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

59 Private
Cyril Maurice Howell

2nd Battalion



1380312I

A.I.F. 15th Pltn 2nd Btn

Cyril Maurice HOWELL 59

"K/A. Aug:1916"

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt.Mills 18-10-19.

London
19-10-19

P.I.

FRAMOS.

A.I.F. 2. HOWELL, C.M. 59.

K. Aug.19.1916.

He was killed a little out from Pozieres on August 19, the second time we were in at the Somme. He was shot through the head by a M.G.bullet, and killed outright. His body had to be left in the trench. Pte. F.Bromley, D.Co, L.M.G.S., was with Howell on the same gun the night he was killed. Bromley told me about the casualty. I was wounded about that time and know nothing as to the burial of the body. Howell belonged to D.Co., M.G.S.

Reference: Pte. J.Tully, 4273, D.Co. M.G.S. 2nd.Batt.
26 Gen. Staples. 17.10.1916.

Letter.
Oct 33.16.

SA.

R.1.

France.

A.I.F. 2. HOWELL C.M. 59.

E. 19.8.16.

I saw him shot through the head on 19th.Aug. We were in the trenches assisting the 3rd. Bn. when this happened. He was sniped. I saw his body afterwards lying in the trench. He was one of my L.C. men. I know nothing as to the burial of his body. He was originally an Englishman and had been in Australia for some years. He was at the Peninsula with the Bn. He was a slight, delicate lad, far from robust. SA.

Reference: L/Cpl.J. Symonds. 3942. D.Co.
1 A.D.B.D.

Staples.
24.11.16.

P.1

2nd Australian Imperial Force. Howell, C.M. 59,

K Aug. 19th. Det. A.

Informant states that Howell was in the Machine Gun Section, We were attacked at Pozieres on Aug. 19th. He had shot two Germans when a sniper shot him through the neck. He fell back into the trench and was buried in the debris.

Eye Witness Yes.

Reference:-- CPL. A.V. Moore, 82,
2nd Australian Imperial Force,
1st London General Hospital,
Camberwell.

Home address:-- Canbera Villa, Hermon Street,
Kogaraly, New South Wales.

Nov. 30th.
Reynolds.

Havre Dec. 6th 1916

AUSTRALIANS 2 HOWELL C.H. 59

E.Aug.13/16 Pet.D.& E.

I was present when Howell was shot in the head by a sniper and killed on the spot in our front line at Bouquet Farm. His body was recovered and buried near the spot where he was killed. His grave is marked.

Interment 1.A.Pearl 681
2nd Battalions
No.2 Gen.Hosp.(Aust)
R.E.S.

FRANCE

2nd BATT. A.I.F. HOWELL. C.M. 59.

K.Aug 19th.1916. Det D/B.

He was killed by a sniper's bullet which he received through the head at Pozieres before we left the trench. His body had not been removed before we came out but would have been buried by the men relieving us.

WSI

Ref ---Pte G.Robertson. 4568.
No 2 Can. Gen. Hospital.

Le Treport. Dec 30th.1916.

P.1

D.Co.,
2nd Batt. A.I.F..

HOWELL
59 Pte C.H.

"K.A.19.8.16"

I can only state that he was killed instantly and buried on the battlefield later. I did not see him myself, but my mate saw him killed; the date of his death was the 19th August 1916.

Cert. by letter from Pte F Bromley,
Machine Gun Section,
D.Co.,2nd Batt. A.I.F.,
France,
9.12.16.

London
12.1.17

P.I.

France.
9/12/16

The Secretary,
Australian Bch B.R.C.S.,
London.

RECEIVED
28 DEC 1916

Sir,

Re your letter dated November 6th 1916 enquiring of Pte. 59 C.R. Howell, 2nd Battalion D Coy. Machine Gun Section. I can only state that he was killed instantly & buried on the battle field later. I did not see him myself, but my mate saw him killed; the date of his death was the 19th August 1916. In your letter you stated that he was in the 59th Battalion, instead of the 2nd Battalion, but his Regimental Number was 59 so probably the error lies there. Trusting that this little information will

be of some use to you.
Believe me
Yours truly.
Pte. T. Bromley
Machine Gun Section
D Coy. 2nd Batt

C.

59 Pte C M. Orwell
D Co
2 Batt A.I.F

R.A 10.8.16 P. D.
Kirkdale 1916 Suff. 2 Co

B-E-F.

Private Cyril Maurice Howell. 59

2nd Batt. 1st Infantry Brigade
15th Plat. A.I.F.

known as Sailor

= had a comrade McCabe in same battalion.

Killed 19 aug 1916.

details of death + burial

Report 15

Father. H R Howell
15 Ascot Rd
Moseley.

