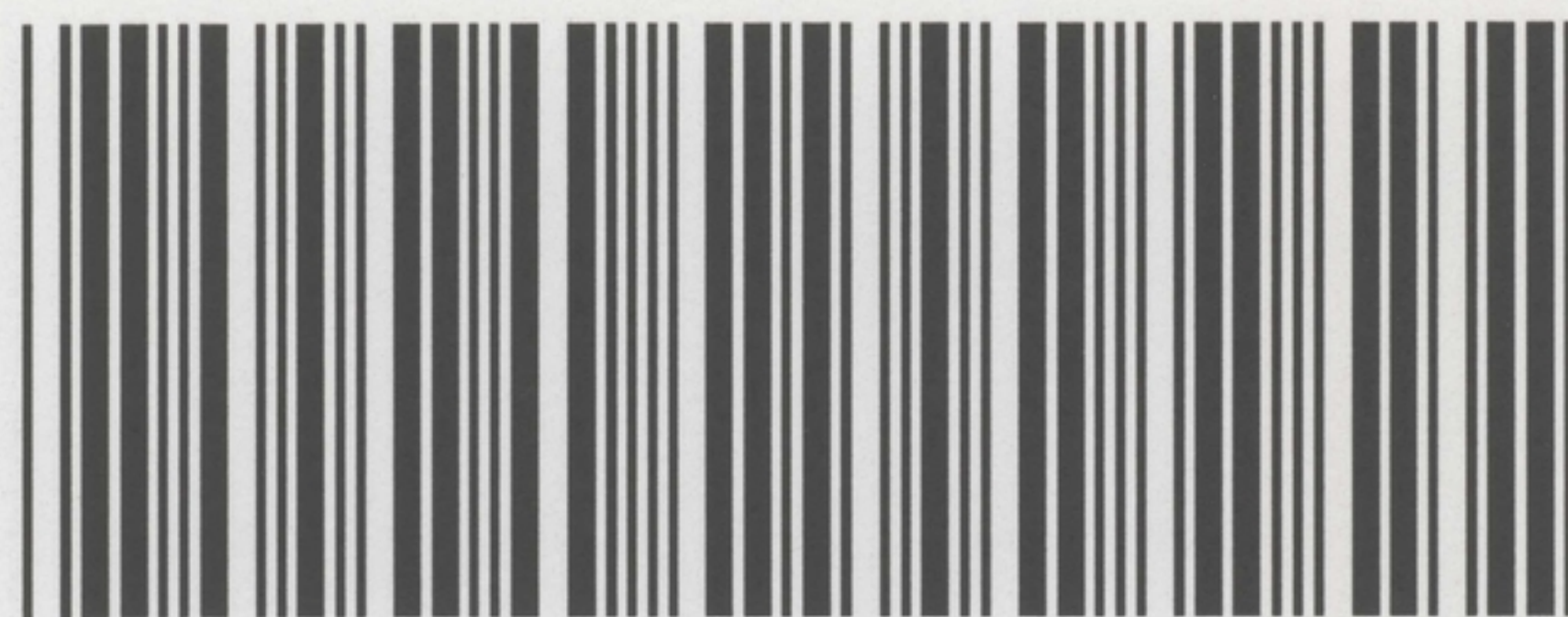


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

5148 Private
Thomas Geraghty
O'Neill

49th Battalion



2060107G

49th Battn.
A.I.F.

COPY.

O'Neill.
Pte. T. G. 5148

Letter to Mrs. O'Neill.

Dear Madam,

It is with regret and my deepest sympathy I drop you these few lines concerning the death of your son Thomas. I was wounded the same time as he was killed instantly. We were only a few yards apart. He was in the Lewis Guns with me, as I was one of his best pals he asked me to let you know if anything happened to him and I got through, but I lost your address and was unable to write before. I am sending this through the Red Cross. If there is anything I can do for you while over this side I will be only too pleased. Accept my deepest sympathy.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

3795 Cpl. C. Courtman

49th Battn. A.I.F.

Orthopaedic Hospital.

Shepherds Bush.

13.8.17.

London.
22.8.17.

49th Battn.
A. I. F.

O'Neill.
T. G. 5148

"Killed 5.4.17"

The Red Cross said it was against regulations to give me Mrs. O'Neill's address but if I would write her a letter they would forward it to her and have it typed first so that if it got lost they would send it again. I cannot give any details of his burial as I was wounded at the same time and removed. Between Bullecourt and Neuville.

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description:

Informant:- Cpl. Chas. Courtman 3795
49th Battn. A.I.F. C.Coy.

A. Hoare-Ward.
18.8.17.

London.
22.8.17.

We are sending the original letter with this - a copy will follow by next mail. Will Brinscome please send the letter to Pte O'Neill's Mother. London 21.8.17. B.

49th Battn. D.Coy.
A. I. F.

O'Neill.
Pte. T. G. 5148.

