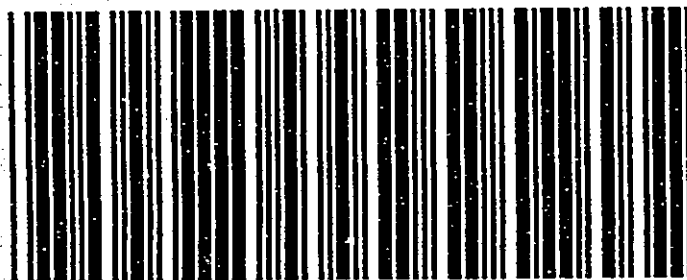


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**4556A Private
William Henry
Thompson**

28th Battalion



2731004H

Thompson

Whereabouts

3599^a

O.S. 7

was asy C.D.

32nd Bn. ✓

Ernest Francis

Murdock on

22.6.18

(1)

Letter returned

95 Long Bde 5.7.18 Longbridge Dennis

H.Q. 3.10.18

Inquiry fr.

4556^a Lt W.H. Thompson 28th Bn.

See in Gen. Comesp. under

Law.

FAULKNER.

Freit

W. G.

44 Barb

M. bel. 1212d 31.8.18. H. Q. 9.9.18

1.13.562. K. un. A. 21.8.18. New. rep.

M. bel. 1212d 40.11.9.18 1.13.564

28th Battn.
A.I.F.

THOMPSON
Wm. Harry 4556A

"Killed in Action 10-6-18"

Re 4556A Pte.W.H.Thompson. I regret to say that he was killed in the battle known as the Bray Corbie Road charge, near Morlancourt, and that I myself helped to bury and identify him. He was buried along with 5 of his comrades where he fell, it being too far from any Military Cemetery, but the Battn. always erects Crosses over the graves so they can be easily found. Pte.Thompson was inclined to be a bit bald, especially on the front part of the head, and I believe, to the best of my knowledge that he came from the Bridgetown district, in th S.W. of W.Australia, and he was of a very quiet disposition and a little deaf.

Letter from:- Freddy. Sgt.,
No.8 Gen.Hpl.,
B.2 Ward,
ROUEN. 4-9-18

London
10-9-18
J.E.A.

P.I.

Have

19th Sept 1918.

Australians. 28.

Thompson W.H. 4556.

K. 10th June 1918. Det D/B.

He was going into the line in front of Merlancourt when he was hit by a shell and killed on the spot. He would probably be buried but I can't say where. He came from W.A.

Inf:- Pte W. Greenwood No. 1940.
A.I.F. 28. H.Q.
Australasian Camp.
Rouelles.

CRR.

P.1

PP.

J.P.A.

28th A.I.F.

THOMPSON, W.H. 4556,
A.Coy, 111. Plat,

K. 10/6/18.

"I saw W.H. Thompson killed by M/G bullet in the attack at Bray-Corbie Road on the 10th June 18. He was buried on the field".

Eye-witness:- Yes.

Description:- Apt. 5ft.8. Dark, strong built.

Informant:- Pte. Samuel Hammer, 5721a,
28th A.I.F.,
A.Coy, 11. Plat,
Norfolk War Hospital,
Norwich.

Home address:- East Harregon,
Western Australia.

P.1

16/8/18.
Edgar Reid.

J.P.A.

Havre.

13th. August. 1918.

28th. Australians.

Thompson, W. H. 45561

K. June. 10/1918. Dets. D/B.

He was in A. Coy; 1st. Pltn. came from Western Australia, *think, S.W.* & in timber trade before the War; short nuggety, bald head, 28 or 30, dark, clean-shaven. We were attacking at Warlecourt by Corbie Road. Thompson was shot in the head by a bullet & killed outright. He was buried along with six others the next morning at the back of the trench. Sergeant Freddie, A. Coy, helped to bury him. I saw him brought in.

Inf:- S. D. Fehr. 4422.
Australian Conv. Depot.
Rouelles.

WHB.

P.1
Written Sgt Herrie O.P.
21.8.18

Havre

27th August 1918.

Australians. 28.

Thompson W.H. No. 4556.

