Corporal G. More-Reid.—The name is an unusual one, and we have wondered does it belong to the enterprising boy from Castlemaine who was at Xavier at 1906. We hope it does, and further, that from being “missing” he will turn up “safe and sound”—just what we should expect George to

59th Australian Infantry Battalion

The 59th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 21 February 1916 as part of the expansion of the AIF.

On 19 July 1916, (the day George More-Reid went missing) the 59th became embroiled in its first major battle on the Western Front, less than a month after it arrived in France. The Battle of Fromelles was a disaster for the 59th. Attacking in the first wave, the 59th suffered heavy casualties at the hands of German machine-gunners, and its advance faltered far short of its objective.

From "The Xaverian" 1916 p. 57

At VC Corner there are no headstones. Under two large concrete crosses set flat on the ground, to the left and right near the cemetery entrance, are the remains of more than 400 Australians who were killed in action or died of wounds. They died all around here. The cemetery is in the middle of the old no-man’s-land between the Australian and German trenches of 19 July 1916.

Beyond the cemetery is a memorial wall commemorating by name 1,299 Australians who died in the Battle of Fromelles and who have no known grave.