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

# 5446 Private
# William Albert Seater

## 55th Battalion



2450210E

5455

Walker A

Pte George

attached 14th Bgd. M.G.C.

from unit 55 Bn late 8 Bn

Ret: Australia 12-5-18: Discharge

next of Kin Wanted

MD 2

File in [redacted]

Inquiries for 5446 W.A. Slater 55th Bn

M/K wife Mrs Sarah Walker 78 Rosser St

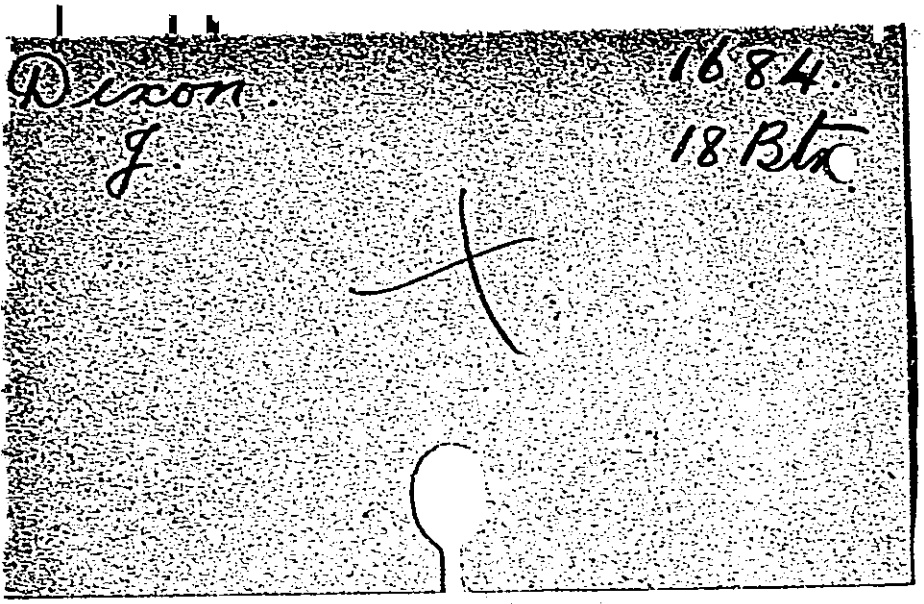
c/o Mrs Davis Balmain. N.S.W

Hunters Hill. Sydney

prev N.K. mother

Mary Ann Walker

LA. W. stips must be marked for Australia!


Dixon.
J.
1684.
18 Blx

A.I.F. 55th Btn

SEATER
W.A. 5446

"WHEREABOUTS"

Killed in action 17-4-18
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs list 26-4-18.

P.I.

London
26-4-18

18th. May. 1918.

Havre.

55th. Australians.

Seater, W. A. 5446.

K. April. 17/1918. Dets. D/B.

He was in B. Coy; 5th. Pltn. I saw him after he was killed at Villiers Brettoneux on the 17th. April. He was taken back to the Village and buried there. He was short, thick set, about 22.

Inf:- Private. A. H. Crapp. 3781.
55th. Australians. B. 5.
H. S. "St. David".

HJG.

Spl

55

55th A.I.F.. Seater Pte. W.A. 5446.

(K. Apl. 17/18 Dets. D/B)

"Seater was with me on an outpost East of Gorbie. He was killed instantly by a shell which got 2 of them, Pennington B I think was the other one. We had to dig them out and Seater was not recognisable though we knew it was he. They are buried together at Aubigny and a cross is put up. I went to see his grave and I put some flowers on it. It was day time".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Cpl. G.R.A. Long 2486,
55th A.I.F.,
Duston War Hospt.,
Northampton.

24.5.18,
G. McKinnell.

55th A.I.F. Seater. Pte. W.A. 5446.
B Coy. 5 Pl.

(K. Apr. 17/18.)

"I saw Seater killed by a shell also a man called Penny. I helped to put him on the stretcher. He was buried in a nice little cemetery at Aubigany near Amiens."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description:

Informant: Cpl. H.A. Cameron. 3795.
55th A.I.F. B Coy. 5 Pl.
No.1 War Hospital,
Reading.

