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

1398 Private Harold James Hodgetts

29th Battalion



1350401E

A.I.F.

Hodgetts H.J. 1398

(K. Dec. 1/16 Det. D/B)

"I knew "Hodgetts". He was badly hit and killed near Flers at a place called "Tyronnes" not far from from Dix Wood ? about 700 yds from our front line. He was never brought in for burial to the best of my belief".

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Sgt. W.J. Wilkinson 2157,
29th A.I.F., D. Co., XIV Plt.,
Harborne Hall V.A.D. Hospt.,
Birmingham.

Home address:
Sydney St.,
Kilmore,
Victoria,
Australia.

Mar. 10th 1917,
Geo. Bullock.

29th A. I. F.

Hodgetts, Pte H.J. 1398,

(K. Dec. 1/16. Det: D & B)

"I knew the above and his No. His Christian name was Harold and he came from Yarra Junction. He came from Australia with me. I saw him killed at the Zenith trench on the Somme front about the 1st December last about 6 p.m. We were caught by a heavy barrage and Hodgetts was hit by a shell and killed instantly. He was buried by the 31st A.I.F., stretcher bearers half a mile behind the firing line from where he fell. I have seen his grave with name and number. It is just by the track and now a sap runs along there."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Pte Frederick Pengelly, 1465,
29th A.I.F., D. Coy, XV Plat.,
Colmore Road Hospital,
King's Heath, Birmingham.

Home address:
72, Magpie St,
Ballarat East,
Victoria.

15th March 1917.
W.F. Awdry.

A.I.F. 29. HODGETTS, H.E. 1398

K. 1.Dec. 1916.

He was a M.P. and was afterwards transferred to XV.Plat.D.Coy. He was killed by a shell at Le Transloy on Dec. 1st. as we were going into the trenches. I did not see the casualty but heard about it on Dec. 18th. when I rejoined the Battn. Pte. S.P.Julill, XIII.Plat. D.Coy. was with Hodgetts when he was killed and gave me the facts as I have stated them. I know nothing as to the burial of the body. Hodgetts, Julill and I were mates.

SA.

Reference: Pte. R.H.Wakeling,1303,D.Coy.

No.5.A.D.B.D. Etaples

28.March 1917

Written S.P.Julill 12.4.17.

29th Batt.
D.Coy.,
A.I.F.,

HODGETTS
H.J. 1398

"Killed Dec. 1st/16"

I saw this man killed on the night of Dec. 1st 16. at the Le Transloy Front on the Somme. We were on relief duty taking over the trenches in the front line (near Sunken Road) when the enemy opened a "Barrage" upon us and Hodgetts was hit by a high explosive shell and killed instantly, almost blown to pieces. It was impossible to bury him, hostile fire was too strong; we had to leave the body where he fell, at rear of front line, back near the support trench. Ground was held. He was about 5.9 or 5.10 dark, well built, 24 or 25 yrs. He came from Victoria.

Reference:- B.I.Nelson 2963
D.Coy. 29th Batt. A.I.F.,
Parham Downs Camp,
28.4.17.

London
4.5.17.
A.R.McPhee

H.