

ALCORN

Ebenezer Cyril

Service No: 2720





BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Ebenezer Cyril Alcorn

Service number: 2720

Date of enlistment: 11/5/1915

Age at Enlistment: 27 years 5 months

Civil Occupation: Railway Employee

Medals, Honours, Awards: British War Medal, Victory Medal, 1914/15 Star

Height: 5Feet 9 inches

Weight: 146 Lbs.

Chest measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Dark

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Dark Brown

Father: William Alcorn

Mother: Elizabeth Mackay

Siblings: William Garnet (1881), Margaret Ann Isabel (1883), George Evelylin (1884), Ernest Percy (1886), Sidney Norman (1889), Franklin Edwin (1891), Alexander Cleveland (1893), John Leonard (1894), Jane Cristina (1896), Elizabeth Petena Gunn (1897), David Livingstone Haddon (1900)

Life Story

Ebenezer was born in Queensland in 1887 to William and Elizabeth Alcorn. He was one of twelve children. Two of his brothers, William Garnet and Franklin Edwin, became pastors with the Church of Christ, and Franklin performed the ceremony at Ebenezer's first marriage, while he was the minister of the Church of Christ in North Perth.

Ebenezer was working as a railway employee in Queensland before commencing work with the Western Australian Government Railways as a porter in York in 1913.

He enlisted at Merredin in May 1915, initially with the 16th Reinforcements, but transferred to the 48th Battalion in March 1916.

Ebenezer embarked for Egypt on the 26th August 1915. He arrived in Mudras on the 23rd October before finally reaching Alexandria at the end of December 1915. Ebenezer did not embark to join the British Expeditionary Force until June 1916, when he left for France.

In December 1916, Ebenezer was promoted to Corporal and then, three months later, to Sergeant.

A month later, in April 1917, he was Wounded in Action and transferred to hospital suffering gunshot wounds to the shoulder, arm and hand. Ultimately classified as unfit for active service, Ebenezer returned to Australia on the *Port Littleton*, arriving in Fremantle on the 5th December 1917.

He was discharged from the army in February 1918 in Brisbane and granted a pension of three pounds, nine shillings per fortnight at Boone, Queensland, one day later.



Ebenezer married Margaret Davies in 1918, but the marriage did not last long. They lived in Northam for a few months until she deserted him in December 1918. He sued for divorce in 1920, and it was granted.

In 1923, Ebenezer married Emma Martha Florence Bailey, the daughter of George and Agnes Bailey. The couple had two children: Garnet and Alexander.

After the war Ebenezer applied for, and was granted, a block of land in Denmark. The State Government provided small farm blocks of land for returning soldiers under the Returned Soldiers Settlement Act of 1916. However, the land was often unsuitable and the newly settled soldiers often lacked farming skills.

Emma Alcorn died in 1928 after a prolonged illness and, in 1930, Ebenezer moved his family back to the Eastern States. He married Fanny Moore Mitchell in Queensland in 1931.

His third wife's family were bakers and Ebenezer joined the family business. He died in 1947 at Wanda in Queensland.



Acknowledgements

Heather Harvey

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