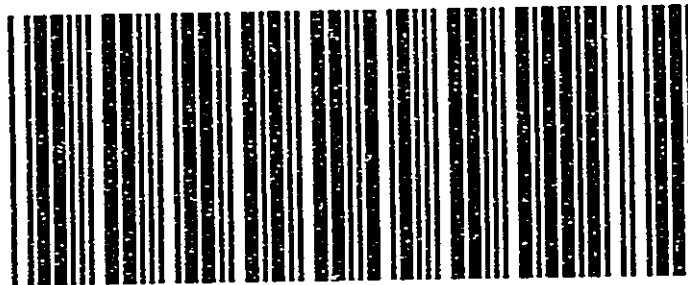


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**31806 Gunner
Herbert Herald Clarke**

5th Trench Mortar Battery



07409040

1/5 Div. H.P.L.H.
A.I.F.

H.R. CLARKE
4126.

"Died of Wounds". 4-10-17.

Unfortunately I am unable to supply you with the particulars that you require concerning Gnr Clarke, as I had only known him for a short period. There are a few particulars that I can supply. He was about 27 years of age, 6 ft 10 ins. in height, and inclined to be fair. Transferred from Medium Battery to Heavy Battery 5th Division on 3-10-17 was wounded the following day at Polygon Wood, was taken on Stretcher to the advanced D/S. Wounded in foot, leg and head. He died a couple of days later from shock, but where I cannot say. In my opinion he would be sent back to the B.C.S. after being dressed at A/D/S, and after death, buried in a Soldier's Cemetery in the vicinity of Dickebusch.

We were camped in Dickebusch at the time.

If I can find out anything further from any of the boys, I will let you know.

Informant L- H.R. Dunniford.

Brook War Hpl
SHOOTER'S HILL
WOOLWICH.

London.
22-6-18.

S.

CLARK

31808

4-10-17

Died of wounds 17th C.C.S. 4-10-17
Cert. by Spl. Indar.

London
4-1-18

Trench Mortar Battery,
A.F.F.

Clarke,
Pte.H.E. 31805

"Died of Wounds"

He was admitted to this Station suffering from severe wounds of the head and foot and in a critical condition. His condition gradually became worse and it is with regret I have to inform you of his death which occurred at 10 p.m. on the night of the 4.10.17 as a result of these wounds. He was buried the following day in the Soldiers' Cemetery near to this Hospital, his grave being duly marked and registered.

Letter from:- The O.C.
No.17 C.C.Station
9.4.18.

London.

15.4.18.

S.

TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY, A.I.F.
"A" Div., Medium Trench Mortar
Bty. 15th Hefets.

CLANKE, E.H. Gar. No. 31806

Died of Wounds, 4/10/17.

We were carrying up shells to the guns on the night of the 3/10/17, just outside Ypres, when we came into a heavy barrage. We took shelter in some shell holes, but a shell fell near Clarke and wounded him. He was taken out, but died next day. I think he came from Campsie. He was a big man, neither fair nor dark.

Informant - G.H. Daves, No. 32715.
Home Address - "Hazeldene",
Myrtle St.,
Stammore.

J.V.M.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
Randwick.
9/10/18.

S
Ed
Luff ✓

Medium T.M. Battery, 5th Div.
I.I.I.

H.H. CLARKE.
31806.

"Died of Wounds" 4-10-17.

We were carrying bombs up to Guns to right of Ypres between 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. on evening of 3rd October. Took long time to go up on account of enemy barrage. 5 men were sheltering in crater about 50 yards from me. Shell fell close to these men, wounding Clarke in foot. He was taken back to D/S about 20 yards, by one of men on his back. Was conscious and calm. - asked for cigarette. Leg must have been numb. This was last I saw of him - heard after, he died after operation, amputation of leg. Know nothing of burial. Gunner H.R. Dunford, 32716, now at Brock War Hospital, Woolwich, was with Clarke and was eye-witness. We were with the Heavy T.M. Battery not the Medium.

Note:- Written Gunner Dunford.
17-6-18.

Informant:- Gunner E.H. Dawes, 32715.
Heavy T.M. Battery.
Weymouth.

A.D.G.
London.
20-6-18.

S.