Home address:
23 Willoughby St,
Milson's Point,
Nth. Sydney. N.S.W.

24/5/18.
C.L S.Wedderburne.

Havre 27th May 1918.

A.I.F. 55. Seater W.A. No.5446.

K. 17th April 1918. Det D/B.

On the 17th April we were to the left of Villers Brettoneux in reserve. There was heavy shelling and Seater was hit and killed outright. He is buried in the cemetery between Tellery and Abigny There are about 20 in one grave and all the names are on one cross.

Inf:- L/Cpl R.M.Millar No.3161.
A.I.F.
H.S. 'Essequibo'.

CWSG.

P1
S

55th Batt: Seater, W.A. 5446.

K. 17/4/18.

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He was killed by a shell just at the left of Villers Brettoneux and we buried him in a Cemetery at Aubigny near Corbie. We erected a cross.

55th Batt: Dunmill, W.Sgt. 2588.

16 A. Dartford. 28/5/18.

R.D.B.

R.D.B.

P
S

Havre

29th May 1918.

6

A.I.F. 55.

Seater W.A. No. 5446.

K. 17th April 1918. Det D/B.

I knew Pte Wm Seater of B.Co. about 25, medium height and build, dark, clean shaven, had an impediment in his speech. I did not see him killed but helped to bury him in a military cemetery at Aubigny in April 1918. The Battn Pioneers were making a cross for the grave.

Inf:- Pte J.C.Campbell No.2390.
A.I.F. 55. B. Vl.
Australian [illegible].Conv. Depot.
Rouelles.

RDM

Pl
S

55 Aus. Imp. F.

Seater. Pte. W.A. 5446

K. April 17/18 Det D/B

"Pte. W.A. Seater was next line formation to me when struck by a shell and killed instantaneously. He was taken away and buried at a small burial ground at Ambigny near Amiens. We headd that ground they never got there. Everyone knew Seater was killed, I didn't know him much; but when I talked to him he seemsd very ordinary - in height, in general appearance, nothing to remark on except his boyish look."

Eye-witness:- No - known to everybody in the Batt, that knew Seater, that he was killed.

Description:- He was very ordinary looking, very young, a boy he looked to me, middle height, darkish, fr. N.S.W.

Informant:- Pte. S. Anker, 5236,
55 Aus..I.F.
~~MMX~~ Bermondsey Mil. Hos.
Ladywell. Ward F.5

27 May 1918.
M.M. Tims.

Home address:- Gingie Station, Wallgett, N.S.W. Scl Aug

55th A.I.F.

W.A
Seater, 5446.
B Coy.

(K. Apr. 17/18)
Det.D/B.

"Pte. Seater was killed by a shell in front of Villers Brettoneux. His body was taken back and buried in a soldiers cemetery at Anbigny, near Corby on the Somme. Pte. Seater came from near Sydney. He was about 21 and came out with the 1st reinforcements for the 55th A.I.F. Pte. Donner, B Coy. V Pl. 55th A.I.F. France, would be able to give further details. He and Seater were great pals."

Eyewitness:

Description:

Informant: Pte. J.D. Meagher. 3369.
55th A.I.F. B Coy. V Pl.
Leckhampton Hospital. ward 2.

Home address:
Gundagai, N.S.W.

28/5/18.
T.W.Mott.

55th A.I.F.

Seater W.A. 5446.

(K. Apl. 17/18 Dets. D/B)

"I did not see Seater killed on the Amiens Front, but I saw him buried in the Aubigny Cemetery".

Eye-witness:

Description: About 5ft 6, slight impediment in his speech.

Informant: Cpl. A.J. Winter 3204,
55th A.I.F.,
Bethnal Green Military Hospt.,
S.E.

Home address:
Lidcomb,
Sydney.

29.5.18,
Hugh Walters.

S. Aust

55th A.I.F. Seater. W.A. 5446.

(K. Apr. 17/18.)

"I was not present but Seater was killed with W.B.Penny by a shell. I saw his grave which is properly marked and numbered. It is about 1 mile south of Borbie in a Military Cemetery."

Eyewitness: As above. Told by: Comrades.

