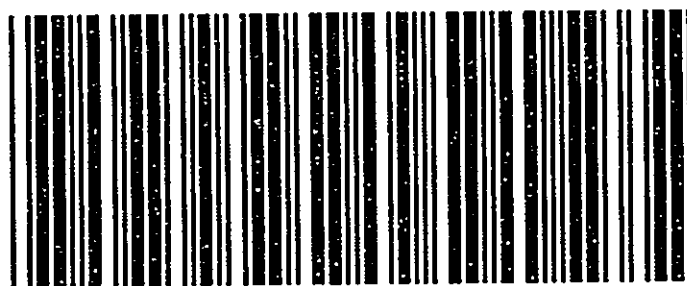


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

8660 Sergeant  
George McAdam  
Polwarth

59th Battalion



2170906P

59th Battn.  
A.I.F.

POLWARTH.  
G.M. 8660.

"Killed in Action 9-8-18"

Re the above named soldier. Your enquiries are for 8660 ~~Sgt~~ Pte G.M. Polworth while the man I am referring to was No 8660 Sgt. G.M. Polworth. who was transferred from 5th Depot Unit of Supply A.I.F. to 59th Battalion. He was killed on August 9th 1918, at Harbonnieres by a sniper. He was shot through the left arm and heart, and died almost instantly. He was buried at Harbonnieres in the Military Cemetery there. Sgt Polworth was a man of about 5ft 11. in height, of fair complexion. He came from the same town as myself. Newmarket, Melbourne. Victoria. My address there is 55 Railway Place, Newmarket.

Letter from:- H. Gasperino. L/Cpl. 2177.  
59th Battn. A.I.F.  
FRANCE.

London.  
25-21-18.  
I.E.D.

M.

59th Btn.

POLWORTH, G. M. A.  
Sgt. 8660.

Kid. in act. 9/8/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 10 ins. well built, fair complexion, about 23 years of age, known as "George". Casualty was advancing on the Harbonnières front. I was in the same advance and was next to him when he was sniped by a rifle bullet, the bullet entering his left breast. I went over when I saw him fall and spoke to him but I was too late, he was dead. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- Pte. A. J. Groves,  
No. 3042, 59th Btn.

Private address:-  
Glengarry,  
Orlando Street,  
Hampton.

T.C.F.  
9/5/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

Havre.

23rd. October. 1918.

59th. Australians.

<sup>a</sup>  
Polworth, G. M. 8660.

K. August. 9/1918. Dets. D/B.

I knew Sergeant Polworth, B. 8. he had been transferred to us from the A.S.C. in July 1918. Private. Charles Nightingale, B. 8, told me that he helped to bury Polworth in a Military Cemetery at Harbonnières. Nightingale was with the 5th. Divisional Burial Party.

Inf:- Private. A. M. Hill. 6280.  
59th. Australians, B. 8.  
Australian Conv. Camp.  
Roubaix.

RDM.

*William Nightingale OP.*  
*29.10.18*

59th Battn. A. I. F.

<sup>a</sup>  
Polwarth  
G.M. No. 8660.

Killed in Action 9.8.18.

If this man was a Sgt. and named George, he was killed by a bullet which passed through his left arm and entered his side. This happened at Harbonniers and his grave would be registered. I saw the Stretcher Bearers landaging him up, they said it was a hopeless case and on my return I saw him lying dead. He only lived a short time. He was rather dark and about 5ft. 10 or 11.

Informant: -C.R. P. Hughes. No. 3165.  
59th Battn.

A.R.  
London.  
51/10/18.  
H.C.

M.

Havre.

8th. November. 1918.

59th. Australians.

<sup>a</sup>  
Polwarth, G. H. 8660.

K. August. 9/1918. Dets. D/B.

I saw the dead body of Sergeant Polwarth whom I knew by sight lying in the open ~~area~~ between Harbonnieres and Chaulnes on August 9th. 1918. We had reached our objective and were returning to Harbonnieres at the time. The 1st. Division went through us. We held the ground.

Inf:- Corporal. M. Liddy. 5131.  
59th. Australians. C.  
Australian Camp.  
Rouelles.

RDM.

M.

OP.

59th Battn.  
A.I.P.

POLWARTH  
G.H. 8660

"KILLED 9-8-18"

He was a Sgt. in B.Coy. and I saw him killed on the other side of Harbonnieres by Machine Gun fire during the hop-over, when he was hit in the heart, left arm and wrist. Death was instantaneous.

Casualty happened in the morning between 11.30 and 11.45 at which time he was three parts forward to objective. We were relieved straight away and went back to Dacours, so I do not know anything about burial, but as I was returning after stunt I saw his dead body there, so he would be sure of proper burial.

