

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

**3887 Private
Edwin James Smith**

20th Battalion



2540506M

A.I.F.
20th. Battalion.

SMITH, 3887.
Edwin James.

"Killed in Action 5.8.16".

No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

NAME

UNIT

STATUS

CAUSE OF DEATH

London
19.10.19.

W. NATIONAL LIST

DEATHS

20th A. I. F.

E. J. SMITH, 3887

Killed 5.8.16. Det.D/B.

Informant gave Coy. as B., Plat. as No.8, and initials as "E.J." and said he came out with Smith. At Pozieres, on Aug. 5th, the day after the attack, Smith was on post and Informant spoke to him. He then went a few yards away to help bandage another man when a shell burst in the trench and killed 3 men including Smith, who was killed instantly. His body was put on the parapet to be buried but Informant does not know what happened afterwards.

Reference: Sergt. Shepherd, 3878, B.Coy. No.5 Platoon. S

Convalescent Camp, Rouen, 26.5.17.

DLF. ✓

Kayre

31st May, 1917

20th AUSTRALIANS

SMITH, E.J. 3687,

R. 5.8.16. Det. D/B.

I knew Pte. E.J. Smith well; he came with the 9th Reinforcements, and was a chum of mine. He had been working at Goulburn, New South Wales, and was a motor driver.

I was with him when he was killed on August 4th, 1916 by a shell at ~~Post 2~~ ^{Post 2}, Pozieres. He lived for a few minutes. I spoke to him and he said I will be all right in a few minutes. We put the body along with 3 others on the parapet. We were relieved that night, by I think the 27th battalion. We held the ground. Sergt. Rowe of the 20th battalion, B Co., was one of the men killed alongside Smith and would be buried with him.

Informant: Sergt. J.M. Sheppard, 3878
20th Australians, B Co., 5th Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

RDM