

Henry was born at Newtown, NSW in 1893, the son of Frank Bousfield Hawkes and his wife Catherine (Kate), nee McIlveen. He enlisted in A Company, AN&MEF on 11th August 1914 stating that he was a commercial traveller and single, giving his mother at 31 Gowrie St, Newtown, as his next of kin. He also stated that he was in the Senior Cadets where, on 10th Feb 1913 he had been appointed Lieutenant.

He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

Later that same year he married Eliza Davis and his daughter Jeanne Elsie was born the same year.

Henry joined the AIF on 24th July 1916 as part of the 21st Reinforcements, 4th Battalion, regimental number 6497. He departed Sydney on 30th September 1916, arriving in Plymouth on 19th November 1916. In Dec 1916 he was found guilty of being AWL and escaping lawful custody and sentenced to 10 days detention. He left for France aboard the PRINCESS CLEMENTINE on 16th Jan 1917 and was taken on strength by the 4th Battalion on 21st Jan 1917.

On 15th April 1917, Henry was killed in action. In a statement, private Giles Sykes, #6556, stated.

"I saw him dead at Sunken Road near Demicourt on the 15th of April 1917, his death apparently was instantaneous. Killed by a shell. He was buried the same day at Demicourt, grave was marked with a cross also his number, name and battalion. He was a married man. I left Australia with him by the Aeneas. He was a great wrestler, fine made man, age about 30 years. Medium complexion, height about 5'7"."

Henry is believed to be buried, and is commemorated at Hermies Hill British Cemetery and is remembered on Panel 40 at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra