

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

**2499 Lance Corporal
Sydney Charles Clarke**

3rd Machine Gun Company



0741112G

3rd M.G. Coy.
A.I.E.

CLARKS.
S.C. 2499.

"Killed in Action 21-9-17"

I was with L/Cpl Clarke. on 20th September 1917 at 6.30 a.m. We were just about to hop over when a very heavy barrage opened on us. I saw a big shell fall amongst 5 of my mates, killed them all. They were Hensbridge, Meredith, Dicky, L/Cpl Clarke, and a 13th L.H. Hotchkiss gunner. After the hop over I returned to bury Capt. Ghent our C.O. at 2 p.m. that day. I visited the place where 5 men were killed, but they were so badly mutilated that it was impossible to recognise L/Cpl Clarke, but I am certain he was killed when the shell landed. I was only about 5 yards away at the time. He was L/Cpl in No 3 M.G. Coy. about 5ft 8, or 5ft 9, brown hair, fresh complexion, stoutly built, rather heavy features. I do not know anything of his burial.

Informant:- Pte. J.E. Palmer. 1665.
3rd M.G. Coy.

1st M.G. Battn.
1st Div. Hqrs.

H.S. Cowan.
London.
4-2-19.
H.G.

P.

3rd M.G.C.

CLARKE, S. C.
2499

H/A 21/9/17

This man was in my Coy and I knew him well. He was killed on 21st September 1917 on the morning after the big attack on Polygon Wood. We were going over the top when I saw him killed outright. I had to go on in charge of the men and did not have much time to wait behind. That was the last I saw of him.

Informant:- Pte. T. P. Ahfro,
Croydon, Cairns,
Q'land.

Tune C. P. P.

H. S. ROLPH
H.M.A.T. "Sardinia"
8/6/19.

A.I.P.
3rd Bn. M.G.Co.
late 11th Bn.

CLARKE
Sidney Charles 2499

Killed in Action 21.9.17.

No trace Germany.
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10.10.19.

London.
22.10.19.

P.

3rd Coy. Machine Gunners

CLARKE,
S.C., 2499

K/A. 21/9/17.

I knew Clarke personally being in the same section. The casualty was occurred on the morning of 21/9/18 about 4.30 a.m., prior to a hop-over for Glencourse Wood. I was only three yards away when he was killed outright by a shell and we buried him where he fell about 250 yards to the left of the Woods and directly behind Albert Redoubt. He was dark and inclined to be on the thin side. He came from W.A. A cross was erected at the time.

Informant:- Pte. R. McCallum,

286B 3rd H.G. Coy.

Private Address:- Rigby Street,

WOOLLOORIM,
Brisbane,

R.I. Ormsby

H.M.A.T. "Norman"

18/8/19.