

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

1943 Private
William Gerard
McLaughlin

55th Battalion



1940611M

A.I.F. 55th Btn

McHAUGHLIN
1943

"Died 3-4-17"

William Gerard - died of wounds 3-4-17 at 3rd A.C.C. Stn buried
at Pozieres British Cemetery on the Albert Bapaume Rd $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
S.W. of Pozieres $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. of Albert.
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 29-1-18.

London
30-1-18

P.I

OC's Draft 31-1-18

To

The Chaplain

3rd Art. C. C. S

B. E. F.

No. 1943

Plt Wm Gerard McLaughlin

55th Battalion

A. I. F.

Dead of wounds 3-4/18

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1918

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1918

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1918

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1918

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1918

45 RR
A.I.P.

CALDERWOOD
3206 A.

~~Killed Oct: 17/18~~

Killed at Ypres at Bunker Road on this date by shell
landing in his dugout. I saw his dead after dugout was blown
in.

Informant:- Vetterli, 1885.
W. G. 87
Hartfield.

D.P. Dickson,
2.1.18

London,
30.1.18

copy of message

Handwritten notes and scribbles, including numbers like 224130 and 191112.

Handwritten notes: 25 11 18, 20 11 18, and other illegible scribbles.

81-1-18

copy 1230

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE

| |
|---------|
| POSTAGE |
| 1d. |
| POSTAGE |
| 1d. |

THE SECRETARY,
British Red Cross Society & Order of St. John,
Enquiry Department,
18, Carlton House Terrace,
London S.W.

Rank and Christian *Capt. Fe 26 1915*

Name of Missing *McLaughlin*

Regiment *Infantry A.I.F*

Regimental No. *1943*

Company *B*

Date when Missing *wounded seriously*

Place *Pozieres I think*

Officially reported Dead

Name and Address of the person to whom information should be sent *5639, Bandonman*

E. Riddiford 20th

Bath Band

A.I.F France

On Active Service



WITH THE BRITISH
EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

~~France~~

C. 17-1-18

ARLTON HOUSE TERRACE

France

Dear Sir, will
you kindly furnish me with news
if possible, of Pte G. W. Laughlin 1943
5-5 Batta A.I.F., I know that he
was wounded seriously on 3rd April
17 & died day or so later.
Myself would like to know,
just where he was buried so that
perhaps at some future date, I may
have the opportunity of seeing his
grave. His people are most anxious
to know how he died & where he
was buried. Trusting you will be able
to furnish me with some news in
regard to same & oblige your very sincere
servant,
Sergeant E. Kiddy
20th Batta B and
A.I.F. France

1st February 1918.

No. 5659 Benjamin E. Riddiford,
20th Batt. Band,
A. I. F. B. E. F.

Dear Etc. Riddiford,

With reference to your enquiry concerning No. 1913 Etc.
William Gerard Mc. Laughlin 20th. Batt. A. I. F. we have received
information that he died of wounds on 3-1-17 at the 3rd Amb. Cas.
Clearing Station, and was buried at Pozieres British Cemetery on
the Albert Bapaume Road, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S.W. of Pozieres, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. of
Albert.

We are making further enquiries, for details of his death,
and hope to send you additional information later.

Yours faithfully,

Vera Deakin:
Secretary.

D. M. B. for R.C.

3rd Australian C.C.S.
3/2/48

2nd Lt. R. J. ...
16/4/48

Dear Miss Deakin,

Thank you very much for all the information you have culled about Pte Townsend.

With regard to your enquiry about 1943 Pte W. G. McLaughlin

55 Btm.

we have no record of his death at our C.C.S. on 3/4/17. We were taking in

from the 55th Battalion that week, but only one man died of that Battalion. The 11th South Battalion (now 56 C.C.S.) were also taking in

from the same Corps, 20
perhaps it might be worth
while trying them

With kind regards from my
thanks,

Yours sincerely,

A. G. Inneschampf
C. F. C.

A.I.F. 55.

McLAUGHLIN, W.G. 1943.

D/W April 3rd, 1917. Det. D/B.

He was killed/in ~~the~~ the evacuation on the Somme near Daignies to the right of Bullecourt. It was by m.g. bullet and must have been instant death. I saw him about two minutes later lying dead. He was buried I think at Pozieres, but am not absolutely certain. He came from Goulbourn, E.S.T. and I believe he was A. coy.

Inf. A. J. Dun, 1710. 55.C.
A.F. "Stad Antwerpen",
CALAIS. 25.8.18. GGP.

18th April, 1918.

5639 Bandsman A. Riddiford,
20th Batta Band, A.I.F.,
B. N. F.

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your enquiry for -

1943 Pte. F. G. McLAUGHLIN, 55th Battalion, A.I.F.

We beg to inform you that we have received some unofficial information. Pte. A. J. Dun informs us that Pte. McLaughlin was killed in the evacuation on the Somme near Boignies to the right of Bullecourt. It was by a machine gun bullet and his must have been an instantaneous death. Informant saw him about 2 mins later lying dead, and thinks he was buried at Pozieres, but is not certain of this.

