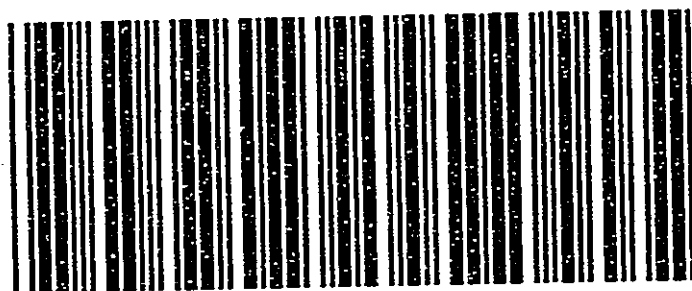


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2830 Corporal
Thornton
Gainsborough Clarke**

60th Battalion



0741203H

"Melrose"

Grange Road,
Glen Huntly.

Melbourne.

Victoria

16th October, 1916.

Miss Vera Deakin,

Australian Branch

Inquiry Bureau for Missing
Soldiers,
London.

Dear Miss Deakin, -

I saw the other day that
your father had left Melbourne for London,
to visit you, and only then learnt that
you were working with the Inquiry Bureau
for Missing Soldiers.

Both Mrs. Clark and myself
having known your father for many years
in the old days, and having been associated
with him in long connection with "The
Age", emboldens me to write to you.

My only son, Thornton,
Gainsborough Clarke, left Melbourne
in the A.S.F. on 10th September, 1915.
He was in Gallipoli for some weeks.

and was in the evacuation. A corporal
on board the transport, he lost his stripes
as was usual on reaching Egypt, but
wrote us at intervals that he was Lance
Corporal and after that Corporal.

The last letter we received from him
was written on board a transport approaching
Hararille on 25th June. The Defence Department
notified his wife (he married at the time
of his enlistment) that he was "Missing"
on 19th July. He afterwards received a
Service Card bearing stamp to say the
very date - 19. 7. 16. but it had no where-
abouts on it. No further news has come
to hand. His full address was as follows:-

No. 2830

Corporal Thornton G. Clarke,

D Company, 60th Battalion

15th Infantry Brigade

5th Australian Division

A. I. F.

We are most anxious to find out
something about him, and if you Bureau
could ascertain and let us know any
particulars whatever we should be
immensely obliged.

Thanking you beforehand for any

trouble that you may take in this
matter, and hoping that your father's
indifferent health will be much
improved, ere this reaches you.

I am, dear Miss Deakin,

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur Clarke.

60th Battn.
A.I.F.

CLARKE,
T.G. 2830

"Killed 19.7.16."

Re T.G. Clarke, 60th Battn I am sorry to say that he was killed on July 19/16. I was personally acquainted with him and was with him almost up to the time he was killed. I can speak with safety, when I say that he is dead, as I saw his body on the field after the charge and examined it.

Letter from :- Cpl. D. Ogilvy,
C.Coy, 60th Battn A.I.F.
France, 4.10.16.

London.
28.2.18.

NOTE ~~Write~~ We regret delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.

M.

A.I.F. D.Coy. 60th Btn

let 9.

CLARKE
Thornton Gainsborough 2830

"K/A. 19-7-16"

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10-10-19.

London
22-10-19

M

1915-1918
A.I.F.

CHARLES
Thornton, G. 2830

"Missing 19.7.17."

Killed in Action 19.7.17. previously reported Missing.
Cert. by A.I.F. Hdqtrs. 22.8.17.

M.

London.
22.8.17.

A.I. E. 60th Battn.

CLARKE
T.G. 2830

Missing - 19-7-16

David Ogilvey 2680 C. Coy, 60th Battn. told me he passed
Clarke hit through the neck dead -

Ref. T. McKenna
2640

13th Ward, Harefield War Hosp.

D.P. Dickson
27-9-16

London

29-9-16

Off. M.

FRANCH.

A.I.F. 60.

CLARKS, T.G. 2830.

M. July 19, 1916.

(and six others)

These men were certainly killed. I cannot give eye witness details concerning them, but am satisfied as to their deaths from what individual men have told me. After the action I was helping to bring down kits and other material and made many enquiries. Clarke I know to be buried in a grave with 32 other men. I have seen the grave at Rifle Villa.

Reference: Pte. F. Cain, 2830, Transport Section
60th. Batt;

No 5 A.D.B.D.
Staples. 7.12.1916.

SA.

Havre

Jan. 18th 1917

AUSTRALIANS 60

CLARK T.G. 2830

M. July 19/16

I was told by his pal in the battn. that T.G. Clarke was
shot through the temple and killed outright at Fromelles.

Informant L. Baker 3379

67th A.I.F. M.G.S.

H.S. Dunlop Castle

G.R.B.

Informant cannot remember name of the man who told him but
others in the battn. would probably know name of Clark's pal.

ch

A.I.P. 60.D.

CLARK, T.G. 2830.

M. July 19. 1916.

He was a Cpl. I saw his dead body lying out in
Ho Man's Land on July 20th, at Fleurbaix as I was crawl-
-ing in after the action. It lay near that of Sgt.G.Power.
I knew him very well. He was transferred into KI Pl.
G.Co., from D.Co., not long before the Fleurbaix affair.

Reference: Cpl.D.Ogilvy. 2650, G.Co.
No 5 A.D.B.D. Staples. 15.1.17

SA.

James M. Clarke

July 9, 1916

Dear Sir,

Enclosed

4/10/16 2830

19-7-16

3

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt

of your letter dated 28/9/16

asking me if I could give you

any particulars re No. 2830

of J. M. Clarke

who was killed on

July 19/16. I was personally

acquainted with him & was

with him about 1/2 hr.

James he was killed
I can speak with safety, when
I say that he is dead, as
I saw his body on the field
after the charge to Richmond
at Bro. P. A. A. A. His
mother told me that he was
killed - but you can get
full particulars from him
as I did not know him
personally. I shall inform
his brother today. Trusting
this note reaches you safely.

Yours etc.

Wm. D. O'Connell

28th Sept. 1915.

2680 Pte David Ogilvie,
C. Company,
60th Australian Inf't. Battalion,
E. E. F.

Dear Sir,

We have received an enquiry about No. 2680 T.O.

Clarke, 60th Battalion, who is reported to be missing and ~~believed~~
~~killed~~ - 4-8-16, and have been told you can give us some
particulars of his fate. Would you kindly send a personal
description of Pte Ashton, so that his people would be sure about
the identity of the man of whom you write.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

M.D.S.