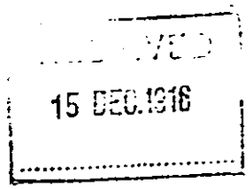
RECEIVED
15 SEP 1916
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

Roslyn,
Ascot Road,
Moseley,
Birmingham.
27 Octr 1916

Dear Sir I thank you very sincerely, & the Members of the Society for their Enquiries into the circumstances attending my Son Lieut C. M. Howells death & the facts elicited being some Consolation to our minds and

also the graceful & sympathetic words which you express in the sad bereavement we are experiencing

Yours gratefully
W. R. Howell



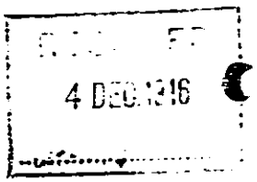
15 Acock Rd
— Moseley
Birmingham

13 Dec 16

Dear Madam

Please accept my best thanks for your letter that of yesterday containing very comforting news in that my son Pte C W Howells book was received and that the grave is

marked .. some day
I trust I may be
spared to visit it
I am deeply
sensible of the
efforts being made
to obtain the fullest
information and
shall gratefully appreciate
any further particulars
which may reach
me Very many
thanks for your
sympathy
— Yours truly
H. K. Howell



15 Derby
Nearby
Birmingham

Dear Sir

I am grateful for the further information in yours of 1st inst respecting my son Pte C M Howells death & thank you for the enquiries you are still making but unless any fresh light is thrown

on his physical
Most think it
better to learn
matters where
they are

I should like
to add that he
was by no means
delicate or not robust
but managed the
many magnificent
specimens of
manhood in the
Australian forces
he may be then
have appeared to,
twelve months
ago he played in
the Rugby team
against the English
regiments

- Very many
thanks for your
sympathetic remarks
& all the trouble
taken on the whole
matter

Yours sincerely
A R Unwell

To Secretary
B.R.C.S.
London

No 2954 J McCabe
2nd Batt A.I.F.
No 1 Com. Perham
29th-9-16

Dear Miss

I am sorry I can give you any information about 59 Pte Maurice Boswell. I may call on you shortly. I think you have made a mistake in the date of the death of the said person if it is the same. I will call or write for a fuller discription I am not sure if he is the same chap. If he is I know just how he got killed and how he was buried. I should like to see a photo I could be sure then

Yours truely
John J McCabe

27th Sept. 1916.

No.2954 Pte. J. McCabe,
2nd Battalion,
A. I. F.
No. 1. Command Depot,
Perham Downs,
Salisbury Plain.

Dear Sir,

We have heard from his father that No.59 Pte Cyril Maurice Howell, 2nd Battn. A. I. F. had a friend named McCabe in the 2nd Battalion and we think that you are probably he. If so, can you tell us anything about the death and burial of Pte Howell, who was killed in action on August 19th? He was known as Sailor Howell.

We shall be very glad if you will write and give us some information as his father is naturally anxious to have some particulars of his son's death, and anything you can give us will be most gratefully received by him.

We apologise for troubling you, but we are sure that you will realise our desire to help the father in his sorrow.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

K.H.S.

H. R. Howell

15 Ascot Rd

Moseley

Oct 28th

25th

Filing Copy.

Dear Sir

I became very sorry to see from that

We have received the following official report

pon No 4273 Pte J Tully M.G.S. 2nd Btn A.I.F.

~~[illegible]~~ Who on Oct

7th was in 26 General Hospital Etaples. He says

that your son No 59 Pte C. M Howell 2nd Btn A.I.F.

was killed in action a little out from Poizieres on August

19th. He was shot through the head by a machine gun

bullet and killed outright. His body was left in the trench.

Pte Tully was told this by Pte Brownlee D. Coy Lewis

M.G.S. 2nd Btn who was with your son when he was

killed.

H.Qs. upon him Killed in action on August 19th

We can only give you our deepest sympathy in your loss.

and hope that the knowledge that his death was in defence of

and gain will be some consolation. He died gloriously fighting

for his King and all that we British people hold dear

and in this thought we feel that you will obtain a very great

greatest Consolation.

Assuring You of our sincere sympathy Yours faithfully

CANCELS

AUSTRALIAN LIST

(2)

Name	Unit	Casualty	Cause of Cancels
4165 Eaves.J.H.	54th Battalion	M. 19-20/7/16	Died P.of.W.
3097 Jones.A.	55th Battalion	M. 20-7-1916	Bel. Rp of. W.
3573 Kerr.A.	57th Battalion	K. 20-7-1916	Details D.&.B Sufficient.
3547 Temple.H.	do.	M. Bel.K. 16-7-16	Bel. killed.
1351 Richardson.D.L.	1st Lt.H.Regt	M. 17-18-19/8/16	Pris. of War
959 Roberts.E.A.	do.	do.	do.
461 Drysdale.G.R. Sgt.	2nd Lt.H.Regt C.Squad.	M. 4-8-1916 4-8-1916	do.
317 Easton.F.P.	2nd Lt.H.Regt	M. 17-18-19/8/16	do.
1590 Handsley.D.W.	do.	M. 17-18-19/8/16	17-18-19/8/16.
953 Hobson.E.E.	do.	M. 4-8-1916	do.
1444 Littler.W.F.	do.	do. Egypt.	do.
2197 McColl.R.M.	do.	do. Egypt.	do.
1266 Sommerville.J.	do.	do.	do.
973 Ward.J.E.N.	do.	do.	do.
2051 Kelly.J.H.	7th Lt.H.Regt	M. 18-19/8/16	do.
1822 George.S.W.	13th Engineers	M. 5-8-1916	Bel. killed
669 Peters.W.E.	2nd Pioneers Bttn.	M. 3-8-1916	With unit
1548 Klincke.A.	4th Pioneers	M. 5-8-1916	do.

