

## **ERNEST HENRY OLSEN - 2423**

Ernest was the son of Christian OLSAN (born Norway) & Elizabeth DAY and was born on the 18<sup>h</sup> of April 1888 in Brisbane, QLD. Ernest was the 3<sup>rd</sup> child born into the family of 4 children.

The family moved to Adelaide about 1890.

His father died in the Adelaide Hospital on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 1892 from Phthisis (pulmonary tuberculosis)

By 1893 his mother was unable to care for the children and they were admitted into the State Children's Department.

He was sentenced until he turned 16 years of age to be a ward of the State.

Ernest was 5 years old when he was first boarded out.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1895 he was transferred to Mrs Harriet Fry, a widow, at Macclesfield. His brother; Christopher, had already been transferred to Harriet.

He attended the Macclesfield Primary School for 18 months.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1897 he was transferred to Mr John Cummins, farmer of Macclesfield. So too was his brother Christopher. He continued to attend the Macclesfield Primary School, with his brother.

His brother was transferred to Mr Henry Wright, a gardener of Macclesfield, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1900.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1901 he was transferred to Mr Thomas Hugh Morton, wheelwright, of Macclesfield.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 1903, he was transferred to Mr Henry Hare of Hallet SA after 7 ½ years living in Macclesfield.

Ernest enlisted into the 28<sup>h</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Reinforcement on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 1915 in Perth, WA and was allotted the service number 2423. He listed his mother; Mrs Elizabeth BAYES, now of Dongarra, WA as next of kin.

He lived with his sister; Mrs. Florence Maud Smith, at 4 Orange Avenue, Perth, WA.

His sister had married in WA in 1910

Mabel – his other sister married James Patrick JOHNSON and in 1921 they lived in North Perth.

Ernest was killed in Action in the early hours on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 1916 North of Pozieres, France. No known grave - "known only to God" - his memorial is at Villers-Bretonneux  
His brother Christopher was also killed in Action 16<sup>th</sup> January 1917 - 6 months later

No photographs found – Sub Branch still looking for a picture of Ernest. Help if you can.

**LEST WE FORGET**