

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

**2473B Private
Percival Cooper
Roberts**

27th Battalion



2320204D

6610
Osborne
W.D.

Present
Address
place

24th Oct.

~~checked~~
Att. 15 20th A.A.S.C 23.1.19.

(H. O 13.3.19

File under

2473

P.C. Roberts

S/B A.Cov. 24th Oct.

Reports - Section.

11-3-19

Rookwell

21008

3 D.A.B.

(

Bb. 2-11-17.

5803

Bell

R.

Present
address
place

27th Bh-

Attached for duty to Amer Corps Rpts

Camp. 17-2-19. H.O. 13-3-19

C

G.C

File under

2473

P. C. Roberts

S/S. Klov. 27 Bh-

Report Section

11-3-19

Raker

11122
49 Blj A 7a

B. 6.23.11.17

27th. Battn.

Roberts, P.C. 2473.

K. 9/8/18.

I assisted to bury him in a new cemetery just formed near Harbonnieres,
We put a bottle with his name, number and particulars on the grave,
but did not erect a cross.

27th. Battn.

Maher, V.K. Sgt. 1555.

A. 15. Dartford. 5/10/18.

31st. Battn.

R.D.B.

A.

ch

Havre

15th Octr 1918.

Australians. 27.

Roberts P.C. No. 2473.

K. 9th August 1918. Det D/B.

The man I knew was a Corporal in B. Company. He was about 22, tall and fair. He came from South Australia. About the 9th August we were at Bullecourt in reserve. In the night ~~while~~ while Roberts was standing to in the trench he was hit by a piece of shell in the chest. I was near and saw it. He was taken away on a stretcher. This is all I know. I don't even know if he died.

Inf:- Pte A. Carter No. 279.

A.I.F. 27. B.

Australian Conv. Depot.

CWSG.

A.

PP.

27th Battn.
A I.F.

ROBERTS.
P.C. 2473.

"Killed in Action 9-8-18"

I helped to carry Roberts.A.Company. to R.A.P. after he had been wounded by shell all over the body - the head wound was most serious and killed him. He died on the stretcher and we took the body to R.A.P. Don't know about burial.

Roberts was about 5ft 5 or 6, medium complexion, thick set, about 29 years, was wounded at Morlancourt and had just returned. I have his photo.

Informant:- Pte (S/B) Laund.G.R.6535.
27th Battn. A Coy.

Have already sent in report from BELGIUM.
C/S/M. Pearson. confirming but above report would be correct in respect to cause of death. I was shown photo. H.E.H.

H.E.H.
Ldcn.
8-3-19.
J.E.A.

A.

27th Batta.

A.I.F.

ROBERTS.

P.C.

2473.

"Killed in Action 9-8-18"

I did not see Percy Roberts, who was a stretcher bearer in A.Coy. wounded near Framerville in stomach by Machine Gun bullet about 4.30. p.m. during the hcp over. He was carried out by stretcher bearers, Thompson. F.4286. (since killed) Osborne.W.D.6610. Bell.R.5803. and Land G.R.6/535. to R.A.P. where he died. I don't know about burial.

Percy Roberts was about 5ft 6, darkish complexion, 29 years, a good stretcher bearer.

Informant:- C/S/M. J.A.Pearson. 126.
27th Batta. A.Company.
BELGIUM.

H.E.H.
Lnacn.
14-8-19.
J.E.A.

A.

Note. Written Ptes. Osborne & Bell.
14-3-19.

A.I.F. 27th Battn.

ROBERTS
Pte P.O. 2473

"Killed in Action 9/8/18"

Your letter of 14th inst., in particulars of the late 2473 Pte P.O. Roberts, S/B. "A" Coy., 27th Battalion, reached me this afternoon, and I am glad to be able to give the details required. I was a member of the same stretcher bearing team and soon after the commencement of an advance on the afternoon of 9th August last a shell dropped amongst us severely wounding Roberts in the head, and another member of the team slightly. He was not conscious at any time after being wounded and we carried him back to a dressing station, where I remained with him until he died about an hour later. I heard afterwards that the body was conveyed further back by men of another division and although I cannot confirm this statement I do not think there is the slightest doubt that he was buried in a Military Cemetery as that has been done, without exception as far as I know in all cases where a man has been removed from the field and I take it that registration of the grave would follow. I regret that I did not make a point of noting the exact name of the advanced dressing station but I think I am correct in saying it was one attached to the 5th A.I. Division. I am enclosing a photograph which I took from his pocket wallet, as it may help you, but would be glad if this could be returned to me. He was rather short and very dark and I am inclined to think his nose may have been broken in earlier life as it had that appearance. With regard to personal effects, I removed from the body, a watch, ring, silver pencil case, fountain pen (I am not absolutely certain regarding the latter article but nearly so) and his pocket-wallet mentioned above. Several private letters I removed from the wallet and burned as they would otherwise probably have become scattered

A.I.F. 27th Battn.

ROBERTS
Pte P.O. 2473

"2"

abroad. The above were handed to a Corporal of 27th Battn., to be forwarded through the proper sources to the relatives. I may mention that I mentioned all the above details to a cousin of Pte Roberts whom I chanced to meet making enquiries for him a few days after his death.

Letter from:- 3303 Pte Richard Bell,
A Coy., 27th Battn., A.I.F.
Belgium.
28/3/19.

London

31/3/19

HG

A

6610 G.C.
To Pl. W. D. Osborne
(late 24th Bn.)
20th A.A. S.C.
A.I.F.

About

2473
Pl. P. C. Roberts
S/B. A Coy. 27th Bn.
A.I.F.

K.A. 9/8/18.

written 14.3.19 W.S.D.

UV

Jo 5863

Pt - R. Bell

(27th Bah.)

Alt. Aust. Corps Rfl. Co.

A. I. F.

Alton

2473

Pt - P. C. Roberts

8/B. A Coy 27th Bah.

A. I. F.

K. u. A. 9/8/18

written 14.3.19 J. S. D.

W

2473 · Plt P.C. Roberts Belgium.
27 Batt. Kin. A.G. 8.13 22nd March 1919.
A.2

Plt P.C. Roberts
26.3.19

Dear Madam,

Your letter of 14th inst. re.
particulars of the late #2473 Plt. P.C. Roberts,
S/B. 'A' Coy. 27th Battalion reached me
this afternoon, & I am glad to be able to
give the details required. I was a member
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in the head, & another member of the team
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after being wounded, & we carried him back
to a dressing-station, where I remained with
him until he died about an hour later.
I heard afterwards that the body was
carried further back by men of another
Division, & although I cannot confirm this
statement I do not think there is the slightest
doubt that he was buried in a military
cemetery, as that has been done, without exception.

H. J. C. 26.3.19.

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of 27th Batt.

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I trust the above will enable you to trace the place of burial.

Yours faithfully,

5803 Lt. Richard Bell
A Coy. 27th Battalion,
A. I. F.