

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

**5265 Private
John William Watts**

1st Battalion



2880505S

A.I.F. 1st Btn

WATTS
John Wm 5265

"WOUNDED"

Killed in Action 5-8-5-17
Cert. by Hpl Index & A.I.F.H.Q. 16-6-17.

London
16-6-17

S.

Havre

24th July, 1917.

1st AUSTRALIANS

WATTS, J.W. 5265

K. 5-8.5.17. Det. D/B.

I knew him well. He was in my company and platoon. I knew him only since he came into the platoon. I do not know his initials but his number is as stated. We were at Bullecourt in the supports when a shell fell and killed him outright. He was buried outside Bullecourt just off the sunken road coming from Moreuil, and about 100 yards from the communication trench. I saw his grave with his name and number on it.

Informant: Pte. W. Stanfield, 3992
1st Australians, C Co., 9th Pltn.,
No. 1 Gen., Etretat.

I do D.

S.

Havre

2nd Aug. 1917.

1st AUSTRALIANS

WATTS, J.W. 5265

K. 5-8.5.17. Det. D/B.

He was in C Co., 9th platoon. I knew him well. He came from Berry, New South Wales. He was farming before the war. About 5th May during the night we were in supports at Bullecourt. Watts was quite close to me. I saw a shell hit him and blew off both legs. I helped to carry him down to the Dressing Station and left him there. I heard afterwards that he died soon after he got to the Dressing Station.

Informant: Corpl. N. S. Davis, 514
1st Australians, C Co., 12th Pltn.,
Havre Hospital.

S.

EPG

1st Australian Imperial Force

Watts, Pte. J. W. 5265

C Coy. 9th Pltn.

(K. May 5, 1917. Dets D & B)

" At Bullecourt on May 5th, 1917, Watts (who was a stretcher-bearer) and we were leaving the line when a shell came over amongst some bombs, the latter exploded and blew off one of Watts' legs and he died shortly afterwards. For information of burial refer to - Lieut. Page, late 1st A.I.F. now 6th Aus. Imp Force France. "

Eye Witness - No. Known throughout Company.

Description - Of medium height, ginger, clean shaven.

Informant :- Pte. C. Lavis, 110 a
C Coy. 9th Pltn. 1st Aus. Imp Force
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S. W.

Home address :-

Guyra,

New South Wales.

23. 9. 1917.

Maud Hammond.

Written by Page
5.10.17

A.I.F.

I.

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WATTS. L.W. 5265.

K. May 5/8th. 1917. Det D/B.

I saw him hit by a shell in our support line at Bullecourt on May 8th. He volunteered to do some stretcher carrying, and was carrying a stretcher when he was hit. One of his legs was blown off and he was conscious for about an hour afterwards but only said a few words about his leg. He was taken down to the D/S. but died before he got there. Watts was in C.Coy. IX. Pltn. and I think came over with the 16th reinforcements. I can give no further description of him.

Inf. Pts A.J.Rooke. 6077. C.Coy. IX. Pltn.
Army Rest Camp.
BOULONNE. 18. 10.17.

HMH.

S

(5.10.17)

Lieut - PAGE
(late 121 Battr)

6th Aust. Inf. Battr

A.I.F.

B.E.F.

Chart

5265

Pvt J. W. WATTS

C Coy. 9. Pdet.

121 Battr A.I.F.

K. 5.5.17.

Ad.
5.10.17