

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

30295 Driver
Harry Eden-Little

14th Field Artillery Brigade



1610611G

Havre

18th Oct 1918.

Australian Field Art. 14.

Little H.E. No. 30295.

E. 3rd August 1918. Det D/B.

He was in 53 Battery., a Londoner, married. He was killed by a bomb at Harbonnières, with three or four others. His body was recovered, and buried.

Inf:- Pte T.J. Horgan No. 30291.

A. F. A. 14. 53rd

Hospital Ship.

RBS.

PP.

14th Brigade F.A.
A.I.F.

LITTLE
H.P. 30295

"KILLED 8-8-18"

He was in 53rd Battery and I saw him killed to the left of Villers Bretonneux. He was a Driver and was waiting there with the teams ready to pull Guns forward, when an enemy aeroplane dropped three bombs killing him and two mates of the same team - their names were Drivers Alex Corrol and Simons. Casualty happened about 7 o'clock on the morning of Aug. 8/18. I knew him fairly well, but do not know from which State he came. I did not see his grave but he was buried at place of casualty on the field and grave was marked by a Cross having full details marked thereon.

Refer to Lieut. Punch, J., 53rd Battery, 14th Brigade A.F.A. who is now in France for he did his grave up and can give full particulars about other drivers.

Inicrmant - Beeth. W. Dvr. 34699
53rd Battery, 14th Brigade
8rd A.A.H.
BAREFORD.

F.oman
Lonic
25-10-18
H.C.

Note:- Written Lieut. Punch 23-10-18

3.

Havre.

21st. October. 1918.

14th. A. F. A.

Little, H. E. 30295.

K. August. 13/1918. Dets. D/B.

In the 53rd. Battery. He was killed by a shell at Bonay while getting the wagon lines out of shell fire between 9. & 10. a.m. He was riding a horse at the time he was hit but he managed to get off when he dropped dead. I think he was buried in Bonay Cemetery.

Inf:- Private. G. W. Andrews, 1207.
14th. A. F. A. 53rd. Battery
Hospital ship.

EBS.

CP.

Havre

25th Octr 1918.

Australian Field Art. 14.

Little H.E. 30295.

K. 3rd August 1918. Det D/B.

His name is Harry Eden-Little. He comes from Sydney, and knocked about generally. He was about 28, medium build, and darkish. On the 8th August (not 3rd) we were at Villers Bretonneux in action. About 10 a.m., Little, who was a driver, was with his gun, and while they were shifting he was hit by a piece of bomb from an aeroplane, and killed instantly. His body was buried where he was killed, about $\frac{1}{2}$ kilometre to the left of Villers Bretonneux, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ kilometre from the road leading from Villers Bretonneux to Warfussey.

Inf:- Bombdr G. ~~Eden~~ No. 713.
A.F.A. 14. '53.
H.S. 'Mormosa'.

CWSG.

PP.

AUST. FLD. ARTY. 14 Bgde.

LITTLE, H.E. 30295.
SYMONS, J.H. 26105.

K. Aug. 3/18. Det. D/E.
D/W. Aug. 8/18. Det. D/E.

These 2 men were both hit on Aug. 8th (not 3rd) at Villers Bretonneux by the same shell, which was dropped from an aeroplane. I did not see either of them hit or dead, but Gnr. Miller and Gnr. Mackenzie were there and could give further details. I was with the Guns as we were firing a barrage and were ready to move the Guns forward, when the bomb fell among the horses and men. I helped, with Lieut. Punch, to make up the grave where Little was buried and in the same grave were also buried Corpl. Bottom, Dvr. Prime and Gnr. Harrington (a particular pal of mine). It was a nice grave ornamented with chalk stones. Little was in my Sub. Sect. and his Christian names were Harry Eden; he was short, very well built, about 26, very athletic at boxing and surf-bathing, English born from N.S.W. His grave was to the left of Villers Bretonneux.

Reference: Gnr. D. Grossart, 3636, 53rd Batty.
Tocra, S. Gippsland, Victoria.

No. 11 Stationary, Ecuen, 28.10.18. ABHH.

14th Bdg. F.A.
A.I.F.

