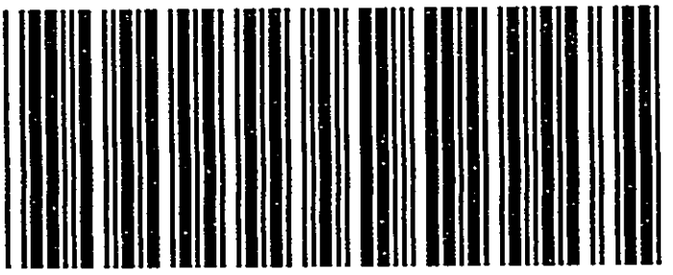
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

2697 Private
Hugh Reid Wilson

11th Battalion



2981008S

A.I.F.
11th. Battalion.

WILSON. 2597.
Hugh Reid.

"Missing 25.7.16".

Name	Unit	Cause of Casualty.	Cause of Casualty.
			No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
21.10.19.

P. & P.I

FRANCE

11th AUSTRALIANS. WILSON. HLR. 2697.

M.July 25th.1916.

"A young thin-faced fellow of the 9th reinforcements, who came from Freemantle. If so he is dead, for his chum Pte Ayres was with him in a shell hole. He was badly cut to pieces and Ayres made a cushion for his head and stayed with him till his breathing stopped.
JNA

Ref --Pte Walsh. 2500.
No 2 Can. Gen. Hospital.

Le Treport. Nov 14th.1916.

Written 22.11.16 Pte Ayres

11th Battn.
A.I.F.,

Wilson
H.R. 2697

"Missing 25-7-1916"

Our company among others was ordered on the night of the 25th to take the front trenches at Pozieres. We were laying out ready to advance when our officer called to Wilson and sent him on a message, he returned again, and was then sent out on our right, to find out where the Company was, ~~again~~ on our right. As far as I can find out no one in the Company saw or heard of him after then.

I regret to day that this is all the information up to this date. His description as far as I can remember is 5ft.8ins in height, complexion fair, eyes blue, hair fair, chest measurement about 40ins. I am sorry I cannot add more, as I am not with the battalion, and so cannot get to any papers etc, that would add to description.

I may also add apart from my own friendship, that he was more miesed than any others that were similarily situated, He was a general favourite with everyone owing to his sunny disposition and kindly thought for others. Personally we were working mates and no one could wish for a better comrade. Hoping these meagre details will be in someway help you, and also that there might be still some hope of his being a prisoner- in Germany.

Cert. by letter from W.W.Ayers, Pte. B.E.F. 14-12-16. P.

1-1-17
London

Ack. Thu. 26.12.16

Sweetheart-in-France

14 : 12 : 16

The Secretary
W.V.M. Enquiry Bureau
Australian Branch B.R.C.S.
54 Victoria Street
London S.W.

Dear Sir.

Your letter No 23 re Lieut. Ronald Re No 2697. 5th M.G. Wilson
5th Battalion reported missing
Great very much I can only
can give any meagre details
as follows.

Our company came out of line
was ordered on the night of
the 25th to take the front trenches
at Pozieres. We were laying out
ready to advance when our officers
called out to Lieut Wilson on a
message, he returned a few
minutes later and we saw him
go out into our night.
I did not see where the company
was going to as far as I
can find out no one in the
company saw or heard of
him after that. I regret to say
that I can throw no light on
his death.
His description as far as I can
remember
Height about 5ft 8in
Complexion Fair

Eyes Blue
Hair
Next of kin. about 20 in
fact I only knew him
never as I am not well
in Battalion & so cannot give
any particulars re that would
add to description.
I may also add, apart
from my own friendship
that he was more missed
than any officer that were
killed or wounded. He was
a general favourite with
every one carrying duties
surely & coolly & kindly
doing his job efficiently.
Personally we were working
mates & do not could wish
for a better comrade
Hoping this meagre details
will be some way help you
& also that there might be
still some hope of him being
a prisoner or detained any
where.

Yours faithfully
W. Wilson

2697. H. R. Wilson
11 Batt
M. 25.7.16
P 3
Pte Cyres

Wilson

Pte H. R- 2697

11th Bl.

See under Peach Pte S. J - 1934

45th Bl.

17-1-17

Wednesday 10th January 1917.

Mrs Ivens Deakin.

Dear Madam.

Thank you so much for your letter which has been sent on to me here. I have had no further word of my brother 2/17 Private H. B. Dixon. 11th Battalion - A.I.F. Private Ayers description of the Dixon he writes about is not altogether like my

brother - although it is five years since he left home and went to Western Australia. He was always rather short and not thin faced by any means - very bright and cheery and over thirty years of age. If there is any other information I can give you that will enable you to trace him at all - I will be very pleased to do so. In the meantime I think we will still hope for some more definite word or description.

Dear many thanks for all your trouble

Believe me

Very sincerely yours

Margaret M. Dixon.

Home address

Cowiston Tower,

Bygar.

Lanarkshire

Scotland.

Nov 23dr

Pte Ayres,
11th Australian Inf. Batn
B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We are ~~making~~ eNquiries for a man of your Battalion, 2697, Pte H.R. Wilson. 11th Battalion, reported Missing 25-7-16 and have been ~~told~~ that you may be able to give us some information.

We should be very grateful for any details you could send us concerning Pte Ayres, and would also be glad if you could add a short personal description in order that we may satisfy his relatives that no error has been made.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

-pp

Secretary

December 28th.

PTE.W.W.AYRES
11th Batt,
A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Dear Pte. Ayres,

Very many thanks for your letter of Dec. 14th, in answer to our enquiry for 2697 PTE. H.R. WILSON: 11th. Batt A.I.F., the information you have sent us will be of great assistance.

We very much regret that so far his name has not appeared on any of our lists of Prisoners of War, but we have noted your name as enquirer, and should any definite news come to us at any future time we shall at once send you word as to your friend.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

Miss Margaret. L. Wilson,
Coniston Tower,
Bigger,
Lanarkshire,

Dear Madam,

At the request of a friend of yours who has just been in to this office, we beg to send you the following unofficial reports that we have received concerning:-

2697. Pte. H. R. Wilson, 11th Battalion. A.I.F.
Officially ~~reported~~ missing 25.7.16.

Private Walsh writes from hospital, that if Wilson was a young thinfaced fellow of the 9th reinforcements, who came from Fremantle, he thinks he was killed in a shell hole with his chum Pte. Ayres.

In answer to our letter to Private Ayers we had the following reply from him:-

" Our Company among others, was ordered on the night of
" the 25th, to take the front trenches at Pozieres. We
" were lying out ready to advance when our officer called
" to Wilson and sent him on a message. He returned again
" and was sent out on our right to find where our company
" was. As far as I can ~~fin~~ find out no one saw or heard
" of him after then. As far as I can remember his
" complexion was fair, eyes blue, hair fair, chest measurement
" 40 in. Height 5ft.8" I may add, apart from my own friend
" ship, that he was more missed than any others that were

" similarly situated. He was a general favorite with
" everyone owing to his sunny disposition and kindly
" thought for others. Personally we were working mates
" and no one could wish for a better comrade.
" I hope that these meagre details will in come way help
" you and also that there might be still some hope of
" his being a prisoner in Germany".

We shall be glad to know whether you have had any later news and if you would wish us to forward you further particulars should we receive any.

Yours faithfully,

VJ.

Secretary.

(Khl)