

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

**3752 Corporal
Howell Nicholas
Bickford**

31st Battalion



0370903M

A.I.F. 51st Battn.

BICKFORD
E.N. 3752(HI)

"DIED OF WOUNDS 3 Canadian Stat:
Hpl. France Det: D/E photo"

Died of wounds at 3rd Can. Staty. Hpl. 12/4/18
Cert. by Hpl. Index

Buried Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension
Certs by A.I.F. Hqrs List 18/18/18

London
15/12/18

P.I.

A.I.F. 51st Battn.

BICKFORD
Howell Nicholas
Cpl. 3752
not Lieut.

"DIED OF WOUNDS"

Died of wounds 12/4/18., at 3rd Can. Staty. Hpl. Gun Shot Wound L.
Scapula and thighs.
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 2/8/18.

London
2/8/18.

P.I.

31st Battn.
A.I.F.

BICKFORD.
Howell Nicholas. 3752.

"Died of Wounds 12-4-18"

Re 3752 Cpl. E. N. Bickford. 31st Battn. A.I.F. We are in receipt of your letter enquiring for the above mentioned soldier, who was admitted to this Hospital on the 10-4-18 with Gun Shot Wound. Left Shoulder and Thighs. His case on admission did not permit much hopes of recovery and I regret to inform you of his death which took place on the 12-4-18. You may assure his parents that everything possible was done to try and save his life and that he had all the care and attention that medical science and good nursing could give him.

He was buried in the Military Cemetery close by with full Military honours. His grave is properly marked and kept and a wooden cross, bearing his name and regiment, erected. Owing to regulations I am not permitted to give you the name of the place but if you write to the Director of Graves Registration, Winchester House St James's Square, London, he will I feel sure be only too pleased to give you the news you require.

I trust that these few details will be of some comfort to his parents and will you please assure them of the sincere sympathy of myself and staff in their sad bereavement.

London.
13-8-18.

Letter from: *Clifford H. Reason*
C. No. 3 Can Sty Hpl. B.E.F.

P.I.

P.C.
2.12.18

Australian Red Cross.

France
December 4. 1918

Secretary,

Do you think you would be able to
obtain for me, a photo of my brother's grave. He
was with the 51st Battalion. Sgt. H. P. Pickford.
& died of wounds, at the 5th Canadian Stationary
Hospital Doullens, France.

If you think you would be able to do
this for me, would you kindly forward it on to:-

11909 The Richard Pickford
of the Australian I.H. Unit.
France

3732
Howell Nicholas Bickford
31st Batta
D of W 12-4-18

The Secretary.
Wounded & Missing
Enquiry Bureau.
Australian Red Cross Society.

3752.Cpl H.W.Bickford.
31st Bn.A.I.F.

We are in receipt of your letter enquiring for the above mentioned soldier, who was admitted to this Hospital on the 10/4/18 with Gun Shot Wound. Left Shoulder and Thighs. His case on admission did not permit much hopes of recovery and I regret to inform you of his death which took place on the 12/4/18. You may assure his parents that everything possible was done to try and save his life and that he had all the care and attention that medical science and good nursing could give him.

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I trust that these few details will be of some comfort to his parents and will you please assure them of the sincere sympathy of myself and staff in their sad bereavement.

Yours Sincerely.

Clifford A. Rees
Lieut. Col. C.A.M.C.
Commanding

No 3. Canadian Stationary Hospital.

8/8/18

2-8-18.

A.C. S. Drift

The O.C.

3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital

B.E. 7.

3752 Apr H.N. Brickford 31st Bli.

died of wounds 12-4-18.

HOSPITAL *Yallahs Military Ward H.2*

Fill in exactly as list.	SURNAME.		Christian Name.	INFORMANT	
				Regtl.No.	R.
	<i>Breward</i>	<i>Breward</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>340</i>	<i>J</i>
	<i>Cahill</i>	<i>Cahill</i>	<i>G. R.</i>	<i>1825</i>	<i>J</i>

SURNAME		Christian Name.	Regtl.No.	R.
<i>Gourley</i>	<i>Gourley</i>	<i>Garnet R.</i>	<i>3753</i>	<i>0</i>

STATEMENT

NOTE.

In all cases state fully what informant says he saw or heard and give DATE AND PLACE of occurrence.

1/3

was on a Board of Inquiry for Breward & carried to a Breeding Station. Then they & I drafted letters to their relatives, B...

(to be taken)

PLEASE ALSO

1. Was Informant Eye-Witness?
2. If not, of th
3. Was the ground held or lost?
4. If Informant was
5. Did Informant know Christian Name, Initials or No. of man enquired about?
6. Was there name
7. Give Informant's description of man enquired about—any nickname, marks, scars, etc.
8. Searcher's opinion of Informant's accuracy and intelligence *Very superior man. Intelligent & explicit*

Reports should always be written very clearly in ink, or typewritten.

