

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

**5117 Lance Corporal
William John Alfred
Layburn**

22nd Battalion



1570108M

22nd Btn.

LAYBURN, W.P.A.
Pte. No. 5117

Killed in action 28/8/18.

"I was right alongside him when he was killed at Herbecourt by a shot from a German Officer, who came running out of a house, dressed in a shirt and trousers. We were attacking the place with bombs. At the time he was buried where he fell, but later on his body was moved to a grave in the cemetery at Cappy and a cross erected over the grave. He was a Lance Corporal and had the Military Medal. He was a particular pal of mine so I wrote to his mother in New Zealand."

Informant:- E.P. Hayes
Private address No. 6888 22nd Btn.
89 Fraser Street,
West Brunswick.

W.P.A.
18/2/19.

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M
Ed
Luff

22nd Btn.

LAYBURN, W.J.A.
Ptn. 5117.

K. in act. 28/8/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a slight built man, about 5 ft. 7 ins. fair complexion, about 22 years of age. Casualty was at Freeze during the advance and was clearing a trench we had just captured of any Germans who had been left behind when an H.F. shell landed in the trench a piece entering his head killing him. I was alongside of him at the time and saw him go down. I carried him back to our old front line and he was buried there. There was a cross erected over his grave."

Private address:-
Ballarat North P.O.

Informant:- Sgt. B. V. Bridges,
No. 334. 22nd Btn.

M.A.F.
6/6/19.

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*M
Cassell*

A.I.F. 22nd Btn.

LAYBURN.

W.J. 5117.

Killed in Action. 28.8.18.

(Wm John Alfred)

NOV 6.8.19.

Killed in Action. 28.8.18. Details Death and Burial. ~~NOV 6.8.19.~~
Cert by A.I.F. Hdqrs List. 7.12.18.

London.
1.8.19.

H.

HOSPITAL

INFORMED
To

STATE
Pte Blake

S/B:
22 Petter
a. J. F.

About
5117 Pte W. J. Layburn
~~22 Petter~~
~~a. J. F.~~

28.8.18

Written 16.1.19

MRS

To the attention of the
garrison commandant
military hospital

HOSPITAL *Ford House St. Denver*

Fill in exactly as List.	SURNAME.	Christian Name.	Reg.
	<i>Worland</i>	<i>9. 7.</i>	
	SURNAME	Christian Name.	Reg.
	<i>Christman</i>	<i>W.</i>	<i>25</i>

STATEMENT (to be)

NOTE. In all cases state fully what informant says he saw or heard and give DATE AND PLACE of occurrence.

3
Saw Street Worland, born
8m fire, he + 6 men were
on Aug 28/18 at a village

PLEASE ALSO ANSWER

1. Was Informant Eye-Witness? *Yes.* 2.
3. Was the ground held or lost? *held.* 4.
5. Did Informant know Christian Name, Initials or No. of man enquired about? *Edwards.* 6.
7. Give Informant's description of man enquired about—any nickname, marks, scars, etc. *Short, dark, clean*
8. Searcher's opinion of Informant's accuracy and intelligence *above the average.*

A.I.F. 22nd Bttn.

LAYBURN.
W.J. 5117.

Killed in Action. 26.8.18.

Killed in Action. 26.8.18. Details Death and Burial, not yet stated.
Cert by A.I.F. Hdqrs List. 7.12.18.

London.
1.8.19.

M.

B. Coy 22 Bn

LAYBURN,
I/Cpl. W. J. A. 6117.

"Killed in action 28-8-18."

"He was killed in action 28-8-18, shot through head by German Officer) buried outside of Herbecourt.

M. E. H.
Bin. Ord. Room.
8-1-19

London,
14-1-19.

M.

J. A.

Hayre

9th January 1919.

Australians. 28.

Layburn W.J. No. 5117.

K. 28th August 1918. Det D/B.

He was a Corporal, and was shot through the head at Mont St Quentin. He was carried back to H.Q. and a S/B called Blake buried him near H.Q. There was a cross put up. I don't know where he came from.

Inf:- Pte F. Pearson No. 50122.
A.I.F. 22. B. V.
Austra. Camp.

CRR.

PE.

Written Blake
16.1.19

A. I. F. 22nd Btn

LAYBURN
L/Cpl. W. J. 5117

"K. Aug. 28/18"

I saw L/Cpl. Layburn shot through the head & killed instantly by revolver by Hun S/M within a few yards of me about midday in a sap leading to village of Herbécourt. We were bombing at the time, trying to clear the Huns & we landed suddenly on 6 or 7 of them. I don't know about burial, but S/B's went back afterwards & buried him.

Description. About 5' 8 or 9" fair, about 25 years,

Informant - Pte. E. C. Cooke, 6319
22nd Btn B. Coy.

Belgium
London
5-2-19

M

A.I.F. 22.B.

LAYBURN. L/Cpl. W.J. 5117.

K. Aug. 28th 1918.

Layburn was in my company and I think in VIII pltn.
He was killed - stone dead so they say said - at Herbecourt
at the end of August, when going up to clear a trench.
I did not see this but I have seen his grave which is by itself
on the right hand side of the road as you go from Cappy to
Herbecourt about 3 kilometres from Cappy.

Inf: Pte. W.R. Higgins. 6814. V pltn B.Co.
No. 32 Stat Hosp.
BOULOGNE. H. 7.2.19.

JT

J.R.

M

A.I.F. 22.

LAYBURN. L/Cpl.W.J. 5117.

K. Aug.28th 1918. Dets D/B.

Bill Layburn a L/Cpl. of B.Co. was killed in a bombing affair in August or Sept. between Cappy and Herbecourt. We took the German trench opposite to ours and from it a sap led out towards Herbecourt. It was while bombing up this sap that Layburn was shot by a German Captain who was afterwards shot by our fellows. I did not see this, as I was at the bottom next of the sap, but I have seen Layburn's grave. It is on the right hand side of the sap where it turns to the north towards Herbecourt - about 500 yards from the bottom of the sap, and about 400 yards from Herbecourt. His is a solitary grave.

Inf: Pte.S.Simmons. 4788. H.Q.Sig.(late B).
No.32 Stat.Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 15.2.1919.

JT

M. B. self

22nd Btn.

LAYBURN, W.J.A.
Pte. Co. 5117

Kid. in act. 29.6.18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, slightly built, known as Bill. Casualty was digging a sap at Herbecourt. I was in the same party. He met a party of Germans and the German officer in charge fired a revolver at him. The bullet entered his head killing him instantly. I was close to him and he dropped at my feet. I immediately went to his assistance, but he was beyond all aid. S. B's got his personal effects and he was buried at Herbecourt Cemetery and a cross was erected over the grave."

Informant:- A.E. Maguire

Private address
109 Chapsan Street,
North Melbourne.

T.C.F.
23.5.19.

M. B. self

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