LITTLE
H.M. 30295

"KILLED 8-8-18"

I was with Dvr. Harry Little (14 Bde. 53 Batty.) in August about the beginning of the big offensive, near Villers Bretonneux. We were up with the Gun Team (ready and pull team out) when a German aeroplane came over. We were both hit by the same bomb. I was taken straight away on a stretcher, so I do not know what happened to him. Sgt. Law (14 Bdg. 53 Btty.) who was with the guns close by, might be able to give more particulars. There was no other man of same name in Batty. His Christian name was Henry, F. He was married, fine looking, fair, with us sometime. The ground was held.

Informant - Hamilton. Sgt. C. 1149

Home Address:-

Hongiel Farm

Corryong.

Victoria.

(very intelligent)

14th Bdg. 53rd Batty. F.A.

3rd Southern Gen. Hosp.

The Base.

OXFORD.

H.M. Pickard-Cambridge.

15-10-18

London,

1-11-18

H.G.

Note:- Written Sgt. Law 23-10-18.

S.

A.I.P. 14th P.A.B.

LITTLE
H.E. 30296

"Killed in Action 8/8/18."

The man you refer to is Driver H. Eden Little of Sydney New South Wales. He was a lead driver of my gun teams and I was with him when he was killed, on the morning of the 8th August 1918. He, with the other teams had just arrived on the battery position to move the guns forward when an Enemy Aeroplane dropped three or four bombs amongst us killing eight and wounding several more. Eden-Little was killed instantly, being hit through the head and we buried him along with two of his mates (Gunner Harrington and Driver Prime) just near where he was killed, and after the stunt came back and did the grave up, fencing it in with a thick wall of white chalk stone about a foot thick and eighteen inches high, with a wooden cross at the head of and in the centre of the three graves, with the names of the men and the Unit they belonged to (53rd Battery A.F.A.) and date killed. The grave is situated on the right hand side of the Villers Bretonneux, Thillory Road, about 300 yards from Villers Bretonneux. The grave is only five yards off the road, so can be easily found. In the centre of grave is a circle of small white stones with a cross of small white stones in centre, also streamers of small

-2-

white stones running from each corner of grave to the circle. I have written to his wife giving her these particulars, and I have also sent her his private belongings, Photos, Wallet, etc., by registered post. I do not remember his Regimental Number, but can get it. Driver Eden-Little was a short well built fair boy of about 5ft.6ins. high.

Informant:- J. Punch

Unit 7,

2nd London General Hospital,
Kings Road,
Chelsea. S.W.

London
19.11.18.
I.E.D.

S.

A.I.F.
5th DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY,
14th F.A.B. Late 5 D.A.C.

LITTLE, H.E. Driver
No. 30295

"Killed 8/8/18"

Informant described Little as about 5ft 6" high, medium build, fair complexion, aged about 25. Thought to have been born in England. Informants state that they all belonged to 53rd Batty. On 8/8/18 the Battery was in Action about 100 yards in front of Villers Bretonneux. They were engaged in putting up a barrage for the Infantry hop-over. About 6.40 a.m. a low flying German aeroplane dropped a bomb and killed Little instantly. He died with a smile on his face. Two bombs were dropped and wiped out Little's team, horses and men, including the N.C.O. Both Informants were about 20 yards away and both saw Little hit. They had to advance, but Lieut. J. Punch afterwards told Informants that Little was picked up and that he had seen him buried in the Cemetery at Villers Bretonneux - the Burial Service being read by a Chaplain. A cross was made by the Battery boys and a few days later a party took the cross to the grave and put it in position. According to Informants Little was an exceedingly popular chap. S.

Informants- No. 496, Driver J.H. Luck - 53rd Battery.

Home address:- 147 Carabella Street, North Sydney.

and - Gunner G.H. Sanderson, No. 801, 53rd Battery.

W.E.G. Home address:- 116 Cowles Road, Mosman, Sydney.

Anzac Information Bureau, Sydney. *C. W. Little Staff* SYDNEY BUREAU. ✓
25/11/18.

