

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

3156 Private
Robert Paton Lygoe

56th Battalion



1650117L

U
P.I.P.
50th Bn.
D.Coy. 8 Rfts.

Robert Paton 3156

EXCO: 0

T21 Killed in Action 16.5.17.

No trace Germany.

also on 10.10.19

Cert. by Capt. Mills 10.10.19.

London.
21.10.19.

S.

46th Battn.
5 D. Coy.
A. I. F.

Lyons.
R. P. 3056

"Killed 15.5.17"

I saw him very badly wounded in the head by shrapnel at Bullecourt. He was suffering great pain when they took him away to the dressing station about a mile away and I do not think that he could have lived long. I know him very well, there being no other of that name in the Company. I do not know of anyone that could furnish particulars.

Witness:-

Pte. D. Hartland. 3262²
46th Battn. A. Coy.
3rd Inst. Gen. H. Hospital.
Bartford.

T. Omen.

London.
15.8.17.

S.

56th. Batt. A.I.F.

Lycey R. P. Pte. NO. 3056.

LYGOE D. Coy.

Killed May 16th 1917. Det. D.E.

I saw him lying dead in the Hindenburg line. He was buried shortly after in a shell-hole, by a party from the Coy. I could not say if any cross was erected. I did not know much about him as he was only with us a short time. I think it was his first time in the lines.

Description. Height. 5-7. Complexion. Medium. Medium ~~Build~~ Build.

Witness. Sgt. Hjr. Bock. C.E. NO. 230. D. Coy. 56th. Batt.

Taken At.
14th. T.B. Hurdcott.
5-9-17.
S.W.

S. Whitmes.
NO. 4. Command Depot
Godford.

S.

A. I. F. 56. D.

LYGON, R.P. 3056.

K. May 16th, 1917.

He was killed to the right of Bullecourt on May 15/17 by, I believe, one of our own shells. I was told this by the man that buried him, Cpl H.R. Richardson. 2247, 2 Coy, 56th battn. The grave lies about 1000 yards from Rioncourt. The Cpl handed in the registration of the grave to the battn office as situated at the spot indicated. Lygon belonged to XIV pl. with me. He had been with us only 3 or 4 days before his death. He was a short fellow, a good rifle shot, age about 20.

JA.

Reference:- Cpl. R.G. Butterworth. 2126. 2 Coy.
L. Gun School.

*Written Cpl H. R. Richardson
19-9-17*

*Staples
8.9.17.*

FRANCE

56th BATT. A.I.F. D.

LYGON. R.P. 3056.

K. May 16th. 1917. Det D/B.

He was a little chap in D. Coy who came over with my reinforcements. Since I was Orderly Sergeant of that reinforcement I know them all very well, so though I did not see Lygon myself I knew what happened to him. If I remember right it was on the Tuesday at Bullecourt, the Germans were putting up a very heavy barrage that day and a lump of shell struck Lygon and killed him on the spot. He was such a little chap that it always seemed a wonder that he could carry his pack.

JNA

Ref ---Pte Bevan. 3101.
No 16 Gen. Hospital.

Le Treport. Oct 4th. 1917

*C
Ed.
Jaff*

A.I.F. 56.

LYGOE, R.P. 3056.

K. May 16/17. det. D/B.

Lygoe was in C. Co. - a little slightly-built, fair-haired chap of about 20. He was killed in the front trenches at Bullecourt about May 15th by a shell which also killed Swan and wounded others. Lygoe got the full force of it and was very much knocked about and killed out right. I was in the next post to him about 20 or 30 yards away. I was on ration fatigue and passed just after it happened. He was put up behind the trench with Swan for burial, and was buried there I believe. When I came back they were gone. Lygoe was in the 8th Rits. or the 56th, and joined the Battn. about April 30th in France. He was sickly-looking. You'd wonder he was ever in the forces at all.

Informant: Pte. E. Challis. 2879. H.Q. Sigr.
54 General Hosp. (late C IX)
BOULOGNE 5.10.17. S

JT

56th A.I.F.

Lygoe Pte. R.P. 3056

(K. May 16/17 Det D/B)

"I helped to bury Lygoe who was killed by a shell. Both legs were chopped clean off. This was Bullecourt on May 28/17 at 8.am. He came from Welsh Creek, N.S. Wales. He had a smoke and a drink of water before he died. It was one of our own shells, dropping short, that killed him. It was half an hour before he died, and he was buried in the trench".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Thin little young fellow. Not more than 17 or 18.

Informant: Pte. Jack FitzPatrick 3139,
56th A.I.F., A. Coy.,
Hove Red Cross Hospt.,
Third Avenue.

Home address::
Henry St.,
Quirinda, N.S.W. Australia.

Oct. 8/17,
L. Boyle.

Hayre

8th Oct '1917

56th AUSTRALIANS

LYGOE R.P. 3056

R. 16th May 1917 dot D/B

I know him; he was in B. Co., 14th Platoon. He had not been long with us - Rather slight - age about 20 - Fair. He went on a bombing stunt at Hallencourt about the middle of May with the 54th Battalion, and was caught with a white flag. L/Cpl Richardson of the 56th Bn. D. Co. 16th Pln (now with the Battalion) told me this and he said Lygoe was buried near where he fell.

