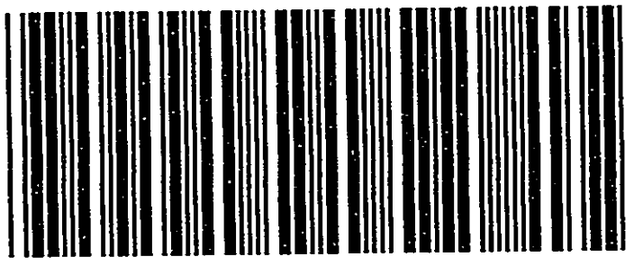
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1759 Private
Lloyd E C Williams

55th Battalion



2960603Q

A.I.F.
55th Btn.

WILLIAMS
Lloyd R. 1759

Killed in Action 26.9.17.

No trace Germany.
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10.10.19.

London.
21.10.19.

S.

A.I.F. 55th Btn

WILLIAMS
Lloyd E. 1759

"Unoff. k. in A. 28-10-17"

Killed in action 26-9-17
ert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 21-11-17
C

S

London
21-11-17

55th Battn
AIF

Williams
L.E. 1759

"Killed Sep. 26th 1917"

On the 26th we had finished and taken our ~~first~~ final objective I went back at 5 o-clock with prisoners and I know Williams who was L/Cpl. Rifleman. I am a Rifleman and he could not have been killed the next day in counter attack. I saw another Rifleman G. Porter 55th Battn D.Coy., who was wounded on 26th (at Polygon Wood) I saw him about 23rd October at Harefield where heprobably still is suffering from chest complaint. He said that Williams was alright that day. All D. Coy., men.

Witness:-
E.A. Sammons
55th Battn D.Coy.,
Hut. 8 Westham

London.
4.1.18.

NOTE
4872 P.N. Potter 55 ad. Harefield 23.10.17.
written 22.12.17

S

A. I. F. 55. WILLIAMS, L.E.C. 1759.

K. September 28th, 1917.

I was with him just before he was killed at Polygon Wood on September 26th and afterwards saw his dead body. A shell caused the casualty in the hop over trench while we were waiting to go over the top. I know nothing as to burial. He belonged to X pl. C.Coy.

Reference:- L/Cpl. H.Morlock. 2189. C.Coy.

I saw his dead body at the spot described. I know nothing as to burial.

Reference:- E.A.Corey. 2143. C.Coy.

Identity cert. from Battn records. Halenghen.

Etaples
5.1.18.

55th Battn.
A.I.F.

Williams.
L.E. 1759

"Killed 26.9.17"

I saw him killed by shell in a shell hole in Polygon Wood, death instantly. He came from Young N.S.W. I knew his brother in Golbourn Camp. I was with Lloyd Williams for 6 months same Coy. A single men, about 20. A very nice fellow.

Witness:-
J.A.Crocker 2388
55th Battn. C.Coy.
No.3 Command Depot.
Hurdcott.

G.W.Griffith.

London.
7.1.18.

S.

55th Battn.
A. I. F.

Williams.
~~Lieut.~~ Lloyd E. 1759

"Killedin Action 26.9.17"

re 1759 L.E.Williams 55th Battn. which unit I am proud to belong to, I wish to tell you that I regret I did not know this fellow although I was wounded the same day, when we were in action at Polygon Wood near Ypres. I was away from the battalion some time before rejoining on the 1st July last and during that spell over in Blighty the 55th had a considerable number of reinforcements, and possibly Williams was one of them. Oh tha other hand he may have been an old hand, so I am writing to my chums both over here and in France with a view of obtaining some information concerning Williams for you at the same time I am gladly making enquirees from the men of his unit in this camp. Shall forward on to you at my earliest opportunity any information that I am successful in obtaining regarding this casualty that you set out in your letter.

Letter from:- 4872 Pte.Paul N.Potter
55th Battn.
No.2 A.C.Depot.
Westham. 20.1.18.

London.
4.2.18.

S.

55th Battn.
A.I.F.

WILLIAMS
L.E. 1759.

Killed 26.9.17.

