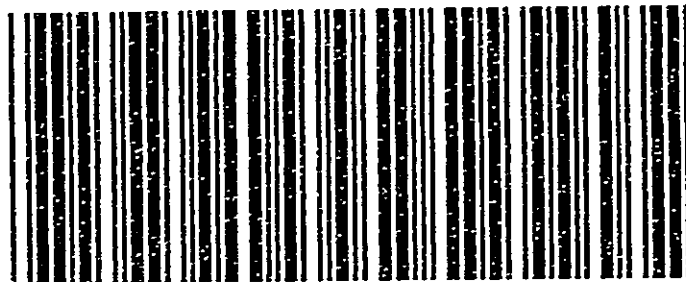


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1046 Driver
Ronald Charles
Gillham

14th Field Artillery Brigade



1161008H

A.I.F. 14th F.A.B.
not 13th F.A.B.

GILHAM
R.C.1046

"KILLED IN ACTION"

Killed in action 31/8/18 - No further report
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs List 4/10/18.

London
5/10/18.

S

AUST. FLD. ARTY. 14.

GILLHAM, R.C. 1046.

K. August 31st, 1918. Det. D/B.

Gillham was in my Bty., the 54th., and came from the 5th. D.A.C.

He was killed by a bomb from an aeroplane, whilst on the road on the right of Peronne, one day at the end of August last. I did not see him killed myself but Dr. Stewart, 54th. Bty. A.P.A., and with his Unit, when I left it 4 days ago, was a great mate of his and will probably be able to give particulars. In any case, I know that he was one of those who buried him.

Gillham was a fine fellow, and much missed by us all.

Inf:- Driver Brain. 28456.
6 General Hospital.

Rouen
25.10.18.
GJS.

J.F.A.

William Stewart
4.11.18

AUST. FD. ARTY. 14.

GILLHAM, R. C. 1046.

K. August 31st, 1918. Det. D/B.

Gillham was killed one afternoon at the end of August instantaneously by a shell I understand. I was not present at the time but as he was a friend of mine I went to his funeral next afternoon. He was buried in the British Cemetery at Fay and near the railway line. I first met him in July, 1916, shortly after the Division came out to France. He was a driver in the 5th. Div. Amm. Column for a long time when I saw most of him. In December, 1917, he was transferred to the 51st. Snatt Batt. and then to the 55th. about last June and was with the latter when he was killed.

Inf:- Lean, Sgt. 1213. 5 DAC.
12 Gen. Hosp.

Rouen
29.10.18.
GB.

J.L.

S.

14th Brigade, A.I.F.
Field Artillery

Gillham.
R.C.No. 1046.

Killed in Action 31.8.18.

He was in the 54th Battery and was a Driver. Refer to Saddler Seeger, A. 54th Battery, 14th Brigade, who is now in France for he saw him killed at Barlaeux by shell, when death was instantaneous. He was transporting ammunition at time of casualty. I did not see casualty but saw his body ready in blanket for burial. I cannot say where he was buried.

Informant:-

Gnr. Regan, H, No. 16085.
54th Battery, 14th Bgde.,
3rd A.A.H. Dartford.

H. Ogan,
London,
30/10/18.

Note:- Written Saddler Seeger, 28.10.18.

S.

Havre. 31st. October. 1918.

14th. Brigade. A.F.A. Gillham, R. C. 1046.

K. August. 31/1918. Dets. D/B.

I knew Driver Gillham, 54th. Battery, he had only been with us between three and four months when he was killed by shell on the road up to the gun pits near Barleaux close to Peronne about the end of August 1918. I saw his body when it was brought back to the waggon lines. He is buried at Fontaine les Coppy near Bray. Driver H. Douglas took the body away for burial; he is in the 54th. Battery. Sergeant Milner and Gunner McDonald both of the same Battery were killed by the same shell and buried at the same place and a Cross was placed on Milner's Grave but not on the others. They were prepared but there was no time to erect them. They may have been put up since.

Inf:- Gunner. L. K. Roberts. 1561.
14th. Brigade. 54th. Battery. S.
Australian Conv. Camp.
Rouelles.

GP.

RDM. J.F.U.

A.I.F. 14th Batty F.A.

GILLHAM
R.C. 1046

"KILLED IN ACTION 31.8.18"

He was in my Sub Section. At 9.a.m. on 31st August we were in position behind Barleau, when I saw a shell kill him inst. P/B not known. but think it was at Cerisy. Description About 25, 5ft 8In., 11/12 stone, and dark.

Witness:- Gnr. Olliffe R. 25404,
14th Batty., F.A.,
Littlemoor Camp,
Weymouth.

T. Osborne.

London
1.11.18
HG

A.I.F. 13th F.A. Bde.

GILLHAM

R.C. 1046

"Killed in Action 3.8.18."

