

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

1768 Private
Lewis Plackett

49th Battalion



2170106H

France.

A. I. P. 49.

PLACKETT, E. 1768.

K/September 3rd. 1916.

He was a Lewis Gunner and belonged to the same team as I did. On Sept. 3rd. at Mouquet Farm I was away serving another gun; when I got back to my team I was told he had been killed. Pts. S. W. Hodges, 3831. A. L. M. G. S. C. Coy, 49th. Batt., saw the casualty and could give eye-witness details. I believe a shell caused his death.

Reference: W/ Cpl. C. Souer, 586, C. Coy,
L. M. Gun School.

Staples.
24.1.17.
SA.

Written P. Hodges 30.1.17

2/49th Batt.
A.I.F.,

PLACKETT
Lewis 1768

14. 3. 9. 16

"Wounded 2/9/16"

Concerning Pte L Plackett 1768 Killed in Action at Mouquet Farm 3.9.16. Pte Plackett who was one of the machine gun team with me was killed by the concussion of a high explosive shell about 4.30. a.m. on the Sunday morning of the 3rd Sept.16. His description was - height about 5'6 1/2" or 5'7" rather heavily built, rather dark complexion, black hair, moustache. He wore the King's Ribbon for the Boer War. He told me had been married 10 years, had met his wife while in Canada and brought her to Australia, and he took up a Scrub Selection at Iron Pot Creek between Jondowae and Kingaroy in Queensland. His wife now resides in Vale Street Kelvin Grove, Brisbane. Trusting this information will be of service to you.

Cert. by letter from 3831 S.W. Hodges,
C.Co. 49th Batt. A.I.F.,
France, 12.2.17.

London
22.2.17

22.2.17

^B
P.I.(2)

A. I. F. 49.

PLACKETT, L. 1768.

E. September 3rd, 1918.

Plackett was in my plat. XII, a reserve H.C. man. He was killed by a shell just as we were going over in the attack at Mouquet Farm. He was blown to bits. I heard this from his mates one of whom was Hedges, since killed. I believe it was a whizzbang which killed Plackett.

RCP.

Reference:- Slim. 3297.

No. 4 A.D.B.D.

Etaples
19.4.17.

B
P

49th A. I. F.,

Plackett, L., 1766,

K. Sept. 3/16. Det: D & B.

"I was told by Sig. Walker (49.C) as a positive fact that Pte. Louis Plackett (49.C) was killed at Monquet Farm on Sept. 3rd. Monquet Farm was taken that day, but there were over 600 casualties in the batt."

(This same information was also given by a man in another ward, he did not know any more details than these: he was :-- Gill, Thomas, John, Pte., 3813, 49th, C., XII. Lisemore, Richmond River, N.S.W.)

Eye Witness: No, Sig. Walker, (49.,C)

Description: Dark, dark moustache, English wife and 2 or 3 children, served in S.African war, from Brisbane.

Informant:-- Pte. Ernest John Large, 1688,
49th A. I. F., C. Coy., X Pltn.,
3rd Southern Gen: Hosp:
Cowley Sec: Oxford.

Home address:-- Orleigh Terrace,
24.4.17. Hill End, South Brisbane, Queensland;
Janet M. Payne. *Written Sig. Walker 16.5.17.*

11.10.19
Dear Adam

6 RUNDLE ROAD,
AIGBURTH,
LIVERPOOL. 4.10.19

1768. Private L. Plackett.
Further details 49th BATT 4th Australian Division

The above soldier my brother was
killed in action at Moput Farm France
Sept 2nd 1916. I am desirous of knowing
his exact place of burial and by what
means it can be identified when I am
able to visit France sometime in the future.
I am much obliged for your letter &
shall be extremely grateful for the above
information. Yours faithfully E. Plackett.



Hon Secretary
Austrian Red Cross
Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau

36 Grosvenor Place
S.W. 1
London

6 Rundle Road, Algburth, Liverpool.

21/1/16

21.1.16 M.H.
Sir
I wrote more than a fortnight ago,
enclosing stamped addressed envelope, asking if
you could please furnish me with particulars
respecting the reported death in action ^{on Sept 2nd} of
my brother B1768 Pte L. Plackett.

47-Inf-Batt
Australian Imperial Force.

I shall be obliged if you will please reply to
my letter. If I have sent it to the wrong address
will you please put right. Yours truly E Plackett

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



Officer in charge.

