

Alfred Harper WHALAN MM

Pre-enlistment:

- Alfred was born on 20 October 1884 in Oberon, NSW to parents, Alfred Samuel and Agatha Josephine WHALAN
- He attended Oberon School, NSW
- His address on enlistment was given as c/o F W Caswell, Murgon, Qld
- His occupation at time of enlistment was that of a miner, labourer
- He was a single man
- His next of kin was listed as his father, Alfred Samuel Whalan, Oberon
- He had 3 brothers who enlisted:
 - 1336 Pte Glyndwr Montagu Whalan, 18th Bn, killed in action, 22 August 1915;
 - 477 Corporal Richard Percy Whalan, 1st Machine Gun Bn, killed in action, 18 September 1918;
 - 351 Gunner Royal William Whalan, 2nd Division Medium Trench Mortar Battery, returned to Australia, 5 April 1919.



Military Records

- Service Number: 255
- Alfred Whalan enlisted on 2 September 1914 in Gympie, Qld as a Private with 49th Infantry Battalion, B Company
- He embarked with his Unit from Brisbane, on board Transport A5 S.S. Omrah on 24 September 1914, aged 29
- At 04:30 on 25 April 1915 he landed at 'ANZAC' / Gallipoli with the 9th Battalion
- While at Gallipoli he was wounded several times
- On 12 August 1915 he was promoted Lance Corporal
- He was evacuated from Gallipoli in a Hospital Ship on 19 November 1915 to Alexandria, Egypt to join the newly formed 49th Battalion.
- He re-joined his Unit on 23 March 1916 at Serapeum
- On 5 June 1916 he proceeded overseas from Alexandria, Egypt on the Arcadian to Marseilles, France disembarking on 12 June 1916
- Alfred Whalan was awarded the Military Medal. His commendation read: 'At Pozières, who on the night of 13th/14th August 1916, went out under a heavy barrage to reconnoitre the enemy's position. They took shelter in shell holes during the whole day (14th instant) and returned during night of 14/15th instant with valuable information regarding enemy's positions.'
- Private Alfred Harper Whalan MM was killed in action on 3 September 1916 with 49th Infantry Battalion, at the Battle for Pozières France in the First Battle of the Somme. He was aged 32 years
- His war service was at Gallipoli, in Egypt and on the Western Front

Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Cemetery: No known grave
- Memorials: Villers-Bretonneux, France
- Australian National Memorial Roll of Honour Panel number 149
- Murgon Memorial Wall,
- Murgon RSL Honour Board,
- Oberon Shire Honour Roll Murgon Memorial

Honours & Awards

- Military Medal
- 1914-15 Star,
- British War Medal,
- Victory Medal

Rifle Shooting

- Alfred Whalan was a member of the Murgon Rifle Club

ACWM Commemoration Service

Reference Links

- recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=8383098
- aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=319769
- awm.gov.au/collection/R1529621 Military Medal
- awm.gov.au/collection/R1666301?
- vwma.org.au/explore/people/292372
- 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 62, Dated: 19 April 1917
- 'We will Remember Them'. South Burnett Regional Council