



**BURROWS**  
**Frederick Harold**  
**Service No: 20077**

## BASIC INFORMATION

Name: Frederick Harold Burrows

Service Number: 20077

Date of Enlistment: 24/10/1916

Age at Enlistment: 22 Years 8 months

Civil Occupation: School Teacher

Medals, Honours, Awards: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Height: 5 Ft 5 inches

Weight: 110 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 29 ½ inches

Complexion: Fair

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Black

Father: George Burrows

Mother: Winifred

Siblings: Winifred (1895), Nellie Canning (1898), Ernest Walter (1900),

Married: Mary Isobel McDonald

Children: Harold Lindsay, Donald Ernest, Brian Stanbury

## Family History:

George and Winifred Burrows, along with their children, Winifred and Frederick, arrived at Albany on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1897 on board the *Orient*.

As he had been recruited by the Western Australian Government Railways in England, George began work as a Goods Clerk with the W.A.G.R. on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1897. Later that year, he became the station master at Cannington before being appointed station master at York in 1901.

While living in York, George was joined by his parents, John and Sarah Burrows, and two siblings, Herbert and Amy, who arrived in Fremantle in 1906. Amy married Richard Nottle in 1908 and remained in the district for the rest of her life. Herbert joined the W.A.G.R. in 1907 as a porter at York before moving to Mt Kokeby in 1910. He married twice; first to Janet Love in 1907 then, after her death in 1913, to Alice Rose at Narrogin in 1914.

During their seven years in York, George and Winifred were very actively involved within the community. George was a member of the York Cricket Club, the York Rifle Club and the Freemasons, but he was even more involved with various musical groups. George played the cornet in the York Brass Band, and he was also the conductor. George also played with the York Orchestra and even returned to York to play as a guest performer in 1909.

George and Winifred were very involved with the Methodist Church in York. George led the children's choir and Winifred was a very active member of the Ladies Guild. She was Treasurer of the Guild at the time of George's transfer to Golden Gate in February 1908. Winifred was also actively involved in the Women's Christian Temperance Union in York.

Both received formal acknowledgements on their departure from York: George, at a valedictory farewell held at the Council Chambers and chaired by the Mayor of York (in which his involvement within the town, especially within musical circles, was noted) and Winifred at a farewell presentation at the church.

After leaving York, George and Winifred continued to maintain their links to friends and the community. George's mother, Sarah, died at York in 1911. His father, John, died in Perth in 1921.

George, however, became the station master at Golden Gate, Kalgoorlie, in 1908 then moved to Wagin in 1910. By 1921, he was the station master at Geraldton before moving to Armadale in 1928.

By 1931, Winifred and George had retired to Subiaco, where George died in 1939. Winifred died in Subiaco in 1958.

## Life Story:

Frederick Harold Burrows (known as Harold) was born in Birkenhead, England, in 1894, three years before arriving in Western Australia.

In 1914, he passed his 1<sup>st</sup> year examinations in English 1 at the University of Western Australia's Faculty of Arts and, in November that same year, he passed his examination in Mathematics 1.

By 1915, Harold was at Geraldton State School, working either as a teacher or a monitor but, by 1916, he was teaching in Claremont.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> October 1916, Harold enlisted in the A.I.F. He was attached to the Depot Signal Company and sent to Signal School at Seymour, Victoria, where he was promoted to Corporal then, later, to Sergeant.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> November 1917, Harold embarked from Melbourne on board HMAT *Nestor*. He finally arrived in Southampton, via Egypt, on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 1918 and was attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Signal Company at Parkhouse.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918, Harold was marched out to No. 3 Camp Detail to join the Signal Depot at Bedford.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1918, he proceeded overseas to France and, on the 9<sup>th</sup> October, was Taken on Strength with the 1<sup>st</sup> Division Signals.

Apart from a short period of leave, Harold remained in the Field until February 1919, when he was admitted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Auxiliary Hospital in Dartford suffering from laryngitis.

From there, Harold was discharged to the *HS Karoola*, in May, to return to Australia.

He disembarked at Fremantle on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1919.

In 1920, Harold married Mary Isobel McDonald in Perth and, by 1922, he was teaching in Claremont.

In March 1922, Harold was appointed a Lieutenant of Senior Cadets then granted the rank of Honorary Captain whilst commanding the Senior Cadets Battalion, "A" Company.

By 1925, Harold was teaching in Kalgoorlie. He was a member of the Kalgoorlie Sub-branch of the R.S.L. and was appointed one of two trustees for that branch. Harold was to remain active in the R.S.L. throughout his active life.

A year later, Harold was appointed the Postal Vote Officer at Trafalgar State School before being transferred to the unattached list. He was teaching at East Kalgoorlie School in 1927 and was the headmaster in 1928.

Harold transferred from East Kalgoorlie School at the end of 1928. His involvement in the R.S.L. and the Goldfields' Musical Society was noted during his farewell. He was also noted as being secretary of the Kalgoorlie branch of Toc H, an international Christian movement whose name was an abbreviation for Talbot House. The TOC signifies the letter T in the signals alphabet used by the British Army in World War One.

Harold continued to teach around the state, moving from Kojonup in 1929, to Wickopin, where he remained for five years. Harold was also appointed Officer in Charge of "A" (Great Southern) Squadron of the 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse (as Major Burrows) in 1933, before transferring to Beverley in 1936. During his two years as headmaster at Beverley State School, he continued to be Commanding Officer of the 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse and took time off school to attend camps at Northam.

In 1938, Harold transferred back to Kalgoorlie, where he was actively involved in a tree planting program at schools in the district. Harold also took on the role of stage manager for the 1939 and 1940 State Schools' Festival.

In 1940, Harold came back to the metropolitan area, spending time at South Terrace School in Fremantle before becoming headmaster of Swanbourne State School in 1941.

In 1949, Harold returned to Kalgoorlie as headmaster of North Kalgoorlie School. One of his sons, Harold Lindsay, was working in the area as a miner, but his wife, Mary, remained in the metropolitan area. Harold travelled back to Perth at the end of each school term and Mary visited Kalgoorlie on occasion.

Harold was elected President of the Goldfields' branch of the Teachers' Union in 1950, but he transferred back to Mt Hawthorn at the end of the year and remained in the metropolitan area until his retirement around 1958.

Harold and Mary both died in 1974.

## Acknowledgements

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## References

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