

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

**6834 Private
Alfred Wood**

11th Battalion



30010026

11th Battn.
C.Coy,
A.I.F.

WOOD,
A.H: 6834

"Killed 6.5.17."

I saw him killed at Bullecourt. He was caught by a shell, and was very badly knocked about death being instantaneous. He was in the trench at the time. I knew him very well, he came from W.A. I do not know place of burial, and I cannot refer to anyone for details, but I feel sure he would be buried at place of casualty.

Informant:- Sgt. C.R.C. Carter, 6731,
11th Battn C.Coy, 11th Pltn,
S.A.A.H.
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London
4.3.18.

P.

11th A.I.D. (Spec. Supp.)

A. WOOD, 6834.

K. 6.5.17. Det. D & B.

I had the following from Pte. R. Falkenham of B Co. (his No. is near that of Wood and he is still there). He said that at Bullecourt about the date named he saw Wood and Ptes. Middleton, Hind, Poll and Grant all killed by one shell. They were all in the same I.G. Team. Falkenham also belonged to the team, he was there at the time and was the only survivor. Soon after, another shell blew Wood's body to pieces. Falkenham told me he had written to Mrs. Woods telling her that her husband was dead and that he had seen him decently buried. As a matter of fact he told me he was not buried because there was nothing to bury. Wood came from Australia with Falkenham, Middleton and Hind in the "Argyleshire" leaving Freemantle about November 9th 1916. He was a Yorkshireman by birth with a very heavy brogue, a small man with a squint in his left eye.

Reference: G. P. Owen, 6800.

No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 3.9.17.

P.
FEP.

P.S. It will be noted that the testimony of the eyewitness has already gone to the wife with some variation of the truth.

Written by Falkenham 15.9.17

A.I.P. 11.

K. 6. 5.17.

WOOD A. 6834.

Pte. Brown told me that he saw Woods blown to pieces by a shell at Bullecourt. They were in the same bay at the time. Nothing could be picked up to bury.

BH.

Reference: Pte. J.G. Mayhaw. 6795.
4 Gen. Hpl.

Staples.
2.10.17.

Written Pte Brown 13.10.17

A.I.P. 11.

K. 6.5.17.

WOOD A. 6834.

We were holding the trench at the Hindenburg Line and were being shelled and one hit Wood who was next to me, which killed him outright and blew him to pieces. We buried him just behind the line where he was killed, quite close to Bullecourt.

BH.

Reference: Pte. F.E. Marlow. 6792.
L.G. School.

Staples.
5.10.17.

P

11th Batn
A.I.F.

WOOD
Pte. A. 6854

"Killed in Action"

Re A Wood 6959 11th Batn A.I.F. As regards A Wood he was a great friend of mine we were two chums came away together went into the line together unfortunately he was killed at B- He was buried on the battlefield on May 8th 1917. He came from Leeds Yorkshire, England before going out West his Australian Address was Grant Street, Cottesloe West Australia. I should like to write to the people who enquire and oblige.

Letter from:- Pte. Falingham
No 6760 11th Batn A.I.F.

France. 14.10.17.

London.
23.10.17.

P

11th A.I.F.

Wood. Pte. A. 6834.
C Co: 10 Pl:

(K. May 6. 1917)

"On May 5th at Bullecourt, Wood was killed by a shell.
I was also knocked over by it."

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description: Short - fair.

Informant: Sgt: J. Lane. 1174.
11th A.I.F. C Coy:
3rd London Gen. Hospital.
Wandsworth.

Home address: Millisient.
S. Australia.

24.10.17.
Maud Hammond.

P

11th Battn.
A.I.F.

Wood.
A. 6834

"Killed 6.5.17"

Refer to L/Cpl. R. Lukis C.Coy. 11th Battn. who is in France and who saw him killed by a shell at Bullecourt, and can give full details.

Witness:-

Pte. W.W. Osborne 6801
11th Battn. C.Coy. 10th Pl.
3rd Aust. Aux. Hospital.
Dartford.

W. Oman.

London.
1.11.17.

P.

Note Written L/Cpl. R. Lukis 1.11.17.

11th Batn
A.I.F. ~~kill~~

WOOD
A. 6834

"Killed in Action 6.5.17."

Pte. W.A. Bartlett 6855 A. Coy., 11th Pltn. A.I.F. is a personal friend of mine and came over with me. He can give definite information about this man. He was wounded in both legs and is now in hospital at 3rd Aust. Aux. Hpl. Dartford. Kent.

