

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

**1939 Private
Harry Shields**

4th Pioneer Battalion



2480909W

FRANCK.

A. I. F. Pioneers. 4.

SHIELDS, H. 1939.

H/15th. August 1916.

I knew Shields; he was in A. His name was Harry. He, P. Ryan and I were pals, and 2nd. Reinf. to 4 Pioneer Bn, and came from over together. I have heard from Ryan also in A., dated 21.9.16. that Harry Shields was killed the first time he went into action. Ryan still with A. Bn. and he would not have told me Shields was dead unless he was sure of it, as we were all pals. I only knew one H. Shields in 4 Pioneers. He was very small; only about 5 ft. 2., fair, slim built, came from England, but joined in Brisbane.

Reference: R. Frain, 1948. Details.,
4. A.D.B.D.,
Staples. 10.10.16.

HSO.

Written 18/10/16

4th Pioneers
A.I.F.,

Shields.
Pte.H. 1939

"Missing August 15th 1916"

Informant saw Shields in the Wandsworth hospital No.1.Ward, over a month ago. Subsequently Shields went to Harefield and later on Informant saw him again when he told Informant that he was going back to Australia by next boat. Shields was "Armourer Sergeant", but Informant never saw nor knew him in the battalion and other wounded of the 4th Pioneers told Informant the same thing. (A puzzling case - searcher will inquire at the Headquarters embarkation Bureau.)

Reference:- Pte.D.McDonald, 1897
4th Pioneers
Southall Hospt. 2-11-16.

London
27-11-16.

P.C. *delayed in typing*

Off. M.

A.I.F. 4th.Pioneer Battn.

SHIELDS.
H. 1939.

Missing - 15th.Aug.1916.

In reply to your enquiry respecting No. 1939, Private H. SHIELDS, 4th. Pioneer Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, who was reported as missing on the 15th. August, 1916, I have to inform you that we have been in communication with No. 1. Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, regarding the statement that he was a patient there, and the Authorities at this Hospital inform us that at no time has he been admitted to their institution for treatment.

Reference: R.W. MURPHY,
Lieutenant,
Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.
130, Horseferry Road,
London. S.W.

London,
20.11.16.

November 11th., 1916.

6/11

4th Pioneers
A.I.F.,

Shields
H. 1939

"Missing 15-8-16"

I find on enquiry at Headquarters that this man was not on the embarkation list for Australia and was not through the books at Wandsworth Hospital. Evidently wrong identity.

Reference;- P.Cunliffe, (Searcher)
3-11-16.

London
25-11-16.

Off. M.

P.C.

4th Australian Pioneers

Shields H. 1939,
8 Company.

(M. Aug. 15th 1916)

"On the 15th August we were advancing through heavy barrage. Shields was behind me and suddenly he disappeared. We believed he was blown to pieces. It was at Pozieres and just getting dark. We searched for him next morning but could find no traces of him.

Reference: Pte. P. Regan 1931,
4th Australian Pioneers A. Coy., II Plt.,
Bath War Hospt.,
Bristol.

Dec. 6th 1916,
J.R. George.

POST CARD.

STANDARD POST

5. 75 'M



Enquiry Bureau

Australian Red Cross

54 Victoria St

S.W.



HOTEL VANDYKE
LONDON,
W.

1939

Shields 4th Pioneers

M. 15. 8. 16.

QX
4

I found on inquiry at H. Q.
that this man was not
on the embarkation list
for Australia, & was not
through the books at Wandsworth
Hospital. Evidently wrong
identity - Plaintiff

Nov. 3. 16.

Searcher

20th October

Pte P Ryan,
A. Company,
4th Pioneers,
A.I.F. B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries about 1939 Pte H. Shields,
4th Pioneers, who has been posted as Missing since 15th
~~August~~ 1916, and have been told that you may be able to give
us some information that would help us.

We should be very grateful for any details you could
give us regarding Pte Shields, and would also be very glad if
you would add a short personal description of the man himself,
in order that we may satisfy his relatives that no error has
been made.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely,

V. D.

Per
Jm.

Secretary.

DF.

A.I.F. 1. 13915 51000 W. & Co. Ltd.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"ADMINAUST. LONDON."
CABLE ADDRESS:
"STRALIS. LONDON."
TELEPHONE:
"VICTORIA 8860 (8 LINES)"

3A1C/

024242



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

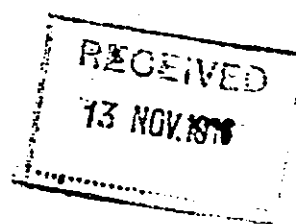
Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.,

130, HORSEFERRY ROAD,

LONDON. S.W.

November 11th, 1916.

The Secretary,
Australian Branch,
British Red Cross Society,
Association,
Victoria Street,
S.W.



Dear Sir,

// In reply to your enquiry respecting No. 1939 Private H. SHIELDS, 4th Pioneer Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, who was reported as missing on the 15th August 1916, I have to inform you that we have been in communication with No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield regarding the statement that he was a patient there, and the Authorities at this Hospital inform us that at no time has he been admitted to their institution for treatment.

Yours faithfully,

SKM
H

Lieutenant,
Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.



1-1-18

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY:

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU).

~~54 VICTORIA STREET;~~

36, GROSVENOR PLACE, LONDON, S.W. 1.

Telephones:

VICTORIA { 8576
8577
8578

Telegraphic Address:
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your Unit 3929
H. C. Shields, 2nd Bn. A.I.F. M. 9-10-17.
and have been told that you may be able to help us by supply-
ing some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you could
send us concerning 3929 H. C. Shields and
would also be glad if you could add a short description of his
personal appearance, or any points that would help us to prove
his identity.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Vera Deakin

per W. F. Johnson
SECRETARY

killed in action.