November 6th.

Private.F.Bromley,
" 2nd Battalion,A.I.F.,
D.Company,
Lewis Machine Gun Section.
B.E.F.,

Dear Sir,

We understood that you were with Private C. H.Powell, 59th 2 Bn Battalion, D.Company, Machine Gun Section when he was killed near Pozieres and shall be very much obliged if you will kindly tell us any particulars that you can recollect, also whether you know anything about his burial and where, so that we may send the information on to our enquirers.

With good wishes.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

1st December,

Dear Sir,

We are very sorry to inform you that we have received another unofficial report about your son -

No.59 Pte. C. H. HOWELL, 2nd Battn. A.I.F.

from No.3942, L/Cpl.J.Symonds, D. Coy., 2nd Bn. He states that he saw your son shot through the head on August 19th. He was sniped in the trenches. He, unfortunately, could tell us nothing about his burial. He describes Pte. Howell as a slight, delicate lad, far from robust, and adds that he was originally an Englishman and had been in Australia for some years and was on the Peninsular with the Battalion.

We regret that we have not been able to get any further information for you, as we know how much you will appreciate all that we can send you as to the nature of his death. We are still making inquiries and if we receive any further reports we shall at once let you know.

With deep sympathy in your loss,

Yours faithfully,

H.R.Howell Esq.,
15 Ascot Road,
Hoseley.

V S B.

A.A.W.

9th December,

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you that another unofficial report has come to hand about your son -

No.59 Pte. Cyril Maurice HOWELL, 2nd Battalion. A.I.F. which agrees in some details with those we have already sent you:-

Informant, No.82. Cpl. A.N.Moore,2nd Battn.A.I.F.,1st. London General Hospital Camberwell - states that Pte. Howell was in the Machine Gun Section of the battalion, which was attacked at Pozieres on August 19th. He had just shot two Germans when a sniper shot him through the neck and he fell back dead into the trench,where he was buried.

We are sincerely sorry to send you this report and will let you know at once should any further reports be received.

With sincere sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

V.D

SECRETARY
A.A.W.

H. R. Howell Esq.,
15 Ascot Rd.,
MOSELEY.
SURREY.

December 12th

H.R.Howell Esq.,
15.Ascot Road.-
Moseley
Birmingham

Dear Sir;

Another unofficial report has been received about your son No.59.Pte.C.H.Howell 2nd.Battn.A.I.F. in which informant No.681. Pte.L.H.Steel.2nd.Battn.A.I.F. No 2.General Hospital B.E.F. says that he was present when Pte.Howell was shot in the head by a sniper and killed on the spot in our first line, at Mouquet Farm. He adds that his body was recovered and buried near the spot where he was killed. The grave is marked.

We are still continuing our inquiries and shall at once send you any further reports we may receive, as we know how much you will like to have all the information we can get.

With sincere sympathy

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

8th January /7

H.R.Howell Esq.,
15 Ascot Rd,
Moseley,
Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

Another unofficial report has been received about your son No.59 Pte C.H.Howell, 2nd Batt. A.I.F. which confirms those we have already sent you. No.4568 Pte G Robertson, 2nd Batt. A.I.F. who on Dec.30th was in No.3 Canadian General Hospital. B.E.F. states that your son was killed at Pozieres by a sniper's bullet through the head, just before they left the trench. His body was not removed before they left the trench but he thinks that it would have been buried by the men relieving them.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

Secretary.
L.A.W.

7th February 17.

H. R. Howell Esq.,
15 Ascot Road.
Hoseley.
Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

We have received a further unofficial report about your son No. 59. Pte. C.H. Howell, 2nd Battn. A.I.F. from Pte. F. Bromley, 2nd Battn. A.I.F. who wrote from France.

He says that Pte. Howell was killed instantly and was buried later on the battlefield on August 19th. Pte. Bromley's mate saw your son killed and told him of it.

We feel that it will be some consolation to know that your son's death was instantaneous. From all the reports that we have received we feel that this must have been the case.

May we offer you our sincere sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

V.A.

Secretary.
K.A.W.

Wounded & Missing
Bureau"

Seaman H.R. Howell.
H.M.S. Cyclamen.
c/o G.P.O.
London. E.C.1.

59 Pte Maurice Howell C Battn — Feb. 11th 1918

The Secretary.

Madam.

I am in receipt of your letter of 16th inst. for which I have to offer you my heartiest thanks! Your letter does not call for a reply & knowing that perhaps you may have forgotten my enquiry I thought it my duty to let you have at least a few lines of gratitude! Being on foreign service prevents my visiting you personally but perhaps you have been visited by my people at home!

What you have done for us cannot be expressed in these few lines, so take the thanks of a sailor who knows only too well that those left at home working under the Red Cross are more than sacrificing their all for us.

Heartiest Wishes for Success

I remain.

Your most respectfully

H.R. Howell