

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

**22186 2nd Lieutenant
Richard Dallington
Fitch**

**New Zealand Expeditionary
Force**



1061002A

29/6/18.

Dear Miss Leakin,

My wife has just informed me
that she forgot to write & thank you for the trouble
she took in enquiring about ^{2nd Lieut. Reginald Fitch} ~~Lieut. Fitch~~ who died
in hospital. I hasten to do so now. The fact of it
as I have been away from home for some time, & am
kind forgot all about it. His friends are very
much obliged to you for all you did for them.

0

again apologizing for my want of courtesy

Believe me

Yours truly

R. B. Lumbard - Busse.

P.S. I wonder if you would be kind enough to
tell me to whom I had better write in a
missing officer in the British Army. I should
be much obliged if you could.

1st Lt. 2nd Canterbury Bn
N.Z.E.F.

R.S. 2/Lt.
late 2318

C
P.P.H.

"Dang: Ill"

Adm. 4th C.C.S.

Cert. by Cox's 8-5-18

"I regret to have to inform you, that having been admitted on the 27-4-18 shot in the head, he died on the 6-5-18. During his illness he was nearly all the time quite conscious and at his dictation I wrote several letters for him. I think, though I am expressing only a personal opinion, that the doctors who took at the beginning the gravest view of his condition, afterwards thought that he might possibly recover, but it was not to be. He was unconscious on the last day of his life."

Cert. by letter from Chaplain C.R. 16-5-18.
E. Halliday

London
17-5-18

P.I.



AUSTRALIAN BRANCH, BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Headquarters
54, VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON,
S.W.

Telegraphic Address:
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."

25 St-John's Road
Tunbridge Wells

May 7 1918

Ans 9.5.18

Dear Miss Lyster,

I wonder if you could kindly give me any or find out any information as regards the undermentioned: -

At 221 P 69/10 R. S. Fitch, 2nd Canterbury Battalion,
2nd Brigade New Zealand Expeditionary Force,
France.

A cablegram was sent ^{recently} from a hospital in France to his Father in New Zealand "dangerously ill in hospital" Nothing has been heard since. Any information you can get; would you kindly give it to me. I must apologise for troubling you, as his Uncle, to whom his Father sent a cable, is very anxious about him.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly
D. B. Lintery-Buse

10th May, 1918.

Mrs. R.B. Limbery-Buse,
25, St. Johns' Road,
Tunbridge Wells.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry for -

(22186) now 2/Lt. R.S. FITCH, 2nd Canterbury Batta, 2nd Bgde,
New Zealand Expeditionary Force, B.E.F.

We beg to inform you that we learn through Cox's Bank
that he has been admitted to the 48th Casualty Clearing Station,
B.E.F.

We are doing our utmost to obtain particulars concerning
his condition and will advise you as soon as we succeed.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Miss Ryan*
SECRETARY.

45CC8

Dear Sir

2nd Lt R S Fitch
2 Canterbury Batt
NZEF.

The C.O. has handed me your letter of the 8th inst: with enquiry relating to the above officer.

I regret to have to inform you that having been admitted on the 27.4.18 shot in the head, he died on the 6.5.18. During his illness he was nearly all the time quite conscious, and at his dictation I wrote several letters for him. I think, though I am expressing only a personal opinion that the doctors who took at the beginning the gravest view of his condition afterwards thought that he might possibly recover, but it was not to be. He was unconscious on the last day of his life. I left with the unit on the day of his death, but the Chaplain attached to No 3 CCS was I think, the incoming Chaplain - & he would give information as to the date of his burial.

Yours faithfully
C. Haldeney CF
C.O.

Mrs. R.B. Limbery-Buse,
25, St. John's Road,
Tunbridge Wells,
KENT.

May 21st, 1918.

Dear Madam,

In further answer to your enquiry for -

2/Lt. R.S. FITCH, 2nd Canterbury Bttn, New Zealand,
Expeditionary Forces.

We regret to inform you that we have received the following information in a letter from the Chaplain of the 45th Casualty Clearing Station, B.E.F. He states "Lt. Fitch was admitted on the 27-4-18, shot in the head and he died on the 6-5-18. During his illness he was nearly all the time quite conscious and at his dictation the Chaplain wrote several letters for him. He thinks though he is expressing only a personal opinion, that the doctors who took at the beginning the gravest view of his condition afterwards thought that he might possibly recover, but it was not to be. He was unconscious on the last day of his life."

We regret our information is so sad and wish to express our deepest sympathy to Lieut. Fitch's relatives.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

L.B.