N.B. Sent so that Bartlett may be communicated with.

Note written Bartlett. 2.11.17.

Eye Witness:-

Description.

Informants:- E.V. Smith. 6820
11th Batn A.I.F.
Bath
Depot Horserferry Road.

London. 2.11.17.

P

11th A.I.F.

Wood Pte. A. 5834,
C. Coy.

(K. May 6th Det D/B)

"On May 6/17 at Bullecourt one of our shells dropped short and killed Pte. A. Wood instantaneously, blowing off one arm and one leg. I took his ray book and what was in his pockets into the Batt: Office. He was buried on side of the trench just where he got hit. This took place at night. He was buried on the side of the trench where he was hit".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Short, neither fair nor dark.

Informant: Sgt. W. Beck 3717,
11th A.I.F., C. Coy.,
Kitchener's Hospt.,
Brighton.

Home address:
Boulder Block,
Post Office,
Western Aust.

Nov. 5/17,
D. Westby.

P
b^d
2/11

11th Battn.
A.I.F.

Wood.
A. 6834

"Killed 6.5.17"

He was pretty well blown to pieces by the shell that killed Madin. It was one of our own shells which fell short. He was not buried of that there is no doubt.

Witness:-

R.D.B.

Sgt. W. 3717

11th Battn.
Dartford.

London.

28.11.17.

P.

II.A I F.

Wood., A. 6834.

K May 6/17. Det. D/B.

I saw him when he was dead; at Bullecourt; he was spattered all over by the shell and his legs were smashed and he must have been killed instantly. His body was just put over the parapet and got buried there.

He was a grocer at Perth (?) Fitzgerald Street; about 33-35; a fine chap.

Inf:- Griffiths. 6762. Sigr.

A T 'Stad Antwerpen'

Calais. 27 I 18.

26

CR

*Pa
Ed
Swift*

A.I.F. 11th Btn

WOOD
A. 6834

"K. May 6/17."

Wood was killed on Sunday morning about 4-30 at Bullecourt by a shell during a heavy bombardment before an enemy counter-attack, and was buried on 8th, just outside Morsial in a cemetery. Can't say if cross put up, but grave is bound to be marked - I saw casualty and know of his burial, I wrote last June to Mrs. Wood, Grant 51, Cottlesloe W.A. giving details.

Informant - Williams S. 6841
11 Btn, A. Coy,
Hut. 11
Westham. P.
7-1-18.

W.A. Rand
London
18-2-18.

Note: - We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.

11th Battn.
C.Coy.
A.I.F.

WOOD,
A. 6834

"Killed 6.5.17."

Refer to Pte.P.Marlow, C.Coy, 11 Battn, who is now in France.
He saw him killed by a shell at Bullecourt, and can give full
details of death and burial.

Informant:- Pte.W.James, 6779,
11th Battn A.Coy, I Pltn,
3.A.A.E.
Dartford.

W.Omen.

London
26.2.18.

P.

11th Battn.
A.I.F.

WOOD.
A. 6834.

"KILLED IN ACTION" 6.5.17

Regarding Pte. A. Wood. He was in my section in the line and was standing a few feet away from me at the time he was killed. death was instantaneous and the N.C.O of the section and myself buried him about two hours later at the rear of the trench. We marked the spot but being in the front line where a lot of shelling was going on at the time there was just a chance of the grave being disturbed. We left the line shortly afterwards and have not been near the spot since so don't know any further of particulars of the grave. Pte Wood was a man about five feet three or four inches in height with a rather heavy, inclined to be fair, moustache & one eye partly closed. We did what little we could under circumstances but men were busy, and we had little time to be away that night.,

Letter from:- R Inkis. I/cpl.

C. Coy. 11th Battn
France.

Note:- We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.,

21.11.17.

London.
11.5.18.

P.

Havre

25th March 1918.

11th A.I.F.

Wood A. No. 6834.

X. 6th May 1917. Dot D/B.

He was in C.Co. XII Pltn. I knew him pretty well, he lived in Cottesboro Beach, N. Australia. He used to keep a small store. On the 6th May we were holding the line in front of Bullecourt. Wood was near to me in the trench. A shell landed right on him and blew him to pieces. I saw his remains collected and they were buried there and then.

Inf:- Pte A. Mokandis. No. 6796.
11th A.I.F. C.Co. IX Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

Pd
cut

d/cpt R. LUKIS

C. Co.

11 Batt. A. I. F.

B. S. Y.

About

A. Wood

6 P 34

11 Batt. A. I. F.

Killed 6-5-19.