Australian Force Records

c/o The High Commission for Australia

Victoria &

London S. W.

Enquiry

RECEIVED
20 DEC 1916
CARLTON HOUSE

Private Placket

49. Batt. machine gun Co.
Australian Imperial Force.

Report that he was wounded
on Sep. 2nd on the Somme.

he was a dark man, medium size

Please send any news of him
to his friend.

Private O. Harding. 1663.

49. Australian I. Force.

C. C. Co.

Hammersmith Military Hospital
ward. B. 3.

Sig. Walker

C. G. 49th Bt. A.D. 7.

for

1768

L. Placett

49th Bt. A.D. 7.

K. 3. 9. 16

~~to~~ m.

14. 5. 17

Agent A I F
Full Name Drake A S No. 1637
Date of Casualty as in list R Nov 20/16 Det D/B

Nov 21 (not 20th)

Wes Drake was killed by a shell
he had a hole blown in his shoulder.
Left known time quite well & was
true - He helped to bury him

~~much the same account of~~

RECEIVED

CARLTON J. D. T. PRACE

Address.

Was it light or dark at the time? Light

held or lost?

Was informant eye witness?

If not, who told him, and when?

Informant's full
Name and No.

Pte 3074 Langley Alfred

Regiment

491 A I F

Hospital

Fulham Military

Home Address

B 1

80

11.10.19

Plackett Esq
6 Rundle Rd
Ayrault
Liverpool

Re 1968 Plot Plackett 49 in B.

Kind. 3.9.6

Binned. P. J. Reeves

J/V 2. sent

1.10.19

Final draft -

Mr. E. Packer

1. Hurdle Ltd

Aughton

Liverpool

The
1968. E. Packer 49th Bn. Cont-

The Australian Red Cross Society

(B.R.C.S.)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

WOUNDED AND MISSING ENQUIRY BUREAU.

Enquiry No.

7156

Date June 12-1918.

Regimental Details of
Soldier enquired about.

No. 4954
Pte T. Horrocks
51st Battalion

Details of Casualty.

{ No news 12 months then Darford
Hosp. M. and

Information wanted.

{ whereabouts? C

ack
Jan 19217

to try
49th St
France
12th Feb. 1917

to write

of the ...

(15)

... ..

came to hand this ... concerning
the ... killed in
action ...

to ...
our ...

... ..
about ...

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

and he took up a scrub selection
at Iron Point, between Jonaonai
and the river in the mountains.
His wife had passed at Volo St.
He was once killed.
During this migration, and the
cave of the

Iron Point

1885/1886 Dodge
C. J. J. J. J.

1468. Lewis Rackett

2/49/54

W. 2. 9. 16

B. P. 1(2)

3.

Nov: 23rd

E. Plackett Esq.
6 Blandford Road
Aigburth,
Liverpool,

Dear Sir,

Your post-card of the 21st inst, has been handed to us as we deal with all Australian Red Cross cases, but we have never had your previous letter - All enquiry work for Australia is done here. We have at present no information concerning the death of B. 1768 Pte L. Plackett, 47 Infantry Battalion, A.I.F., but we are causing the fullest enquiries to be made and immediately we obtain any news you may rely on us sending it to you, but as we are sure you will understand, it will necessarily take time.

Yours faithfully,

V D
Secretary

/s/ J. H. B.

December 26th.

Private .O. Harding, 1663
49th Aust. Inf. Battn.
Hammersmith Military Hospt.
Ward B. 3.
HAMMERSMITH.

Dear Sir,

We have received an enquiry re Private Lewis Plackett, No 1768, 49th Battalion, sent on to us from the B.R.C.V.

We regret having to tell you that Private Plackett was killed on September 3rd. So far we have received no details of his death, but will send you what we are able to obtain.

Assuring you of our sympathy, and with best wishes for your recovery.

Yours faithfully,

Len Dinkin

Secretary.

per C.H.M.

21st January

- 7.

E. Plackett Esq.,
6 Maple Rd.
Newbury.
Hants.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your inquiry for No. 1768. Pte. E. Plackett, 49th Battn. A.I.F. we regret to inform you that the following unofficial report has been received from No. 886. 1/Cpl. C. S. Sener, who on January 24th. was in a Lewis Gun School in France.

He says that Pte. Plackett was a Lewis Gunner and they belonged to the same gun ^{team} ~~train~~.