Description:

Informant: L/C T. Maher. 3520.
55th A.I.F. B Coy.
St. Johns Hospital, Ward C.
Cheltenham.

Home address:
Cooloe,
N.S.Wales.

31/5/18.
E.E.Holt Evans.

55th Batt. A.I.F.

Seater.W,A. Pte. NO.5446.

B,Coy.

Killed April 17th 1918. Det. D.B.

I helped to carry his body to the cemetry at Aubigny, and saw him buried there, A pardre officiated at the grave, I ~~could~~ not ~~may~~ know his name, A cross was erected bearing full particulars. I knew him in the coy, I do not know where he came from.

Description. Height. 5-3. Complexion. Dark. Slight Built.

Witness. ~~Sgt~~, Cole. C,S,M. B,Coy. 55th batt.

Taken at
NO.4.C,D,Hurdcott.
2-6-18.
S.W.

S.Whitmee.
NO.4.Command Depot
Hurdcott.

p 24. 4. 15

Y.M.C.A

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

April. 23. 1918
Verne, Citadel
Portland
Dorset

A, coy Hut, 24

Dear Miss

I am just Writting to you a few lines to ask you if your could give Me any ~~the~~ detailes about these 2 Mates of Mine if they have Been Wounded or Killed, there Names are

No, 5446, Pte. W, A, Seater
55. Battallion

No. 3194
Pte. D. H Overend
14. Machine Gun. coy
late. 55. Battallion

you Will Oblige
your friend
Pte, George, Walker

turn over

PTO

an also

No, 4804, Pte. A. G. Chave

35. Battalion

Late. 12/19, Refts

April. 30. 1918

No. 5455
14 Brig. Machine Gun coy
A coy. Hut. 24

Verne Citadel
Portland
Dorset

Dear Miss

I am just writing to you to say that I Recived your Most Welcome letter to-day and I was Sorry to hear that 5446 Pte W. A. Seater 55 Battn was Killed in Action on the 14-4-18 he was one of My Best Pals to he came away With me in the same Boat, it has came a Bit of A Shock to me over his death an that about 48 hrs Pte A. G. Chave 35 Battn Would Be only to Pleased When you can find Anything About him later, I Would like you if you could look up these others Mates for me there Names are, No. 6100 Pte P, N, B, Seater, 3. Battallion But this other Mate of Mine I dont know his Number, But he is in the 55 Battallion his Name is Pte, C, Hodgson, an the other Mate is No 3194 P, D, Pte Overend 14 Brig. Machine Gun coy if you can look up these Men for me I will Be only to Pleased,

you will Oblige
yours Faithfully
Pte George Walker

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
"THE SECRETARY."
WOUNDED AND MISSING
— ENQUIRY BUREAU —
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA {8576 8577 8578

# AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE
(NEAR VICTORIA STATION)
LONDON, S.W 1.

May 31st, 1918.

5455 Pte.H.Walker,
14th Bde, M.G.Co, A.I.F.,
A.Coy, Hut 24,
Verne Citadel,
Portland.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for -

5446 Pte. W.A. SEATER, 58th Battalion, A.I.F.

who is officially reported Killed in Action on 17-4-18. We regret to forward the following unofficial report we have just received concerning him from a man of the same Battalion.

Informant states:- "Seater was in B.Coy, 5th Pltn, I saw him after he was killed at Villiers Brettoneux on 17th April. He was taken back to the village and buried there. He was a short thickset man of about 22."

We are doing our utmost to obtain further information concerning Pte. Seater and will advise you as soon as we succeed.

Assuring you of our sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin

SECRETARY.

parcR.



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
WOUNDED & MISSING
ENQUIRY BUREAU
30, GROSVENOR PLACE
LONDON, S.W. 1.

LONDON S.W.1
31 MAY 19

LONDON S.W.
31 MAY

NOW

UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED
RETURN TO SENDER

5455 Pte. G. Walker,
14th Bde, M.G. Coy.
A.I.F.
A. Coy, Hut 24
Verne Citadel,
PORTLAND.

120 Aust Dy
on 12-5-18
2-6 10 HE

Weymouth
London
SW1
PTO

29th April, 1918.