Missing

9w.

1-11-19.

PG W. A. BARTLETT

A. Coy. 6P55.

11 Batt. A.I.F.

3 Aust. Army Hosp.

Dartford

Kent.

about.

A. Wood 6P34

H. C. Wilson 6P38

11 Batt. A.I.F.

Killed 6.5.17.

En.

2.11.17.

12.10.17

Pte BROWN

11 Batt AIF

BEP

abt

6834

A. WOOD

11 Batt AIF

K. 6.5.17

13.10.17
A.I.F.

11.9.17

RA R. FALKENHAM

B Co

11 Balto AIF

B & F

for

6834

A. WOOD

11 Balto AIF

K. 6.5.17

QQ

12.9.17

add
F.M. 117. 1
W.P.C. 6834

A. WOOD

11 Baltham

KAB. 5. 17.

P. 3

France

Nov. 21st 1917

Dear Miss Deakin,

Re. yours of Nov. 1st I will
tell you what little I know regarding Pte. A. Wood

He was in my section in the line and was standing
a few feet away from me at the time he was killed.

Death was instantaneous and the N.C.O. of the
section & myself buried him about two hours later
at the rear of the trench. We marked the spot
but being in the front line where a lot of
shelling was going on at the time there was just
a chance of the grave being disturbed.

We left the line shortly afterwards & have not
been near the spot since so don't know any
further particulars about the grave.

Pte Wood was a man about five feet three to four
inches in height with a rather heavy, inclined to be
fair, moustache & one eye was partially closed.
him

We did what little we could under the circumstances but men were
busy & we had little time to be away that night. ~~///~~

I hope you get this safely & ^{that} it will be of some use to you and your
enquirers.

I remain

Yours faithfully

Lt Col R. Lukis.

C. Co

11. Batt.

ackd 15-10-17 6834 Pte A. Wood
11 Bde
K/A 6-5-17 6d-12-11 1917
to see Red cross band 3 A.S.F.

I got a letter from you dated 12/9/17
but only just got it over to
you ask for information Re A. Wood
6838 11th Bde A.S.F.

as regards A. Wood. he was a
great friend of mine we were
two chums same way together
went into the line together
unfortunately he was killed
at B — he was buried on
the Battle field on May 8th 1917
He came from Leeds Yorkshire
England before going out West
his Australian Address was
Grant St Botterslow West Aus
I should like to write to
the people who enquire
and oblige

(FALRINGHAM)
Private R. Talbot
No 6460 11th Bde A.S.F.
Yancey

Received 19-10-17

G C



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU).

54, VICTORIA STREET,

LONDON, S.W. 1.

Pte H. Falkenham

B Coy.

11 Battr A.I.F.

12.9.17

Dear Sir,

~~We are making enquiries for a man of your Unit~~
6834 A. Wood 11 Battr A.I.F. — R. 6.5.17.

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 A. Wood but our enquirers
wish especially to know whether he was buried, if so,
whether it was on the Field or in a Soldier's Cemetery,
where the grave would be registered. We should also be
glad if you could add a short description of his personal
appearance ~~or any points that might help to prove his~~
identity.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Vera Deakin.

SECRETARY.

6760 Pte.R.Falkingham,
11th Aust.Infantry Battalion,
B. N. F.

Oct. 19th, 1917.

Dear Pte.Falkingham,

We have to thank you for your reply in answer to our enquiry concerning:-

6854 Pte.A.WOOD 11th Battalion.A.I.F.

The information and details you have sent will be of much assistance to us and of value to our enquirers.

In reference to your wish to write to the late soldier's enquirers, we can only tell you that they are asking through our Perth Office, ^{enquirers} ~~who~~ ^{also} did not give us the names, ~~also~~ ^{also} must say that according to a new Army Regulation we are not allowed now to give the next of kin of any soldier. Therefore, in these cases we always advise that any soldier who ^{desires} ~~desires~~ to write to his comrades people, and we know that these letters are appreciated very much, should address as follows - The Next of Kin,

6854 Pte.A.Wood,
11th Bn.A.I.F.,
c/o Australian Red Cross Society,
Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau,
National Mutual Buildings,
St George's Terrace,
Perth, Western Australia.

To be forwarded - This letter will then be sent on to the correct address.

Please accept our sympathy in the loss of your friend.
Yours faithfully,

Secretary. *V. D. Llu*