

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

**7392 Private
Bernard Manning
Browning**

28th Battalion



0590602M

A.I.F. B. Coy. 28th Btn

BROWNING
B.M. 7392

"I/Oct:5/18"

Height 5/10" dark about 35. Married - he was known as Bob Browning
I saw him killed by shell at Bellicourt after going over the
top. I was about 25 yards from him - he was blown to pieces while
crossing No Man's Land.

Informant - Sgt. V. L. Coe
28th Btn
B. Coy.

M.I.3.
London
18-2-19

P.I.

A.I.P. 28th Battn.
B Coy.

BROWNING
B.M. 7392

"KILLED IN ACTION 3/10/18"

35-37
8' 10", dark, 3578, married. I saw Browning blown to pieces by shell on 3/10/18 while going over the top at Bullecourt. I was about 25 yards on the right of him. Probably not buried.

Informant: - Pte V.A. Coe,
28th Battn.
B Coy.

A.S.W.

London
1/5/19
JBA

P.I.

A.I.P. 28th Battn.

"KILLED 3/10/18"

BROWNING
B.M. 7392
CLARKSON
D.D. 7257
CROCKETT
F.S. 4709
LANGLEY
D.O. 7381
MONCHMORE
E.O. 8351

I saw the above (all of B Coy) and one other man whose name, I think, was Lionel killed by one shell near Beauvoir about 7 a.m. during the attack about 1/2 hour or less after we hopped over. I was stretcherbearing & was following up behind them and was not 5 yards from them. Browning (killed instantly) was hit through head, Clarkson (instantly) thigh to knee badly smashed and concussion, Sgt. Crockett (instantly) piece through chest - chopped pay-book in half, Monchmore (instantly) all over body, Lionel (instantly) head, Langley hit on left collar bone and the artery was cut he was the only one with any life and I tried to dress the wound and succeeded in stopping the bleeding but he was dead before I finished so that he also was killed practically instantly (within 5 minutes). The shell burst right among them and the concussion was terrific. I was within 5 yards but the shell burst away from me. We were relieved that night - they were left there.

Browning - Dark, tall, about 30 years
Clarkson - Tall, dark, getting a little bald, should think over 30 years.

A.I.F. 28th Battn.

"KILLED 3/10/18"

BROWNING
B.M. 7392
CLARKSON
D.D. 7257
CROCKETT
F.E. 4709
~~LANGLEY~~
D.C. 7321
MONCHEMORE
E.C. 6351

(2)

Sgt. Crockett - Medium height, fair, had his 31st Birthday that day.
Langley D.C. - Medium complexion, tall, about 24/25 years
Monchemore - Short, fair, about 21/22 years, was wounded, April or May
and had just returned.
Browning, Clarkson and Langley were all late up~~s~~ joined us at Cappy,
First time in line.

Informant:- Cpl. L. R. Flower, 6578,
28th Battn., B Coy.

Browning B.M. 7392, Sgt. Crockett, Langley, Monchemore, all B Coy., were
buried by English (25th Divl. Burial Officer) at Mt. St. Martin Cemetery
Sheet 62B. H. 24 c.9.7 - Clarkson was also probably buried same ref: -
his disc was handed in though name was not included in burial list.
Battn. Orderly Room.

N.B. Langley's number was 7321 not 732.
London. 25/2/19

Langley listed corrected 27.2.19

P.I.

A.I.F.
28th Btn.

BROWNING.
Pte. B.M. 7392.

Killed 5.10.18.

Height 5'10". Dark. age 34 yrs.
I got the following information from H/Qs. Horseferry Road.
Browning was killed at Mons St Quentin on Oct. 13/18. Killed
in Action. Do not know anything of burial.

Informant:- Pte. A.J.Riordan 7408
51st Btn. B.Co,
Pltn 5. Ward 18.
3rd A.A.Hpl. 24.4.19.

O.S.W.
London.
6;5:19.
J.E.A.

P.I.

A.I.F.
28th Bttn.

BROWNING.Pte.
7392

B.M.

H/A 3.10.18.

In reply to your letter of the 24th April. I regret to inform you that the above named member of this Unit was killed in action on 3.10.18.

He was buried in Mt.St.Martin Cemetery. Sheet 62.B.W.24.c.9.7. and a cross erected over his grave."

Letter from:- A.J.Planagan. Lt.
Adj. 28th Bttn.
A.I.F. 1.5.19.

O.S.W.
London.
8.5.19.
HJG.

P.I.

Final Draft 26/9/19.

Mrs E. M. Browning
9 York Road
Northants.

Re. 9392. Browning. B.M.
28th Br.

locally (if any) or from letters.

Enquiry included in W.S.M. Cable

No. of

Enquiry included in Deferred Cable

No. of

Name and Address of Enquirer

Mr. M. Alp,
Lion Mill.

Relation of Enquirer to Enquiree.

Sister

State if Next-of-Kin.

Friend
me

Henry Greig
man.

Secretary.

28th Battalion A.I.F.

No. 2408 Pte A.J. RIOTDAN,
Ward No. B. 18,
3rd A.A.H.
DARTFORD, England.

