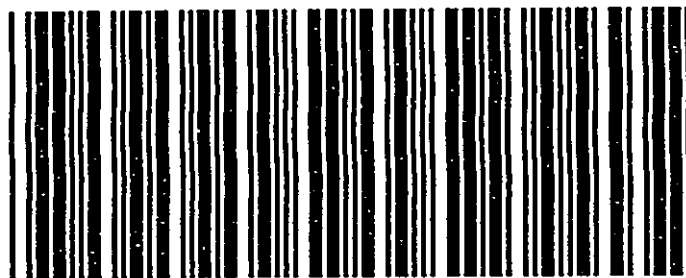


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1281 Private
Augustus Rickard

38th Battalion



2290901N

A.I.F. 38th Battn

RICKARD
1281

A

W-Dec-Jan

Wounded 31-12-16

rejoined unit 4-1-17

Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 6-2-17.

London
8-2-17.

H.

cd

Havre

9th October.1917.

38th AUSTRALIANS

RICKARD, A. 1281

K. June 7th-9th.1917. et. D/B.

I know Pt. A. Rickard of D. Co., XIV.Flt. His nick-name was "Ginger". He was about 21 years of age, medium height and build, red hair and clean shaven. I saw his grave in the Military Cemetery at Messines. Pt. Victor Hassan of D.Co., XIV.Flt., helped to bury him.

Informant: Pt. J.B. Lines, 6125
38th Australians, D.Co., XIV.Flt.
Australian Camp, Bouclies.

RBM.

CA

M.

*Written Pt Hassan
25-10-17*

38th A.I.F.

A. RICKARD, 1281.

K. 7.6.17. Det. D & B.

He was a runner for the Battn. during the advance at Messines Ridge. He was with me on the 7th and was killed during the morning of the 8th June. He was running his last message before being relieved and was hit and killed outright at about 400 yards from the Township, and was probably buried where he fell. He was a tall, thin, fair man whom I knew well. He lived in the same billet with me for nearly three months. He was trained at Bendigo, Victoria, but I think he came from N.S.W.

Reference: Pte.H.R.Taylor, 2405.

No.11 Stationary, Rouen. 24.10.17.

ABC.

ed
M

58th Bata
A. I. F. *Dley*.

R
RICKARD
A. 1281

"Killed 7-9.6.17."

Refer to Pte. A.E. Chambers 58th Bata D. Coy., 14th Pltn
who is now in France and who saw him killed at Messines Ridge
by a shell and can give full details of Death and burial.

Witness:-

Pte. S.G. McEnerson 1244
58th Batt. D. Coy., 15th Pltn.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Oman
London.
25.10.17.

Note written Pte. Chambers 25.10.17.

M

38 A.I.F.

Rickard. Pte. A. 1281.

(K. June 7-9/17)
Det D/B.

"I was H.Q. Signaller and we started June 7th for the advance of Messines. Rickard was Co. Runner; he was running with a chap named Alden, taking a message to the front line. When I returned on the morning of June 9th I was runner (the other 5 had all been killed) I saw the bodies of Alden and Rickard, they were killed instantaneously together by a shell at 6 p.m. on Friday June 8th. They were burying the bodies as they lay and were then burying men about 100 yds from Rickard's body."

Eye-witness: No. but I saw the body.

Description: "Rick" - tall and thin, ginger, fair, very ordinary to look at.

Informant: Sig: G.S. Ray. 1280.

38 A.I.F. D Co: 13 Pl:
Exeter War Hospital. No. III.

Home address: Shearwood.

Waterloo Rd. Northcote.
Melbourne.

30.10.17.

A.S. Jervis Smith.

38th A.I.F.

A. RICKARD. 1281.

K. 7/9.6.17. Det. D & B.

At the advance at Messines he was ^Brunner for D Co. and had just left the Co. H.Q. with Ogden, the other runner, when a shell blew them both to pieces on the bank of the Douve River. I saw it happen plainly about 200 yards away at sundown, in the afternoon. He was a nice chap, fairly thin with light hair, he had false teeth. He had been wounded before at Houplines, Armentieres, and was trained at Bendigo, Victoria. I knew him ~~well~~ well by the name of Rick.

Reference: Cpl. E. Kerr, 109. D Co.

No. 11 Stationary, Rouen. 31.10.17.

ABC.

A.I.F. 38.

K. 7/9.6.17.

RICKARD (Richard) A. 1281.

Place of burial, 1/3. mile S.E. of Messines
Village. (Map reading, U. 3d.2.4)

Cert.by: Div. Burials Officer.
Fauquembergues. 30.10.17.

5A.
Etaples.
1.11.17.

2 copies M.

A.I.F. 38.

RICKARD, A. 1281.

K. June 7-9th 1917. Dets.

He was a runner to Major Morsley and was killed by a shell and died instantly at Bethshem Farm to the right of Messines about 4 o'clock in the afternoon as he was taking a message to the 37th Battn. His body was recovered about four days later and he is buried where he fell and his grave is marked with a cross. He came from Victoria, was red headed, single.

