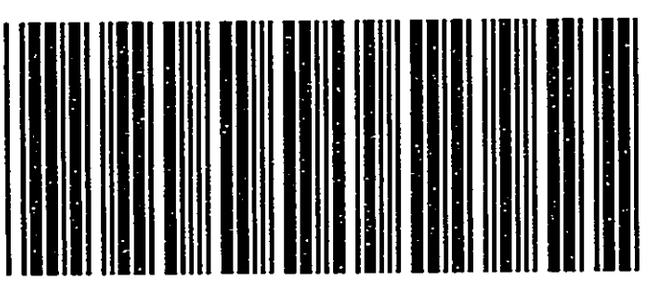
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

# 1677 Private
# Arnold Oscar Kerr

## 49th Battalion



1500901G

A.I.F. 49th Battn

KERR
Arnold O 1677

"Missing 5-9-16"

Killed in Action 5-9-16
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 9-2-17.

London
12-2-17

P.I.

49th Batt'n.
A. I. F.

Kerr.
A. O. 1577.

"Killed 3.9.17."

I was with Kerr on 3rd Sept. 1916 at Mouquet Farm when we went over top at 5.a.m. to capture the farm. Going over the top he and several others were killed instantly by shell. I saw him killed and dead. His correct name is A.O. Kerr, not A.C. Kerr.

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description: I knew his number. Age 20, thin, 5'4". I was w with him in boat leaving Australia 20th Apl. He went to Egypt and then to England. He joined us in France about 15th Aug.1916.

Informant:- L/Cpl. Wm. Henry Lee, 1687.
49th Batt'n. A.I.F.
1st Southern General Hospital.

Home address:
Harrisville,
Queensland.

J. Passey.

F.I.

London.
19.7.17.

Sent card 8/2/67.

TEL. No GERRARD 3745.

A [illegible]

BROOKS'S,
ST JAMES'S STREET.

Please add in next Enquiry list the name of

RECEIVED
6 - FEB. 1917
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

1677 Kerr, Arnold O.
49 A.I.F. | M. Sept. 5

and report to his brother

77 Pt. A.E. Kerr 3. [illegible]
Patience W[illegible]
Bethnal Green Hospital

C W James

16th February 1917.

No. 77. Pte. A. A. Kerr,
B. Company.
31st Australian Infantry Battalion.
Patience Ward.
Bethnal Green Hospital.
London.

Dear Sir,

We very much regret that we have very sad news to report of in your brother No. 1677. Pte. Arnold O. Kerr of 49th Battn. A.I.F.

He is officially reported killed in action 3.9.16. We are making every possible inquiry for further details of his death, but our method is necessarily rather a slow one. As soon as any other particulars come to hand we shall immediately advise you if you notify us of any change in your address.

We should like to express our very sincere sympathy with you in your sad loss.

Yours faithfully,

Vera Deakin
p.p. ab

Secretary.

25th July 1917.

77 Pte A.E.Kerr,
31st Btn, A.I.F.
8th Training Battn, A.I.F.
Salisbury Plains.

Dear Pte Kerr,

We are in receipt of further unofficial details of the death of - 1677 Pte A.O.Kerr, 49th Btn, A.I.F., informant being - 1687 L/Cpl W.H. Lee, of the same unit, who is in the 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham.

He reported - that Pte Kerr went over the parapet at 5 a.m. on September 3rd 1916 in an attempt to capture Mouquet Farm and that he and several others were killed instantly by a shell, informant witnessing the casualty. He says that he was thin and 5ft 4ins in height and 20 years old and that left Australia with him on 20-4-17. Pte Kerr went first to Egypt and then to England, joining the battalion in France about August 15th 1916.

We are continuing the enquiry and will send you any further information that we receive about his death.

Hoping that it will be some consolation to know that he was killed instantly,

Yours faithfully,

VD

Secretary
LAW