 27 years of age, known as "lack".
He was a 2nd Rfots, man of the 29th Btn. and embarked on the
"Themistocles". Casualty was lying in a billet at Allonville. I
was in the same billets. An H.E. shell exploded on the billets
killing Casualty instantly and 45 other men. I was 20 yds. away
at the time of his death and I saw his body immediately afterwards.
The chief cause of death was concussion. He was buried at Allonville Cemetery and a cross was erected with his name, number and
unit on it."

Informant: - Pte. E. Garlick, No. 17 14th Btn.

Private address:-High Street, Yes.

T.C. T. 7/2/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

14th Battm.

REGIMENTAL REPORT

DOWNEY L.A. 5764
DUNE L/Cpl.L.H. 1872
GREEN A. 231
KENT H.A. 602
LRIGH C.E. 7522
MADIGAN R. 6126
MILLS J.C. 2491
POWELL G.W. 7568
REDDISH G.V. 4877
SMITH A.E. 7080
WITCOMBE J.C. 6612

On this day we were out of the line and in rest at Allonville, near Amiens 8 miles behind the line. A.Coy. was in a barn (Hennessey's Barns) and I was in it, being a S/B attached to the Coy. About 1-30 a.m. a shell hit the barn roof, bringing in the roof and the heavy timber supports, and killed 30 and wounded 90 of our boys. All those and outright or who died there were buried in Allonville Cemetery, where Cross was put up with all the names on it. This report covers all men killed on May 31st including in your book, Fowell, (whose body I saw), Downey, (whose body I saw), and Green, Leight, Whitcombe, Reddish, (S/B), Smith and Madigan, whose names I recognise.

London Due upol Seul & Mulbourn Informant. Cooper. F.C. 7458 A.Coy.
No.2 Con. Camp, ROURH. 2-9-18
11-10-18 for fromp.