

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

**5411 Private  
Ernest Robert Morris**

**45th Battalion**



1830102F

FRANCE.

A.I.F. 45.

MORRIS, E.R. 5411.

K.Aug.5-6.1916.

Lonsden, G.K. 5404.

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They were killed in the trenches at Pozieres the first night we went in there..(August 5th.) by a shell. Pte. J.McCluckey, S.B. B.Co., saw the casualties and told me about them. I believe they were buried where they fell. They were B.Co. men, and came over in the 17th. Reinf: to the 13th. Battalion.

Reference: Pte. W. Patterson, 4572, A.Co.  
No 4 A.D.B.D. Staples. 21.11.1916.

S  
SA.

45th Australian Imperial Force.

Morris, Pte. E.R., 5411,  
D. Coy.,

K. Aug. 5th. 1916.  
Det: D & B.

Informant saw Morris killed at Pozieres on the night  
of Aug. 5th. He was buried in the debris caused by same."

Eye Witness:-- Yes.

Description:-- Very short, clean shaven, thick set.

Informant:-- Pte. J.P. Rose, 5457,  
45th Australian Imperial Force, D.Co:  
3rd London General Hospital,  
Wandsworth, S.W.

Home address:-- Horseferry Rd:  
29th Jan.  
Mary Milne.

45th Batt.  
A.I.F.,

E.R. MORRIS 5411  
J.K. JHNSDEN 5404

"K. in A 5/6.8.16"  
"K. in A 6/7.8.16"

Your letter of 5th Dec. 1916 to hand and it is with greatest pleasure I write, to the best of my knowledge, these few undermentioned details concerning the death of my two comrades, hoping in some way to comfort those who have been bereaved. The two boys were close chums of mine ever since leaving Australia and I cannot speak too highly of them. Fine fellows, they died doing their duty. No 5411 Pte E.R. Morris 45th Batt. was killed on 5th Aug. 16 by a shell during the holding of our position at Pozieres Ridge, he died instantly. This was a particularly hot engagement, the Batt. loss being 50%. My two comrades were buried in a soldiers grave in the trenches with a cross for each, the best we could provide under the circumstances. Well hoping these few details will foot the bill and thanking you again for the opportunity of soothing somebody's sorrow, please excuse this outbreak, but I have had a taste of it myself. Would deem it a favor if you would forward my name and address on to the relatives and thanking you again

Cert. by letter from H McCusker, 5423  
B. Co., 45th Batt. A.I.F.,  
France. 1.2.17.

London  
22.2.17

S.

45th A. I. F.

E. R. MORRIS, 5411.

Killed 5/6.8.16. Details D & B.

At Pozieres during an attack he was in the front line and I was told by Pte. Horn of the 45th Batt. that he had seen him killed by a shell.

Reference: Pte. T. Gillespie, 4807.

No.1 Australian, Rouen. 15.3.17.

FS.

*Written by Pte Horn 27.3.17*

*45-1a*  
A.I.F.

Morris E.R. 5411,

(K. 5-6/8/16 Det. D/B)

"At Pozieres on or about 6 or 7/8/16 I saw Morris buried by a shell in the 2nd line trenches he was buried for 15 minutes and when we got him out he was dead with a wound in the neck. We went out into the firing line and I should think he was buried in the parapet by the burial party. He was about 5ft 8 in, and a bootmaker by trade."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Pte. Julius Beern 2107,  
45th A.I.F., C. Coy.,  
2nd Southern General Hospt.,  
Bristol.

Home address:  
13 Hoxton Residences,  
London, 1.

June 15/17,  
H.W. Ward.

45th Battn.  
A. I. F.

Morris.  
E. R. 5411.

"Killed 5.8.16."

I can't remember the number, but if this is the Cpl. Morris, he was killed at Pozieres by being hit in the head by shrapnel in the trench. We put his body in a dug-out for the time being - but I got wounded and don't know where buried.

Witness:-  
C. Blaxland. 1080.

D. P. Dickson.

London.  
18.6.17.

S.

45th Battn.  
A. I. F.

Morris.  
Pte. E. R. 5411.

"Killed in Action 5-6.8.16."

I do not recollect Pte. E. R. Morris 5411 being killed 5-6.8.16. If you tell me what Reinforcements he belonged to or which company of the 45th Battn. Just at present I cannot exactly place him. If I should hear anything about him or any necessary information I will correspond immediately to you.

