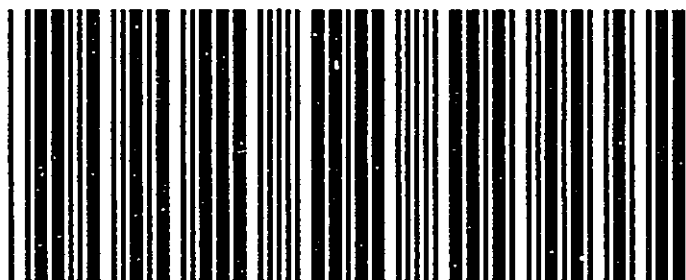


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2008 Private
Frederick Radcliffe**

1st Battalion



2230301B

Med.

1 A.I.F.
A Coy.

Frederic Radcliffe,
I/C. 2008.

M. Aug. 6-11/1918:

Witness was himself wounded on 7th August, but he understands Radcliffe was killed the previous day during a charge at top of Shrapnel Gully. Names of witness' informants were unobtainable.

No prisoners were taken on 6th August and many bodies were left the general impression being that Radcliffe was killed.

Ptel J. Byers, 1911, A Coy. 1st A.I.F.

Malta

Ghain Tuffieha

27/11/15.

F. de V.L.

L. & S.

1st Batt., A.I.F.
5th Rfcts.

RADCLIFFE,
L/Cpl. Fred., 2008.

(Missing).

Informant knew Radcliffe, who came from Manchester, England. He was a big, stout, fair man, about 21 or 22, had been in New South Wales about 2 years.

At Lone Pine on 7th August, Informant and Radcliffe, both of A. Coy., took part in the action. Radcliffe was close to Informant in No. 8 Section, and was shot in the chest as he got over the parapet of the Australian Trenches. He fell, and Informant saw no more of him, but is sure he died.

Informant gave Radcliffe his (Radcliffe's) water bottle, laid it beside him so that he could reach it.

Informant saw Radcliffe's Mother in King George's Hospital, London, and gave her the above information.

Ref.: - Brown,
Pte. Goo., 1966,
1st Battalion, 5th Rfcts.,
SOLDIERS' CLUB, SYDNEY.

D.H. McL.
19.6.16.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S
2 P.1.
Cancelled

1st Batt., A.I.F.

RADCLIFFE,
L/Cpl. F. 2008.

(Missing).

Informant was a mate of Radcliffe's. Both were wounded at Lone Pine on 6th August. Informant did not actually see Radcliffe after he was wounded, but believes that Radcliffe was taken away from Gallipoli to Malta on the 'Dunluce Castle', and that his cot was actually not far away from Informant's.

On arrival at Malta, Informant was told by a number of Soldiers of his Company that Radcliffe had died on board, and been buried at sea.

Radcliffe was short, stout-build, auburn complexion, about 25 years of age.

Ref.: - Mathieson,
Pte. W. 1989,
1st Battalion,
No. 4 Aust. General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

Private Address:-
9E Allan Street, Pyrmont, Sydney.

D.W.
14.6.16.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

1
2 P.1.
Cancelled

Australian List.A.I.F. 1st.Bn.Radcliffe L/Cpl.F. 2008.

M. 6-11.8.15.

Radcliffe was killed at Lone Pine on 7th.Aug.or 8th. 1915. He was in the trenches at the time. A bomb came over and he was killed outright. Witness was near him at the time. His body was removed and buried in the Cemetery at Brown's Dip. Witness said he remembered the circumstances well. Radcliffe was a fat fellow, with a roddish face. He belonged to the 5th.Reinforcements - the same as witness. He was born in England and came out to N.S.W. as a settler. SA.

Reference: Lte.A.Brothero. 2008 B.Co. 1st.Bn.
26 Gen. Hosp.
Naples. 30th.May.1916.

S. 2 P. 9.5
2. Cancel.

1st. Batt
A.I.F.

Lt.
F.

