

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

2013A Private  
Albert George Ernest  
Mewburn

17th Battalion



1760602M

17th A.I.F.

M  
Newburn. Pts. A.G.E. 2013.

(K. Nov. 5/17.)  
Det. D/B.

"I saw Pte. Newburn hit by a shell on Nov. 5/17 at midnight at Passchendaele Ridge. He was a little boy with a Lewis Gun, and was half buried. We tried to get out but the bombardment was so heavy - the stretcher bearers took him ~~about~~ 3/4 of an hour later. He died in about 2 hours and was buried by the stretcher bearers, half way between the trenches and the dressing station. Pte. Newburn had one leg blown off from the thigh, and the other leg much injured, besides other wounds."

Byewitness: Yes.

Description: Countrified looking, dark, quiet fellow,  
about 5'9".

Informant: I/O. G.A. Allen. 1877.

17th Australians. B Coy.

Home address:

Barwan St,

Harrahri,

N.S.Wales.

Princess Christian Hospital,  
Weymouth.

3/6/18.

G. Stephenson.

17th Battn.  
A.I.F.

A.G.E.

M  
MEWBURN.  
2D13.

"Killed in Action" 5-11-17.

Mewburn (a Lewis Gunner) was killed by a whizz bang which lobbed right on top of him on an outpost in Passchendaele. the evening before the Canadians took the village. He was not \* killed outright but had a leg taken off by the shell but only lived a short while, dying before reaching a D/S. He was hit about 11.p.m. and died smiling. I saw him wounded being in charge of outpost. We were having a very hot time but he was buried at night I'm pretty sure though I can't say where. The ground was held.

Informant:- Charters, Sgt. A. 5551.  
17th Battn. B. Co.  
Ent 57. WESTHAM.

W.A. Rand.  
London.  
14-6-18.

3.

A. I. E. 17.

MEWBURN, A. G. E. 2013.

Z. Nov. 5/17. Det. D/B.

On the 5th Nov. at Ypres on the ridge near "Anzac House" we were in trenches on outpost duty and just holding on against heavy attacks. Mewburn and I were in the same piece of trench with 9 or 10 other men when at 9 p.m. about a howitzer shell burst in our trench. Mewburn's leg was shattered right up to the hip and was only just hanging on. Some S/Bs took him down to a D/S Zear by and one of them told me he died on the way and was conscious to the last. I don't know where he was buried but it must have been somewhere close by as the enemy shelling was too heavy to take him far. He was about 19, and strong, well built, 5 ft. 8. I know nothing of his previous history.

Reference: Pte. A. M. Gardiner. 3840.  
No. 6 General, Recd.

22.7.18.

WIM.

Havre

31st July 1918.

A.I.F. 17.

Hewburn A.G.E. 2013.

K. 5th Novr 1917. Det D/B.

I know Pte Hewburn of B. VIII slightly, he had only joined recently and was hit by shell the first time he was in the line in November 1917 at Ypres. I saw him lying in the trench with his leg off he was conscious and was talking to us. He was carried out by a S/B, Pte Fitzgerald of B. VII, and I heard that he d/founded before reaching the D/Station and they said that they buried him in our support line. Fitzgerald will know the location of the grave.

Inf:- Sargt E.D. Ross No. 2438.  
A.I.F. 17. B. VIII.  
Australian Conv. Depot.  
Rouelles.

N.W.

RDM.

Written Fitzgerald  
6.8.18

PP.

