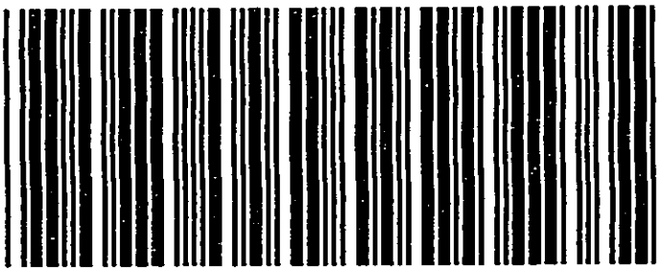
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

2968 Private William Abraham Roberts

19th Battalion



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19th Battn.
A.I.F.

W.A.ROBERTS. 2968.
Lcck.J.W. 909.

"Killed in Action 11-8-18"

He was of D.Company. Was No I on Lewis Gun Team. Ontside Rainecourt on 11th August about 4.30.in morning, we had just started attack. Was killed outright by shell. badly knocked about. I was a few yards away at the time, and was wounded in hand by same shell. Knew nothing of burial. Knew him as "Bub" came from Gippsland, Pte Leck of D.Company. was killed by same explosion.

Informant:- L/Cpl.A.M.Frederiksen.M.M.
19th Battn. D.XV Pl.
ANZAC BUFFET.

A.D.C.
London.
11-10-18.
M.I.S.

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

ROBERTS.W.A.2968B.
Leck.J.W.909.

"Killed in Action 11-8-18"

He was in D.Company. I knew him well. He came from N.S.Wales. There was no other man of his name in the Company. I saw him receive his death wounds from a shell soon after the hop over at 4.a.m. on 11th August 1918 at Framerville. He was hit on the head and body and was killed instantly. I was one of a party that buried him near the place where he was killed. In the same grave was buried a mate of his named Leck whose number I do not know. He was buried in an orchard near a church.

Informant:- Pte.J.T.Kiernan. 4458.
19th Battn. D.Coy 16th Pl.
A.13.Ward.DARTFORD.

J.V.A.Kennedy.
London.
12-10-18.
M.I.S.

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

ROBERTS.
W.A. 2968B.

"Killed in Action 11-8-18"

Trameville. He was killed at once by shell. We were just starting on an attack about daylight. He was only about 20 yards away from the starting point. I helped to bury him two days later just near where killed. We buried him in a bit of a trench. We put up a cross. He was my best pal. Came from Australia with me. I wrote and told his people.
L.Locke. an original man buriedby J.Andersen alongside Roberts.

Informant:- Anderson.E.C.2657B.
W.43.HAREFIELD.

D.P.Dickson.
London.
17-10-18.
J.E.A.

L. Locke, an original man buried by Anderson alongside Roberts. S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

ROBERTS
W.A. 2968B

"Killed 11-8-18"

He was in D.Coy., and I saw him killed at Framinville, when death was instantaneous, he being hit by pieces of a shell on the head and body. This happened as we were just going over the top on 11-8-18, in the early morning, about 4-20. I knew him well, and he came from Borawa, N.S.W., where he was a farmer's son. I did not see his grave, but he was buried at place of casualty in the field, and grave was marked by a Cross having full details marked thereon. He originally belonged to 56th Batth.

Informant. Wood. Pte.P.R. 3003
D.Coy. 19th Battn.,
3rd A.A.H.,
DARTFORD.

W.Oman
London
17-10-18
J.E.A.

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

ROBERTS.
W.A. 2968B.

"Killed in Action 11-8-18"

Roberts was killed with Pte Shepherd by the same shell They were buried two days later in an orchard at the extreme end of the village of Framerville (about 10 kilos from Villers Bretonneux) I was one of the burying party. There were three separate graves but at the time no crosses were erected and I do not know if any have since been placed there.

Informant:- Taylor.J.6400. Pte. (Reliable)
19th Battn. A.I.F.
Beaufort War Hospital.
BRISTOL.

W.Bernard Tonkin.
London.
11-11-16.
H.G.

S.