RADCLIFFE

2008

"Missing 6/11-8-16"

Now as your letter has come to hand, I will put you on the right track. Radcliffe and I were mates from enlistment at Liverpool to the 6th. Aug., that was the Pine charge, or Lone Pine charge and the last that was seen of him, was by PTE. BUTCHARD of the 1st. Battalion, who has cleared the matter up to my satisfaction. This information I sent along to you as above. At this stage I will give you a point blank denial to both statements as per letter. In the first place this man Brown came over with my Company, and as a matter of fact he was not on Gallipoli only about six hours; this came about by him being left in Egypt and not being allowed to go on with our Company (the cause I will not mention). When the 1st. Brigade came off Gallipoli to Lemnos Island, he smothered away on the boat and landed off the boat the same night as we came off Gallipoli to go to Lemnos, he was not right then, and had to go back that afternoon to Lemnos Island and go back to the Hospital.

Matheson's statement is just as vague as Brown's, because he also came away with the same Company, viz 5th. of 1st. and never was a mate of Radcliffes. Again you will see that the

1st. Batt
A.I.F.

Recd
RADCLIFFE

2008

"Missing 6/11-8-16"

statement is not accurate in the fact that if Radcliffe had been buried at sea, a record would have been forthcoming, and there is none.

I think it is a down-right shame that those men should be so unmanly as to lead you people so far astray in your good work to grace our friends. I have been in fact to Radcliffe's people and settled all doubt about him and Mrs. Radcliffe told about seeing Matheson.

Reference 19342 Q.M.S. CLARKE
53rd. Batt. A.I.F.
No 1. Command
Perham Downs,
Andover

London
1-1-17

Off.M.

30th December,

Dear Sgt. Clarke,

Very many thanks for your long and detailed letter in answer to our letter about -

No.2008 L/Cpl. GRADCLIFFE. We were so pleased to hear that you were enjoying a well-earned rest in England for some months and trust that you have not felt the winter too severely.

We have hoped always to be able to forward you further news of your friend, but almost fear now that nothing more will be forthcoming, though you may rely on us sending you word should we receive anything definite.

We trust you have had a very pleasant time this Christmas Season and wish you the best of luck in the New Year.

Yours faithfully,

-VP

No.1934,

2-M-Sgt. Clarke,

53rd Aust. Inf. Battn.,

1. Command Depot,

Perham Downs. Andover.

SECRETARY.

Th

November 6th 1916

No.1934

Sergt. J. Clarke,
53rd Battrn. A.I.F.,
D. Company,
c/o Headquarters
Tidworth.

Dear Sergt. Clarke,

We have just had returned to us, a letter we sent to you c/o your Battalion, on 10th August last, marked "Unable to trace" & "Wounded".

We find on looking through our Hospital Index that you had been admitted to City of London War Hospital on July 22nd and sent to Tidworth on October 11th. We very much regret the delay there has been in acquainting you with the details concerning your friend No. 2003 L/Cpl. F. Radcliffe, 1st Battalion, A.I.F., and now send you a copy of our letter of 10th August.

We have not since received any fresh information about L/Corporal Radcliffe, but will not fail to let you know immediately anything further comes into our possession.

We trust you are now quite fit and well.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

V.D. Jhn.

Cairo, April 11th 1916.

Dear Sir,

Our information about L/C F. Radcliffe of the 1st Battalion is not very definite, but a witness, another man in A Coy., says he understood Radcliffe was killed on Aug. 6th during a charge at the top of Shrapnel Gully. No prisoners were taken that day and many bodies had to be left, so the general impression in the Battalion was that Radcliffe was killed. We are still trying to obtain more information which we will send on to you.

Yours faithfully.

(Wise)

W.F.C.
Secretary.

Sgt. F. Clarke,
D Co., Pioneers,
53rd Bn., A.I.F.
Ferry Post, Iamailia.

June 5th, 1916.

Sgt. T. Clarke,
Pioneers, D. Co. 53rd Battn.
A.I.F. Ferry Post,
Egypt.

*9. Radcliffe, 1st
Battn. 18/8/16
10. Radcliffe, 1st Battn.*

Dear Sir,

In answer to your inquiry for news concerning 2008, L/Cpl. F. Radcliffe, 1st Battn. who is posted at A.I.F. Headquarters, Missing 6-8/8/16, I regret to say we have but little doubt as to his fate.