I was acting as runner to Lieut Slater and he saw a shell drop and ran to the spot, when he came back he said " Williams" was about done" It was just a few minutes before going over the top. The enemy had put up a barrage as they had formed out that we were coming. We held the line so he was sure to have been buried. He was in the same section as I.,

Informant;- T.H.S. Woodhouse. 2254.,
55th Battn.,
Aldwych.

W. Alison.,

London.
13.2.18.

Note written Lt. Slater.,13.2.18.

S.,

55th Battn.
A.I.F.

Williams.
Lloyd E. 1759

"Killed in Action 26.9.17"

Re No.1759 Pte.L.E.C.Williams. On the 26th Sept. last I was in charge of the platoon in an attack on Polygon Wood near Ypres. About half an hour before we attacked a shell fell amongst one of my sections and wounded all the men. They were in a shell hole at the time. I immediately went over and to them and found Williams was dying,so I devoted my attention to the others. An A.M.C. man came over and said Williams was dead. A few minutes later our attack started and of course I had to leave them. I regret that I cannot tell you how he was buried, but should imagine that it was some time later, as there was heavy shelling of this area for a considerable time afterwards. His body was about 500 yards in rear of the "Butte" near Polygon Wood, so his grave will probably be in that locality. He was about 5'10" in height, dark with dark eyes, as near as I can remember. I regret that I cannot give you any more definite information.

H.E.Slater

Letter from:- Lieut.Eslater
55th Battn.
France 22.2.18.

London.
9.3.18.

S.

Havre 18th February 1916. K.B.

55th A.I.F. Williams L.E. No.1759.

K. 26th Septr 1917. Det D/B.

He was in C.Co. X Pltn. I knew him well. He came from Young, N.S.Wales. He was a railway porter. On the 26th Septr we were attacking in the early morning at Polygon Wood. Just before the attack Williams was alongside of me. A shell dropped close to us. The shock killed Williams instantly. I was talking to him at the time. We carried on and left his body where it was. Later on I heard the D/B went to try and find him, and could find nothing of him. Shelling was very heavy.

Inf:- Pte C. Brigge No.4949.
55th A.I.F. C.Co. X Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

55th Battalion.
C Company.
A.I.F.

WILLIAMS.
Pte. L. E No. 1759.

26-9-

"Killed in action ~~28.10.17.~~"

I was a Rifleman - Williams was a Lance-Corporal in the Rifles. I met him at Lynd, France, in June 1917. He was a fair boy - clean shaven - about 5 ft 8 in. in height. He was in "D" Company. I saw him killed at Polygon Wood on 28th October 1917. I was 20 or 30 yards away from him when he was struck with a shell. I was stretcher bearer at the time. I was wounded the same day, shortly afterwards. He was a fine fellow - well liked by all the boys.

Informant: Pte E.A. Sammons, No. 3469,
55th Battalion.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK. (K Ward)
Private address: 76 Wellington Street, Waterloo.

F.B.W.
25.2.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

3

A.I.F. 55. WILLIAMS, L.E. 1759.

K. Sept. 26th 1917. Det D/B

Just as we went over on the 26th Sept. at Polygon Wood my mate, Roy Williamson of D. Coy., said to me that L.E.Williams had just been killed. He saw it happen, and could give particulars. Williams came over from Australia with me. He lived at Goulburn.

Inf. P. Cowley 1761. 55. D. A.I.F.
'Princesse Elisabeth'
CALAIS. 19.5.18.

GGP.

55th Battn.
A.I.F.

WILLIAMS
L.E. 1759

"Killed 26-9-17"

I saw him dead from concussion of a shell, dying instantly. I believe he was buried on the spot at Polygon Wood. About 5ft. 10", dark with curly hair, tall and thin. Came from N.S.W., and used to be a porter on the railways. Came over in the Ceramic. They were all terribly sorry as he was well liked. He and I were cobbers.

Informant. Raymond A.3917
55th Battn.,
ANZAC BUFFET.

W.Alison
London
21-3-18

S.

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.

55th BATTALION, A.I.F.
C.Company.