Pte. George Walker,
A.Coy, Hut 24,
Verne Citadel,
Portland, Dorset.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry respecting --

5446 Pte. W.A. SEATER, 55th Battalion, A.I.F.

We deeply regret to inform you that he is reported Killed in Action on 17-4-18. We have received no further details and are making enquiries, the result of which we will at once advise you of but it is as yet very difficult to obtain particulars as to recent casualties. Will you send us your full regimental particulars so that we may the more easily trace you when you leave Portland.

With reference to 4804 Pte.A.G.CHAVE, 35th Battn, A.I.F. - We beg to inform you that he was reported with his unit, 28th January, 1918 and no further report has been received for him.

Should you not hear of or from him within a reasonable time, and will advise us, we will make enquiries.

With sincere regret at having to send you such sad news.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) F. St George
SECRETARY.

March 15th, [illegible]

# CANCELS

# AUSTRALIAN LIST

| Name. | Current. | Casualty. | Cause of Cancels. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Martin Cpl.R.P.W. 5703 | 26th B[illegible]tn. | | Correct No.5873 |
| Agate W.G. 5027 | 1st Battn. | | Sufficient. |
| Stanton W. 315 | " " | | " |
| Long Sgt.A.F. 4028 | 4th " | | " |
| Stenning W.J. 6797 | " " | | " |
| Boyle H.C. 50[illegible]1 | 6th " | | " |
| Bennett H. 5037 | 8th " | | " |
| Murray Lieut.J. | 9th " | | " |
| Alford C.W. 6470 | 11th " | | " |
| Sparks A.F. 3349 | 12th " | | " |
| Boyd F. 5341 | 14th " | | " |
| Bourke F.R. 1665 | 17th " | | " |
| Mainstone E.B. 6[illegible]64 | 18th " | | " |
| Brown V.G.R. 496 | 19th " | | " |
| Petersen H.M. 5601 | 19th " | | " |
| King R.H. 5689 | 20th " | | " |
| Blondell A.J. 1224 | 22nd " | | " |
| Lees G.T. 5619 | 24th " | | " |
| Low W.H.G.F. 6204 | 25th " | | " |
| Anderson M.H. 6038 | 28th " | | " |
| McHugh J. 1752 | 28th " | | " |
| Speedy E.I. 5783 | " " | | " |
| Barlow H. 4245 | 29th " | | " |
| Stevenson W.T. 4176 | " " | | On E.K. |
| Sparkes J.E. 4105 | 30th " | | Sufficient. |
| Merton T. 5136 | 33rd " | | " |
| Menere A.H. 7283 | 35th " | | " |
| Boulton W. 1083 | 36th " | | On E.K. |
| Strickland S. 2802 | " " | | Bel.Killed. |
| Dykes Sgt.G.P. 463 | 41st " | | Wrongly listed |
| Boxsell C.O. 2617 | 45th " | | Sufficient. |
| Perkins A.G. 2719 | 50th " | | " |
| Buckley A.J. 1876 | 56th " | | " |
| Stock F.W. 1912 | 1st Pioneers | | " |
| Allan S.C. 2322 | 2nd " | | " |
| Ashcroft A. 5649 | 2nd " | | " |
| Millard T.[illegible]. 1979 | 5th Mach.Gun Coy. | | " |
| Millen J.R. 4[illegible]45 | 14th " " " | | " |
| May E. 25946 | 1st Bgde.F.A. | | " |
| Nicholls A. 31[illegible]85 | 1st Bgde.F.A. | | " |
| Neich L.E. 34795 | 2nd F.A.B. | | " |
| Barber R.S. 18641 | 7th Bgde.F.A. | | " |
| Miles R.I. 10274 | 2nd D.A.C. | | " |
| Perry C.M. 1635 | 5th " " | | " |
| Langdon L.G. 2717 | X/4 A Med.T.M.4th Div. | | " |
| Loydstrom H.A. 19[illegible]0 | 1st Fld.Coy.Engrs. | | " |
| McClintock W.J. 5445 | 5th " " " | | " |
| Stone F.A. 7788 | 2nd Fld Amb. | | " |
| McKernan A. 136 | 3rd " " | | " |