H.Q.
28TH BATTALION,
AUSTRALIAN I.F.
6/3/18

CD
subt.

No. 7322 Pte BROUNING B.H.

25th Batty.
N/A. 3. 10. 18

P. 1. 2.

In reply to your letter of the 24th April
I regret to inform you that ~~the~~ above named member of this
Unit was Killed in Action on 3/10/18.

He was Buried in Mt. St. MARTIN Cemetery,
Sheet 62B, H.24.c.9.7, and a Cross erected over his Grave.

Field.
1/5/1919.

A. J. Linnaman Lieut.
& Adjutant, 28th Battalion A.I.F.

H.C. 4. 6. 19.

W. J. ...
6/5/19

Grateful
letter

Pte B. M. Browning 7392.
B. Coy. 28th Batt.
N. A. 3-10 21st York Road.
P. I. Northampton.

Dear madam,

I wish to thank you very
much for the kindness you have
shown me in making enquiries
regarding my brother. It is a
great comfort to us all to know
he was killed instantly, & to know
his grave is not a nameless one.
Many many thanks.

Yours,

Yours most sincerely
(Miss) E. May Browning.

The Secretary.

Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau,
Australian Red Cross Society.

2 York Road,
Northampton.

31.10.18.

The Secretary.

Australian Red X.

36, Grosvenor Place S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

I have been recommended by Miss Mc Kinnell of Northampton to write to you for some particulars regarding my brother.

Pte. B. M. Browning, 7392.

B. Coy. 28th Batt. A. I. F.
who has been killed in action sometime between the 3rd & 10th of October. We have received no official notice as this would be sent to his wife in W. Australia, the only information we have being from friends of my brothers in the same division, but these friends were not actually with him at the time.

I should be very very grateful if you could find out how he was killed, the date, & if possible where is his grave. It seems so terrible not even to know where

he was buried or whether the spot
is marked.

I shall be most grateful for
any information you can give me.

Yours faithfully

(Mrs) E. May Browning.

February 14th, 1919.

Miss E.M.Browning.
2 York Road.
Northampton.

Dear Madam.

In reply to your enquiry for 7392 Pte.B.M.BROWNING.
28th Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you that we have received
the following unofficial report from Pte.V.A.Coe. 28th Battn.
A.I.F. He stated that he saw Pte."Bob"Browning killed instantly
by a shell while crossing No man's Land near Bullecourt On
Oct.3rd/1918. He was only 25 yards away when the casualty
occurred. Pte.Coe described him as being dark, 5'10" in
height, about 35 and a married man.

We are continuing our enquiries and will obtain
further particulars.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

V. W. P.

Secretary.

Miss F.M. Browning.
2 York Road.
Northampton.

March 11th, 1919.

Dear Madam.

In further reference to your enquiry for 7392 Pte. B.M. BROWNING, 28th Batta. A.I.F. We beg to inform you that we have received an unofficial report from 6578 Cpl. L.R. Flower of the same Unit. He stated that he saw Pte. Browning and several other men killed by a shell at Beaufort about 7 p.m. during an attack on 3.10.19. Cpl. Flower was acting stretcher bearer that day and was only 5 yards off when the casualty occurred. Pte. Browning was killed instantaneously being wounded by a piece of shell in the head. Cpl. Flower described him as tall, dark and about 30 years old, and it was his first time in the line. It was read out in orders that he was buried by the English in the Cemetery at Mont St. Martin the grave registration number being sheet 62.R.H.24.C.5.7.

We are continuing our enquiries and will advise you should we obtain further particulars.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *V.W. Parkin*

SECRETARY.

Miss E.M. Browning.
2 York Road.
NORTHAMPTON.

MARCH 22nd, 1919.

Dear Madam.

With reference to your enquiry for 7392 Pte. E.M. BROWNING. 28th Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you that we have received an unofficial report from 6578 Cpl. L.R. Flower of the same Unit, who was acting as stretcher bearer and stated that he saw Pte. Browning and several other men killed by a shell in an attack near Beurevoir at about 7 a.m. The casualty occurred about an hour after the "hop over" and Pte. Browning was wounded in the head and killed instantly. Our informant was not present at the burial he described. Pte. Browning as tall, and dark, aged about 30 Years. From the Battalion Orderly Room they report that Pte. Browning was buried by the English 25th Divisional Burial Officer at Mt St. Martin Cemetery, the map reference being Sheet 62 B.H.24.c.9.7. We are doing our utmost to obtain further particulars and will advise you immediately should we succeed.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *h. Griffiths*

SECRETARY.

Miss F.M. Browning.
2 York Road.
Northampton.

May 13th, 1919.

Dear Madam.

With further reference to your enquiry for
7392 Pte. B.M. BROWNING. 28th Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to
inform you we have now received a letter from Lieut. A.J. Flanagan
Adjt. of the Battalion. who states that your brother was buried
in Mont St. Martin Cemetery the map reference of the grave
being Sheet 62 B.M. 24.C.9.7. and a cross was erected over his
grave.

This information confirms the unofficial reports
we have already sent you, and we have now closed our enquiries
but we hope it may be of some comfort to you to know the grave
is marked by a cross and cared for.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Glog

SECRETARY.