WILLIAMS, L. Private: 1729.

"KILLED, 26.9.17."

Williams was killed at Polygon Wood. We were advancing the day we took Polygon Wood, when a shell burst above us and some of the shrapnel hit Williams. I saw him fall, but I went on. I heard afterwards that he was killed. I do not know where he was buried.

INFORMANT;- E. P. Cowley, 1761,
55th Battalion, A.I.F.

Home address: TEMORA, N.S.W.

J.V.M.
No.4 Australian General
Hospital, RANDWICK.
14.10.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

13. 2. 18

Lieut. Slater
55th Baltn. A.I.F.
Abroad

abt.
1759 Pte. L. E. Williams
55th Baltn. A.I.F.
R. 26. 9. 17.

14. 2. 18.
C.I.B.

UV

1759 LLOYD E. WILLIAMS 55 Batt K/A 26-9-17 S 3

Ack. 26.2.18

France 22/2/18

Miss Deakin,
Red Cross Enquiry Depôt.

Re No 1759 Pte L. E. C. Williams
55th Battn A.I.F.

I am in receipt of your letter regarding Williams, who was in my platoon.

On the 26th Spt last I was in charge of the platoon in an attack on Polygon Wood near Ypres. About half an hour before we attacked a shell fell amongst one of my sections and wounded all the men. They were in a shell hole at the time. I immediately went over to them and found Williams

was dying so I devoted my attention to the others. An R.M.C. man came over & said Williams was dead. A few minutes later our attack started, and of course I had to leave them. I regret that I cannot tell you how he was buried, but should imagine that it was some time later, as there was heavy shelling of this area for a considerable time afterwards. His body was about 500 yds in rear of the "Butte" near Polygon Wood, so his grave will probably be in that locality.

He was about 5 ft 10 in in height, dark with dark eyes, as near as I can remember

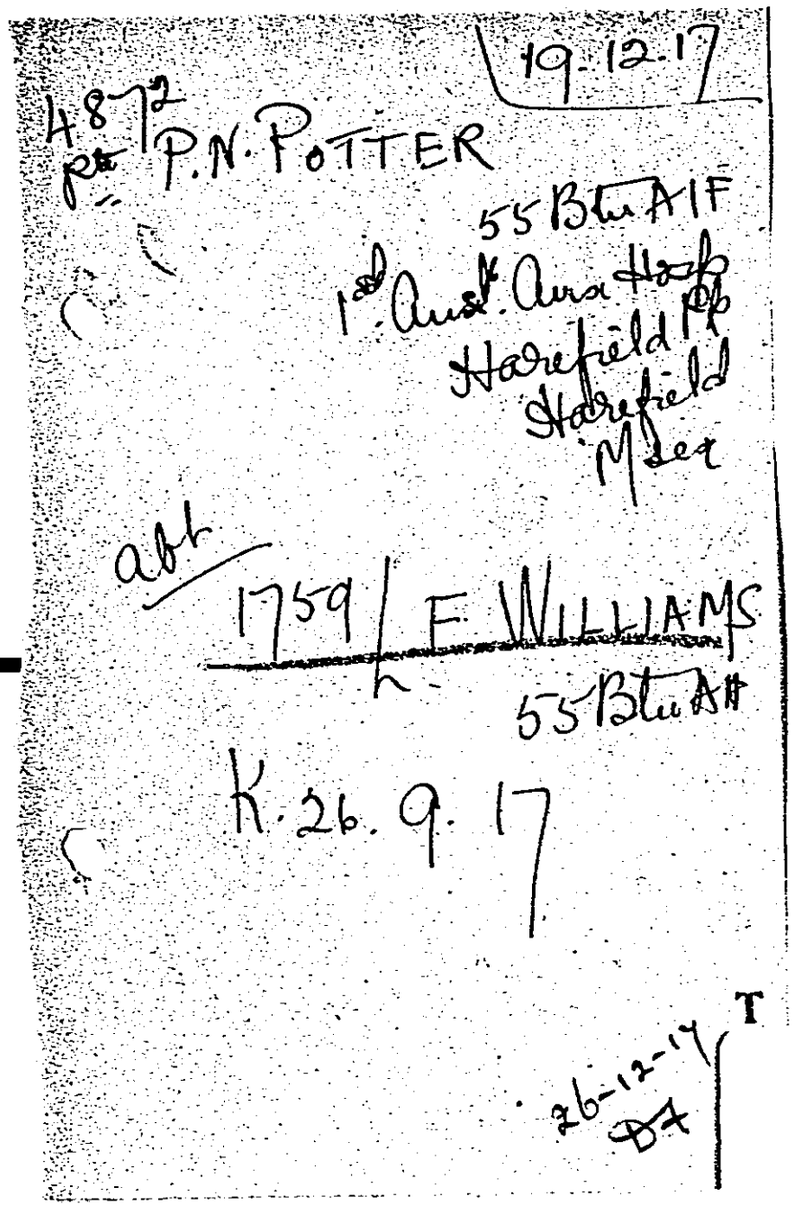
I regret that I cannot give you any more definite information but trust this will be of some use to you.

