

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

**1704A Lance Corporal  
George William Murray**

**56th Battalion**



1870204M

A.I.F. 36th Batta.  
orig. 53rd

MURRAY  
L/Opl. Geo Williams  
1704

"KILLED IN ACTION 1/9/18"

Killed in Action 1/9/18 C.I.B.L. 2357 Gable defence 26/9/18  
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 9/1/19

London  
10/1/19

S.S.D.

56th Battalion, A.I.F.

MURRAY, G.W. L/Cpl. 1704A.

"Killed, 1/9/18."

Informant described him as about 5 ft 10 inches, medium build, dark complexion, aged about 25; he came from the country.

Informant stated they both belonged to "A" Company, No.4 platoon. On 1/9/18 the battalion was in action at Peronne. They hopped over at daylight, and about 9 a.m. - after they were about half way to the objective, -Murray was killed outright by a shell. Informant never saw Murray hit, but very soon afterwards in the course of the advance, passed him lying dead on the ground. He never saw Murray again, but knew that he was buried near Peronne. The objective was captured.

Informant added Murray was a fine chap, and that they had been together for about 2 years.

Informant - Lance-Corporal L.A.Curtois, No.2625,  
56th Battalion.

Home Address - Adelaide St., Bourke St., N.S.W.

W.E.G.  
Victoria Barracks,  
Sydney.  
12/5/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

56th BATTALION, A.I.F.

MURRAY.  
Lance-Corporal G.W. 1704A

"KILLED. 1.9.18."

I first met Murray in France in 1917. He was in "A" Company with me, but was in No.4 Platoon, whilst I was in No.2. I knew him very well. He was about 5 feet 8 inches in height, neither very dark or very fair.

At Peronne on 2nd September, 1918, I saw him after he had been killed by a shell. I did not see him hit, though I saw the shell burst. I was about 40 yards away at the time. We were then in the midst of a stunt. We hopped over about daylight and it was about 9 o'clock in the morning when I saw it happen. The shell killed several others besides Murray. In the cemetery at Peronne about 200 yards distant from where he fell, I saw his grave. I saw it shortly after his death. I cannot remember how long after I saw his name on the Battalion memorial.

INFORMANT: Private C. Taylor, 1629.  
"A" Company, 56th Battalion, A.I.F.

Home address; "Eldia", South Street, DRUMMOYNE.

W.C.W.  
A.I.F. Furlough Bureau, SYDNEY.  
5.6.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

36th Battn. A.I.F.

MURRAY, G. W. 1704.

"K Sept. 1/18."

He was killed on Sept. 1st/1918 at Peronne having head blown off by a shell and he was then buried at Peronne Military Cemetery.

Informant:- F. Menzies,  
Dungowan,  
TAMWORTH.  
N.S.W.

Searcher:-  
J.E. Elder,  
Adm. Hdqrs.,  
on board H.T. "Wyreema."

Adelaide 29/5/19.

Sd  
G. J. H.

A Coy. 56th Battn

MURRAY L/Cpl G.W.  
1704

Killed in action 1-9-18

I knew above soldier and was at his side whe he was killed. We were just about to hop-over on the left of Peronne at about 10.30 a.m. on the 1st Sept. 1918. A fragment of shell struck him just above the hip. He was knocked down; he rose and went a few yds; fell down again and died within 10 seconds. When hit was just starting on the advance. I saw nothing further concerning this soldier as we had to go on. Will leave information re burial to those who were witnesses. Height about 5'8" Very thickset, complexion- fair, or ruddy; age about 23 years. Hailed from Mudza with either 15th or 16th Rfts. joined Battn. about June 1916 in Egypt.

Inf. W.H.Clifford Pte 37755 56th Battn  
Address: 1 Chapman St., Moore Park Sydney.

H.I.Rogers  
H.M.A.T.Dunwegan Castle  
28-8-19

56th Battn.  
A.Coy. 4th Pltn.  
A.I.F.

MURRAY.  
L/Cpl.G.W. 1704.

"Killed in Action 1-9-18"

5ft 6, Dark, age 25/26. I was told by the men at the Unit, Murray was hit by shell in head and back and killed instantly at Peronne. His body was seen on the field 2 days after he was killed. He was a good jolly chap and always joking. I don't know anything about burial and did not see his body.

Informant:- 3354. Pte.B.L.Addison.  
56th Battn. A.Co.

Address:-  
27 Myrtle Street.  
Stanmore.  
N.S.W.

O.S.W.  
26-7-19.  
London.  
26-8-19.  
J.E.A.

S.