

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

**3886 Private
Harold John Pounds**

24th Battalion



2190105I

24th Batt,
D. Coy,
A.I.F.

Pounds,
H.J. 3886.

"Killed 24.12.16

Refer to Pte.E. Gibbs, 24th Batt, D. Coy, who is now in hospital in England, and who told me that he saw him get his head blown off by a shell, and that he buried him on top of the parapet at place of casualty.

Witness:- Playton,
Pte. J.W. 5156.
24th Batt, D. Coy, 14th Pltn
3rd A.A.Hosp
Dartford

Note written Pte Gibbs, 25.9.17.

W. Oman 25.9.17

London 10.10.17

P.I.

24th Batt
A.I.F. A Coy.

POUNDS
H.J. 3886

"Killed 24.12.16."

I saw him dead at Givchy he had been killed by a shell. I do not know place of burial, but refer to Sgt. J. Bond D. Coy., who is still in France, and who buried him and can give particulars.

Note written Sgt. Bond 12.10.17.

Witness Johnston.

Pte J.B. 5439

24th Batt D Coy.

Dartford.

P.I.

W. Oman

London.
10.10.17.

24th A.I.F.

Pounds Pte. H.J. 3886,
D. Coy. XV Plt.

(K. Dec. 24/16 Det D/B)

^{abund}
"He was killed by shell at Ginchy on the Somme Dec.
24th. He was Coy. Runner."

Eye-witness: Saw him just after he was killed.

Description: Young.

Informant: Pte. Alan McPherson 1746,
24th A.I.F., D. Coy. 14 Plt.,
Ford Hospt.,
Devonport.

Home address:
Bright,
Victoria.

12/10/17.
E.M. Hall.

24th Batt,
A.I.F.

Pounds,
H.J. 3886.

"Killed Dec 24th 16 - Det"

Killed at Mont^{en}an, on 25th by shell - was in a working party making communication trench behind the line, killed at once - buried just along side the trench I was there and took his belongings, gave them to P/M - He was my best pal, we worked together ~~he was~~ before we came over - Had no chance to put up a cross - shelling was too hot.

Reference:- E. Varcoe,
4265
Harefield

D.F. Dickson
8.10.17

London 18.10.17

P.I.

24th Bat
A.I.F.

POUNDS
H.J. 3886

Killed Dec. 24th 1917"

(Capt. C.M. Williams O.C. of D. Coy., knowns all about Pounds.

Witness:-

T. Vanstone 750

24th Batn Wilson No 3 Hospital Reading.

W. Alison
London
22.10.17.

NOTE Not sent on.

P.I.

London.
23.10.17.

Not written to P.I.

24th A.I.F.

H. J. POUNDS, 3886.

K. 24.12.16. Det. D & B. (Spec.Aust.Supp.)

I saw him killed at Flers on Xmas Eve. I was with him on a fatigue party carrying duck boards up to the front line. The party was very merry and was singing and shouting. The noise attracted the attention of the enemy who put up a barrage. One shell got the party and killed Pounds and another. I did not see him hit but came up within a minute or two and saw his ~~man~~ body. I am quite sure it was Pounds. He was killed instantly but not badly knocked about. We all knew Pounds well - he recited at all the concerts. He was in D Co., aged about 20/21, about 5 ft.5, medium build. His recitations were of the dramatic type - he did them well. He joined the Battn. in September 1916 on the Ypres front.

Reference: A. G. Baker. 1782. H.Qrs. late A.
No.11 Con.Camp Buchy Nr.Rouen. 23.8.17.

711
FEP.

Havre

24th September.1917.

24th AUSTRALIANS

POUNDS, H.J. 3886

D.Co.

K. Dec. 24th.1916. Det. D/B.

I knew him well; he was in D. Co. His initials are as stated, but I do not know the number. He came from Victoria. I knew him there; he was a Commercial Traveller. His brother was in England; lived there. We were entrenched at Ginchy, Speartun Trench on the 24th December,1916, and he was struck by a shell and killed outright. He was not buried that night, and we left the next day, but when we returned to those parts about 7 months later, some of us took a walk round, and I saw a cross with his name and number on it over a grave, which was alongside the old trench - Speartun.

Informant: Corpl. Swetnan, C.W. 3978
24th Australians, A.Co., I.Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

L. de D. P.I

24th Battn.
A. I. F.

Pounds.
Harold I. 3886

"Killed 24.12.16"

On Xmas Eve we were on fatigue duty in the front line on the Somme and while working in a trench he was hit by a large piece of shell in back. Buried outside the trench near where killed. I helped to bury him. Came from Melbourne was a pal of mine. Was a signaller with me at one time. Thick set dark. Knew him well. I have his photo, taken in France if his friends want it. Don't think cross erected at the time.

Witness:-

D.P. Dickson.

1334 Lonsdale
W.35. Harefield.

London.

9.10.17.

P.I.

10.10.17

Rto F G IBBS

D G

24 Batt AIF

~~Hosp~~ Monte Vides Camp
Weymouth

abt 3886. H. J. POUNDS

24 Batt AIF

K.A. 24. 12. 16

10.10.17
A.I.B.

4265-

18.5.17

Pte E.S. Marcor

24th Batt. A.I.F.

Barton Court Hotel

B. Division

Barton on Sea

Thanks.

Dear Sir - In reference to your
inquiry concerning 3886 Pte
Harold John Pounds 24th Batt
A.I.F. who was killed in action
on 24.12.16 - we beg to inform
you that the name & address
of his next of kin are as
follows

Mr. George Pounds

Clarendon Hotel

Christchurch

New Zealand

Justified that this is the
information you require.

Truly

If you should wish for any
details for a photograph of
his grave - and would supply
us with the details as to
where he is buried - we would
be pleased to help you in
the matter.

Truly

(10.1.17)

Sq!

J. BOND

D Co

24 Batt. A.I.F

B.E.F

abt

3886. H. J. POUNDS

24 Batt. A.I.F

KA. 24.12.16

10.10.17.
A.I.B.

ackd at 18. C. H. Terrace.
15.6.17. A.M.

Barton Court Hotel
To Liverpool

Barton on Sea
Hants.

To the Secretary

Dear Mrs. or Madam

Would you be a

inform me of the whereabouts
the relatives of Private
Charles Francis of the 24th Battalion
Australian Infantry who was
killed in action on the 24th
of December. I believe his
mother is somewhere in England.
I would like to communicate
with her hoping you will
do your best to find their
whereabouts. I remain

Yours faithfully
W. E. Lawrence

4265. 24th Battalion

AIF.