

FRANCIS HENRY FOX

Francis Henry Fox was born at Busselton during August 1888 to parents Francis & Ellen Fox. Francis was one of 9 children, his brother Phillip Edmund Fox also served overseas in the 15th Light Horse.

At the time of his enlistment, Francis gave his and his mother's address as Barrabup. His occupation that of labourer.

Francis signed the attestation form on the 29th of April 1915 at Nannup before Mr. Edmund Vernon Brockman.

His medical examination record states that he was aged 26 years and 8 months old, stood 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighed 10 stone 2 pounds, chest measurement of 35 inches with fresh complexion, grey eyes and brown hair. Francis was given the Regimental No. 977.

After enlistment, Francis was allocated to "C" company the 28th battalion, which was then being formed at Blackboy Hill camp. The battalion sailed for Egypt in June of 1915 and after 2 months spent training in Egypt, embarked on HMAT "IVERNIA" at Alexandria bound for Gallipoli.

The 28th departed Gallipoli in December, having suffered only light casualties. After another stint in Egypt, the battalion left for Marseilles in March of 1916 and proceeded to the Western Front, as part of the 2nd Australian Division. The 28th battalion took part in its first major battle at Pozières between 28th of July and the 6th of August.

Francis was reported as Missing in Action and later reported as Killed in Action. The actual date of his death is unknown but assumed to be between the 4th and 6th of August 1916.

As there is no known grave, Francis is commemorated on the honour roll at the Australian War Memorial Canberra and at the Roll of Honour at Villiers Bretonneux, France.