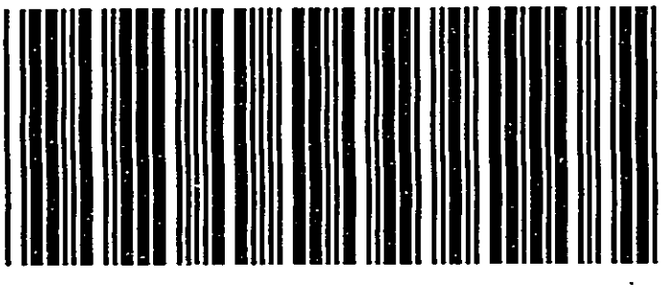
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

5901 Driver
Alfred William Ross

1st Field Artillery Brigade



2360210E

13. 12. 17

Sequelles M. Warran

2nd Bty.

1st Bgde. A.F.A.

B.S.F.

abt.

5901 Pte. A. W. Ross

2nd Bty.

1st Bgde. A.F.A.

K. 16-8-17.

21-12-17

9

Bomb. ANDERSON

1st Bgde 2 Bty

A.F.A.

B.E.F.

Chaut.

A. W. ROSS

5901

1st Bgde 2 Bty

A.F.A.

K. 10.8.17.

Qur.

5.1.18

1st. Brigade
2nd. Battery
A.I.F.

R O S S
A.W. 5901

Killed 13.8.17.

I saw him killed near Zillebeke. Death was instantaneous, and was caused through a shell overturning a "pill box", which fell on him. I knew him very well. He came from Mansfield, Victoria, and was the only man of that name in the Battery. I do not know the place of burial, but refer to Sig. M. Harran, 1st.Brigade 2nd. Battery, who is now in France, and was always a great friend of his and can give details of burial.

Witness: Roberts
D.W.L. 12314.
1st. Brigade, 2nd. Battery
3rd. A.A. Hospital.
Dartford.

W. Oman.
London
28.12.17.

M

Note:- Written Sig. M. Harran 13.12.17.

1st Fld. Artillery
A.I.F.

ROSS
A.W. 5901

"Killed August ~~16th~~ 1917"

Ross was a runner and was in a dugout when a shell hit it and he and another man who name I cannot think of was killed. He was dug out and is buried at Zillebeke. I was at the battery at the time and this is generally known amongst us.

Witness:- A. Drake 724
Fld Artillery
2nd Battery
Hut 20.
Westham

W.A.Rand
London.
3.1.18.

M

1st F.AB.

ROSS, A.W.
Gnr. 5901

Killed in action 16/8/16.

"I knew Casualty. He was medium built man about 26 years of age and dark. Casualty was sent up to the line to "O" Pit Observation Post at Zonne Peck. He was on top of the trench when a shell exploded killing Casualty instantly. He was buried at Reinshelst, with Military Honors."

Informant:- Wallace, C.C.H. D.C.M.
A.M.C. 1st Brigade.

Private address:-
"Eastwood House"
Eastwood,
Sydney, N.S.W.

M Cd suff

T.C.F.
4/1/18

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

1st B. 2nd Battery
Fld: Artillery
A.I.F.

ROSS
A.W. 5901

"Killed August 16th 1917"

At Zillebeke he and E. May 25946 were up forward observation station and were killed by shell. Bombdr. Anderson was with them, he got back and still with Battery, is the only man of that can tell about them

Witness:- Forsyth 183
Ward 36
Harefield

D. P Dickson
London.
10.1.18.

M

Note written Anderson 8.1.18.

Australian Field Artillery
1st Brigade.

ROSS, A.W. Pte. 5901.

K. August 16. 1917. Dets. D/B.

I last saw Pte. Ross on the 16th August 1917 at Polygon Wood. An attack was made on the 16th August. Pte. Ross was in a dug-out and the roof fell in on him; it was caused through the bursting of a shell and he was instantly killed. He was left there and I do not think he was buried.

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description: 5.ft. 8 in. fair, no scars, stout, nickname "Rossie", age about 28. Belonged to Melbourne.

Informant: Cpl. Bertie Robert Rochester, 5050,
2nd Bty. Aus. Field Artillery, 1st Bde.
Military Hospital,
Herne Bay, Kent.

Home address:
Victoria St.
Taree Manning
New South Wales.

M. Saxton.
10.1.18.

104 Battery
R. B. A. A.
Canterbury
3/10/18

Ans 4.5.18

The Sec.
Aust Red Cross. London.

Dear Sir,

Re. Gunner
5901. A. W. Ross. 2nd Battery. 1st A. F. A. Bde.
killed in action on 16th Aug. 1917. in
the Ypres battle at that time.

I have had communications from
the above soldiers parents asking
me to find out as many particulars
as possible concerning his death.

I have been informed that you
can supply me with the necessary
information which I would be
very pleased to have & forward to
his people, they being most intimate
friends of mine & my own people.

I have written pals of the dead
soldier but they have either been
wounded or killed & I have had
no reply from any of them.

The last mostly concerning

him is to know if he were killed instantaneously or if he lived, how long did he suffer before he died.

It seems to me most unlikely that you should be able to supply me with these particulars but I have been assured by a friend of mine that you can.

Trusting you will furnish me with these details if possible, to the adress hereon given.

Thanking you

I am

Yours sincerely

No 7989 Bombr. R. G. Dundas.

No 4 Battery.

R. B. A. A.

Aughtesbury

Wilts.

8th May, 1918.

7989 Bombdr.R.G.Dundas,
No 4 Battery, Reserve Brigade,
Aust. Artillery, Heytesbury.
WILTS.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry of 3rd inst., for

5901 Gnr.A.W. ROSS, 1st F.A.B. A.I.F.

who is officially reported Killed in Action on 16-8-17, we beg to inform you that we have received several unofficial reports from men of his unit-all of whom state him to have been killed instantaneously by a shell while in a dugout near Zillebeke. He was buried near Zillebeke according to unofficial evidence.

We have already received an enquiry for Gnr. Ross through our Melbourne Office which we presume to have been made by his people, and have sent out all available information, whence it will be at once forwarded to the enquirer.

Should we receive further and more particulars concerning his burial we will at once advise you. Hoping it may be some comfort to know that his death was instantaneous and with sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) ~~Kate~~ Miss Ryan