Informant - Caithness.Pte.D. 3366,  
59th Battn. A.Coy. (ex.B.Coy)  
3rd A.A.H.  
DAK FORD.

A.Burns Priddle  
13-11-18  
London  
23-11-18  
J.H.A.

H.

59th Btn.

ROLWARTH, G. MOA.  
Sgt. No. 8668

Kid. in act. 9.8.18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man about 6', well built, dark complexion, about 25 years of age. Casualty was advancing at the Sunken Road at Villers Bretonneux. I was in the same advance. He gained the first objective and was advancing on the second when he was hit by machine gun bullet which entered his left arm and abdomen, killing him instantly. I was 20 yards away at the time of his death and I saw his body immediately afterwards. I do not know if he was ever buried."

Informant:- G. Wayland.

Private address  
Centre Dandenong Road,  
Cheltenham.

T.C.F.  
14.8.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

59th Btn.

POLWARTH. G. NoA.  
Sgt. 8660.

E. in act. 9/8/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 8 ins. well built, dark complexion, about 20 years of age, known as "pol". Casualty was advancing at Villers Bretonneux. I was in the same advance. I was about 5 yds. from Casualty when an H.E. shell exploded near him killing him instantly. I went back on the 13th August, 1918, and found Casualty's body. He was most severely wounded about the head and he was buried at Proyart and I helped to bury him. A cross was erected with his name, number and unit on."

Informant:- Pte. R. J. Fagan,  
No. 1593, 59th Btn.

Private address:-  
32 Raglan Street,  
Port Melbourne.

T.C.F.  
31/1/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

C.S.H.  
M.



7th Bn.

FOYBARTH, G. A. A.  
Sgt. No. 8660

Kia. in act. 9.8.18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a stout man about 5' 8", fair complexion about 28 years of age. Casualty was in the advance. We had just passed Harbonnières. Casualty got up to try and locate machine gun positions, and as he was getting over the top he got a machine gun bullet through the head killing him instantly. I was 100 yards away at the time and saw him drop. We went forward and did not see any more of him. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- A. J. Wilson  
No. 1098

Private address  
48 Bellair Street,  
Kensington.

M. C. F. H.

N.A.T.  
25.4.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

To

Pte Charles Nightingale

VIII Platoon B. Co

59 Battery

A.I.F.

about

8660 Pte G. M.

Poleworth Poleworth?

59 Battery

A.I.F.

K Aug 9.18

Written 29.10.18

M.S.

Tel.: VICTORIA (8576  
8577  
8578)

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

"THE SECRETARY."

WOUNDED AND MISSING

— ENQUIRY BUREAU —

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.



A

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE.

LONDON S.W. 1.

29.10.18

*Rte Charles Nightingale  
VIII Platoon B. Co  
59 Battn. A.I.F.*

*Approved at  
Mild. Comd.  
Headquarters*  
Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries about a man of your unit.

*8660 Rte Q.M. Polworth 59 Battn. A.I.F. -  
Reported Killed Aug 9. 18*

and have been told that you may be able to help us by  
supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can  
send us concerning him, but our enquirers wish especially  
to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the  
field, or in a soldiers' cemetery where the grave would be  
registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short  
description of his personal appearance or any points that  
might help to prove his identity.

In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number,  
as without these particulars delay and confusion might be  
caused in identifying the soldier about whom you have  
written.

Yours faithfully,

*(Miss) Vera Deakin*

Secretary.

*Kerns*

ack.  
16.11.18  
J. G. D.  
The Secretary

8660  
G. M. Polwarth  
59th Bn  
K. M. A. G. 8.12

France

6/11/18

Wounded & Missing Bureau

Australian Red Cross Society.

Dear Madam,

Attached letter of enquiry addressed to Pte C. Nightingale has been handed to me by him to answer. Your enquiries are for No. 8660 Pte G. M. Polwarth while the man I am referring to was No. 8660 Sgt. G. M. Polwarth who was transferred from 5th Depot Unit of Supply A. & F. to 59th Bn. He was killed on Aug 9th 1918, at Harbomieres by a sniper. He was shot through the left arm & heart & died almost instantly. He was buried at Harbomieres in the military cemetery there. Sgt. Polwarth was a man of about 5ft 11 inches in height, of fair complexion. He came from the same town as myself. Newmarket Melbourne Victoria. My address there is 55 Railway Place Newmarket.

Hoping these particulars will help you

I remain

Yours truly

W. Gasperino L/Cpl. No 2177. 59th Bn

Polarville 541 8660  
Q. M. Conestoga  
C. Please 59 Peltu

1/0 4 8 18 H 0 2 11 18

G.C.

Polarville  
8660 Q. M. Polarville  
59 Peltu Kent. 9. 8. 18

Reph Sect. 16. 11. 18