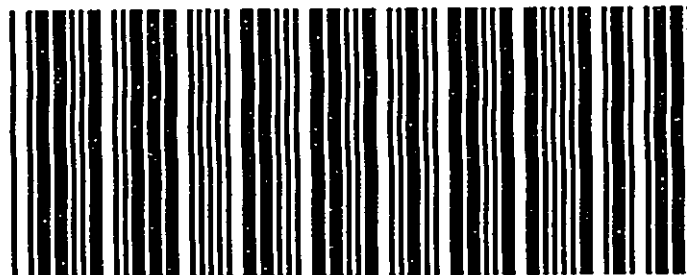


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2974A Private
John Percival Rider**

19th Battalion



2300206D

19th A. I. F.

Rider, Pte J.P. 2974,

(E. Apr 20th/17)

"I saw Rider killed by a shell when we were returning from Noreuil. He is buried in the small military cemetery at Noreuil."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Lt Foster,
19th A. I. F.,
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S.W.

Home address:
16, Wolsley Rd,
Point Piper,
Sydney.

19th June 1917.
John R. Clark Hall.

S

19th Bn.
A. Coy.
A. I. F.

Rider.
J. P. 2974.

"Killed 20.4.17"

This man was killed instantly by shell fire just as he was coming out of the line at Noreuil on April 20th, 1917. This was just after an attack. Battalion was being relieved when the casualty occurred of which I was an eye-witness. He was buried at Noreuil near where he fell. I helped to make the cross that marks his grave. His name and No. were on it.

Witness:-

H. H. Pimblett 6127.

A. Coy. 19th Battn.

Perham Downs Camp.

A. R. McPhee.

London.

28.7.17.

S.

19th Battn.
A. I. F.

Pte. Rider. 2974.

"Killed in Action."

Pte. Prior now at Verne Citadel states that he recently received a letter from Pte. J. H. Smith, No 2987, 19th Battn. to say that Pte. Rider had been killed on April 20th. Pte. J. H. Smith should be able to give details of death and burial of Rider.

Australian Red Cross Depot,
Worgret Camp,
Wareham, 5.6.17.

London.
7.6.17.

S.

19th Battn.

A. Coy..

A. I. F.

Rider.

J. P. 29741

"Killed 20.4.17"

I was an eye-witness of this casualty. Rider was killed instantly by a shell at Vaux, just as we came out of the line on 20.4.17. I was also wounded at the same time and several others were killed. He was quite close to me when he fell. I spoke to him but he did not answer and I found that he was quite dead. I tried to drag him away from his dead mates but was too weak. When I was taken away he was lying dead near Sunken Road between Lagnicourt and Vaux. He was 5'6" - 5'7" medium build, full round face, dark complexion and about 25 years.

Witness:-

V. Slingo 5634.

A. Coy 19th Battn.

Perham Downs Camp.

A. R. McPhee.

London.

4.8.17.

S.

19th A. I. F.

Rider, J.P. 2974,

(K. April 20/17. Det D & B)

"I know that Rider of A. Coy was killed on the night of April 20th (when we were coming out of the line near the village of Noreuil) by a high explosive shell. He was given a Christian burial in a small military cemetery in that village, there are five others buried in the same grave, which has a substantial wooden cross over it. I saw him lying dead and took his papers etc. from his body."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Lieut F.B. Forster,
19th A. I. F.,
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S.W.

Home address:
16 Wolseley Rd,
Point Piper, Sydney.

15th Nov. 1917.
Long.

19th A.F.A.

Rider J.P. 2974,

(K. 20.4.17. D/B)

"Rider was hit by a shell whilst we were returning from front lines trenches and died instantly. We were walking along in single file and he was about 5 men in front of me. He was buried at a small cemetery at Noreuil near Bapaume. He came from Australia with me in the Ascanius and was in the 7th reinforcements of the 53rd Battalion".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Pte. L. Ridley 3001,
19th A.I.F., A. Coy., III Plt.,
Beaufort War Hospt.,
Bristol.

Home address:
West Wyalong,
N.S.W.

18.11.17,
F. Gardiner.

Sold

answered
27-8-17

VAD Hospital
Cottenham
Cambridge
Eng.
24.8.17.

Dear Sirs: Madam,
(
could
you give me any
particulars as to the
death of No 2974
the John Percival Rides
who was reported
killed in action on
20th April. He left
Sydney on 28th Oct in
the 17th Reinforce of 53rd
Batt but was in
19th Batt when he
was killed.

(
Yours truly.
No 12099 Pte J. Yates
VAD Hospital
Cottenham
Cambridge

Pte. Rider 2974. 19 Ball.

See index.

Pte. J. Hamilton. 4295.
60 Ball.

8-6-17.

August 28th, 1917.

12049. Pte. J. Yates,
V.A.D. Hospital,
Cottenham, Cambridge.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your inquiry for details of
the death and burial of

2974 Pte. J. F. Rider, 19th Battn, A.I.F.

who was Killed in Action 20.4.17 and beg to forward the
following information.

Lieut. Foster of 19th Battalion stated that he saw
Rider killed by a shell when they were returning from
Moreuil and he was buried in a small military Cemetery
at Moreuil.

6127 Pte. H. H. Pimblett said that Rider was killed
instantly by shell fire just as he was coming out of the
line at Moreuil on April 20th, 1917. It was just after
an attack and the battalion was being relieved when the
casualty occurred. He was buried at Moreuil near where
he fell. Informant said he helped to make a cross for
his grave on which was his name and number.

5634 Pte.V.Slingo gives a similar report to the above.

We think it would be of some comfort to his friends and relatives to know that his death was instantaneous.

If any further reports come to hand we shall advise you if you notify us of any change in your address.

All this news is being sent out to Sydney.

Assuring you of our sympathy!

Yours faithfully,

Miss Craig
SECRETARY.