Informant: L/Cpl. J.H. Stanley 1736
56th Australians D.Co. 14th Pln
Australian Camp Bouelles

GIR

S

56th A.I.F.

Lygoe Pte. R.P. 3056,

(K. May 16/17 Det D/B)

"I knew Lygoe. He was killed at Bullecourt by a shell. The shell blew him to pieces practically and his remains were buried on the spot".

Eye-witness: No, every one knew.

Description: Lygoe was only about 16. He smuggled himself into a draft *leaving for France after they had refused to pass him on account of his age.*

Informant: Pte. A.J. Russell 3232,
56th A.I.F.,
Cornelia Hospt.,
Poole.

*S
B
Jeff*

Oct. 13/17,
H. Bradley.

56th A.I.F.

Lygoe R.P. 3056,
D. Coy. XIII Plt.

(K. May 16/17 Det D/B)

I saw Lygoe just after he was killed on the right side of the Bullecourt Sector. We were bombarded continually for 33 hours. He was buried when the fire died down and a rough cross was put over his grave. His death was instantaneous, practically hit by a shell".

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Pte. F. Gibbons 3106,
56th A.I.F., D. Coy., XIII Plt.,
Ampton Hospt.,
Suffolk.

Home address:
Glenalbion,
Smith St.,
Manby, N.S.W. Australia.

15/10/17,
C.H. Hawkins.

*S
C
Jeff*

56th Batn
A.I.F.

~~LYG0E~~
R.P. 3056

"Killed 16.5.17."

He was fearfully wounded and disfigured when I saw him lying dead at Bullecourt near some shell holes. I don't know if he was buried. Came from N.S.W. I think. I knew him fairly well. We called him Bob. Quite small about 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone inclined to be ginger coloured.

Witness:- J. Hocking 2148
56th Batn Royal Berks.
Reading.

W. Alison
London.
18.10.17.

S

A.I.F. 56.

LYGOE, R.P. 3056.

Z. May 16th 1917. Dets.

I did not know him very well because he had only just joined us when he was killed. The 54th Battn on our left were being attacked and the bombers of D.Coy, 56th Batt went over to help them and Lygoe was with them. These bombers told me when they got back that Lygoe had been killed by one of our own shells on the way out, so his body was out in front.

Inf: Pte S.Sporne. 316. D.Coy.

No. 3 Can Gen Hosp.

BOULOGNE. 20.10.17.

SGO

S
d
b
H

56th Battn.
A.I.F.

Lygoe.
R. P. 3056

"Killed in Action 16.5.17"

Re 3056 Pte.R.P.Lygoe. His description was - slight built, with fair hair and a very quiet way of talking. As he was only with me a few days that is a good description of a good lad who was about 5'6" in height. Hoping that you will find out that this is the man as I was the man standing by his side when he was killed almost instantly, and he was buried on the field - the grave is registered, so if you send for the map to the register as it is not allowed to tell any place we have been in by letter, you will find it right, but if it cannot be found I will send and tell you by some one on leave if you drop me a line, but you will find this correct as I buried him myself.

Letter from:-

2247 Cpl.N.R.Richardson.

France. 6.10.17.

London.
30.10.17.

S.

56th Battn., A.I.F.
D. Co., 8th Rfts.

LYGOE, R.P.C.
Pte. 3156.

K. 16/5/17.

Lygoe was in D. Company and I in B. Company.

On the 16th May, 1917, from the trenches fronting Bullecourt, we had gone over to retake trenches the Germans had taken from us. Our own barrage was a bit short, and one of our own shells hit Lygoe. He was killed instantly. He was buried in the Hindenburg line. A cross was placed on the grave with his name on it.

Informant:- BOYLE, J.E., 3225,
56th Battalion,
No.4 Aust. General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

B.M.
25/1/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S. 1000

ack.
15-10-17
R.P. LYGOE
56 Bath
K/A 16.5.17
S France
3 6.10.17.

Dear Madame

I received your
letter of inquiry today / Re 3056
Re R.P. Lygoe. K. 1. A. 16.5.17
if I had only got it the day that
it was written I could have
told you better than I can now
as I have just returned from
England But I will do my
best His description was
a slight built with fair
hair & a very quiet way of talking
as he was only with me a few
days that is a good description
of a good lad who was about
5 ft 6 in high. Hoping that you
will find out that this is
the man as I was the man

standing by his side when
he was killed almost
instantly & he was buried
on the field the graves
registered so if you send for
the map to the Grand Reg-
ister as it is not allowed
to tell any place we have
been in by letter you will
find it right but if it cannot
be found I will send & tell you
by some one or leave if you
drop me a line ^{you} will find
this correct as I buried him
myself & trusting I have made
myself plain & you can read
the writing Yours Faithfully
12247 Wm. F. Richardson