Inf: W.A.Wearne. 2670. D.Co.
No. 7 C.C.
BOULOGNE. 5.11.17.

FD *M*

1281.

A. I. F. 38.

RICKARD, A. 1281.

K. June 7-9, 1917.

He was killed by a shell while acting as a runner on June 7th at Messines. He was on a run at the time between D.Coy HQ on the green line and the HQ of the 37th Battn on the Black Line. The body was buried near where he fell with that of Pte Ogden who was killed by the same shell.

SA.

Eye Witness: Sgt. F.L. Clarke.

fm. gd

Cert. by Adj. 38th Battn.
Senlecques.

N.B. The position indicated for the grave would be not far from and about ~~33-~~ of Messines Village. SA.
S.E.

Etamples 8.11.17.

58th Bata
I.F.

RICKARD
A. 1281

"Killed 7/9.6.17.

Re enquiry of Ho 1281 Pte. A. Rickard D. Coy., 58th Bata Killed 8.6.17.

In the Messines push of that date he was acting as Runner on D. Coy., Headquarters and getting towards dusk of the second day he was sent in Company with Pte. Ogden on a run with a message forward when they had gone about 200 yards both were killed by shell fire and death in both cases must have been instantaneous. His effects taken from his body and afterwards from his pack were forwarded to his people by the Company clerk (since killed). Pte. Rickard was buried where he fell and a cross marks the spot - the map reference is sheet 28 s.w. U 9c2.8. or very close to it.

Letter from:-

F.L. Clarke Sgt.

D. Coy.,

58th Bata

A.I.F.

51.10.17.

M

London. 14.11.17.

38th A.I.F.

^K
Rickard Pte A. 1281,
D. Company.

(K. June 7-9/17)

"I was on June 9th at Messines, Rickard was runner to the
Batt: He had just started on his last run and a shell came and
blew him to pieces. I was about 50 yds. away. He was not buried".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Tall and slim.

Informant: Cpl. G. Kerr 109,
38th A.I.F., A. Coy.,
1st Southern General Hospt.,
Birmingham.

Home address:
Tamember East,
via Inglewood,
Victoria.

17/11/17,
W. Shorthouse.

M
Ed
Suff

38th. Battn.
A.I.F.

RICKARD
A. 1281.

Killed 7-9/6/17.

He was a runner and set out with a message at 7.p.m. on 7th June in company with Signaller - can't recall name - from Green Lane to Black Line, Snitzell Farm and both were killed by the same shell - killed outright. I saw the bodies and took the message from his pocket and delivered it. I cannot say if they were buried but believe they were and is so at Kandahar Cemetery, Neuve Eglise. We came away while bodies still there but the ground was never taken by the Germans.

Ref: Green T. A. 1845.
38th. D. Coy.
Hut 45. Littlemore.

W.A.Rand.
London.
22.11.17.

H.

(25-10-17)

PLC A.E. CHAMBERS

14 Plk. D Coy
38 Batten

A IF
B EF

about

1281

A-RICKARD

D Coy 38 Batten

A 27

127/9-6-17

25-10-17.
A. A. B.

(25-10-17)

Pt. V. HASSAN.

XIV Plk. D Coy.
38 Balth

A.I.F.
B.E.F.

IJ

about

1281 Pz A. RICHARD^K

38 Balth

A. I.F.

K 7-9 June 17

25-10-17.
A.A.B.

1281
Secretary Red Cross Society
A. Rickard Field. Oct 31st 1914
Killed 7/9-6-17 m.
3.

Dear Madam

Re enquiry of No 1281 Pte A Rickard 'D' Coy, 38th Bn
AIF Killed 8/6/14.

In the Messines push of that date he was acting as
Runner on D Coy Headquarters & getting towards dusk
of the second day he was sent in Company with Pte Oden
on a run with a message forward, when they had
gone about 200 yards both were killed by shell fire
and death in both cases must have been instantaneous.
His effects taken from his body & afterwards from his
pack were forwarded to his people by the company
clerk (since killed). Pte Rickard was buried where he
fell and a cross marks the spot the map reference is
Sheet 28 S.W. U 9628. or very close to it. If any further
information is required which I can give will be pleased
to do so

Yours faithfully.

J. L. Clarke Sgt.

D Coy. 38th Bn A.I.F.

90
8.11.17

Sgt. P. L. Clarke,
D. Coy.
28th Aust: Inf: Batt.
A.I.F. - B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We wish to thank you for your letter in answer to our enquiry concerning :-

1281.Pte. A. Rickard, 38th Battalion A.I.F.

The information and detailed you have sent will be of much assistance to us, and of value to our enquirers. We shall now apply to the Graves Registration/Enquiries, asking them to forward a photograph of the late Soldier's grave to his next of kin. Thank you also for your offer of further information, if *it is* necessary, we will write again if we need it.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY,
03