

The Late Gunner Harold Gooding

Mrs Gooding, mother of the late Gunner Harold Gooding, who was killed in action on October 1st, 1917, has received the following letter, which gives further particulars regarding her brave son who was killed in action ;—

In the Field,

July 27, 1918.

Dear Mrs Gooding.—One of the boys here, Frank Wall, came to me to-night and told me he had received a letter from you, enquiring about your son Harold, and as I was of his sub-section I asked him to let me answer it. We are very sorry that it was necessary for you to write to any of us for particulars. Lieut. Sorby wrote to you at the time and I would have written also, but was away from all convenience of the kind at the time. Your son was a friend and favorite of all of us; he was one of the most capable and best liked men in our sub-section; he died regretted by many sincere friends.

He was killed instantaneously by a bursting shell (he was not knocked about at all) at a place called Bavaria House, a little to the east of Ypres, and was buried by us at the Vlamertighe new military cemetery—this is about a mile west of Ypres.

His personal belongings were packed in a registered parcel and forwarded to the base, and by enquiring at the Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, you should have no difficulty in procuring them.

I was not with at the time of his death, but some of the boys were. He was assisting in working his gun at the time. I think this is all I can tell you. Their people at home are the thoughts of all the boys here, not themselves.—Yours very sincerely,

Sergt. S. J. WILLIAMS,
31st Bty., A.I.F.

No. 20017.