Re Dr. Gillham; I am only too pleased to give you any information which is in my power. He was killed on the 31st August at a place called Assevilla. We secured his body and buried him at a place called Fontaine. It is not a British Cemetery but alongside of his grave there is a French one. Three of them were buried alongside of one another, but their graves were well marked, so in all probability they will be registered. One of the lads wrote home to his people who live in Mudgee, New South Wales. He also has relations in some part of Ireland. He was about 5ft. 10ins in height, well built and weighed about 12 or 13 stone and of dark complexion. His number was 1046 and initials, as far as I can find out, were R.C. Gillham.

Letter from: -1227 A. Pryer.
54th Battery,
14th Bde. F.A.A.I.F.
France.

London
15.11.18.
D.W.B.

S.

A.I.F. 13th F.A. Bde.

GILLHAM

R.C. 1046.

"Killed in Action 3/8-18."

Re 1046 Driver R.C. Gillham, 54th Battery, 14th F.A. Brigade, killed in action at Barieux and buried in the French Civilian Cemetery at Fay. I was present at his burial, when the last post was sounded over his and two others who were killed with him; he was given a very decent burial. We erected a cross and put it on his grave. In regard to his personal appearance, he was a dark muggetty set chap; he was in No. 2. Section, 5th D.A.C., with me. Afterwards he went to the 30th Battery, where he was wounded; when he came back, he came to the 54th Battery where he remained till the end. His personal effects were taken by an old friend of his named 1203 Driver A.C. Thompson, and as far as I know were sent to his people. At present Driver Thompson is in hospital in England; he also belongs to 54th Battery.

Letter from: -2639 Dvr. Tom Stewart,
54th Battery, France.

London

26.11.18.

I.E.D.

P.S. Would it be possible for me to get a snap of my uncle's grave. He is buried in the S. British Military Cemetery at Vignacourt, Somme. 5042, Pte. V.W. Woodward, 19th Battn. A.I.F.

Sergeant

No. 1046.

KILLED. 11.8.18.

I knew a man called Gillham whose initials were R.C., we called him 'Bill'. He joined the 6th Light Horse the same day as I did on 10.9.14, whilst on final leave he was taken sick and missed leaving with us in 6th Light Horse. I met him again in Egypt, he was then in some other Regiment I met him again in France when he was in the 13th Field Artillery Brigade, he was transferred about June or July last to the 54th Battery of the 14th Brigade. This Gillham's people lived at Hudgee, but he was a Driver in both the 13th and 14th Field Artillery Brigade, and so far as I know he was never a Sergeant, but had once been a Corporal in the Light Horse. He was short, broad, and dark, and had been I think a Bush worker. This Gillham I knew was a Driver in the left section of the 5th Battery, which was, about the end of August last, ordered about 10 a.m. to take two guns to a forward position in front of Peronne (before we had recaptured it) this was a curious order for execution in the day time. As these guns with their four ammunition waggons were going over a ridge on a white road the Hun spotted them, and shelled them, Gillham was killed outright. I saw his body and helped make a cross for his grave, he was buried at Fontaine les Cappi, between Peronne and Bartsenniers, and I helped erect the cross in a Military Cemetery and the Padre officiated. I am certain he was killed outright without suffering. Gunner McDonald and Sergeant of the same Battery were killed and buried at the same time.

Informant:- Gunner E.A. Stiebel, 462,
5th Div. Artillery, 54th Battery.

H.S.O.
9.12.18.

Private Address:- G.P.O. Sydney.

14, Castlerough St., SYDNEY.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F. 14th F.A.B.

GILLHAM
Ronald Charles 1046

Killed in action 31.8.18

Buried near Railway Line in British Cemetery 62A.N.22B.6.F.
Cert. by A.I.F. Hdqrs List for Capt. Spedding.

London
3.6.19

8

1046

R.C. Gillham

France

1370. Bde

Kin a. 3. 8. 18 5th 1918

To Secretary Inquiry Bureau 2

Dear Mr

In answer to your R.C

letter the information concerning

Dr. Gillham I am only to

pleased to give you any

information which is in my

power. He was killed on the

31st of August at a place

called Absbelly. He occurred

his body & buried from at

a place ^{called} Fontaine. It is

not a British Cemetery but

alongside of the grave there

is a French one. Three of

them were buried alongside

of one another, but these

graves were well marked

so in all probability they

will be recognized. One

of the Sudds work home to

the people who live in

Muske, N. S. Wales. He

also has relations in some

part of Ireland. He was about
5 ft 10 in height Well Built
& weighed about 12 or 13 Stone
& of Dark Complexion.

His Number was 1046?
Inkats as far as I can find
out were P.C. Gillham

If there is any thing further
which you desire I will do
My utmost to find out.

Yours
1224 27 June
54 1874
14th Bode F.A.
A P F

A.W.B

