

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

4157 Sapper
Owen Stanley Friend

4th Field Company Engineers



11201038

FRANCE.

A.I.F. ENGINEERS.

FRIEND, Sapper.S.O. 4157.

4th.FLD:CO:

KK. August.17. 1916.

He used to belong to the 4th. Fld. Co. and came into the 12th. Fld Co. He was killed at Pozieres by a shell as they were coming away from the front line, on August 17th. His body is buried near where he was killed, up past Contalmaison, near a Sunken road. I helped to put a cross on his grave.

Reference: Sapper E.P. Travers, 6249, 12th.Fld.Co.
A.I.G.B.D. Etaples.
Dec.11.1916.

SA.

Havre

Jan. 12th 1917

AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT 8
4th Field Co.

FRIED S.O. 4157

K.Aug. 17/16 Det.D.& B.

When he was killed by a shell he was attached to the 12th Field Co. I knew him personally; he must have been buried at the same spot. He had only just been back a few hours from the base when he was killed during the night. He came from Mizzler, a suburb of Wigan.

I informant L. Grant 4160
4th Field Co. Aust. Reg.
H.S. Dunlop Castle
R.D.S.

Hawley?

S

Havre

24th January. 1917.

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS
4 FIELD COMPANY.

RAISED, S.O. 4157.

A. 17th August. 1916. Det. D/B2

I knew Friend well. His people live in Lundy, E.S.S. He was a Bricklayer by trade. He was in the same section with me, No. 4, No. 4 Field Company and we were 2 months together Gallipoli. Friend was transferred from No. 4 Company about the 16th May, and I know that he joined 13 Company the day before his death, about the night of 17th August the 13th Company was working alongside my Company, the 13th, digging Trenches at Pozieres. Capt. Mills of the 4th Company told me that Friend had been killed by a shell. Capt. Mills know both Friend and myself well. He is still with Unit I believe. Were all at Gallipoli together.

Informant : Inc. Cpl. G. Theekos.

No. 4179.

4th Company

Australian Engineers.

Docks Rest Camp

Havre

Written Capt Mills 31.1.17

RAID.

A.F.E. 4th.Field Co.

FRLEND T.O. 4157.

K. 17.8.15.

He was transferred to the 12th.Field Co. and was killed the first night at Pozieres. I heard all about it soon afterwards. His unit number should be 12th. Field Co. not the 4th.

SA.

Reference: Sgt. Major J. Healy. 138. 4th.Fld.Co.
A.G.B.D.

Staplen.
15.2.17.

H P Asking H P to verify 7.3.17

~~1st 12th Fld Coy.~~
4th Fld. Coy Engrs.

FRIEND
S.O. 4157

KILLED 17-8-16.

Bel. trans: to 12th Fld. Co. Is this correct?
Any further to report?

Still reported Killed in Action 17-8-16 + 12 Fild Co. late
A¹ Fild Co. Engrs. Cert. by A.I. F. Headquarters 19-3-17

London.
20-3-17.

S.

A.I.F. A.F.R. 6 Fld.Coy.

FRIEND, S.O.4157.

K/Aug.17th.1916.

He did not belong to the 4th.Fld.Co. He was sent up from this base with me to join the 4 Fld Co on Aug.12th. or 13th. When we got up the line, we were sent into the 12th.Fld Coy. He was killed on Aug.17th., as we were going up through Sausage Gully to the trenches at Pozieres. A piece of shell hit him on the head and killed him instantly. I was given these facts next morning by men who were with him. The body was buried in the cemetery near the Chalk Pit, not far from La Boisselle. I handled the cross which was put on his grave. Later on, I handed in his kit bag to Q.M.Stores for return. It was marked by the Q.M., as "dead man's" kit. He came from Harrickville, Sydney, and used to belong to the 20th.Battn, A.I.F.

Reference: Drv. R.H.Jackson, 7956, 4th.sectn.
12th.Fld.Coy,

A.G.B.D.

Etaples.

30.3.17.

SA.

4th Field Coy., Australian Engineers

Friend, Sapper Stanley, O.
4157.

K. Aug. 17th, 1916.
Det: D & B.

"I had heard that Friend had been killed on the afternoon of August 17/16 at Pozieres. I saw a burying party come down soon after and they buried Friend with Sappers Hardman and Renshaw, just over the side of the trench."

Eye Witness: That he was buried.

Description: Tall, fair, about 20 years of age, nicknamed "Bluey."

Informant:-- Sapper Fredk. George Matthews, 2272,
4th Field Coy., Australian Engineers,
1st London General Hosp:
Camberwell.

Home address:-- War War Coon,
Gippsland, Victoria,
Australia.

6.4.17.
N. Caldwell.

12th Engineers. A.I.F.

PRIZED Spr. S.O. 4157

Killed in Action 17.8.16.

Something
I knew Friend well -- his number was 415. He and I worked together in Civil life at Manly. He was a bricklayer. His name was "Stan.", commonly called "Bluey". He was red-headed, fairly tall, of medium build, well-liked, and "One of the whitest". I produce his photograph which he gave me when we left England. He left Australia in, I think the 20th Battalion. He and I were in the same Company of the 12th Engineers. He was killed on the night of 16.8.16 near Mouquet Farm, when the 4th Division were going in. I did not see it happen, but was told by two mates, who were with him, that he was killed outright by a shell. I would give his photo to his Mother but to no one else, and my address will be:-- 32 Francis St., Manly, when I leave here. He was the only Friend in the 12th Engineers.

Informant:-- W. Collier, 2822,

12th Engineers, A.I.F.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

H.S.O.
31.5.17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

5 pd-
Juff

A I.P. 12th Fld. Coy. Engrs.

lat 4

FRIED
Spr. Stanley Owen 4
4157

"K/A. 17-8-16"

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10-10-19.

London
24-10-19

3

1st February 1917.

Capt. Mills,
4th Field Co. Eng:
A.I.F. B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have been requested by our Sydney Bureau to make enquiries re - 4157 S.C. Friend, 4th Field Co, Eng: A.I.F., reported Killed 17-8-16, and have been told that if we applied to you we should be able to obtain definite information as to his death and possibly of his burial, for although he had been transferred from No. 4 Co, about 16-5-16, and was with the 13th Field Co, at the time of death, this occurred while the 13th Co, was working beside the 4th Field Company, digging trenches at Pozieres.

We should be very grateful for any details you could send us concerning S. O. Friend, and also if you could add a short personal description, or any points that would enable us to satisfy his relatives that no error has been made.

- 2 -

With apologies for troubling you, and thanking you
in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

T. D.

Secretary *She*