

INGRAM FAMILY



Family History

Edward George Ingram, born around 1856, was the son of a master mariner. He married Elizabeth Henderson in 1885, and they had five children: Edward George (born 1886), Robert Victor Richard (born 1888), Ernest (born 1891), Etta Elizabeth May (born 1893) and Constance Mary (born 1895).

Victor, Ernest and George Ingram were cousins of Cyril Alfred, Francis George and Eric Roy Henderson. Their father, Patrick, was Elizabeth's brother. An uncle, Henry James Henderson, married Sarah Jane Coles, sister of Ernest John and Walter Henry Coles. Henry and Sarah's son, Lionel Henry, enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy in 1914.

In 1888, Edward was employed as a railway guard, then station master, at Clackline. However, in May 1889, he applied for his first Publican's General License and took over the management of the York Hotel. An active community member, Edward was a member of the York Cricket Club, timekeeper at the annual meeting of the York Athletic Club and, in 1893, a Councillor.

In June the following year, he also leased the York brickyards owned by Thorn, Bower & Stewart. (These brickyards may have been run later by his brothers'-in-law, Henry James and John Henderson). However, when Frank Craig purchased the National Hotel in Fremantle, Edward took over the management of that hotel.

In early 1894, he, along with others, travelled, to Coolgardie to prospect for gold, and there was a report of him being successful, finding gold to the value of 500 pounds.

By May 1894, Edward had taken over as proprietor of the Prince of Wales Hotel in Bunbury, where he remained until July 1895, when a report noted he was leaving the Hotel to return to Perth. Three months' later, Edward became the proprietor of the Grand Hotel, on the corner of Barrack and Wellington Street, Perth. He then sold the goodwill of the Grand Hotel for the sum of 9 000 pounds in November of 1896. Around the same time Edward bought a house and land in Aberdeen Street, Perth.

In January 1897, after attending a farewell party (held by the Licensed Victuallers' Association) at the Grand Hotel, Edward left for a holiday in England. He did not take his family with him.

On his return, Edward was elected Councillor for the Central Ward of Perth. He then became the proprietor of the Westralia Hotel and the Cremorne Gardens and Theatre in Perth for the purchase price of 6 000 pounds. The price included the furniture, effects and goodwill for the hotel, gardens and theatre. That same year, Edward was elected a member of the W.A. Turf Club.

Even though he now described himself as "Gentleman" rather than "Publican," Edward, and his partner Alfred Eccles (who had taken over the Grand Hotel) were sued by the Swan Brewery for non-performance of contracts with the Brewery. Although the court eventually found in their favour, further appeals by the Swan Brewery, and another suit lodged by the Stanley Brewery, continued into 1899.

Eventually, Edward George Ingram was forced into bankruptcy and, the following month, he resigned from the Perth Council. Edward owed 150 pounds in back rent to Mrs. Oliver, the owner of the hotel and Cremorne Gardens, and he accused her of breaching the Licensing Act and trying to ruin him. Edward was accused of concealing assets, making extravagant purchases, such as a dinner service valued at 500 pounds, and lying about selling his thoroughbred horse, when witnesses reported that the horse was being held by another man, to be returned to Ingram once the bankruptcy had been settled.

In June, Elizabeth was examined by the Official Receiver. She was attempting to claim the household furniture and effects as her property, not Edward's. It was revealed that he had given her 450 pounds, which she kept in a box, before he left for England. Elizabeth claimed to have worked for five years at the York Hotel without recompense and stated that the money was to support the family while her husband in England. She added that there was nothing left. Elizabeth also claimed that she thought the house in Aberdeen Street, where she and the children resided, had been registered in her name, and that she was unaware that Edward has used the house and furniture as collateral for various mortgages.

There was a hint of scandal when a creditor asked the name of the person who had accompanied Mr. Ingram to England. The Official Receiver interceded, stating that there was no need to make those personal inquiries of Mrs. Ingram. The strong inference was that it was another woman.

In June 1900, bankruptcy proceedings were concluded. A charge of attempting to pervert the course of justice was dismissed.

Edward appeared to be a broken man. In 1907, he was assaulted by the husband of a woman whose window he had climbed through after being locked out of his lodging house. Edward admitted in evidence that he was drinking heavily.

Between 1909 and 1914, Edward was working as a bailiff and yardsman. It is believed he resided for a time in the Old Men's Home at Claremont but, by 1915, he was living in East Perth. In 1916, he listed his occupation as Commission Agent

By 1920, Edward was living with his son, Ernest, who reported him to be drinking heavily. He died in 1921. His wife, Elizabeth, died in 1934, at the home of her son-in-law in Wooroloo.

