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

5703 Lance Corporal Francis Wilson

23rd Battalion



2980704U

23rd A.I.F.

Wilson. L/C. F. 5703.
B. Coy. 6th Plt n.

(K. 4/10/17. Dets D/B)

L/Cpl. F. Wilson was killed by shell, in reserve, at Ansac House on the morning of the 4th Oct 1917, and I buried him and ppt up a cross. I have written his parents and wife, and have had acknowledgements from both of them.

Eye-Witness:

Description.,

Informant: Pte. B.M. Godfrey.,5597.
23/ A.I.F.
B. Coy. 6. Pltn.
Norfolk War Hosp. Norwich.
Home address; Victoria St.,
Frentham. Victoria. Australia.

April 19th 1918.
Reid.

M

23rd batt. A.I.F.

Wilson.F. Pte. NO.5703.
B.Coy.

Killed Oct 4th 1917. Det. D.B.

I saw his grave near Anzac House, near West Hoek Ridge, there four others buried in the same spot. A cross was erected bearing full particulars. I knew him in the coy, He came from Williamstown, Victoria.

Description. Height. 5-7. Complexion. Dark. Nuggety Built.

Witness. Pte. Richardson.S.J. NO.,597. B.Coy, 23rd batt.

Taken at
NO.4.C.D.Hurdcott.
4-5-18.
S.W.

S.Whitmee.
NO.4.Command Depot
Hurdcott.

M

23rd Battn.
A.I.F.

W
WILSON
F. 5703

"Killed 4-10-17"

I saw where he was buried with Sgt. Commons and another. Near Anzac House, with a temporary Cross over grave. Height 5ft. 3" and fair. Married with one child. Came from Williamstown, Victoria. Used to work on the railways.

Informant. Lovie J.A. 5712
38th Battn.,
ANZAC BUFFET.

W. Alison
London
19-3-18

M.

SEARCHERS NOTE. I am puzzled over this. Lovie gave me the 23rd Battn. first, and then said he was wrong, and he was in the 38th Battn. In writing up the record I found Wilson was in the 23rd Battn.

23rd Btn.

WILSON, F.
Pte. No. 5703

Kld. in act. 4.10.17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5' 8", dark complexion about 28 years of age. Casualty was going over to draw rations and had just started when an H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly and burying him. I did not see Casualty killed, but I found his body the next morning in a shell hole and dug it out. He was most severely wounded about the body and he was buried at Anzac House and I saw his grave. A cross was erected with his name, number and unit on it."

Informant:- W.J. Taylor
No. 1597

Private address
7 Reynards Road,
Coburg.

M. Cl Staff

T.C.F.
14.3.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

23rd Btn.

WILSON, F.
Pte. No. 5703

Kld. in act. 4.10.17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5', stout, well built dark complexion about 29 years of age, known as Mick. Casualty was in the support lines on the side of Anzac House, Ypres. He was in a dugout with myself when an H.E. shell exploded on top of the dugout killing him instantly and Pte. Rowe and Sgt. Commons. Chief cause of death was concussion. He was buried just where he fell with the other men that were killed, ~~him~~ and I helped to bury him. A temporary cross was erected with his number, name and unit on it."

Informant:- C.F. Williams
No. 5957

Private address
3 Holmes Street,
Ballarat West.

M. Cl Staff

T.C.F.
4.4.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.