

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

3333 Private
Christopher Charles
King

53rd Battalion



1510811H

53rd Battn.
A. I. F.

KING.
C. 3333.

July 19/16.

~~333~~

Was killed by a Shell Fleurbaix Townelles Section.

Reference ... Crashinham, 2811,
Ward 16,
Harefield Hospital.
6.3.1d.

London
13-9-16
D.P. Dickson.

S.

53rd Australians.

KING, C. 3333.

(M. July 19/16.)

Informant states that on July 19/16, at Fleurbaix, King was slightly wounded in the head. He went back to hospital with informant, but was only there four days. Informant thinks it very probable that he was kept back on base details, instead of being sent back to his Battalion, as he was very young.

Reference: Keeling, Pte. 2099.

53rd Australians.

Northern War Hospital, N/castle
Ward 14/11.

Home address:

No English address.

Oct. 9, 1916.
E. MacLeod.

53rd Battalion.
late 2nd Battn.

KING, C.C.
3333 Pte

Killed in Action 19/7/16.

This King was in my Section. About the 19th July we went over at Fleurbaix. Just after we went over a shell burst and killed several men, King being one of those killed. We had to advance and I do not know where he was buried. King was a real white man, a good conscientious man, a general favourite.

Informant: Wallace, W. Cpl. 3442A.

53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

No.4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDBICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

B.M.

19/10/17.

P.1

S.T.C
1 Extra Copy

divis
Mr. C. C. King. 3333.

53 Ball R

see under

Mr. J. S. Cairns 3373.
53 Ball R

8
19/6/17.

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~~Ans 2.1.15~~

(as through H-

J. G. Donnith

Sydney N.S.W.

27/8/17

To Miss Leakin

Dear Madam.

Hearing of you and your work from a returned soldier, and also being very anxious over two dear friends, I am writing to see if you can help me in any way. My friend Mrs King of Canterbury N.S.W. is very much upset because she cannot get any reliable word of her son. As she is at present quite unable to write to you herself, I am doing so on her behalf. Private 6th Regt.

~~Father~~ No 3333 S. Bay. 53rd Bat. and Will

~~Father~~ Gustav No 3367. S. Bay. 53rd Bat. left Australia together and were together at the front all the time in France. They were both reported missing by the military authorities on the 19th July (1916) just twelve months ago now. We have done everything possible and so

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have the Red Cross Bureau in Sydney
to trace them and nothing satisfactory
can be found out. They have never been
reported killed since, although it is
so long ago. Do you think you could
help us? It seems strange that they both
disappeared together on the same day
and no trace of either of them. Both the
mothers have suffered very much. The
waiting all the time for news is just
heart-breaking. It is bad enough
when we get word that our dear ones
are wounded or killed, but to never
know what has become of them is to
my mind the very worst of all. My
dear husband was killed some time
ago at the front, and it makes me
feel very keenly for any one else
in sorrow. It may help you to
know that the two boys were last
together in action at Flurtaix. If
you hear anything about either of the
boys, if you would kindly write
to Mrs. King, Co. Opp. Evans, River St.,
Earlwood, Sydney, N.S.W., Aus., or let

her know through the Red Cross Information Bureau Sydney. She would be most grateful. The work of the red cross is a most noble one, and many aching hearts today. Thank them for their goodness to the boys at the front. And their kindness to the loved ones at home. May God bless their work in all its branches.

Believe me.

Yours very sincerely
Phoebe Holt!

Phoebe Holt
- Eastleigh St -
Penrith.
Sydney.
N. S. Wales
Australia.

Mrs. Holt,
Castlereagh St.,
Parramatta,
Sydney.
New South Wales,
Australia.

8th. January. 1918.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry of 27. 8. 17. for:-

3365. Pte. Chris. King. 53rd. Battalion. A.I.F.

3367. Pte. W. Gittan 53rd. Battalion.

both reported officially missing in France since 19. 7. 16. we very much regret to inform you that in spite of our utmost endeavours we have never been able to obtain any definite news of their fate, and we fear there is little hope of any being received now as so long a time has elapsed since they were reported missing.

It happens unfortunately too frequently after big engagements that men are reported missing of whom no subsequent definite information is ever received.

It can only be assumed they fell unnoticed in the turmoil and general confusion of the attack, and their bodies buried by the earth thrown up through heavy shelling.

Should any information concerning these two men ever come to hand we will at once cable to our Sydney office and instruct them to communicate with you.

2.

Regretting that we are unable to send more satisfactory news
hoping you will assure their people of our deepest sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

L.B. for M.R.