A.I.F.
5th Divisional Artillery, 14 F.A.B.
(late 5th Divisional Ammunition Column)

LITTLE, Driver
H.B. 30295

"Killed 8/8/1918"

I remember Little, his name was "Harry", and he was a Driver in the 14th Field Artillery Brigade, 53rd Battery. He came from Annandale and was a married man; he was short, slim build and fair complexion. He was killed instantly by shell fire on 8/8/18 near Villers Bretonneux and died with a smile on his face. I did not see it happen but was told about it within a quarter of an hour of its happening. About 6 others were killed and 10 wounded by the same shell. It was a stray shell or a bomb from an aeroplane - no one was certain which of these it was - in the big push just as they were going to move the guns forward. The men who told me said they saw it happen. I saw the horses which were killed at the same time but the men had been picked up when I passed the spot within a quarter of an hour of its happening. He was buried on the left of Villers-Bretonneux near a couple of lone trees.

Informant:- 14015, Gnr. A.W. Williams,
5th Divisional Artillery,
14th F.A.B. 53rd Battery.

H.B.C. Private address:- 22 Ferris Street, ANNANDALE.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK. 24/1/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

C. Sullivan
5.
✓

40
Sgt Law
14th Regt
53 Bn
A.I.F.

about
14 Regt
30598 H.H.E. Little
14 Hld Artillery Bn.
A.I.F.

K Aug 8/18

Written 23.10.18

M.S.

23. 10. 18

Lieut. J. Punch

53rd Bty.

14th F. G. Bde A.I.F.

Aboard

abt.

30295

for H. E. Little

14th Bde (F. G.)

53rd Bty. A.I.F.

K. 8.8.18.

23. 10. 18.
A.I.F.

4-11-18

30295

Plt H. E. Little

14 F. A. B.

See under

26105

Plt J. M. Simmons

14 F. A. B.

S

14-11-18.

Gen. Mackenzie

53rd Bty.

14th F. G. Bde.

A. I. 7.

Abroad

abt.

30295

Pte. H. E. Little

14th F. G. Bde.

A. I. 7.

K. 8. 8. 18.

H. 11. 18.
A. I. 7.

4. 11. 18

Gen. Miller

53rd Bty.

14th 7. A. Bde. A.I.F.

abroad

abt.

30295-

Pt. H. E. Little

14th 7. A. Bde.

A.I.F.

4. 8. 8. 18.

4. 11. 18.
A.I.F.

ack. J.C. 16.11.18
J.S. D.

30295

H.E. Little

14.8.18
K. in U.S.S. 18

S₂

(cd) Hurs. 7.

2nd London Gun. Hos.
King's Road
Chelsea

14/11/18

The Secretary.

Wounded Missing

Enquiry Bureau.

Dear Sir.

Received yours
of 23/10/18 this morning. Unfortunately I was
hit myself on the 23/10/18 & your letter had to
follow me over here.

The man you refer to is Driver
H. Eden-Little of Sydney N.S.W. He was a lead
driver of one of my gun teams & I was with him
when he was killed, on the morning of 8th August 18.
He with the other teams had just arrived on the
batter position to move the guns forward when
an enemy aeroplane dropped 3 or 4 bombs
amongst us killing 5 & wounding several
more. Eden-Little was killed instantly, being
hit through the head & he buried him along
with two of his mates (Gus Harrington & Dr. Prime)
just near where he was killed & after the effort
came back & did the grave up, fencing it in

with a thick wall of white chalk stone about a foot thick & eighteen inches high, with a wooden cross at the head of & in the centre of the 3 graves, with the names of the man & the unit they belong (53rd Battery AFA) & date killed.

• The grave is situated on the right hand side of the Villers-Mottemense, Thillois road about 300 yards from Villers-Mottemense. The grave is only 5 yards off the road so can be easily found. In centre of grave is a circle of small white stones with a cross of white stones in centre also 4 runners of small white stones running from each corner of grave to the circle.

I have written his wife giving her these particulars & I also have sent her his private belongings, photo, watch etc. by registered post. I do not remember his regimental number but can get it, Mrs. Edm. Little was a short well built fair boy of about 5ft. 6" high.

If there is anything else I could tell you I will only be too glad.

Hoping you can read this, as I cannot see too well myself.

Yours faithfully
Jas. Smith.

J.S.M.