John Russell Punch (4/71) was born in Sydney, N.S.W., in June 1951 and completed his secondary education at Homebush High school, N.S.W. Prior to commencing his National Service John had served in the 4th Battalion, The Royal New South Wales Regiment (CMF) as a Rifleman from 29 April 1969 until 30 March 1971. At that time, he was employed as a bank officer by the A.N.Z. Banking Group Ltd.

On 29 September 1971 John marched in the 1 RTB Kapooka, retaining his CMF Regimental Number of 255531.He was selected for Officer Training and commenced with Class 4/71 on 15 October. He graduated into the RAAOC with his class and along with classmates Trevor Davey, Phil Verco, Mike Rose and the late Leon Rowe was posted to 2 RTB on 20 April 1972. By this time National Service had been reduced to eighteen months. When NS ended in December 1972, John decided to complete his time and discharged on 28 March 1973

John's widow Joy has asked that the following words be published in The Scheyvillian to mark John's passing: "Vale John Punch 4/71. It is with sadness we record the sudden passing of John Punch on 11 January 2022. John lived in Concord NSW, making a career in banking, He is survived by Joy, his wife of 48 years, four children and grandchildren."