

# Ernest Sydney PILCHER



## Pre-enlistment:

- Ernest Pilcher was born on 28 December 1889 in Ayr, Queensland, to parent, Richard and Lydia PILCHER, Pentland, Townsville, North Queensland
- His schooling was at Deep Lead State School
- His home town was in Pentland, Charters Towers
- His occupation was that of a motor driver as a single man
- His address was c/o Dr Brown, Alma Street, Rockhampton, Qld
- His next of kin was listed as his father, R Pilcher, Capeville, Pentland
- Family/military connections: his brother: 556 Pte Algernon Fittall PILCHER, 2nd Light Horse Regiment, returned to Australia, 12 April 1916.

## Military Records

- Service Number: 55
- Ernest Pilcher enlisted on 8 September 1914 (just 3 weeks after the outbreak of war), at Enoggera, Qld, as a Private with the 3rd Field Ambulance, A Squadron
- He embarked with 1st Division Motor Transport Company 3rd Field Ambulance, from Brisbane, on board Transport A22 Rangatira on 25 September 1914, as a Driver, aged 24 years
- On 25 April 1915 he was in the landing at Gallipoli where he was wounded through the left shoulder. He was sent to hospital in Egypt for about five weeks and returned to Gallipoli where he remained until the evacuation.
- He was gifted with musical ability and he was transferred into an Australian Divisional Supply Column (motor transport) where he was able to further his talent for music by joining both its band and its orchestra.
- On 25 June 1918 he was involved as a Driver, with the 1st Motor Transport Company, Merris (France) where he was wounded.
- War service: Egypt, Gallipoli, Western Front
- Driver Ernest Sydney Pilcher died of wounds on 25 June 1918 in France aged 28 year

## Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Cemetery: Le Grand Hasard Military Cemetery, (Plot 4, Row C, Grave No. 4), Morbecque, Nord Pas de Calais, France
- Memorials: Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour, Panel number, 181
- Brisbane St. Andrew's Uniting Church Honour Roll,
- Pentland & District Honour Roll

## Honours & Awards

- 1914-1915 Star
- British War Medal
- Victory Medal

## Rifle Shooting

- Ernest Pilcher was a member of the Millchester Rifle Club

## ACWM Commemoration Service

## Reference Links

- <https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8016487>
- <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=241570>
- <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/118079>
- <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1653953>
- <http://heritage.saintandrews.org.au/ernest-sydney-pilcher/>
- Information for Roll of Honour, Bruce Scott