

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

**6174 Private
John William Murray**

18th Battalion



1870405P

A.I.F.
18th Bn.
B. Coy.

MURRAY
John William 6174

Killed in Action 8.5.17.

No trace in Germany.
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10.10.19.

London.
16.10.19.

S.

1-9-17

A SKINNER

18 Bauffaif

REF

E

for

6174 J. W. MURRAY

DC

18 Bauffaif

M. 3. 5. 17

1-9-17

15th A.I.F.

B.
D Co.

J. W. MURRAY. 8174.

M. 3.5.17.

I think this man has been entered as missing by mistake. I only know one Murray in the Bn., and he is J.W. Murray of D Co., 15th Pl. I last saw this Murray upon the 18th June with the Bn. and he was then quite all right. This man to whom I refer is about 5 ft.6, has a sandy moustache when grown, black hair, slightly built, in fact rather small all over. I knew him very well, we were in the same Plat.

Reference: Pte. R. Spink, 2986, D Co.

No.9 General, Regen. 7.7.17.

W.E.R.

H.Q.
Asking HQ to verify 8.8.17

S.

18th Battn.
A. I. F.

Murray.
J. W. 6174

"Missing 3.5.17"

Nothing later.

Cert: by A.I.F.Hqrs List dated 8.8.17.

London.
18.8.17.

S.

18th A.I.F. D Co.

J. W. MURRAY: 6174.

M. 3.5.17.

In the charge at Bullecourt on May 3rd I and my mate Pte. A. Skinner found Murray caught on Fritz's wire. We helped him off and within a few minutes after I saw him get hit and fall. I could see the blood flowing somewhere near his heart. I was 30 yards from him when he fell - I looked back twice and there was not a move out of him. Skinner was nearer to him than I was and told me he was sure he was dead. Murray came from Sydney, he came over with me on the "Ascanias" No. 4 11.

Reference: (Signed) T. Barker 6163.

Witnessed by F. E. Pulsford, B.R.C.S.

No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 23.8.17.

Note. Informant knew his exact No.

S.

Written Pte. Skinner 5.9.17

18th A.I.F. D Co.

J. W. MURRAY. 6174.

M. 3.5.17.

I gave a report yesterday on this man. I wish to add that the date he left Sydney (same transport as me) was June 15th 1916. Before going over we exchanged addresses and promised to write ~~home~~ each for the other if anything happened. The address he gave me was Mrs. J. Murray, C/o G.P.O., Sydney.

Reference: Pte. T. Barker, 6163.

No.11 Con.Camp Buchy Nr.Rouen. 24.8.17.

FEP.

S

18th Bata
B. Coy.,
AIF

MURRAY
J.W. 6174

"Missing 3.5.17."

Killed in Action 3.5.17. prev. reported Missing
Cert. by AIF Hdqtrs 14.12.17.

London.
19.12.17.

S

A.I.F.
18th BATTALION,
B Company, 17th Reinforcements.

MURRAY, Private,
J.W. - 6174.

"KILLED 3/5/27."

I met Murray in France - he was 38 years of age, tall, dark, a country man - called "Jim." I was with him for about two months.

At Bullecourt in May, 1917 we took the village - in the advance of the 3rd May, the first time over, about 11 a.m. the Company was moving up and I found Murray lying out in the open, having been killed by a shell. I passed him and saw there was nothing to be done. We passed on and I never saw him again. We had to retire eventually and finished up the same day a good way behind where I had seen Murray. I heard nothing further of him. There was no mistaking Murray. I saw his face."

INFORMANT - Private J. Birmingham, 6029,
18th Battalion B Company.

C.H.R.M.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.
24/10/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

*S
since 6d*

6174
J. W. Murray
18/10/1914
89. Ross
Petersham
Marrickville
Sydney
To the Commissioner
Red Cross
54 Victoria St.
London

Dear Sir
Knowing the
the goodness of heart
and the good work
all members of the
Australian R. C. are
doing in regard to
our dear War
Boys. I take the
Liberty of sending
you this and

11 A letter for my
Dearest Son
who is locked
missing in France
I feel sure he is
alive somewhere
in some of the
camps in Germany
and as there
is a sum of
£50. here to his
account I
feel sure would
be useful to him
if I can get in
touch with him
I may add that

his younger brother. ^{trifling}
was in the same Battle
"3rd May Buller's" and
on hearing his brother "Jack"
was missing volunteered as
a stretcher bearer and diligently
searched the Battle Ground for
him - he was not there therefore
of opinion that he was
fallen & of course wishing to soon hear
= Good news rests me & Murray.

add.
4-2-28

Address

M^{rs} M. J. Murray.
89, Petersham Road
Marrickville
Sydney
N. S. Wales
Australia

89, Petersham Rd
Marickville
Sydney

20
19.7.48
As

The Commissioner

R.F.D. Cross -

54 Victoria St -

London

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Dear Sir

Please excuse my
liberty in writing you and
asking you to forward enclosed
letter ^{a copy of} if possible to all or any
camps in Germany. As I have
a feeling that dear son No 6144
Pte J. W. Murray (18 Bet) is in some of the
German camps & cannot write to me
he was in the Bullecourt Battle on 3d May 1917
and was reported missing for 7 months and
is still listed as France - as missing "his brother"
was one of the volunteers to reach the battle field after
the battle and tells me he was not there. The authorities
have not forwarded any of his belongings and I am convinced
my dear son is in some far away camp Yours truly
M. J. Murray.

Mrs J. J. Murray
89, Petersham Road,
Marrickville,
SYDNEY, New South Wales,
AUSTRALIA.

July 19th, 1918.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry for -

6174 Pte. J.W. MURRAY, 18th Battalion, A.I.F.

We much regret to inform you that he is now officially reported killed in action on 3-5-17 having previously been reported missing on that date.

There has never been any trace of him as a prisoner of war and as Miss Ghonley (the Secretary to our Prisoners of War Department here) is in personal correspondence with nearly all Australians imprisoned in Germany, we believe it would be impossible for one of our men to have been imprisoned there for over 14 months without the fact coming to our knowledge. From this and from the unofficial report of a man of his unit (already sent you through our Sydney Office) we fear there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the official report of his death in action.

With reference to his personal belongings we would advise you to apply concerning them to the A.I.F. Kit Department,
Defence Department,
Melbourne.

We much regret that we are unable to send you more hopeful news and would like to assure you of our sincere sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Miss Regan*
Secretary.