K. 10th June 1918. Det D/B.

I knew him well. He came from the Blackwood District of Western Australia. He was about 32, thickset, and *bald headed* and sometimes had a moustache. About the 10th June we were in front of Moulincourt holding the line. In the evening we attacked and during the attack about 10.30 p.m. Thompson was hit by a M.G. Bullet and killed right out. I saw this. He is buried with 6 others in a shell hole close to where he fell. It is on the rising ground in front of Moulincourt, 300 yards to the left of the Bray-Cambrai Road.

Inf:- Pte A.J. Nicholson No. 6426.
A.I.F. 28. A. II.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

ONSG.

J. A.

P.1-

PP.

3C

Yo

Serjt Freddie

a. Co

28th Battery

a. I. F.

about

4556 P. W. H. Thompson

28th Battery

a. I. F.

K

June 10/18

written 21.8.18

met.

P.C. 22.6.18

~~4556~~ A

Wm H. Thompson

28 Btu

Sunnybrook

W.A.

Kin A. 10.6.18.

Aug-

3599

Plt E. F. Thompson

32 Btu

No 4 Command Depot

12 Camp

Hudcote.

6th Field Ambulance.

No. Nov. 1/17.

Murdie

D.A. 9841.

I saw him killed at
Gommecourt when death was instantaneous, he
having been hit in the head by ^{a piece from} a shell and badly
knocked. He was a stretcher bearer at the time
of casualty and three others were killed with him.
Sergeant Hind was the only one who escaped, being
hit himself in several places. This Sergeant lives
in Ballanarat, Victoria, has a Military Medal
and Bar and has since been returned to Australia.
Murdie came from Perth, Western Australia. I was
a couple of hundred yards away at time of
casualty and cannot give any details of burial.

WITNESS :- PTE. JOHNSON. C.E. 6434.

Dr. Oman

18.6.18

P 6th Field Ambulance.

No. 30.A.H. Hartford.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
"THE SECRETARY"
WOUNDED AND MISSING
ENQUIRY BUREAU
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA ⁽⁸⁵⁷⁶⁾
8577
8578

36, GROSVENOR PLACE

(NEAR VICTORIA STATION)

LONDON, S.W. 1.

August 31st, 1918.

5599 Pte. E.F. Thompson.
32nd Bttn. A.I.F.
~~No 12 Camp, No 4 Command Depot.~~
~~Harlecourt.~~

Typical
Overseas Training Brigade
Longbridge, Devon
Mills

Dear Sir.

In answer to your enquiry for -

4555a Pte. W.H. THOMPSON. 28th Bttn. A.I.F.

We beg to inform you of the following unofficial report given by a man of his unit when in an Australian Convalescent Depot, B.E.F. Informant - 4422 Pte. T.D. Fehr stated that when they were attacking at Warlencourt on the Corbie Rd Pte. Thompson was wounded in the head by a bullet, death being instantaneous. He was buried next morning at the back of the trench with several others.

We have written to Sgt. Freddie who assisted at his burial and as soon as we receive his reply we shall advise you. Meanwhile we are pursuing our enquiries and will let you know when we obtain further information.

Trusting that it will be some consolation to know that his death was instantaneous.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Mrs. Beattie*

Secretary.
(M)



LONDON S.W.

AUG 5 1915

2:15 PM

H.S.W. DIVISION

INFORMATION BUREAU,
25 FIVE STREET,
STONEY.

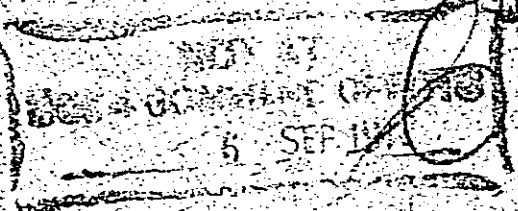
Miss V. Deakin, Hon. Secretary,

Australian Branch, British Red Cross
Society,
Wounded & Missing Department

36 Grosvenor Place,

LONDON S.W.

England.



3599 Pts. E.F. Thompson.
32nd Btn. A.I.F.
No 12 Camp.



Present address,
C/o 13. office. Mess.
7. sec. 1. long. 1. 1. 1.
W J M

August 31st, 1918.