INTERNATIONAL
WAR BONDS
NOW
AN ISRA
WOUNDED
ENGLISH BUREAU

LONDON ALL
4. 15 PM
1 JAN 1918

BUY NATIONAL
WAR BONDS
NOW

38, GROSVENOR PLACE
LONDON, S.W. 1.

Private W. M. Gallagher

UNDELIVERED FOR REASON
RETURN TO SENDER
3-5-18

UNDELIVERABLE
RETURN TO SENDER

B. C. S. V. a. J. H.
B. C. S. V. a. J. H.

Killed
Action
29/1/18

Central Imperial

Abroad



1-1-18
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU)

54 VICTORIA STREET

38, GROSVENOR PLACE, LONDON, S.W. 1.

Telephones:

VICTORIA 8576
8577
8578

Telegraphic Address:
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."

P. Cpl. Vauxhall

5th Bn. B.C., 2nd Lt. B.L.

A.I.F. 4th Bn. Wood

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your Unit 3929
H.C. Shields, 2nd Bn. A.I.F. M.S.-10-17.
and have been told that you may be able to help us by supply-
ing some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you could
send us concerning H.C. Shields, 3929 and
would also be glad if you could add a short description of his
personal appearance, or any points that would help us to prove
his identity.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

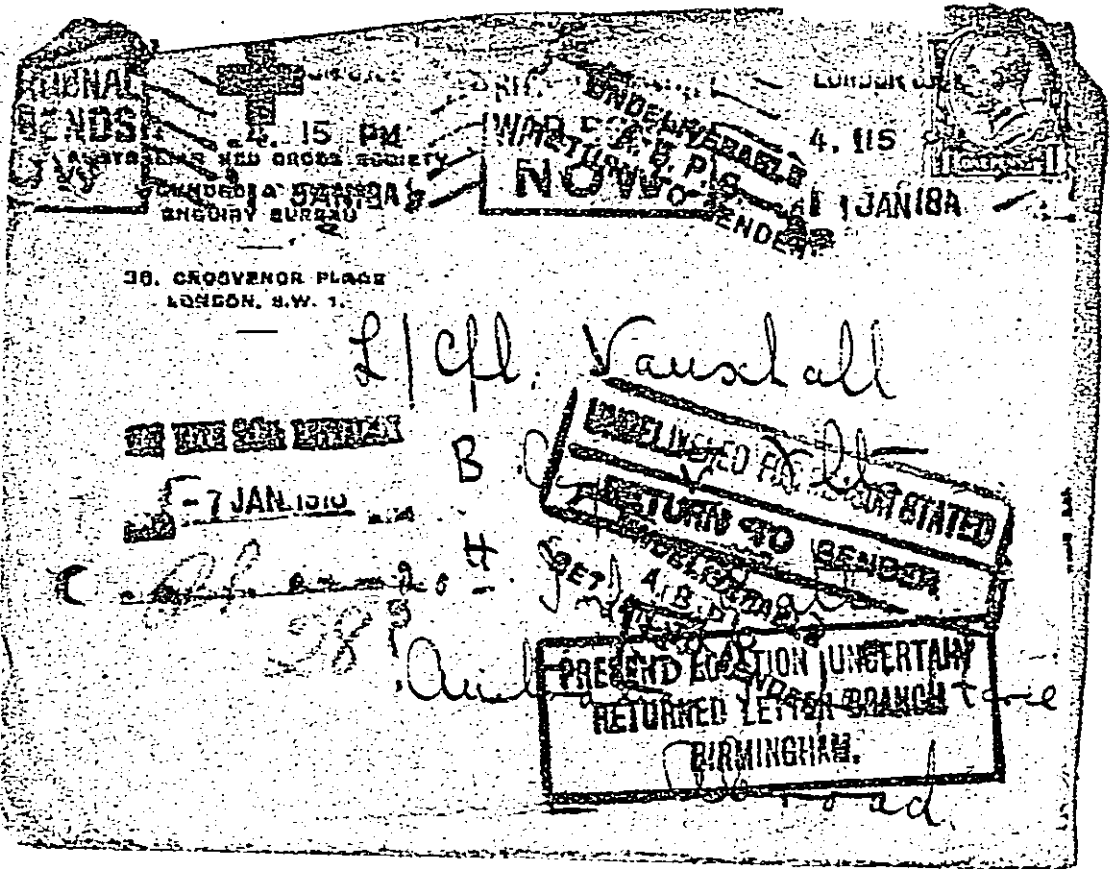
Vera Deakin

per W. F. Johnson
SECRETARY

Returned

6-2-18

marked for 2nd Bn. A.I.F.



ORIGINAL
REDS

15 PM
REDS
ENGLAND
ENGLAND

NOV 10
P.S.
REDS

4.115
JAN 18

30. GROSVENOR PLACE
LONDON, S.W. 1.

L/Cpl. Vauschall

THE REDS

7 JAN 1910

UNDELIVERED
RETURN TO SENDER
PRESENT LOCATION UNCERTAIN
RETURNED LETTER BRANCH
BIRMINGHAM.

B.C.

H.

road

1872-1916. 100000. 1215. S.P.C.A.S. E. 687.

R.L.B.-No. 54

POST OFFICE

OFFICIALLY SEALED IN THE

R.



G.

The Secretary


W. M. Inquiry Bureau

Australian Branch B.R.C.S.

56 Grosvenor Place

London E.C. 4

Handwritten text, likely a return address or recipient information, including "Mr. J. C. & S. E. 687." and "12/15".

G.  R.
OFFICIALLY SEALED IN THE
POST OFFICE.
R.L.B.—No. 54.
(8726), Wt. 41.112—1016. 100000 sh. 12/15. Sir J. C. & S. E. 687.