We have received two unofficial reports from his comrades of the 1st Battn. both of which lead us to believe that he was killed on the 6th or 7th of August. Pte. F. Prothero 2003, B. Coy. of the same Reinforcements as L/Cpl. Radcliffe states that he remembers the circumstances of the latter's death quite well, as he was quite close to him at the time. L/Cpl. Radcliffe was in the trenches at Lone Pine when a bomb came over and killed him instantaneously. His body was removed and buried in the cemetery at Brown's Dip. Pte. Prothero describes L/Cpl. Radcliffe as being rather stout, with a reddish face; he was born in England and came out to New South Wales as a settler.

It is to be hoped that the knowledge that he was killed outright and therefore painlessly and that he died in one of the most heroic charges on Gallipoli will be of some comfort to his relatives and friends.

With sincere sympathy,

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

VA

Bere ~~Dear~~

County of London War Hospital
Epsom

Dear Friend Yours of June 5th 1916 came to hand in 5-16

France I am most thankful for your kind endeavours to trace my friend
Radcliffe Capt 7th Div 2008 & strange to say it was this day 12
months we parted in what will ever remain in my mind as
a death trap to Australians I have been wounded again
this time in the back with a bullet it is still in my mind
but may cause me some trouble yet I must thank you
for your kindness also on account of the red cross people in
Egypt I should like to meet any one of them or any of
you people at any time I did very well this time I accounted
for a considerable number of Germans before I was wounded & then
brought a Prisoner back I can say I went well into double figures
my arm was unbearable for days after I came over from shoot-
ing & strange to say I landed in Egypt on my birth day last year
& I landed wounded in England on it this time the 23 July
57 Getting quite old now after 3 times to the Hospital I shall
not forget my 3 times to Gallipoli I must ask the first of
your People I can find to try & trace my 3 sons who have left
Australia as well as myself some of them will call on
here some day they have a lot to see to Once more thanking you
for Past Kindness Good Bye & God Bless You & all
Your workers

Your Ever Good Wishing Friend

1934 Sgt J Clarke
53 Bat 14 Bde A.I.F.
Guard County of London War Hospital
Epsom

54 Victoria Street
London, S.W.,
10th August, 1916.

//////

— Victoria 8858.

J. Radcliffe, Esq.,
Waterloo Buildings,
10 Piccadilly,-
MANCHESTER.

Dear Sir,

We have had a little further information - unofficial - from two witnesses concerning your son, L/C F. Radcliffe, No. 2008, 1st Battalion. We are deeply sorry that we cannot obtain anything definite for you.

No. 1966, Private Geo. Brown, 1st Battalion, 5th Reinforcements, Soldiers' Club, Sydney, informs us, through our Sydney Bureau, that he knew a "big, stout, fair man, about 21 or 22, who had been in New South Wales, about two years" by the name of Radcliffe. He and Radcliffe, both of A Coy., took part in the Lone Pine action on 7th August. They were close together in No. 8 Section. Radcliffe was shot in the chest as he got over the parapet of the Australian trenches and fell. After placing his water-bottle beside him so that he could reach it, Brown saw no more of him, but is sure he died. Brown further says that he saw Mrs. Radcliffe in King George's Hospital, London, and gave her this information. We repeat it lest there has been any mistake.

The other information we have is from No. 1989, Private W. Mathieson, 1st Battalion, 4th Australian General Hospital, Randwick, Sydney. (Private address, 9 E Allan Street, Pyrmont, Sydney, New South

Wales, Australia). He says he was a mate of Radcliffe and that both of them were wounded at Lone Pine on 6th August. He did not actually see Radcliffe after that, but believes that he was shipped from Gallipoli to Malta on the "Dunluce Castle". On arrival at Malta, Private Mathieson says he was told by a number of soldiers of his company that Radcliffe had died on board and been buried at sea. He describes him as short, stoutly-built, with brown complexion, about 25 years of age.

In view of all the previous information, we think this latter information seems less likely than the former.

In either case, we fear it is certain that your son is one other among those who have paid the great price of life for England's honour.

We are deeply in sympathy with you in your bereavement.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

PA - per A. A.
Secretary.

