

LANCE CORPORAL HEINRICH ALFRED PUMPA – EDEN VALLEY

First World War

Heinrich Alfred Pumpa was born in 1895 in Eden Valley, he was the son of John and Carolyn Pumpa. Like his elder brother Ern, Heinrich was a Rhine Park station hand.

Heinrich enlisted with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.) on 27 March 1916, embarking with the 50th Infantry Battalion on the HMAT Anchises from Adelaide on 28 August 1916. He was later reassigned to the 27th Battalion.

After disembarking at Folkstone he was transferred to Etaples in France for training, Private 'Fred' Pumpa was then appointed as a regimental sniper and was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal on 11 March 1917 after only 3 months in the field.

In late June 1917, Fred was hospitalised with the debilitating condition "Trench Foot" and evacuated to England. He rejoined his unit in Belgium in October 1917.

Fred was again evacuated to England for medical attention upon receiving a shell wound to his hand and shoulder in June 1918. Sadly, within only seven days of rejoining his unit on the Somme, they sustained a mortar hit on 3 October 1918.

Lance Corporal Heinrich Alfred Pumpa was killed in action in France on 3 October 1918, aged 23 years and is buried in the Villers-Faucon Communal Cemetery Extension, France.

Lest We Forget.