Plac. P. 6-591

17-18

President's address wanted

AST with 17<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 13.5.18

18<sup>th</sup> 18.5.18 how NED 30.9.18  
Rest 1006

File under

2013-4 Newburn

17<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>

18<sup>th</sup> 18.5.18

Report Section

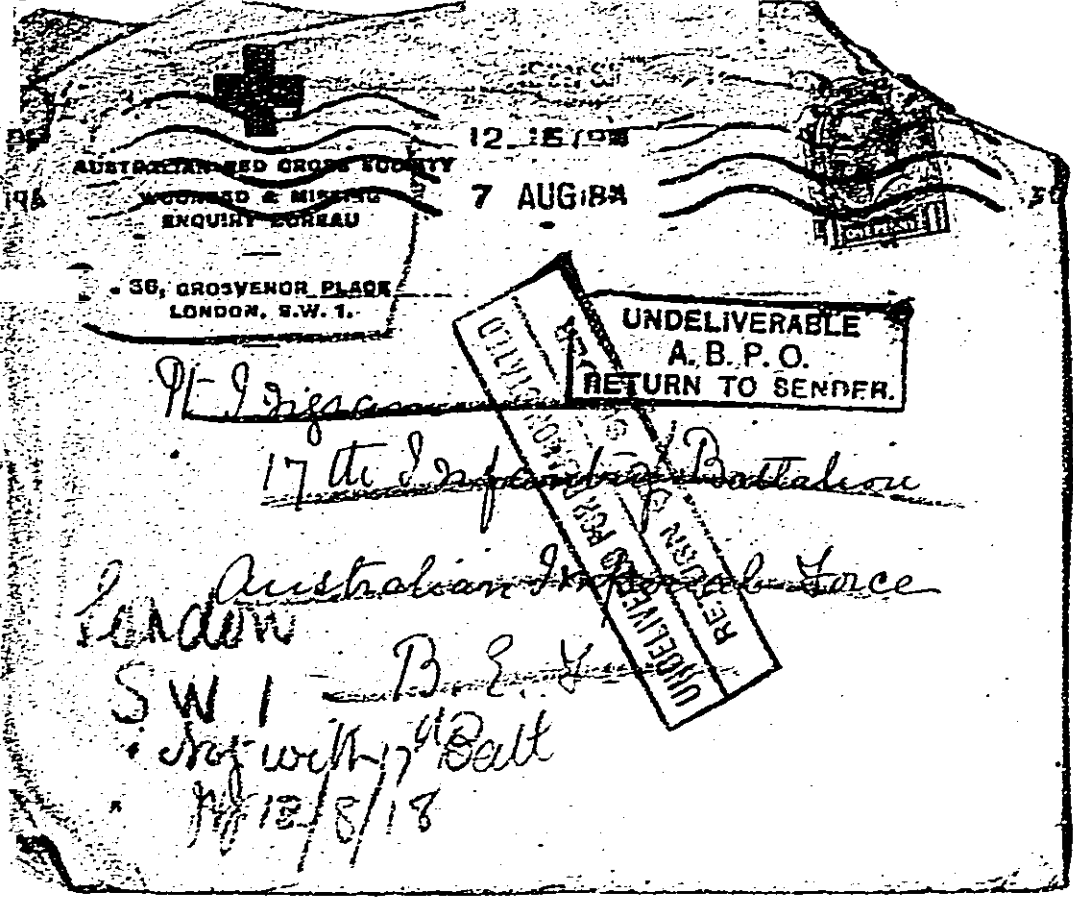
Alkohol

1781

Hot Sach

1917





AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY  
WOUNDED & MISSING  
ENQUIRY BUREAU

36, GROSVENOR PLACE  
LONDON, S.W. 1.

12 15/08  
7 AUG 1918

UNDELIVERABLE  
A.B.P.O.  
RETURN TO SENDER.

UNDELIVERABLE  
RETURN TO SENDER

*Pl. I. J. J. J. J.*  
*17th Infantry Battalion*  
*Australian Imperial Force*  
*London S.W. 1*  
*B.E.F.*  
*not with 7th Batt*  
*18/12/18*



Tel.: VICTORIA (8576  
8577  
8578



A

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

"THE SECRETARY."

WOUNDED AND MISSING

— ENQUIRY BUREAU —

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36. GROSVENOR PLACE.

LONDON S.W. 1.

6.8.18

*Pt Ingram  
17th Battalion  
A.I.F.*

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries about a man of your unit,

*2013 Pt A. G. Macobrown 17th Battalion A.I.F.  
who is reported killed Nov. 5. 17.*

and have been told that you may be able to help us by  
supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can  
send us concerning him, but our enquirers wish especially  
to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the  
field, or in a soldiers' cemetery where the grave would be  
registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short  
description of his personal appearance or any points that  
might help to prove his identity.

