

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

**4774 Private
John Robert Tree**

25th Battalion



2770807V

25th Batt. A. I. F.

TREE J. R. 4774.

M. G. Sect.

"K. Nov. 5th., '16. Det. D & B".

"We were at Fleurs on Nov. 5th., '16, and on the Sunday morning at 9.45 a.m. we charged. Tree was attached to the Machine Gun Section, and had to carry panniers of ammunition for his gun. Half way across No Man's land, A shell exploded, and blew him to pieces. It would be impossible to bury him. I knew Tree well, and he came from the Emogerra Camp, Brisbane, in the 12th reinforcement of the 25th Batt, on "S.S. Mooltan", leaving 10th April '16."

Description. Hgt. 5ft3. Fair complexion.
"Nickname, Stump"

Witness. Turner D. C. 4777.
"M. G. Sect. 25th Batt."
now. "B" Coy.
69th Batt.

Worgret Camp,
WARREHAN. B.

May
8th., '17.
S. W.

Havre

19th June. 1917.

25th AUSTRALIANS

TREE, J. R. 4774

E. Nov. 5th. 1916. Det. D/3.

He was in B. Co., VIII. Bn. Tree came from Australia. I had known him for three or four months in the Battalion. He was a very quiet chap, about 5ft. 3" in height, medium build, dark hair, clean shaven, and about 21 years of age. My mate, Pt. P. J. Fitzgerald of B. Company, attached L.E. Gun, told me Tree had been killed on the 5th November when we were attacking Flers, and that he had buried him in a shell hole the same day.

Informant: Pt. A. Whannell 4564
25th Australians, B. Co., V. Bn.
H.A. "Warilda" Havre.

CAR.

Written per Fitzgerald 15.7.17 B.

25th. Battn.
A.I.F.

Tree:
4774.

"Killed 5.11.16."

I saw him fall from rifle or Machine Gun Wire. We were advancing and could not stop to bury him. We were both B. Company.
L/Cpl. Farquar (B. Coy) also saw him fall.

Reference:- Cpl. A. Cameron. 25th. Battn. 1598.
Harefield 22.1.17.

L.P.J.
London 25.1.17.

B

25th Australian Infantry

Tree Pte., 4774. G. Coy.

(K. Nov. 5/16. Det. D/B.)

Informant states that on Nov. 5th 1916 at Fliers, on the Somme, during an attack, Pte. Tree was hit by a shell, and blown to pieces. At the time, he was under cover in a shell hole, together with a Machine Gunner in charge of a machine gun. The gunner was killed by the same shell. Pte. Tree came from Brisbane, and came over in the same reinforcement that I did.

Eye witness: No. Told by a lot of his mates who saw him killed at the time.

Description: Dark, very short, and "nuggety", about 22, known as Jack

Informant: Pte. W.C. Crane 4689, A.I.F. 25 Batt. B.Co
5th Southern Gen: Hos: Milton, Portsmouth.

Home address: Waverley St., Gagg's Estate,
Toowoomba, Queensland.

3.2.17.

E.C. Hughes.

B

PO P. J. FITZGERALD

B. Co
alt. L. M. G. Section
25 Battalion
BEF

4774 J. R. TREE
25 Battalion

K. 5. 11. 16

21. 7. 17
F.M.

NOBILIT