

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

**3898 Private
Alfred John McWilliam**

23rd Battalion



1980107Q

23rd Battn.,
A. I. F.

A.J. McWILLIAM,
3898.

"Off. reported died at 23rd. Gen. Hosp. at Etaples on 4th or
6th August 1916."

Died of Wounds 1-8-16 - previously reported wounded.
Cert. by - A.I.F. Headquarters 4-10-16.

London,
6-10-16.

M.

France.

A. I. F. 23.

McWILLIAM, A.J. 3898.

D/W. 1st. August 1916.

I have seen A. J. McWilliam's grave at the Cemetery at Etaples. It gave his initials, No. and Battn. There were four graves of men in 23; this was about a week ago. The others were Sgt. Mjr. Bridges; Joseph Snowden, and a man called Williams.

Reference: A. T. Stewart, 2798., D.,
2 A.D.B.D.,
Etaples. 21.10.16.

I was sent word to go and see McWilliam in No.26.General, but he had died before I could get there. His grave is in the Etaples cemetery. He was a 9th.Reinf.to the 23rd.Bn.His initials were A.J. and his No. 3898.

Reference: Sgt.D.G.Fyfe, 3820,
2 A.D.B.D., Etaples. 21.10.16. M

Wrote to 23rd & 26th General Chaplains 27.10.16.

23rd Battn.
A.I.F.,

McWilliam
A.S. 3898

"Died of wounds 1-8-1916"

Witness states that the above died in the next bed to his at 26th General Hospt. Etaples. on the 2nd or 3rd Aug. 1916 about 4 p.m.

As witness was dis-abled himself, he asked Sister Bradley in charge of the Ward 10, C. to forward McWilliam's Pay-book, and a photo to his relations and this she undertook to do.

Reference;- O.V. Bush, Pte. 1599
23rd Batta. A.I.F.,
31-10-16.

Note. Written to S. Bradley.
7-11-16.

London
8-11-16.
W.L.W.B.,

M.

23rd Battn.
A.I.F.,

McWilliams.
Pte. A.J. 3898

"Died of wounds"

In reply to your letter of the 27th inst. inquiring for particulars of No. 3898, Private A.J. McWilliams, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F., I beg to inform you that he was not a patient at this hospital.

Cert. by letter from A. Clayton, C.F.
23rd General Hospital
A.P.O.
S. 11
British Exp. Force.

London
15-11-16.

M.

23rd A.I.F.

McWilliam^x A.J. 3898,

(D/W Aug. 1916 Details D/B)

"McWilliam was in my Platoon and I made special enquiries about him and was informed that he died in the 26th General Hospt., Rtaples, France".

Reference: Pte. Wm McGregor 3877,
23rd A.I.F.,
Beaufort War Hospt.,
Home address: Bristol.
Clauville, Airlie St.,
So: Yarra, Victoria.

Nov. 17th 1916,
T.H. Gait.

23rd Battn.
A.I.F.,

McWilliams.
Pte. A.A. 3898

"Died of wounds"

All particulars of No. 3898 Private A.J. McWilliams
23rd A. I.F. were sent to his relatives by the Sister-in-Charge
of Ward 11. in which he died, at the time of his death

23rd Battn.
A.I.F.,

McWilliam
Pte. A.J. 3898

"Died of wounds"

All particulars of No. 3898, Private A.J. McWilliams
23rd A.I.F., were sent to his relatives by the Sister who was in
charge of Ward 11. when he died there.

I do not think there is anything further to add.
If we know the relatives address - and we usually do - we make a
point of writing at once. One knows how much they feel their loss
especially so very far away.

Major Fabian Ware, O.C. of Graves Registration,
Commission, General Headquarters, 2nd Echelon, might be able to
have photograph done of grave. Give him McWilliams particulars
date of death and hospital in which he died, also address of
relatives to whom you wish photograph sent. No private cameras
are allowed here.

Cert. by letter from H. Harligan, (Matron)
26th General Hospt.
B.E.F.,
12-11-16.

London
15-11-16.

M.

Havre

14th Nov. 1916

23rd AUSTRALIANS

McWILLIAM, A.J. 3898,
C Co.,

D/W. 1.8.16. Det. D. & B.

I saw him wounded in the face and side by shrapnel at
Pozières on the 29th July, 1916. I heard later that
he died in hospital at Staples and buried at Staples.

Informant: Pte W. Moore, 3882,
23rd Australians, D Co.
H. S. Asturias.

PJM

Havre

18th Nov. 1916

23rd AUSTRALIANS

McWILLIAM, A.J. 3896, C Co.
3897

D/W. 1.8.16. Det. D & B

Pte J. McWilliams of the 23rd Battalion, D Co., cousin,
now with the battalion, knows about A.J. McWilliam.

Informant: Pte A. Sotter, 3909
23rd Australians, C Co.,
No. 2 Con. Hos. (Casino) Havre.

PJM

23rd Australian Imperial Force.

McWilliam, A.J.F. 3898,
D. Coy.

DW 1.8.16

"Some time in August when in billets I was told by J. McWilliam, D. Coy. 23rd A.I.F., that his cousin A.J. McWilliam had died in 26 General Hospital Etaples, and that he had been buried in the little cemetery close to the Bull Ring (training ground)".

Reference: Pte. Geo. D. Fadcliffe, 3920
23rd Australian Imp. Force,
Naunton Park Hospital,
Cheltenham.

Home address:
53, Wright Street,
East Prahran,
Victoria,
Australia.

Nov. 21st 1916.
F.H. Hall.

73 General Hospital

A.P.O. — 511

B. E. F

Oct 31st/16

Dear Miss Deakin

In reply to
your letter of the 27th inst
inquiring for particulars of
No 3898; Pte A J Williams.