INGRAM

Ernest John

Service No: 916



Basic Information

Name: Ernest John Ingram

Service Number: 916

Date of Enlistment: 18/8/1914

Age at Enlistment: 22 years 5 months

Civil Occupation: Plumber's Assistant

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

Height: 5 Ft 8 inches

Weight: 160 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 37 inches

Complexion: Fair

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Fair

Father: Edward Ingram

Mother: Elizabeth Henderson

Married: No

Children: None



Life Story

Ernest Ingram was born in 1891 to Edward George Ingram and Elizabeth Henderson. He first appears on record working as a labourer in Narrogin. As his uncles, John and Henry Henderson, were in partnership in a brickyard in the town (Henry also had a brickyard in York), Ernest may have been working for his family.

In 1914 Henry Henderson sold his property at York to Charlie Lee Ying, but John Henderson remained in Narrogin as a brick maker up to, and including, 1922.

Ernest enlisted as a Private on the 18th September 1914, giving his mother as Next of Kin. He listed his occupation as Plumber's Assistant and stated on his attestation paper that he was currently serving in the 25th Light Horse.

In September, Ernest attended a send-off in the Narrogin Town Hall before embarking HMAT A11 *Ascanius* on the 2nd September at Fremantle, bound for Alexandria in Egypt.

On the 2nd March, Ernest left Alexandria on HMT *Suffolk* to join the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force on the Gallipoli Peninsula. On the morning of the 25th April 1915, Ernest landed at Gallipoli with the 11th Battalion. He suffered a gunshot wound which fractured the radius of his left arm and was taken to the 1st Australian General Hospital at Heliopolis, where he remained until the 16th June.

After returning to his unit, Ernest was wounded for the second time: he received a gunshot wound to the left hand and was taken to the First Australian Casualty Clearing Station before being shipped to hospital, first in Malta, then in England. He finally re-joined the 11th Battalion at Gallipoli on the 6th November 1915, just before the evacuation of troops began.

On the 7th January 1916, Ernest arrived back in Alexandria on HMT *Empress of Britain*. On the 11th March, he was promoted to Lance Corporal and then to Corporal on the 25th.

At the end of the month, Ernest set sail to join the British Expeditionary Force in France. He arrived on the 5th April and was in the Field for three months before being Wounded in Action yet again. This time, Ernest suffered a gunshot wound to the thigh, resulting in a fractured femur. He was admitted to the 9th General Hospital at Rouen before being sent to England, where he was admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley on the 31st July 1916.

Ernest remained in hospital for some months, but his recovery must have been poor as, in December, he was moved to the 2nd Auxiliary Hospital in Middlesex, which specialized in fitting artificial limbs.

On the 7th May 1917, doctors amputated Ernest's left leg. Unable to return to active service, he was discharged to the Depot and returned to Australia on the *Kanowna*. Ernest received his final discharge on the 3rd October 1917 and was granted a pension of sixty-eight shillings per fortnight, to be reduced to fifty-one shillings from the 11th April 1918.

Ernest married Eva Esther Elizabeth Moore in the Fremantle District in 1918 and, by 1922, the couple were living at 134 Bennett Street, East Perth. Ernest found work as a dental mechanic, but the couple were to relocate many times over the following years.

In 1926, they lived in North Perth before moving to Hay Street, Perth, in 1928. By 1931, the couple were in Subiaco, and Ernest was working as a lift attendant. Ernest was to move five more times before finally settling, in 1953, at 7 Nandina Avenue, Graylands, where he remained until his death in 1967.



INGRAM

George

Service No: 44



Basic Information

Name: George Ingram

Service Number: 44

Date of Enlistment: 30/9/1914

Age at Enlistment: 27 years 5 months

Civil Occupation: Miner

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

Height: 5 Ft 7 ¼ inches

Weight: 168 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 37 inches

Complexion: Fair

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Light Brown

Father: Edward Ingram

Mother: Elizabeth Henderson

Married: No

Children: None

Life Story

Edward George Ingram (known as George) was born at York in 1886. He first appears in the records in 1902, when he was arrested for stealing and sentenced to one month's imprisonment at Fremantle Prison. He didn't stay out of trouble for long after his release, because he was arrested for breaking, entering and stealing twelve pairs of boots from the Colonial Boot Factory in December of the same year. It appears he was a troubled youth.

George pleaded guilty to the charge in January 1903, but he was kept on remand because a co-accused pleaded not guilty. After the trial of that young man in March, George was finally sentenced to fourteen days in prison with hard labour. The judge took into account the three months he had already spent in custody.

In 1904, George was charged with creating a disturbance in Hay Street, Perth, when he and two other young men held hands and walked along the footpath. When an elderly man put his hands up to prevent himself from being knocked down, George punched him in the face. As a consequence, George had to pay a ten shilling fine or serve seven days in gaol. The whole escapade was reported in the newspapers.