On Sept. 8rd. informant was serving with another gun team and when he returned to his own he was told that Pte. Plackett had been killed in action - he believes by a shell.

No. 8861. A. Private Hodges, 49th Battn. Lewis Machine Gun Section was an eye witness of the casualty and could give further details.

We are still continuing the inquiry in the hope of learning further details of Pte. Plackett's death and we shall advise you of any further reports that we receive.

With sincere sympathy.

Secretary.

Yours faithfully.

M
for
L.A.W.

P. Plackett Esq.,
C. Plackett Esq.,

17.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your inquiry for No. 1766. Pte. H. Plackett, 49th Bn. A.I.F., we regret to inform you that the following unofficial report has been received from No. 686. 2nd Lt. C. E. Turner, who on January 24th. was in a Lewis Gun school in France.

We saw that Pte. Plackett was a Lewis Gunner and they belonged to the same gun ^{team} train.

On Sept. 1st. informant was serving with another gun team and when he returned to his own he was told that Pte. Plackett had been killed in action - he believed by a shell.

Co. 5861. A. Private Hodges, 49th Bn. Lewis Machine Gun Section was an eye witness of the casualty and could give further details.

We are still continuing the inquiry in the hope of learning further details of Pte. Plackett's death and we shall advise you of any further reports that we receive.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

M. V. 7 of 14. W.

1st February

-7.

No. 1668. Private O. Harding.
49th Australian Infantry Battalion.
Ward B. 5.
Hammersmith Military Hospital.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your inquiry for No. 1768. Pte. L. Plackett, 49th Battn. A.I.F. we regret to inform you that the following unofficial report has been received from No. 586. L/Cpl. C. Sener, who on January 24th. was in a Lewis Gun School in France.

He says that Pte. Plackett was a Lewis Gunner and they belonged to the same gun team.

On Sept. 3rd. informant was serving with another gun team and when he returned to his own he was told that Pte. Plackett had been killed in action - he believes by a shell.

No. 3851 s. Pte. Hodges, 49th Battn. Lewis Machine Gun Section was an eye witness of the casualty and could give further details.

We are still continuing the inquiry in the hope of learning further details of Pte. Plackett's death and we shall advise you of any further reports that we receive.

With sincere sympathy

Secretary.

V.P.
Yours faithfully.

K.A.M.

1st February

-7.

No. 1668. Private J. Harding.
49th (Antitank) Infantry Battalion.
Ord D. 6.

HammerSmith Military Hospital.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your inquiry for No. 1768. Pte. L. Plackett, 49th Bn. A.L.B. we regret to inform you that the following unofficial report has been received from No. 586. L/Cpl. C. Soner, who on January 24th. was in a Lewis Gun School in France.

He says that Pte. Plackett was a Lewis Gunner and they belonged to the same gun team.

On Sept. 8rd. informant was serving with another gun team and when he returned to his own he was told that Pte. Plackett had been killed in action - he believes by a shell.

No. 3851 s. Pte. Hodges, 49th Bn. Lewis Machine Gun Section was an eye witness of the casualty and could give further details.

We are still continuing the inquiry in the hope of learning further details of Pte. Plackett's death and we shall advise you of any further reports that we receive.

With sincere sympathy

Yours faithfully,

V.P.

Secretary.

A.A.

6 Rundle Rd

Aigburth

Liverpool Feb 4th 1917

Dear Madam

No 1768 Pte R. Blackett 11th BATT A.D.F.

I feel I cannot thank you enough for your great kindness in obtaining for me particulars of the sad death of my brother killed in action Sep 3rd. I'm afraid I have put the Australian Branch of the A.R.C.S. to a great deal of trouble but I thought if it was at all possible I should just like to know the place where he was buried so that I could give some particulars to his widow & to my other near relatives in Queensland. If I could get to know the exact place of burial I should like to visit it myself when the war is over.

I have sent your letter on to my sister in law in Queensland & I am sure it will be a great help to her & others in like trouble to know that, tho their men folk are fighting 12000 miles away from home, there is such a splendid Society as the Australian Red Cross to give all information when any ill befalls them. Very many thanks for your kind sympathy.

Yours Very sincerely
Edwin Blackett

5th February -7.

No. 5831 A.
Private S. W. Hooges,
C. Company.
I.M.C.S.
49th Australian Infantry Battalion,
B. E. F.