"Killed 5.4.17"

I promised T.G.O'Neill I would write to his mother in Sydney particulars of his death should he fall, but do not know her address and will be grateful if it can be sent to me. O'Neill was killed instantly near Bullecourt. I do not know about his burial.

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant:- Cpl. Chas. Courtman 3795.
49th Battn. C. Coy.

E.S.Chambers.
17.7.17.

Orthopaedic Hospital, Hammersmith.

London.

1.8.18.

Note

Written telling Cpl. Courtman we would forward letter to next of kin through Australian Bureau.

B.

49th Battn
A.I.F.

^{ei}
O'Niell
T.G. 5148

"Killed 5.4.17."

Killed going over in the advance at Bullecourt No man's land waiting for the barrage to lift. He was killed by rifle ~~shot~~ bullet there was no time to bring him in. I saw him killed - I knew him well his people are neighbours of ours. I intend to write to them and tell them - he comes from Alstonville, Northern ^{Reves}, ^{Richmond}. N.S.W.

Witness:- King. 3391
"ard 3.
Harefield.

D.P Dickson.
London.
5.9.17.

B

49th. Batt. A.I.F.

O'Neil. T.G. Pte. NO. 5148.
C. Coy.

Killed April 5th 1917. Det. D.B.

O'Neil was killed by a shell in the railway cutting past Noreuil. We had just taken the cutting, it was about 9 am on the 5th. He was buried where he died, by a party, a cross was erected with full particulars on. I only knew him in the Batt. He came over with the 16/9, He was in the cycle corps previous to joining the Batt. He came from the Northern Rivers. N.S.W.

Description. Age. 21. Height. 5-7. Complexion. Fair.

Witness. Pte. Roles. H.F. NO. 3463. C. Coy. 49th. Batt.

Taken At
NO. 3. Command Depot.
Hurdcott.
31-8-17.
S.W.

NO. 4. Command Depot.
Codford.

B

Havre

24th October.1917.

49th AUSTRALIANS

O'NEILL, T.G. 5148

H. April 5th.1917. Det. D/B.

He was a Machine Gunner, and came from N.S.W. He was a single man, and worked in a Butter Factory. He was killed by machine gun fire close to our trenches at Bullecourt in the early morning. We succeeded in our objective, and his body was recovered, but I do not know where he was buried.

Informant: A.D. Griffin, 3483
49th Australians, A.Co.
H.S. "Panama" Havre.

RBS.

B

49th A.I.F.

O'Neill Pte. T.G. 5148
A. Coy.

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

"Pte. O'Neill was killed near Bullecourt by machine gun fire. Death was instantaneous. I don't know whether he was buried. His pals had to leave him behind. I was told by J.P. Moroney who saw him killed, took his watch and sent it home".

Eye-witness: No, see above.

Description: Short dark man abt. 5ft 6, called him Tom.

Informant: Pte. A.D. Griffin 3483,
49th A.I.F., A. Coy.,
V. Hospt.,

Home address: Exeter.
Astonville,
N.S.W.

Nov. 18/17,
J.H. Fraser.

B
Cuff

File in General Correspondence

49th Battn.
A.I.F.

COPY.

O'Neill.
Pte. T. G. 5148

Letter to Mrs. O'Neill.

Dear Madam,

It is with regret and my deepest sympathy I drop you these few lines concerning the death of your son Thomas. I was wounded the same time as he was killed instantly. We were only a few yards apart. He was in the Lewis Guns with me, as I was one of his best pals he asked me to let you know if anything happened to him and I got through, but I lost your address and was unable to write before. I am sending this through the Red Cross. If there is anything I can do for you while over this side I will be only too pleased. Accept my deepest sympathy.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

3795 Cpl. C. Courtman

49th Battn. A.I.F.

Orthopaedic Hospital.

Shepherds Bush.

13.8.17.

London.
22.8.17.

July 24th. 1917.

3795 Cpl. Charles Courtman,
49th. Battn., A.I.F.
Orthopaedic Hospital,
Hammersmith.

Dear Cpl Courtman,

We have received your report about :-

5148 Pte T.G. O'Neill, 49th. Battn. A.I.F.

and state that you wish to write direct to his Mother. We are very sorry that our agreement with Headquarters here prevents our giving Next-of-Kin addresses to anyone, but if you will write to Mrs. O'Neill, and send the letter here with a note asking the Secretary to forward it to the Next-of-Kin of 5148 Pte, T.G. O'Neill 49th. Battn. it will be sent on by the Next mail through our Australian Bureaux.

If you would care for us to take a typed copy of your letter and forward it by a later mail as a precaution against the letter being lost at sea, we will be very pleased to do so. In that case please leave the envelope open and mention your wishes in your note.

We know how much letters written by friends at the front are valued by the people of soldiers who have been killed and

hope soon to receive your letter for Mrs. O'Neill.

With best wishes for a good recovery.

Yours faithfully,

W D S

Secretary.