

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

2498 Private
James Arthur O'Shea

5th Machine Gun Battalion



2060911J

UNOFFICIAL BURIAL REPORT FOR HEADQUARTERS.

A. L. F.
2nd Bn. M. G. C.

QUBER
J. A. 2498A

"Killed 29.9.18."

Unofficially buried place of casualty on the battlefield
about 3 or 400 yds. from Bellicourt, cross erected.

London.
3.4.19.
J. B. A.
4.10.19.

A.I.F. M.G.C. 5.

O'SHEA, J.A. 2498 A.

K.Sept.29/18. Det. D/B.

O'Shea belonged to the 15th Co. and joined it about May, being transferred from the Pioneers. He came from Melbourne way.

He was killed about 11 a.m. on Sept.29 at Bellicourt (between Le Catelet and St.Quentin). I was only about 12 yards away from him. A dud anti Tank shell went right through the top part of his head and came out of his jaw so his death was quite instantaneous. I helped to bury him next day, right in the Hindenburg Line among the barbed wire, rather to the left of and only 3 or 400 hundred yards from the village of Bellicourt, and I put up a rough cross with his name on. We advanced after this and the Germans did not get this ground again. O'Shea was the last man to be killed in the Coy.

Reference: C.Pault, 3220. 5 Bn. 15 Co.
No.10 General, Rouen. 18.1.19.

GB

M

A.I.P. 5th Battn. Machine Gun.

O'SHEA
J.A. 2498A

"Killed 29/9/18"

15th Co. - Machine Gun 5/8 - fair - 21. Came from Burnley, Victoria
To the left of Bellecourt and behind it on 29/9/18 at 11.30 a.m.
whilst following up the 59th Battn. in the attack O'Shea was shelter-
ing in a shell hole when he was hit in the head by an ante-tank shell
and killed instantly. He was buried at P/C on the battlefield - a
cross was erected.

Informant:- A.V. Phillips, 249,
15th Machine Gun Coy.

NOTE:- Cpl. L. James, 558A and C.F. Sawyers 4193 gave similar evidence

JOMK

London
4/4/19
JEA

M

5th M. G. B.

O'SHEA, J. A.
Pte. 2498a,

Killed in Action 29/9/18

The following is an extract from letter written by
Pte. S. Kelsall, No. 2889, of the 5th Pioneer Battalion.

"I have just heard from another of my mates that
he was buried at a place called Bellicourt and that death
was instantaneous."

29/1/19

M.
C. S. J.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU MELBOURNE.

5th M. G. B.

O'SHEA, J.A.
2498a, Pte.

Killed in Action 29/9/18.

The following is an extract from letter written by
Pte. W. F. Lavell, No. 3149, of the 15th Machine Gun Coy.

"Killed on the morning of 28th September, 1918 near a
village named Bellicourt. We were relieved later and came back
and gave him a good burial and put a cross on his grave."

29/1/19
M

M.
C. S. J.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU MELBOURNE.

5th Mach. Gun Btn.

J.A.O'Shea - No 2498.

K 29-9-18

"He was killed instantly by a bullet from an ant tank gun at Bellicourt and buried in the same village. The grave was marked by a cross."

Informant:- Sgt. Daljiell,
& Pte. Kieller H.S., No 2888,
6. Coy. 5th Pioneers.

H. Jose.

T. S. Anchises



WESTERN AUSTRALIA.