No. 1768.

L. Plackett, 49th Australian Infantry Battalion
reported Killed 3.9.16.

L. Plackett

V. D.

Her

21st February

-7

No. 3831. Pto. S. W. Hodges,
C. Company.
49th Battn. A.I.F.
B. E. F.

Dear Private Hodges,

Very many thanks for your letter of Feb.
12th. in answer to our enquiry re:-

1768. Lewis Plackett, 49th Battn. A.I.F.

The information you have sent will be of great assistance
to us. We know it will be a comfort to his relatives to
learn through you that his death was instantaneous.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

-V.D.

Secretary.

J. L.

March 2nd

7.

E. Plackett, Esq.,
6, Hundle Road,
Aigburth, Liverpool.

Dear Sir,

Following our letter of Jan. 31st, with reference to your brother, No. 1768 Pte Lewis Plackett, 49th Battn., B.E.F., we have now received an unofficial report from Pte.S.W. Hodges of C Company, 49th Battn.

Private Hodges states that he and Pte.Plackett were members of the machine gun team at Mouquet Farm on 3-9-16 - Sunday morning - At about 4.30 A.M. a high explosive shell burst near them, and Pte Plackett was killed by the explosion. He adds the following information which will help you to be quite clear as to identity, namely, height about 5 ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; build rather heavy, complexion dark, hair and moustache black. He wore the King's ribbon for Boer War. He told Hodges that he had been married ten years, met his wife in Canada, came to Australia and took up a scrub selection at Iron Pot Creek between Jondowie and Kingaroy in Queensland, and that Mrs. Plackett now resides at Vale Street, Kelvin Grove, Brisbane.

We are trying to get information as to place of burial, and shall write you further if successful, though this information is often difficult to get.

Again assuring you of our sympathy -
We remain,
Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

March 3rd, 7.

1663 Pte O. Harding.
49th Battn. - C Coy A.I.F.,
Ward B 3 - Hammersmith Military Hospital.

Dear Sir,

Following our letter of Jan. 31st., with reference to No. 1768 Pte Lewis Plackett, 49th Battn. B.E.F., we have now received an official report from Pte S.E. Hodges of C Coy, 49th Battalion.

Private Hodges states that he and Pte Plackett were members of the machine gun team at Mousquet Farm on 3-9-16 - Sunday morning - At about 4.30 A.M. a high explosive shell burst near them, and Pte Plackett was killed by the explosion. He adds the following information which will help you to be quite clear as to identity, namely, height about 5 ft. 6½; build rather heavy, complexion dark, hair and moustache black. He wore the King's ribbon for Boer War. He told Hodges that he had been married ten years, met his wife in Canada, came to Australia and took up a scrub selection at Iron Pot Creek between Jondowie and Zingaroy in Queensland, and that Mrs. Plackett now resides at Vale Street, Kelvin Grove, Brisbane.

His brother has asked us to ascertain where he was buried - this is always difficult, but we are trying, and should we succeed we shall also send word to you.

Yours faithfully,

#6
SECRETARY.

1st May 1917.

E. Plackett Esq.,
6 Runcle Road.
Aighurta.
Liverpool.

Dear Sir,

We beg to advise you of further unofficial information of the death of No. 1768. Pte. E. Plackett, 49th Bn. A.I.F.

Informant No. 5297. Pte. Slim, who was in the 4th Australian Divisional Base Details, reports that Pte. Plackett was killed instantly by a shell when going over in an attack at Mouquet Farm on Sept. 3rd. 1916.

We are pursuing inquiries and will advise you immediately on the receipt of further information about him.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

S.D.

Secretary.

A.A.M.

1st May 1917.

No. 1668. Pte. G. Harding,
49th Australian Inf. Battalion.
No. 2. Australian Convalescent Depot.
Weymouth.

Dear Sir,

We beg to advise you of further unofficial information
of the death of No. 1768. Pte. D. Blackett, 49th Bn. A.I.F.

Informant- No. 3297. Pte. Slim, who was in the 4th Australian
Divisional Base Details, reports that Pte. Blackett was killed
instantly by a shell when going over in an attack at Mouquet
Farm on Sept. 3rd 1916.

We are pursuing inquiries and will advise you immediately
on the receipt of further information about him.

Yours faithfully,

V.L.

Secretary.
LAW