A. I. F.

T M B

Clarke, Pte H.H. 31806,
5 Medium T.M.B.

(D/W's Oct. 4/17. Dets D & B)

Wood

"At Glencorse/ Ypres, on Oct. 1917 at night-time a party of us had gone to carry ammunition to the guns and one before we reached our objective shelling began. One shell bursting and landing near the party. Clarke was hit in several places and was unconscious from the first. I was alongside of him, it was a very dark night, he was carried to the Dressing Station and died on the way there."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Dark complexion, rather short, he was clean-shaven, he came from Sidney I believe, but I knew him but slightly.

Informant: Gnr. Peter Gresser, 30919,
A.I.F., 10 T.M.B.,

Home address: Military Hospital, Edmonton.
Iduramane P.O.,

15.7.18. via Bathurst,
M.F. Baillie. New South Wales, Australia.

A.I.F. Med.T.M. 5 Div.

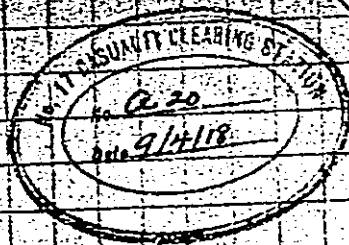
CLARKE H.H. 31806.

D/W. Oct. 4/17. Det. D/B.

Clarke joined the unit so to speak on one day, and went up the line the next night and was struck by a piece of shell the same night. They got him back to the D/S all right but the next report I heard of him was that he had died there of his wounds. We were at the time in the Ypres district, near Glencorse Wood. We were going to fire that night and he was in the ammunition party whilst I was in a gun crew. I think 4 or 5 of the Bty. got hit that night. I did not see Clarke hit myself but the whole of the incidents of the night were the subject of conversation in the whole unit. Full details could be given by Gnr. Calthorpe, R.E. and Gnr. Dixon R. (?) who carried Clarke out. Both these men were with the unit when I left it wounded on the 15th July. I had met Clarke at the Base at Le Havre and knew him. He was I think, then waiting to become of age in order to go up the line. I believe he was then only about 19. He was about 5 ft. 6, dark complexion. He was not very stoutly built. I do not know what state he was from or anything about his private life.

Reference: Bdr. G. Strange, 796. Y. 5.A. Med. T.M.B. 5 Div.
now changed to the 9th T.M.B. 5 Div.
No. 1 Australian, Rouen. 25.7.18.

GPO.



250

Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society
London

○ In reply to your enquiries
regarding the late Pte H.H. Clarke
A.I.F. —

He was admitted to this Station
suffering from severe wounds of the
head and foot & in a critical condition.
His condition gradually became worse
and it is with regret I have to
inform you of his death which
occurred at 10.0 pm on the night
of the 4.10.18 as a result of these
wounds.

He was buried the following day
in the Soldiers Cemetery near to this
Hospital, his grave being duly
marked and registered.

9/
14
98

Forster
COLONEL, R.A.M.C.

FORM No. 17 CASUALTY CLEARING STATION

31906 H.H. CLARKE
M.T.M. BATTY 15 DIV
D/W 11-2-19 4.10.17
S.3.

31906 H.H. CLARKE
M.T.M. BATTY 15 DIV
D/W 11-2-19 4.10.17
S.3.

Frank W. Hark
Hooters Hill
Woolwich S.E. 18

Dear Secretary

Received your letter of 17th. Unfortunately I am unable to supply you with the particulars that you require concerning Gun Clarke, as I had only known him for a short period. There are a few particulars that I can supply.

He was about 37 years of age 5 feet 10 inches in height & inclined to be fair. Transferred from Medium Battery to Heavy Battery 5th Division on 3/10/17 was wounded with the following day at Polygon Wood, and taken on a stretcher to the advanced dressing station. "Wounded in foot, leg & head" he died a couple of days later from

shocks, but where I cannot say. The
my opinion he would be sent back to
the Cleaning Station after being dressed
at advanced dressing station & after death
buried in a Soldiers Cemetery in the
vicinity of Dickie Bush.

We were Camped in Dickie Bush at
the time.

Yours faithfully
H. B. Winford

P. S.

If I can find out anything
further from any of the boys I will let
you know.