His father, Edward Ingram, wrote a letter to *The Daily News* newspaper demanding they publish a disclaimer because, unlike the report in *The West Australian* which had mentioned that Edward Ingram was about sixteen years old, *The Daily News* had not mentioned the accused's age. Edward did not mention in the letter that it was his son who had been convicted.

By 1912, George was working in a gang on the Longreach Railway line. He had been in the town of Maryborough for two days, when he attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself in the mouth in a shop. Somehow he survived, with the bullet lodged in his upper jaw, behind his nostrils.

A newspaper report noted that, whilst at the hospital, George stated that he had been brooding over recent losses he sustained at Menzies (in the WA Goldfields). Together with his heavy drinking, the newspaper concluded, this had probably led him to his rash act.

In hospital, George referred to himself as a moulder by trade. He could have been a brick moulder, because his uncles, Henry and John Henderson, had brick-making yards in York and Narrogin. His brother, Victor, had been living in Clifford Street, York, where Henry had a house and brickyard. His uncle, Patrick, had previously resided in York but was mining in the Menzies area between 1910 and 1915. It is likely that Edward had gone to Menzies to work because he had family there.

George remained in Queensland through 1912 and 1913. He was residing at the Great Western Hotel in Rockhampton and was working as a bricklayer. At some point that year, George moved down to Lismore on the N.S.W. border, where he found employment as a labourer.

George formally enlisted in the 13th Battalion on the 30th September 1914 at Lismore, N.S.W. He gave his occupation as miner and listed his father as Next of Kin, giving his address as that of the Henderson family in York.

On the 22nd December, George embarked A38 *Ulysses* in Melbourne, bound for Egypt and, on the 12th April 1915, he proceeded to join the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force at Gallipoli.

George completed his Will on the 25th April 1915, leaving everything to his sister, Constance. Four months' later, on the 9th September 1915, George was Killed in Action at Gallipoli. His effects, which included two silver match boxes, a pipe and case and two fountain pens, were returned to her in Western Australia.

George is commemorated on the Lone Pine Memorial and is also listed on the York War Memorial.

INGRAM

Victor Robert

Service No: 1309

**PRIVATE VICTOR ROBERT
INGRAM.**



Killed in action in France on July 19,
beloved nephew of Mrs. John Whittam,
55 Brontie street, East Perth.

Basic Information

Name: Victor Robert Ingram

Service Number: 3158

Date of Enlistment: 2/9/1915

Age at Enlistment: 27 years 7 months

Civil Occupation: Labourer

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

Height: 5 Ft 6 1/2inches

Weight: 130 Lbs.

Chest Measurement: 34 inches

Complexion: Fair

Eye Colour: Blue

Hair Colour: Fair

Father: Edward Ingram

Mother: Elizabeth Henderson

Married: No

Children: None

Life Story

Victor Robert Ingram was born in 1888 in the Perth District. Little is known of his early life but, by 1910, he was known to be working as a labourer in Clifford Street, York. His uncle, Henry James Henderson, was a brick maker who owned brickyards and a house in Clifford Street, so it is likely that Victor was working for his uncle.

He enlisted as a Private at Perth on the 2nd September 1915 and, by February the following year, had disembarked from the HMAT *Medic* at Alexandria, in Egypt, with the 28th Battalion.

On the 4th April 1916, Victor was Taken on Strength with the 32nd Battalion but, only a month later, was admitted to hospital suffering from conjunctivitis. He was not returned to duty until the 16th May, when he was sent to re-join his Battalion at Ferry Post Camp.

The following day, Victor embarked from Alexandria to join the British Expeditionary Forces in France. He disembarked the *Transylvania* at Marseilles on the 23rd June.

On the 19th July, the Battle of Fromelles began. Soldiers were ordered to attack strongly fortified German front-line positions to stop German forces from moving south to the Somme, where a large Allied offensive had begun on the 1st July. Over 5 500 Australians became casualties during the Battle. It was believed to be the greatest loss by a single division in a 24-hour period during the entire War.

Victor was one of those Killed in Action in the Field.

He is commemorated in V.C. Corner Cemetery at Fromelles, the only solely Australian War cemetery in France.

Acknowledgements

The following people and organisations helped with the research to compile this booklet.

Harvey, Heather
Clarke, Cathy

References

National Archives of Australia. 2018. *Discovering Anzacs*. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au>. [Accessed 3 January 2018].

Metropolitan Cemetery Board. 2022. *Name Search*. [ONLINE] Available at: <portal.mcb.wa.gov.au/name-search> [Accessed 20 March 2022].

National Library of Australia. 2018. *Trove*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article252135017>

Australian War Memorial. 2022. *Battle of Fromelles* [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/encyclopedia/fromelles>