In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number,  
as without these particulars delay and confusion might be  
caused in identifying the soldier about whom you have  
written.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Vera Deakin*

Secretary.

*Peru*

17th Battn. A.I.F.

M  
NEWBURN.  
A.G.E. 2013.

"Killed 5.11.17."

( At Ypres, had his leg blown off, I helped to carry him out, died before we got to D/S and the other two men Ingram and Lloyd buried him about 100 yds. from Coy. Headquarters.

Inf:-

D.P. Dickson,  
London,  
7.8.18.  
H.W.

Pollock, 1626.  
W. 41.  
HAREFIELD.

S.

NOTE.

Written Lloyd and Ingram. 7.8.18.

*Letter returned marked "lost with unit"*  
*H. Q reports missing 8.8.18.*

17th Battn.  
A.I.F.

M  
NEWBURN  
A.G.E. 2013

"Killed 5-11-17"

( He was of B.Coy. In front of Ypres, behind Passchendaele on 5th Nov. he was killed by shell whilst in front line. He had his leg blown off and died on the stretcher. I helped to carry him out, was unconscious. He was buried about 100 yds. from old Coy. Hqts., about 500 yds. behind post where he was hit. I saw his grave, it is on the bank of a communication trench. Small Cross erected. I knew him as M-Newburn. He was a L.Gunner.

Informant. Pollock. Pte.A. 1626  
17th Battn. B.Coy., S/B.,  
HAREFIELD.

Note:- Previous report by witness 7-8-18 filed.

( A.D.G.  
London  
22-8-18  
H.W.

S.

2013  
11/9

2013  
A. G. E. Newburn  
17 Ball's Lane T.M.B.  
K.M.A. 5-11-17



To the Secretary

Wounded & Missing

Inquiries

Christ. Red Cross Society

86 Grosvenor Place

London S.W.1

Dear Sir or Madam,

From 609 5<sup>th</sup> Coy

Pte Lloyd G.A.

17<sup>th</sup> BN. A.I.F.

Det 5 T.F.

Forward Wells.

11 Oct. 1918.

In reply to yours of the 6-8-18.

Re 2013 Pte. A. G. E. Newburn Det. 5 T.F.

I beg to inform you, that during the execution of my duties as Stretcher Bearer I saw fully the regrettable case of Pte. Newburn.

It was at about 11 PM on the night of Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> when Newburn with others were in a dug out, heavily reinforced by heavy wood, when the enemy obtained a direct hit on the dug out with a 5.9. High Explosive shell, and a fragment of shell amputated his left leg about six inches below the thigh. He also had an artery cut in Right leg and had a great amount of debris on his body.



During the time we took to extricate him in bad weather and darkness, (hemorrhage had set in severely.

I endeavoured to stop bleeding but every effort was in vain, and he was being taken to the Doctor when he died and was buried by me at the intersection of the communication sap and the front line of the 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion on Tokio Ridge. He was unfortunately buried in a shell hole marked by a rifle. He was not in possession of a pay Book but had an identification disc which I left on him. What private property he had was handed to Sergt Major W. Murdoch whom was left to dispose of them in the usual military manner. Hoping this will be of help to you I will close. Yours, Faithfully

719

609. 64. 24. 1. 10. 1. 1

17th Battn late  
4th M. Battery.  
A.I.F.

NEWBURN.

A.G.E. 2013.

"Killed in Action 5-11-17"

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were handed to S/M.W. Murdoch who was left to dispose of them in  
the usual Military manner. Letter from:- 609. Clyde, A. Lloyd, 17th Bn. S  
London, 16-10-18. H.T. SOVENT MILTS.

Pt Lloyd

addresses wanted.

17 Bth

we have. boq. C. A Lloyd

of 1225, T B. L. Denville  
C. 9. 18

Wilkinson

16.6. 5/10/18  
th

2013 A. G. E. Neuburn

17 Bth K. 5. 11. 17

Repts Sect. 1. 10. 18

Williams

2173

39 Bate

1917

C