

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**2913 Private  
Hubert Chamberlain  
Vale**

**3rd Pioneer Battalion**



2810510H

A.I.P. 3rd Pioneers

VALR  
H.O. 2913

"WOUNDED"

Shell wound face, head and right thigh severe - adm. Horton  
City of London Hpl Spasm 13-4-18 - died of wounds 30-4-18  
Cert. by Hpl Index

P.I.

London  
16-5-18

3rd Pioneers.  
A.I.F.

VALE.  
H.C. 2913

"WHEREABOUTS"

Adm. Horton County of London Hpl. Epsom, 13.4.18. - Shell wound  
face & head and Rt. Thigh - Severe.  
Cert. by Hpl. Index.

London.  
29.4.18.

P.I.

3rd Pioneer Batta.  
A.I.F.

VALE.  
Pte. H.C. 2913.

"Wounded"

2913 Pte H.C. Vale admitted 13-4-18 with severe shrapnel  
wounds of face penetrating and involving the left ear, compound  
fracture of cheek bone.

On the evening of the 26th his condition became serious  
necessitating an operation which was performed on the morning of the  
27th, but he gradually became weaker and died from Septic Poisoning  
at 9.30 p.m. Tuesday 30th. His parents were with him from the 28th  
until he died. They arranged for his body to be sent on to Cheltenham  
where the funeral took place on the 4-5-18 at the Cemetery there.

Description of wreath for Pte Vale given by Nursing Staff  
and Patients of Ward N.

Foundation of white flowers with the letter "A" in  
purple (Battalion Colour) also bunch of Red white and blue streamers.

Letter from. *Matron. Ward Sister*  
The Horton.

(County of London)

War Hospital.

EPSOM. SURREY.

S.

P.I.

London.  
23-5-18.

A.I.F.

3rd PIONEERS.

VALE, Private

H.C. No. 2913

"Died of Wounds 30.4.18"

Informant described Vale as about 5ft. high, stout build, medium complexion, aged about 30/35, thought to have come from Arncliffe; was originally in the Navy, afterwards employed on the Railways, and subsequent to that was connected with some waterworks. He left with him on the "Benalla" in November 1916, was married with one child. Informant states that they both belonged to "D" Company.

Sometime during April 1918 the Battalion was in Billets at Heley. About 6 p.m. Vale and others of the Company were in a house used as a billet when a shell dropped into it and hit Vale and two others. Informant was about 50 Yards away from the building and saw the explosion. He also saw Vale being carried away on a stretcher; he was conscious and spoke to some of his mates. Informant believes that he died in a hospital in England about a month later and that while he was there he was seen by some of his relatives who lived in England. Informant was told this by one of Vale's mates who was with him in Hospital. According to Informant Vale was a popular chap.

Informant:- No. 2822, Pte. J. Henderson,  
"D" Company - 3rd Pioneers.

W.E.G.

Private address:- 4 Watkin Street, Bondi, Sydney.

Present address:- "C" Ward, George's Heights Military Hospital, Mosman.

21 Australian Auxiliary  
Hospital, Mosman. 17/2/19.

3rd PIONEERS.

VALE H.C. Private.  
No. 2913.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 30.4.18"

Vale and I left Australia together on 9th November 1916 as 5th Reinforcements to 3rd Pioneers. I think his name was Hugo - he left Australia as a Corporal. He was wounded in the foot in Heilly just outside of Amiens near Morlancourt in April 1918 about 3 weeks after we got down there. He was wounded by a shell and I saw him being carried out - he was quite cheerful and waved to the boys as he left. I heard later on that he had had his foot amputated and then had died of his wounds. When I saw him carried out I had no idea his wounds would prove fatal.

Informant: Private J. O'Connor. 286B.  
3rd Pioneers E. Company.

Home address: 23 Newmann St.  
NEWTOWN.

No. 4 General Hospital, RANDWICK.  
21.2.19.  
H.S.O.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Railway Stations:  
EPSOM TOWNS, L.B. & S.C.Ry.  
and  
EPSOM, L. & S.W.Ry.

Telegrams:  
"WAR HOSPITAL, EPSOM"  
Telephone: 422 & 513 EPS



WAR HOSPITAL,  
EPSOM, SURREY.

3 Pioneer. May 20: 1918

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S. P. 1. 4 *Maudie*