We regret we have such sad news for your and assure you of our deep sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

B
L

1943 Pic 129. M. Laughlin 551015.
35. General Hospital

May. 2. 1918.

B.E.F.

Attached letter ^{referred to}
Rev. Ballin ^{S. J.}
Dear Sir ^{on S. J.}

The attached letter refers to a man who I think died at Pozieres April 1917. If you can send any particulars as to the grave it may help to comfort the mother. I cannot remember any special particulars after this lapse, but think that the man was brought to a small

special Hospital at Pozieres for
stomach wounds, next to the
Australian Corps Main Dressing Station
—as it was then; if so the
lad is probably buried in the
small Cemetery there.

Yours sincerely
A. H. Ballance

C.F.

| | |
|--|------------|
| London Branch, British Red Cross Society. | |
| Recd | 5 MAY 1918 |
| Ans ^d | |

C

9.5.18

To

Mr E. McLaughlin
Police Station
Gunning
New South Wales
Australia

Re: 1943 Pte W. G. McLaughlin
53rd Batt A.I.F.

D of Wds. 3.4.17
Australian D of Wds

Inquiry through Res A. H. Balline
C.F. 53rd B. General Hosp.
B.E.F.

HOBBINS

HOSPITAL *Graylingwell* *Chichester*

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|
| Fill in exactly as List. | SURNAME. | Christian Name. | Regtl.No. | Rank |
| | <i>Sunderland</i> | <i>H. S.</i> | <i>6312</i> | <i>W</i> |

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|
| SURNAME | Christian Name. | Regtl.No. | Rank |
| <i>Macdonald</i> | <i>George</i> | <i>5176</i> | <i>W</i> |

STATEMENT OF (to be taken in)

NOTE. *3*

In all cases state fully what informant says he saw or heard and give DATE AND PLACE of occurrence.

was told by Cosgrove that exploded & killed Sunderland this was a Peaschedale

PLEASE ALSO ANSWER

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Was Informant Eye-Witness? <i>W</i> | 2. If not, of th |
| 3. Was the ground held or lost? <i>held</i> | 4. If Infor (a) was (b) was |
| 5. Did Informant know Christian Name, Initials or No. of man enquired about? <i>W</i> | 6. Was th name |
| 7. Give Informant's description of man enquired about—any nickname, marks, scars, etc. <i>"the pony" very young</i> | |
| 8. Searcher's opinion of Informant's accuracy and intelligence <i>reliable</i> | |

Reports should always be written very clearly in ink, or typewritten.

10th May, 1918.

The Rev. A.H. Balleine,
Chaplain Forces,
55th General Hospital,
B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry of 2nd inst.,
for - 1943 Pte. W.G. McLAUGHLIN, 55th Battalion, A.I.F. -
who is officially reported to have died of wounds on 5-17 at
3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station. We beg to inform you
that we are writing to Mrs. McLaughlin to Gunning, New South
Wales and advising her to apply direct to our Sydney Office where
she will without delay obtain all available information concerning
her son. Pte. McLaughlin is officially reported to have been buried
in the Pozieres Military Cemetery on the Albert Bapaume Road, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
S.W. of Pozieres and $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. of Albert.

With good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Miss Ryan*

SECRETARY.

A.I.F.
55th Bttn.
D.Co.

McLAUGHLIN.Pte.
W.G. 1943.

Killed 3.4.1917.

Height 5'7", fair, age 24 yrs. Single. From Goulburn, N.S.W.
About midday on April 2nd, 1917. I saw McLaughlin lying wounded
on a stretcher at Doignies having been hit in stomach by
bullet. He was placed in an ambulance and taken to C.C.S. We
were told at our H/Qs two days afterwards that he had died. I
was also told that he was buried alongside the Main Road,
Bapaume to Albert.

Informant:- Spr. C.R. Kimball. 1935.

Home address:-
Peak Hill.
via Harramine.
N.S.W.

55th Bttn. H/Qs.
A.I.F. Ward 12.
3rd A.A. Hpl. 20.4.19.

O.S.W.
London
20.4.19.
J.E.A.

S.

A.I.F.
55th Bttn.

McLAUGHLIN
Pte. W.G. 1943

Died of Wounds 3.4.17.

He was shot in the stomach by a machine gun bullet in the morning
of 3rd 4/17. at Doignies and was alive until he reached the
dressing station where he died. He was buried close to the Dressing
Station but I don't know if a cross was erected. He was about 5'8"
in height, and had a fair complexion.

Eys-witness - Yes.

Informant:- 2197 Pte. McDonald R.F.
55th Battn.
Delegate P.O.
N.S.W.

J.Harris.
S.S. "Orita" 26.5.19.
London.
25.9.19.

S & P.I.