Pte. T. J. Carpenter,
1st Australian Field Ambulance,
B. E. F.

July 22nd

Dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry for - Lt. HOWELL BICKFORD, 31st Battalion, A.I.F. we regret to inform you that we are unable to trace him in the records of the A.I.F. If you will send us the name and address of his next of kin we may be able to make further enquiries but at present with the particulars given we can find no trace of him.

Awaiting your reply.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

A. I. F. 99.

SMITH, D. 2752.

D/S. February 17th, 1918.

I think this must refer to a Smith, who at one time had been a jockey and lived at Darlinghurst, Sydney. He was a little, dark chap. He was killed by a piece of shell. I saw the cross for his grave at Wolvingham. The casualty occurred in February. He was a No. runner.

PHS.

References:- Cpl. P.J. Helder. 984. D.XV.
L/O. School.

Staples
23.4.18.

at
2.7.18

PC

12.7.18

France

July 7th 1918.

The Secretary,

Aust. Red Cross Society,

(Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau)

36 Grosvenor Place

London S.W.1.

Lt. Howell Bickford 31st Bn.

Dear Madam, Could

you give me any particulars at all, about
the two following names, their people in
Australia are very anxious to find out
nothing at all about them.

As far as can be ascertained they were both
wounded early in April - and died of wounds
shortly after.

Lieut. Howell Bickford + Sgt. Arthur E. Long
31st Aust Infy Bn. 107th Hvy Bty
A.I.F. A.I.F.

Thanking you in anticipation, and also for
past kindness in the past,

Yours faithfully

Mrs J. G. Aspinall R.C.

1st Aust Field Ambulance

A.I.F.

France

x Slip

Lieut Howell Rickford France
31st Batta July 26th
1918.

The Secretary,
Aust. Red Cross Society,
(Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau)
The Grosvenor Place
London S.W.1.

Dear Madam, I am

in receipt of your response to my two
inquiries of 7th inst - for which, many
thanks indeed.

Re Lieut Howell Rickford :- I will give you
all the particulars I know of.
He joined the 31st Batta as a reinforcement
in the winter of 1916 - and left them in
July last year (1917) to go to an Officers'
Drawing School in England - then early this
year - as far as I know - joined his old
batta.

He may have been sent to another Batta
though - for I remember quite a lot of changes
were made in the army at that time.

However, if these particulars do not aid you
at all, - I can't think of any other procedure
at present, - something may turn up later on
- in the meantime I am indebted to you, for
your untiring efforts in this matter.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully, 6515
H. Carpenter.

August 3rd, 1918.

Pte. J.C. Carpenter.
1st Australian Field Ambulance.
B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry for -

3752 Cpl. H.N. BICKFORD. 31st Battalion. A.I.F.

We regret to inform you that he died of wounds on 12-4-18
at the 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital, B.E.F

We have written to the O.C. for details of his death
and burial and as soon as his reply is received we shall
advise you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *SAW*

Secretary.

August 22nd, 1918.

Pte. J.C. Carpenter.
1st Aust. Field Ambulance.
A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir.

We beg to inform you that we have received the following
official report concerning -

31
3752 Cpl. H.N. BICKFORD. 1st Battalion. A.I.F.

from the D.O. 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital, B.E.F. He states
Cpl. Bickford was admitted to this hospital on 10-4-18, with gun
shot wound of the left shoulder and thighs. His case on admission
did not permit much hope of recovery and I regret to inform you
of his death which took place on 12-4-18. You may assure his parents
that everything possible was done to try and save his life and that
he had all the care and attention that medical science and nursing
could give him. He was buried in the Military Cemetery close by
with full military honours. His grave is properly, marked and kept
and a wooden cross bearing his name and regiment erected."

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy and trusting that
this evidence will be of some assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

Lord Lindsay

December 16th, 1918.

11909 Pte. R. Bickford.
9th Aust. Fld Amb.
A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your enquiry dated 4.12.18, regarding 3752 Pte. H.N. BICKFORD. 31st Bttn. A.I.F. We very much regret to have to confirm the report that he died of wounds at the 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital, B.E.F. on 12.4.18, and was buried in Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension.

We are pursuing our enquiries for details and will advise you as soon as further particulars come to hand.

We are applying for a photograph of your brother's grave to be sent to your Father, as next of kin, and trust that it will reach him safely, though we fear it will probably be sometime before he receives it.

Assuring you of our very sincere sympathy and with best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

B.M.

Secretary.