

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

**5879 Private
George Matthews**

26th Battalion



1740305K

26th Battn

3rd Coy.,

ALP

MATTHEWS

G. 5879

"Killed 8.10.17"

I saw him sniped at Passchendaele. The bullet caught him through the head and death was instantaneous. I saw him fall and went to his assistance, but he was then beyond all aid. I knew him very well, he came from Bundaberg, Queensland and was engaged in Sugar growing prior to enlistment. The ground was held but I do not know place of burial, and cannot refer to anyone for details.

Witness:-

Pte. E.C. Parker 5893

26th Battn

3rd A A Hospital,

Dartford

W. Omsen

London.

24.1.18

S

A.I.F. 26.

MATTHEWS, G. 5879.

K. Oct. 8th, 1917. Det. D/B.

On Oct. 9th, not the 8th, he was killed between Baisy Wood and Zonnebeke about 11 a.m. by m.g. fire. I was close to him and saw him fall. He was hit in the head and chest and killed instantly. I cannot say where buried. Fine man, about 5ft.8 or 10, with a sandy moustache, should say about 35.

Inf. Sgt. G. Miller, 3509. B.
Billets.

BOULOGNE. 15.3.18.

ARD. S

26th Battn.
A.I.F.

G. MATTHEWS.
5879.

"Killed in action" 8-10-17.

I was with my Company on October 8th or 9th 1917 at about 10.30.a.m. at Ypres, when we were advancing towards enemy positions in support of 5th Brigade who were attacking.

No 5879 Pte Geo Matthews was by the left side of, and advancing with me, when a sniper's bullet pierced his forehead. Death was instantaneous. I can give no particulars regarding his burial. The ground was held.

Eye-Witness: Yes.

Description: Thick set, heavy ginger moustache, gingery hair, age about 35.

Home Address-

Native Bee.

Via Claremont.

Queensland. Australia.

Informant:-James.Albert.E.5852.Pte.

26th Battn.A.I.F.

Ilford Emergency Hospital
ILFORD.

(Informant was a personal friend of deceased and his information appeared most reliable).

H.J.Charlton.

London.

6-6-18.

S.

26th Battalion. A.I.F.

G. MATTHEWS Pte.
No. 5879.

Killed 8/10/17

I met Matthews at Bapaume. He was 5ft 7in in height, fair, and wore a moustache. I heard from a mate of both of us - Faulk that Matthews had been killed near Polygon Wood about the 8th Oct. 1917. He was sniped by a bullet. Killing him instantly. Faulk told me that he had seen Matthews killed.

A good fellow, a good mate.

Informant: T. R. Wilmet, Pte, No. 4236, 26th Batt.
No 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

Home address:
Bowen Mount,
Grose Vale,
KURRAJONG.

4/7/18.
F.B.W.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

50/1/18

✓

A.I.F.
26th Btn.

MATTHEWS
George 5879

Killed in Action 8.10.17.

No burial report.
Cert. by Hqrs 17.7.19.

London.
7.10.19.

S.