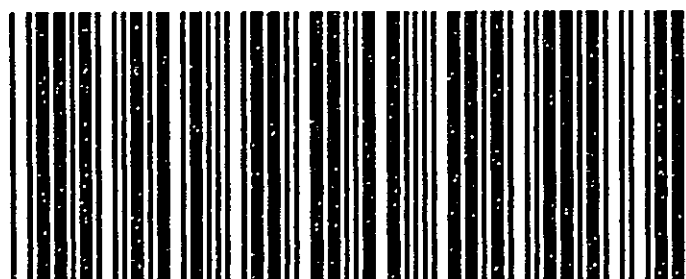


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

3154 Private
Donald Alexander
McRae

3rd Pioneer Battalion



19706010

3rd Pioneer Battn
AIF

MCRAE *D*
3154

"Killed in Action 21.11.17"

Died of wounds received in action at End C.C.C. Stn 21.10.17
Cert. by Hpl. Index.

S

London.
31.12.17.

2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
A.I.F.

McRAE,
Pte. D. 5154

Died of Wounds 21.10.17.

5154 Pte. McRae, D, 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. was admitted here 21.10.17
S.W. both legs and thighs, Comp. Frac. both legs right. He died at
10 p.m. 21.10.17 and was buried 22.10.17 in Lijssendam Military
Cemetery 22.10.17. Grave reference Plot 26, J. 16 A.

Informant:- O/C 2nd Canadian C.C.B.,
6.1.18

London.
18.1.18

3rd Pioneers
A.I.F.

McRAE
D. 3154

"Died of Wounds 21-10-17"

McCrae's name is Donald. He was in No. 2 Battn. Pioneers. His number is correct and he comes from Cessnock, N.S.W. He was wounded in the legs while in a patrol near Zonnebeke in the early morning. I did not see him wounded or afterwards, but in answer to my enquiry I was told of it by J. Willis, still with 2nd Pioneers, he being there at the time. I have not been able to find out what happened afterwards. I went away a couple of days after.

Informant. Kelly J. 3121
2nd Pioneers,
Hut 10,
WESTHAM.

W. A. Rand
London
7-3-18

S.

Note:-
Written Pte. Willis 7-3-18

3rd Pioneer Battn.
A.I.F.

McRAE
D. 3154

"Died of Wounds 21-10-17"

McRae was of 7th Reimps. of 2nd Pioneers and came from Naitland District, N.S.W. He was wounded in the cookhouse and I was one to take him to the dressing station. He had no disc of paybook on him, having been left in his coat at the cookhouse at Ypres. He was wounded in the leg by a whizz-bang, and was alive when we left him. I erected the Cross on his grave in a Cemetery at the C.C.S. just behind Poperhinghe. A sketch of the Cross has been sent to his home. I do not know where he died.

Informant. Heffer A.A.R. 2961
2nd Pioneers,
WESTHAM.

W. A. Rand
London
4-4-18

8.

3rd Pioneer Battn. A.I.F.

McRae Pte. D. 3154.

(D/W Oct. 21st 1917 Dets. D/B)

"McRae is buried in the cemetery just at the back of the 2nd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station just outside Poperinghe. I cannot remember the exact name. A cross is put up over the grave, I placed it there myself. By writing to B. Coy. Orderly Rooms, all information could be obtained. A sketch of the grave has been sent to his mother."

Eye witness:
Description:

Informant: Pte. Alexander Heffer 2961,
2nd Aust. Pioneers, B. Coy., III Pltn.,
2nd London Gen: Hos. St. Mark's College, Chelsea.

Home address: Kerang P.O., Victoria Aus.

V. Ormond.

Sgd
Heffer

3rd Pioneers.
A.I.F.

McRae.
D. 3154

"Died of Wounds 21.10.17"

re No.3154 D.McRae. He was hit with a piece of shell on 21.10.17 and died of wounds the same day. He is buried at the Lyssenthoek Military Cemetery near Poperinghe. His appearance was about 5'9" in height, dark complexion, and he had a few teeth out in the front.

Letter from:- Pte. J. Willis
France
20.3.18.

London.
8.4.18.

S.

3rd. Pioneer. A. I. F.

McRae. Pte D. 3154.

(D/W. Oct 21/17). Det D/B.

" I saw McRae hit by a shell at Ypres on Oct 21st, 1917 at about 2 p.M. We were sitting near some pill-boxes when the Casualty occurred. Other fellows and myself carried him to the dressing station which was named "Sans Souci" where we left him. The news came through to the Battn. that he died 10 hrs afterwards. He was so badly wounded that I do not think he could have lived very long. I cannot state details of his burial. McRae was in 2nd Battn, B. Coy, V. Pltn. I am practically certain that this is the man referred to.

Eye-Witness. Yes.

Description: Dark fellow, medium height, age about 30. Single, lived at Maitland, N. S. Wales. Was a boxer, nicknamed "Don".

Informant: L/Cpl George Evans, 2647. A.I.F.
April. 10th. 1918. Exeter Edmonton Mary West Hospital No 11. *G. L. Evans*

A.I.F.
2nd Pioneer Battalion
"B" Company.

Mc.RAE Pte.^D 3154

K/A 21/10/17.

We notice all the reports we receive from you about the above soldier give his unit at the head of them as 3rd Pioneer Battalion. His unit as we know it is the 2nd Pioneer Battalion, and the soldiers who have given you information are, in most cases, also members of the 2nd Pioneer Battalion, and in the case of the story given by George Evans, dated 10th April, 1918, he mentioned in his statement that Mc.RAE belonged to the 2nd Pioneer Battalion.

26/6/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

20
11/4

7.3.18

Pt. J. Willis

C 2nd Pioneer G.1.7.

C Absent

abt.

3154

Pt. D. McRae

C 3rd Pioneer G.1.7.

C D/W. 21.10.17.

7.3.18
G.2.B.

W. & M. Rae ³¹⁰⁴ ~~5457~~ 3 Pavers

Swanwick

M. G. Williams 2 Hd Boys

22/1/18

3154

France

D. H. RAE.

20/3/18

3 Pioneers

21-10-17

To the Sec

~~1st~~ J/W

S₃

Aust. Red Cross Society,

I received your letter dated 7/3/18 inquiring about NO 3154 Pte McRae D.

He was ~~hit~~ hit with a piece of shell on 21/10/17 & died of wounds the same day.

He is buried at the Lysenhoek Military Cemetery near Poperinghe.

His appearance was about 5'11 1/2 in in height dark complexion & he had a few teeth out in the front.

Hoping these particulars will assist you

I am yours truly

Wm J. Willis

Acc Rec.
27.3.18