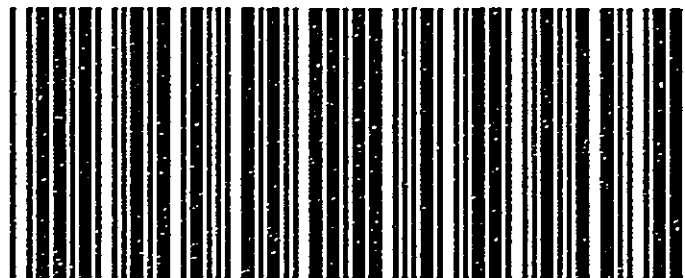


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**6059 Private
William John
McLachlan**

14th Battalion



1940311J

14th Batt
A. I. F.

McLachlan.
W.J.S. 6059

"Missing 11.4.17"

Killed in Action 11.4.17 - Previously reported Missing
Cert, by A. I. F. Headquarters dated 23.11.17

London 4.12.17

M.

14th Battn.
A.I.F.

McLachlan.
W.J.S. 6050

"Missing 11.4.17"

"Off.Missing 11.4.17 alleged K. in A - refer 4798 Dean. 29 Battn.
Confirmation" -

Copy of Melbourne cable 18.11.17.

London.
22.11.17.

M.

14th Battn.
A.I.F.

W. J. S.

McLachlan.
6059

"Missing 11.4.17"

I saw him hit with a bullet as he was just going over in the second wave at sunken road Bullecourt, he died instantly. (Do not know if he was buried as I went over in the 3rd wave and was wounded) We came over together from Melbourne August 1916 in the Miltiades. He was a married man and lived in Geelong, Victoria. A short man about 36 to 40 years.

Informant:- R.D.O'Neil.

14th Battn.

3rd Command Depot.

Hurdcott.

G.W.Griffith.

London.

8.11.17.

Off.M.

14th Batn
A.I.F.

McLachlan
W.J.S. 6059

"Missing April 11th 1917"

He is my brother-in-law and I received a letter from my nephew I/Cpl. E. Matthews 5138, 60th Batn from "Somewhere in France" that he saw McLachlan killed. I have written asking him all particulars.

Informant:-

L. Dean 4798

13/29 Battn

No 3 Command Depot.

Hurdcott.

Nov. 1st 1917

London.

10.11.17.

Off. M.

Note written I/Cpl. Matthews 9.11.17.

14th Battn.
A.I.F.

McLachlan.
W.J.S. 6059

"Missing 11.4.17"

Regarding Pte. 5059 W.J.S. McLachlan I happen to know him well, as he is an Uncle of mine. He was posted as missing and on further enquiries I found out from his Company Sgt. Major he was seen dead on Fire? step at Bullecourt. He was between the age of 40 and 45, dark curly hair, 5'7" height, 11 stone weight, blue eyes. I have written and informed my Aunt.

Letter from:-

L/Cpl. C. Matthews 5138
60th Battn.

London.

France 15.11.17.

27.11.17.

M.

14th Btn.

Pte. MOLACHELAN, F.J.S.
6059

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"I knew Casualty well. He was known as "Old Mac". He was a little thin man aged about 40 - 45 and he came from Geelong and was married. He was in my section A Co. It was in the taking of the first position at Bullecourt. Casualty was in the second wave and I was in the wave following. I saw Casualty laying on the top of the trench dead. He had a peculiar kind of muffer which he always used to wear. This was what struck my eye first and I looked again to make sure. I don't know if he was buried as I was wounded in the same advance.

Private address:-
66 King William St.,
Fitzroy.

Informant:- P. P. Peterson,
No. 4585, 14th Btn.

P.C.F.
22/12/17.

M. Ca Bk

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

14th Batn.,
A.I.F.

McLACHLAN,
W.J.S.M. 6059.

"Killed April 11th 1917."

"Of A. Coy. on 11th April, at Bullecourt during general action. Was killed outright by sniper shot through head. We had reached the 2nd enemy's trench which we had taken. McLachlan was up on parapet firing at enemy, when shot by sniper who was about 20 yards away from him. He was my mate. I was about 30 yards away at the time and saw him fall back into the trench. I went to him, but I could not find his disc. His body was left in the trench. We went on to take the village and were taken P/W in enemy's counter attack when we ran out of bombs.

Informant:- Pte. J.H.A. Butters, 5980,
14th Batn., A. Coy., P/W.

A.D.G.
London,
30-12-18.
H.G.

H.

Dep
F.M. 24/11/17

6069 W. J. S. McLACHLAN
14 Bath

M. 11.4.17

M. 4

Francis 15/11/17

Dear Madam.

Regarding P/B 6.59
W. J. S. McLachlan A.C. 7
14 Bath A.I.E. I hope
to know him well as he is
an Uncle of mine. he was
posted as missing & on further
enquiries I found out from
his Company Sgt. [unclear]
he was seen dead on [unclear]
shore step at Buller's [unclear].
He was between the age of
40 & 45 ^{dark} curly hair - 5 ft 7 in
height. 11 1/2 weight three years
I have written to inform
my Aunt.

Yours faithfully
5136 J. E. [unclear]
60 Bath

(9-11-17)

6138

L/Cpl. E. Matthews

60th Batta Q. 1.7

B. 5.7

F

all

6059 Pte. W. J. S. McLachlan

14th Batta Q. 1.7

M 11-4-17

Q-11-17
Q. 1.7

November 23rd, 1917.

5138 L/Cpl. E. Matthews,
80th Bttn, A.I.F.,
B. E. F.

Dear Cpl. Matthews.

We have to thank you very much for your letter in answer
to our enquiry concerning

6059 W.J.S. McLACHLAN,
14 Battalion,
A.I.F.

Please accept our sincere sympathy in the loss of your
uncle. With all good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

V.D.
Jls.