3599 Pte. E.F. Thompson.
32nd Btn. A.I.F.
No 12 Camp. No 4 Command Depot.
Hurdcoft.

Dear Sir.

In answer to your enquiry for -

4556a Pte. W.H. THOMPSON. 28th Btn. A.I.F.

We beg to inform you of the following unofficial report given by a man of his unit when in an Australian Convalescent Depot, B.M.F. Informant - 4422 Pte. L.D. Fehr stated that when they were attacking at Warlentourt on the Corbie Rd Pte. Thompson was wounded in the head by a bullet, death being instantaneous. He was buried next morning at the back of the trench with several others.

We have written to Sgt. Freddie who assisted at his burial and as soon as we receive his reply we shall advise you. Meanwhile we are pursuing our enquiries and will let you know when we obtain further information.

Trusting that it will be some consolation to know that his death was instantaneous.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Law

Secretary.

ack. PC 7-9-18
11

4556.A

No 8 General Hospital

Wm Harry Thompson B 2 Ward

28 Batten

Km A 10 6 18

Rouen

Sept 4th 1918

Dear Miss Deakin

Re your enquires of number

4556.A

Pt. Wm. H. Thompson

I regret to say

that he was killed in the battle known as the
Bray. Corbie. Rd charge near Morlanwell and that
I myself help to bury and identify him. He was
buried along with 15 of his comrades where the
fell it being too far from any Military cemetery, but
the Battalion always erects crosses over the graves so
they can be easily found. Pte Thompson was inclined
to be a bit bald especially on the front part of the head
I believe to the best of my knowledge that he
came from the Bridgetown District in the South West
of West Australia and he was very quiet disposition
and a little deaf. I am sorry this is all the information
I can give you but I believe you could find out more
by writing to the Battalion hoping this will help you in
your enquires.

I remain Sincerely Yours
Sgt. Meddly

Sept. 19th, 1918.

3599 Pte. F.F. Thompson.
32nd Bttn. A.I.F.
No 12 Camp.
No 4 Command Depot.
Huracott.

Dear Sir.

In further answer to your enquiry for - 4556a Pte. W.H. THOMPSON. 28th Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you that we have now received a reply from Sgt. Freddy of the same unit who wrote from No 8 General Hospital, B.E.F. to this effect.

"I regret to say that Pte. W.H. Thompson was killed in the battle known as the Bray Corbie Road charge, near Morlancourt, and that I myself helped to bury and identify him. He was buried along with 5 of his comrades where he fell, it being too far from any Military Cemetery, but the Battalion always erects crosses over the graves so they can be easily found. Pte. Thompson was inclined to be a bit bald especially on the front part of the head and I believe, to the best of my knowledge that he came from the Bridgetown district, in the S.W. of W. Australia, and he was of a very quiet disposition and a little deaf."

This report was confirmed by 6426 Pte. A.J. Nicholson when in an Australian Camp in France. He reported that he knew Pte. Thompson well and describes him as about 32 years of age, thick set in build, and bald headed, and he adds:- "He came from the Blackwood district of Western Australia. About the 10th June we were in front of Moulincourt holding the line. In the evening we attacked and during the attack about 10.30 p.m. Thompson was hit by a machine gun bullet and killed right out. I saw this. He is buried with 6 others in a shell hole close to where he fell. It is on the rising ground in front of Moulincourt, 300 yards to the left of the Braye-Cambrai Road."

Further enquiries are being made and as soon as we are successful in obtaining information we shall advise you.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(MISS)

SECRETARY. Law

3599 Pte. E. J. Thompson,
32nd. Battalion, A.I.F.,
No. 4 Command Depot,
12 Camp,
Hurdcott.

28th September 1918

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your enquiry for 4556A Pte. W.H. Thompson, 28th Battalion, A.I.F., we regret to inform you of another unofficial report of his death, which, whilst giving very few details yet confirms the reports previously sent you. Informant No. 1940 Pte. W. Greenwood of the same Unit, interviewed in an Australian Camp in France, stated that Pte. Thompson was going into the line in front of Morlancourt when he was killed instantly by a shell.

We have now closed our enquiry as we feel that further enquiries would only lead to a confirmation of the reports we have already received but if any other information should reach us, we would immediately advise you.

Trusting we have been of some assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

D. H. S.