73 Batt: A.I.F., I beg to inform
you that he was not a
patient at this Hospital

Yours faithfully

A Clayton

C.F.

M.

2

To the Chaplain - 26th Gen. Hpt B.E. 4

Dear Sir

1
We have a cablegram from Melb 1.2
No 3898. A J. M. Williams 23rd Batt. A.I.F. who we are told
died in 26th Gen. Hpt B.E. 4. There seems a doubt
as to whether it was 26th Hpt or 23rd & we should
like to know from you if Mr Williams was in
your Hpt. about 1st Aug 1916. We will be most
grateful if you will kindly give us all particulars
you can of his last moments & burial
It will be a comfort to his relatives to know
all they can about him.
Yours faithfully
V. D. Cox

To the Chaplain

23rd Gen. Hq.

B. S. Y.

Dear Sir

We have ~~Cable~~ inquiries from
Mell. for No. 3898 G. J. Mr. William

23rd Batt. A. T. & whom we were told

Chief. 23rd Gen. Hq. - There seems

some doubt as to ~~the~~ ^{whether it was 23rd Gen. Hq.} ~~the~~ ^{Gen. Hq.} ~~the~~ ^{Gen. Hq.}

23rd Gen. Hq. And we should

like to know from you if

Mr. William was in your Hq. ^{1st Regt.}

And will be most grateful if

you can give us ^{any} particulars of

his last moments or burial

It will be a comfort to his
relatives to know all we can

23rd Gen. Hq. 23rd Batt. A. T. & 1st Regt. Gallie

ack.
written Major
Ware
15-11-16

DJ wds

26 General Hoep.
B. Exp. Force
12. 11. 16.

Dear Sir,

All particulars of 3898 P.G.A. J. H. Williams
23/A. J. F. were sent to his relatives
by the sister (in charge of ~~her~~ ^{who was in charge of Ward 11} ~~ward 11~~ ^{when he died there} ~~at the time of~~ ^{her death}.) I do not think there
is anything further to add.
If we know the relatives address
— we usually do — we
make a point of writing at once.
One knows how much they
feel their loss especially so very
far away.

Major Fabian Ware O.C. Graves Registration
Commission G.H.Q. 2/Echelon might
be able to have photograph done

of grave. Give him R. Williams's particulars
Date of Death + Hosp. in which he died,
also address of relatives to whom you
wish photograph sent. No private
cancers are allowed here.

Yours very truly

W. L. Garrison
W. L. Garrison

M.
N

26th General Hospital

A.F.O. 181

B.E.F.

France.

4/10/16.

9 NOV 1916

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 27th ult no 3898 A.F.O. William. I regret that owing to the fact that I was not at that time Chaplain to this Hospital I can give no information beyond the facts that he was admitted to this hospital with four shot wounds in face and chest on 30/7/16 and died 1/8/16.

Frederick Warkes

Chaplain C.F.C.

Wm. M. Deakin

wrote 10/11/16

November 8th.

Sister Bradley,
Ward 10 C.,
26th. General Hospital,
B.E.F.

Dear Madam,

We are trying to obtain some particulars about the last hours of 3898, Private A. J. McWilliam, 23rd. Battalion A.I.F., who died in your hospital 2nd. or 3rd. August last, to reply to cabled inquiries from Melbourne.

We should be very grateful if you could send us some details concerning Private McWilliam whether he suffered much - if he left any messages for relatives - and whether it would be possible to obtain a photograph of his grave in order to send it to his people.

We realize how much we are asking of you - in view of the very scanty leisure you have, but you can understand how much those details mean to the men's relatives and that they, in a great measure, are of comfort to them in their loss.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Miss Miller

9th November

The Matron,
26th General Hospital,
A.D.O. S.II
B.E.F.

Dear Madam,

We are making enquiries for a Member of the A.I.F.,
3898 Pte A. J. McWilliams, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F., who was
admitted to the 26th General Hospital, on 30-7-16. suffering
from Gun Shot Wounds in Face and Chest, and died 1-8-16.

We are very anxious to be able to send to his relatives
so far away in Australia, something more than these bare details.
We find that if we can add some information as to their stay in
Hospital, whether they suffered much pain, if they left any message,
for relatives, and if it is possible to obtain photographs of
the graves, the relatives of the man, are in some measure
comforted, so we venture to ask if the Nurses or Sister in Charge
of the Ward in which Pte McWilliams was treated could supply us
with any of the details we have suggested.

With apologies for troubling you in this way, and thank-
ing you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully, H. D. The

November 17th.

Major Fabian Ware
O.C. Graves Registration Comm.
General Headquarters
2nd Echelon
B.E.F.,

Dear Sir,

We are referred to you as being the proper authority to whom to apply for a photograph of the grave of No. 3898, Private, A.J. McWilliams, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F., who died of wounds in No. 26 General Hospital, on August 1st, also of No. 5404 Private J. Lawler, 53rd Battalion, A.I.F., who died of wounds at the 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station on July 23rd and was buried in the Estaires Communal Cemetery.

Their relatives in Australia have asked us to obtain these for them and we thank you in anticipation on their behalf.

Yours faithfully,

J.D.

Secretary.
L.A.W.

16th November,

The Matron,
No. 26 General Hospital,
B. E. F.

Dear Madam,

We have received your letter about -

No. 3898, ^{the} A.J.-WILLIAMS, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F.

who died of wounds in your hospital, and we thank you for
the same. We have applied to Major Fabian Ware, as you suggest,
for a photo of his grave.

With many thanks,

Yours faithfully,

V.D

SECRETARY.

L.A.W.