Yours faithfully

F. Eslatein

Lieut

55 Bn A.I.F.


19.12.17
4872
Pte P.N. POTTER
55 Bttn AIF
1st Aust. Aux Hosp
Harefield Pk
Harefield
Middx
abt
1759 / F WILLIAMS
55 Bttn AIF
K. 26. 9. 17
T
26-12-17
DA

Cuh G
letter of
24-1-18

1759 Lloyd
L. E. WILLIAMS
55 Bttn
K/A 26-9-17
S
3.

at present stationed
at No: 2 A. C. D.
Westham Camp,
Weymouth.
Dorset.

20. 1. 18.

To. Secretary,
Australian Red X.
Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau.

Dear Miss Deakin.

Your letter of the 26. 12. 17. only reached me on the 18th as I left Harefield on the 29. of October last, but I hasten to reply. With reference to your enquiry about 1759 L. E. Williams, 55th Inf. Battalion. A.I.F. K. 26-9-17. which unit ~~I belong~~ I am proud to belong to. I wish to tell you that I regret I did not know this fellow, altho' I was wounded the same day, when we were in action at Polygon Wood Nr Ypres. You see Miss Deakin, I was away from the battalion some time before rejoining on the 1st July last, & during that spell over in Blighty, ~~[illegible]~~ the 55th ~~[illegible]~~ had a considerable number of reinforcements, ~~so that~~ and ~~probably~~ possibly Williams was one of them, on the other hand he may have been an old hand, so I am writing to my chums both over here & in France with a view of obtaining some information concerning Williams for you.

Extract taken with much pleasure J.L.

at the same time I am gladly making enquiries from the men of his unit ~~over~~ in this camp. Shall forward on to you at my earliest ~~informe~~ opportunity any information that I am successful in obtaining, regarding this casualty, that you set out in your letter. Trusting you are keeping good health during the glorious work you are doing for we boys.

I am, Miss Deakin,

Your faithful soldier.

4872. Pte. Paul N. Potter.
55th Australian Infantry.

P.S. May I here express through the medium of your office my thanks to all concerned in the provision of the bosker Australian Red X Xmas Gifts, of which ~~we~~ I have just been a proud recipient. I considered my little box contained all that an "Aussy" could wish for, especially the "Havelocks" & the lollies. Everything else was so useful, & I am keeping the box as a souvenir. We did all so very much appreciate the thoughtfulness & generosity of the dear folks we left behind.

Pt.

4872. Pte. P.H. Potter,
65th. Battalion, A.I.F.
No.2. A. C. D.
Weatham Camp,
Weymouth,
DORSET.

28th, January, 1916.

Dear Pte. Potter,

We wish to thank you for your letter in answer to ours enquiry concerning :-

1759. Pte. L. E. Williams, 65th. Battalion,

We regret that you could not give us anythinformation about him, but we shall be very grateful to you for any information you may be able to gather for us.

We are very pleased to hear how popular the Red Cross Gifts where in hospital, we feel it is the least we can do for the men who have done so much for us.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

O. S.