54 Victoria Street,
London, S.W.,
10th August, 1916.

//////

== Victoria 8858.

1934
(Sergeant T. Clarke,

(53rd Bnneers,

D Company,

A.I.F., B.E.F., FRANCE.

Dear Sir,

We have had a little further information - unofficial -
from two witnesses concerning your friend L/C. F. Radcliffe, No. 2008,
1st Battalion. We are deeply sorry that we cannot obtain anything
definite for you.

No. 1966, Private Geo. Brown, 1st Battalion, 5th Reinforcements
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were close together in No. 8 Section. Radcliffe was shot in the chest
as he got over the parapet of the Australian trenches and fell.
After placing his water-bottle beside him so that he could reach it,
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-2-

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In view of all the previous information, we think this latter information seems less likely than the former.

In either case, we fear it is certain that your ^{friend} ~~man~~ is one other among those who have paid the great price of life for England's honour.

We are deeply in sympathy with you in your bereavement.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

per A.H.
Secretary.

MEMO. FROM
JOHN RADCLIFFE
MANUFACTURERS' AGENT.

Waterloo Buildings.

10, Piccadilly,

Manchester August 22nd. 1916.

To *M* Australian Branch, British Red Cross Society. Enquiry Bureau.

RECEIVED

23 AUG 1916

Dear Sirs,

I duly received your letter of the 10th of August but was away from home at the time.

From the contents of your letter you seem to get no further with any information. We have, with the greatest regret, come to the conclusion that my dear son was killed on August 7th or 8th 1915, as we have heard from so many sources. In fact, I am going to see a soldier at Epsom Hospital on Friday next and probably after that when I learn the full particulars, I will write to you again.

Thanking you very much indeed for the great interest you have taken in the matter.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

John Radcliffe

ack
Thu 28/12/16

"the last."

W.H.S.

1st Command & Co
Perham Down

Andover
7/12/16

Dear Mad.

11 Bell

Yours of the 6th Nov. to hand this morning. Re
No 2008 Lt. Radcliffe & thank you for your kindness in trying
to trace him. I wrote to you from County of London Hospital
just after my admission to the above institution but received
no reply. I did not write again as I did not make any further
effort to trace Mr Radcliffe. Now as your letter has come to hand
I write to you on the point. Radcliffe & I were mates
from induction at Liverpool in the 5th August that was the time
of my age & time the age of the last ^{crane} that was one of my mates by
the name of the 1st division. I was in the 1st division up
to my satisfaction. This information I sent along to you as
above. At this time I will give you a little more. I was
denial to both statements. In the first I was in the 1st division
came over with my own company & was in the 1st division & was
not in the 1st division only about 6 weeks. This came about by
him being left in Egypt & not being allowed to go with his
company. The cause I will not mention. When the 1st Bn
Barrade came off, Radcliffe & I were in the 1st division
going on the boat and landed at the same time as
we came off to the 1st division. He was not in the 1st division
go back that afternoon to the 1st division & was in the
hospital. Radcliffe's statement is just as mine is. I was
because he also came away with the same company. By 5th
of the 1st division was a mate of Radcliffe's. I am sure that
that the statement is not accurate in the fact of Radcliffe
had been buried at sea & would have been so. I am sure
& there is none of them. I think it is down right shame that someone
should be so carelessly as to let you be so far away in
your good word to trace our friends. I have been a great
to Mr Radcliffe's people & settled all doubt about him. I was
Radcliffe told me that Radcliffe was in the 1st division.

I have been out to figure & get another

think as my age is getting up now you can rely on my word
 I am 56 years of age & 3 bars here in this war I was 3 times
 back to Gallipoli so that I carry 3 bars now. I will be
 pleased to give you any information or communicate with
 you at any time. I am 2 M.I. for not (one) company
 No 1 Command & Co as above. Trusting to receive
 a happy communication in the near future. Also thanking
 you for your inestimable endeavours to trace my friends.

Thank you for the
 friendly letter

Radcliffe 7. 2008

1 Batt

M. 6. 11 / 8 / 15.

S.

P.I. H.

1934 2 M.I. 2nd

53/34 1/1

No 1 Command & Co

Perham's

London