Letter from:-  
Pte. R. A. Horn. 4203.  
12th A. L. T. M.  
A. I. F.

London.  
19.6.18.

S.

45th A.I.F.,

Morris, Pte. E.R., 5411,  
B.Coy.,

K. Aug. 5-6/17. Det: D. B.

"I was buried by the side of Morris at pozieres on Sunday Morning Aug. 6th. It was dark at the time. We were dug out but Morris was dead. He was buried close to where he died. Later on in the day the ground where he was buried was struck by shell and his body was flung up again and later covered."

Eye Witness: Yes.

Description: Moderately tall, Dark.

Informant:-- Pte. Chas. McKay, 3560,  
45th A.I.F., B.Coy.,  
Overcliff Hosp:  
Westcliff-on-Sea.

Home address:-- 27, Bander Street,  
Linacre, Liverpool.

21.6.17.  
Cooper.

45th Battalion. ~~7th Reinf.~~  
late 13th Battn. 7th Reinf.

MORRIS, E.R.  
5411 Pte

Killed in Action 5-6/8/16.

I knew Morris well, his initials were E.R. he and I left Australia together as 7th Reinf. to 13th Battn. and joined the 45th Battn. in Egypt. He was in B.Co. and in my section. He was short and dark and used to work at Sandown Freezing works Parramatta and used to do some driving. He was killed by a shell on Pozieres Ridge early in August. I saw him after he had been killed and I am quite sure that he had been killed outright.

Informant: Fraser, P. Pte 5497  
45th Battalion, late 7th Reinf. to 13th Battn.  
No.4 Australian General Hospital,  
RANDWICK.

A careful witness.

H.S.O.  
22/11/17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Pte E. R. Morris 5411.

45th Batt

see under

Pte A. H. Lumsden

45th Batt

Pte E. R. Morris 5411 -

45th Batt

see under

Pte J. H. Lumsden 5404 -

45th Batt

21. 2. 17



Pte Horn

45th Batt. A.Y.7

B.2.7

for

5411 E. R. Morris

45th Batt.

A.Y.7

12.5/6.8.16

Y.H.

3.4-17

Morris . Pte E. R. 5411.  
45<sup>th</sup> Baltn.

See under

Pte J. R. Lunsden . 5404.  
45<sup>th</sup> Baltn.

5.12.16.

14th June 1917.

4203. Pte. Ronald Horn,  
12th A Light T.M. Bty.  
A.I.F.  
B.E.F.

Dear Pte Horn,

Very many thanks for your letter of May 22nd in  
answer to our enquiry concerning

5411. Pte E.R. Morris, 45th Batt, A.I.F.  
one man of the 45th Batt, in speaking of Pte Morris and

5404 G.K. Lumsden, - said they were both B. Coy,  
men and came over in 17 Rein<sup>f</sup>, to 13th Batt, but we had not  
verified this statement. We regret that you did not note the  
Batt, of

8794. J.L. Parker,  
whom you buried. We are unable to trace this man by the  
number only. But we will make a note of what you say, and  
trust that later we may be able to send news to the relatives.

We should be very grateful if you should later  
learn anything definite concerning Pte Morris, if you would  
write and tell us. With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

V.D. *flu*  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Col  
F.M. 29.5.17

To the Secretary.

22/5/17

Miss Vera Leakin.

I am now  
about to inform you that I do not recollect  
Pte E. R. Morris <sup>5411</sup> killed 5/6/8/16 if you  
tell me what Reinforcements he belonged to or  
which company of the 45 But. put at present  
I cannot exactly place him. But am doing  
my best to find more about him. If I should  
hear anything about him or any other person  
information I will express here as made to  
you. I am not so very long ago after the advance  
from Guadacanal. I was told  
of for a funeral party I came to church  
on the day was J. L. Parker 8794 I do not  
know what he belonged to but if it is notified  
in the paper you might be able to find out  
his relatives will be pleased to know of  
him as for knowing where E. R. Morris was  
killed. it is hard to say we have had  
a lot of new words it becomes very hard to  
know him. But I am sure I will be able to  
to tell to do any thing in the way of  
information to let you know of him.  
I am sure  
yours faithfully  
Pte R. Morris  
new address  
don't forget No 4203  
no release

5411

Re E. R. MORRIS

45: BAWAIF

HA 5/6, 8, 16 12 A.L.T.M. Bl.

S. 2.

C

C